

Read Novel My Wife Is A Superstar Chapter 741

Chapter 741 Bully

While Huang Zichao was an award-winning actor, he found it impossible to calm his nerve enough to put up an act in front of Nan Chen. Thus, his terror was clearly displayed for Nan Chen and even Qiao Zhan to see.

Still, Huang Zichao was unwilling to yield just like that because he was still hopeful for Ding Fei's dirt on him would remain unknown to the world.

That was basically his greatest weakness. If the information Ding Fei had on him were leaked, his career would very likely be doomed. Thus, even though he was opening his mouth, he refused to answer Nan Chen's question.

The silence Huang Zichao produced was born out of fear, unlike Nan Chen's, which was due to his unwillingness to speak. "Tell me about Ding Fei," Nan Chen asked again. With substantial effort, Huang Zichao managed to seal his mouth shut.

Nan Chen shot a tacit look at Qiao Zhan before the latter lifted a bottle. "Seems like you still haven't drunk enough alcohol to speak your mind freely. How about another bottle?"

Crap, he's going to make me drink again? If I glug down any more alcohol, I will really get drunk! Huang Zichao yelled, "How can you allow your subordinate to commit a crime, Mr. Nan?"

"You were always his idol. Meeting you today made him very happy. There's nothing I can do if he wants you to drink with him," Nan Chen responded plainly.

Speedily, Qiao Zhan went along with it. "Yeah, that's right! I've always admired you. Today, I'll toast to you using tea instead of alcohol."

Huang Zichao's lips trembled with outrage. He's such a bully! I'm going to die if I keep drinking this sixty-percent-ABV vodka while he drinks tea!

"Are you going to drink it yourself or...?" As Qiao Zhan spoke, he handed the bottle to Huang Zichao.

Even though Qiao Zhan didn't complete his sentence, Huang Zichao knew what words would follow. Either I drink this myself, or he's going to knock me out and pour it down my throat! Obviously, if I have to choose, I rather drink it myself. It's better than getting another deadly punch from this brute again! I'm going to suffer a concussion if he hits me a couple more times.

Despite his thoughts, he still didn't want to drink because the alcohol was so strong that it burned his mouth.

“Fine, I’ll talk! I don’t want to drink this!” Huang Zichao relented and waved his hands.
“Yes, I’m familiar with Ding Fei and I have met her before.”

Upon hearing that, Qiao Zhan released a sigh of relief. It would’ve been over sooner if he had answered Sir Chen’s question earlier. I really don’t want to hit him because he’s too squishy compared to me, and it’ll also make me look like a bully. It’s the same thing as a high-schooler fighting against a primary school student. It’s da*n boring.

“However, I don’t know who she is. All I know is that she’s an actor who bought a bunch of negligible awards overseas to boost her credentials. I have no knowledge of her abilities and her background,” Huang Zichao answered honestly.

“Tell me everything clearly,” Nan Chen demanded.

“From the beginning?”

Furrowing his eyebrows like Nan Chen, Qiao Zhan spat, “Of course! Do you think we want you to start from the middle?”

“Some time ago, I received an invitation to star as the first male lead in a drama. However, because it clashed with my schedule, I rejected the invitation. Still, they refused to give up. They said I only needed to attend the filming for a few days and show my face. After that, they could arrange for a double to film most of my scenes and then use technology to paste my face onto the double. The pay they offered was high, so my agency agreed. However, I still haven’t participated in a filming session yet. I planned to join them once the filming of my show ends,” Huang Zichao recounted.

Nan Chen didn’t reply. It’s not odd for an A-list actor to receive multiple invitations for movies or shows at the same time. Additionally, the actor and their agency have to consider many things before choosing which invitation to accept while rejecting the rest, which is most of them. That’s nothing out of the ordinary, either. So far, it seems like he’s telling the truth.

Meanwhile, Qiao Zhan signaled Huang Zichao to continue.

“As I kept delaying my appearance there, they said I’ve been slowing down their progress, which they are unhappy with—” Huang Zichao cut his sentence short when Nan Chen waved for him to stop.

After Qiao Zhan saw Nan Chen looking at him, he thought about what his employer wanted to say and inquired, “Get to the point. Why did you invite Madam to join your show and then cancel it?”

Nan Chen beamed at him with praise.

Yes! My guess was correct again! I can do Mr. Jiang's job now! Qiao Zhan thought giddily.

"After that, Ding Fei asked me to film the show with her together. So, I canceled my collaboration with Ms. Ning. I made that decision and there was no complicated reason behind it." There was a sparkle in Huang Zichao's eyes.

Nan Chen was able to ascertain Huang Zichao was lying. Hence, he glanced at Qiao Zhan and then at the vodka on the table again.

Picking up the bottle, Qiao Zhan uttered, "Seems like you need to drink a little more, Mr. Huang. As they say, a drunken man is an honest man."

A bitter expression was set on Huang Zichao's face. "Please don't do this. I have my own reasons..."

"We can help you solve your problems. However, if you refuse to speak the truth, more suffering awaits you," Nan Chen warned.

Huang Zichao's mouth was wide open, but no words came out. I'm aware of what kind of person Nan Chen is. If I offend him, then I'll certainly die of alcohol poisoning after consuming the bottles of vodka sitting on the table. Nan Chen may not take another person's life haphazardly, but that doesn't apply to that subordinate of his! What if he does pour all the vodka down my throat by force? If I die of alcohol poisoning, Nan Chen will only need to spend some money to settle the matter because people will think we were simply drinking together! My fame may be important, but it's worthless if I'm dead! Huh... It looks like I'll have no choice but to spill the beans.

Moments later, he muttered, "Ding Fei has a grudge against Ning Ran. She wanted me to slander Ning Ran on the show, but I didn't want to, so I canceled it. Ding Fei accepted my decision afterward."

"Why did you take her orders?" Qiao Zhan questioned.

"I didn't. I canceled the show."

"That doesn't seem right. You could've chosen not to slander Madam on the show if you wanted to disobey her. However, you canceled it instead. This means you're afraid of antagonizing Ding Fei. Why?"

Nan Chen beamed at Qiao Zhan complimentarily again for asking the right question.

It made Qiao Zhan feel proud. I think I'm capable enough to become Sir Chen's special assistant now! As for Mr. Jiang, he can work as a security guard. No, he's too weak for that. I know! He can be a janitor who specializes in cleaning toilets!

“That...” Huang Zichao hesitated because he was unwilling to say why.

Therefore, Qiao Zhan picked up a bottle again. “You’re such an unpleasant man. Even after talking for so long, you still refuse to get to the crux of the matter!”

“Okay, okay! I’ll talk!” Huang Zichao surrendered.

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Chapter 742 Boasting

When Nan Chen returned to Mountview Inn, Dabao and Erbao had already fallen asleep. Ning Ran, on the other hand, was still awake and watching a television show.

At the same time, she was whispering under her breath as though she was memorizing the script.

It was a habit of hers to memorize the script. That way, once the filming started, she would be able to perform confidently instead of fumbling with her lines.

Regardless of the industry, people who performed excellently tended to pour greater efforts into their work compared to ordinary folks, even if they were talented. Standing behind Ning Ran, Nan Chen found her hardworking look rather amusing.

She was so focused on her task that she failed to notice he had already returned. Hence, when she turned her head back abruptly, she was spooked by his presence and exclaimed, “What are you doing? You scared me! Are you a ghost? Why didn’t I hear your footsteps?”

Sitting across from her, Nan Chen pointed at her script. “Have you memorized it?”

“Almost. What did Huang Zichao say?” Ning Ran placed the script down. “He impregnated one of his ex-girlfriends. Ding Fei found out and used it to control him.” “Eh? Huang Zichao did that? How is that possible?”

That upset Nan Chen. Is Huang Zichao a saint? Why is it impossible? Nan Chen realized she had misspoken when she saw his frown. “That’s not what I meant. I just think he looks like a pretty good guy. I didn’t expect—”

Her attempt at explaining herself only flamed his blaze of fury. “What’s so good about him?”

Ning Ran was stumped by his question. Well, that’s because Huang Zichao’s an award-winning actor whose acting is exceptional. He’s handsome, elegant, and gentlemanly. All those qualities can be categorized as ‘good.’ Of course, I can’t answer him like that

unless I want to blow Sir Chen's top off. D*mmmit, why do I remember so many of Huang Zichao's good points? Am I mesmerized by him?

With considerable effort, she tried clarifying her statement again, "It was just a little surprising, that's all. I'm not familiar with him, nor do I know what kind of person he is. The surface-level impression he gave me was all I knew of him. Now that I think about it, I guess it's not that odd."

Upon listening to that, Nan Chen's expression brightened up. "Because of the dirt Ding Fei has on Huang Zichao, he's compelled to listen to her. Ding Fei wanted him to destroy your reputation, but he was too concerned about the risk to execute the plan. Well, technically, he did agree to do it initially but changed his mind later on."

"I see. I'm aware of Ding Fei's hostility toward me. It's something I told you before."

"I always thought Ding Fei had something to do with your assault on the production team. I wasn't certain because it seemed unlikely to me that an actor would hire an assassin to kill another actor. The risk is too huge to be worth the effort. Moreover, you had no idea who Ding Fei was. Therefore, I concluded it's implausible that she has a deep-seated hatred against you to the point that she wants to take your life. However, in light of recent discoveries, it seems my conclusion was wrong. Perhaps she does resent you enough to want to wipe you off the face of this planet. In any case, no ordinary citizen can unearth what happened in Huang Zichao's past, at least, based on what he told us. I believe someone's backing Ding Fei."

Nodding, Ning Ran replied, "I think so too. Otherwise, there's no way a small-time actor like her would've acted that arrogantly. I think there are two possibilities here. One, Ding Fei has a grudge against me. Two, the person backing her is the one who wants to settle a big score with me. If not, they wouldn't have tried to kill me."

Nan Chen remained silent.

"What are you thinking?"

"I'm wondering who hates you so much that they want you to die."

"I don't know and that's why I'm thinking about it right now. I can't imagine anyone despising someone as kind, beautiful, friendly, and innocent as me."

Nan Chen was taken aback. Why did she praise and boast out of nowhere when we were in the middle of analyzing the situation? Does she think it's appropriate?

"Kind, beautiful, friendly, and innocent," he repeated.

"Am I not?" His remark made Ning Ran feel guilty.

“Are you?”

Her guilt was exacerbated. “I was just joking. What I mean is that I’ve never done anything really evil before. I can’t think of why anyone wants me dead. Actually, there’s one more possibility. Have you thought about it?”

Nan Chen nodded. “I did. That person could be an enemy of mine who’s taking out their revenge on me through you.”

“Yeah. Maybe I was dragged into this mess because you impregnated someone like Huang Zichao did—” Before Ning Ran could finish her sentence, he glared at her with a look as sharp as a knife, prompting her to zip her mouth.

Then she backtracked on her comment. “Of course, you’re different from him. Then again, you did impregnate me...”

Her face was flushed with embarrassment that she stopped. How did our conversation go off the rails and arrive at this topic?

Nan Chen gazed at her. Her blushing face is quite attractive.

With a serious voice, he replied, “Your impregnation was an accident on my part that only happened once before!”

“What if you only remember this one and forgot the rest?” Ning Ran questioned.

Opening his mouth, he struggled to get a word out.

It was a rare occurrence for him to be at a loss for words.

“Stop the nonsense!” Nan Chen barked coldly.

Ning Ran chickened out. “Fine, fine, keep analyzing the situation then.”

“I’m ready to pay Ding Fei a personal visit.”

“Eh? I don’t think that’s necessary. She’s just a nobody undeserving of a visit from you.” Actually, she couldn’t provide a proper justification. Whatever it is, I don’t want him to meet Ding Fei.

“I want to meet her and see if she hates me. If she does, then she’s my enemy. If she doesn’t, then it’s very likely that she’s your enemy.”

“In that case, sure. When are you going to meet her? Should I send her an invitation on your behalf?”

“I’ll ask Qiao Zhan to do it after I return to Flower City tomorrow. If she’s willing to meet me in Flower City, then she is my adversary. If not, then it means she doesn’t know who I am and only hates you.”

“That’s not a bad idea. If she meets you in Flower City, you’ll have the advantage. Remember not to show her too much respect. If someone like you does that, most women will overthink your intentions.” Ning Ran smirked.

“Are you overthinking it?”

“I’m... not!”

“Why aren’t you?”

“Because I think I’m overthinking too much already.” She giggled.

“Oh? What were you thinking about?”

“I won’t tell you. Oh yeah, have you told the children about your departure yet?”

“I’ll take them back to Flower City with me to visit their grandparents tomorrow.”

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Chapter 743 What A Blessing

As there was sufficient time to apply for permission to fly this time, Nan Chen and his family took a private plane back to Flower City.

When they arrived at the gates of Commoner Residence, Nan Zhengde and Feng Wan were already waiting there. They hadn’t seen their great-grandchildren in a long time, so they missed the children beyond words.

Erbao flew over to Feng Wan and kissed her on the cheek repeatedly. “I missed you so much, Great-Grandma! I missed you to the moon and back!”

“Ahem...” Nan Zhengde cleared his throat at the side. Upon hearing that, Erbao hastily added, “I also missed you greatly, Great-Grandpa! I even dreamed of you last night!”

At her words, Nan Zhengde guffawed. “What dream did you have of me?” “I dreamed that you were doing Tai Chi like this...” Erbao complemented it with a demonstration.

Amused by her antics, everyone laughed. “Quick, let’s go in to eat! I prepared lots of delicious food for you,” Feng Wan urged. At once, Erbao cheered, “Yay! Delicious food!”

After lunch, Nan Chen and Nan Zhengde had a talk in the study room. They didn't shoot the breeze but mainly spoke of business.

Nan Zhengde needed to speak to Nan Chen face to face regarding Nan Xing masquerading as Nan Chen at the press conference and cursing at someone two days ago.

In truth, Nan Chen knew what his grandfather wanted to say. He had already understood the man's meaning when they spoke on the phone.

Therefore, he voluntarily started, "Grandpa, I was planning to come back that day. At that time, Erbao was exceedingly sleepy, but she refused to sleep because she was worried I'd be gone when she woke up. The previous incident whereby something happened to me and Ning Ran caused great psychological trauma to Dabao and Erbao. Although they're strong, some wounds still take time to heal. Thus, I want to spend more time with them these days so that they can recover from the trauma as soon as possible. When I saw Erbao in such a condition then, my heart softened, and I spontaneously decided to have Nan Xing return to Flower City to attend the event on my behalf. I never expected that things would turn out like this. But it wasn't his fault either since someone deliberately wanted to make trouble. On the whole, I'm to blame regarding this matter. I'll willing to bear any and all responsibility."

Picking up the teacup, Nan Zhengde took a sip of tea before putting it back down.

"I understand your actions in this matter since the kids are equally important. But that aside, I still think you can't do the same in the future. This time, Nan Xing merely caused a minor incident, but if it were a major incident, an apology wouldn't work. You're the head of Nanshi Corporation, so your actions determine the company's future. It's possible that some minor negligence and mistake on your part will be infinitely magnified, leading to the company's downfall in the end," Nan Zhengde stated solemnly.

Nan Chen nodded fervently, for he knew that it wasn't an exaggeration but the truth.

"Hence, I promise such a situation will never happen again in the future. Don't worry, Grandpa."

"Did Ning Ran not dissuade you back then?" Nan Zhengde asked out of the blue.

"She did, but she couldn't change my mind. As you know, I've always been stubborn and rarely listen to others."

"That won't do. The woman standing by your side must be able to advise you at critical moments. On top of that, her suggestions have to be reasonable by looking at the bigger picture. If she merely obeys you without being able to advise you, she isn't suitable for you."

Nan Chen said nothing, for he could discern the criticism in his grandfather's remark.

"Grandpa, my father is easily amenable to my mother's advice," Nan Chen commented placidly.

"That's different. One can't listen to his woman completely because she might give the wrong advice. But the woman by your side is closest to you, thus easiest to influence you. Naturally, she'll also need to have the ability to give advice and not merely follow your lead. If you're an ordinary person, you can simply marry a woman who's beautiful and can give you children. However, you're Nan Chen. You're standing at the top of the ladder, so there will be times when you miss something. At that time, the woman by your side has to play her part and give you some reasonable and accurate advice. She must have such a capability to be your wife."

Nan Zhengde spoke emphatically, his tone as resolute as ever.

The atmosphere in the study room seemingly grew tense, no longer as relaxed as before.

Needless to say, there was some truth to Nan Zhengde's statement.

When emperors of the past selected their concubines, they could be perfunctory. But when it came to deciding on their empresses, they were exceedingly meticulous.

After all, not only did an empress need to fulfill the obligations of a wife, but she also had to rule over the kingdom and assist the emperor in managing the harem and various other matters.

It wasn't a position one could qualify for solely by looks. Instead, it necessitated immense capability and even the backing of an influential background sometimes.

For Nan Chen, he was the king of the business empire that was Nanshi Corporation. Consequently, the woman standing by his side must also have the capability of being his "queen," not merely eye candy.

It went without saying that Nan Chen was aware of that principle—a wife's character often determined the height of a man's career.

If a man's wife was petty, it was almost impossible for him to attain anything great.

People influenced each other, so one would take after the person he was with. Even if it wasn't a complete change, he would become the same type of person.

Therefore, Nan Zhengde's topic that day was very much crucial.

“Grandpa, I don’t think Ning Ran lacks the capability to advise me. In reality, she gave me a lot of reasonable and effective advice. Unfortunately, I’m obstinate, so I turned a deaf ear to it all. You can’t lay the blame at her door, for it lies on me. I’ll communicate more with her in the future and listen to her advice more, committing fewer mistakes,” Nan Chen vowed.

From that, Nan Zhengde could tell that his grandson was determined to defend Ning Ran, and there was virtually no room for negotiation.

It’s rare that he’s defending a woman so resolutely. This makes it evident that she’s very important to him. Well, this is a good thing. Only when one has an emotional attachment can he devote himself wholeheartedly to work.

It was also the reason people in the ancient days started a family before pursuing a career. It was because one could only concentrate on building a career after having a family and home as a safe harbor.

Of course, that was only the common saying. There were also those who started a family yet didn’t bother building a career, and ended up spending their lives in mediocracy.

On the flip side, there were also those whose careers flourished despite having no families. The key still lay in one’s character and ambition.

Nevertheless, Nan Zhengde was up in years, so he was naturally inclined toward the more traditional point of view.

“If you think she’s capable of being your wife, you can consider marrying her. While status isn’t important to many people, there’s still quite a number who care about it. You’ve got to take responsibility toward her,” he urged.

“I’ll discuss this with her.”

Nan Chen was over the moon, for he hadn’t expected his grandfather to say that.

What a blessing to have an open-minded and sensible elder!

“If you’re sure you want to marry her, I’ll demand even more of her. What’s her highest level of academic qualifications now?” Nan Zhengde questioned.

Shock flooded Nan Chen. Huh? Grandpa is even asking about her academic qualifications? Although I’ve never asked her about it, I don’t think it’s all that high. Compared to me, who graduated from a prestigious university, she can almost be considered illiterate!

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Chapter 744 You Have Got No Choice

If this is the standard, Ning Ran undoubtedly doesn't fulfill the requirements of being the daughter-in-law of the Nan family. Upon seeing that Nan Chen wasn't saying anything, Nan Zhengde panicked. "Don't tell me she has never received any education!"

"Of course not. I'm really not all that sure about her academic qualifications, but I know she has studied abroad. Anyway, Grandpa, I'm going to marry her to be my wife, not recruit her to be my employee. Why are you asking about that?"

"Is getting married more important or recruiting an employee?" Nan Zhengde asked in return. "The former, of course!" Nan Chen answered.

"Exactly! Inquiring after someone's academic qualifications is necessary even in an insignificant matter as recruiting an employee, so it's only natural that the same inquiry is made when it comes to marriage," Nan Zhengde riposted while glowering at the man.

That had Nan Chen at a loss for a retort. He had never thought that his grandfather would lay a trap for him.

"Everyone knows that having high academic qualifications doesn't equate to being highly capable. That's indeed true. But a person's level of education can at least prove her learning ability and willingness to put in hard work in studying. That's why recruiters like to hire those who graduated from prestigious universities. It's not that they're all elites, but at the very least, the probability of prestigious universities producing elites is higher. You do understand this principle, don't you?" Nan Zhengde queried.

Having no other choice, Nan Chen could only nod. Naturally, he understood that principle.

"Thus, if Ning Ran's level of education is very low, we've got to see whether it's because she has poor learning ability, unwilling to study, or is lazy. If those are the reasons, she needs to redeem herself. Find a good university for her and have her pursue her studies. When she graduates, you can marry her!" Nan Zhengde declared.

Nan Chen couldn't take it anymore. "Grandpa, she's already the mother of two kids, yet you're asking her to pursue her studies?"

"But she's still young. Judging from her looks, she's only in her twenties. She can totally pursue her studies. Besides, isn't there a saying that learning is a lifelong journey? Having her improve her level of education is vital in ensuring that she's capable of playing the role of your wife. Ultimately, she wouldn't only be your wife but also the wife of the chairman of Nanshi Corporation, a person who has a significant influence on the company. It's only natural that she has to be impeccable in terms of academic qualifications, character, capabilities, and every other aspect!" Nan Zhengde proclaimed loudly.

Those words made absolute sense, so Nan Chen really couldn't find any fault with them.

I initially thought that he was pressuring me into getting married, but never had it crossed my mind that he had such a trick up his sleeve. It's clear as day that he wants to test Ning Ran. Or in other words, he wants to temper her so that she'll be more outstanding. Otherwise, she wouldn't stand a chance of marrying into the Nan family. But she doesn't seem as though she loves studying. Will she go up against me if I ask her to go and pursue her studies? Even if she doesn't dare to do so and obey me, she might possibly play truant, no?

"What are you thinking about now? Do you think I'm asking too much of her?" Nan Zhengde questioned.

Only then was Nan Chen jolted out of his thoughts. "I understand your reasons, Grandpa. I'll make the necessary arrangements."

Half an hour later, Ning Ran's cry of surprise rang out from her room. "What? You want me to pursue my studies? I'm already at this age, yet you want me to attend university?"

Her reaction was far more intense and exaggerated than Nan Chen had anticipated.

He furrowed his brows. "Calm down, won't you? I'm just discussing this with you."

Still, Ning Ran shrieked, "How can I possibly calm down? How would I have the time to study when I need to film?"

"What are your academic qualifications, then?"

"Didn't I tell you already? I was sold off when I was a freshman. I later got pregnant and went abroad. Hence, I've got no academic qualifications!" Ning Ran groused with a bitter expression on her face.

"In other words, your highest level of education is high school?"

In response, Ning Ran nodded. "Yeah."

Nan Chen heaved a sigh. The situation is really grave! Sure enough, she can almost be considered illiterate compared to me!

"In that case, you've got to keep it a secret," Nan Chen uttered in a low voice.

"What do you mean?" Ning Ran couldn't quite understand that.

“Don’t tell anyone that your level of education is so low, especially Grandpa! I’ll tell him that you only studied degree domestically and went abroad for your master’s,” Nan Chen asserted.

“But I was taking care of the kids while working abroad. Although I did learn some things, I didn’t study master’s!”

“Well, if I said you have a master’s degree, then you have a master’s degree! Later, I’ll have my friend abroad help to get you the certificates.”

Even greater surprise washed over Ning Ran. “Whoa! You’re even going so far as falsifying certificates? If your grandfather were to learn about it—”

“It won’t be false certificates, but real ones. I’ll have those universities issue you certificates, so they’ll be undoubtedly real!” Nan Chen amended.

At that, Ning Ran frowned. “Isn’t that tantamount to buying academic qualifications? It’ll still be fake, a lie to dupe others!”

Exasperation swamped Nan Chen. “Stop being so rigid! How is this considered a lie? You don’t want to lie, right? Fine, then. I’ll have Qiao Zhan get in touch with a university for you. Go and study when the semester begins. You must obtain a master’s degree at the very least. After that, you can even go for a PhD. This is in line with Grandpa’s request!”

“You might as well kill me. Why should I give myself more work and pursue my studies when even my son and daughter are already studying?”

“If you don’t want to do so, you must listen to me! I’ll make the arrangements for the academic qualifications!” Nan Chen affirmed.

Left with no choice, Ning Ran relented, “Fine. You make the arrangements. But first things first—if the falsification of my academic qualifications were to come to light, you’d be taking the blame. That has nothing to do with me!”

Hearing that, Nan Chen wore a thoughtful expression on his face. “Grandpa is shrewd, so he might investigate the matter. To be on the safe side, you should take a professional course online and pass the exam. With that, not only will you have the academic qualifications, but you’ll also have the knowledge!”

Again, anxiety gripped Ning Ran. “That still means that I’ll have to study!”

“How about this? Treat it as a job. As long as you complete the job, I’ll get you the certificate regardless of whether you pass the exam. Then, Grandpa will have no qualms about allowing you to be with me,” Nan Chen stated seriously.

“But I never said I want to be with you.”

Nan Chen’s expression darkened at once. “Then, who are you planning to be with?”

“I haven’t decided yet. But—”

“You’ve got a contract with Star Entertainment, and you can’t get married during the duration of your contract,” Nan Chen declared.

“What? There’s such a clause? Why didn’t I notice it? That contract is for a duration of decades. I’ll be an old lady by the time the contract expires. Who would I marry at that time?” Ning Ran exclaimed in astonishment.

A smug look spread across Nan Chen’s face. “Therefore, you can only marry me if you want to get married during the duration of your contract because I can pay the liquidated damages for you. Otherwise, no one would be able to afford them.”

“This is too much! This isn’t a management contract but an indenture!” Ning Ran protested.

“No matter what it is, you’ve already signed it, and everything is written in black and white. Thus, you have to abide by it. You’ve got no choice!”

Words eluded Ning Ran.