

Read Novel My Wife Is A Superstar Chapter 851

My Wife Is a Superstar Chapter 851-Ning Ran was feeling smug about herself when she immediately realized an issue. Did my facial expression give me away? Did Qin Lan see through my happiness? Do I look smug to her now?

Ning Ran hurriedly adjusted her facial expressions and tried to appear normal.

She chuckled in response to Qin Lan's words, albeit a bit exaggerated, as she was anxious about hiding her true feelings and did not want Qin Lan to detect anything.

Qin Lan laughed as well. "I'm curious. How did you manage to change Nan Chen? Because of your beauty? But that can't be it. Several other pretty heiresses courted him previously, but he did not take a fancy to any of them. You are an exception; Nan Chen's feelings for you are genuine. As they say, love cannot be explained using logic. I may be a professional, but I'm unable to analyze the reason behind his change."

Qin Lan's words again made Ning Ran's heart skip a beat while boosting her ego.

"You give me too much credit, Ms. Qin. In Nan Chen's eyes, I'm merely a nanny helping to care for his children. I'm no different from the other women," Ning Ran responded humbly.

Qin Lan smiled, twisting her long hair. "If there's an opportunity, let's have a drink together. I sense you have something to share with me. I think we will hit it off well, and there's a possibility that we can be friends."

Ning Ran nodded. "Sure. Thank you."

"See you next time." Qin Lan waved.

Qiao Zhan opened the car door. After helping Ning Ran and the children into the car, he gave Qin Lan a polite nod and started the engine.

"Dr. Qin is one of Sir Chen's few friends. Whenever he had a problem in the past, he would find her. Ever since you appeared, Sir Chen rarely comes here anymore." Qiao Zhan initiated a conversation about the relationship between Qin Lan and Nan Chen.

Ning Ran frowned slightly upon hearing that. He will see her whenever he has a problem, but what does he do when he comes?

"And then?" Ning Ran suddenly asked.

Qiao Zhan was baffled by the question. "And then?"

"Yes, when he comes to visit Dr. Qin, what happens then?"

Qiao Zhan thought for a while. "From what I know, sometimes he does nothing and just sleeps there..."

"Huh?" Ning Ran, Dabao, and Erbao exclaimed almost in unison.

"No... It's not what you think. Sir Chen would nap on the therapy chair and leave afterward," Qiao Zhan hurriedly explained.

After hearing Qiao Zhan's explanation, Ning Ran and the two children were relieved.

"Sir Chen is constantly under pressure but can't talk to anyone about it. As a psychologist, Dr. Qin plays the role of a listening ear. I guess this is why they became friends. Thereafter, with the appearance of the three of you, Sir Chen's visits to Dr. Qin became less frequent. Having served Sir Chen for many years, I sincerely feel he is much happier compared to the past. This is all thanks to you," Qiao Zhan said emotionally.

"That's because of me! I'm a barrel of laughs, so Daddy is happy whenever he sees me!" Erbao boasted proudly.

Dabao and Ning Ran exchanged a glance, but they could not be bothered to rebut Erbao.

Just then, Qiao Zhan's phone rang. He parked the car by the roadside and answered the call.

The call took longer than expected, lasting for more than ten minutes.

In short, Qiao Zhan's subordinate was updating him on the information gathered thus far about that afternoon's incident outside the school gate. It seemed a little complex, so the investigation was not yet complete.

After hanging up the phone, Qiao Zhan told Ning Ran that the police had not found the biker yet. Thus, he reminded her to be cautious.

Ning Ran nodded. She was worried as well.

When Ning Ran woke up the next morning, she found Nan Chen sleeping in the study room.

Nan Chen had not returned when Ning Ran went to bed, so she guessed he must have returned late and immediately went to the study room to continue working. He most probably dozed off due to tiredness.

Ning Ran did not want to wake him, so she left the room quietly.

When she checked on Erbao next, she found the latter still sleeping.

As there was no conclusion on yesterday's incident, Qiao Zhan informed the school that Erbao and Dabao would not be attending school temporarily. Hence, Erbao was able to sleep a little longer.

Ning Ran originally had work scheduled that day. However, due to the attack, her company temporarily suspended all her activities for her safety.

By the time Ning Ran prepared breakfast, Dabao had already woken up and come to the dining table. Ning Ran told him to be quiet so as not to wake Nan Chen up.

Nevertheless, she saw Nan Chen standing behind her as she turned her head.

He had not changed from his suit, and his hair was messy. Ning Ran felt a slight heartache when she saw his haggard face.

"Daddy, you look tired. Why don't you sleep a little longer?" Dabao said thoughtfully.

"All right, I'll sleep for another hour. Wake me up later," Nan Chen replied.

Nan Chen passed his phone to Ning Ran. "Help me answer the calls. Call me if there's anything of special importance."

With that, he headed to the bedroom and continued sleeping. It seemed like he was genuinely tired.

Judging from his bloodshot eyes, Nan Chen most probably only caught some sleep at daybreak.

Not long after Nan Chen went to sleep, his phone rang. It was a call from Jiang Zhe.

Ning Ran explained that Nan Chen was sleeping as he was tired. She told Jiang Zhe to settle the matters on his own first. If there were any issues that he could not resolve, he would have to wait until Nan Chen was awake.

Nan Chen finally woke up at ten o'clock, looking rejuvenated after freshening up.

He then spent half an hour returning phone calls and replying to urgent emails before he started eating breakfast.

Ning Ran and the two children had already finished their breakfast by then. They sat around Nan Chen and watched him eat heartily.

At that moment, Qiao Zhan came to report the latest information.

He obtained more details about the motorbike at the school gate yesterday. The motorbike was rented from a vehicle rental company.

The person who rented it was a professional racer. According to sources, he participated in some lower-tier competitions before. However, he became addicted to gambling and racked up a huge debt. Thus far, he still could not be found.

The first vehicle to ram into the motorbike in an attempt to protect Ning Ran belonged to Qiao Zhan's subordinates.

After the biker was hit, he tried to flee but was rammed by a black SUV. That SUV did not belong to Qiao Zhan's subordinates but another party who abruptly appeared.

According to Qiao Zhan's analysis, that group seemed to be Ruan Anxi's men. He reached that conclusion because Ruan Anxi was present in Flower City yesterday, which was ascertained by Ning Ran.

And the final car that banged into the black SUV belonged to another group that took the biker with them. The vehicle was found, but there were no signs of the driver or the passengers.

As the biker was currently missing, nobody knew his motive for trying to run over Ning Ran.

The most likely possibility would be someone offered to hire the biker and pay off his gambling debt if he could kill Ning Ran.

Judging from the current circumstances, the Rong family was highly suspected to be the mastermind.

They unleashed attacks on Nan Chen in both ways—his company and his family. That resulted in Nan Chen having to weigh his focus between resolving issues at work and watching out for his family's safety. Inevitably, he would be worn out, affecting both his productivity and judgment.

Read Novel My Wife Is A Superstar Chapter 852

My Wife Is a Superstar Chapter 852-After finishing his brunch, Nan Chen returned to his study and continued working.

Ning Ran, who delivered a cup of coffee to the study, overheard him speaking over the phone in frustration.

He regained his composure after tilting his head to look at Ning Ran.

"How is the company?" Ning Ran asked softly.

She instantly regretted asking because she knew Nan Chen would not have thrown a fit had the problem been resolved. Can't believe I asked a pointless question.

"It's fine. Still manageable," Nan Chen replied calmly.

As he spoke, he took a sip of coffee and knitted his brows slightly. It was probably because the beverage was too hot.

"Oh, okay. I guess there's nothing much I can help with. I hope you can resolve it quickly," Ning Ran uttered.

"What if I can't?" Nan Chen interjected.

Ning Ran was bewildered by his response. To her, there was nothing Nan Chen could not do.

"I mean, what if I can't resolve the problem and get kicked out of Nanshi Corporation?" Nan Chen repeated slowly.

"How is that even possible? It's impossible." Ning Ran shook her head. "There's nothing you can't do."

"Last night, the stock price of Nanshi Corporation's overseas listed company fell by ten percent, and the parent company lost billions overnight. Everyone in the corporation is anxious and believes I did an awful job leading the company. The board members will be holding a Special Board Meeting this afternoon, and they are coming over to question me. Based on the company's policy, they can remove me if I fail to handle the situation well. They'll kick me out of the corporation once they obtain enough votes," Nan Chen explained.

Nan Chen sounded calm the whole time. It was as if he was not under much pressure.

Contrarily, Ning Ran became anxious.

"Why did the stock price drop so much? How could the entire world believe that Nanshi Corporation had falsified their accounts based on the confession of just one person from the finance department?" Ning Ran was incredulous at the turn of events.

"Before, we were accused of short-selling, but the allegation lost its impact after an auditor released a report that cleared our name. However, now that one of our employees has come forward with what they claim is the truth, investors may start to doubt the authenticity of our financial reports. Despite our efforts to defend ourselves, people will not believe us unless the employee involved comes forward and admits the falsehoods they've spread. What a cunning move." The creases between Nan Chen's brows deepened while he took another sip of coffee.

This seemed like a meticulously designed scheme and a tough nut to crack.

“Can we ask the person to clarify things? After all, he’s on Nanshi Corporation’s payroll. Why would he do such a thing?” Ning Ran asked, confused.

“Money talks. Even good guys will step over to the other side if someone tempts them with benefits and privileges. We can’t contact him directly now that he’s under the custody of the foreign cops. We also can’t rely on our connections to contact him, as others might think we’re trying to cover it up. That’s how things might spiral out of control. So now, we need time to gather evidence to protect ourselves and prevent the stock price from continuing to plunge,” Nan Chen said.

Though Ning Ran was not well-versed in business, she understood what he was talking about.

“If that’s the case, you can’t quit now. If you do, Nanshi Corporation will only sink into a greater crisis,” Ning Ran encouraged.

Nan Chen walked over and rested his hands on Ning Ran’s shoulders. “If they remove me, we’ll relocate to Livingsfill and buy over Ms. Tang’s guesthouse. We’ll spend days fishing by the lake and enjoy our lives there. How does that sound?”

“That sounds good, but…” Ning Ran hesitated.

“You don’t seem happy. Do you think Livingsfill is too remote and lacks the hustle and bustle of a big city? We can always go abroad,” Nan Chen proposed another idea.

She replied, “No, I think Livingsfill is great, but your charisma and impressive capabilities could lead you to achieve remarkable things. That’s something beyond what Livingsfill can offer.”

Suddenly, Nan Chen’s phone rang again. He picked up the phone and gestured to Ning Ran to brew another cup of coffee.

Meanwhile, at five in the afternoon, Ning Ran sat anxiously in the conference room of Nanshi Corporation’s headquarters while watching the board of directors walk in.

Those big shots knew who Ning Ran was, but they did not quite understand why she was there.

As the highest-level internal meeting of the corporation, the board meeting was expected to be a private affair until any decisions made during the session were officially announced to the public. Seeing an outsider there raised the question of how she was granted access.

Ning Ran and Nan Chen might have a special relationship, but the directors would only regard her as an outsider.

Nan Chen could bring her to various parties, but this high-level meeting was meant for serious business discussion, not the right place for merrymaking, so they wondered why she was there.

Despite having doubts in their minds, no one spoke up. They believed Nan Chen would explain everything clearly to everyone.

Ning Ran kept her head down the whole time, attempting to avoid their stares, but there seemed to be no place for her to hide.

She wanted to hide under the conference table, but it would be embarrassing if someone caught her doing that.

When Nan Chen said he would take her to the meeting, he did not explain in detail. He only told her that it was necessary for her to be there.

Nan Chen only said that she would find out later why she needed to come and what she was there for.

Trusting Nan Chen would not bring her to the meeting to embarrass her, Ning Ran decided to follow him.

“Mr. Chen, who is this lady?” a director could not help but ask Nan Chen.

This director asked that on purpose as he knew who Ning Ran was. In other words, he was questioning her presence there. We should ask her to leave before starting the meeting, shouldn't we?

Ning Ran became more flustered. Poker Face, don't you dare make me a laughingstock in front of everyone!

“May I introduce Ms. Ning Ran, who is the appointed custodian of the major shareholders, Nan Sihan and Nan Sirui. As their legal representative, Ms. Ran will exercise their rights in the company until they reach the age of maturity, as stipulated in the legally-binding documents that had been signed and certified by a reputable law firm and notary public,” Nan Chen said while shaking a folder in his hand.

The directors exchanged glances in confusion, unsure of how to respond.

“By the way, Nan Sihan and Nan Sirui are my daughter and son. They inherited their shares from my grandfather and have the same rights as us. Since they're still minors, Ms. Ning will act as their custodian to exercise their rights. Any questions?” Nan Chen asked again.

The directors knew nothing about this, as the company's regulation stipulated that changes in the major shareholders' equities were not subjected to the board's approval. Hence, parties involved in the changes did not need to notify the directors.

Moreover, the fact that the great-grandfather transferred his shares to his great-grandchildren was a family matter, so the board had no right to interfere.

Nonetheless, they were appalled to learn Nan Zhengde gave his shares in the company to his great-grandchildren instead of his son and grandson. They found it difficult to grasp the logic behind his choice.

"Any objections? According to the company's regulations, Ms. Ning, as the representative of the major shareholders, can attend board meetings and be appointed as a director with the consent of all board members. Now we will vote. Please raise your hand if you agree to Ms. Ning's appointment as a new director," Nan Chen said while raising his hand.

Once again, the directors exchanged hesitant glances with one another, unsure of how to proceed.

Deep down, the directors held reservations about a young and attractive actress joining Nanshi Corporation's highest authority, the board of directors. In addition, they also believed Ning Ran was not qualified for the position.

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My Wife Is a Superstar Chapter 853-Nan Chen's hand remained in the air as he swept his cold gaze across the directors, who could not help but feel shivers running down their spines.

Unable to withstand the pressure from Nan Chen, the directors started raising their hands one after another.

Besides, they did not have the right to object as Nan Chen's request was perfectly reasonable and adhered to the company's policies.

The vote passed unanimously, and Ning Ran became the newest member of the company's board of directors who possessed voting rights.

Just a minute ago, she was still an outsider who was not welcomed. However, she had now become one of the company's key decision-makers.

That was a significant appointment as her opinions would have the power to influence the future direction of Nanshi Corporation.

From then on, Ning Ran would have a completely different status at Nanshi Corporation. Instead of simply being Nan Chen's girlfriend, she was currently a part of the board of directors, the most influential and powerful group of people in the company.

As a director, she held way more authority than any ordinary person from the upper management. Even Nan Xing, the deputy CEO of Nanshi Corporation, was of a lower rank than her.

That was definitely a huge promotion that was unprecedented in the company.

"All right. Now that we are done with our first agenda, let's proceed to the next one. I would like to begin by sharing with you the company's current situation..."

Nan Chen spoke about the stock plunge, which everyone was already aware of.

Silence ensued in the conference room after the man finished speaking.

"Mr. Chen, have you thought of a plan to tackle the situation?" one of the directors asked.

"Not yet," Nan Chen replied in a straightforward manner.

"Something has to be done about the plummeting prices of our company's shares. If this carries on, investors will lose confidence in us and start mass dumping their shares. When that happens, our stock price will drop even more, and the ones who would end up gaining the most would be those who short-sell our shares. Are we really just going to sit back and do nothing?" another director asked.

Nan Chen's expression darkened when he heard that.

"We are not doing nothing. We have been gathering evidence and have already started releasing them to the public," Nan Chen said coldly.

"Will that be enough for us to turn the situation around when the stock market opens tonight?" someone else asked.

The atmosphere in the conference room grew increasingly tense. A few directors who had kept quiet previously started speaking up, attacking Nan Chen with all sorts of difficult questions.

Nan Chen had always been high and mighty, and under usual circumstances, none of those directors would have dared to say anything in front of him.

Since they were finally getting their chance to question Nan Chen, needless to say, they had to motivate each other to present their opinions and make their presence known.

Nan Chen's expression turned gloomier. However, he managed to tamp down his anger and not lose his temper. In times of crisis, it was important for the company to stay united and not start an internal feud.

Even though Nan Chen was usually very domineering, he knew that he had to bear with it in view of the larger picture.

Nevertheless, the man's forbearance led the directors to think that they were right and that Nan Chen should be fully responsible for the company's present predicament.

"Mr. Chen, why aren't you replying?" one of the directors who spoke earlier asked further.

"What am I supposed to say?" Nan Chen questioned back.

"The entire company is in chaos because of the stock crash. As the leader of Nanshi Corporation, shouldn't you be doing something to solve the problem?"

A sharp glint flashed across Nan Chen's eyes as he clenched his fists tightly. His patience was almost reaching its limit.

He could hardly believe that those directors, who were usually so fearful of him, were ganging up against him at the first opportunity.

"How can you say that?" Someone suddenly spoke.

It was not Nan Chen, but Ning Ran, the newly-appointed director.

Everyone was momentarily stunned by her abrupt comment.

She had just joined the board of directors less than an hour ago. What can she possibly say?

She's just an actress. Does she even know anything about business?

Nan Chen was slightly startled as well. He could not help but think that Ning Ran was being impulsive and wished that she had kept her cool.

She would be putting him in an even more difficult position if she had said something inappropriate.

"How do you know that Mr. Chen isn't doing anything? Do you know what time he slept last night? He only went to bed at seven in the morning and woke up three hours later at ten. He had stayed up the entire night to deal with the company's situation. Can't you see the dark circles under his eyes? What were you doing when Mr. Chen was working hard last night? Thinking of how to make things difficult for him? It's true that he is our

CEO, but can the CEO alone manage such a huge company? Nanshi Corporation is a massive business empire and not just a small enterprise. Just one man alone is not enough to help the company move forward. Teamwork is important, and those at the management level play an integral role. Now that the company is undergoing a crisis, does it make sense that you guys are just finding fault with him instead of brainstorming solutions together? Don't you feel bad at all? Are you even human—”

“Ahem...” Nan Chen started clearing his throat loudly before Ning Ran could finish speaking, forcefully interrupting her speech.

She was doing rather well at the beginning. However, she got more agitated as she spoke and started scolding the directors.

After all, it did not seem appropriate for the woman to be making personal attacks at Nanshi Corporation's board of directors' meeting.

It sounded as if she was haggling over the prices of groceries at the market.

The directors were dumbfounded after being lashed out at.

It wasn't the first time conflicts arose during meetings. Whenever that happened, everyone would settle it in a civilized manner without launching insults at anyone else.

What's wrong with this woman? How can she start scolding us when she has just become a director and barely knows what's going on?

“Ms. Ning, how can you scold us like that?” a director asked furiously.

“I wasn't scolding you. I'm discussing matters nicely with all of you. What I'm trying to say is that everyone has to work together to help Nanshi Corporation tide over this difficult period and not depend on Mr. Chen alone. There's nothing we can't handle as long as we stay united,” Ning Ran responded calmly.

Nan Chen looked at her with praise. He was glad that the woman was finally able to calm down and speak sensibly.

The other directors fell silent once again, baffled by Ning Ran's unpredictability.

She did scold us just now. How can she lie through her teeth and not admit to it?

Despite what they were secretly thinking, none of the directors could bring themselves to argue with Ning Ran, as fighting with a woman wouldn't reflect well on them.

More importantly, she was not just any woman but Nan Chen's woman.

Besides, as a director, she was of equal status to them, and they couldn't do anything to her.

As such, the directors were at a loss as to how to handle Ning Ran.

Seeing that everyone was keeping quiet, Ning Ran silently breathed a sigh of relief.

That gave her the assurance that her point was valid. Hence, she continued saying, "If we leave it to Mr. Chen to deal with the situation alone, we would all share the glory if everything turns out well, but if things go wrong, he would be the one bearing the brunt of it. That wouldn't be fair to him at all! Since he is the CEO, it's right for him to have a bigger responsibility. However, if he is doing it all alone, why would the company need us? What's the use of having a management team?"

Ning Ran slammed her hand on the table as a flood of emotions rose within her.

She was an extremely attractive woman, but the way she slammed the table made her look like a gangster, which deeply contrasted the formal setting of the meeting.

The directors did not know how to react as they had never been reprimanded by a woman in a meeting before.

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My Wife Is a Superstar Chapter 854-In the end, no conclusion was made from the board of directors meeting. Hence, they adjourned it to three days later.

In other words, Nan Chen got three extra days to tackle the problem. Should the issue still persist after the given time frame, the board would call for another round of discussion.

If the matter went out of hand, someone would be scapegoated, and it was most likely Nan Chen.

Otherwise, another top-level management staff would be made the victim.

When Nan Chen returned to his office, Ning Ran dared not say a single word. She sat quietly with her head hung low, knowing her rash behavior must have embarrassed Nan Chen.

Yet, she had no regrets.

Although she reacted impulsively and blurted those words which were deemed rude and inappropriate, she spoke nothing but the truth. It was exactly what she had in mind to express herself clearly. To her, she did not spout any nonsense.

She might have been too straightforward, but she felt she was on point.

Nan Chen ignored her and continued working on his laptop. Perplexed, Ning Ran had no clue what he was thinking.

After suppressing her curiosity for a while, she gave up. "I know I'm an uncouth person, lacking in polish and grace, but I couldn't stand how they ganged up on you and gave you a hard time!"

Standing, she continued, "Who do they think they are? You always work so hard, which benefits them with lucrative dividends, but have they ever thanked you for that? Now that a small issue has cropped up, they want to put the blame on you entirely? I can't even bring myself to do that to anyone. Yet, those shameless old chaps made it sound like it was the right thing to do. The audacity!"

Hearing so, Nan Chen lifted his head and glanced at her. "You're swearing again?"

"No, I'm not. That's just an expression. It's only counted as swearing if you hear me say 'you *sshole'!"

As soon as she said that, Jiang Zhe entered the office and was greeted by the dirty word she said.

He was dumbfounded. Oh no, they're fighting! I just walked into an argument and heard Madam lashing out at Sir Chen. Will I be implicated? How fierce and insolent is she to talk to Sir Chen like that? She even used such a vulgar word!

Ning Ran, too, was stunned. She did not expect Jiang Zhe to show up all of a sudden. Why didn't he knock before entering his boss' office?

"I didn't hear anything," Jiang Zhe blurted in panic.

Nan Chen frowned at his response.

"You did! You heard it, but you only caught the last word. You must hear my explanation." Ning Ran got all worked up.

"No, I didn't hear anything." Jiang Zhe was almost in tears. How can a lowly assistant like me overhear a conversation where someone utters profanities at my boss?

"No, you heard it, and you must listen to the full story!" growled Ning Ran.

"All right, please enlighten me," Jiang Zhe said with a wry smile.

"You only heard the last part and not the first. Prior to that, Mr. Chen accused me of swearing. I refuted by saying that it's only considered vulgar if I said 'you *sshole.'"

Therefore, I wasn't directing it at Mr. Chen but 'you'," Ning Ran justified her speech solemnly.

Instantly, Jiang Zhe widened his eyes in shock. Why am I the *sshole when the two of you were the ones arguing?

Afterward, Ning Ran sensed something was amiss. The 'you' I was referring to felt a bit off. Did I make myself clear?

"I meant to say Mr. Chen wasn't the '*sshole' I was talking about..."

At that point, Nan Chen furrowed his brows even more. Is this woman out of her mind? Why does she keep cursing? Does she not care about her image?

"That's enough!" Left with no choice, Nan Chen had to put a stop to the fiasco before Ning Ran made things even more complicated.

Then, Nan Chen asked Jiang Zhe coldly, "What are you doing here? State your purpose of visit."

"Precisely! You didn't knock before entering the room and created this whole misunderstanding. Now, I can't even explain myself properly." Ning Ran went ballistic.

Jiang Zhe felt wronged. "I was unaware that both of you were fighting... I mean, showing affection for each other. Thus—"

"Say what you're here for already!" Nan Chen and Ning Ran roared simultaneously.

Upon realizing that she stole Nan Chen's line, Ning Ran was so scared that she covered her mouth immediately.

Oh no, I just made another blunder! I should stitch this d*mned mouth of mine! After all, one is bound to have a slip of the tongue if one speaks too much.

"Well..." Jiang Zhe recollected himself and said, "I've investigated the background of the finance officer who turned himself in to the police. Before he was employed by the overseas branch of Nanshi Corporation, he interned at Prosperity Holdings for three months. However, this wasn't stated on his resume, and that's why the human resource department didn't pick it up."

"So, he's a spy planted by the Rong family?" asked Ning Ran.

Nan Chen shot her a look and grimaced.

Didn't she decide to shut her mouth? Why can't she practice some self-control? Jiang Zhe has already made it crystal clear, so what's the point of repeating what he said? Why does she need to yell all the time?

"I've already guessed that was the case." Nan Chen kept his composure and added, "But I suspected the Ouyang family instead of Prosperity Holdings."

"What should we do now?" Jiang Zhe asked.

"Find the officer's family members and check if they're able to contact him. As long as he admits he told a lie, I can let this slide," replied Nan Chen indifferently.

"Mr. Chen, this is driven by greed. I think we should contact the police station abroad where he turned himself in and find ways to communicate with the finance officer directly—"

Nan Chen interrupted Jiang Zhe's counterproposal, "I won't do that, and neither will I pay hush money to buy him off. This will only let our enemy have dirt on me. My intention in asking you to look for his family is to let them know that Nanshi Corporation has never treated its staff badly. The company has never done anything wrong toward its investors, nor have we committed any unacceptable social norms. Someone is maliciously slandering Nanshi Corporation, and we'll take legal action once this matter is over. There are tens of thousands of employees working for Nanshi Corporation globally. We've got no idea how many spies are planted in our midst by other companies. As a matter of fact, it's a challenge to find that out completely. Therefore, we need to take a stance and let them know that all staff is required to perform their best at work for as long as their employment contract is valid, which applies to everyone at Nanshi Corporation, regardless of their motives. This should let them know that we will never let the person off easy if they ever stir up trouble!"

"Noted, Mr. Chen. I understand now." Jiang Zhe bobbed his head.

As Ning Ran was listening to Nan Chen, a beautiful face flashed across her mind. She thought of Rong Rong, whom she had met briefly in Livingsfill.

Rong Rong was the sister of Rong Yi and Rong Jilin.

Now that the Nans and the Rongs are officially at war, they're bound to hurt each other. Would it be possible to get everyone from both sides of the prominent families to meet up, clear the air, and reconcile?

When Ning Ran part with Rong Rong in Livingsfill, she kept the latter's contact.

Since the headquarters of Prosperity Holdings moved to Flower City, I wonder if Rong Rong has relocated too. Or is she studying elsewhere? If she's in Flower City, we can totally organize an in-person meeting for the heads of both families to talk things over.

She can invite Rong Yi, and I'll bring Nan Chen along. We could mend their relationships and resolve the enmity through that meeting. Wouldn't it be great if this idea worked out? Rong Yi is a suave and elegant gentleman. Coupled with his love for music, I bet he's an understanding person too. Yes, this plan will most likely succeed.

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My Wife Is a Superstar Chapter 855-“Ran?” Surprise laced Rong Rong's tone when she received a call from Ning Ran.

The latter was rather relieved that there were no signs of hostility or wariness in Rong Rong's voice.

After all, Nan Chen was alleged to have caused Rong Jilin's leg injury. With Rong Jilin being Rong Rong's brother and Ning Ran's relationship with Nan Chen, Ning Ran was implicated too.

Thus, she had been worried that Rong Rong would resent her, refuse to answer her phone call, or be hostile toward her.

Ning Ran heaved a sigh of relief when Rong Rong sounded normal.

“Yes, Rong. It's me, Ning Ran.”

She was rather excited to get connected with the lovely Rong Rong, who had been on her mind for the longest time.

“I know since I saved your number, Ran. I just didn't expect you to call me,” exclaimed Rong Rong.

Ning Ran recollected herself and asked, “Where are you, Rong?”

“I just returned from a trip to Epea. As soon as I landed and turned on my phone, I saw your incoming call. I'm still at Flower City International Airport,” said Rong Rong.

Ning Ran was thrilled to hear that. “Stay where you are and wait for me—I'll come and get you. Find a cafe and have something to drink while you wait. I'm on my way, okay?”

“Don't trouble yourself, Ran. I'm sure you're busy. I'll be fine since my brother has arranged transport for me,” Rong Rong uttered.

Needless to say, Ning Ran could not give up on such a great opportunity. “Just wait for me. I'll be there in a jiffy. See you soon!” she insisted before hanging up.

Thereafter, she turned and saw Nan Chen standing behind her, wearing a cold expression on his face.

“Where are you going?” he asked.

Ning Ran did not slow down a second. She grabbed her handbag and said, “I’m heading to the airport to meet a friend. I’ll tell you the details later.”

“Which friend?” He seized her wrist, feeling rather suspicious.

Initially, Ning Ran wanted to share her plans with Nan Chen. However, she was not sure if Rong Yi would agree to the meet-up.

Nan Chen has always been prideful. If Rong Yi turns him down, he will surely feel humiliated.

Therefore, Ning Ran decided to keep it a secret. Once Rong Rong extended the invitation to Rong Yi, and the latter confirmed his attendance, Ning Ran would then come clean with Nan Chen.

“A female friend who has just returned from Epea. She’s at the airport now, and I need to rush there to see her.”

“A female?” Nan Chen looked doubtful.

“Yeah, a girl.”

Nan Chen wanted to ask if it was Ruan Anxi, but he changed his mind in the end. Asking the question would only make him sound petty.

“Go ahead, then. I’ll ask Qiao Zhan to drive you there.”

“Oh, it’s okay. I’ll go alone.”

Her response made his suspicions grow.

Who’s the mysterious person? Why isn’t she allowing others to tag along? It’s a critical moment for us right now. How can she go out on her own?

Ning Ran, on the other hand, also felt that it was a bad move to decline Nan Chen’s offer, for it would make him suspect her more.

Hence, she quickly clarified, “I mean, it’s a meeting between two ladies. If Qiao Zhan comes along, we might feel uncomfortable.”

Nan Chen thought for a while before responding, “He will wait for you outside and not disturb you. He knows the rules.”

“Okay, then. I’ll let him drive me there. All right, I’ve got to go. Talk to you later!”

Ning Ran left hastily as she did not want to make Rong Rong wait for too long.

Ning Ran has never been good at hiding things or concealing her emotions; anyone with a brain can figure out that something fishy is going on. Nan Chen gazed at her back profile and thought to himself.

As soon as she left, Nan Chen called Qiao Zhan.

When Ning Ran came out of the elevator, Qiao Zhan was already standing by the car door, gesturing her to enter.

She got in and announced, "Let's go to the airport."

Qiao Zhan turned to look at her several times as though he had something to say, but he hesitated each time.

"Let it out of your chest, Chief Qiao. There's nothing you can't tell me," Ning Ran cut to the chase.

He smiled and replied, "Madam, you're very clever. Actually, it's nothing serious. Sir Chen just wanted me to report to him whoever you'll be meeting."

Ning Ran chuckled. "What if I tell you not to say a word to him?"

"Oh, then you'll be putting me in a difficult spot. I..." Qiao Zhan sighed, not knowing what else to say.

"Don't worry. I'm meeting a girl later. Just tell Nan Chen that she's a woman and you don't know anything else. That will do."

Qiao Zhan nodded and agreed, "All right, I got it."

Ten minutes later, Ning Ran found Rong Rong at a cafe. She was still as charming as how Ning Ran remembered her to be.

Rong Rong gave her a hug upon seeing her.

"Have you eaten? I'll treat you to a big meal to celebrate your return."

"I've eaten during the flight here. Is there anything I can help you with, Ran?"

Rong Rong was a smart girl. She knew that Ning Ran was undoubtedly up to something.

"I wish to talk to you about Rong Jilin." Ning Ran did not want to beat around the bush.

“What about my brother?” Rong Rong answered with a question.

Ning Ran was confused. Does she not know what happened to Rong Jilin? Or is she just playing dumb? Anyhow, Rong Rong is very innocent. She doesn't look like she is pretending.

“None of your family members told you what happened?”

“I don't meddle with my family affairs. Moreover, the relationship between Jilin and I... is only so-so. I don't agree with most of his actions, so we rarely keep in touch. That's why I'm not aware of his matters. What did he do? Did he hurt you, Ran?” Rong Rong was worried.

“Hmm... It's quite a long story. So...”

Then, Ning Ran tried her best to summarize the series of events to Rong Rong.

“As a consequence, Jilin is now crippled?” The latter teared up.

Although they did not see eye to eye with each other, they were still siblings. Rong Rong felt sad that a mishap had fallen on her brother.

“According to the latest news, his surgery was successful, and the injury won't affect his movements. However, he might not be able to carry heavy things in the future. Anyway, your brother is a rich heir who doesn't need to do any hard work, so it should be fine for me to say that there shouldn't be any major impact on his life,” Ning Ran concluded.

Rong Rong gave a weak nod. “I had been traveling around Northern Epea, where phone signals were not always operating at their best in most places. In addition, I don't surf the web often. That's why I wasn't aware of the news. Yi didn't update me, either. He has never really concerned himself with my way of life, so I really am clueless about it. I'm not playing dumb, Ran.”

Ning Ran held her hand and said, “Of course, I believe you. I'm telling you this today not because I want us to be at odds with each other. Conversely, I don't want any more misunderstandings between your family, Nan Chen, and me. We're sorry about what happened to Rong Jilin, but we didn't do that to him. Although we're business competitors, we compete responsibly and with self-control. Nan Chen and I would never hurt anyone for the sake of winning a business deal. Please trust me.”

Rong Rong nodded vigorously. “I trust you, Ran. What can I do to help?”

“If possible, I'd like to arrange a face-to-face meeting with your eldest brother and explain everything to him. Rong Yi is a musician and also a gentleman. I'm confident we can resolve the misunderstanding if we communicate openly and sincerely. I don't want

to see the two families fighting continuously and let a third party take advantage of our long-standing feud.”

Rong Rong pondered for a bit before nodding. “It shouldn’t be a problem. Yi dotes on me, and I think he will say yes.”

Read Novel My Wife Is A Superstar Chapter 856

My Wife Is a Superstar Chapter 856-Nan Chen received Qiao Zhan’s report that Ning Ran was currently having coffee with a pretty young lady. Although the girl looked familiar, Qiao Zhan could not recall where he had seen her before.

Nevertheless, it did not matter if Qiao Zhan could not remember the girl. The important thing was that Ning Ran did not meet with a man.

Hence, Nan Chen continued on with his business and ignored Ning Ran’s matters.

However, he soon received a call from Ning Ran. The latter requested that he make arrangements to accompany her to meet up with a friend for a meal later that night.

Nan Chen thought it strange. Currently, Nanshi Corporation was facing a crisis, and Ning Ran was not unaware of the enormous amount of stress that he was under. So why is she trying to set up a meeting now, of all times?

It also seemed like Nan Chen was always the one who organized such events and requested Ning Ran’s company, not the other way around. Ning Ran had never requested his company for any occasion.

After all, there was Nan Chen’s status to consider. An ordinary person could never hope to invite him.

Since it was Ning Ran’s first time setting up a meeting, Nan Chen agreed to it with a condition. He only had half an hour to spare, and he wasn’t planning to stay for the entire time. He was only going to show his face, greet a few people, then leave. He was a busy man, after all.

Truth be told, Nan Chen rarely spent a long time at such events. He would only make a brief appearance at dinner meetings and public affairs.

As long as Nan Chen was willing to appear at the event, he was already giving face to the organizer.

At six o’clock in the evening, Nan Chen’s car arrived at the entrance of Imperial Gourmet Club.

A black-suited Nan Chen stepped out after the driver opened the door. He then headed toward the entrance of the club.

The owner of the club came out to greet him personally. This would be the first time Nan Chen dined at his establishment, and he planned to brag about it to his friends on social media for a long time.

“Sir Chen, my name is Chen Quan. Please let me know if you need anything.” Bowing, the owner handed over his business card. He wasn’t about to let the opportunity to get acquainted with Flower City’s top elite slip through his fingers.

Nan Chen merely nodded in response. He accepted the proffered card, gave it a light perusal, and passed it to someone standing near him.

“This way please, Sir Chen.”

With his head held high, Nan Chen walked in without uttering a word.

Just as he reached the door, he suddenly heard the sound of another vehicle.

Nan Chen faltered in his steps. Wasn’t this place supposed to be entirely reserved so no one would bother them? So why is there another car?

The person who got out of the car was dressed in a casual gray suit. He was a handsome man with clear skin and warm eyes. His gaze carried no hint of hostility at all, and his every move exuded cool and calm elegance.

The man in question was a renowned pianist in Asia who had won many awards internationally, Rong Yi.

The eldest son of the Rong family and a financial expert in the financial industry, Rong Yi was a true mastermind behind the scenes.

Every time Nan Chen encountered Rong Yi, he felt as if the latter was his greatest rival in China.

They were both men who were completely different types. Nan Chen gave off a fierce aura and the impression of a king to others. Due to that, people naturally distanced themselves from him.

On the other hand, Rong Yi was the opposite. As his name suggested, he was very approachable and did not make a person feel intimidated.

Under that gentle appearance concealed an energy that could stir up storms. Although he could hold out a gentle hand one moment, he could also put a blade to one’s throat the next.

Nan Chen stood there and watched as Rong Yi slowly approached him.

He had not expected the person Ning Ran invited to be Rong Yi. Rong Yi, too, did not expect that the person Rong Rong wanted him to meet was Nan Chen.

Simultaneously, the two of them eyed each other cautiously.

Rong Yi's first thought was that Nan Chen was acting guiltily, and he assumed that the latter had forced Rong Rong, who had just returned to the country, to rush over from the airport, forcing the girl to set up a meeting with himself.

Meanwhile, Nan Chen's first reaction was that Rong Yi had gotten the better of him, and the latter was taking advantage of the situation to negotiate with Nan Chen, forcing him to hand over more benefits and for him to apologize to Rong Jilin.

Rong Jilin had posted on Weibo beforehand, insulting Ning Ran even though his foot injury was caused by the people Nan Chen sent. Of course, Nan Chen refused to apologize.

Rong Yi believed that although Rong Jilin was also in the wrong, he was still a member of the Rong family. Nan Chen's actions of sending someone to injure Rong Jilin was a blatant declaration of war against the Rong family.

Since the two families had a long-standing grudge, the incident only served to add fuel to the flame.

Rong Yi walked forward slowly. He could feel the cold and arrogant aura that Nan Chen was giving off.

Even if other people were afraid of Nan Chen, he was not afraid of the man.

"Did you coerce Rong Rong to set this up?" Rong Yi inquired calmly.

Nan Chen's eyes darkened as he replied frostily, "Aren't you the one who kidnapped my wife?"

The owner of the club hurriedly tried to smooth things over. "Since the two of you are important guests, all the expenses today will be on me. The two ladies who arrived before you appeared to be amicable when they went in. No one was forced in unwillingly. I can personally attest to this."

Naturally, Nan Chen knew that Ning Ran wasn't being held against her will since Rong Yi was not that sort of person. Moreover, she had Qiao Zhan with her.

However, Nan Chen was displeased that Rong Yi accused him of kidnapping Rong Rong the moment they met. Hence, he had fired back with a retort of his own.

A strong person tended to be more lenient and tolerate those who were weaker than themselves. However, the gloves came off when it came to a person who was on par with themselves.

Snorting, Nan Chen continued to walk into the restaurant.

Rong Yi purposefully slowed down because he felt as if he would be thought of as Nan Chen's follower if he trailed behind the latter. By slowing down and keeping a distance, they would each walk their own paths.

Rong Yi, who was heavily influenced by music, had a different side to him. Even a tiger could appreciate a rose.

Ning Ran and Rong Rong both got to their feet the moment Nan Chen entered the private room.

Just as Ning Ran was introducing them, Rong Yi entered.

Although the two men were wildly different, there was no denying that it was a pleasant experience to be in the company of extremely handsome men.

It was a good thing that there were no other men present, for they would have the urge to escape. An ordinary man would only feel inferior in their presence.

"Yi, you're here!" Rong Rong went over and hugged Rong Yi's arm.

Although it had seemed like a casual gesture between a younger sister and a doting elder brother, it was, in fact, a form of physical communication.

Rong Rong was hinting at Rong Yi to behave himself, reminding him that he should not antagonize the guests she had invited.

Ning Ran turned to Nan Chen. "Rong has just returned from Epea today. Since we haven't gathered in a while, I thought, why don't we have a meal together."

Naturally, Nan Chen understood Ning Ran's intentions. She was making use of Rong Rong's relationship with Rong Yi to invite the latter in hopes that they would be able to negotiate.

However, she was far too naive.

If it had only been a personal conflict between Nan Chen and Rong Yi, it could have been easily resolved with today's meeting.

However, this matter concerned the two families and the interests of their respective companies. It was not something that could be solved with a simple gathering.

Most of the time, the conflict could only be resolved if one party gave way.

Since they were two families with a long-standing grudge, it was near impossible to hope that one side would give in.

Also, since it involved their families, it could not be settled with merely Rong Yi's or Nan Chen's words alone, for they still had to face immense pressure from their own families.

In an ideal world, all past feuds could be forgotten with a smile. However, if a feud could be forgotten so easily, it likely was not one that was borne of true hatred, to begin with.

Although Nan Chen and Rong Yi were not too pleased, still, they took their seats so as not to embarrass their respective acquaintance and family member.

Read Novel My Wife Is A Superstar Chapter 857

My Wife Is a Superstar Chapter 857-The atmosphere of the dinner turned out to be more awkward than the two ladies thought.

As it turned out, Rong Yi was also someone not fond of talking. He was very quiet.

That was a shared quality between him and Nan Chen.

Unfortunately, the only similarity between the two men made it even more challenging for them to get along with each other.

Ning Ran had pulled many strings to get the two of them together for a meal. Seeing that her plan was about to fail, she began to panic.

"Ahem." Ning Ran cleared her throat and raised her glass somewhat awkwardly. "Let's raise a toast! It's a rare opportunity for all of us to gather together."

Yet, neither Nan Chen nor Rong Yi budged. Both parties were waiting for the other person to make the first move, for neither of them wanted to drink with the other person.

To lighten the mood, Rong Rong raised her glass to play along. "That's right. It's rare that we gather together. Let's make a toast! Until now, I still remember the time Ran had stood up for me against the delinquents back in Livingfill."

Rong Rong was hinting to Rong Yi that Ning Ran was her friend. In other words, Rong Rong was expecting Rong Yi to save Ning Ran some face despite his hostility toward Nan Chen.

As a well-mannered man, Rong Yi caught onto Rong Rong's hint quickly and reluctantly raised his glass.

Seeing that Rong Yi had raised his glass, Nan Chen followed suit. The four of them clinked their glasses before taking a sip respectively.

However, the room fell back into a heavy silence after the toast.

Unhappy with the progression of the meeting, Ning Ran tried to turn things around. Even if she failed in the end, she could tell herself that she had at least tried.

“Mr. Rong, there are a few things I would like to say. If I say anything wrong, please forgive me,” Ning Ran said with a polite smile.

Rong Yi nodded courteously. “Go ahead, Ms. Ning. I’m not easily offended.”

Taking a few deep breaths to calm herself, Ning Ran thought over her words carefully. “Firstly, I would like to express my sympathy toward the unfortunate incident that had befallen Rong Jilin. Even though he initially was the one who insulted me on Weibo, I assure you that we have nothing to do with him being beaten up by others.”

Naturally, the “we” that Ning Ran mentioned included Nan Chen and the rest of the Nan family.

Ning Ran was familiar with Nan Chen’s pride. She knew that he would never lower his head in front of the Rong family over this incident. Thus, she did not even mention Nan Chen’s family name in her clarification but used the word “we” instead.

It was an ingenious and cautious way to bring up the subject. Nevertheless, Nan Chen still furrowed his brows slightly.

From Nan Chen’s perspective, Ning Ran’s initiative to bring up the matter was the equivalent of admitting defeat.

He did not like that. There was nothing wrong in admitting defeat, but there was no need for them to do so at the moment.

Even so, Nan Chen held his tongue to save Ning Ran the humiliation. If it were anyone else, he would have probably shut them down by then.

On the other hand, Rong Yi did not respond immediately but mulled over it in silence for a brief moment. “When you said ‘we,’ Ms. Ning, were you including Mr. Nan as well? If that was the case, why didn’t Mr. Nan say anything himself?”

At first, Nan Chen was still thinking about how he should react. He did not expect Rong Yi to call him out so soon.

The message was clear. That was an issue between the two men, or rather, the two families. Nan Chen should be dealing with the issue at hand instead of hiding behind a woman.

“Her viewpoint does not represent Nanshi Corporation or me. Therefore, I believe her ‘we’ did not include me,” replied Nan Chen coolly.

As expected, the situation was getting from bad to worse. Nan Chen was too domineering. It was impossible for him to remain gentle after being called out by Rong Yi. That was not his character.

Not to mention that it was Rong Jilin’s fault that triggered the entire cascade of events. Moreover, the Rong family had revealed the spy that was hiding in Nanshi Corporation, causing the stock price of Nanshi Corporation to plummet.

In other words, the troubles that Nanshi Corporation was facing at the moment were all Rong Yi’s doing, and the troubles were unfortunately still ongoing. They had not been solved.

Nan Chen was the CEO of Nanshi Corporation. If he were to provide an explanation under this circumstance, it would no doubt be considered as him waving the white flag. It would be as though he was saying, “I was not involved in your brother’s injury. Please spare me.”

How could Nan Chen display such submissive behavior?

If the crisis faced by Nanshi Corporation had been resolved and Nan Chen was not at the losing end, perhaps he would have been calmer and made it easier for everyone.

After all, Nan Chen genuinely admired Rong Yi. Not many people would receive such high regard from Nan Chen.

The atmosphere of the dinner was getting increasingly tense. Frozen in place, Ning Ran wanted to cry out of frustration, not knowing what else to do.

It looks like some things really can’t be resolved just by the desire to resolve them. Ning Ran felt extremely defeated.

“Yi, Mr. Nan, I think you two are being unfair to Ran!” All of a sudden, Rong Rong spoke up. “Ran had asked you guys here so that everyone would place harmony above everything else and clear up the misunderstanding, not for you two to banter with each other and leave the two of us to suffocate in awkwardness. Don’t you think that you’re putting Ran and me to shame by acting in this manner? No matter what, we come from a good place of wanting to resolve the issue. Don’t you two think you guys are being inconsiderate of our efforts?”

Even though Rong Rong was young, her speech was confident and powerful. It was no wonder she was Rong Yi's favorite sibling.

"That's right. If you two want to act all high and mighty, you can do so elsewhere. I've invited everyone out for dinner out of good intentions so that you two have a chance to communicate with each other, yet you left no room for negotiation. This is disappointing!" Ning Ran chimed in.

"I apologize, Ms. Ning, but I believe the key to this discussion is still Mr. Nan. Mr. Nan, are you really not going to give any explanation for the fact that my brother has been severely injured?" Rong Yi turned to look at Nan Chen.

"There's nothing to explain. You can take it however you want," Nan Chen stated icily.

Ning Ran screamed internally. Why is it so hard for Poker Face to talk nicely? The whole thing was Ruan Anxi's doing and has nothing to do with the Nan family. Will it kill him to explain? Why couldn't he just clarify the situation?

Nan Chen, however, was singing another tune. Rong Yi has already taken his revenge on Nanshi Corporation. He has already attacked me, so why do I have to explain things to him? Since he dared to attack me, then I shall retaliate! Fight first, talk later! Since he was already convinced that I was the one behind it, what else was there to it? So what if I was behind it? Rong Jilin was the one who insulted my woman publicly. So what if I caused him to become crippled? Even though, in reality, it was Ruan Anxi's doing, just treat it as though he was doing it on my behalf. Since the Rong family has already attacked, then they should give me their best shot! Why should I beg for mercy? Furthermore, our two families have a long-standing grudge. Since we're already enemies, what's one more fight? We would still hate each other in the end. It wouldn't make any difference!

Rong Yi smiled slightly and turned to face Ning Ran before spreading out his hands in a gesture of wry resignation.

Ning Ran turned to look at Nan Chen in hopes that the latter would play nice.

To her dismay, Nan Chen pretended not to see her signal and rose to his feet instead. "Check, please!"

The waiter walked over. "Sir, our boss has mentioned that this meal is on us—"

"Are you not treating them to a meal? What's the point of a treat if you're not paying?" Nan Chen interrupted the waiter by looking pointedly at Ning Ran.

"I'll pay. I'll pay," Ning Ran answered immediately. "It's just that we haven't even finished eating..."

“I have other things to do.”

Nan Chen’s statement was not referring to only himself. He was not excusing himself from the table, but rather, he was implying that the dinner was over. He wanted Ning Ran to pay so that they could both leave.

Ning Ran was upset to see that her plan had failed in the end.

“Ms. Rong, I apologize for interrupting your meetup with Ning Ran today. I’ll see to it that she invites you out some other time,” Nan Chen assured Rong Rong.

He wanted to make it clear that the hostility between him and Rong Yi was a separate matter from Rong Rong’s friendship with Ning Ran. Even though Nan Chen wanted to go against the Rong family, he reassured the women that they could still be friends and not let the enmity between the two families be a hindrance to their friendship.

A trace of disappointment was written all over Rong Rong’s face as well, but she forced herself to smile. “Thank you, Mr. Nan.”

Nan Chen turned and nodded curtly at Rong Yi. “We’ll make a move first.” With that, he yanked Ning Ran out of the private room without turning back.

Read Novel My Wife Is A Superstar Chapter 858

My Wife Is a Superstar Chapter 858-After leaving the clubhouse, neither Ning Ran nor Nan Chen uttered a single word.

The driver opened the car door, upon which Nan Chen gestured for Ning Ran to get into the vehicle first.

However, Ning Ran didn’t climb into the back seat, for she didn’t want to sit with the man. Instead, she walked over to the passenger seat, opened the car door, and got in.

Naturally, Nan Chen understood her silent protest. Without commenting on it, he signaled the driver to set off.

And so, silence reigned the entire journey back to Raining Pavilion.

It was still early, so Dabao and Erbao were still awake, finishing the homework assigned by their teacher.

They were presently studying in the best kindergarten in Flower City. The educational institute demanded a lot from their students and always gave them homework to be completed under the supervision of their parents.

Unfortunately, both Ning Ran and Nan Chen were too busy. As they rarely had time to help the twins with homework, the housekeeper took over the duty most of the time.

Yet, her knowledge was often limited. Thus, Nan Chen and Ning Ran had been discussing plans to hire a qualified tutor to guide the twins with their homework exclusively.

Nonetheless, they had been busy, and the twins were still young, so that matter had been temporarily put on hold.

It went without saying that Nan Chen still had work to do. When they arrived home, he went straight to the study room.

Ning Ran, on the other hand, kept the children company for a while. When they had gone to bed, she took out a book about performing arts and started reading it on the couch.

Despite being talented, she didn't graduate from a performing arts academy and lacked theoretical knowledge. For that reason, she would read books on the topic whenever she was free to improve her skills.

As she read, her eyes kept darting to the study room upstairs. She felt that Nan Chen was in the wrong that night, so he should take the initiative to seek her out and clarify things.

Alas, the man remained busy and stayed in the room perpetually.

At this time, she would usually brew a cup of coffee and bring it to him. But today, she made no move to do so. She was mad at him and wasn't in the mood to make him a drink.

Aware that he was in the habit of drinking coffee while working at night, she knew that he would certainly snap and come out.

Sure enough, Nan Chen stepped out of the study room.

"I need a cup of coffee," he stated from upstairs.

Ning Ran remained motionless, her mind running wild inwardly. Hah! Are you ordering a maidservant or a server at a coffee shop around?

Seeing that, Nan Chen knew that she was still fuming.

"A thousand for a cup of coffee," he added.

A thousand? Oh no, I find myself rather tempted. Gosh, I must be really scared of poverty that I'm still enticed by the offer of a thousand though I'm already a celebrity now.

Ning Ran then proceeded to lambast herself. Look at you! What a typical loser mentality! You're going to admit defeat just because of a thousand?

Therefore, she remained sitting without showing signs of moving anytime soon.

"Two thousand."

Knowing that she was stingy and money-minded, Nan Chen continued raising the offer.

At that, Ning Ran grew even more tempted. Back when I was abroad, I couldn't even earn this much by doing the dishes for the entire day!

"Ten thousand," Nan Chen offered, jacking up the price once more.

Ning Ran could no longer remain impassive. She was most annoyed by others throwing money at her since it was utterly irresistible.

"Eleven thousand!" Falling prey to him, she demanded another thousand.

"Epean currency!" Nan Chen swiftly promised.

The current exchange rate of Epean currency to China currency is one to eight. Won't that be equivalent to eighty-eight thousand in China currency? Ah, I like this figure!

"Transfer me the money via WeChat immediately!" Ning Ran urged.

"I want two cups, and I'll pay upon delivery." After saying that, he whirled around and returned to the study room to continue working.

While Ning Ran was brewing coffee, she started musing about the matter. Hmm, I can't make him coffee for free anymore henceforth. The price has to be stated clearly. I'll be a fool not to make money when it's such a profitable deal. Besides, he's the one acting rich and generous. In that case, I'll help him with it and save up some money in the process. If I were to have a falling out with him in the future, I wouldn't need to go back to my destitute days in the past. This isn't me being a cheapskate. Instead, it's me being smart and far-sighted!

At that thought, Ning Ran's mood improved by leaps and bounds. She felt complacent about her shrewdness.

Meanwhile, Nan Chen wanted to use that method to make her happy. He knew she was afraid of being poor and loved money, thereby fond of making easy money. Bluntly put, she coveted petty gains for psychological pleasure.

However, if he were to give her millions, she would be hesitant to accept. On the whole, she was the kind of person who loved money yet adamant about acquiring it ethically.

When Ning Ran had made the coffee, she brought it to the study room. But then, she didn't give it to Nan Chen, indicating that she couldn't hand him the goods since payment hadn't been made.

Nan Chen rarely spent money in his daily life. Consequently, there was insufficient balance in his WeChat.

Hence, he phoned Jiang Zhe and had the man transfer him a million.

Regretfully, that exceeded the transfer limit. The most he could transfer was fifty thousand.

"I'll pay you the rest later." Nan Chen reached out to take the coffee.

"Transfer from a different card. I don't accept credit," Ning Ran asserted with a stony expression.

At once, Nan Chen was taken aback. Whoa! She's a fanatic about money. Is she afraid I won't pay her the remaining tens of thousands?

Having no other choice, he could only use another card and pay her in full. It wasn't until after doing that did he get to drink the coffee.

By the time Ning Ran received the money, her leftover fury from the clubhouse that night had dissipated for the most part.

She wanted to talk to the man but was too embarrassed after her insistence on demanding payment earlier.

Nan Chen took a sip of the coffee before lifting his eyes to her. "Were you born with a bill in your mouth?"

Ning Ran could tell that he was making fun of her for being money-minded.

"Yeah. It wasn't only a bill but several bills! What's with it? Is it against the law?" She jerked her chin up.

In response, Nan Chen shook his head. "No, of course not. By the way, there's a lead on Frosty Warrior, who gave your mother a piece of calligraphy work. The investigation

is still ongoing, but the results should be out soon. How much are you planning to pay for this lead?"

Ning Ran was wholly stunned.

I sold coffee, yet he's planning on selling information! He's taking his revenge so quickly? Is he really a man?

"What does that mean? Are you trying to recover the money you spent to buy coffee? In your dreams!" Ning Ran snapped.

"No. I'm not the kind of person who likes paltry amounts. If I sell something, the starting price would be a million at the very least," Nan Chen retorted disdainfully.

"What? A million? You're selling a piece of information for a million? This is daylight robbery!" Ning Ran grew increasingly emotional.

"Finding someone without knowing his true name in this vast world is as difficult as looking for a needle in a haystack. A million is just the cost price. If I want some profits, it would have to be two million." Nan Chen's expression remained unchanged.

"D-Dream on! This is blackmail, and I'm not going to buy it!" Ning Ran snarled.

"Suit yourself." Lowering his head, Nan Chen resumed his work.

Although Ning Ran declared that she was never buying it, she knew deep within her heart that it was information regarding her biological father at the end of the day.

Indeed, I want to know about him, but I'd never fork out the money, not in my entire lifetime!

Slowly inching over to the man, she placed her hands on his shoulders and massaged them gently. "You've worked hard, Mr. Chen. Here, I'll help you to relax. I know you were merely joking with me. You're rolling in money, so you don't lack a million or two. That aside, you're an exceedingly responsible and trustworthy person. Back then, you promised to figure out a way to help me investigate Frosty Warrior's identity. Now that there's a lead, you'll never ask me to pay for it. Instead, you'd supply it to me for free. As the saying goes, relationships are ruined by monetary issues. Why is it that you enjoy such high prestige? It's because you're honest, a man of your word, and generous. You've always been a role model for the kids and me. You'll never let us down! Isn't that right?"

The corners of Nan Chen's mouth turned up a fraction. Verily, she's not the least bit ashamed of flattering me!

Read Novel My Wife Is A Superstar Chapter 859

My Wife Is a Superstar Chapter 859-A ton of honeyed words poured out of Ning Ran's mouth as she rambled endlessly. As she spoke, she observed Nan Chen's expression.

Then, she lamented inwardly. Poker Face will always have a poker face. No matter how much I try to flatter him, his face remains devoid of expression.

"Am I right, Sir Chen?" she asked, unwilling to give up.

"About?" Nan Chen asked in return.

Hearing that, Ning Ran almost burst a blood vessel.

I wasted so much saliva, yet he didn't even hear a single word? This is simply too much!

She stopped massaging the man. In truth, she wanted to punch him in the face, but she dared not do so.

"I was speaking about the matter regarding Frosty Warrior. You're not going to charge me for real, yes? You were merely joking with me, weren't you?" she questioned cautiously.

"We'll see," Nan Chen answered noncommittally.

"What stage is the investigation at, then? Is that person a local? What's his occupation?" Ning Ran pressed.

"There's a lead, but they're still following up on it. The investigation is still ongoing. Be patient."

"Okay, I'll remain patient. I believe that you'll undoubtedly be able to help me unearth his identity. Thank you," Ning Ran murmured as politely as possible.

"You're not mad anymore?"

Without warning, Nan Chen exerted strength and wrapped his arm around her, sitting her on his lap.

"Yes, I'm still angry!" Ning Ran deliberately fibbed.

"I know you meant well, but the enmity between the Nan and Rong families has persisted for decades. It's not something you can resolve."

"But what exactly is the grudge between the two families?" Ning Ran's curiosity was inexorably piqued.

"I'm not sure either. Grandpa is tight-lipped about it. He speaks to me about almost everything but not the matter with the Rong family. Perhaps it's too sensitive or difficult to talk about," Nan Chen admitted.

Ning Ran hugged him around the neck. "If so, what are you planning to do next? If Nanshi Corporation's share prices overseas were to continue plummeting tonight, those old geezers from the board of directors would likely pick trouble with you again."

"I got a friend abroad to help mobilize some funds to protect the share market so that it isn't dominated by short-sale funds completely. As a result, the drop in share prices wouldn't be steep. Don't worry. I'm not that easily defeated. Right now, the trickiest problem is the company's accounting scandal. While we know it was a set-up by the Rong family, it's beyond difficult to put things right. Rong Yi is an incredibly steady person. A move from him won't be so easily resolved. Moreover, he won't give up so quickly after having sabotaged us. Thus, your mediation wouldn't have done any good due to the conflict of interest, much less when there's bad blood between the two families."

Following his explanation, Ning Ran heaved a sigh. "It looks like I was too presumptuous. This isn't something in which I can hope to be of help."

"Well, not really. But it's best that you discuss it with me before doing something similar in the future. Such behavior is easily interpreted as backing down by others. When there's a war between two parties, neither side can simply compromise. Otherwise, it'll affect the team's cohesion," Nan Chen elucidated solemnly.

"Got it. I'll never again do such a thing behind your back."

In response, Nan Chen nodded. "Go and rest first. I've still got work to do."

"You're going to stay up again tonight? Your body won't be able to take it." Ning Ran was very much worried.

"It's okay. When this mess passes, we'll take another vacation together."

When Ning Ran woke up the following morning, she found that Nan Chen was already back from his morning jog.

Besides, he seemed to be in high spirits. Consequently, she reckoned that he probably hadn't stayed up that late last night.

She then browsed the news on the internet and saw that Nanshi Corporation's share prices didn't continue taking a nosedive. Contrarily, it had stopped falling and rebounded, rising back to its initial state prior to the financial scandal.

No wonder he's in such a good mood. It turns out that things have turned around.

During breakfast, she took the initiative to ask Nan Chen about the matter.

Nan Chen revealed that his friend abroad mobilized an astronomical amount of funds to protect the market and thwarted the short-selling institutions from taking advantage of the situation.

On top of that, the employee who previously exposed Nanshi Corporation for financial fraud suddenly issued a statement that he was merely slandering the company because of some conflict.

Ning Ran put down the glass of milk, thrilled to the core. “So, the tables have turned? Why did he change his tune out of the blue?”

A frown marred Nan Chen’s countenance. “I don’t know. I suppose it was because he was affected by the outside world. Anyway, we didn’t put pressure on him directly. In fact, we didn’t even send anyone to make contact with him.”

“Could it be that he was struck by a bout of guilty conscience? But the possibility of that is negligible, no?”

“I never believe in someone having a guilty conscience. I’ll investigate what exactly happened.”

Ning Ran’s mood likewise took a turn for the better. “It’s great that the matter has been resolved. At least, it can reduce the burden on you.”

“It might not necessarily be truly resolved. Perhaps this is only the beginning. Anyhow, let’s not talk about the company anymore. Do you have anything on your schedule today?”

“Yeah. I’m going to shoot an MV with Shi Jie and the others today, but it’s unsure yet how long exactly it’ll take,” Ning Ran replied.

“That young boy band invited you to collaborate with them on an MV? Won’t you be too...”

At that point, Nan Chen trailed off.

Nonetheless, Ning Ran knew what he wanted to say. He was trying to hint that she was a bit too old compared to the boy.

After all, Shi Jie was a sixteen or seventeen-year-old teenager, whereas she was already the mother of two. The age gap between them was undeniably huge. Honestly, Ning Ran herself felt that she wasn’t suited for the task.

“I thought the same, but they said I’d be playing Shi Jie’s high school teacher in the MV. The MV wants to convey the indescribable feelings of an innocent teenager toward his teacher. There’s nothing harmful, let alone any suggestive scenes. Thus, I agreed,” Ning Ran elaborated.

Nan Chen said nothing after listening to that explanation.

“What’s an MV? Is it a movie or TV series? How about bringing me along, Mommy?” Erbao chimed in at the side, blinking her ebony eyes.

Beside her, Dabao answered, “It’s a music video, a short film meant to complement a song. I’ve told you this before, haven’t I? You’ve forgotten again?”

Understanding dawned upon Erbao. “Ah, I get it now. It’s the kind of short film with couples kissing, usually played alongside music.”

At once, panic swamped Ning Ran. “The one I’m shooting doesn’t have kissing scenes. I’m going to team up with a teenager.”

Acting all grown-up, Dabao interjected, “Of course not. Otherwise, Daddy wouldn’t agree to it. He’d be jealous.”

Nan Chen threw a look at his son, upon which the latter hastily dipped his head and stuffed porridge into his mouth.

Putting on a stern expression, Ning Ran chastised, “Don’t spout nonsense. Your daddy is a broad-minded and understanding person. He’s not petty to be jealous indiscriminately.”

Despite her compliment, Nan Chen remained expressionless.

In all honesty, he wasn’t sure whether he was against or in favor of her shooting an MV with Shi Jie.

When the release of the new movie was imminent, Ning Ran would need more attention and traffic for the launch to be successful.

Under normal circumstances, the producer would begin hyping the actors and actresses. Some would even go as far as paying to make trending topics incessantly.

If Ning Ran were to shoot an MV with Shi Jie, it would definitely increase traffic since the latter was one of the most popular young celebrities at present.

However, it was difficult to say whether she would be spurned by the boy’s fans of the younger generation.

Therefore, that was an exceedingly dangerous risk to take. Nan Chen couldn't tell how things would turn out in the end.

The entertainment industry was inherently turbulent. No matter how powerful a person was, he couldn't predict the person who would abruptly shoot to stardom and the one who would be hit by the tidal wave and die on the beach in the next second.

Read Novel My Wife Is A Superstar Chapter 860

My Wife Is a Superstar Chapter 860-After breakfast, Ning Ran and Nan Chen sent their kids to school. Then, the driver dropped Nan Chen off at the office before chauffeuring Ning Ran to meet up with Wang Xiaoou and the rest of the crew.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

That was something out of Ning Ran’s anticipation. “Is he really that scary?”

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

Ning Ran laughed. “This sounds interesting. Does that mean I’ll most probably get scolded by him?”

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Read Novel My Wife Is A Superstar Chapter 861

My Wife Is a Superstar Chapter 861-Meanwhile, right as Ning Ran reached the entrance, she received a particularly “grand” welcome.

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

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

Give Shi back! Don’t taint him!

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

“Really?” Wang Xiaoou was still worried.

“Yes. They’re just children. Why should I take their words to heart?” Ning Ran chuckled.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Xie Dazui only scoffed before falling silent.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"Director Xie, this is too—"

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Despite that, not many actors could actually immerse themselves fully into the story, especially actors who trended on the internet. They often had empty looks in their eyes, and their expressions were stiff. They were merely acting for the sake of acting—there was nothing deeper than that.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Read Novel My Wife Is A Superstar Chapter 862

My Wife Is a Superstar Chapter 862-It was actually harder to film a music video than a television show.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Ning Ran nodded.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

There were no failed takes at all.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

“The classroom is empty, and I’m walking in from the outside. So that means it’s now either the holidays or after-class hours. The teacher must either be transferring or going on a break if she comes in at this time. Moreover, the absence won’t be a short one, so she must be thinking of getting a last look at the place where she and her students spent time together at. Therefore, I understood the scene as a scene of nostalgia and a reluctance to part. If she’s changing her job, she might feel sad, but it won’t be melancholy.”

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

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

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

All of a sudden, Xie Dazui laughed.

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

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

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

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

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

“Don’t butt in. It’s not your turn yet,” the director uttered.

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

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

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

Read Novel My Wife Is A Superstar Chapter 863

My Wife Is a Superstar Chapter 863-There were no major movements in the scene either—just walking, lifting the head, and turning around.

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

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

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

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

"Okay. Next!"

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

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

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

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

Xie Dazui had started praising Ning Ran.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

“Yes. I’m from Star Entertainment,” Ning Ran replied.

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

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

Nevertheless, Xie Dazui remained keen as he continued, “I thought you were just an artiste who’s building her way up with money, but it turns out you’ve got the skills. Dilla will be coming to the country for a music video filming. Originally, some of the famous local stars will be filming it with her, but I’m going to recommend you to her team.”

“Dilla? The internationally famous singer who won the Grapho Awards?”

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"Again!" Xie Dazui gloomily uttered.

Unfortunately, Shi Jie failed again. "One more time!"

"Again!"

"Do it again!"

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

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

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

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

"I'm done with this!" Shi Jie snarled.

Read Novel My Wife Is A Superstar Chapter 864

My Wife Is a Superstar Chapter 864-As one of the most beloved idols in town, Shi Jie had achieved a level of fame and adoration that most people could only dream of.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The site was filled with an awkward silence.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Read Novel My Wife Is A Superstar Chapter 865

My Wife Is a Superstar Chapter 865-"Cut!" Xie Dazui exclaimed excitedly. "Good job! You passed!"

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

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

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

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

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

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

"I think you can do it, Ms. Ding. I understood your pointers rather easily. If not for you, I would have so much trouble," Shi Jie uttered emotionally. Evidently, he was voicing his dissatisfaction toward Xie Dazui. Xie Dazui scolds me all the time instead of guiding me. He's such a bully.

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

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

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

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

Nan Chen didn't respond to that.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"Why is that?" Nan Chen asked.

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

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

"That's probably it. Those clients are scared of crossing Sunshine Corporation because they need Sunshine Corporation's financial support."

Nan Chen fell silent upon hearing that.

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

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

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

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

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

"Why is that?" Nan Chen asked.

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

Nan Chen fell silent again after hearing those words.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

the deputy CEO would usually attend them. However, Ouyang Li wrote the invitation personally to invite you this time around.”

“Okay. I’ll go.” Nan Chen nodded.

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

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

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

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

Read Novel My Wife Is A Superstar Chapter 866

My Wife Is a Superstar Chapter 866-The one-day event organized by the chamber of commerce was held at a golf resort. The main activities of the event were golf and a banquet.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"Sir Chen is here!"

"Hi, Mr. Chen! It's been a while!"

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Ouyang Li bit her lip and strode toward Nan Chen.

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

Read Novel My Wife Is A Superstar Chapter 867

My Wife Is a Superstar Chapter 867-Ouyang Li approached Nan Chen, intending to humiliate him.

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

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

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

In that split second, Ouyang Li felt defeated.

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

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

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

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

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

This Nan Chen is truly infuriating!

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

With that in mind, Ouyang Li went over to Rong Yi. “Mr. Rong, you’re finally here!”

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Read Novel My Wife Is A Superstar Chapter 868

My Wife Is a Superstar Chapter 868-The atmosphere turned awkward again. Everyone was looking at Nan Chen, and since he did not move, no one did as well.

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

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

Only then did everyone follow suit.

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

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

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

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

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

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

"Please say a few words, Sir Chen," someone suggested.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"You've never lost, right?" Rong Yi was implying something with his words.

"Never." Similarly, Nan Chen also did not give in.

"Those who have never lost can't afford to lose," Rong Yi said with a smile.

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

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

Nan Chen was taken aback by his words. "Kidnap?"

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"Are you admitting to it?" Rong Yi pressed on.

Nan Chen merely scoffed in response.

Read Novel My Wife Is A Superstar Chapter 869

My Wife Is a Superstar Chapter 869-One of the reasons Nan Chen attended the dinner was to see what Rong Yi would say.

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

Rong Yi claimed that Nanshi Corporation had abducted his family.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Nan Chen was becoming hot under the collar.

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

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

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

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

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

Surprisingly, he believed Nan Chen.

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

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

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

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

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

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

"No," Nan Chen replied succinctly.

"Why did you admit to it last time?"

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

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

"No." Nan Chen outright declined.

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

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

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

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

Nan Chen fell silent, seemingly considering.

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

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

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

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

Rong Yi nodded almost without any doubt. “I believe that, and I’ll remember what you said.”

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Regardless of the reason, the consequences were significant.

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

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

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

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

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

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

While they were still talking, Ouyang Li arrived, interrupting their discussion.

Read Novel My Wife Is A Superstar Chapter 870

My Wife Is a Superstar Chapter 870-Ouyang Li came at a bad time. Her arrival interrupted Nan Chen's and Rong Yi's conversation.

Everyone indoors knew Nan Chen and Rong Yi were engaged in a discussion outside, so they didn't dare to interrupt the two. Ouyang Li was the only one who stepped outside.

She figured it was a good chance to take the opportunity to interact with Nan Chen.

After all, Nan Chen did mention her earlier, getting her hopes up.

She couldn't care less about Nan Chen stealing her limelight as the host. All she could think of was how Nan Chen mentioned her for the first time of his own accord.

Rong Yi saw Ouyang Li approaching and nodded at her before excusing himself.

Nan Chen wasn't aware of the weird thoughts running through Ouyang Li's mind. He merely greeted her with a polite nod.

The nod out of sheer courtesy sent Ouyang Li's heart pounding once again.

She understood it was basic etiquette, and Nan Chen didn't regard her as anyone important, but it didn't stop her heart from racing.

At that moment, she knew she had fallen head over heels for Nan Chen.

Her intelligence and confidence would take a nosedive, and her ability to make a logical judgment was thrown out the window whenever Nan Chen was present. His every move affected her.

It was terrifying!

Ouyang Li had never encountered a situation like this before. She thought it wouldn't happen to her anytime soon in this lifetime.

Yet it did.

After Nan Chen politely greeted her, he turned around to leave with no intention of speaking with her.

Before she could think twice, she blurted out, "Nan Chen."

She didn't call him "Sir Chen" like everyone else nor address him by his title, "Mr. Nan." Instead, she addressed him directly by his name, thinking it sounded more imposing and would maybe make them seem closer that way.

Nan Chen couldn't care less about the way she addressed him. He stopped in his tracks, but only for a few seconds before he continued walking ahead.

"Stop. I have something to tell you," Ouyang Li said urgently.

Nan Chen ignored her and continued in his tracks. The last thing he wanted to do at that moment was to listen to her, but he was too lazy to even voice out his refusal.

He already knew what Ouyang Li wanted to say. It was definitely about her getting some of Nanshi Corporation's partners to terminate their collaboration with the company by threatening to cancel the loans her family's bank lent out.

Those collaborators were important, but terminating the collaboration with them wouldn't put a dent in Nanshi Corporation's rock-solid foundation.

Their country had speedy economic growth and the most immaculate industrial chain in the entire world. With plenty of enterprises in various sectors, Nanshi Corporation wouldn't have to worry about the lack of collaborators.

Even though the beginning of a new collaboration might affect efficiency in some aspects, leading to some losses, Nanshi Corporation could afford to bear those losses.

Besides, with Nanshi Corporation's capabilities, it was those businesses' losses if they terminated their collaboration. There was absolutely no need for Nanshi Corporation to lower itself to plead for any partners to renew their contracts.

Since the consequences were insignificant to Nan Chen, he didn't think there was a need for him to talk to Ouyang Li.

The two families had a fallout earlier on, so both sides no longer had to care about salvaging each other's dignity as old friends. Since they had different beliefs, they should just walk on separate paths.

Ouyang Li panicked when Nan Chen ignored her and continued walking.

She raced past him and got in his way, stopping him from leaving.

Nan Chen frowned in response, and her sudden movement also attracted the other guests' attention.

Without a choice, Nan Chen halted in his tracks. He couldn't argue with Ouyang Li in front of everyone. That would be too ugly a situation.

"Speak." Nan Chen's expression was cold.

Ouyang Li was giddy to finally have the chance to study Nan Chen up close. She greedily beheld his face despite his frosty demeanor. Even though he looks cold, he's still handsome.

There wasn't a trace of warmth in those eyes of his. They were icy cold.

"Two days ago, I had the risk control department run a background check on a group of businesses to reevaluate their credit line—"

Nan Chen hastily cut her off. "I know. You threatened to cancel their loans if they continued their contracts with Nanshi Corporation."

Ouyang Li felt a sense of accomplishment, as though she had finally turned the situation over in her favor. "You knew?"

Nan Chen didn't even want to reply and merely grunted.

"If you plead with me on their behalf, I might be able to look the other way." Ouyang Li giggled.

I finally got you where I wanted, Nan! Weren't you always sitting on your high horse? Didn't you always look down your nose at me? I want you to beg me! And I demand you do it humbly!

However, that was merely her misconception about Nan Chen. In the end, she still didn't know anything about him.

Nan Chen cast Ouyang Li a look of disdain. "Maybe if you plead on their behalf and renew your contract with Nanshi Corporation, I might consider forgiving them for their offense."

His boldness stunned Ouyang Li speechless.

I caused him to lose long-time partners, and yet, he doesn't even care. How is he still so smug?

Nan Chen sauntered past Ouyang Li and walked back indoors.

Ouyang Li caught up to him again. "Your nonchalance is just a mask, isn't it? You're just pretending not to care."

Nan Chen snickered. "Nanshi Corporation has more than a thousand collaborators all over the world. Do you think we'll beg every single one of them to maintain a long-term partnership with us? Losing a handful of partners won't affect us in the slightest, so you can save your breath. One more thing, stop bothering me. At least you can keep some of your pride intact that way."

Without waiting for her response, he strode away.

Ouyang Li stood rooted to the spot in disbelief. She noted his indifference toward her and realized she was just humiliating herself.

Nan Chen briefly bid the other guests goodbye before leaving.

Ouyang Li clenched her jaw in anger as she watched the taillights of Nan Chen's car disappear from her sight.

She finally understood why Ouyang Qing hated Ning Ran so much to the extent of poisoning Ning Ran's children.

If poisoning Nan Chen's children could make him suffer, Ouyang Li figured she would do the same. No, she might even do something more ruthless. At that moment, she was willing to do anything just to get Nan Chen to bow his head and make him suffer.

She didn't understand the reason behind her intense hatred toward Nan Chen. All she knew was she hated him with every fiber of her being.

In the meantime, Nan Chen completely disregarded Ouyang Li's words as he sat in the backseat of his car. He shut his eyes and recalled every word Rong Yi uttered.

"Qiao Zhan," Nan Chen called out abruptly.

Qiao Zhan, who was behind the wheel, answered, "Yes, Sir Chen?"

"Say, do you think there are employees who wish for their company's downfall?" Nan Chen asked a strange question.

"Um... Why do you ask?" Qiao Zhan was taken aback by his question.

Instead of answering him, Nan Chen repeated his question in a serious tone. "Do you think there are employees like that?"

Qiao Zhan pondered over Nan Chen's inquiry briefly before replying, "I think there are. For example, those spies sent by other companies. Naturally, they will hope for the company's failure."

"I meant employees, not spies. Will they hope for the company to run aground?"

"Employees? That's unlikely since they're enjoying the company's benefits. What will they gain if the company falls?"

Nan Chen repeated Qiao Zhan's reply under his breath before muttering, "That's right. What will they gain?"

"Did something happen, Sir Chen?" Uneasiness filled Qiao Zhan at Nan Chen's grim question. He noticed something wrong with Nan Chen that night, as though he was in a bad mood. Qiao Zhan wondered if it had anything to do with Ouyang Li.

"Rong Yi told me someone did cook the company's books, and I didn't realize that. I'm certain upper management is involved," Nan Chen explained.

“You actually believe in Rong Yi’s claim, Sir Chen?” Qiao Zhan remained unperturbed.

“I do,” Nan Chen said firmly before shutting his eyes again.

There are many things I have to sort through.