

Read Novel My Wife Is A Superstar Chapter 701

Chapter 701 He Did Not Like The Woman

Ning Ran did not, however, immediately reject Wang Xiaoou. She merely said that they should discuss the matter another time.

“This issue is resolved for the time being. Take another day off tomorrow, and then you can resume filming. Right, there’s one more thing. Huang Zichao’s talent agents came to speak with us, asking if you would go on an entertainment talk show with him. We agreed, and they should get in touch with Cheng Xiangyun within the next two days,” Wang Xiaoou informed.

“Huang Zichao wants to appear on an entertainment talk show? And he wants to bring me along? What’s going on here?”

“He was invited as a guest and could bring a friend. He said he would bring you along. His talent agents discussed with us that since you two are filming a movie together and the show will be recorded in Livingfill, which is also close to you, having you two appear on the show together will help promote the movie. It’s a win-win situation. The production team will also give a corresponding appearance fee. This is work, not a personal matter,” Wang Xiaoou said.

“Does he know about this?” Ning Ran asked.

Wang Xiaoou smiled. “Are you referring to Mr. Chen?”

“Yes,” Ning Ran responded awkwardly.

“Oh, don’t worry. Mr. Chen knows about this. All your contracts need to be approved by him,” Wang Xiaoou said.

Ning Ran was quite surprised by this. Poker Face has always been against me getting close to Huang Zichao. I can’t believe he agreed this time. What made him do that?

“Are you listening?” Wang Xiaoou asked.

“Yeah, I’m listening. I’ll certainly comply with the company’s arrangement,” Ning Ran quickly responded.

“Great. Thank you and all the best.”

“Thank you, Ou.”

Ning Ran hung up the phone. She still found it odd after thinking about it.

What on earth was Poker Face thinking to agree to let me appear on a show with Huang Zichao? Qiao Zhan called Huang Zichao to warn him to stay away from me just a few days ago. But now he suddenly agreed to let me appear on a show with Huang Zichao? What's going on here?

Feeling uneasy, she dialed Nan Chen's number.

The call was quickly answered, but the voice that came through was Qiao Zhan's. "Ms. Ning, I'm Qiao Zhan. Mr. Chen is having a video conference with the overseas team. Please wait a moment while I inform him."

"No need for that. I just wanted to ask if it's true that I'll be appearing on a show with Huang Zichao?" Ning Ran asked straightforwardly.

"Yes. Mr. Chen is aware of this," Qiao Zhan answered.

"But Huang Zichao texted me two days ago saying that you went to see him. Is that also true?"

"It is."

Qiao Zhan did not deny it. After all, he was instructed to do so by his boss, so he was not afraid to take the blame.

"Why?"

"Are you asking why I went to see Huang Zichao?"

"Yes."

"Because Mr. Chen thinks he placed you in jeopardy, so he warned him to keep his distance from you," Qiao Zhan answered truthfully.

"So why did he agree to let me appear on a show with Huang Zichao now?"

Qiao Zhan replied seriously, "It's work. Mr. Chen agreed because he believes that it'll help promote your latest movie."

Ning Ran scoffed, "You're telling me he can distinguish between public and private affairs?"

"Mr. Chen has always been like that."

As expected of Nan Chen's special assistant. Every word Qiao Zhan utters is in support of his boss.

“All right, if you say so.”

“You give me too much credit, Ms. Ning. It should be if Mr. Chen says so. I don’t matter,” Qiao Zhan said cautiously.

Mr. Chen was the one who made the decision. I have no say in it, so you can’t blame me if you have a problem with it!

“Fine. As long as he’s happy. That’s all. I just wanted to confirm this matter.”

“Should I get Mr. Chen to call you back later?”

“No need for that.”

“All right. Is there anything else I can do for you?”

“No. Goodbye.” With that, Ning Ran ended the call.

Meanwhile, in a business clubhouse in Livingfill, Huang Zichao met a woman who was unfamiliar to him.

She was dressed extravagantly, covered in branded apparel and jewels.

Although she also had exquisite features, her contours appeared stiff and unnatural.

Having been in the entertainment industry for a long time, Huang Zichao had seen all kinds of beautiful women. He could immediately tell that she had enhanced her appearance through major plastic surgeries, which made her beauty completely unnatural.

However, he was not surprised. In the past, only in the neighboring country do you find women favoring plastic surgery. But things are different now as it’s also very common here. Many girls go bankrupt to enhance their looks just to become influencers and celebrities. Not only that, but some celebrities who have already become famous also underwent plastic surgery to broaden their acting careers and enhance their looks. Some successfully became more beautiful, while others were disfigured beyond recognition. In this mystically utilitarian world, nothing is surprising.

“So, you’re Huang Zichao?”

The woman was quite arrogant, which irritated Huang Zichao.

I am, at any rate, an award-winning actor. She should have the basic courtesy to address me politely, considering it’s our first meeting.

“Yes, I am. Wasn’t it the producer who asked to meet me? You are?”

He made that query because he did not believe that the person before him was a producer.

Producers need not undergo plastic surgery, especially major ones like this.

"I'm here on his behalf. My name is Ding Fei," the woman said.

"Nice to meet you." Huang Zichao forced out a response.

"May I ask when you will be able to join our production team?" Ding Fei inquired.

"Which production team?"

"The one for the new movie. Haven't your agency informed you?" Ding Fei asked.

"They did, but I'm still filming the movie I'm currently working on. There's a conflict in the schedule, and if it can't be coordinated, I can only give it up."

"We can pay you more."

"What do you mean?"

"As long as you take half of your time to shoot our movie, we'll increase the pay by a quarter," Ding Fei offered.

"Who are you exactly? You can increase the pay as you wish?" Huang Zichao could not help but express his doubt.

"You need not care about who I am. If I say so, it will be done."

"Even if you increase the pay, I can't break my contract. I'll finish filming it before considering other things."

"You can schedule both sides. Do two weeks on our side, and then shoot there for a few days to manage it," Ding Fei proposed.

"That won't work. The contract clearly states that I can't do that. I do have other schedules during this period, but I can only leave the set when I'm not filming."

"You're truly hardheaded. You're reluctant to part with Ning Ran, aren't you?" Ding Fei shot him a look of disgust.

Huang Zichao was displeased. "Please show some respect for me and Ms. Ning."

"What's so great about her that I have to respect her? Are you on board with this or not?"

“I’ve already made it very clear that my answer is no.”

Huang Zichao’s response was equally firm. He truly did not like the woman.

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Chapter 702 Who The Hell Are You

Ding Fei stood up immediately. “You’d better not f*cking refuse when I’m asking nicely!” Huang Zichao was dumbfounded. Did this woman just swear at me? I thought she would be a decent person from her designer outfit, but I can’t believe she cursed at me.

Being a recognized actor, he naturally knew better than to yell back at her. He simply stood up furiously and headed for the door without saying a word.

“Stop right there!” Ding Fei called out. Huang Zichao halted his steps. “People with different interests cannot work together!”

“If you don’t agree, you’ll definitely regret it!” Despite her threat, Huang Zichao remained silent and continued heading outside.

“Do you still remember that girlfriend of yours in Spaunia surnamed Li?” Ding Fei said in a cold voice from behind.

Huang Zichao, who was about to leave the private room, immediately stopped in his tracks.

“Her name is Li Xin, right? At that time, you were despondent about not having any acting jobs, and you couldn’t even pay the rent. She was pregnant and had to choose abortion because she didn’t dare to give birth. But the moment you rose to fame, you dumped her. If the press finds out about this, do you think you can keep your career, you ungrateful rascal?” Ding Fei berated.

“That’s not it. She proposed to break up, not me. I didn’t abandon her!” Huang Zichao shouted.

“You make it sound so nice when you deliberately avoided her after achieving fame. She couldn’t even see you once a year. You deliberately gave her the silent treatment to force her to break up so that you can continue your career! The audacity of you to not admit it! What a coward and a sc*mbag!”

Seeing that she finally got hold of his dirt, Ding Fei immediately became smug.

“It’s not like that at all. I was indeed busy with work, but I didn’t avoid her on purpose. I’d spend time with her whenever I could although I didn’t have that much time...”

“You’re truly a sc*mbag! If you don’t work with me, I will expose all of this, and when the time comes, everyone will scorn you. You can forget about remaining in this industry then.”

Huang Zichao fell silent.

He had been a part of the entertainment industry for many years, so he naturally understood how it operated.

No matter how big a celebrity you are, once a scandal occurs, you will be despised by everyone overnight. Directors who have pleaded with you to appear in their dramas and businesses that approached you to be their spokesman will suddenly treat you like a plague and avoid you out of fear of being associated with you. If it’s a scandal caused by a work-related mistake, it’s a little better. However, if it’s this kind of scandal relating to private life, especially one that raises moral questions, being blacklisted by the industry is a given.

He simply could not afford such a risk.

Even though he genuinely did not forsake his ex-girlfriend on purpose and had given her a sizable sum of money, the breakup did occur.

People would only focus on the breakup, especially the fact that it occurred after he became famous.

Although it was not anything new, as there were numerous cases of successful people abandoning their wives and children, it was still the kind of case that people despised the most, especially if it involved celebrities.

No one would look into the truth when the news broke. They would only berate Huang Zichao as the classic heartless and unfaithful man.

On top of that, if his ex-girlfriend was bribed into confirming the breakup, it would cause his immediate downfall.

His transition from an ordinary actor to a renowned actor did not happen overnight but after a long period of hard work.

Any human would cherish the fruits of their hard work, and Huang Zichao was no exception.

He hesitated and felt so nervous that his palms were sweating.

Ding Fei noticed his nervousness and laughed loudly. “Weren’t you leaving? Go ahead! If you dare to walk out of this door without my permission, your reputation will be ruined

tomorrow. Not only that, but your film contract, endorsements, company, and all your deals will be doomed. Do you dare to go out? Of course not!"

"Who the hell are you, and why are you messing with me? How do you know about Li Xin?" Huang Zichao asked.

"I'm Ding Fei. As for how I know about those things, I won't tell you. There's no concealing the truth. Unless you didn't do it, people would surely find out about it! Huang Zichao, if you comply and work with me, you can continue enjoying your high status. Otherwise, I'll bring you down immediately!" she said arrogantly as she pointed at him.

"What on earth do you want? After I finish filming my current project, I'll go to yours. Is there any problem with that? I signed a contract with them first, after all. This is against the rules of the industry."

Ding Fei responded, "Don't tell me about the rules. I'll set them for you right now. You must report to our production team and shoot our movie. As for the other matters, I don't care. Figure it out on your own. Also, aren't you and Ning Ran very close? I heard that you'll be appearing on a show with her soon."

"You also know about this?"

She grew even smugger. "Money can buy you any information you want. What's so strange about that? When you appear on the show, you must announce before everyone that you'll be withdrawing from the movie you're working with Ning Ran because she has been harassing you shamelessly. You can't bear it any longer, so you wish to quit!"

Huang Zichao was even more shocked. Ning Ran has always conducted herself with dignity. She has never harassed me. Besides, with Nan Chen watching us like a hawk, she wouldn't dare to do that.

"No one will believe such news. It sounds outrageous," he said.

"I don't care. If no one believes it, you must find a way to make them believe it. By doing so, not only can you withdraw yourself from the movie easily, but you can also ruin Ning Ran's reputation. As long as she loses her reputation, the movie will inevitably be ruined as well." Ding Fei laughed triumphantly again.

"Why must you do this? Do you hold a grudge against Ning Ran? Or Nan Chen?" Huang Zichao asked.

"This isn't something you should ask. In any case, if you don't want anything to happen to you, you must listen to me. Otherwise, I'll destroy you!"

“You are simply a devil. Where did you come from? I’ve never heard of you in the entertainment industry before!”

“I’m indeed a devil. I want to destroy some people. A group of people, to be exact! If you listen to me, you can continue your career without any worries, but should you dare to go against me, you’ll become one of them!”

Ding Fei did not seem to mind being called a devil. On the contrary, she liked it very much.

Some people are willing to be angels, but others strive to be the devil.

“But Nan Chen is backing Ning Ran. If I do this, then—”

“Are you afraid? What’s so great about Nan Chen? Is he omnipotent? If you don’t want to hurt Ning Ran, you can just wait to be destroyed!”

Huang Zichao did not dare to speak anymore.

It was a difficult choice to make, and he truly did not know what to do.

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Chapter 703 Appetite

Later in the evening, Lu Jingyuan arrived at Mountview Inn in her Jeep SUV. She didn’t anticipate that renting out the inn would provide a source of income for her and even allow her to become acquainted with a good friend. She thought she was blessed with how things had worked out for her.

After getting out of the car, she retrieved a box from the trunk before walking toward the inn. The box contained desserts from one of the local dessert shops. Lu Jingyuan had deliberately bought the sweet dish for the kids.

Usually, she wouldn’t allow her children to consume too much sweet food and rarely bought them. However, she made an exception at that time because Erbao liked eating desserts.

Unfortunately, right after she stepped into the courtyard, a man running out from inside bumped into her. The impact of the collision caused her to stagger and nearly fall, and the box of desserts she was holding dropped to the floor.

“Xing!” Lu Yunxue was chasing after that man while calling out his name. The man who had run into Lu Jingyuan was none other than Nan Xing.

She almost recognized him as Nan Chen again because of their similar appearance.

On the other hand, Nan Xing correctly identified her at once. He reached out to support Lu Jingyuan, who stumbled after he knocked into her. "I'm sorry. I didn't know you were coming in. Still, you should've announced your arrival when you entered."

It was then Lu Jingyuan recalled Ning Ran had told her Erbao's uncle looked identical to Nan Chen.

The man who had taken advantage of her was this person before her eyes.

Lu Yunxue knew things had gone south when she saw Nan Xing crashing into her mother and the latter's furious expression.

"It's you again! You're so annoying!" Lu Jingyuan bellowed.

Nan Xing could still vividly remember Lu Jingyuan splashing water on him previously.

He didn't think he had done anything wrong at that time, but she had splattered him with water just because he had tried to chat her up.

Nan Xing felt even more aggrieved that day. He was chided again because he accidentally bumped into Lu Jingyuan while playing with Lu Yunxue.

"Hey, I didn't knock you on purpose. It was an accident. Why are you scolding me? What happened the other day—"

"You're shameless! How dare you mention what happened the other day? Why do I see you wherever I go?"

Lu Jingyuan went to pick up the dessert on the floor, but they were no longer edible.

She had purposely driven to the dessert shop and spent a long time waiting in a queue to buy the sweet dish.

"Why are you so unreasonable? I didn't do anything, so why are you—"

"Shut up! I don't want to talk to you!" Lu Jingyuan roared.

Nan Xing grew indignant. What's with her attitude? Did she say she doesn't want to talk to me? I am the young master of the Nan family. Many women tried to offer themselves up to me, but I gave them the cold shoulder. I can't believe this woman just said she doesn't want to talk to me. Does she think I fancy chatting with her? Is she acting so arrogantly because she thinks she's pretty? I've met my share of attractive people, but I've never seen someone like her!

"Can't we have a civilized conversation?" Nan Xing was livid as well.

“Civilized conversation? Do you think you deserve that, you frivolous man?” she rebuked him again.

“In what way am I frivolous? You’re impossible to reason with! I may be a well-mannered person, but you’re crossing the line now. If you continue to behave like this, I will retaliate.”

Nan Xing knew Lu Jingyuan was Lu Yunxue’s mother. At that moment, the little girl was staring at them with her large, round eyes.

He couldn’t bring himself to be rude to Lu Jingyuan because he didn’t want to hurt the child’s feelings.

After all, the person any child loathed the most would be those who disrespected their mothers.

Nan Xing reckoned Lu Yunxue must already be anxious to witness their argument.

“I’m not elaborating. I don’t want to quarrel with others in front of my daughter. By the way, did you ask my daughter to call you Xing? Can you be any more shameless?”

Nan Xing was stunned.

It was indeed a little inappropriate for a little girl to address him, a full-grown man, only by his first name.

However, that wasn’t his intention at all. It was Yunxue who insisted on calling me Xing. What can I do about that? This is just great. I’ve been caught red-handed by her mother. Worst of all, her mother is not fond of me. No. That’s an understatement. She actually despises me. This situation is too hard to swallow.

Nan Xing’s face was slightly flushed. He opened his mouth hesitantly, but no words came to him.

“Lu Yunxue, how many times have I told you not to get yourself too closely involved with every person you meet? I’m grounding you from now on!” Lu Jingyuan admonished her daughter coldly.

Lu Yunxue widened her eyes innocently and shifted her gaze from her mother to Nan Xing.

She could not fathom the conflict between adults. Everything seems fine. No one took the other person’s toys or stole their food, so why are they snapping at each other? Can’t they get along and play together like me and Erbao? Why are these adults so immature?

“Mommy, please don’t be mad. We were just playing,” Lu Yunxue uttered weakly.

“How can I not be mad? You’re interacting and mingling with every person you meet. Can you tell if they are good or bad people?” Lu Jingyuan scolded.

Nan Xing sighed. “Stop chastising the child. We were just playing. If you’re furious, you can direct your anger at me instead of making things difficult for Yunxue.”

“Are you qualified to interfere with how I educate my child?”

“I’m not.” Nan Xing chickened out at once.

“Since you’re aware of that, what do you think you’re doing now?”

“I’m stopping a fight.”

Right after he finished speaking, he felt something was wrong. I was arguing with her, so why have I become the peacemaker now?

Lu Jingyuan was speechless. This man is indeed a rascal.

Not wanting to entertain him further, she glared at Lu Yunxue before striding into the inn.

Lu Yunxue immediately followed her mother inside. Then, seizing an opportunity when Lu Jingyuan wasn’t paying attention to her, the little girl turned her head around and made a face at Nan Xing.

Nan Xing was initially enraged after Lu Jingyuan berated him. However, his heart softened when he saw Lu Yunxue’s facial expression. He winked at the little girl and pulled a face at her.

Unexpectedly, Lu Jingyuan glanced behind her at that instant and coincidentally saw his funny face.

Nan Xing wanted to wipe the exaggerated expression off his face, but it was too late.

Utter embarrassment washed over him, prompting him to wish for the ground to swallow him up, but his wish was not fulfilled because there wasn’t even a crack on the floor.

He stood rooted to his spot, gaping in awkwardness.

Lu Jingyuan thought, This man is shameless, frivolous, and childish. I can’t believe he’s making a face even after the way I rebuked him. Brazen people like him are indeed capable of doing as they please.

Nan Xing wanted to explain himself but didn't know where to start. He could only watch silently as she spun on her heels and walked away.

Erbao, the bootlicker, dashed forward when she saw Lu Jingyuan. "Ms. Lu."

Lu Jingyuan lifted Erbao and said, "I bought you some desserts, but a despicable man caused the food to fall to the ground, so the desserts are gone now."

A disappointed look spread across Erbao's face. "Who's that despicable man? How dare he ruin my delicious food? He needs to compensate me for my loss!"

"Forget it. He's just a boring person. Let's not talk about this anymore," Lu Jingyuan said.

"Okay. You can buy the dessert for me again on another day, Ms. Lu."

Lu Jingyuan was amused. She thought informing Erbao of that matter would be the end of the story until the latter told her to repurchase the dessert on another day. Erbao is definitely behaving like an absolute glutton.

"Sure. I'll buy the dessert for you again next time, and I'll make sure to buy a lot more for you."

"Thank you, Ms. Lu."

Ning Ran walked out when she heard their voices. "You're here. Dinner will be ready soon. Take a seat and have a drink first."

"That won't be necessary. I'm just here to pick up the kids," Lu Jingyuan said.

"You can return after dinner. I've purposely prepared the children's favorite dishes. It'll be such a waste if you fetch them back now."

"That's right." Lu Yunxue was upset as well after listening to her mother's words.

"I'm really not staying. I don't want to eat." Naturally, Lu Jingyuan was referring to her unwillingness to eat at the same table as Nan Xing. There's no way I'll have any appetite if I'm going to have my meal with such a hateful person.

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Chapter 704 This Is Harder Than I Thought

"Mommy, I'm hungry." Lu Yunxue finally broke her silence because she feared that her mother would take them away if she continued to say nothing.

She was not about to let her mother ruin her long-awaited dinner. "I'll make you some noodles when we get back!" responded Lu Jingyuan impatiently.

Ning Ran, too, decided to speak up. "Did I do something wrong? Why are you leaving all of a sudden?" "It's not you; it's me." Nan Xing walked over.

"What did you do? Did you offend Ms. Lu?" Ning Ran asked in annoyance.

"I was just playing with Yunxue when I accidentally bumped into Ms. Lu. She scolded me, and I apologized, but I didn't expect her to want to leave." Nan Xing shrugged helplessly.

"I see. Then let me apologize on Nan Xing's behalf. He's always fooling around, but he's really not a bad person," said Ning Ran with a smile.

Even though Nan Xing did not appreciate what Ning Ran had to say about him, he had no choice but to swallow his pride then.

Since Ning Ran had spoken, Lu Jingyuan no longer insisted on leaving. Instead, she kept quiet and stayed for dinner.

Because of what had happened between Nan Xing and Lu Jingyuan, there was an awkwardness in the air during mealtime.

Ning Ran had a hard time trying to come up with different topics to talk about in order to ease the situation.

Still, it did not matter since Nan Xing and Lu Jingyuan were uninterested in chatting.

Ning Ran had no choice but to continue to do her best to alleviate the awkwardness.

"This soup is not bad. You should try it," Ning Ran suggested to Lu Jingyuan before gesturing for Nan Xing to serve the woman the soup.

For Ning Ran's sake, Nan Xing got on his feet. "Let me get you some, Ms. Lu."

However, because of his clumsiness, Nan Xing accidentally knocked over a bowl and got soup all over Lu Jingyuan's white skirt.

Ning Ran was utterly speechless, and so was Nan Xing.

Instead of getting upset again, Lu Jingyuan suppressed her anger before Ning Ran, and suddenly, the awkwardness surrounding everyone intensified.

"You guys continue. I'm full, so I'm going to go." Nan Xing realized that he was the reason everybody could not enjoy dinner, so he decided to make himself scarce.

“Sure. You should have had your fill long ago,” stated Ning Ran with a chuckle.

Feeling despised, Nan Xing went to the smaller table beside them and joined the children.

As soon as the man left, Lu Jingyuan felt much more relaxed. Even the food on the table tasted better.

Before long, the two women began chatting away and having a good time.

When Ning Ran was almost done eating, she received a call from Huang Zichao, who asked to meet and informed her that he had something urgent to talk to her about.

However, he did not mention what it was about.

With everything going on, Ning Ran did not want to further complicate things, so she turned down the man. “If you’ve got something to say, just say it on the phone. It’s better if we don’t meet outside of work.”

“That’s exactly what I want to talk about—work. I just need a moment of your time; I won’t take long.” Huang Zichao sounded as though he was very unhappy.

“I don’t think that’s a good idea. If it’s really about work, we can talk on the set tomorrow.”

“No. We have to talk about it tonight. This is very important for you too, so I hope you’ll come.”

“What exactly is this about?”

“You’ll know when you get here. Please, just trust me for once. I’m only doing this for your sake,” pleaded Huang Zichao earnestly.

After some thought, Ning Ran eventually agreed to the man’s request. “Fine. Send me the location.”

“If you’re busy, I can leave with the kids. We can do this again another day.” Lu Jingyuan rose from the chair.

“It’s fine. You can stay a little longer since it’s still early.”

“It’s okay. You do what you have to do. We can always meet again.”

After Lu Jingyuan left with the children, Ning Ran had Nan Xing accompany her to meet with Huang Zichao.

As soon as he heard what Ning Ran planned to do, Nan Xing got anxious. “You’re going to meet that award-winning actor? Why?”

“He said he wanted to talk to me about something urgent and that it was work-related. I should probably see him, so I want you to go with me.”

Nan Xing was reluctant. “Why would he talk shop at this hour? It has to be an excuse. I’m not going!”

“If that’s really the case, you can scold him for me when we get there, and if it turns out he actually wants to talk shop, you can be my witness.”

“What for?”

Ning Ran wished for Nan Xing to be her witness because she did not want Nan Chen to overthink the meeting.

However, she was too embarrassed to tell Nan Xing that. “You can help me with whatever it is that Huang Zichao wants to talk about. Are we going to discuss this all night, or are you going to man up and help me get this over with?”

“Fine. I’ll accompany you, but you’re paying for my drink.”

“You don’t worry about that. Huang Zichao will take care of the bill,” reassured Ning Ran with a smile.

Half an hour later, Nan Xing and Ning Ran met up with Huang Zichao, who immediately got nervous when he saw Nan Xing because he thought the man was Nan Chen.

It did not take long before Nan Xing noticed Huang Zichao’s anxiety. So the urgent work-related thing was indeed an excuse, huh? Why else would he be so nervous if it wasn’t? I guess I’ll just have to pretend to be Chen. It’s not as if we’ve never impersonated each other before.

“Why do you want to meet her? If you have something to say, say it. We’re busy,” said Nan Xing in all seriousness as he checked his watch, mimicking Nan Chen’s actions.

“I didn’t expect to see you, Mr. Nan. I—”

“Do you have a problem with me?” interrupted Nan Xing before Huang Zichao could finish.

“No. I’m glad that you’re here,” replied Huang Zichao.

“Let’s just get down to business. What is this about?” Ning Ran asked.

“My management team contacted yours because we wanted you to appear on a talk show with me. You know that, right?”

“I do. When will the shooting start?”

“Actually, I’m hoping that you’ll turn it down.”

Ning Ran was puzzled when she heard that. Since our management teams have already reached an agreement, why would he want me to reject the collaboration?

“Does that mean that was your company’s idea, not yours? You don’t want to appear on the talk show with me, so you hope I’ll turn down the offer. Is that it?”

“Not exactly. It’s just that…”

Huang Zichao had a hard time trying to tell Ning Ran the truth, but he only made the request for her sake.

Even though he could not say no to Ding Fei, he did not want to hurt Ning Ran. Asking Ning Ran to reject the offer is the only solution I can think of. That way, I won’t be able to slander her on the show.

“What? There has to be a reason why you’re asking me to do this, right? Besides, I’ll have to pay for the breach of contract. Why would I do that?” questioned Ning Ran curiously.

“That’s nothing compared to…” Huang Zichao swallowed his words once again and left his sentence hanging.

The conflicted man did not want to be direct with Ning Ran, but at the same time, he was unsure how else to make her understand. This is harder than I thought.

“If you’re not going to talk, we’re leaving. Do you think you can have someone sign a contract and then ask them to breach it just because you feel like it? Who do you think you are, and why should we listen to you?” Nan Xing spoke in a cold tone to make himself sound more like Nan Chen.

However, anyone who knew the brothers well could still easily tell them apart despite Nan Xing’s efforts.

Huang Zichao was not one such person.

“I mean well, Mr. Nan. I really do. I’m just trying to…”

“What is it?”

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Chapter 705 You Really Are A Bad Person

Huang Zichao was stumped. He looked tense and embarrassed. If he did not listen to Ding Fei, he would not be able to protect himself, and the latter would destroy him.

However, he couldn't bring himself to ruin Ning Ran just to protect himself either. He was not a very noble person, but he was far from being mean enough to hurt others for his own sake, especially when that person was a woman he had a crush on.

Ning Ran was getting impatient. "If you're still not talking, we're leaving." "I'm getting tired of listening to his nonsense. Let's go." Nan Xing had already lost his patience.

"Wait. I'm really doing it for your own good. If you participate in the show, it will do you harm." Huang Zichao panicked. "What harm?" asked Ning Ran. "I can't tell you this, but please, believe me. It's for the best if you don't go."

"I won't listen if you don't tell me the reason. I don't want to pay the liquidated damages."

"If you don't go, I'll pay the liquidated damages for you!" Huang Zichao hurriedly said.

Nan Xing and Ning Ran exchanged glances. Both of them were surprised that Huang Zichao would say that.

Wouldn't it be better to film the show, promote the new movie and make money together?

"Is it because you don't want to be in the show with me that you're actually willing to pay the liquidated damages for me? Do you think that I'll drag you down and lower your status as an award-winning actor?" Ning Ran was somewhat unconvinced.

Huang Zichao sighed and shook his head. "That's not what I meant. Please, believe me. I really didn't mean that."

"Fine. Let's not dwell on it. Since he's willing to pay for the liquidated damages, you can just quit the show. It's not like you must be in that crap show, anyway," said Nan Xing.

Ning Ran agreed, "Fine, I won't go then. If the production team asks for compensation, you'll give them the money."

Huang Zichao was relieved. "Thank you!"

However, Nan Xing stopped Ning Ran in her tracks. "Wait. Something's not right."

“What is it?”

“He said he would pay the liquidated damages, but he only made a verbal promise. What if he goes back on his word? We’ll be tricked then, won’t we? Even though I don’t really care about such a small amount of money since I’m a member of the Nan family, I still don’t like the feeling of being tricked. Don’t you think so, Ning Ran?”

“You’re right. We can’t be tricked.” Ning Ran nodded in agreement.

“Don’t worry. I won’t go back on my word. If you don’t trust me, I can get someone to transfer the money to you first. Just give me the account number,” assured Huang Zichao.

Ning Ran and Nan Xing exchanged looks, not expecting Huang Zichao to say that.

The man’s words had put them in a difficult position.

The Nan family was a prominent family, so Nan Xing could not really make Huang Zichao transfer the money to his bank account.

After all, that was a small amount of money, so it would be a bit embarrassing if he really did so.

If Nan Chen was present, he would not have agreed to do so either.

It would be embarrassing if word got out that Huang Zichao really transferred the money to their bank account.

As for Ning Ran, she did not dare to make a decision. If she turned down Huang Zichao’s offer, and the latter really broke his promise, she would need to come up with a good explanation as to why she breached her contract.

Nan Xing was reluctant to make a decision either. After all, he was not involved in that matter.

“I will inform my talent agent about this. It’s up to them to make the decision.” In the end, Ning Ran decided to leave the matter to her team of talent agents.

On the way back to the hotel, Ning Ran could not wrap her mind around what had happened.

Nan Xing could not figure it out either, but he couldn’t be bothered to think about it because his mind was preoccupied with another matter, namely why he always had conflicts with Lu Jingyuan.

Being engrossed in their own thoughts, they remained silent all the way.

Taking out her phone, Ning Ran called Wang Xiaoou before explaining the whole matter to him clearly and asking him to make a decision.

Wang Xiaoou also found it strange. “If there is any change in this matter, it should be Huang Zichao’s team who needs to come and negotiate with us. So why did he come to you personally instead? His talent agents were the ones handling all communication about the show before this. Why would he approach you personally? He’s not joking with you, is he?”

“I don’t think so. He looked very serious. I just can’t figure out why he did so,” said Ning Ran.

“Don’t listen to him. This is a work matter. If his talent agents didn’t bring it up to us, we won’t quit the show. We’ll just go with the flow for now.”

Since Wang Xiaoou said so, Ning Ran went along with it.

It didn’t really matter to her since she was not interested in participating in any talk show, to begin with. After all, saying some hypocritical and flattering words in front of the camera did not fit her personality.

After ending the phone call with Wang Xiaoou, Ning Ran remained silent.

Feeling bored, Nan Xing tried to make conversation. “Ning Ran, do you think I am a bad person?”

“Yes,” replied Ning Ran.

“Huh?”

Ning Ran chuckled. “You’re just asking me that question to make me praise you, aren’t you?”

“No, I just don’t think I’m a bad person, but why do some people always think I’m bad?”

“By some people, do you mean Lu Jingyuan?”

“Yeah—no, I mean other people. Her opinion doesn’t matter to me.”

“Is that so? I think you look distracted because you have been thinking about the conflict with Lu Jingyuan today, am I right?”

“I’m not distracted. Even if I am, it’s not because of her. She’s a nobody, so she won’t affect my mood at all,” Nan Xing quickly denied.

“In terms of appearance, you two are quite a match. Both of you are good-looking, so there is no problem there. However, Lu Jingyuan has two kids, whose father is unknown. In this case, it’ll be difficult for the two of you to be together. After all, you are not from an ordinary family, and your status will not allow you to marry any woman.”

Ning Ran was telling the truth as that was what she thought.

“Ning Ran, I think you’re confused. I hate her. So why would you associate me with her?” Nan Xing got anxious.

“Stop denying it. You’re surrounded by so many beautiful women. If you don’t care about a woman, you won’t even spare a glance at her, let alone discuss with me her bad opinion of you,” Ning Ran said with a smile.

“I didn’t want to discuss her with you. You’re the one who said so. Anyway, Lu Jingyuan really is a terrible person, otherwise, why would her children have no father?”

Ning Ran did not like to hear those words because her children used to be fatherless as well.

She had experienced Lu Jingyuan’s current situation before.

The only difference was that Ning Ran’s situation was worse than that of Lu Jingyuan’s because the latter had a good family background and a brother who could help her.

As for Ning Ran, she had no relatives and could only rely on herself.

“Back then, Erbao and Dabao didn’t have a father as well, and other people said the same about me. You people are all the same, criticizing others without evidence. I wasn’t sure if you were a bad person at first, but now I am! You really are a bad person!” Ning Ran snapped.

Nan Xing originally wanted to talk about Lu Jingyuan, but unexpectedly, he offended Ning Ran.

Read Novel My Wife Is A Superstar Chapter 706

Chapter 706 Afraid That I Will Eat You

Nan Xing quickly explained, “That’s not what I meant. I just—”

“That is what you mean!” Ning Ran said angrily.

“I-I was wrong. I said something I shouldn’t have.” Nan Xing regretted it very much.

Ning Ran snorted coldly before falling silent.

Just then, the phone rang. It was a video call from Nan Chen.

Nan Chen had just had a video call with his kids. After learning that Nan Xing and Ning Ran had gone out, he was worried about them, so he called Ning Ran to ask her what happened.

On the phone, Ning Ran told Nan Chen about her entire conversation with Huang Zichao.

After hearing it, Nan Chen told her without thinking, "Just do as he says."

Ning Ran put the phone on speaker mode so that Nan Xing, who was next to her, could hear it too.

He did not expect that his brother would actually listen to Huang Zichao. "Chen, what right does he have to boss us around? He was the one who invited Ning Ran to the show, but now, he's asking her not to go. How can he do whatever he wants? Who does he think he is?"

"Did he personally invite Ning Ran to the show before?" Nan Chen asked.

Ning Ran quickly clarified, "No. There is no such thing."

"Well, that means it was all coordinated by the agencies previously, and Huang Zichao didn't know about it. Even if he knew, he must have thought it was just another job. But now that he's asking you to quit in person, and he is willing to pay for it, this shows that he is not doing this for profit. If it's not because of profit, it must be because there are other risks. If it's risky, why bother going?"

There was nothing wrong with Nan Chen's reasoning.

"But if he is the only one who is at risk and Ning Ran is not, why should we listen to him?" asked Nan Xing.

"Since there is a risk, why should we still go there? We should avoid whatever risk there is," Nan Chen said.

Hearing that, Nan Xing could not find a retort. "You're right, Chen. You have considered everything thoroughly."

After Jiang Zhe drank his first glass of red wine at a private club in Flower City, his face began to turn red.

He also started to stutter. With glassy eyes, he looked at the woman in front of him.

The woman was Yu Xiang, a senior he had a crush on in high school. He had not seen her for ten years, but she still looked beautiful.

In the past, Yu Xiang was the leader of the student union. Being a very eloquent person, she represented her school many times in public speaking competitions in the city and won many awards.

Jiang Zhe was a shy young man at that time. He had a scrawny build and ordinary looks. He even wore a pair of black-rimmed glasses that covered almost half of his face.

Every time there was an event in the school, Yu Xiang would always be the one who was in the limelight by either winning awards or being the host of ceremonies.

Oftentimes, Jiang Zhe could only sit in a remote corner, watching Yu Xiang's talents blossom like a flower on the stage through the lenses of his black-rimmed glasses.

Jiang Zhe also tried to sign up for the school's public speaking interest group but ended in failure when he gave a speech on stage for the first time.

He originally prepared a five-minute speech, but he only managed to squeak out the words "Thank you, everyone" after taking the stage.

Then, he ran off the stage.

At that time, everyone in the audience laughed at him, except Yu Xiang who chased after him and comforted him. She told him to train hard and develop self-confidence as she believed that he would be successful in the future.

To a frustrated teenager, any words of encouragement from his idol were extremely valuable.

Later, Jiang Zhe read hard and practiced his speech ability in front of the mirror.

The vast amount of knowledge gave him self-confidence and allowed him to say goodbye to his inferiority complex.

Those efforts finally paid off after many years. In the competition for the job as Nan Chen's assistant, he stood out from the thousands of elites who participated in it and became the closest and most trusted person in the entire company to Nan Chen.

But after so many years, his alcohol tolerance had not increased despite the increase in his knowledge, abilities, and income.

Yu Xiang raised her glass again. "You are now the most outstanding person among our classmates. Here's a toast to you."

Jiang Zhe quickly waved his hand. "I can't drink anymore, Yu Xiang. I'm going to get drunk if I drink any more. I hardly drink usually."

"Hey, don't rain on my parade, will you? I haven't seen you for so many years, so we have to drink to our heart's content." Yu Xiang held up her glass and refused to put it down.

Jiang Zhe had no choice but to take another sip.

He did not dare to drink anymore or he would get drunk.

"Yu Xiang, I haven't seen you for many years. You are still so beautiful, and you look even more graceful than before. It seems that time has been kind to you," Jiang Zhe praised.

"Oh, look at you. You are so good at talking now. You're completely different from before."

"Please don't mention the past, Yu Xiang. I was too cowardly at that time and became the laughingstock of everyone. Fortunately, you comforted me," Jiang Zhe said embarrassingly.

"Hey, tell me honestly, did you have a crush on me back then?" Yu Xiang asked with a smile.

Jiang Zhe was already blushing, but after hearing that, his face flushed even more.

"Yu Xiang, do you want to hear the truth?" he asked, grinning.

"If the truth will hurt me, I'd rather listen to lies." Yu Xiang smiled at him charmingly.

"Then I'll keep it a secret for the time being. Whether it's the truth or a lie, I won't say it first. You'll find out in the future," replied Jiang Zhe with a smile.

He reckoned that that was a smart approach, for he knew that once some words were spoken, it would change their current harmonious relationship.

Therefore, the best way was to not say anything, keep the status quo, and observe each other slowly.

"Okay, then don't say it. I guess you are still shy, huh?" Yu Xiang remarked, laughing.

"Yeah, I'm still that shy junior. My heart still pounds whenever I see you," Jiang Zhe replied as he smiled.

"Really? Is your heart pounding now?" Yu Xiang raised her glass again.

“Yes. It is pounding three times faster than usual.” Jiang Zhe manned up.

“Really? I don’t believe it!” Yu Xiang’s smile grew even more charming.

No longer the young man he used to be; Jiang Zhe could understand the ambiguous meaning hidden in her words.

He had not seen her for many years, but she suddenly asked him out that day and acted overly friendly with him.

Jiang Zhe was willing to believe that it was because of their friendship, but he had to consider other factors as well.

Therefore, he played along with her while still keeping to his boundaries.

“How can I make you believe it?” Jiang Zhe asked, smirking.

“If you let me listen to it, I will believe it,” replied Yu Xiang.

Jiang Zhe smiled and said nothing.

“What? Are you afraid that I’ll eat you or something?” Yu Xiang continued to flirt with him.

“No, of course not. You can listen to it.” Jiang Zhe spread his arms.

Although he wasn’t someone who liked to mess around, he could not act too cowardly in front of girls either.

In response, Yu Xiang actually leaned over and placed her ear against his chest to listen to his heartbeat.

A faint fragrance filled Jiang Zhe’s nostrils, making his heart skip a beat.

His childhood crush was right before him. For a second, he wanted to reach out and hug her.

He moved his hand a little before he finally decided to hold back.

As everything was happening too fast and too suddenly, it was impossible for the usually smart Jiang Zhe to not suspect anything.

After all, when something was too good to be true, it was either a scheme or a trap.

Since he wasn’t an average Joe, Jiang Zhe would not fall into other people’s traps easily. Otherwise, he would not have been Nan Chen’s assistant.

Read Novel My Wife Is A Superstar Chapter 707

Chapter 707 Obsessions

Jiang Zhe's phone rang after he had a few glasses. He stood up to answer the phone call. Upon hanging up, he came back to tell Yu Xiang apologetically that his boss wanted him to work overtime, so he had to leave.

Yu Xiang wasn't pleased. "Why do you have to work at this hour? Don't you think your boss is being too harsh to you?"

Jiang Zhe flashed a helpless smile and answered, "There's nothing I can do about it. My boss is also working overtime himself. He's a workaholic."

"That's his problem. No matter how much he likes to work, he has no right to ask others to work overtime just to keep him company," Yu Xiang grumbled.

"Yu Xiang, the job market is so competitive now. It's not easy to get a job nowadays. I have no choice but to work overtime." Jiang Zhe smiled bitterly.

"So? Are you just going to leave me here?" Yu Xiang asked coquettishly.

"I'm sorry..."

"Promise me you'll buy me a meal tomorrow. Otherwise, I'm not letting you leave!"

"Okay. I'll get back to you on that tomorrow."

"No! I want you to promise me now," Yu Xiang purred.

"All right, I promise you. If nothing comes up tomorrow, I'll definitely buy you a meal."

"That's more like it!" Yu Xiang was elated.

By the time Jiang Zhe arrived at the office, it was already half past ten at night.

The moment Jiang Zhe entered, Nan Chen frowned when he detected the stench of alcohol on his body.

In truth, Jiang Zhe didn't drink much, but he just wasn't that good of a drinker. He had a low alcohol tolerance as well.

"I was out with friends and had a few glasses." Jiang Zhe told the truth before Nan Chen even had the chance to question him.

Nan Chen was well aware of Jiang Zhe's alcohol tolerance because he would occasionally ask him to drink on his behalf.

Whenever Jiang Zhe was told to do so, he never hesitated. In fact, he was rather enthusiastic. One would think that Jiang Zhe was a good drinker, but he would always get drunk easily.

Most of the time, Jiang Zhe had good self-control, and Nan Chen knew about it.

"When was the last time you drank?" Nan Chen asked.

"Last year," Jiang Zhe answered honestly.

"Did you drink tonight because you were celebrating? Or did you find a girl you like?"

Nan Chen hit the nail on the head, but Jiang Zhe wasn't surprised. After all, he knew how smart his boss was.

They knew each other inside out because they spent a lot of time working together.

"Yes. I met a girl," Jiang Zhe admitted.

"Is her name Yu Xiang?" Nan Chen queried.

Jiang Zhe was so stunned that he was staring blankly at Nan Chen with his mouth open.

"Don't worry. I'm not invading your privacy. It just so happens that the club you went to belongs to my friend. My friend knows you're a cautious person, so his curiosity was piqued when he suddenly saw you showing up at the club with a beautiful girl. He ended up taking a photo of you guys and sent it to me. Well, I got curious too, so I got someone to look into the girl. At first, I thought it was going to take me a long time to find out who she was. To my surprise, that wasn't the case. She's Yu Xiang, the senior manager of the real estate department of Sunshine Group who just took office. I got you here because I think you should know that she's our competitor's executive. If you think what I've done is wrong, you can return to your drinking session," Nan Chen said flatly.

Jiang Zhe broke out into a cold sweat. That was our first date, and we conveniently landed in a club owned by Boss' friend. Isn't this too much of a coincidence? What if we hadn't gone to a club? What if we were to go to a restaurant or a bar? Would those businesses belong to Boss' friends as well?

Even if it wasn't a sheer coincidence, there was nothing Jiang Zhe could say about it because he was Nan Chen's right-hand man and one of the key figures of Nanshi Corporation.

It was only right for Nan Chen to monitor both Jiang Zhe's work life and private life.

If something were to happen to Jiang Zhe, Nanshi Corporation would definitely suffer losses.

One of the key factors Ouyang Duo lost everything when he thought he had everything under control was because Nan Zhengde had sent a spy to spy on him.

Obviously, Nan Chen wouldn't want to have a spy spying on him. That was why he had to investigate everyone close to him.

In other words, whoever wanted to be a high-ranking employee would have to accept the fact that they would be investigated.

Still, Jiang Zhe was stunned by how fast Nan Chen had gotten the information he needed. Yu Xiang and I only came into contact two days ago, and we've only met today!

"She told me she was working in Archulea. So she lied to me?"

"No. She didn't exactly lie to you either. She did just transfer back from Archulea," Nan Chen answered.

"I've been thinking that there must be a reason behind her sudden appearance, but I didn't expect this to be the case." Jiang Zhe couldn't help feeling dejected.

After all, Yu Xiang was his crush when he was younger. We reunited after so many years, and it turns out that she has ulterior motives for approaching me. This sucks!

"Do you know why she approached you?" Nan Chen asked.

"Well, what else if not the bidding war for the project on Serenity Street?"

Nan Chen nodded slightly. Jiang Zhe has never disappointed me. Indeed, he's so smart that I don't even need to give him hints.

"Although she's from Sunshine Corporation and she's one of the people in charge of the project, she's still your friend. Without proof, I could be jumping to the conclusion by saying that's the motive behind her approaching you. You can't make an enemy out of her just because she's working for our competitor. That won't be fair to her," Nan Chen uttered.

Jiang Zhe shot Nan Chen a grateful glance and replied, "I appreciate it, but she contacted me out of the blue. She must've approached me because of the project. But don't worry. I won't give her the chance to jeopardize us even if you don't remind me."

Nan Chen nodded. He trusted Jiang Zhe entirely.

“Still, I would like to try something,” Jiang Zhe said.

Jiang Zhe’s words were ambiguous, but Nan Chen seemed to have understood what he meant. “Are you sure?”

“Yes. I want to try it out.”

Nan Chen merely narrowed his eyes and kept mum.

Just then, Jiang Zhe received a text on his phone.

Yu Xiang texted: Are you still busy? I think I miss you.

Jiang Zhe replied: You are?

Yu Xiang replied: Of course! It was very nice seeing you today. When I saw you, it felt as though we were meeting each other for the first time. You’re still the amazing young man from back then.

Jiang Zhe was saddened when he saw the text. I’m no longer the young man you used to know, and you’re also no longer the person I used to know. No one can turn back time. Everything from the past should stay in the past.

“Did she look for you again?” Nan Chen asked.

“Yes,” Jiang Zhe answered truthfully.

“Maybe you should forget about it. She seems important to you.”

“No. I would still like to try it out. There are some important things that no longer matter once you get them or see things clearly.”

“That’s true. More often than not, the things we find important are just our obsessions.”

Read Novel My Wife Is A Superstar Chapter 708

Chapter 708 Standing Out

Jiang Zhe met up with Yu Xiang again the next evening. They went out for dinner before catching a movie together. After the movie, Yu Xiang told Jiang Zhe she had a bottle of fine wine at home, so she ended up bringing him back to a hotel room she rented long-term.

True enough, it was a bottle of fine wine. Although Jiang Zhe had a low tolerance for alcohol, he could tell how good the wine was.

“Is this where you stay permanently?” Jiang Zhe asked. “Yes. I don’t have a house in Flower City. If I don’t stay here, are you going to take me in?” Yu Xiang laughed.

“If you don’t mind staying with me, I’ll think about it.” Jiang Zhe smiled.

“Take me in, then. What’s there to think about?” Yu Xiang said flirtatiously.

Jiang Zhe felt his heart skip a beat. He quickly took a deep breath to calm himself down.

Everyone knew how easily men would fall for a woman’s beauty. In Jiang Zhe’s case, the temptation was strong because not only was the woman before him beautiful, but she was also once his crush.

It’s always tough to give up on love from the past.

However, Jiang Zhe stood strong and didn’t falter.

“Yu Xiang, when are you going back to Archulea?” he asked with a smile.

“What’s the matter? Are you chasing me away? Just a few seconds ago, you said you would consider taking me in, no? How could you change your mind so quickly? Are you that unreliable?” Yu Xiang grumbled coyly.

“I wouldn’t dare to chase you away. Besides, I don’t have the right to do so.”

“Keep me, then, and I won’t leave,” Yu Xiang continued flirting in response.

“Okay, then. Don’t go, Yu Xiang. Stay here.” Jiang Zhe realized he sort of meant it from the bottom of his heart when he said that.

Although he was suspecting Yu Xiang, he was still hoping she could stay because he enjoyed eating, watching a movie, and hanging out with her. This may be wrong, but I truly enjoy her company.

“Okay, then. I’ll stay. Are you going to provide for me and take care of me?” Yu Xiang laughed.

Jiang Zhe didn’t dare to make such promises because he was a man of his word.

“Just call me Xiang Xiang from now on. It sounds more intimate. If you keep calling me by my name, you’ll make me feel old,” Yu Xiang added.

Jiang Zhe merely smiled and replied, “You’re not old. You’re still as young and as beautiful as always.”

He meant every word he said.

“Oh, right! I have a present for you.” Yu Xiang picked up her purse and whipped out a box.

“Here you go. Open it.” Yu Xiang gave the box to Jiang Zhe.

Jiang Zhe took the box and opened it to find a smartwatch inside.

Yu Xiang leaned toward Jiang Zhe and took off his Rolex on his wrist.

“I know you’re a successful man, and you’re wearing your Rolex as a sign of status. But I want you to be healthy, so a smartwatch suits you better. Not only can it show you health-related indicators on your body, but it can also give early warnings so that you’ll pay attention to your health. So... wear this and I’m taking your Rolex.”

With that, she put on the smartwatch for Jiang Zhe without asking for his permission.

After that, she kept Jiang Zhe’s Rolex in her purse and said, “I’ll keep your Rolex safe. One day, if you want it back, I’ll pass it back to you. In the meantime, wear the one I just gave you.”

Jiang Zhe checked the watch out and liked it. This looks nice. I like the design and the color.

“Okay. I’ll wear it.” Jiang Zhe accepted the watch.

Yu Xiang beamed upon seeing that.

They chatted for a while more before Jiang Zhe stood up and excused himself.

Yu Xiang didn’t ask him to stay either. It seemed as though neither of them wanted to spend the night with the other.

Jiang Zhe exited the hotel and got into a black Mercedes Benz.

The driver, who was in a black suit, turned toward Jiang Zhe to see Jiang Zhe pointing at the smartwatch he was wearing.

The driver nodded in understanding. “You had quite a few glasses, didn’t you, Assistant Jiang? You seem to be in a good mood.”

“Yes. I had a great time catching up with an old friend,” Jiang Zhe responded.

“Is she your girlfriend or an ex-girlfriend?”

“Neither of that.” Jiang Zhe laughed.

“By the way, Mr. Chen told me to tell you that there’ll be a meeting with the project team tomorrow morning, Assistant Jiang. The bidding on the Serenity Street project will be discussed during the meeting. He’s hoping for you to be there.”

“Okay. Got it.” Jiang Zhe nodded.

Two days later, the bidding event for the project on Serenity Street was held.

That was the first time Nan Chen had met Ouyang Li in person. She was so average-looking that he didn’t bother to spare her a second glance.

On the other hand, Ouyang Li was utterly mesmerized when she saw Nan Chen.

Although their families were close, Ouyang Li had always been overlooked in the Ouyang family. She was seldom required to attend social events.

Despite the fact that Nan Chen and Ouyang Qing were close, Ouyang Li had only seen him a few times before, and the last time she had seen him was many years ago.

Ouyang Li wasn’t impressed when Ouyang Qing fell for Nan Chen and started pursuing him.

She never cared about how good-looking a man was. In her opinion, a person’s physical appearance was trivial.

Perhaps that was why she wasn’t that much of a looker. She always thought that a person’s appearance could never determine their worth.

She once thought Ouyang Qing was an idiot for falling so hard for a good-looking man.

However, when she saw Nan Chen that day, she was stunned.

Needless to say, a person would never understand something without seeing it with their own eyes.

Although Ouyang Li knew Nan Chen was good-looking, it was merely an image in her mind.

When she finally saw him that day, she eventually found out how captivating he could be.

In other words, nothing could beat seeing him with her own eyes. How can a man possibly look so good when he’s just sitting there? It’s like other men around here have just vanished all of a sudden.

Indeed, the place was filled with men in suits, but Nan Chen stood out from all his peers.

Ouyang Li finally understood why Ouyang Qing was so desperate to marry Nan Chen.

“Ms. Ouyang, this way please,” her assistant uttered.

“Oh, okay.”

Ouyang Li and Nan Chen both sat in the first row, but they were five seats apart.

When Ouyang Li threw another glance at him, she saw him staring at his phone as if there was no one else around.

Nan Chen did not plan to attend the bidding event, but the relevant leader had called him earlier and urged him to show up. That way, the media outlets could take photos of him. Subsequently, the public would think that Flower City regarded the old town project with great importance.

That was why the people sitting next to Nan Chen that day were all the leaders of the relevant departments.

There were a lot of reporters at the event, and they couldn't stop taking photos of Nan Chen, who kept scrolling through his emails expressionlessly.

Right then, Nan Chen received a call from Erbao.

He stood up, nodded at the leaders next to him, and walked toward the restroom.

“What is it, Erbao?” Nan Chen asked gently.

“Are you at work, Daddy?”

“I am, but it's okay. I'm listening.”

“It's nothing, actually. I miss you, Daddy. I just wanted to hear your voice.”

“Oh, I see. Have you eaten?”

“I have, but I'm not full yet. Mommy told me to eat less because my tummy is bulging.”

“Don't listen to your mommy. Just eat however much you want.” Nan Chen smiled.

Read Novel My Wife Is A Superstar Chapter 709

After Nan Chen ended the call with Erbao, he turned around and saw an ordinary-looking woman in a regular outfit observing him from afar.

Since Nan Chen wasn't familiar with her, he couldn't be bothered to greet her. Hence, he started walking away, for the bid was starting soon.

However, Ouyang Li blocked his path. "Are you Nan Chen?"

It was obvious that she already knew the answer to her question. After all, it was impossible for her not to know him.

Well aware of this, Nan Chen ignored her and got ready to walk around her.

Yet, Ouyang Li stopped him in his tracks again. "I'm asking you a question. Are you Nan Chen?"

Nan Chen responded impatiently, "I am. What do you want?"

"So, you're the one who got my dad killed?" Ouyang Li asked.

Nan Chen wasn't interested in answering the dull question at all. It was Ouyang Duo who wanted to harm the Nan family first. It was his failure that resulted in the current outcome. How can Ouyang Li not know about this?

"I don't know you, and I don't know your dad as well. It's completely pointless for us to interact as I know nothing about this matter. Please step aside, or I'm going to have to call the guards." Nan Chen was polite enough to ask Ouyang Li to move away instead of pushing her directly.

"Nan Chen, my dad died because of you. I will avenge my dad and make your family pay for your sins. I want you to suffer ten times more than my dad!" Ouyang Li threatened.

Nan Chen continued to ignore her and said nothing while remaining indifferent.

Just then, a stylish and beautiful woman walked toward them. It was Yu Xiang. "Ms. Ouyang, the auction has started. Please be seated now."

Nan Chen was still standing next to them. While Yu Xiang was speaking to Ouyang Li, she peeked at him for a split second before retracting her gaze.

Yu Xiang felt slightly intimidated to look at Nan Chen because of his domineering aura.

Ouyang Li waved her hand dismissively, signaling Yu Xiang to leave. She still had something to tell Nan Chen.

Seeing this, Yu Xiang had no choice but to walk away. If she was being honest, she didn't want Ouyang Li to interact with Nan Chen too much before the auction's result was announced.

After all, one was bound to have a slip of the tongue if one spoke too much. Yu Xiang thought they should just compete without excessive conversations.

Unfortunately, Ouyang Li was the boss, and Yu Xiang couldn't direct the former's actions.

As for Ouyang Li, she merely wanted to threaten Nan Chen and make her presence known, for she was pissed off after he looked down on her.

However, she soon realized Nan Chen's presence was causing her indescribable stress.

All he did was stand there quietly, but it was already enough to stress Ouyang Li out. She felt inferior because of the pressure.

It was a terrible feeling for Ouyang Li as she had never been taken seriously. Thus, she would be furious whenever someone underestimated her.

Yet, Nan Chen was an arrogant person who always held his head high.

Even when he was facing prominent figures, he would never bother to treat them with much respect, let alone Ouyang Li.

In a way, Ouyang Li brought trouble upon herself.

Nonetheless, she refused to accept this. She wanted Nan Chen to look her straight in the eye, talk to her, and remember her.

Yet, Nan Chen didn't take her seriously at all. Not only did he not argue with her, but he also didn't spare her a proper glance.

After the minute-long confrontation, the auction officially began when the host went on the stage.

Ouyang Li had no choice but to sit down at her designated seat.

This bidding session wasn't like the others, where the person with the highest bid would win the land.

Since Serenity Street was an old street in Flower City, it represented the prosperity Flower City once achieved. Other than that, there were also some ancient buildings on the street, which were meaningful to Flower City.

Hence, this wasn't a project where companies could simply demolish everything and rebuild the street. Some buildings could be removed and reconstructed completely, but some must be maintained in their original state, and only certain parts could be reformed or slightly adjusted. There must be a balance between the city's development and preserving the street's history.

All this must be achieved through skillful planning. Precise decisions must be made on which buildings to demolish, keep, modify, and rearrange.

In addition to offering a price for the bidding, the company must prepare a detailed proposal.

After the proposals were collected and handed to the related departments, a team of evaluation experts from all around the world would grade each idea. Subsequently, a winner would be chosen.

The presentation sequence was already decided previously by drawing lots. The company under Nanshi Corporation would be the last to present the proposal.

To Ouyang Li, that day was her time to shine, as she already knew most of the content in Nanshi Corporation's proposition for the tender.

A week ago, Yu Xiang, who had always been staying at Archulea, suddenly called Sunshine Corporation's new CEO. She stated she was a former classmate of Nanshi Corporation's owner's assistant, and that she could be a useful addition to the company.

After assessing Yu Xiang's words, Ouyang Li thought she made sense, and her plan was worth a try.

Thus, Yu Xiang arrived in Flower City and became an important person in charge of this project.

Not only that, but Ouyang Li also promised Yu Xiang that the latter would be promoted to deputy CEO if this project could be accomplished.

Soon, Yu Xiang lived up to Ouyang Li's expectations. Yu Xiang invited Jiang Zhe out on a date and got into a relationship with the man successfully.

Next, Yu Xiang gifted a customized watch with a location tracker and a listening device installed.

When Jiang Zhe wore the watch to attend a project meeting with the senior executives, the discussion was heard by Yu Xiang's team.

That way, Yu Xiang had basically taken control of Nanshi Corporation's proposal. Once she found out about the idea and the price offered, all she had to do was to amend the plan and lower the price.

With that, she could weaken the advantage held by the opponents.

That was the reason why Ouyang Li was certain the victory would be hers. Now, she was merely waiting for Nan Chen and his team to be humiliated.

The two companies assigned by Sunshine Corporation were using collusive tendering against Nanshi Corporation.

One of the teams would use a plan designed by Sunshine Corporation, while the other would use the plot they overheard from Nanshi Corporation.

With the attacks from both sides, it was impossible for Nanshi Corporation to win this auction.

When Sunshine Corporation's team was presenting the proposal to the experts, Ouyang Li glanced at Nan Chen repeatedly.

Yet, Nan Chen had never once raised his head. His gaze was fixated on the tablet in his hands while he moved his fingers around the screen occasionally. He seemed to be busy with work.

It was as if what others said was none of his business at all.

Even when Ouyang Li's subordinates were presenting an idea similar to Nanshi Corporation's, Nan Chen didn't look remotely surprised.

Seeing that, Ouyang Li started to panic. How can this man be so calm? Could it be that he wasn't involved in the planning process, so he knew nothing about it? But that's impossible. Nan Chen is the CEO, after all. This is a significant project, and he's even attending the bidding personally. He definitely cares about this project!

Although Ouyang Li felt anxious, she still tried to reassure herself. He's probably just pretending to be calm. I shouldn't be worried about it. There's nothing to worry about.

Finally, it was Nanshi Corporation's turn to present the proposal to the experts.

Ouyang Li and Yu Xiang exchanged glances and smiled.

Nanshi Corporation's solution had been modified and used by Ouyang Li's company. If Nanshi Corporation repeated the same proposal, Ouyang Li would immediately object to the idea and accuse them of plagiarism.

Unexpectedly, Nanshi Corporation's person in charge presented a different solution than what Ouyang Li knew.

Not only was it a distinct idea, but the thought process of the idea was a stark contrast to what Ouyang Li discovered beforehand. No one would ever associate the two concepts together.

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Chapter 710 That Is Terrifying

The proposal presented by Nanshi Corporation was entirely different from what Ouyang Li and the others had heard from eavesdropping. This proposal sounded more sophisticated, intricate, and logical.

When they talked about Serenity Street's promising future, they even received cheers from the audience. After everyone had presented their proposal, the next step was to wait for the expert panel's discussion and announcement of the results in the afternoon.

Even though the results had not yet been announced, everyone already knew that Nanshi Corporation would win. Ouyang Li glared at Yu Xiang, and the latter's face turned pale.

She seemed to know what went wrong, but she was not certain. Initially, Ouyang Li wanted to mock Nan Chen after winning the bid, but given how things had turned out, she would no longer have the chance to do so.

Nan Chen ignored her the entire time and did not show even the tiniest hint of complacency. He seemed to have gone there solely to watch a show and was unconcerned about the outcome.

Or maybe there was no surprise or expectation because he already knew what would happen. He was confident that his team could manage everything.

Hence, when the event was over, he shook hands with the authorities present and left. Ouyang Li stood up but almost lost her balance. Seeing that, Yu Xiang quickly reached out to support her boss.

Yet, Ouyang Li slapped Yu Xiang's hand away and stared at her with hatred in her eyes. As Ouyang Li walked out of the door, a man in black ran into her and swiftly stuffed a small listening device into her bag.

According to the original plan, Ouyang Li was supposed to eat lunch with Yu Xiang during the lunch break and find a place to rest for a while before returning to the venue to await the result announcement.

Then, she would be interviewed by reporters as the winner to prove that she had solidified her position within the company.

Unfortunately, things were bad for her now.

It was highly likely that Nanshi Corporation would be selected for the project, despite the fact that the results had not yet been made public.

It would be pointless to be interviewed if she were the loser.

Nobody wanted to be slapped in the face, and she was not a masochist.

“Ms. Ouyang, I find this to be quite odd,” stated Yu Xiang weakly.

“What’s so strange? The plan you got was fake! Didn’t you say you took care of Jiang Zhe? Didn’t you say you had total control over his actions? In reality, you have no control over his actions. Instead, they have complete control over your actions! They deceived you with a fake plan, and you still have the audacity to speak?” Ouyang Li bellowed.

Yu Xiang dared not say anything in response to Ouyang Li’s criticism.

However, even if she remained silent, Ouyang Li would not let this go.

“Since you’re in charge of this matter, you’re accountable for it. Go back to Archulea. No. Go to Alendor. Stay as far away from me as you can. Also, there will be no year-end bonus for you. You’re free to resign if you’re not satisfied!”

Ouyang Li was still enraged and continued to yell at Yu Xiang.

Yu Xiang was also exasperated, but she could not do anything.

Although she had never intended this to happen, she was ultimately to blame.

“Ms. Ouyang, even if we weren’t successful in getting this project, there are still other projects that are waiting for us. Furthermore, we’re still unsure of the cause of this. I think it’s unfair that I have to take on this responsibility before we find out the truth,” Yu Xiang remarked.

Ouyang Li became even angrier when she heard that. “Unfair? Tell me then. What do you think I should do to be fair? Should I not hold you accountable for this? Should I just give you a promotion and even increase your pay? You were the one who claimed you had control over Jiang Zhe, but now that things have turned out this way, you’re not willing to take responsibility?”

Yu Xiang quickly shook her head in resignation. "Of course, I'm willing to take responsibility if Jiang Zhe is the problem, but what if that's not the case?"

"If it's not your fault, who do you believe should be blamed? Is it my fault?" Ouyang Li questioned.

"It's possible that Nanshi Corporation learned about our plan and revised their proposal at the last minute. If so, who on earth would have leaked our plan? Could there be spies among us?" asked Yu Xiang.

"You're still trying to make excuses, huh?" Ouyang Li grew angrier.

"Ms. Ouyang, please calm down. I'm not making any excuses. I'm perfectly fine with it if you want to fire me. After all, I do have to take responsibility for this situation. However, if there's a spy on our team, your movements will most likely be known to your opponents in the future. Your business plans may also be exposed. Isn't that horrifying? Furthermore, you've said that Mr. Ouyang became that way because the Nan family planted a spy around him. What if the Nan family has more than one spy? Is there really no chance of that happening?"

Yu Xiang's words enlightened Ouyang Li. After some consideration, she concluded that what Yu Xiang said made sense.

"What should we do then?" Ouyang Li inquired.

"Please give me some time to investigate this matter," replied Yu Xiang.

"How are you going to conduct your investigation? Are you planning to meet everyone in the company and go over each one individually?"

"That's not necessary. I think—"

Before Yu Xiang could finish speaking, Ouyang Li's phone rang.

Ouyang Li reached into her bag and felt something hard that was shaped like a button.

There should not be such a thing in her bag, so she took it out.

Yu Xiang recognized the object and immediately exclaimed, "This is a listening device!"

Hearing that, Ouyang Li was shocked. "A listening device?"

"Yes! This must be a listening device!" commented Yu Xiang.

"Who put this inside my bag? When was it placed?"

“It’s hard to say. If it was placed inside your bag a long time ago, the other party must have heard the details of our meeting,” Yu Xiang hurriedly responded.

Ouyang Li was not stupid. Naturally, she understood what Yu Xiang was trying to say.

“Are you implying that I’m the one who leaked the plan? So I’m to blame?”

“That’s not what I mean, but we can’t rule that possibility out. At the very least, it shows that there’s a spy in our team, and the Nan family sent the spy. If we don’t figure out who the spy is, we’ll never be able to win against the Nan family. We don’t even know how many listening devices have been placed around you. It’s also possible that they’re spying on your personal life, and that is terrifying!”

Ouyang Li fell silent.

Although she was a strong-minded woman, she was the type to question her abilities when she felt defeated.

People who were doubting themselves were the easiest to fool, and Yu Xiang happened to be a master at tricking.

She knew she had to persuade Ouyang Li to continue trusting her.

As a woman, she had an advantage over men when it came to getting close to Ouyang Li. Therefore, it was easier for her to win Ouyang Li’s trust.

Now that things were in a mess, she needed to find a way to fix it as soon as possible to ensure that she could get closer to the core of Sunshine Corporation.

“Don’t worry, Ms. Ouyang. I’ll get to the bottom of this,” Yu Xiang promised.

“Fine. I’ll give you another chance.” In the end, Ouyang Li was persuaded.