

## All R. Artist 471

### Chapter 471: How Can One Distinguish My Gender

“Cut, cut!”

Tongtong was on the verge of a breakdown—

She suddenly yearned for the time when the Prince of Lanling was all about economizing words and keeping quiet!

Once he started talking, it was nothing less than horror!

The production team was still shooting, if this segment were to be aired, Yuan Xi’s fans would most likely chew out the Prince of Lanling!

But that’s not all.

Once the Swan reveals herself, her fans would directly lash out at the Prince of Lanling:

Dare to say that our diva sings almost as good as a first-line singer?

Wake up!

Do you think you are in an anonymous discussion group?

In the Masked Singer show, even if you have a mask on, it’s not going to help you!

It’s not like you can keep your face hidden forever!

If your words were to be aired, once you reveal yourself, won’t the fans of both divas drown you with their saliva?

“What’s wrong?”

Lin Yuan felt that Tongtong was overreacting.

He had simply commented on two singers, sharing a similar view as Teacher Yang Zhongming.

Was such a reaction really necessary?

“.....”

Are you really asking what’s wrong?

Tongtong had a headache, it seemed like Prince Lanling had a really low EQ.

He hadn’t realized the problem yet.

What kind of position does Yang Zhongming hold?

What are the four judges’ statuses?

They of course can say offensive things on the show, especially Yang Zhongming!

He’s Maestro!

If Maestro says that a diva’s talent is mediocre, so what?

No need to think about it.

Even if the show airs and Yuan Xi finds out that Teacher Yang Zhongming belittled her, she can only earnestly say “Thank you for Teacher Yang Zhongming’s instruction”, even her fans wouldn’t dare to talk too much.

Yes.

In Blue Star's music circle, Maestro is indeed incredible, Maestro can do as he wishes.

But what about you, Prince of Lanling?

Can you also be the Maestro?

That's impossible, at most you're the King of Singing.

But even if the face behind your mask is that of the King of Singing, it's useless!

The fans of the two divas, are they afraid of a King of Singing?

And moreover, you speak so offensively, everyone in the music circle will see each other from time to time, who would still dare to play with you in the circle in the future?

"Listen to me,"

Tongtong mourned and whispered to Lin Yuan:

"Although what you've said is the truth... ah damn, you're leading me astray ... although you, as a singer, have the right to speak freely, these kinds of words offend people and would be detrimental to your future development in the music industry..."

"It's okay."

Lin Yuan spoke seriously.

He did have some EQ and knew that some words might upset people when they were heard.

But Lin Yuan believed a good singer should accept outside criticism.

Though Yuan Xi's voice may be thin, there is room for improvement, it seems like this diva doesn't have the courage to challenge herself.

Of course.

Lin Yuan also appreciated Tongtong's well-intentioned advice and didn't blame her for being overly sensitive, but he would not deliberately withhold what needs to be said.

It's not like he's never been scolded before.

He's been called Xianyu the old thief, and Chu Kuang the old thief. The phrase "old thief" sounds so annoying, doesn't it?

"Prince of Lanling, get ready."

At that moment, an announcement was made over the loudspeaker.

Tongtong no longer worried about what Prince Lanling had just said and quickly got up saying:

"It's our turn to perform soon, Prince of Lanling, adjust your state, I'll have someone cut the part we just shot."

"....."

Lin Yuan rose in silence.

The two of them moved to the exit area to wait.

On stage.

The host, Anhong, laughed, "After experiencing the humor of the Robot teacher and the Swan teacher's true colours, like everyone else, I'm curious about what kind of surprise the next singer will surprise us with, let's have a round of applause for today's third singer, Prince of Lanling!"

The audience clapped!

Lin Yuan, microphone in hand, stepped onto the stage.

Suddenly countless lights shone on him.

His cloak floated freely with his movements; his magnificent robe gently swayed, his demon mask carried an intense, yet beautiful, sensation!

All viewers couldn't help but shift their attention!

"Who is this?"

"Looks so dashing!"

"Body shape is also fantastic!"

"Based on my study of psychology, the face under this mask must be mediocre, often the more flamboyant the appearance, the more ordinary the real person. On the contrary, those singers who deliberately make themselves look ugly might actually be handsome. But this clothing is really cool, the mask is even more amazing, I'm going to see if this kind of mask is available online."

"It looks like it's a male singer."

"Of course it's a male, when have you ever seen a female singer this flat?"

"I just don't know what the meaning of Prince Lanling is, does it have any figurative meaning that I don't understand?"

"...."

The audience was discussing.

No matter how diverse the discussions were, as Prince Lanling had just arrived, at the very least, the new singer's costume design was universally accepted.

Even the demon mask carried a form of unique beauty.

Just not sure about his performing skills?

The audience was somewhat looking forward to it.

This was an expectation aroused by the Robot and the Swan.

The two previous contestants were each better than the last, and the stage was already heating up.

Backstage.

Tongtong looked at the Prince of Lanling: "Are you the King of Singing?"

She seemed to think of something.

Suddenly, Tongtong's face changed, turning pale!

The Prince of Lanling couldn't be the King of Singing, or else he wouldn't have guessed that the robot was the King of Singing!

During the show's promotion, it was mentioned that the first episode would feature both a King and Queen of Singing!

The Queen of Singing must be the white swan who just performed.

But the King of Singing...

Could very well be the robot!

Because that was Teacher Yang Zhongming's judgment!

Many people, including Tongtong after some thought, trusted Teacher Yang Zhongming's judgment. He was the most respected judge, and his insights were undoubtedly the most incisive!

However, this also indirectly suggested that the Prince of Lanling might only be a first or even second-tier singer!

"I really do have terrible luck."

Realizing this, Tongtong bit her lip.

Being the third to perform wasn't necessarily the best slot, and might even be the worst today —

Could the Prince of Lanling keep up the momentum?

This is bad.

How could they follow up the performances of the King and Queen of Singing?

In the judge's zone

"Is the robot really the King of Singing?" Wu Long asked Yang Zhongming.

Yang Zhongming confidently smiled, his meaning clear: the robot could fool all of you and the audience, but it couldn't fool him.

"This is getting interesting."

Liu Xu showed a slight smile.

However, Mao Xuewang muttered, “The King of Singing concealed his abilities, but the Queen didn’t. The White Swan really brought the house down, so it’s going to be tough to follow.”

If not careful, it could all blow up in their faces.

Singers don’t need to talk much before performing.

On stage, Lin Yuan adjusted his breathing and nodded to the band members.

With countless cameras pointed at him, it was still a little uncomfortable.

However, with his clothing and mask covering his body, it wasn’t too much of a problem.

The music started playing softly.

The audience fell silent.

The judges stopped talking as well.

This was a sign of respect for the performer.

The sounds of flutes and harps echoed around the room, soon accompanied by the string violin and some synthesized sounds.

Lin Yuan lifted his microphone and began singing:

“As the dusk grows colder,

Flowers fall to the ground, turning into frost,

You watch from the distance,



Exhausting all dusk light,

Not thinking for it is too hard to forget...”

The audience’s eyes suddenly widened!

The four judges exchanged glances!

It was a female voice!

This was actually a female singer?

Based on the clothes, it seemed like a male singer!

But that wasn’t important.

Although it’s not uncommon for female singers to dress in male attire to demonstrate their heroism, which was a good idea, the voice possessed an ethereal quality and lacked masculinity.

The real surprise was...

This was a new song!

The audience, not as knowledgeable as the judges, couldn’t be certain if it was a new song. However, the four judges were convinced!

It was indeed a new song!

This female singer was quite interesting, daring to debut a new song on the first episode of “The Masked Singer”. And the melody was quite good, despite some slight flaws in her singing technique...

The judges looked surprised.

If it were only this, the judges would be just surprised and nothing more.

This singer's skills were merely second-tier.

However, the quality of the new song would definitely score points for this singer, a real game-changer.

But...

At that moment, the second verse started, and it was still the Prince of Lanling singing, but the voice had thoroughly changed to that of a different person, a man:

“Young peach blossoms wither,

In a previous life, how could you leave,

This vast sea of heartache,

Pretending not to be hurt, not to long,

All of it is an illusion...”

A male voice!

Transitioning smoothly from a female to a male voice, as if a man and a woman were singing a duet on stage...

But there was clearly only one singer on stage!

The faces of the judges changed!

At the same time!

The audience below the stage revealed shocked expressions, and some even exclaimed:

“Oh my god!”

Wasn't it a female?

How did the voice turn into a male's?

Is the person male or female?

Lin Yuan's voice was steady as he transitioned from female to male without any detectable falsetto!

This was Lin Yuan's most unique weapon—

The male rabbit scurries, the female rabbit's eyes are hazy,

Both rabbits running along the ground, how can one tell which is male or female!!

Chapter 472: Bracing the Chill

On the stage.

Neither expressive changes on judges' faces nor the astonished gasps emanating from the audience managed to disrupt Lin Yuan's performance.

Lin Yuan did not look or listen to anything in his surroundings.

With in-ear monitors plugged into his ears, he immersed himself in the melody, achieving an even better state of performance than when he rehearsed. The slight discomfort caused by being in the constant focus of cameras gradually faded away.

A gentle light cascaded down.

The backdrop on the large stage screen was a painting of enchanting landscapes.

High peaks towered.

Mists swirled.

Rivers babbled.

Lin Yuan, amidst reactions of varied descriptions from below the stage, gripped the microphone with great stability, perfectly capturing the beats within the music.

The ethereal and natural female voice arose once again, eliciting another round of awe from the audience, even though they had already witnessed the Prince of Lanling switch seamlessly between different voices in the main verse sections.

This was the first part of the high-pitched chorus:

“Bracing the chill of the night as I think of you, as if I transmute into spring soil to protect you.”

However, in the next line, Lin Yuan effortlessly switched back to a bass-baritone voice, which emanated a sense of deep affection and magnetism:

“A fleeting span of years brushes love onto your sleeves, one after another, memories of our love flow away like a river.”

Not only the main verse part!

The climax was also a duet of male and female voices!

The audience below the stage was stunned speechless!

...

Waiting area.

Tongtong was filled with worries and self-reproach, thinking that the sequence placement she drew might affect the performance of the Prince of Lanling.

But, in the next moment!

When the first seamless transition of male and female voices from the Prince of Lanling resounded, she was dumbfounded, as if struck by a bolt of lightning!

King of Singing?

Queen of Singing?

She could not remember at all; she simply stood there, mouth slightly agape, eyes wide open, gazing blankly at her surroundings.

Dumbstruck!

Meanwhile.

Singers' lounge.

The Swan stared transfixed at the television on the wall. Even the robotic treatment of her voice couldn't conceal her astonishment:

"Incredible."

The room next door.

Inside the lounge of the Robot.

The Robot, who seemed to have a more lively character, leapt to his feet. One could only imagine the shocked expression beneath his mask, “I can’t tell the gender of this person, they managed to pull off both parts of a male and female duet by themselves!”

The same went for the other singers in their respective lounges.

“Who is this?”

“A prodigy!”

“I have been in the music industry for so many years, and I’ve never heard such a natural transition between male and female voices. When singing the male part, it’s a complete expression of masculinity. When singing the female part, it’s a perfect display of femininity!”

How is this possible?

...

Backstage director’s room.

The director, Tong Shuwen, was also completely taken aback!

Others may not know who the real identity of the Prince of Lanling is. However, he was privy to the information, and thus the shock was even deeper for him—

That’s Xian Yu!

Isn’t he a composer?

Why has his singing reached the level of a professional singer, capable of mastering both male and female voice parts!?

This is insane!

The first discovery was surprising enough, just showing how incredibly talented Xian Yu was; however, the second discovery shocked Tong Shuwen. This was not simply a display of talent, but a manifestation of his unparalleled and unique gifts!

Reveal his identity in the first episode?

If the Prince of Lanling reveals his identity in the first episode, nobody would question it.

Tong Shuwen, the director himself, would suspect that “The Masked Singer” is manipulating the results!

...

Amidst the shock from all parts.

Lin Yuan’s performance had reached its conclusion. As the final climax approached, his voice soared increasingly higher, whether as the male or the female part:

“Is there any period in these cold ten miles that will witness the thriving of spring again, seeing beneath the trees a familiar outline;

Flowers fall on purpose, the river flows indifferently, don’t let quarrels and resentments chill the purity of the flower.”

The lights no longer shifted.

They all gathered under Lin Yuan’s feet.

The color of twilight descended on the big screen.

In the close-up shot, beneath the beautifully chilling demon mask, a voice permeated with tenderness and affection rang out:

“Unable to bear the burdens of the mundane world...”

During the wistful conclusion, the audience seemed to discern a blend of two voices in their daze.

Everyone could not even differentiate if the last line of lyrics was sung in a male voice or a female one.

The scene was silent.

While many cameras were ready to capture the reactions from the show's team, every face caught in the lens expressed shock—

Including the four judges.

It wasn't until the last few seconds of the music when Prince of Lanling bowed to the band and the audience that the onlookers were finally able to snap back to reality!

Whoosh!

The audience erupted!

This was something the Robot wasn't able to achieve, and something that even the Swan, who was consistently touted as a top-tier singer, couldn't do either—

“My god!”

“This is horrifying!”

“Who on earth is this Prince of Lanling!”

“When he first transitioned to the male voice, I thought I had misheard, even doubted if there was something wrong with my ears!”

“I'm still doubting my ears!”



“Does the stage conceal another singer aside from the Prince of Lanling?”

“If he’s a male singer, how can he sing so well in a female voice? If she’s a female singer, how can her male voice be so expressive?”

“My goodness!”

“While other singers perform solos, Prince of Lanling is delivering a mixed-gender doubles match!”

...

Judges’ panel.

The celebrity judges even momentarily forgot their role in setting the atmosphere, although admittedly the atmosphere didn’t require any help at that moment.

From the moment the Prince of Lanling first shifted his voice, the impact of the performance had already reached its peak!

“Phew...”

Even An Hong, who was the host, needed to take in a deep breath and moderate his emotions before going on stage.

“Thank you, Teacher Wang, for your performance!”

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His voice carried a curiosity he could not hide:

“I think everyone might need some time to calm their own emotions, so let me ask a question that perhaps everyone is most curious about—what is the gender of Teacher Prince of Lanling?”

“Guess.”

Lin Yuan answered in a male voice, but because of the voice changer and the just-concluded performance, no one could be certain of Prince of Lanling’s true gender.

Smiling helplessly, An Hong remarked:

“You guess whether I can guess or not. It seems we need to seek the guidance of our four professional judges, Teacher Mao Xuewang!”

“...”

Mao Xuewang didn’t utter a word.

Unable to resist, An Hong called out again: “Teacher Mao Xuewang?”

“I apologize...”

Mao Xuewang finally snapped out of his reverie: “I was considering your previous question, whether Prince of Lanling is a man or a woman. The result is, I don’t know either.”

“A singer who can sing both male and female voices is rare, but not extremely so.”

Judge Liu Xu spoke.

On hearing this, the audience’s eyes widened.

Isn’t that bragging? Isn’t that extremely rare?

Even if you’re an expert, you shouldn’t say things like that. Do you think we wouldn’t know?

But Liu Xu’s second sentence made the audience realize that Liu Xu was actually on their side:

“Many male singers can employ techniques to mimic a female voice, but those are essentially falsettos. Similarly, female singers too. But you are different from the two types of singers I mentioned. Whether you sing in a male or female voice, you sound too natural. So natural that I can’t detect any tricks. I can only say that both your voices are too sophisticated. So sophisticated that I can easily overlook imperfections in your singing technique, and even want to keep listening...”

Yes.

Many male singers can mimic female voices, but these male singers naturally have voices that lean toward a feminine pitch.

Female singers are the same.

But Prince of Lanling is different, he possesses a pure male voice, so pure that no one could imagine his voice being capable of producing a feminine tone!

He also possesses a pure female voice!

So pure of a female voice that when he first started singing, everyone subconsciously assumed he must be a female singer!

Contrast!

Extreme contrast!

Liu Xu chuckled, then turned his head: “So, I also can’t judge Prince of Lanling’s gender. This tough question is probably best tossed to Teacher Wu Long.”

“Don’t ask me.”

Wu Long shook his head repeatedly: “I’m just like you, I’m totally unable to guess which of the male and female voices just now is his real one. The real one is used, right?”

“Yes.”

Lin Yuan admitted.

Audience members started discussing.

Why does Prince of Lanling seem a bit aloof and less than enthusiastic towards the judges?

Unlike the previous two singers.

Even Swan, who carries herself with such arrogance, managed to maintain a humble demeanour toward the four highly-regarded industry judges.

Wu Long wasn't bothered by Lin Yuan's terse responses: "If your real voice was used, that means one of the two voices used earlier is genuine. The two voices were amazing. Other singers are soloists; you're like two people on stage, a male-female mixed doubles, straight up two against one!"

The audience laughed!

Isn't that the truth!

Straight two against one!

"Let's not discuss this issue, unless it's confirmed by the person in question. I will presume based on Prince of Lanling's image that you are a male," said Wu Long, "But what really shocked me wasn't that you have two voices, rather the final vocal melody..."

Liu Xu and Mao Xuewang nodded, seemingly aware of what Wu Long intended to say.

"The final line was supposed to be a male and female duet but you're performing solo, either in a male or female voice. I had been pondering how you would handle it if you had arranged a duet segment in the song. The result was that you presented us with a male-female mixed voice, seemingly with two voices blending into one. On Blue Star, probably only you can achieve this level!" said Wu Long in earnest.

The audience glanced over in awe!

That's such high praise!

Prince of Lanling continued to hold his tongue.

Laughing, An Hong said: "It's pretty clear that our Teacher Prince of Lanling is a singer who does not like to speak much. This may be a clue. Teacher Yang Zhongming..."

An Hong looks towards Yang Zhongming.

Everyone is turned to Yang Zhongming.

Facing such an extraordinary singer, everyone was curious about how Maestro Yang Zhongming would comment. To everyone's surprise, Yang Zhongming, while staring at Lin Yuan, pointedly said:

"You have two voices."

On hearing this, Lin Yuan's expression behind the mask slightly changed.

But his expression could not be seen behind the mask.

After speaking, Yang Zhongming shook his head:

"But that's impossible."

People laughed, the big shot has got jokes.

Yang Zhongming laughed along: "Are you having fun?"

This was the first time Yang Zhongming revealed such an easygoing smile.

Before this, Yang Zhongming had always exuded an indescribable dignity; even when he smiled, there was just something different about him.

Like Chen Daoming on Earth, born with a confidence that simply cannot be suppressed.

“It’s fun.”

A smile surfaced on Lin Yuan’s face under the mask.

He knew, that Yang Zhongming might have deduced something, given that the two had met before, but it was likely just a guess.

As expected—

Yang Zhongming’s next sentence was: “You remind me of someone I know.”

The audience were surprised.

Whom was Yang Zhongming referring to?

The other judges looked at Yang Zhongming, their faces full of curiosity. “Who is it?”

Yang Zhongming shook his head: “I can’t say who. If I guess correctly and reveal the answer, it would no longer be fun.”

“Ah!”

The audience was upset, their hearts itching like they’ve been scratched by a cat’s paw.

Yang Zhongming is the Maestro; he knows too many singers. How could they possibly know where to start guessing from based on such a sparse clue?

“Let’s talk about the song instead. It’s a new song. What’s its title?”

## Chapter 474: Bracing the Chill\_3

“‘Bracing the Chill’, the chill of chilled tea.”

“Who wrote that song?” Yang Zhongming stared at Lin Yuan.

Lin Yuan originally planned to attribute the creation of the song to the Prince of Lanling.

But seeing the familiar face of Yang Zhongming in front of him, for some reason, he suddenly changed his mind:

“Admirable Fish.”

The whole place shook in an instant!

The already quiet audience area got heated again, as everyone was too familiar with the name “Admirable Fish”!

“Oh my!”

“Admirable Fish’s song?”

“So it’s a new song by the big boss Admirable Fish, no wonder it’s so good, I can’t believe Teacher Admirable Fish would help the Prince of Lanling!”

“Could it be Sun Yao Huo?”

“Why not say it’s Jiang Kui.”

“It could also be Chen Zhiyu.”

“And it could possibly be Blue Face, the King of Singing!”

“But the problem is that the Prince of Lanling has sung Professor Admirable Fish’s song in the first round, isn’t this a bit of a waste?”

“...”

The scene got slightly restless.

Meanwhile, in the singer’s resting room.

The Swan was also stunned: “It’s actually a song by Teacher Admirable Fish... But it makes sense, only the Prince of Lanling can bring out the contrast between male and female voices.”

“Ahhhh, it stings, it stings, it stings!”

The Robot was as zany as ever, overacting: “Why can’t Teacher Admirable Fish help me, Teacher Admirable Fish, look at me!”

“I’m envious!”

“I’m jealous!”

“I hate it!”

The other singers were a bit salty, expressing their feelings through jokes.

Judge Yang Zhongming raised his eyebrows: “Admirable Fish has always had a precise grasp of the melody of pop songs, this song’s composition part indeed feels like his work, but his lyrics this time are just too sloppy.”

“Hahahaha!”

Wu Long laughed: “I suspect this song was quickly written by Admirable Fish due to a time crunch, so the lyrics were done in a sloppy manner.”



Liu Xu chuckled: “So even Teacher Admirable Fish has lazy days.”

Mao Xuewang nodded: “Teacher Admirable Fish’s lyric writing ability is top tier in Blue Star.”

Lin Yuan: “...”

Are you all misunderstanding something about me?

Well, say that Admirable Fish’s lyric writing ability has really carved a deep impression in people’s hearts.

The benefit of this is:

Even if the lyrics of one of Professor Admirable Fish’s songs are poorly written, people will only think that he did not take it seriously, rather than his ability is limited.

But the reality is...

Lin Yuan also knew that the lyrics of “Bracing the Chill” were a bit meaningless, but the melody itself was excellent, especially in terms of a pop song.

So he changed a few words and phrases in the song.

In a stage dominated by public voting like this, singing a pop song is more beneficial!

Because it’s enough to catch the ear in a short time!

So even though the lyrics were poor, he still chose this song.

Most importantly, the male-female duet format of this song allowed him to showcase his vocal advantages.

Yang Zhongming nodded:

“The advantage of a new song for you is obvious, and your unique dual-voiced talent is extraordinary. However, your singing skills are not perfect, but the first two advantages are enough to compensate for that, but as the competition progresses, there are some issues you will eventually have to face...”

“Hmm.”

Lin Yuan thought that this evaluation was very fair, his skills in singing needed improvement.

The judges finished their comments.

Next came the interaction session of the judging panel.

However, backstage.

The singer who will be fourth on stage, dressed as a wizard, was already panicking before he had set foot on stage!

The first one, Robot, performed exceptionally!

Second, Swan, at the level of the queen of singing!

Third, Prince of Lanling, astounded everybody!

Each performance was more astonishing than the last...

How am I supposed to follow this...

Chill!

Chapter 475: Hint

The situations in the backstage, of course, wouldn't interest anyone.

Even the performances of the first two singers were overshadowed by the shock brought by the Prince of Lanling, who would care about the feelings of the fourth singer?

On stage.

Host Anhong smiled and said, “As you can see, our jury can’t wait any longer, does Teacher Ding Ming have any questions?”

This Ding Ming is a variety show fanatic, basically, he appears in all the renowned variety shows on Blue Star.

Because he has a great sense of variety show, he is also quite bold in his speech.

As expected.

Ding Ming’s first sentence drew a lot of laughter: “Does Prince of Lanling use the men’s restroom or the women’s restroom?”

Lin Yuan replied: “Private bathroom.”

Whether it’s at his company or at home, he has a private bathroom.

Having no other choice, the other party asked: “Looks like we won’t be able to learn the gender of Prince of Lanling. How about other questions, would Prince of Lanling reject being second place?”

Puff!

The whole audience could get the joke.

Everyone burst into laughter!

The identity of Prince of Lanling is not without clues.

Because the song “Bracing the Chill” that he just sang is a song from Teacher Admirable Fish, so everyone suspects:

Prince of Lanling is a singer that Admirable Fish has collaborated with before.

Among the singers that Admirable Fish has collaborated with, the only one related to “second” is the perennial runner-up, top-tier singer Chen Zhiyu!

“No.”

Lin Yuan uttered.

It’s probably not him, everyone observed the reaction of Prince of Lanling.

Then the other few stars in the jury asked a few questions, guessing the identity of Prince of Lanling, one after another.

Some even guessed that he might be Sun Yaohuo or Jiang Kui...

In the end, Prince of Lanling remained silent, just denying by shaking his head.

Even when he occasionally spoke, it would end the topic in one or two words.

Very aloof.

Just like his attitude towards the four judges just now.

Someone said: “Prince of Lanling seems to like answering questions with just one or two words...”

“Not necessarily.”

This time it’s three words.

Everyone was torn between laughs and tears.

This is a conversation black hole!

Prince of Lanling has so much character!

Such coolness, in a sense, hits the taste of some people.

At this time, a member of the jury named Liu An asked: “Why do you call yourself the Prince of Lanling? Does it have any special meaning?”

“About this, I would like to share the story of the Prince of Lanling with everyone...”

This time, Lin Yuan did not skimp on words. He retold the story of the Prince of Lanling that he had shared with Lil Goodoong on stage once again.

The audience was deeply interested.

The several judges also listened eagerly.

But after Prince of Lanling finished speaking, Liu An discovered some useful information, and he chuckled triumphantly:

“Prince of Lanling, you revealed yourself!”

“What?”

“You said that Prince of Lanling is a general, a warrior on the battlefield, of course he’s a man, so even though you can sing in a female voice, you are definitely a male singer!”

Liu An praised his own cleverness, even though everyone can realize this kind of cleverness.

Lin Yuan was silent.

Liu An began to doubt.

There seemed to be female generals in ancient times, his logic was not necessarily correct.

Ding Ming next to him said: "Looking at the outfit, Prince of Lanling must be a male singer, but it's hard to say just by his voice. Perhaps Prince of Lanling wants to mislead everyone into thinking that he is a male singer, so he wore men's clothes, and his just now story was also a kind of misdirection."

Liu An said: "So, I'm only at the first level, and Prince of Lanling is at the second level?"

Someone next to him said: "I am known as the Poirot of celebrities. I suspect Prince of Lanling is at the third level. He anticipated that we would suspect him of deliberately misleading the audience, so he used this thought trap to deliberately make us think he is misleading the audience!"

"It could also be the fourth level!"

Hearing the jury's celebrities' tongue twisters, the audience couldn't close their mouths from laughter.

Lin Yuan was speechless...

Is this The Masked Singer or Brainstorming?

These folks are even better than Poirot at deduction.

Problem is, I really didn't put much thought into it back then.

Luckily, the host didn't let them continue on with their deductions, successfully regaining control over the scene, and after bowing, Lin Yuan stepped off the stage.

As he passed the fourth singer waiting to go on stage, Lin Yuan sighed inwardly.

He knew, it would be hard for the fourth singer to follow his act.

That's the nature of live performances.

If the previous act is too explosive, and the following act lets loose a bit, it creates a strong contrast for the audience.

This contrast amplifies the audience's emotions, making them feel that the worse act is extremely bad.

Because the audience will subconsciously compare the previous performance with the current one...

Such comparisons are what you dread.

If you compare the top student with the worst, the top student clearly wins.

But if you compare the top student with the genius, the top student suddenly seems no better than the worst.

Lin Yuan may not be a genius, but he indeed ignited the atmosphere.

Performing a duet solo, after seeing this many times, the audience won't be surprised anymore, but being the first time, they would definitely be conquered!

That's beyond doubt.

But that's the cruelty of the competition.

Lin Yuan couldn't purposely hide his abilities for his competitors, that would be disrespect.

Truth be told.

If he were to perform after the King and Queen of Singing, he would also feel the pressure.

The performance of Swan warming up the stage was quite excellent.

If Lin Yuan didn't bring out a new song today, as well as the trick of performing a male and female duet by himself, he wouldn't have been able to take control of the situation.

"Teacher Prince of Lanling!"

Tongtong ran over, supporting Lin Yuan, her small face full of excitement:

"You sang so well, seamlessly transitioning between male and female voices. I always thought you were a male singer, but now I'm starting to suspect that you might actually be a female singer..."

Lin Yuan remained silent.

It seems that everyone can't quite figure out whether I am a male or female singer.

That's great, it adds to the mystery.

If I openly admit to being a male singer, it would take away some of the suspense from the show.

Meanwhile.

In the control room.

The Music Director rushed in quickly, grabbing onto Tong Shuwen's arm: "Director, there's something strange about this Prince of Lanling!"

"What's wrong?"

Tong Shuwen was taken aback.



The Music Director frowned, “This Prince of Lanling told me during rehearsal that he wrote the lyrics and composed the music for “Bracing the Chill,” but on the stage just now, he said that the song is Admire Fish’s masterpiece!”

Tong Shuwen: “....”

The Music Director looked very serious: “We must ascertain if this song was actually written by Admirable Fish. If it was, then he deceived me earlier!”

Tong Shuwen had no choice but to disclose a bit of information, otherwise, the Music Director would start doubting Prince of Lanling’s character:

“What he said is true.”

The Music Director was stunned: “What do you mean?”

Tong Shuwen just shrugged.

The color drained from the Music Director’s face: “You mean to say the Prince of Lanling is Admire... ”

He wasn’t a fool!

Tong Shuwen had hinted quite clearly!

“Shh!”

Tong Shuwen cut off the Music Director: “This matter is still confidential, you must not let the cat out of the bag. His identity hasn’t been officially revealed yet.”

“Understood!”

The Music Director took a deep breath, looking complex: “I didn’t expect that... he’s scary.”

“Who would disagree?”

A smile tugged at the corners of Tong Shuwen’s mouth. He completely understood the Music Director’s feelings at that moment. It felt rather good to share a secret with someone.

Right now it seemed that Admirable Fish would not be unmasking anytime soon, his overall strength was formidable!

Tong Shuwen suddenly looked forward to how far this little maestro could go in this competition for singers?

Chapter 476: A Program Full of Miracles

Lin Yuan returned to the dressing room.

The competition on stage continued.

The fourth singer to go on stage was referred to as the “Wizard,” clothed in a black robe, even the mask was black.

It became obvious.

The prowess of the first three singers made the Wizard’s performance seem average.

The audience’s reaction after his performance was lukewarm, though the judges gave reasonable reviews.

Actually, the “Wizard”’s abilities weren’t weak.

He just seemed off a bit, affected by the sequence of the competition, and unable to demonstrate his full potential.

The fifth singer was called “Piggy Qiqi”.

This was a character from the fairy tale “Three Little Pigs” from the Qin Continent.

The singer dressed up as a cute pig, with a distinct female voice, and as soon as she started singing, many audience members burst into silent laughter.

“It’s Lu Yumeng’s voice!”

Tongtong, in the dressing room, also subconsciously said this, mentioning the name of a top tier singer from Qin Continent.

Some singers’ voices cannot be concealed, regardless of their technical skills.

Interestingly, during the interactive session, Piggy Qiqi asserted that she wasn’t Lu Yumeng and even explained earnestly:

“Many people have said that my voice sounds like Lu Yumeng’s...”

This statement left the panel of judges uncertain since Piggy Qiqi had slightly altered her voice. It sounded like Lu Yumeng’s, yet there was a slight difference.

This uncertainty was one of the fun aspects of “The Masked Singer”.

Nevertheless, it was interesting that the judges had a low opinion of Piggy Qiqi.

But the audience seemed to quite like Piggy Qiqi!

Then came the sixth singer, who was also the last contestant in the first round.

This singer was called the Wanderer, possessing very artistic wardrobe and scores...

The result was the opposite of Lu Yumeng’s.

The judges gave reasonable remarks about the Wanderer, yet the audience's reaction was comparatively lukewarm.

Strange?

Not at all.

The judges listen to songs from a professional viewpoint, they consider many factors in a comprehensive way.

But the audience on site doesn't have such professional knowledge. They judge whether they like a song only based on the melody.

Compared to them, the panel of judges' opinions differ substantially.

Take the Wanderer for instance.

Some people especially liked Wanderer, while others found it to be quite dull.

This even caused a dispute among the panel of judges and the judges holding different opinions argued fiercely.

Different strokes for different folks!

This was the best way to describe "The Masked Singer". Maybe it was due to the judges' influence, the star judges became quite bold in their evaluations of the singers.

The result was unpredictable!

Even Lin Yuan couldn't guarantee what his result would be. All he could be certain of was that he wouldn't come last. The reaction of the audience and the judges towards his song was quite good.

"Alright then!"

An Hong, in the spotlight on stage, showed a smile: “All six mystery singers have finished their performances, and we’re currently counting the votes behind the scenes.”

On stage, the host interacted with the audience.

Backstage where the singers were.

The director’s voice came from the loudspeakers: “Please ask all singers and their temporary managers to gather in the main hall. We’re going to announce the rankings of the first round of the competition in the main hall...”

In the various dressing rooms.

The singers stood up nervously.

In the Prince of Lanling’s dressing room.

Tongtong also stood up, her face was extremely nervous.

But when she turned around and looked at the Prince of Lanling, she amusingly found that he hadn’t reacted at all, as calm as ever.

The Prince of Lanling isn’t worried, but his chambermaid is.”

Tongtong made a ruthless comment to the camera.

...

The main hall.

Under the guidance of the temporary managers, the mysterious singers gathered.

Everyone couldn't see each other's faces, so they simply greeted each other and took their seats on individual sofas. The temporary managers stood behind their assigned singers, like lackeys of the singers.

"Prince of Lanling, will you perform a duet by yourself in the next round?"

After sitting down, Piggy Qiqi curiously looked at Lin Yuan.

Robot joked: "So cunning, trying to find out the competitor's strategy in advance."

Everyone laughed, making the atmosphere among the singers much lively.

Lin Yuan said: "Not sure."

He wasn't being evasive, but he really hadn't decided on the song for the next round.

"I like your song."

The White Swan looked at Lin Yuan and said.

Lin Yuan said: "Thank you."

Robot pretended to be dissatisfied and said: "White Swan, are you saying that we didn't sing well?"

The White Swan laughed and said: "At least not as good as I did."

The singers all gave bitter smiles. This White Swan was indeed quite conceited.

After they chatted and joked for a bit, Tong Shuwen showed up.

Tong Shuwen held a card in his hand: "Everyone performed spectacularly, but there has to be winners and losers in a competition, and now it's time for me to announce today's results. We'll start from the third place..."

The singers suddenly tensed up.

Tong Shuwen smiled and said: “The third-place singer in the first round of ‘The Masked Singer’ is...”

Tong Shuwen paused deliberately.

This was a typical suspense creating segment in variety shows.

When the singers became perturbed, Tong Shuwen finally revealed: “The third-place singer received three hundred and eighty votes from the audience, twenty-eight votes from the professional panel, and seventy votes from the judges, totalling five hundred and six votes. He is our Robot!”

Everyone applauded.

Robot sighed in relief: “I thought I was going to bomb today.”

Robot’s remark was quite revealing.

Perhaps he was really the mystery singing king the crew had hyped up in the promotion...

Tong Shuwen smiled: “And the singer who ranks fourth today, she received three hundred and ninety-two votes from the audience, thirty votes from the professional panel, and thirty votes from the judges. She is our Piggy Qiqi!”

Everyone clapped again.

Piggy Qiqi was relieved and said: “I’m glad I came in fourth...”

The fifth is to be determined!

The sixth is eliminated!

She was almost about to be on hold.

The Magician and the Wanderer looked at each other, as if they could see a bitter smile under each other's masks, and sighed in unison.

Perfect synchronization.

Everyone laughed.

The Magician helplessly asked, "Am I the fifth or the sixth?"

The Wanderer replied with a lost tone, "I guess I should be the sixth."

These two people had a clear understanding of themselves, knowing they couldn't score higher than the White Swan and Prince of Lanling, whose performances today were stunning.

"Let's announce the fifth first."

Tong Shuwen picked up the card in his hand: "The singer ranked fifth is the Wanderer, and your vote count is..."

After reading the vote count, Tong Shuwen said, "I'm sorry, the Wanderer is now on hold. The singer on hold must enter the top four in the next ranking, otherwise they will be eliminated."

"Understood."

The Wanderer breathed a sigh of relief: "I thought I would be sixth, which is better than being eliminated directly..."

The Magician muttered with a bitter smile, "Congratulations."

He must be the sixth.



His vote count will definitely be less than that of Prince of Lanling and the White Swan.

As expected.

Tong Shuwen announced the result for the Magician: “The Magician is ranked sixth this round and will be eliminated. Unfortunately, you need to go on stage for the unmasking ceremony...”

“That’s okay.”

The Magician sighed, “Drawing lots is a profound science...”

Everyone nodded in agreement.

The Wanderer should have been eliminated, but the Magician performed after Prince of Lanling, and due to the Magician’s failure to excite the audience, he was affected.

This is the characteristic of live competitions where factors beyond performance can also affect the singers.

Everyone’s eyes turned to the White Swan and Prince of Lanling.

Which of these two would be the first?

Tong Shuwen said, “At such a tense moment, should we cut to a commercial...”

Everyone laughed again.

The director said to cut to a commercial, but there were no commercials during recording.

After saying this, Tong Shuwen continued to discuss the competition results:

“After a thrilling commercial break, let’s announce today’s first place. This mysterious singer received four hundred and fifty-two votes from the audience, forty-three votes from the public judges, and one hundred and fifty votes from the judges, with a total of 688 votes!”

Everyone gasped in surprise!

Out of the five hundred audience members, 452 votes, incredibly high!

Out of the fifty public judges, also, forty-three of them voted for this singer!

The four judges together held a total vote count of four hundred, and they gave 150 votes to this singer!

A very impressive vote count!

Who is this person?

The White Swan or... Prince of Lanling?

Tong Shuwen smiled, “His performance of the song gave the audience an unprecedented novelty, he is..the Prince of Lanling!”

The applause immediately rang out, and everyone started to congratulate him.

Tongtong screamed with excitement: “We are first!”

“Congratulations.”

The White Swan also looked towards Lin Yuan.

Lin Yuan nodded and said, “Thank you.”

“It’s not over yet.”

Tong Shuwen humorously looked at everyone.

Everyone was stunned. Why wasn't it over? The first place had been announced, so wasn't the second place the White Swan?

"Now I will announce the vote count of the White Swan."

Tong Shuwen's face looked slightly strange, "Four hundred and fifty audience votes, thirty-nine public judge votes, and one hundred and sixty judge votes, for a total vote count of 688 votes!"

Everyone: "..."

White Swan: "..."

Prince of Lanling and the White Swan actually had a tie!

"Yes, after congratulating Prince of Lanling, let's not forget to congratulate the White Swan. In the first episode, the two of them are tied for first place!"

Everyone hurriedly clapped their hands.

Tong Shuwen declared with a serious yet solemn expression, "I know you may think the vote count is too coincidental, but this is a vote conducted under the supervision of the Literature and Art Association. Every single vote is completely genuine, there is no possibility for manipulation from the program group, the incredibly low probability of this happening is one of the fun aspects of 'Masked Singer', it's a show destined to be filled with miracles!"

Incredibly low probability!

This is indeed a miracle!

Nobody would question the impartiality of the Literature and Art Association, it can only be said that the ranking of this episode was very interesting...

“The Magician, please come to the stage for the unmasking.”

“Also, the rankings of the other singers will not be announced. The audience will only know after the program is broadcasted to retain the suspense.”

Everyone laughed.

Completely understood.

Under everyone’s gaze, the Magician was already on his way to the stage, and when he unmasked himself amidst the music, the entire audience gasped...

The Masked Singer is a first-tier actor from the Qi Continent, Tan Kai!

In the gathering hall.

The singers were dumbfounded.

“Tan Kai!”

“I’ve seen many of his TV shows!”

“I’ve seen his movies!”

“His singing is so good, not inferior to second-tier singers!”

“...”

Lin Yuan also looked puzzled.

Tan Kai had just been seated not far from him, and he didn’t recognize him. This was someone he had collaborated with before!

When he had gone to Qi Continent to get a tailored order, he had written a theme song for a movie called “Distance Between You and Me.”

The song was called “Like You.”

The song was performed by Tan Kai, who played the leading male role. This selection was made by Lin Yuan himself.

The studio was already in uproar!

And as the host wrapped up the show, the first episode of “Masked Singer” came to an end...

Chapter 477: The Third Voice

The recording of the show ended.

It definitely wouldn’t be broadcast for now.

Today is Sunday, and according to the program’s notice, the show would be broadcast next Sunday.

Moreover, it would be simultaneously broadcast on the second TV station and several major video websites, to maximize its impact!

Lin Yuan didn’t linger for long and went straight home.

He let Lil Goodoong take care of the Prince of Lanling’s costume and other stuff. He would wear them again for the recording of the next episode. However, Lin Yuan needed to thoroughly summarize this competition...

Winning the first place is a matter of joy.

But for a show that records many episodes in advance, winning first place once doesn’t mean much, especially since this win was not based entirely on Lin Yuan’s strength.

The voting situation was the most direct indicator!

Lin Yuan and White Swan had tied votes, but the distribution of votes was interesting:

“The audience voted two fewer times for White Swan than for me, and the panel of judges voted four fewer times. But the number of votes from the judges was ten more than mine, so I won the audience and panel votes, but lost to the judges...”

The audience and the public panel were more emotional.

It was quite unique for Lin Yuan to perform a male-female duet alone. Plus, the melody of “Bracing the Chill” was catchy, so everyone was willing to vote for him.

But the judges were relatively rational.

They also gave high votes. After all, there was no trace of falsetto in Lin Yuan’s performance. This was quite incredible, but ultimately, they preferred White Swan.

Why?

Because the song chosen by White Swan was more challenging than Lin Yuan’s, and White Swan’s singing skills were better than Lin Yuan’s. Therefore, Lin Yuan shared the first place with White Swan, but his disadvantage was unmistakable—

The manifestation of singing skills!

You should know that Lin Yuan’s first place was enhanced with the freshness of the audience!

Of course, him singing both male and female voices was quite stunning. The first time seeing this kind of live performance would definitely leave the audience in—

A stunned state!

The reality did develop as Lin Yuan envisioned.

But...

If Lin Yuan uses the same strategy in the next round, although the audience will still think it's stunning, the degree of astonishment will definitely be reduced.

At least, the increased votes won't be as many as the first time.

It's like when a youngster first watches an adult movie, unavoidable blushing and excitement, but after watching many times, the novelty wears off...

Of course, they still like watching it, but they won't get so excited anymore.

"So I still need to work on my singing skills. If my singing skills don't improve, although I won't be eliminated within a few rounds, as I encounter stronger opponents, revealing my weakness is just a matter of time."

Lin Yuan had a strong sense of caution.

Having two voices was indeed very powerful, and this unique aspect would have global appeal.

But in a highly professional music program, this strategy won't work all the time.

Especially when it comes to the judges who place extreme importance on a singer's vocal skills.

His vocal skills must improve!

Though time was somewhat tight, he still needed to make an effort.

Lin Yuan decided to start practicing his singing skills seriously tomorrow.

Just at this moment.

The System suddenly presented a prompt: “The host’s need has been detected. Would the host be willing to pay for the System’s services and receive professional vocal training provided by the System?”

“...”

Lin Yuan was taken aback.

He originally intended to ask the company’s vocal coach for assistance with his vocal training, but surprisingly, the System was now running a business!

He asked, “Are there any special benefits?”

System: “I can assure you that the vocal training provided to the host is the most scientific on Blue Star.”

“How much?”

“Fifty million.”

Spending fifty million for a bunch of vocal training knowledge?

For most people, this deal isn’t a good one.

But for Lin Yuan, it’s worth it!

He immediately said, “Deal.”

System: “Please ensure that the host is undisturbed.”

Lin Yuan locked the door, and then lied comfortably on the bed: “I’m ready.”

“Countdown in three seconds, three, two, one...”



With the System's prompt, Lin Yuan suddenly found the scene before his eyes changed.

He was in a virtual voice classroom.

There were many voice instruments around him.

In front of him was a virtual figure.

This is the System's Virtual Space!

When Lin Yuan used Yang Zhongming's character card to learn composition, he would also appear in this Virtual Space.

He looked up.

Lin Yuan stared at the figure in front of him, feeling very unfamiliar.

He couldn't even see their face clearly. Perhaps this was some incarnation of the System?

"I am your vocal coach."

The figure spoke in a mature male voice: "I will be training your voice. You have three types of voices. If you can use these three voices flexibly, your voice will have various effects. This is the first lesson I'm going to give you."

"Three voices?"

Lin Yuan subconsciously responded: "I only have two."

He had his original male voice, plus the female voice provided by the System.

Surely falsetto doesn't count?

Falsetto is only a singing technique that makes use of breath control.

The void figure spoke emotionlessly: “After your throat was injured, you accidentally gained a voice similar to a husky voice.”

Lin Yuan paused: “Husky voice?”

Boom!

A flash of insight surged in his brain, Lin Yuan suddenly understood the figure’s meaning:

“You mean, the voice that formed due to my illness after my throat was injured is still there...”

Lin Yuan’s vocal cords had been injured before.

After the injury, Lin Yuan could no longer sing.

Because his voice was no longer magnetic, instead, it sounded somewhat hoarse.

It might not be noticeable when talking normally, but once he started singing, the hoarseness was inescapable.

Technically, this voice wasn’t bad, it certainly wasn’t unpleasant.

But the problem was...

Lin Yuan couldn’t use this voice!

Out of his love for singing, Lin Yuan had tried to sing with this voice.

But every time he forcefully used it, he would endure pain from his throat.

The longer he sang, and the higher the pitch, the more intense the pain, like tearing!

Or in other words:

This voice did sound nice, but Lin Yuan couldn't use it. Using it would be torture!

Once, he had withstood the pain and sang two songs. The pitch wasn't too high, but he ended up with a severe throat inflammation that night. He couldn't even eat, and it took a week's rest before he could speak again.

This was the direct reason why Lin Yuan gave up singing.

What kind of a singer struggles to complete a full song?

Besides...

Lin Yuan gives people the impression that he rarely speaks.

Before his throat was damaged, it wasn't like that. He could even converse happily with others, certainly not cherishing his words like gold as he does now.

Unfortunately, after his voice broke, he couldn't speak much. Because the more he spoke, the more he strained his voice.

"Hmm."

"Oh."

"Okay."

"..."

Admittedly, he does come off as aloof. Lin Yuan often gives the impression of being a man of few words, preferring to stay silent most of the time.

But the reason behind it was quite helpless.

A while ago, the System repaired Lin Yuan's voice, his voice once again became full of magnetism. Subconsciously, he thought the "smoky" voice he had after being injured had disappeared.

There's no regret about that.

Though that voice was nice, he just couldn't use it.

What's the use of a beautiful voice if he can't use it?

But, listening to this Phantom's words, it seemed like his "smoky" voice has not disappeared?

"Yes."

As if guessing Lin Yuan's thoughts, the Phantom said faintly:

"This voice is still hidden in your vocal cords and you can make use of it now."

Lin Yuan: "..."

So, he truly has three voices?

After the System repaired his throat and returned his original voice, the "smoky" voice didn't disappear either?

Hmm.

The voice is not exactly like the commonly known "smoky" voice, but more like a variant of it, and indeed created a very similar effect.

“Let me try.”

Lin Yuan’s heart started pounding.

If he could use this voice, Lin Yuan would indeed have three voices! A male voice, an ethereal female voice, and a variant “smoky” voice caused by illness...

For a singer, this is an irresistible temptation!

He began to sing anxiously. It was a classic Blue Star song that required a smokey voice to sing.

Without that smoky voice, one couldn’t capture the essence of the song.

But singing the first line, Lin Yuan shook his head.

It was still his original voice.

He started to recall his voice post-injury. He continued to try but he still failed.

He couldn’t help but look at the Phantom. Was this System’s incarnation really not tricking him?

Did that injured voice truly exist?

“No need to look at me.”

The Phantom said, “This is bound to be a challenging task, but you should be able to find that voice again because it has caused you agony in the past.”

Lin Yuan felt helpless.

He did indeed detest that voice.

Because he couldn't sing with it.

That voice continuously reminded Lin Yuan that his dreams of music had comprehensively collapsed, and that his throat was useless.

All he can do now is to keep trying.

The result was repeated attempts, repeated failures...

"Keep going!"

That Phantom's voice was still utterly devoid of any emotion.

Lin Yuan paused. "Will my voice be affected?"

Excessive singing could damage the throat, Lin Yuan's priority was to protect his vocal cords.

The System replied: "This is the System's conscious space. It won't harm your throat, but the things you learn here still need to be practiced in reality to be mastered."

Lin Yuan understood.

This investment of fifty million was totally worth it.

Since singing excessively here wouldn't harm his throat, he could fully let loose.

Keep practicing!

The dogged determination in Lin Yuan's bones had been ignited.

Keep searching for the right feel.

Then continue failing...

Ever since he got the System, Lin Yuan hadn't tasted the bitterness of failure for quite some time.

But today, in this System Space, Lin Yuan had tasted all the lost failures of his life.

He had lost track of time.

When he failed again, Lin Yuan didn't doubt the System, but himself instead.

His confidence started to waver.

He almost lost the courage to open his mouth and sing, even though practicing here won't overload his vocal cords.

He fell silent.

The Phantom also unusually fell quiet, without urging Lin Yuan to continue.

In a trance,

Lin Yuan recalled a scene he once experienced.

It was inside a hospital.

Lin Yuan was lying on the hospital bed, his eyes vacant.

From the distance, fragments of conversations floated to him:

"It's fortunate we got here in time, otherwise his life might have been in danger..."

“We used some stimulating drugs. His body will be swollen for some time. Despite controlling the illness this time, there will still be sequelae...”

“I heard he was a student in a vocal music department...”

“I’m sorry, but he might not be able to sing in the future anymore. But compared to his life, a damaged voice is nothing. At least he can still talk...”

Lin Yuan on the hospital bed suddenly sat up, resisting the pain. He opened his mouth.

He was singing.

But as soon as his voice sounded, his throat sent a sharp pain.

But he didn’t care about the pain, he was fearful and shocked to discover how unfamiliar his voice had become.

“...”

The memory ended.

Lin Yuan’s eyes held a touch of sadness.

He subconsciously started to sing a few lines.

This time, the voice that echoed in the Virtual Space was rough, possessing a strong grainy feel, a haunting smokiness, and a lingering sense of sadness. It was exactly the same as the voice that had resounded in the hospital that day, and the voice he had retained for several years after he was injured.

The only difference was...

Lin Yuan’s throat no longer hurt.



He had found his third voice.

## Chapter 478: Give You a Vaccination

“You have already found your third voice. Our next training plan is to learn sound mixing. If you can use all three vocal ranges effectively, you’ll experience wonderful transformations...”

The shadow continued speaking in a calm tone.

Lin Yuan’s eyes lit up.

The virtual shadow was aligning with Lin Yuan’s idea. In fact, ever since he found the female voice, Lin Yuan vaguely had the idea of practice sound mixing. He had two completely different ranges, it would be a waste not to practice mixing. Moreover, he now had a third voice!

What is sound mixing?

Technically, mixing is manipulating volume in various ways to ensure a balance between different voices and different parts. It also means merging various recordings into one unified piece while creating various effects.

This requires technological assistance.

Just like cooking in daily life, once all ingredients are prepared, mixing is akin to stir-frying these ingredients into a tasty dish – controlling the heat and seasoning, and sometimes adding a twist.

But...

Some singers do not need machines to mix sounds. This is one of the must-learn courses in vocal music, as singing involves resonance in four cavities: mouth, nose, chest and head.

Lin Yuan understood this.

Of course, understanding is one thing, and doing well is another. Lin Yuan was fairly good at it, even handling the hardest head resonance with flair, but this was just common mixing.

Lin Yuan was different.

He now had three voice types. Although it was not possible to use all three at once, Lin Yuan vaguely managed to harmonize them into a chorus-like sound. This balance was very difficult to grasp, but at the end of 'Bracing the Chill', his final line started to have this taste. Wu Long even specifically praised this point, so this path was indeed feasible.

"Class is over."

The shadow stated, "Mixing the three vocal ranges is not something you can master overnight. You should first get a grip on the husky voice. Without it, the effect of sound mixing won't be perfect."

"Hmm."

A thought occurred to Lin Yuan.

He returned to reality, still on his bed. He found a comfortable position to sing and tried to find the varietal husky voice he discovered in the System Space. However, he found that feeling gone again.

It was clear.

His brain understood.

But his voice was not there yet.

The Virtual Space was for the brain to research, his own image was also virtual, so practice in reality was most crucial. Since his brain knew what to do, producing that voice should not be too difficult.

Taking a deep breath.

Lin Yuan continued to practice.

Half an hour later, he had basically understood a husky voice, after all it was his voice during the period when his vocal cords were not well. As the System said, it relied on muscle memory, so Lin Yuan did not feel it unfamiliar.

“This is better.”

Lin Yuan smiled.

If he chose the right song, he might rank well in the next match: “If the male and female voices are my first wildcard, then the husky voice is my second. There are several days left until the competition, it’s enough time for me to control it.”

...

The outside world.

With the end of the first recording of ‘The Masked Singer’, many discussions emerged online. Some netizens were eager to learn which day the recording would be broadcast:

“‘The Masked Singer’ should have finished recording for the first episode today.”

“Damn it! Definitely finished, but we have to wait till next Sunday to watch it!”

“I can’t wait anymore!”

“The program team said there will be a King of Singing and Queen of Singing for the first episode. Do you think it’s possible for either to be eliminated?”

“Stop daydreaming.”

“In an absolutely fair program, as long as the King and Queen perform as usual, they’ll likely be in the top four. This is just a conservative estimate, I think they might take the first two places in the first episode.”

“I see, we can guess the King and Queen by looking at who get the first and second places.”

“I’ve waited till the flowers have wilted ...”

The expectations for this program were sky-high!

Moreover, several video websites have already started pre-orders for ‘The Masked Singer’.

This is to remind the viewers to watch as soon as it is aired.

The total number of pre-orders has already broken the record for a music variety show!

Besides that.

Some viewers who watched the live recording also appeared on the internet.

Due to basic morality and the confidentiality requirement of the programme, they could not reveal too much information online and could only express their excitement in a fragmented manner—

“After watching the first episode, it did not disappoint!”

“It’s more spectacular than I could have ever imagined, truly the top tier music show on Blue Star!”

“The results of the first episode’s unmasking are absolutely explosive!”

“Some of the masked singers are so strong it’s unbelievable!”

“After watching this show, I finally understood what singing skills are. I used to hear people talking about singing, but it always seemed mysterious to me.”

“The live feeling is really amazing, an aural treat!”

“The equipment of this show’s crew is amazing. I wish I could take home the speaker on my right wall and make a fortune with it!”

“...”

And it’s not just the regular audience.

The celebrity judges have also started hyping up the show –

“The most shocking music show in the history of Blue Star has been born. The shock I’m talking about is contributing in every way!”

“Surprise! Even the singers who were eliminated in the first episode have absolutely top-notch skills!”

“Just by watching the process and the final unmasking, without knowing the results of the other singers, people who have seen the show probably have even higher expectations for the broadcast than those who haven’t!”

“Ah! ah! ah! The line-up of judges is truly a superstar ensemble!”

“This is the most explosive music show in history, the entire music industry should be trembling, Xian Yu has ‘arrived’!”

“...”

The hype is obviously effective.

With online users and celebrity judges expressing their thoughts, netizens’ desire to watch “The Masked Singer” has skyrocketed!

The show’s booking volume has exploded again!

People are paying too much attention to these minor spoilers that do not involve key information –

What does ‘judges as a superstar ensemble’ mean?

What does Xian Yu ‘arriving’ mean?

Could it be that the mysterious Xian Yu will appear!?

But what do you mean by putting it in quotes!?

Why should the entire music industry be “shivering”?

Who is the unmasked person in the first episode that’s got everyone so riled up?

Damn it!

Really want to watch!

Can’t sleep now!

At this time in Qi Continent, a celebrity from the judge panel suddenly made a phone call to a friend.

“Yuan Xi.”

“What’s up?”

The one who answered the call was one of the leading singers in Qi Continent, Yuan Xi.

“You’re not in ‘The Masked Singer’, right?”

“No.”

“Ok, then I am sure that person is not you. Just want to remind you, don’t forget to watch ‘The Masked Singer’.”

“What do you mean?”

“You’ll know when you watch it. Just prepare yourself mentally. Don’t be angry. Being angry is useless. As a friend, I just want to give you a heads up...”

Yuan Xi: “...”

Are you trying to scare me?

The recent ‘The Masked Singer’, seems to be sweeping over the entire music industry. It’s as if the whole world is discussing this show.

The problem is...

What does it have to do with me, Yuan Xi?

Is there a masked singer pretending to be me?

In no time, Yuan Xi’s curiosity found its answer.

Because seven days later...

The Masked Singer aired!!!

All those who couldn’t sleep because of this show seemed to have found an outlet, and eagerly began watching this show...

Chapter 479: Just Because He is Xian Yu

“Here it comes.”

One of the top singers in Qi Continent, Yuan Xi, received a tip-off from a friend. Naturally curious about what happened in the first episode of “The Masked Singer”, she decided to watch the show on her computer as she was free that day.

Meanwhile.

Gu Dong, who had already returned home from work, immediately turned on her computer, logged into her premium membership account on Penguin Video. She wasn’t able to accompany Lin Yuan during the competition, so she definitely couldn’t miss the broadcast of the show now.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

After the routine broadcast of the advertising for the title sponsor, the words “The Masked Singer”, accompanied by gunshots, appeared on the computer screen, followed by a panoramic view of a grand and gorgeous stage from an aerial shot!

Stage lights were twinkling.

The red curtain was drawn open.

Innumerable beams of light focused on a door. A masked man stepped confidently from behind it, his steps echoing through the space, and came to a stop in the center of the stage. He raised his microphone and declared in an electrified voice:

“Welcome to The Masked Singer!”

The audience screamed and applauded.

This was in fact a pre-recorded shot by the production team, intended to represent the program’s theme of revealing identities. But of course, the audience watching at home had no idea. As the host removed his mask, the screen was filled with rapid-fire comments from the viewers:

“So cool!”

“Awesome!”



“Top-notch!”

Some comments read, “I heard Xian Yu is coming”, “Is Xian Yu here?”, “Xian Yu is about to reveal his face”, which confused Gu Dong. Was the representative revealed in the first round?

Overcome with curiosity.

The contestants, wearing masks and custom-made outfits, started to come in. Each mysterious singer was given screen time, and when the camera turned to the Prince of Lanling, most comments were:

“Wow!”

“So handsome!”

“Such a show-off!”

“Best costume!”

“Who’s this guy!”

“Love this mask!”

A smile crossed Gu Dong’s face. The attire designed by Mr. Lin was indeed the most dazzling among all the masked singers. The Prince of Lanling was pretty reserved in front of the camera, implying a cool personality, just like Lin’s real-life demeanor. Other masked singers also had their unique characteristics.

The Swan was proud;

The Robot was quirky;

The Magician was open-minded;

The Wanderer was mature and stable;

Piggy Qiqi was girlish.

The pace of the show was great. Instead of immediately broadcasting the singing part after the stage opened, they first captured some interesting shots to give viewers a general idea of the characteristics of the contestants. But the Prince of Lanling stood out with a significantly different style.

In the other dressing rooms.

The singers and their temporary managers were all passionately discussing. When it came to the Prince of Lanling, he was always quiet, preserving his words like gold. Every time the camera was on him, a gust of cold wind sound effect would be added. The production team exaggerated this effect by editing together his one-word answers...

“Hmm.”

“Oh.”

“You.”

No matter what Tongtong said to the Prince of Lanling, he would end his response within one word as if he was reluctant to strain his vocal cords too much. This left the audience laughing to tears.

“Ha ha.”

“LMAO.”

“So aloof.”

“He’s a black hole.”

“A black hole in variety shows?”

The audience watching the show burst into laughter. While some suspected that the Prince of Lanling was putting on an act, Gu Dong smiled knowingly. She knew that it was neither a character setup nor a fault in editing, because that’s exactly what Mr. Lin was like offstage!

Following that!

The performance began!

The Robot took the stage!

Living up to everyone’s expectations, the Robot’s performance successfully warmed up the atmosphere and set a high standard for the show. The live audience was thrilled, and the online comments were equally passionate:

“Wonderful singing!”

“A top singer?”

“Not bad at all.”

The audience was highly satisfied with the Robot’s performance. The contestants backstage also praised him highly. At this moment, the camera switched to the Prince of Lanling’s dressing room. It seemed pretty dark inside. Unable to bear the silence anymore, Tongtong broke it: “This singer must be a top singer.”

“No.”

The Prince of Lanling spoke.

This time, he used two words.

Naturally, Tongtong and the audience didn't buy it. They thought the Robot, with such impressive performance, should at least be a top singer. Some even suspected that the Prince of Lanling was being arrogant. However, the Prince of Lanling astounded everyone by saying:

“He is the King of Singing.”

Tongtong was even more skeptical and many disputes arose in the comments. Especially after the on-stage judges pronounced the Robot a top singer. Yet at this moment, Yang Zhongming reached the same conclusion as the Prince of Lanling:

The Robot is the King of Singing!

The audience was dubious!

The doubts about the Prince of Lanling quieted down for a while. His judgement was completely in line with Maestro Yang Zhongming's. So, were the three judges wrong, or was Yang Zhongming and the Prince of Lanling correct?

The answer remained unknown.

The Swan came on stage.

If the Robot's performance warmed up the crowd, the Swan just blew the roof off. As “Big Fish” resonated on stage, viewers in front of the screen and in the live audience were dumbfounded. Even those who knew little about singing had a clear thought in their minds:

This performance is amazing!

The Swan is the Queen of Singing!

As a matter of fact, everyone thought the Swan was the hidden Queen of Singing in the first episode. While everyone was excited, a conversation between the Swan and the judges started: “She couldn't sing this song well.”

Poof!

The Swan boldly declared in public that Yuan Xi couldn't sing "Big Fish" well. Following that, all four judges, including Yang Zhongming, expressed their opinions about Yuan Xi, which totally stunned everyone. How audacious for the Queen of Singing, Yang Zhongming, and other big names to indirectly criticize Yuan Xi, one of the top singers in Qi Continent!

So daring!

The comments exploded!

Everyone knew that Yuan Xi was an exemplary singer with numerous fans. Many people rebuked the Swan for being too arrogant. Of course, Yuan Xi's fans didn't dare to target Yang Zhongming and the other judges. They simply focused their anger on the Swan, while other netizens strongly supported the Swan, believing she was just being forthright.

At that moment.

The camera shifted to the backstage, where all the singers remained silent. The atmosphere was distinctly awkward. Nobody dared to comment on such a sensitive topic. However, to everyone's surprise, the normally reticent Prince of Lanling suddenly said: "Yuan Xi's level is just mediocre among the Queens of Singing. The Swan is one of the strongest in that group. Her performance was really good. Her rendition of 'Big Fish' is almost on par with Jiang Kui's."

"..."

On the other side of the screen!

The viewers were shocked!

Has the Prince of Lanling gone mad?

What right does he have to say that?

Gu Dong, who was also watching this scene, burst into laughter. This was the benefit of being an omniscient viewer. Others just saw a singer audaciously commenting on Yuan Xi, a well-established Queen of Singing in Qi Continent. But Gu Dong saw more than that!

What right did he have to say that?

Because he is Xian Yu!!

Chapter 480: Controversy and Shock

On the internet.

Ever since “The Masked Singer” began airing, hundreds of thousands of comments from the Tribe had filled up cyberspace, with people simultaneously watching the show and having discussions almost every second.

“Awesome!”

“The wait for this show was worth it!”

“The robot is so cool!”

“Piggy Qiqi is too cute.”

“Prince of Lanling’s performance is hilarious! He’s so aloof, as if he has no friends.”

“This guy is a black hole of variety shows.”

“...”

When the White Swan took the stage and all were conquered by her strength, the climatic dialogues in the show set the internet buzzing:

“White Swan is so daring!”

“The four judges really are big-shots!”

“Wait a minute...”

“Whoah, Prince of Lanling is so harsh!”

“He actually dared to publicly comment on the two queens of music!”

“Wow, he really has a death wish!”

“Is he trying to gain attention on purpose? If so, he succeeded because I really hate him now.”

“White Swan’s pride is confidence, but Prince of Lanling seems fake, putting on a superior act!”

“I think he’s great. He’s just speaking the truth, isn’t he? The person above must be a fan of Yuan Xi.”

“I like White Swan but I do not like Prince of Lanling. White Swan sings much better than the original singer, Jiang Kui!”

“Great, with one comment Prince of Lanling offends two music queens.”

“Why do I get the feeling that Prince of Lanling thinks he’s one of the judges? But I like his attitude, it makes the show more interesting!”

“When White Swan speaks that way, it’s her true nature, but Prince of Lanling doing the same is just putting on an act? Let’s support Prince of Lanling, thank you!”

“Prince of Lanling is really a mistake.”

“...”

Controversy!

Nothing but controversy!

Everyone is used to variety shows where everyone plays nice with each other.

Isn't that the case with all music variety shows? Regardless of what you think internally, externally it's all flowers and praise for each other.

Whoever causes a scene is everyone's enemy.

Suddenly, a show with such strong aggression appears, it's too stimulating!

Yuan Xi's fans were enraged but didn't dare to hex the judges. All four judges are powerful enough to be qualified to criticise Yuan Xi!

Harass White Swan?

Given the strength White Swan just displayed, even Yuan Xi couldn't say she's sure to win, right?

Besides, White Swan was just unhappy that the panel of judges mistook her for "Yuan Xi".

So, the Prince of Lanling became the center of controversy!

Because amidst these successive controversies, Prince of Lanling seemed to be the least qualified to comment –

He became the target of Yuan Xi's fans!

At that moment.

The host announced the next performer.



It was Prince of Lanling's turn!

Within Yuan Xi's fan group, excitement was at its peak!

"Prince of Lanling is up, haha, let's get to him!"

"I really want to see on what grounds does Prince of Lanling have to comment on our Yuan Xi."

"Brothers and sisters, when he performs, let's flood the public screen with: Really?"

"We'll teach him a lesson!"

"How dare he offend our Xi Xi, it seems he doesn't know what the word 'death' means!"

"..."

Yuan Xi's fans are all watching Prince Lanling!

The audience in front of the screen is also watching Prince Lanling!

Because of Prince of Lanling's just made remarks, his performance was the most eye-catching!

Just how many of these gazes held goodwill, how many ill intentions, and how many were neutral, were hard to tell...

Then.

Under everyone's gaze, Prince of Lanling began singing the first line of the song: "As night falls, the temperature drops gradually, flowers fall to the ground and turn into frost..."

"A woman?"

“Such an ethereal voice!”

“It feels like this voice could sing ‘Big Fish’.”

“So beautiful.”

“I thought it would be a man based on the appearance.”

“Quite unexpected.”

“...”

The impartial audience thought to themselves.

However, Yuan Xi’s fans didn’t care whether Prince of Lanling was a man or a woman!

“That’s it?”

“I thought she’d be more impressive.”

“Nothing special.”

“So she’s a female singer, no wonder she’s so jealous of our Xi Xi.”

“...”

Prince of Lanling had only sung a few lines, and Yuan Xi’s fans began to charge!

However.

The surge hasn’t ended yet. Under the close-up of the camera, Prince of Lanling’s hand, which held the microphone, suddenly took strength!

“Oh, the frosty peach blossoms seen in life before, why did you abandon them, this boundless ocean of heart...”

Male voice!

Seamless transition!

And it was a male voice that was completely different from the previous one, unrecognizable by any purposeful change in tone or so-called falsetto techniques!

The audience were stunned.

Yuan Xi's fans were also stunned.

One of Yuan Xi's fans in their group chat said, “Is there something wrong with my ears?”

Of course, there's nothing wrong with the ears.

The one with the issue is Prince of Lanling!

Boom!

The barrage of messages exploded as expected!

“Oh, my God!”

“He must be cheating!”

“Director, I'm reporting that Prince of Lanling is cheating!”

“I'm freaking torn!”

“Mom, hurry up and check out this superhuman!”

“Ahhhh, it’s too horrifying, how does this person have two different voices inside him, is he a male or a female!”

“...”

All the mocking messages from Yuan Xi’s fans towards Prince of Lanling were buried under the sea of astonished exclamations almost in an instant!

When Prince of Lanling got to the climax part of “Bracing the Chill”, the direction of the messages even took a complete turnaround ——

“Yuan Xi’s fans, come and get beaten up!”

“What the... is this not too much?”

“A colossal screw-up by Yuan Xi’s fans this year!”

“Stop the beating... poor Yuan Xi.”

“You can complain about Prince of Lanling’s lack of EQ, but I won’t let you doubt his singing!”

“Even more brilliant than the white swan!”

“What, does Yuan Xi also have two voices?”

“...”

The number of neutral netizens was far greater than that of Yuan Xi’s fans. There were just too many viewers for this show!

The number of Yuan Xi's fans was just a drop in the ocean.

Yuan Xi's fans went silent.

In the fans' group chat, it was utterly quiet.

On the commentary board, there were no more furious posts from Yuan Xi's fans.

It wasn't that they couldn't find points to attack, but they were simply dumbfounded by the performance!

The show's camera was moving.

The judges were shocked!

The audience was shocked!

The singers were shocked!

The countless faces of shock in contrast with the exaggerated reactions from the viewers in front of the screen were quite a sight.

Create a spectacle?

Yes, the previous remarks indeed created a spectacle.

But the biggest spectacle was the performance!

This refreshing performance!

Just like a surprise attack ignited on the battlefield, no one could react in time to organize a counterattack, and could do nothing but let their surging emotions be mercilessly slaughtered by two completely different voices...

The audience in front of the screen was conquered!

When Prince of Lanling finished singing, the applause from the audience was like a tidal wave.

Even in front of the screen, some people couldn't help standing up.

Too awesome!

No wonder this is "The Masked Singer"!

These singers, they just keep getting more and more explosive!

Also in front of a screen somewhere...

Yuan Xi was also flabbergasted.

On her face, the anger and humiliation still lingered!

She finally understood why her friend asked her to watch this show...

She suddenly took a deep breath and made a phone call.

"Hello."

"Sign me up for 'The Masked Singer'."

You all say I, Yuan Xi, am not good enough!

I will show you then!

The white swan, huh?

Prince of Lanling, huh?

The four judges... nah, forget it.

Yuan Xi's gaze finally locked onto Prince of Lanling on the screen:

She was going to launch an attack!