

Chapter 41 Narrowly Pass the Test

While Qiu Minxuan was fixing Su Huixian's makeup, she said, "It seems that Su Bei is really out of luck today. I heard that the car she is using has broken down on the winding mountain road. Now she is trapped there."

Su Huixian shook her head regretfully. "Su Bei has always been unlucky. But I didn't expect that even today, fate won't favor her."

"Well, even if her car didn't break down, she would still fail. According to the rules of the second-round test, all candidates must wear a black outfit. And you are only allowed to change in the backstage dressing room. The dressing room was already closed, so she couldn't make it anymore," Qiu Minxuan said with a smile.

"It's time for my entrance. Just wait for my good news outside." Su Huixian tidied up her clothes, and went to the interview room.

This round was different from the initial test. This time, all the nineteen models entered the room together for the interview.

The judges were more stringent and fairer than last time. They would also give their scores on the spot, so everyone could see each other's scores.

After the interview, Su Huixian just ranked fifth out of the nineteen models.

Five models in S Country would be selected in this competition.

If no accident happened, Su Huixian would narrowly pass the test.

Her lips curved into a triumphant smile. She was confident that she would succeed.

Even if Su Bei made it to the competition, she definitely wouldn't beat her.

But Su Bei couldn't show up.

"Congratulations, Huixian!" Qiu Minxuan exclaimed with a bright smile on her face. "You've finally gotten what you want."

"In the following days, I need you to arrange my schedule well."

"Of course! After participating in Orisa's big show, there will be countless activities for you. You will definitely have a full schedule. You will also become S Country's newest supermodel." Qiu Minxuan's eyes gleamed with excitement.

After all, her every success also meant a huge salary increase for her.

Several blonde and blue-eyed judges looked at the last name on the list. They then shouted, "Number Twenty, Su Bei. It's your turn."

However, no one stepped forward or even answered.

The other models exchanged glances and looked around, wondering where Su Bei could be. It seemed that they didn't even notice her when they were still preparing for the test just now.

No way. How could anyone just waste such a good opportunity?

To make it to the second-round test was every model's dream. After all, models who seized this opportunity could completely improve their social status and change their destiny.

"Su Bei, are you here? According to the rules of this competition, you still have one minute to come here. If you don't make it on time, we will have to disqualify you," one of the judges reminded according to the procedure.

Still, there was no answer.

The judges started to pack their things. They had already worked hard interviewing the nineteen candidates.

They couldn't stay and wait for a model who couldn't even follow the rules. Such kind of model didn't deserve new opportunities. It seemed that Su Bei couldn't really make it.

The five models would be chosen based on their scores. And they would soon be on the stage of the Orisa International Show.

The rest of the models now felt relaxed. Since the results had come out, they didn't need to be nervous anymore.

Su Bei, who was not able to come today, should also bear her own consequences.

As time went by, a trace of regret gradually surfaced on Su Huixian's face. Deep in her heart, she was counting the time that was left. "Ten, nine, eight, seven..."

When she counted to the last three seconds, the door of the interview room suddenly opened. Then a motorcycle with a streamlined body appeared in front of everyone.

Riding on it was a slender young woman wearing a black racing suit. She looked so valiant.

Chapter 42 The First Place

Her long legs ended in a pair of black boots, which made them look even more attractive.

Although she was sitting on a huge motorcycle, both of her feet were firmly planted on the ground, illustrating just how tall she was.

She seemed to possess some kind of magic. As soon as she entered, no one in the room could take their eyes off of her.

Seeing this, Su Huixian inhaled sharply. It was Su Bei! She had actually shown up!

But how on earth had she pulled it off?

The dressing room was locked. Where had she gotten such a unique black outfit at the last minute?

After parking the motorcycle, Su Bei took off her helmet from her head. A smile appeared on her plump red lips.

Supermodels seldom smiled, because a smile would lessen their aura and make them look common. However, Su Bei's smile didn't make her lose anything, but instead made her more attractive.

She walked down the runway confidently and stood in front of the judges.

After such a long day, the judges were already sick and tired of staring at models. However, they had never expected to see such an excellent candidate. Su Bei was eye-catching enough to far exceed all their expectations.

The other models also had their eyes widened in surprise.

Of course, no matter what score Su Bei got, it had nothing to do with them.

But Su Huixian was different.

Without Su Bei in the race, she was ranked fifth. She had barely been able to qualify.

If Su Bei scored higher than her, however, she would be kicked out.

"Su Bei, why? Why are you set on ruining my life? You're the legitimate daughter of the head of the Su family. You can easily get everyone's love and the favor of Du Luo. Why didn't you just die somewhere? Why did you come back to steal everything from me?" Su Huixian clenched her fists.

"Hello, everyone. I'm Su Bei, Number Twenty." Su Bei could speak fluent English and her words were clear and articulate, showing how confident she was.

"Su Bei, you're late. What do you have to say for yourself?" One of the judges began with a difficult question.

"I arrived three whole seconds before my scheduled time, so I don't think I'm late. Otherwise, you would have all gotten up and left by now, right?" Su Bei said with a smile.

The atmosphere in the room suddenly lightened. The judges all smiled with satisfaction. Her pronunciation was perfect, which naturally left a good impression on them.

The rest of the interview went smoothly. Su Bei was able to communicate fluently with the judges in English, which received praises from all judges.

The wider the smiles on the judges faces, the gloomier Su Huixian's face looked.

The judges had a long conversation with Su Bei, longer than the conversations with the rest of the candidates put together.

Finally, they scored her.

As expected, Su Bei got the highest score.

That was to say, she directly qualified to be a participant in the Orisa International Show!

Of course, the rankings changed as well. Now that Su Bei was in the first place, the previous candidate who was in the first place got the second place, and so on.

The change in rankings didn't really affect most of them. Those who hadn't qualified were still unable to get onto the stage of the Orisa International Show.

As for the candidates who had previously ranked first to fourth, they still qualified.

It was only Su Huixian, whose rank had jumped from fifth to sixth, that had lost her qualification!

After thanking the judges, Su Bei pushed her motorcycle and walked out valiantly.

Chapter 43 I Trust You

When Su Huixian walked out of the room, she tried her best to maintain a light smile on her face. However, there were cracks in her strong facade, which seemed like it would crumble and fall at any moment.

She staggered and was about to lose her balance. She could bear losing to anyone but Su Bei.

She was not convinced by this result.

Qiu Minxuan stepped forward and held Su Huixian's arm. She had never expected that Su Bei would appear at the most critical moment and snatch Su Huixian's qualification from under her feet.

"Minxuan, when shall we discuss my schedule?" Su Bei asked lightly, walking up to Qiu Minxuan.

Qiu Minxuan had no choice but to smile. "How about tomorrow? You can come to the company tomorrow. And congratulations, Su Bei."

The corners of Su Bei's lips lifted into a small sneer. "Thanks. I just hope today's little accident won't repeat itself tomorrow," she said seriously. "Minxuan, I don't think anyone would want to hurt the interests of the company, right?" she added.

Qiu Minxuan mustered up an awkward smile.

Su Bei walked out of the building and found Lu Heting waiting for her outside.

In the darkness of the night, he stood in an inconspicuous corner, hidden by the shadows. It seemed that he didn't want to be noticed.

However, he had a tall and commanding figure, so it was very hard for him to avoid being noticed. His appearance won the attention of all the passers-by, who couldn't help but steal glances at him.

Su Bei quickened her pace and returned the motorcycle to him. She cheekily complained, "Mr. Lu, your motorcycle is too heavy! I'm exhausted after lugging it around."

"Since it helped you, you shouldn't insult it." He held out his right hand and added, "Congratulations."

Su Bei was not the kind of woman who hid her emotions. He could tell from the brilliant smile on her face that she was qualified to be on the stage of the show.

Sure enough, she reached out and shook his hand. "You mean I should do something to thank you, right?"

"Well, if it's not too much trouble." Lu Heting gestured at the pillion seat, inviting her to get on. "I haven't ridden it for a long time. Would you like to go for a ride with me?"

In response, Su Bei swung her leg over the motorcycle, straddling it without any problem.

After putting on his helmet and adjusting it, Lu Heting drove away.

Su Bei sat behind him with her arms casually wrapped around his strong waist.

This time, Lu Heting didn't ride fast, but maintained a constant speed. Feeling the warmth of her body on his back, he smiled unknowingly.

"You haven't taken a taxi for days," Lu Heting said in a flat voice.

"What? How do you know that?"

"Because I didn't receive your call."

She snorted in amusement. "Mr. Lu, it seems that you still have a lot to learn about your part-time job. Just because I book a taxi doesn't mean that I will get assigned to your car every time. The probability of that happening is actually very small."

"Haven't you gone out at all recently?"

"Of course I have. Sometimes I took a vehicle worth millions, and sometimes I took a vehicle worth more than 100 million," Su Bei replied in a relaxed voice.

For a moment, a hint of concern flickered in Lu Heting's eyes. But he quickly realized that she was talking about taking the bus and the train.

In no time, they were riding along the winding mountain roads again. Su Bei was in considerably better spirits this time. Earlier, she had been in such a hurry to attend the interview that she hadn't had the time or the mood to enjoy the journey.

But now, she was able to completely immerse herself in the journey.

After a while, she asked, "Can I ride the motorcycle?"

"Sure." Lu Heting slowed to a stop, and then got off the motorcycle.

"It's been a while since I rode a motorcycle the last time. Aren't you afraid that I will fling us both off the mountain?"

"I trust you." Lu Heting lowered his head and looked at her through the visor of the helmet.

This simple sentence touched Su Bei's heart, making her nose twitch with emotion.

Chapter 44 Because You Are Su Bei

They hadn't known each other for long, but he seemed to trust her without any reservations.

On the other hand, people who had known her for years and years didn't trust her at all.

"Besides, I'll protect you." Lu Heting helped her get onto the motorcycle and wrapped his arms around her waist.

Su Bei's lips widened into a big smile. "Okay then, hang on tight! I love going fast!"

Lu Heting tightened his grip on her.

The motorcycle flew forward like an arrow released from the bowstring. Su Bei let out a happy cry that drifted away with the wind. The headlight cut through the darkness in front of her and illuminated the road.

The motorcycle seemed to chase the light in front of it, always almost catching up to it, but not quite.

When they reached the top of the mountain, Su Bei finally slowed to a stop and took off her helmet. In the dark night, her eyes were sparkling.

"I'm so happy!" she shouted into the empty landscape, cupping her hands around her mouth to amplify her voice.

Looking at how excited she was, Lu Heting's eyes shined with affection.

"Do you know what was my rank today?" she turned to him and asked.

"I guess you got the first place."

"How did you know that?"

"A woman like you will always be in the first place." The emotions swimming in Lu Heting's deep eyes were hidden in the shadows of the dark night.

"Thank you! Because of me, Su Huixian lost her qualification," Su Bei said, laughing. "Oh yeah, Su Huixian is my half-sister. She's the one who's always trying to frame me and get me into trouble. When I entered the room and saw that she was in the fifth place, I was even more motivated to impress the judges!"

Hearing Su Bei talk so casually about the way she had been wronged in the past, Lu Heting felt as if his heart was pricked by needles.

Misunderstanding his silence, Su Bei continued to smile and asked, "Do you think I'm a bad person?"

"Nah, she deserved it. You are good. You just did your job." Even in the darkness, Lu Heting's low and steady voice had the power to make anyone feel inexplicably relaxed.

Su Bei lowered her head slightly, and the night wind blew across her long hair, lifting it up to cover her small face. In a trembling voice, she said, "Lu Heting, no matter what kind of conflict happened between me and Su Huixian before, other people always assumed that I was in the wrong. You're the only one who trusts me."

"Of course I trust you," he said, staring down at her disheveled hair. "Because you are Su Bei."

The night breeze was cold enough to send a light shiver through her body, but at this moment, Su Bei felt a rush of warmth start in her chest and move up all the way to her cheeks.

Lu Heting stroked her messy hair away from her face and lowered his head. There was only a slight gap between his lips and her forehead when, all of a sudden, a bean-sized raindrop fell in the space between them. Soon, it started raining all around them.

“It’s raining! Let’s go back now!” Su Bei shouted.

Since he had missed his chance to give her a peck on the forehead, Lu Heting was in a gloomy mood.

Seeing that the rain was getting heavier, he took out the raincoat stashed in the trunk of the motorcycle and put it on Su Bei. Then, the two of them hurriedly got onto the motorcycle and left.

By the time they arrived at the building where Su Bei lived, Lu Heting was completely drenched from head to toe.

“Why don’t you come upstairs and dry off?” she asked shyly, getting off the motorcycle.

If it weren’t for her, Lu Heting wouldn’t be in such a state.

But as soon as she finished speaking, she was hit by a bolt of regret. It didn’t seem right for a man and a woman to stay in the same room in the middle of the night.

Before she could say anything else, however, Lu Heting agreed. “Okay.”

Why did she feel like he had been waiting for her to say this?

But since she was the one who had extended the invitation, it would be rude of her to take it back. So, instead of mulling on it any longer, she helped him find an empty spot to park the motorcycle.

Then, she led him upstairs to her house.

She opened the door, and Lu Heting followed her in.

Chapter 45 A Girl’s Photo

Lu Heting’s heart raced against his chest. This was the first time he was walking into Su Bei’s house.

There was a surge of emotion within him, as if he was a kid who had just gotten the toy that he had been eyeing for a long time.

The layout of Su Bei’s house was very simple. As soon as he stepped through the doorway, the water dripping from his body gathered into a pool on the floor.

It was not until then that Su Bei realized just how drenched Lu Heting had gotten.

She hurriedly took her slippers to him and said, “Sorry, I don’t have any extra slippers. You can wear mine.”

“Okay.” Lu Heting took the slippers, gently stroking the fuzzy fur on them.

“The bathroom is over there. I’ll get you a bath towel and a dry set of clothes,” Su Bei said as she pointed towards the bathroom.

She took out a new bath towel from her cupboard. When it came to the clothes, however, she hesitated. The only set of clothes she had that might fit Lu Heting was a set of old pajamas that she had worn when she was pregnant.

As for her new clothes, they would all be too small and tight to fit his strong body.

She knocked on the bathroom door and said, "Mr. Lu, please give me your wet clothes. I'll help you wash them."

After taking his wet clothes from him through a crack in the bathroom door, Su Bei habitually took out the item that was in his pocket before throwing the clothes into the washing machine and setting it on dryer mode.

The item she had taken out was his wallet. It was a little wet, so she helped him dry it with a blow dryer.

The wallet accidentally fell to the floor with both flaps open. She picked it up in a hurry and closed it, but not before catching a glimpse of a photo inside.

Although she hadn't seen the photo clearly, she was sure that it was a photo of a girl.

Although she knew that it was bad to peep at other people's things, she could not help but feel curious about his personal life.

Most importantly, she wanted to know whether he had a woman he loved or not.

'Back in the United States, I have many friends who are willing to help me take care of Da Bao. Whenever I need to, I can entrust him to them. However, Lu Heting is his biological father. It will definitely be better for a kid to live with his father than an outsider. But if Lu Heting already has a woman he loves, then I shouldn't interfere in his life anymore. Da Bao also can't destroy his family and let himself be the extra guy, ' Su Bei thought to herself.

Putting her hands on his wallet, she quickly made up her mind. "I'll just have a quick look! I just want to know whether he has someone he likes or not. After all, I'm his nominal wife, right?"

Lu Heting stepped out of the bathroom. It was obvious that the pajamas were the largest set of clothes that Su Bei owned, but they were still a little too tight for him.

However, there was a faint but pleasant scent on the pajamas that exactly matched the scent of her body, so he was more than satisfied with them.

Standing in the living room, he stared at Su Bei's elegant and beautiful back. His eyes twinkled with affection in the darkness.

She was helping him wash and dry his clothes, just like any wife would do for her husband.

He really had the urge to give her a hug from behind.

However, he didn't want to scare her off, so he dug his nails into his palms and restrained himself.

After making the decision, Su Bei was about to open the wallet when she heard a deep male voice from behind. "Miss Su."

With a guilty conscience, Su Bei hurriedly turned around and handed the wallet to him. “Mr. Lu, here is your wallet. It was a little wet, so I dried it with a blow dryer just now.”

“Thank you,” Lu Heting said as he took it.

It was not until then that Su Bei noticed how he looked in her pink pajamas. Although she had worn them when she was pregnant, they were still too small and short for Lu Heting.

Chapter 46 We Have All the Time

Lu Heting looked funny in this way.

Yet he seemed calm and sincere.

Su Bei, in turn, pursed her lips to conceal a smile but couldn't help feeling a little disappointed as she didn't get to see the picture in his wallet.

Nevertheless, she wasn't in a hurry. There was still time.

She thought it was safer to find out the truth on her own than to listen to what he had to say anyway.

“Good night, Mr. Lu.” Standing up, Su Bei walked towards the master bedroom.

After a long time, Lu Heting said in a low voice, “Good night.”

The master bedroom door was closed. Although the girl's slim figure and bright smile were nowhere near his sight anymore, he could still conjure up her image before his eyes.

Compared to the eighteen-year-old unripe girl, she had grown more charming with age, like a green fruit that had become sweeter and unforgettable as it matured.

‘Su Bei, we have all the time in the world,’ he thought to himself.

The next morning, Su Bei got ready to go to the company.

Since she wanted to attend the Orisa International Show, she had a lot of things to prepare.

Lu Heting offered to drive her to the company. “My car was parked not far from here.”

Su Bei didn't refuse him.

It wasn't until she got into the parking lot that she remembered that Lu Heting was driving Lu Weijian's car—a discreet but luxury Bentley.

“Heting, can you drop me off somewhere near the company instead? This car is too dazzling.”

“Then I'll drive another car next time,” he replied.

“No, thanks. You should focus on doing your job as Mr. Weijian requires. You can't just change cars for me, can you?”

Realizing that he couldn't reason with that, Lu Heting kept silent.

After all, he didn't want to blow his cover now and risk scaring her off. He wouldn't be able to bear it if she left again for another five years.

Once they got to a place near Qian Yu Entertainment Company, Lu Heting stopped the car and told her, "I'll pick you up this afternoon."

"No, I don't want to bother you. I'll take a taxi."

"Su Bei, legally, I'm your husband, okay?" Lowering his head, Lu Heting looked into her eyes gently.

With a smile, Su Bei agreed, "Okay, but as long as this doesn't get in the way of your work. I'll call you this afternoon."

After walking into the company, Su Bei went straight to Qiu Minxuan's office.

She knocked on the door and quickly someone came to open it. To her surprise, it wasn't Qiu Minxuan, but Du Luo.

For a moment, Su Bei froze, but after a while, her eyes returned to their natural brightness.

His gentle face was still as handsome as years ago. In his light-colored casual clothes, he had retained his youthfulness, which Su Bei used to like a lot.

However, he was no longer a young boy. Now that he was more mature, he even let a beard grow on his chin.

Smiling at her, he said, "Come in, Su Bei."

She took a deep breath and stepped inside. "I have an appointment with Minxuan now. Do you know where she is?"

"Su Bei, I'd like to talk to you first," Duo Luo said. "Minxuan will be here soon."

"I don't think we have anything to talk about," Su Bei answered nonchalantly. Since he chose to trust Su Huixian, she had taken him out of her heart.

In the last five years, Da Bao's existence had relieved many of her past wounds, but once trust was broken, she didn't take it lightly.

Du Luo put a blank check on the table and pushed it towards her. "Su Bei, this is for you."

"What is this supposed to mean?" Su Bei raised her eyes, looking at him coldly.

Chapter 47 Don't Act Like a Bossy CEO

Du Luo asked in a low voice, "During the first test, you gave one of the judges a condom, didn't you? Su Bei, if this was your idea of taking revenge on me, you would only end up hurting yourself. Do you know how disappointed we were after finding out what you did?"

In reality, the model who had given a condom to one of the judges had already been suspended from the competition.

From beginning to end, Su Bei had never given that wretched gift box to anyone, except Lu Heting, who trusted her.

Of course, she wasn't surprised that Du Luo knew about the matter of the condom.

Su Huixian must have spun a tale about it to him.

Su Bei didn't bother to explain about the condom. Explaining herself to a person who didn't trust her at all was like playing the piano for a cow.

It was just a grand waste of time.

"Do you think I only qualified for the second round because of that garbage?" Su Bei asked in a cold voice as she sat down. She flipped her long hair onto her left shoulder and lifted the corners of her red lips.

Du Luo didn't reply, but it was obvious what was on his mind. In his eyes, Su Bei had always been an arrogant girl. She was smart, but she never worked hard.

Su Huixian was the complete opposite of her.

Therefore, he didn't doubt that Su Bei would stoop to easier means to get the result that she wanted.

"Huixian works very hard. She's very serious about this career. But you...I know you're only doing this for fun." Du Luo took out a pen and handed it to Su Bei.

Looking at the blank check, Su Bei realized how much Du Luo was ready to sacrifice for Su Huixian.

If she withdrew from the competition, Su Huixian would definitely get the opportunity to step onto the stage of the Orisa International Show.

"Do you think that the judges of the Orisa International Show will accept a bribe from an insignificant model? If they are willing to accept my bribe, don't you think that they would also accept Huixian's?" Su Bei asked with a sneer.

"She'd never do such a thing," Du Luo interrupted Su Bei harshly. "Su Bei, your father is worried about you, and so is Huixian. If you keep acting like this, you won't be able to go far in the entertainment world. Just leave now."

Su Bei took the pen from Du Luo's hand and twirled it around with a playful smile.

However, Du Luo felt a little relieved. He knew that Su Bei would accept his suggestion.

It was only logical for Su Bei and Huixian to travel down the paths meant for them, instead of wasting their energy on meaningless rivalry.

He stood up and looked at Su Bei gently. As long as she signed the check, peace would be restored.

Su Bei raised her head to glance at him. Stunned by her delicate face, he quickly turned his eyes away.

Every single time, he couldn't help but be dazzled by Su Bei's beauty. However, he had already chosen his soul mate, so he would not be tempted by a trivial thing like appearance.

Su Bei lowered her head again and wrote many zeroes on the blank check. When she was done, she put down the pen and handed the check to him.

Du Luo's face changed abruptly. His whole family put together wouldn't be able to afford even a tenth of the amount she had quoted.

How could she be so arrogant?

“Su Bei, you haven’t changed at all!” he said through gritted teeth.

“If you can’t afford it, don’t give me a blank check like a bossy CEO. Do you think you are shooting a movie?”

Su Bei stood up. “Mr. Luo, since you think it’s so easy to bribe the judges, you should go and give this check to them to see if they’ll agree to replace me with Su Huixian!”

Chapter 48 Dirty Tricks

After saying those words, Su Bei walked out without even looking at Du Luo.

She totally ignored his darkened face.

For her, the air around her was exceptionally fresh without his presence.

Su Bei knew that Qiu Minxuan couldn’t be trusted. So after this big show, she must request for a different agent.

Otherwise, she would be sidelined by Su Huixian.

“Su Bei!” Su Huixian gently walked towards her. With a smile, she said, “Dad knows that you’re back, and he wants to see you. I’ve asked him to wait for you in the meeting room.”

Su Huixian knew that Su Bei and Du Luo hadn’t reached an agreement because he immediately told her.

Su Bei had always been a tough nut to crack.

Fortunately, she had a plan B. She told Su Xingfu about her problem and asked him to come over to help her.

As a father, of course, he was furious when he found out that Su Bei sent out a condom to one of the judges.

“Su Bei, Dad hasn’t seen you for many years, and he misses you. You should go and see him,” Su Huixian gently persuaded.

Su Bei walked straight towards the meeting room.

But it wasn’t because of Su Huixian’s persuasion, but because she knew that Su Xingfu would not give up until he saw her.

When she arrived in front of the meeting room, she was about to push the door open

when she heard Su Xingfu and Qiu Minxuan talking and laughing inside.

“Mr. Su, don’t worry. Huixian is talented and hard-working. She will be a supermodel in S Country in the future.” Qiu Minxuan smiled at Su Xingfu.

To some extent, her attitude also represented the attitude of Qian Yu Entertainment Company.

Su Xingfu understood what she meant, so he said with a smile, "Huixian wouldn't have reached this far if not for the company's training and your support. Miss Qiu, Huixian will need you more in the future."

Those words were actually not for Qiu Minxuan but for the company. He knew that she would relay his message to the management.

"Of course, Mr. Su. Our company has high hopes for Huixian. And she's a very talented model, so she deserves it."

Su Xingfu and Qiu Minxuan were obviously just praising each other.

Su Bei clenched her fists tightly.

She was also Su Xingfu's daughter. But in his eyes, only Su Huixian was the best. No matter what she did, he always chose to believe Su Huixian.

And what about her? Who was she to him?

Su Xingfu stood up upon seeing her. He hadn't seen her for several years, so he showed a trace of affection on his face.

"Su Bei, you're finally back. It's been years. I've been missing you every day. You are so cruel to me. You have been away from home for so many years, but you never called me." His temples had some white hair now. And his voice was no longer that sharp when he spoke.

Su Bei sat down and asked, "Why do you want to see me?"

Su Xingfu noticed Su Bei's indifference, so he returned to his usual harsh expression, imposing a father's authority. "Su Bei, did you come back specifically for competing with Huixian?"

"Specifically for her? No. I haven't been so idle yet."

"But as soon as you came back, you took her job away. I also heard that you played some dirty tricks and messed up with the judges. Su Bei, won't you stop until you totally piss me off?"

Su Xingfu angrily said. He felt that Su Bei had really made him lose his face.

At first, Su Bei felt a little guilty. Su Xingfu was getting older, but she did not communicate with him for five years. Her heart was about to soften a little.

But what he had said just now made her heart hardened again.

She looked at him and asked, "So what?"

Chapter 49 Replace Su Bei

"As your father, I ask you to withdraw from this competition to make up for the damage you caused to Huixian's reputation, and for everything she suffered!

Su Bei, you've never been a stable person. You always start something and then quit later. I can continue to support your expenses in the future, but you can't harass Huixian or destroy her career!"

Su Xingfu said in a more serious tone.

Su Bei was so angry that she burst into incredulous laughter. Since her own father was treating her like this, what else could she say?

“What if I don’t agree?” Her voice was lazy and distant.

While still staring at his daughter, Su Xingfu said, “Miss Qiu, please accept that job for Su Bei.”

“Don’t worry, Mr. Su. I’ve already agreed on her behalf.”

Su Bei immediately shot her agent a wary look. “What job are you talking about?”

Qiu Minxuan smiled politely. “Su Bei, as per Mr. Su’s wish, you are going to attend to a ribbon-cutting ceremony of a company. However, it clashes with the Orisa International Show. So…”

“What?” Su Bei cried. She jerked around to face her father with aggrieved tears in her eyes. “How can you control my life like this? I’m not going to that ribbon-cutting ceremony. I put in so much effort to get that chance. I have to go to the Orisa Show!”

“I’m sorry, Su Bei. The Orisa Show committee has confirmed to me that Huixian is on the final list,” Qiu Minxuan said with a shrug. Both Su Xingfu and Du Luo had spoken up for Su Huixian at the same time. As a powerless agent, she had no choice but to do what they wanted.

Obviously, Su Huixian hadn’t gotten the chance to stand on the Orisa Show stage through her own efforts. Qiu Minxuan had called the committee and told them that Su Bei wouldn’t be able to attend the show as she had other commitments.

As the model in the sixth place, Su Huixian was naturally called to replace Su Bei.

Su Xingfu looked at his daughter and said, “If you don’t want to attend that ribbon-cutting ceremony, just come straight home! I won’t allow my daughter to make a fool of herself in public.”

“Dad, calm down. Have a sip of tea,” Su Huixian said, walking into the room with a cup of tea.

Compared to her, Su Bei appeared to be very unfilial.

It was only after seeing Su Huixian that Su Xingfu relaxed. Taking the cup of tea, he told her, “I’ve told Su Bei to come home.”

“Su Bei, Dad did all this for your own good. You should try to understand him. He has been missing you all these years.” Su Huixian looked gentle and kind.

However, Su Bei stared at the two of them coldly. What a perfect father and daughter! Wasn’t it enough for them to be a family? What was the point of including her in the family?

“I’ll never go back to the Su family,” she said firmly.

Su Xingfu raised his hand angrily to slap his daughter. “You’re so shameless!”

Su Huixian caught her father’s hand in a hurry and pretended to persuade him. “Dad, Su Bei is just a little stubborn. Give her more time. She’ll come around.”

“If she were half as obedient as you, I wouldn’t have to worry so much,” Su Xingfu snapped.

“I will persuade Su Bei.”

Su Bei turned around and walked out of the room. Ironically, a celebration party was being held in the hall of the company to celebrate her qualifying for the Orisa Show.

The hall was decorated with blooming flowers, and there was a grand three-tiered cake on the table in the middle. Beautiful music was playing. Everyone here was wishing for her to have a big success tomorrow night at the fashion show.

Even though it was a small party, it was well-arranged.

The buffet table was filled with various drinks.

Chapter 50 It's OK. You Still Have Me

Su Bei grabbed a bottle of wine, unscrewed the cap, and took a sip.

This whole party was being thrown for her.

She would never allow anyone to take it away.

However, after taking a few sips of wine, she heard one of the staff members on stage tell another, “What are you doing? You made a mistake in the name! Change ‘Su Bei’ to ‘Su Huixian’, quick!”

“Isn't it supposed to be Su Bei?”

“No, Su Huixian has replaced her. Hurry up. If she walks in and sees this, she'll be upset!”

Soon enough, the name on the banner was changed to ‘Su Huixian.’

Su Bei knew that her father and Du Luo were powerful enough to influence the decisions of the senior executives of Qian Yu Entertainment Company. After all, the company relied on the investment and backing of the Su family and the Du family.

She, on the other hand, had no power or backing, so she was a nobody!

Closing her eyes in displeasure, she took a few more gulps of wine.

Ever since she was diagnosed with stomach cancer, she hadn't drunk at all.

But at this moment, she felt that only the burning alcohol could succeed in suppressing the loneliness in the bottom of her heart.

She recalled the time when Xu Zhiqin had cornered her mother into falling off of a building. She had seen her mother die in front of her very eyes.

Therefore, she would never put aside her hatred for Xu Zhiqin or her daughter!

However, her father hadn't taken her feelings seriously. He had treated her hatred for those two women as childish ignorance and rebellion.

And now, he had even helped Su Huixian take away the career that should have belonged to her.

“Huixian's coming!” Everyone gathered around the door to welcome her.

With tears in her eyes, Su Bei fled the hall, staggering to the door step by step.

Perhaps it was because she had drunk after such a long time, but she could barely balance herself after drinking just a few gulps of wine.

Behind her came loud cries of “Congratulations” and happy laughter. But all this joy and festivity had nothing to do with her.

Even after exiting the company building, she continued walking aimlessly down the road.

A Bentley slowly followed her before coming to a stop.

Noticing that she was in low spirits, Lu Heting got out of the car and strode over to her. Then, putting his arm around her shoulder, he led her back to the car.

When he finally looked down at her face, he found that her eyes were red and a little swollen, like peach blossoms. There was also a faint smell of alcohol coming from her.

“Did you drink?” A deep frown appeared on Lu Heting’s face.

She had just been there for a short while and that was her company. Where had she drunk so much?

The corners of Su Bei’s mouth lifted. She wanted to flash him a smile, but tears involuntarily welled up in her eyes. “They held a celebration party for me to wish me success in tomorrow’s show. So I took a sip...”

Was that why she was so tipsy that she didn’t even notice that he had his arm around her?

He knew that she wasn’t telling him the whole truth.

He looked down at her, and a touch of pity flashed across his eyebrows. “What happened?”

“They replaced me with Su Huixian...” The tears in Su Bei’s eyes finally slid across her long eyelashes and fell down her cheeks.

Half of her face was covered by her long hair, and the smile on her face was faint.

Lu Heting instinctively wrapped both his arms around her and held her close.

Su Bei hugged him back. “After they appeared, I lost my mother, then my father, then Du Luo, and now, I even lost my job... I have nothing in this world.”

“It’s ok. You still have me,” Lu Heting whispered in a mellow voice.