

<<巨星之秘>>

图书基本信息

书名：<<巨星之秘>>

13位ISBN编号：9787119067285

10位ISBN编号：7119067281

出版时间：2011-1

出版时间：外文出版社

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内容概要

约翰是一名会计。
工作一年之后，他决定辞职去寻求更刺激的工作。
他看中了音乐圈，认为那里可以让他名利双收。
听说当地酒吧有个潜力不俗的乐队需要一名经纪人，于是约翰前去试探。
每件事似乎都按部就班地进行。
约翰上任仅仅几周之后，乐队就在他的精心策划下参加了一个乐坛新人电视选秀节目。
他的乐队能一炮而红吗？
约翰会笑到最后吗？
恐怕没有这么容易吧……

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Chapter 24 Tiffany is back! The band was now through to the next round of Talent Tonight because Steve had left, but they still needed a new bass player. Of course, they wouldn't be ready to play in the next programme, but Tiffany made a special appearance on the show to say that she would be back soon. The judges and the audience were all very kind to Tiffany. I didn't understand why they felt sorry for her. She didn't leave the band, it was Steve. Ricky Anderson, the producer, was delighted that Tiffany was back on the programme for this special appearance. Ratings had soared since the argument about Steve leaving the band. This was more publicity and now the newspapers had another story. The headlines said: 'Tiffany is back!' There were no more stories about Steve. The newspapers had already forgotten about him. On the programme Tiffany announced that they were looking for a new bass player and that people should send a photo and demo to Talent Tonight. I remembered when I had my first band at college. We sometimes had auditions for new members. We used to put a small advert in a local music magazine with the warning 'No time wasters'. Lots of musicians used to come to those auditions back in college. Each one had ten minutes to play some music, and we called them back later if they passed the first audition. At the second audition they played more music, this time with the band, but we also tried to get to know each person to see if we had the same ideas about music. But an audition is always about more than just the music. Auditions are a kind of interview. You have to see if the person who is applying for the 'job' is like you. Do they have the same sense of humour? Will you all be able to get along together? All of this is important because you are going to spend a lot of time together. Your band is like a family. Back in college we played a lot of gigs and it was a big commitment, with all the practices and the travelling. And of course nobody made any money. But it was worth it. It was great to be in a band. It was depressing for the people who didn't pass the audition. One guitarist even wrote a sad letter to me to ask for another chance. I didn't understand why he cared so much. That first band of mine didn't make any money, and we were never on TV. When Tiffany made the announcement about finding a new bass player, I don't think Talent Tonight was ready for the number of people who contacted them. Thousands of people sent in a photo and a demo. They all wanted to be on the show. Each one of them believed that they had a chance. I felt quite sorry for them all. There was no need for the new member of the band to be a really good bass player. A professional studio musician could help play the music. But the new member had to look good on stage. It was all about image - just as Sarah always said on Talent Tonight. I rang Ricky Anderson about the auditions for the new bass player. "You don't need to worry about that, John. We'll find the right person for this. Tiffany will be helping as well." I wasn't surprised when he said that, but I wasn't very happy about it. Chapter 25 A new role I hardly saw the band the week before the final show of Talent Tonight. The producers took them away to a very expensive rehearsal studio. The band was being paid for the first time ... not by me, but by Ricky Anderson's production company. The new bass player looked fantastic, and he had the same blond hair as the rest of the band. I didn't know if he was a good bass player or not. I didn't hear him play before the final show, and there was no time for a gig at Rory's pub. My role was changing. There were now other people organising the band, people with a lot more experience. There was nothing really for me to do any more. Ricky Anderson had asked me to think about a strategy for the band and present some of my ideas at the meeting with the production company, but I think he just wanted me to stay out of the way. I did write some things down, but we never had that meeting. Everything was happening so quickly. Tiffany had a publicist now and the newspapers and magazines were full of features and gossip about her: 'Tiffany and her secrets', 'Tiffany goes shopping with her mum - what did they buy?', 'Tiffany and love - Tiffany's boyfriend gives an exclusive interview'. Tiffany's boyfriend also had a new role in the band. Tiffany said that he was now their 'Executive Manager'. I'm not sure what he did, but the name made him sound very important. I think they gave him the new role to keep him happy and because they wanted him to stay out of the way. The band for the final programme arrived at the television studio in limousines, but I travelled separately. There were security guards at the stage door and lots of fans behind barriers. Every time someone came near the stage door, the fans screamed and shouted at them. I had a pass for the stage door and when I was going inside, fans asked me for my autograph.

They didn't know who I was, but perhaps was famous. However, the the did recognise Tiffany. They were shouting her name when she amved and so were the photographers. They all wanted the best photo for tomorrow morning's newspapers. The band arrived with TifEany but stayed behind her. There was no interest in them or the new guy who was playing bass. And they were no longer called 'The Bus Drivers' or 'Tiffny and the Bus Drivers' just 'Tiffany'. Tonight there were two other acts performing as well. Tiffany still had a long way to go before she could be the winner of Talent Tonight.

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