

## CHAPTER 11.

“Don’t touch me, you rascal!”

She mustered up some strength and shoved the man off her.

In the dark, a loud bang could be heard. She figured the man must have hit something.

Ning Ran didn’t care about him, and ran out of there as fast as she could.

The impact from the hit was quite hard and left Nan Chen dizzy for a while before he regained his senses.

The bodyguards outside were also shocked to see a woman running out of the room, and quickly went in to check up on him.

Nan Chen dusted himself off, “It’s fine. Let’s head back to the set.”

A woman that had the guts to shove him like that... He wanted to find out who she was.

Ning Ran bumped into Cheng Xiangyun who was on her way to the front desk. Cheng Xiangyun immediately brought her to the set without saying anything.

Ning Ran didn’t have time to explain either, and the two rushed on forward.

With Nan Chen absent, Luo Fei had also lost the will to keep acting and took a break.

She nearly dropped the glass in her hand when she saw Ning Ran approaching the set.

“Sorry for being late, director. I’m Ding Mi, here to audition for the second female lead.....”

Ning Ran was panting as she bowed apologetically at the director.

The director’s eyes lit up when he saw her.

The woman before him had delicate facial features, a gentle personality and a pair of beautiful eyes.

These were exactly the qualities he was looking for in an actress!

Just as he was about to say something, Luo Fei’s cold voice came from behind.

“She was late for such an important audition. She has no sense of professionalism at all! How could she possibly be a good actress?”

The director’s expression changed slightly. After all, Luo Fei was not someone he could afford to offend, and this actress was late indeed.

He tried to be fair and questioned Ning Ran loudly, “So, you’re Ding Mi?”

“Why waste time on her?” “Just kick her out for being so unprofessional!”

Luo Fei saw that Nan Chen had returned, and became more anxious as she tried to get rid of Ning Ran as soon as possible.

“Yes, director. I had a little accident on my way here. I’m sorry for the trouble caused. Please give me another chance.”

She apologized sincerely and profusely in a graceful manner.

Luo Fei wished she could rip Ning Ran’s face off, but Nan Chen had gotten closer to them.

She forced a reluctant laugh and greatly softened her tone, “This is a professional film set. If everyone keeps getting things delayed like this, how are we going to film this movie?”

The director got nervous as well when he saw Nan Chen, “Yes, Ms. Luo is right. We must have principles as professionals. Please leave.”

Ning Ran being the victim was not about to just stay quiet about it. She attempted to speak up for herself.

But Luo Fei immediately walked right past her and said in a sweet voice, “Honey, I don’t want to work with an unprofessional woman like her. Would you please get her to leave?”

Nan Chen gave Luo Fei a confused look, and turned to look Ning Ran in the eye.

Ning Ran was stunned on the spot, and her jaw dropped.

This man... His face looks just like Dabao’s and Erbao’s.....

## **CHAPTER 12.**

Nan Chen frowned slightly at the sight of her.

He had thought that this woman was special, but she turned out to be so shallow instead.

Nan Chen knew he was good-looking, but she didn't have to humiliate herself like that.

She stared at his face for a full minute, and felt like she might start to drool at any second.

Nan Chen got goosebumps from his own imagination.

He had wasted enough time on the set today. He really didn't feel like watching any more exaggerated acting from these women.

As such, he nodded in agreement with Luo Fei's words and turned to leave.

Luo Fei was delighted and subconsciously reached out to wrap her arms around his again.

However, a cold gaze from Nan Chen had her arms frozen in mid-air.

Ning Ran saw that he was about to leave, and quickly chased after him after she regained her senses.

Luo Fei freaked out and attempted to grab her arm but ended up pushing Ning Ran forward instead.

Ning Ran let out a scream as she crashed into the man.

At that moment, everyone at the set was dead silent.

Nan Chen spun around when he heard her voice but couldn't react in time. He was knocked down by Ning Ran who grabbed him by the waist.

It took a while before someone finally reacted.

Jiang Zhe was shaking as he stepped forward, "Are... Are you alright, Mr. Chen?"

Ning Ran sat up, her face bright red, "I'm... I'm sorry... I really didn't mean to..."

Nan Chen rubbed his left arm that was aching from the fall, and stared deeply at Ning Ran.

He caught a whiff of the scent of orange blossom again. So it really was her in the storage room earlier.

Luo Fei's eyes were red from anger, and pulled Ning Ran out of the way.

“Not only are you not punctual, you’re also a scheming woman. Get lost!”

The pull sent Ning Ran falling onto the ground again.

She stood back up, feeling both embarrassed and furious.

“I only fell because Ms. Luo pushed me, and now we’ve got this mister injured as well. Shouldn’t you be apologizing instead of just blaming me for everything?”

Luo Fei’s face went pale from that, but couldn’t argue as there were too many people present.

“I only reached out to pull you away from Nan Chen because you were trying to get close to him.....” “Don’t try to change the subject. I’ve seen plenty of unprofessional women like you who only seek shortcuts in life. You’d better get the hell out of here now!”

“I have a reason for being late. I was locked up by someone who didn’t want me to make it for the audition.”

Ning Ran did not back down and insisted on defending her case.

“Haha, what sort of lame excuse is this?!” “You’re just nobody! Who on earth would risk going out of their way to harm you like that?” “Did you really think Mr. Chen is THAT gullible?” “You think you can just make up some random excuse and Mr. Chen would give you a chance?” Luo Fei retorted loudly.

“I’m telling the truth.” “When I came here, a man with a staff ID told me he was bringing me to the set.”

“Then, he knocked me out with a drugged handkerchief and locked me in the storage room. Luckily, I didn’t inhale too much of it, so I was able to wake up quickly and escape.”

Ning Ran glared at Luo Fei as she said that. Luo Fei was right, no one else here knew who she was. If anyone were to hurt her, it would definitely be Luo Fei.

Luo Fei started to panic upon hearing her words, and subconsciously tried to avoid her gaze.

“Every actor that came here wanted a chance to perform. There’s no way anyone would miss it willingly, and I am no different.” “Please give me a chance at this audition. If I get eliminated due to my poor acting skills, I will accept that outcome without any complaints. But I will not accept failure due to sabotage like this.”

Ning Ran looked at Nan Chen as she said that.

She could see that this man, who looked just like her son, was the real person of authority here.

### **CHAPTER 13.**

Nan Chen hesitated for a moment. This woman in front of him looked thin and weak, but her stunningly beautiful.

She had a pure look in her shiny eyes that seemed full of life.

The entertainment company under the Nanshi Corporation was also the largest entertainment company in Flower City.

As such, he had come across many actresses.

Superstars and award-winning actresses included.

However, none of them had a pair of eyes like hers.

She had crystal clear eyes and a faintly charming gaze.

It was as if her eyes could tell countless tales.

Nan Chen turned around and returned to his seat.

Everyone was shocked.

Mr. Chen actually came back!

He actually forgave the woman who knocked him over, and gave her a chance.....

“Chen, you don’t have to care about her.....”

Nan Chen shot her a glance before she could finish, and she shut up immediately.

Everyone showed her great respect as they thought she was Mr. Chen’s girlfriend.

But Luo Fei knew very well how much she mattered to Nan Chen.

With that, the director resumed the audition.

“Then, let’s try the scene where the female lead reunites with the second female lead after a long absence.” “In this scene, the Shen family’s eldest daughter returns from Nanyang. She finds out that her mother is dead, and questions her second eldest sister about it.....”

“Director, I can’t do it. I’m not feeling well.”

Luo Fei hated Ning Ran to death. It killed her that she couldn't do anything about it in this situation. There was no way she would be willing to cooperate with Ning Ran and give her what she wants.

Besides, Ning Ran was prettier than her. She was not about to be bested by her in front of Nan Chen.

Of course, the director dared not offend Luo Fei either.

"In that case, you'll do this scene by yourself."

Without someone to pair up with, acting the scene became highly difficult for Ning Ran.

On top of that, the director did not give her any time to prepare and had her start the scene immediately.

Ning Ran lowered her head before raising it, and everyone was shocked.

She was a completely different person from before. She went from a strong woman who fought hard for her opportunity, to a sad girl who'd just lost her mother.

Ning Ran was talking to the air, but no one found it awkward or funny. Instead, everyone was captured by her melancholic performance.

Nan Chen's heart leapt as he watched the woman acting on stage.

He had not seen such a great actress in a very long time.

And besides, she seemed to be too immersed in her character. Or perhaps, she has experienced such an incident herself.

His mind was racing, but he showed no changes in his expression.

Luo Fei was getting increasingly anxious as she watched from the side.

Since when did this woman get so good in acting?

She looked at Nan Chen. He was completely focused on watching Ning Ran's performance, as opposed to how he was towards her when she was on stage.

Suddenly, Luo Fei thought of a good idea as she clenched her fists.

Nan Chen hates women who trade their bodies for favors, so if she'd just.....

An evil smile spread across Luo Fei's face at the thought of that.

## **CHAPTER 14.**

Ning Ran had finished her performance rather quickly.

But everyone on the set was dead silent, still captivated by her acting.

“Not bad!”

Nan Chen’s assistant, Jiang Zhe was the first to cry out.

He figured that the boss would approve of it too, having watched the entire performance so seriously.

As Nan Chen’s most caring assistant, he naturally cared greatly about what his boss wants.

The director too, let out a smile upon seeing that.

This actress is great. If Mr. Chen’s assistant has approved of her, surely Master Chen himself has too.

He looked at Nan Chen, and waited for him to make the decision.

At this moment, the assistant director walked over to Nan Chen.

The assistant director bent over and whispered, “Mr. Chen, Ding Mi asked me to tell you that if you give her the role of second female lead, she’ll do anything you ask tonight.”

With that, Nan Chen’s newfound liking towards Ning Ran was completely destroyed.

This made him suspect if their previous encounter was just a setup by her.

Nan Chen narrowed his eyes.

She’s overestimated herself if she thinks she can gain my favor by sleeping with me.

Such a woman does not deserve an opportunity at all.

Nan Chen stood up without saying a word, and walked straight out with a cold look on his face.

Everyone at the scene was confused.

Did she get his approval or not?

“So Mr. Chen, this actress.....”

Before Jiang Zhe could finish his sentence, he noticed Nan Chen’s look of indifference towards Ning Ran and understood his decision.

He paused, and told the director, “She didn’t make the cut.”

The set was in an uproar.

She failed despite having such an amazing performance?

Mr. Chen is too strict. If this level of acting still could not to satisfy him, then what would?

Luo Fei smiled in delight.

Hmph! So what if you’ve got good acting, Ning Ran? I won’t let you have a chance anyway.

Ning Ran was dumbfounded as well.

She’d thought she did a great job, as everyone was still enchanted by her performance after it ended.

But this Poker Face who looked so much like her son had refused to acknowledge her acting? How could he?

She ran up to Nan Chen and stood in front of him.

Everyone was shocked by her actions. This woman has the guts to stand in Mr. Chen’s way!

“What did I do wrong? Why did you reject me?”

Ning Ran raised her head and looked straight at him.

Up close, his resemblance to her son was much greater.

She had to keep reminding herself, “This isn’t my son! My son is not that old!”

Nan Chen raised his eyebrows as he looked at the tiny woman in front of him.

Even at such a close distance, no flaws could be found on her delicate face.

She does look great indeed, but that doesn’t mean she can just blatantly seduce him like that.



Nan Chen just eyed Jiang Zhe who was standing next to him without saying a word.

Jiang Zhe understood immediately, and said, "If Mr. Chen said no, that means no." "Miss, please stop wasting Mr. Chen's time."

"But why?" "Was my acting bad?" "If I did something wrong, you can point it out and I can change it. I cannot accept you just rejecting me without any reason like this!"

Ning Ran clenched her fists tightly as she stared at him with a determined look on her face.

"How dare you!" "Who do you think you are, talking to Mr. Chen like that? Apologize!" Even the director was frightened by that.

Mr. Chen was being doubted at the audition. If Mr. Chen was to blame, then he, the director, would also be held responsible. He had to stop this ignorant little actress as soon as possible.

"What's wrong with my acting? Tell me!" Ning Ran could not accept her defeat.

She had a petite body, but stood up straight as if she had some great power hidden inside.

"You can't point it out, can you? That's because you don't know acting. You don't know art. You're not professional enough." "Yes, you're rich. But that doesn't mean you can just reject people as you wish like that, right?"

That got everyone on the set silent once again.

No one has ever dared to speak to Mr. Chen like that!

This woman is crazy! She's done for! Her future in China's entertainment industry is over!

## **CHAPTER 15.**

"Let go of me! I must say it! The reason why it's so difficult to produce great shows these days is because these outsiders are leading us insiders! He controls everything with his money and decides an actor's fate based on his own personal preferences! He's just an ignorant capitalist!" Ning Ran got more and more furious as she spoke. Poker Face's anger boiled as he listened.

Where did this woman get her courage from, questioning his professionalism like that in front of everyone? Did she get it from Fish Leong? (Fish Leong is a Malaysian singer. Her second studio album was titled Courage.)

Nan Chen's lips twitched, but said nothing.

He was a man of few words, and had not spoken at all since he got here.

He rarely spoke to anyone at all.

To him, the wise do not blabber. Those who talk a lot were all mundane people.

Nan Chen arched his eyebrows and motioned for the bodyguard to take the woman away.

“You outsider!” “You’re bullying others with your power!” Ning Ran shouted in defiance.

“Mr. Chen, give her a chance.” Luo Fei suddenly came and begged him.

Nan Chen looked at Luo Fei, and shot her a questioning look.

“She’s said before, that she must get the role no matter what. If she doesn’t get it, she would get her keyboard warriors to attack me online.”

“She would even say that I only got my role through your favoritism and biasness.”

“If she was that arrogant in front of everyone, she’d surely do a lot worse behind the scenes.”

“She won’t rest until she gets the role, Mr. Chen. Let’s just give it to her.”

Of course, Luo Fei said these to fuel Nan Chen’s rage.

Luo Fei was well aware of Nan Chen’s admiration towards Ning Ran.

Had she not ordered the assistant director to say those words to Nan Chen, Ning Ran would’ve gotten the role for sure.

Nan Chen did not lose his temper despite being scolded by Ning Ran like that.

That worried Luo Fei. What if Nan Chen really gave Ning Ran the role?

So, Luo Fei wanted to completely anger Nan Chen. If he got mad, not only would Ning Ran not get the role, but her future in the entertainment industry would be finished as well.

She wanted to get rid of Ning Ran completely through Nan Chen, so that she would never stand a chance ever again.

However, Luo Fei had underestimated Nan Chen.

Nan Chen had ruled the Nanshi Corporation business empire and triumphed the market. Obviously, he didn't accomplish all that through luck alone.

Although he does not like to express himself much, he understood the human nature very well.

Nan Chen saw right through Luo Fei's scheme when she did that.

He was like a king. He didn't mind giving, but hated being used.

Luo Fei's pathetic scheming was undoubtedly an insult to his IQ.

As if he would let her have her way like that!

He looked at Luo Fei, then at Ning Ran.

Then he nodded his head.

He left everyone in shock once again.

Mr. Chen nodded. Does that mean he agreed with Luo Fei's suggestion? Was he letting this woman who talked back at him get the role of second female lead?

Even the director was in disbelief and hurriedly tried to confirm it with him, "Mr. Chen, do you mean that she gets the role?"

Nan Chen nodded again without saying anything.

Then without stopping, he walked right out.

Cheng Xiangyun was sweating profusely. She felt as if she had gone through hell and back.

She had been in the entertainment industry for quite a while and had heard of Nan Chen countless times, but had never seen him in person.

All she knew was that he was a ruthless business tycoon whose words no one dared defy.

Those who have crossed him have disappeared from the entertainment industry completely with no chance of returning.

So, when Ning Ran butted heads with him earlier, Cheng Xiangyun had thought that she was done for.

But things took a huge turn, and Nan Chen had given Ning Ran a chance instead.

This was all thanks to Luo Fei's "help".

Regardless, it was great news that Ning Ran got the role in the end!

Next, she had to discuss an important matter with Ning Ran, which was the resemblance of Nan Chen with Dabao and Erbao.

## **CHAPTER 16.**

Luo Fei was mad with rage.

She had intended to get rid of Ning Ran completely through Nan Chen, but Nan Chen ended up giving Ning Ran the role of second female lead instead.

Luo Fei could not understand where she went wrong, but the intelligent Ning Ran had seen right through her.

“Thank you so much! If not for your begging, I doubt I would’ve gotten this opportunity. I guess blood really is thicker than water. I knew you’d help me out.” Ning Ran laughed as she said that to Luo Fei.

“Get lost!” “Who the hell are you calling family?!” Luo Fei was furious.

“Is it frustrating?” “You want to get rid of me using Mr. Poker Face?” “Too bad for you, he was smart enough not to fall for it, and now I’ve countered you instead. Don’t you just regret yourself so much?” Ning Ran was unfazed, and kept a smile on her face.

The calmer Ning Ran appeared; the angrier Luo Fei became.

“You b\*\*\*\*.....” Luo Fei raised her hand, and was about to slap Ning Ran.

“You want to hit me?” “Go on, do it! A huge star bullying an ordinary actress? Let everyone here get it on camera!” Ning Ran motioned at Chen Xiangyun.

Chen Xiangyun whipped out her phone and got the camera ready.

Luo Fei was trembling in anger as she put her hand down.

Manager Wang Xiaou was a wise person. She could see that Ning Ran was no ordinary person.

If this goes on, Luo Fei would surely fall for Ning Ran’s tricks and act inappropriately.

So, she hurried on ahead to stop them, "We still have other plans for today, let's go."

"I can't accept this! I must teach her a lesson!" Luo Fei was not letting go.

"Let it go, she's just a second female lead. Why get so worked up over her?" "It isn't worth it."

Luo Fei thought about it, and agreed. She's just the second female lead. I am still the first. I'll have plenty of chances to get back at her on the set later on.

Comforted and persuaded by Wang Xiaoou, Luo Fei finally left the scene.

Nan Chen's car was headed towards Nanshi Corporation headquarters, where he would have an important meeting with the partners.

In the back seat, Nan Chen closed his eyes and recalled the incident earlier.

They were so close to each other when the petite Ning Ran had confronted him.

Then, he had detected a faint smell of orange-blossom.

That was the most unforgettable scent in his memory. It was like no other.

On that night where he had intercourse with a woman in the clubhouse, that was the scent he detected from her.

When he found out that Luo Fei was the woman, he granted her the title as his girlfriend.

However, he had never smelled that refreshing scent on Luo Fei ever again.

A few years went by, and he had almost forgotten that scent completely. But today, he's found it again.

As Nan Chen was lost in his thoughts, a sound from the mobile phone in the front seat snapped him out of it.

It came from a video that his assistant Jiang Zhe was watching. Nan Chen took a peek at the screen and noticed that it was a video of Ning Ran's performance at the audition.

"Give me that." This man who was silent the whole time had finally spoken, his voice as magnetic as ever.

Jiang Zhe realized the noise from his phone had disturbed his boss who was resting, and said with a terrified look, "I'm sorry....."

“Give it to me.” Nan Chen repeated those words again.

Jiang Zhe handed the phone over.

In the video, there was sadness in Ning Ran’s eyes while an aura of silent sorrow surrounded her body.

Even when reviewing her video, the effects of her captivating performance could still be felt.

Nan Chen felt as if he could smell that faint scent of orange-blossom again.

It was a shame that this actress was one who would resort to underhanded means in order to achieve her goals. She would even sleep with someone just to get the role. What a shame.

As Nan Chen thought about it, he felt a rising sense of irritability.

He rolled down the window and tossed the phone out.

“My phone!” Jiang Zhe cried out in shock.

Then, he noticed the ice-cold look on his boss’ face, and instantly covered up, “Never mind, I’ll just get a new phone... It’s fine, it’s fine.....”

## **CHAPTER 17.**

Ning Ran and Cheng Xiangyun had left the hotel and got into Cheng Xiangyun’s red Honda.

“Missy, you’ve scared me to death today! Can you please not act so rashly next time?”

“It’s just losing a role in a film. Why’d you have to piss off Nan Chen like that?”

“If you really got on his nerves, my future in this industry would be ruined along with yours!”  
Chen Xiangyun still had some lingering fears as she recalled the incident earlier.

Then, she stopped the car and turned to look at Ning Ran, “Oh, by the way, don’t you feel that Nan Chen’s face looks rather odd?”

Of course, Ning Ran understood what Cheng Xiangyun meant. She too, had been thinking about his uncanny appearance.

But, she decided to play dumb, “What do you mean? He just looked okay to me.”

“Didn’t you notice how he looks so similar to Dabao and Erbao?” Chen Xiangyun stared at Ning Ran as she asked.

“They did look a little alike. Just a little bit, though. Let’s not talk about him anymore.” Ning Ran replied faintly.

“That wasn’t just a little bit! They looked like two peas in a pod!” “What’s going on here? Is Nan Chen actually the father of Dabao and Erbao?” Her words hit Ning Ran like a bomb that exploded in her head.

“Stop talking nonsense.” Ning Ran said.

“According to your descriptions, the room was pitching black, and you didn’t know who the man was. How are you so sure that it wasn’t Nan Chen?”

“What if it really was him?” “My goodness, if Nan Chen really is the father of Dabao and Erbao, then we’re going to be rich!”

“You could get any role you want, and get rid of anyone you want!”

“You’d become a well-known star, and I will become China’s number one manager!”

“We would earn lots and lots of money together……” It was as if Chen Xiangyun had gone into autopilot mode at the thought of all the riches coming her way.

“Oh my God, are you possessed or something?” Ning Ran looked at Chen Xiangyun with disdain.

“I’m not possessed. I’m just too excited! I’m going to be a godmother to Dabao and Erbao! That way, if Nan Chen takes them in as his children, I’d become his relative!”

“Oh my God! Me being relatives with the most powerful person in Flower City! I’m going to be so successful!” Chen Xiangyun laughed and screamed in delight while her arms danced about in ecstasy.

Even Ning Ran was a little scared by her.

“Sweetie, please snap out of it. I can’t afford to send you to a mental asylum.” Ning Ran said as she patted Chen Xiangyun with a concerned look on her face.

Cheng Xiangyun exhaled deeply, and calmed herself down a bit.

“I’ve got to maintain a graceful image, as I am Nan Chen’s relative, after all! I must fit in as an upper-class member of society!”

Ning Ran exclaimed as she leaned back into her seat, "Stop fooling around and start driving already! I'm hungry!"

Cheng Xiangyun was barely able to contain the excitement in her as she restarted the car.

"Let's bring Dabao and Erbao to meet their father tomorrow!"

Now Ning Ran really got anxious, "Leave my kids out of your madness!"

"What's wrong with that? They have such a handsome and rich father like Nan Chen! Isn't that great?"

"Who said he's their father? That was all just your imagination!" "Luo Fei told me that man was a director. Nan Chen has never been a director all his life." Ning Ran said.

"Director?" "You mean Luo Fei did it to get the role?" "Her debut movie was Sound of Thunder. If that man was a director, then it could only be the film's director Feng Xiaoqiang."

"But, that can't be right... I've seen Feng Xiaoqiang. He's a bald, greasy middle-aged man with a mouth full of yellow teeth. How could he be the father to Dabao and Erbao?"

"Feng Xiaoqiang." Ning Ran murmured repeatedly.

"Yeah, the chief director of Sound of Thunder. If Luo Fei had done it to get the role, then the man would be none other than Feng Xiaoqiang."

Ning Ran whipped out her phone and entered "Feng Xiaoqiang" into the search engine.

The main results she got were scandals involving Feng Xiaoqiang and actresses, but those were all from two years ago. There had been no news of him for quite a long while.

It was just as Cheng Xiangyun described. Feng Xiaoqiang was short and fat. He had a collapsed nose, a big mouth with thick lips and a pair of tiny eyes.

There were no way the amazing facial features of Dabao and Erbao could be the result of such horrible genes! It was absolutely impossible!

Ning Ran felt disgusted just by looking at him.

## **CHAPTER 18.**

Chen Xiangyun unlocked the house door. Dabao who was watching anime on the couch rushed over the second they heard the door open.



“Are you alright, mommy? Did you pass the audition?” Erbao asked in her childish voice.

Ning Ran picked up Erbao, “Mommy’s fine, and the audition was a success.”

“Then, should we celebrate with a feast?” Erbao gulped as she said that.

Ning Ran reached out and tapped Erbao’s little nose, “You greedy little cat, all you think about is food.”

Dabao also came out when he heard the commotion from the study. Instead of jumping into Ning Ran like Erbao did, he just stood next to her as he looked at her.

Ning Ran walked over and carried them, one in each arm.

“Dabao, how did you do it? How did you find out which room mommy was locked in?”

“It was easy.” Dabao said.

He did not explain in detail, nor did he boast or gloat about it. He only said it was easy.

All of a sudden, Nan Chen’s face flashed by in Ning Ran’s head.

He too, didn’t talk much and was always quiet.

He never said a word throughout their lengthy confrontation earlier.

She looked back at Dabao. That faint coldness in his eyes and those thin lips that were tightly closed... He was basically a mini version of Nan Chen!

This was too scary!

Ning Ran couldn’t bring herself to think any further. This is impossible! Absolutely impossible!

“Mommy, what’s wrong?” “Are you alright?” Erbao asked with her arms wrapped around Ning Ran’s neck.

“I’m fine. Mommy passed the audition, so let’s go have a feast.....” “Aunt Xiang will treat us!”

“Yay! Yay!” Erbao cheered.

“You’re the one who passed the audition. Why is it my treat?” Chen Xiangyun said with a sad look on her face.

“Because you’re richer than me.” Ning Ran’s reasoned.

“You’d be rich soon as well, if only you’d just.....” Before Chen Xiangyun could finish, Ning Ran gave her a glare and that shut her up.

The two had agreed on their way home that they would not let the kids find out about someone who looked just like them.

Their world was too simple and pure. She couldn’t let anything bother or hurt them.

“Mommy, you and Aunt Xiang are hiding something from us.” Erbao had realized something was off.

“No, we’re not. What would you like to eat, Sweetheart?” “Aunt Xiang will treat you.” Chen Xiangyun said as she picked up Erbao from Ning Ran’s arms.

“Ice cream, chocolate, cakes, hotpot.....” Erbao started to list out food items one after another. After a long list, Chen Xiangyun concluded that she just wanted to eat everything delicious.

“Alright, as you wish.”

Cheng Xiangyun’s phone rang. She answered the phone as she walked into her room and shut the door behind her.

“Hello, Director Gao.”

“Xiangyun, I’ve looked at the pictures of the twins that you sent me. They are just too beautiful!”

“I have an advertisement project for computer lessons for kids available right now. Why don’t you bring them over to try it out? If it works out, we could get them signed up right away.”

“We’re such close friends now, so you don’t have to worry about the pay. It’s so rare to find such great potential in child actors these days, so we have a lot of room for collaborations in the future!”

Cheng Xiangyun jumped in delight as she heard that.

I’m rich! I’m going to be so rich!

These twins are going to get famous even before their actress mother does!

The pay for child actors was so high these days, even higher than adult actors! I've really hit the jackpot this time!

Cheng Xiangyun calmed herself down, and walked out of the room as if nothing happened.

"Ran, you must be tired. Why don't you get some rest? I'll take them out shopping and get them some nice clothes."

"No, the kids can just dress normally. There's no need to spend so much on clothing." Ning Ran said.

"There is a need. They look so pretty! I've got to get them some branded clothes." "You go on and get some rest. I'll bring them shopping now, and then we'll have dinner together later!"

## **CHAPTER 19.**

Chen Xiangyun successfully persuaded Ning Ran to let her bring the kids out.

Erbao put on a male outfit. With a hat on, the twins looked identical once again.

In order to look more like her brother, Erbao even straightened her face and put on a cool expression like his.

Director Cheng beamed in delight when he saw them arrive at the hotel for the audition.

"Just imagine how good the genes must have been to have produced such good-looking children!" "This is amazing! These kids will be a big hit!" Director Cheng said excitedly as he tried to approach Erbao, but Dabao quickly stood in between them.

Dabao made a motion similar to a traffic police stopping a car, as he warned Director Cheng not to come any closer.

Mommy once said that Erbao is a girl, so I can't let strangers near her, let alone behave intimately with her.

So Dabao must protect Erbao, and keep strangers away from her.

The director was taken aback by this and looked at Cheng Xiangyun, "What's the meaning of this?"

Cheng Xiangyun didn't understand what Dabao was doing either. But since Dabao doesn't talk much, she could only look at Erbao.

"You're a guy, so you cannot just come near me like that." Erbao said in her usual childish voice.

All the staff on set burst out in laughter. Erbao was just too adorable.

"Why can't I come near you?" The director asked her playfully.

She was going to say, "Because I'm a girl." but Dabao gave her a look, so she just kept quiet and pouted her lips.

"Director Cheng, why don't we get started with the audition? I've got to send the kids home soon." Chen Xiangyun said as she looked at her watch.

"Alright then, let's begin." "Our advertisement is about a learning computer for children. Through some simple controls, they can gain all sorts of basic knowledge. It's an upgraded version of a learning device. Here's a sample product." Director Cheng said as he introduced the device.

Dabao's eyes lit up when he heard that it's a computer, and started examining the device.

But, his excitement turned to disappointment fairly quickly. Such a childish toy like this was too boring for him.

To him, this didn't even count as a computer. It was just a smart toy at best.

The crew got into position and the audition started.

According to the plan, Dabao would hold the learning computer and read his lines, "I can draw."

Erbao who stood next to him would say, "I know calligraphy."

Dabao would then continue, "I know English."

And Erbao would go on, "I know Tang poetry."

Then, they would both say in unison, "We're only kids but we are knowledgeable in all these because we use Genius Kids Learning Computer!"

Just like superstars, the two showed no signs of being camera-shy as they stood in front of it.

However, the problem was, Dabao refused to start saying his lines. His expression was also too cool and needed to be gentler.

“Sweetie, what’s wrong? Why don’t you start reading your lines?” Chen Xiangyun asked Dabao.

“It’s childish.” Dabao replied.

Cheng Xiangyun was speechless. She had forgotten that this child in front of her was a genius who had participated in the programming competition and won the championship.

A learning computer like that was indeed too childish for him.

“We’re just doing this for an advertisement. Once we get the money, we can relief mommy’s burden with it. Would you please play along with it?”

Dabao looked at Cheng Xiangyun, and nodded his head.

But when the filming continued, Dabao still couldn’t read his lines.

He was too used to being quiet. To read out lines on the spot like was too much for him.

“Is it okay if I read out big brother’s lines for him instead?” Erbao bravely suggested.

The director had no choice but to make do with it, “Then let’s start filming. We’ll just do some editing later on.”

Without having to worry about reading their lines, the two adorable children cooperated perfectly and they managed to get it all done in one take.

## **CHAPTER 20.**

7pm, At a children’s restaurant.

Dabao slowly picked up the food on his plate with a fork, as he wondered if he should tell mommy about them shooting an advertisement earlier in the afternoon.

Aunt Xiang had told them that they would be hiding this from mommy, and that they were just trying to relief her burden. Even so, Dabao couldn’t shake the feeling of guilt in his heart.

He felt that any form of lying towards mommy was wrong.

Erbao didn't really care that much and was busy stuffing her greasy little mouth with food, while her gaze already moved on to the next snack.

"Ning Sihan, would you please mind your manners? You're a girl!" Ning Ran said with a frown.

Erbao quickly wiped her mouth and sat straight with her legs closed, "I'm a lady."

Her gaze, however, was still fixated on the food.

Her brother was weak in comparison. There was so much food, but he only ate a small portion of it. So, Sihan wanted to finish them for him.

Dabao had already noticed Erbao's intentions. He pushed his plate towards her, and motioned her to eat it.

"Thank you brother." Erbao broke into a wide grin.

"Ning Sihan, I'm warning you! If you keep eating like this, you'll end up becoming a fat little girl sooner or later!" Ning Ran reprimanded her, but her eyes were gentle and filled with affection.

"I won't. I'm a super beautiful girl that everyone loves! I'll never become a fat little girl!" Sihan said and went back to wolfing down her food again.

Ning Ran turned to Cheng Xiangyun, "Their births were only a few minutes apart. Why is it that Erbao's appetite is so much bigger than Dabao's?"

"Maybe their bodies are just built differently. She doesn't put on weight no matter how much she eats, just like you. It's been so many years, yet you still look like how you did in high school. I envy you so much..." Chen Xiangyun said.

"What's there to envy? I'm like this because I'm poor. Those with huge tummies are the ones that are wealthy." Ning Ran said with a smile.

"Speaking of wealth, you'll receive a hundred thousand in your bank account tomorrow. That should help you with their education fees and any other expenses. Everything costs money these days, it must've been difficult on you."

"A hundred thousand?" "Is that the initial payment for the film?" Ning Ran asked.

"That's right." Chen Xiangyun too, was hesitating on whether or not she should tell Ning Ran that the money came from her kids.

Although these kids looked amazing, it was still their first debut work, after all. So, a hundred thousand was considered quite a high pay for what they did.

Cheng Xiangyun did not take a single cent, and was going to give it all to Ning Ran. Being a single mother was simply too difficult a job.

“That’s great! This is my first income since my return! Thanks, Cheng. Here, a toast to you!” Ning Ran raised her glass of juice.

“To be honest, if these kids make it big, they might be more popular than you.....”

“There is no room for discussion on this. It is my duty to raise my children. I can’t let them face the harsh realities of life at such a young age.” Ning Ran said, interrupting Cheng Xiangyun.

Erbao heard that, and raised her head with her mouth still full.

“Mommy, we want to help you relief your burden. It’s too tiring for you. Brother and I can handle it.”

Dabao nodded in agreement as well.

“No one talk about this anymore. I will not let my children suffer.” Ning Ran said firmly.

Cheng Xiangyun saw how firm Ning Ran was, and didn’t dare tell her the truth either. She told herself she’d try to find another chance to tell her about it.

“The filming will start tomorrow, and we must be on the set at nine o’clock. We can’t be late on the first day. I’ll look forward to your wonderful performance!”

Ning Ran nodded, “Don’t worry, I’ll play my part well.”

Erbao put down her fork, and raised her meaty little fist, “Mommy’s the best!”

Dabao nodded slightly as well.