Superstar 711

Chapter 711: A difficulty that brings the examinees to tears!

On Weibo.

A lot of celebrities also joined in the fun.

A C-list female singer commented: "Hai, why are the college entrance exam's Chinese Literature questions so difficult these days? If my college entrance exam was like the one they have now, I probably wouldn't have qualified for university at all!"

Chen Guang: "Director Zhang has once again angered the masses!"

Yao Jiancai: "Hur hur, Little Zhang is totally out for the kill. Let's see what will happen to him after he gets down from the hills. The Beijing examinees will probably come out in force to get him!"

Fan Wenli: "Pfft, these questions amuse me!"

Dong Shanshan: "Zhang Ye's thinking is forever different from others."

Chen Guang: "Actually, it is not Zhang Ye's fault at all. It was the Beijing Higher Education Entrance Examination Board who wanted to reform the exam, so they got him precisely because they wanted him to set the most difficult questions amid all the pressure. Otherwise, what was the point in getting him? Fortunately, the exams are all the same, so the difficulty applies to everyone. If you can't do it, then it's likely other people won't be able to do it either. That will average out the curve and it will be down to a fight over every examinees' standard themselves, so there isn't any unfairness since it's the same for everyone."

Though it was put in this way.

And it sounded very logical as well.

But the examinees did not think in such a way. Many of them already hated Zhang Ye to the core, kicking up a fuss on the Internet. Someone even called for a "crusade against Zhang Ye" team to be started.

"Good idea!"

"Count me in!"

"This is numbing, I'm going to join the crusade as well!"

"I swear to take it all the way to the end with Face-smacking Zhang!"

"Face-smacking Zhang is totally screwing with us all!"

"Wait till we finish our Math exam! When we finish our exam! Our 'knives' must surely be stained with Zhang Ye's blood! I won't be playing games or relaxing anymore tonight, I will constantly be criticizing him online!"

"Warriors, count me in!"

Many of these people's fighting spirits were soaring high!

However, an even greater number of people did not have the mind to think about such things. They were more concerned with the afternoon's Mathematics test.

"The Chinese Literature test was already incredibly bad. What will the Math test be like?"

"I can't even imagine!"

"Zhang Ye's the lead question setter for the Math test!"

"God, just let me die!"

"The college entrance exam is too horrible!"

At this moment, an online media outlet published an analysis report: "With the Chinese Literature test over, the Beijing examinees are left wailing. The Chinese Literature test's questions were too difficult and had far exceeded the difficulty in known history. However, if we see this from a different perspective, there might be a possibility that the Math test will be easier. Could there be such a possibility of this happening? It can't be that both the Chinese Literature and Mathematics test are the most difficult in the history of the national college entrance exam, right? Then what kind of scores are the Beijing Higher Education Entrance Examination Board even intending to let our Beijing examinees get? Would 400 points be counted as high? If everyone's score is low, then the admissions cutoff score would slide down greatly. Is it likely that one doesn't even need 400 points to get admitted into Tsinghua University? That's impossible!"

Following that, many teachers and education industry insiders also commented with their own analysis and judgments.

Many of them were also authoritative figures.

An industry insider posted: "The current estimate for the Beijing examinees' average score for the Chinese Literature test is not likely to exceed 75 points and could be lower. It has to be mentioned that last year's average score for the same paper was 103 points, so if the Mathematics test's difficulty is increased, then the tier 1 scores might really end up shrinking down to just around 400 points! That is not a very realistic outcome."

A national exam question setter posted: "The difficulty level of this year's Beijing Mathematics test is likely to be moderate or just slightly above average."

The experts gave their analysis from all kinds of perspectives and made good arguments to support their views.

The examinees were all excited by these comments that were posted.

"That's right!"

"The analysis seems very logical!"

"The Math test shouldn't be more difficult that the Chinese Literature test!"

"Well said!"

"That's great, I'm feeling relieved now!"

"Charge! There's only the last subject left now!"

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Later that afternoon.

As the timing approached, it was also time for the last subject to be examined for this year's college entrance examination—mathematics.

Having experienced the wakeup call from this morning's Chinese Literature test, many of the examinees were dealt a severe blow, especially having gone through yesterday's level of the English, Arts, and Science tests, the level of difficulty for today's paper was made even more obvious. It was like the difference between the sky and earth. Some of the examinees had not even came back to their senses from the disaster of the morning's test and were already arriving back to the examination venue in the accompaniment of their parents.

They were still unsettled!

There was still anger over the level of difficulty!

It was like this for the examinees and their parents alike.

"Son, it's the last subject."

"I know, Mom."

"The Chinese Literature test is already over. It doesn't matter what we say about it anymore, so just focus and score well on your Math test to make up for your Chinese Literature test's score."

"I will!"

"Are you confident?"

"Yes!"

"That's my son, go get 'em!"

Beside them, another parent was also advising their child.

"Daughter, I just read on the Internet that many of the experts have already analyzed and concurred that the Math test is not going to be too difficult, so don't worry about it!"

"Ah? Really?"

"It's true. It's what the experts have claimed, how can it be wrong? They said that the difficulty level for the Math test is likely to be moderate or just slightly above average!"

"That's great to hear!"

Around them, quite a few parents and examinees who heard this came over to ask.

"Will it really not be difficult?"

"Yes, the media reports also analyzed it as such. You all can check the Internet if you don't believe."

"Hu, it nearly scared me to death!"

"It's good as long as it's not difficult! I was so scared that my legs were trembling!"

"Then I had better score higher on the Math test! I need to claw back the points I lost in the Chinese Literature exam!"

"Right!"

"Wow, the reports online really analyzed it that way! It's supported by so many experts too!"

"Let me see, let me see!"

"Haha, I'm not worried anymore now!"

"That's exactly what I was thinking. The Chinese Literature test was already super difficult, so the Math test can't possibly be as difficult too!"

It was almost time to start the last test. The examinees had all gone into the examination venues. Those who had seen the analysis presented by the media and experts had all regained quite a bit of their confidence. They held their pens firmly, in preparation to do well on all the questions!

However, as it turned out, after the Mathematics test was handed out, when the examinees saw the multiline questions on it, they were all left looking flabbergasted!

Some people gasped!

Some people covered their faces and let out a silent scream!

Some people turned pale!

There were even some who held the exam in their trembling hands!

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Question 3:

If the complex number z satisfies the equation z(2 - 3i) = 6 + 4i (where i is the imaginary unit), then the modulus of z is _____.

•••••

Question 9:

There are 3 small balls of similar size in a box. One of them is a black ball. If two balls are randomly picked from the box, what is the probability of the two balls being different in color?

•••••

Question 13:

To better understand the quality of a batch of cotton, a cotton mill randomly extracted 100 lengths of cotton fiber (the length of a cotton fiber is an important indicator of the quality of cotton). The resulting

data falls between [5, 40]. Its appearance frequency is indicated in the distribution histogram below. [image] In the sampling of 100 lengths of fiber, there are _____ lengths that are shorter than 20mm.

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Question 15:

In the Chinese Literature and Mathematics subjects, the results are graded into 3 tiers of either "Excellent," "Pass," or "Fail." Assuming Student A's results are all not lower than Student B's, with at least one subject scoring better than Student B's, then the statement "Student A's results are better than Student B's" is valid. If among some students no one scored better than each other, and neither did any two students score the same points as another, with their Mathematics results also not the same. Then: What is the maximum number of students that fulfill the conditions?

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What kind of questions were these?

Just what kind of damned questions were these?

Don't even mention solving these questions! Just looking at them alone was enough to make half of the examinees vomit blood!

Some of the more outstanding Mathematics students were already covered with sweat, trying their hardest to understand the questions. There were also some who were weaker in the subject who had already laid down their "weapon" and given up on answering!

F*ck your grandpa!

Who the hell said that the Mathematics exam questions would not be too difficult?

Who the heck said that the Mathematics exam questions were going to be moderate to slightly above average in difficulty?

Those who said so should come look at this for themselves! Is this f**king moderate to slightly above average in difficulty? Is this not too difficult? Only at this moment did the examinees realize that they had been scammed by those media reports and experts who had sounded so confident with their arguments! The Mathematics test was totally not like how they had predicted it to be! In fact, this was even more difficult than the Chinese Literature test by at least two times! At least they could still read and understand the questions in the Chinese Literature test. But for some of the questions in the Mathematics test, even after staring at it for forever, they could not begin to understand the question whatsoever!

The people of this world definitely did not know where these questions originated from. Only Zhang Ye knew that these multifaceted questions had all come from the past years of college entrance exams of every province in his previous world. There were questions from the 2014 Beijing college entrance exam, the 2009 national college entrance exam and also the 2010 Jiangsu college entrance exam, whose claim to fame was being the most difficult examination in the college entrance examination history! All of these questions were gathered and chosen by Zhang Ye to be used for this world's Beijing college

entrance examination's Mathematics test this year. The difficulty of it was something that one could not even begin to imagine!

However, this was not Zhang Ye intentionally trying to find issue with the examinees. He was just doing as instructed by the Higher Education Entrance Examination Board who had requested for the most difficult questions he could come up with. They fully had the intention to reform the exam and Zhang Ye had no objections to this. Whatever the Higher Education Entrance Examination Board wanted, he would just give to them. His job was only to write the questions. Nothing else mattered to him.

The bell sounded to signal the end of the exam.

The Mathematics test had ended!

At that moment, the curtain was drawn on the annual national college entrance examination!

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Jinshi.

At an examination venue.

"Granddaughter! Granddaughter!"

"Granny, I've finished my exam!"

"Did you do well?"

"I did OK. I just didn't manage to finish the last major question."

"Alright then, let's go home. Granny will cook a sumptuous meal for you!"

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Beihe Province.

"We're finally free! Hahaha!"

"When I get home, I want to sleep soundly for three days and three nights!"

"I want to play video games! Play them for three days straight! It will definitely be very enjoyable!"

"Oh! We're free!"

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Jiangnan Province.

"Today's examination wasn't too difficult!"

"Yeah, it was easier than last year's!"

"I counted. My points will definitely qualify me for tier 1! University, here I come!"

"Me too, the Math test was so easy!"

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The entire country's examinees were finally set free at this moment. Many of them had left their examination venues laughing, even those who did not do well or performed as ideally as they wanted. Since the dust had settled, they were now totally relaxed and could finally make their way home to their families.

However, there was a place where it was different!

The reactions of the examinees in this municipality was different from all the other places!

Beijing!

After the college entrance examination was over, at the end of the last exam subject.

Outside many of the examination venues, other than the sight of many anxiously waiting parents, there were also many media reporters who had arrived. Some of the reporters even arrived in their press vehicles, probably preparing to do an episode covering the topic or getting the footage ready for tonight's news report.

"Ah, they're coming out!"

"Quickly, the cameras!"

"They're coming out! The exam is over!"

The parents and reporters were all crowded outside the entrance.

However, their expected reactions of the examinees exiting the venues with excitement did not happen. Yes, not a single one of them did that. Everyone just walked out slowly and silently with a sense of heaviness. They all looked like they had been through a tough battle or seemed like they had just been beaten up.

The parents were getting anxious.

"What's wrong?"

"Little Ye, what's going on? What happened?"

"Zhouzhou, why aren't you talking?"

"How was the exam, baby? Say something at least!"

Suddenly, a thin and weak-looking boy walking right in the front started crying loudly after hearing his parents asking him about the exam. "...It was too damn difficult!"

With this cry, a few female examinees behind him also started shedding tears. A girl was crying while yelling out, "Zhang Ye! I can't live while you do! You're my sworn enemy! Sob sob sob!"

The parents were stunned!

The reporters were also shocked!

F**k! Just what kind of a Mathematics test was it for this year's Beijing college entrance examination? Why did some of the examinees even breaking down in tears over it?! Just how difficult was it!

Meanwhile.

At the other examination venues in Beijing, similar scenes were playing out as well!

Many of the examinees had exited from their examination venues in tears, crying while cursing all 18 generations of ancestors of this year's college entrance examination's question setting team!

If the Chinese Literature test had caused them to cry out loudly before, then this Mathematics test was the one that had extinguished all their remaining hope. Even a few examinees who usually did very well at Mathematics and scored highly in their classes came out of the venue in tears. They had never used swear words despite the many years at school, but when they walked out of the examination venue this time, they could be heard loudly swearing, "They better not let us find out which bastard wrote those questions!!"

I'm Really a Superstar

Chapter 712: Down with Zhang Ye!

Each time the college entrance examination was held, there would always be examinees who passed and failed. Some of them would do poorly, but there were others who did well in the examination. But looking at the situation now? Did everyone end up doing badly this time? Did everyone meet their doom at the Mathematics test? But no matter how difficult the test was, it couldn't be that not even one of them did well, right? There would surely be some straight-A student who could do well on this exam, but no matter where they searched and looked, why were all the examinees showing the same expression?

A father and his son were talking.

"Son, haven't you always done well at math !?"

"It was too difficult! The questions were way too difficult!"

"How many did you manage to get correct?"

"I don't know! I had to resort to guessing just to solve the questions!"

"How could that be! Just what kinds of questions did you get!?"

"Dad, if I can get 50 points on my math test this time, I would be more than happy!"

"What? You've always managed to get no fewer than 90 points in math! You even managed to score 99 points on one of the mock exams! Why would it be so bad this time? This doesn't reflect your aptitude at all!"

When another examinee heard that, he said, "Just be contented with that. Lei Zi can still score 50 points, but if I can score 40 points, I would already be extremely satisfied! I did not write a single word for my answers to the last three major questions! I couldn't even understand what the questions were asking!"

Several of the reporters' eyes met each other's, but they could not believe what they had just heard. They could believe that a question could not be answered since difficult questions did exist, but for the candidate to even not understand the questions? They clearly could not believe it. As a result, those reporters tried to obtain some of the math questions by interviewing a few examinees who recounted to them from memory. Upon writing out and seeing the questions, those reporters instantly felt dizzy.

"Brother Liu, can you understand the questions?"

"...What about you?"

"Me? I don't get it at all."

"F**k, me too."

"Damn, is this question even meant for us humans?"

"It seems like the question setting team is really out to kill everyone!"

Very soon, quite a few news reports were published.

"Darkness befalls the second day of the Beijing college entrance exams!"

"Difficulty level of the Chinese Literature and Math tests goes off the charts!"

"The end of the college entrance exam: Students leave the exam venues in tears!"

"The Math exam questions exposed: Check if you can solve these questions?"

"Never before in history! Difficulty of exam questions brings examinees to tears!"

Many of the photos taken outside of the exam venues were also posted. In the photos, it could be clearly seen that the headlines of "brings examinees to tears" was not just a figure of speech. The examinees had really been brought to tears by the difficulty level!

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Elsewhere.

When the exam was over, the Internet blew up with comments. The angered Beijing examinees invaded Weibo, Tieba, and a few of the larger online forums, "shouting" together in unison.

Examinee Little Wang: "Fairy tales are just lies! They're all lies!'

No. 3 High School Wu Fei: "Teacher, why didn't it turn out according to the way we discussed?!"

No. 4 High School Examinee: "It's not that I'm bad at math, but that the enemy is too crafty!"

Beijing Normal University Affiliated High School Examinee: "Who were the people who listed out the reasons one by one before deducing that the Math test wouldn't be too difficult? Show yourself! If I don't beat you to death, I will take on your last name!"

No. 8 High School Examinee: "After finishing the Chinese Literature test, I felt that my heart was crushed. But after finishing the Math test, I felt like my balls were crushed!"

"Balls crushed as well!"

"Balls crushed as well+1!"

"Balls crushed as well+99999!"

A student from No. 63 High School: "Dear juniors, if next year's Beijing Chinese Literature and Math tests become easier, please remember us. Please remember us, because that was exchanged with the sacrificed blood of your predecessors, your seniors, us! Don't thank me, just call me the unwilling Red Scarf!"

The examinees from the other provinces had gathered to watch.

"Scratching my head in confusion."

"Brothers and sisters who took part in the Beijing college entrance exam, it's been hard on you all."

"I've seen your Math exam questions, all I want to say is—you're all glorious warriors!"

"Come on, stay strong!"

"Whoever gets those questions would not be able to answer them either!"

"The Beijing Higher Education Entrance Examination Board has really gone big this time! Let's see how they will handle the situation later on!"

"Zhang Ye's such a wicked fellow! Those questions must have been set by him!"

"We're lucky that our province's Higher Education Entrance Examination Board did not invite this fellow to join them! Otherwise, the ones to be sacrificed this year would surely have been us! Just thinking about it gives me the shivers!"

"Whoever gets involved with a question setter like Zhang Ye who does not play his cards logically is surely down on their luck!"

"Zhang Ye is the scourge itself. When he was at the radio station, he fought the entire radio station system. Then when he went to the television station, he fought the television station's leader. At the university, he went against the education world. When he got into the crosstalk industry, he fought against the crosstalk world. Now, he has even come to destroy the Higher Education Entrance Examination system!"

The Beijing examinees were cursing!

The examinees' parents were complaining!

The entire society's attention had suddenly turned its focus to the Beijing college entrance exams!

The Beijing Higher Education Entrance Examination Board...the question setting teams...Zhang Ye...All of these parties were thrust to the forefront of discussions!

Not long after, a call to "severely punish the question setter" was making rounds across the Internet. Countless Beijing examinees and their parents were participating in it while the examinees from the other provinces also joined in to show their support. This new wave of dissent once again turned the Internet upside down as it caused a great deal of commotion!

"Where is Zhang Ye at?"

"Zhang Ye, where are you?!"

"Hand that man over!"

"Down with Zhang Ye! Revenge for the examinees!"

"Down with the Beijing Higher Education Entrance Examination Board! Justice for the examinees!"

The "shouts" came wave after wave, continuously!

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At another place.

Zhang Ye's parents' house.

Dong dong dong, dong dong dong. There was someone knocking on the door outside.

His parents and Chenchen were at home staring at the computer for news related to the Beijing college entrance exam. When she heard that someone was at the door, his mother went over and opened it. "Who is it?"

Outside, Zhang Ye stepped into the house. "Who else could it be?"

His mother was surprised for a moment. "Why are you home?"

Zhang Ye laughed. "The college entrance exam is already over. If I don't come back, where would I go? Do you prefer that I stay in the hills? Heh, let me say this: I was bored out of my mind when I was there. It's always the woods that I see when I open my eyes. Just look at all these marks on my body, I got these bites from the mosquitoes and bugs. There's too many of those in the hills!"

His mother said, "Get into the house quickly, I will get you some essential balm."

Zhang Ye was in a rather good mood. "It's fine, I've already applied some." Then he walked into the living room and saw his father with Chenchen. "Dad, you're not working today? Chenchen, do you miss Uncle?"

Chenchen glanced at him. "-Hur hur."

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "Hur hur means you did." Then he asked, "Dad, did this little rascal cause any trouble in our home?"

Chenchen pouted.

His father looked at his son. "You're still worried about whether Chenchen caused any trouble? I think the trouble that you've caused is much greater! Just look at this, it's a total mess online! The examinees and their parents are all scolding you! You're really asking for it. Just stick to setting the questions, why did you have to make them so difficult?!"

Zhang Ye said, "Who's scolding me?"

His mother followed up, "See for yourself. No one is not scolding you!"

Zhang Ye went over to the computer and had a look. It was really true; his Weibo account had received countless mention notifications and all of them were talking about "ridding evil for the people." Zhang Ye was already sweating at the sight of this and suddenly plucked Chenchen out of the chair she was sitting on and then sat himself in front of the computer. He logged into Weibo and quickly posted a message.

Zhang Ye: "Everyone, cool down. If it was difficult, then it would have been difficult for everyone. If the scores are low because of this, then everyone's score will also be low. It is actually all the same and your college admission won't be affected." In this world, it was quite common for students to be admitted into universities. Out of ten examinees, more than half would qualify for university. That was why the difficulty of the questions wouldn't have affected their chances by much, unless the examinees did very badly on the overall exam. That portion of the examinees who did not achieve a good enough result still wouldn't have scored well, whether or not the questions were difficult. They still wouldn't have qualified for university, so there wasn't really much of a difference.

However, the examinees were having none of it!

When they saw Zhang Ye's Weibo status light up, all of the Beijing examinees swarmed over!

"That Zhang guy has appeared online!"

"Your sister, how dare you still appear!"

"Everyone, come and gather quickly! The culprit has appeared!"

"Down with Zhang Ye!"

"Zhang Ye, we've all been screwed big time because of you!"

"What kind of lousy questions of yours are those !?"

When Zhang Ye showed up, he was immediately besieged by countless people!

Zhang Ye was didn't know how to react. He coughed and then composed himself and posted onto Weibo like a boss: "Why are you all scolding me? The questions were not set by me, they were set by Dean Pan Yang of Peking University."

Dad: "..."

Mom: "..."

Chenchen: "..."

Su Na's Weibo: "..."

A Peking University teacher who was also on the question setting team: "..."

At a certain house.

Pan Yang came home totally worn out and had just taken a sip of tea before he started browsing through the Internet on his computer. Instead, he saw the Weibo message posted by Zhang Ye, and after reading it, he nearly lost his balance. He spat out his tea. He had not expected Zhang Ye to pin the blame on him to make him the scapegoat!

Pan Yang was also getting anxious. This was not something he could take the blame for. He was just about to post his Weibo reply when he saw the rest of the comments that the examinees followed up with. Those comments left him laughing out loud.

"Peking University's Dean Pan?"

"Don't listen to his nonsense!"

"Dammit, who are you trying to bluff here! It's you for sure!"

"Don't think that we don't know about it! These kind of wicked questions wouldn't have come from anyone else but you!"

"Pfft, Teacher Zhang, you're lying with a straight face! I'm suddenly very amused by this!"

"Zhang Ye, do you even have any integrity left!?"

"It was you! Can't be anyone else!"

"Don't try to shift the blame! Even if these questions get burned to ash, I will know where they originated from!"

In the end, not one of the examinees or netizens believed him. They all knew that Zhang Ye's mouth was totally unreliable!

Zhang Ye had no other way out, so he simply went offline as he knew that if he couldn't appease them, then the better way was just to hide! This guy was intending to lie low for the moment since he had become the public enemy to so many people!

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At night.

The farce was still ongoing!

The Beijing Higher Education Entrance Examination Board was also interviewed with regards to this year's examination questions and a press release was published soon after. The press release exposed the names of the question setters of the most difficult questions in the various subjects' exams and even revealed some details in regard to how a question should be written.

This resulted in the Beijing examinees and the observing netizens discovering with shock that the questions that had tormented the examinees in both the Chinese Literature and Mathematics tests were indeed written by none other than the goddamned Zhang Ye!

That's right!

Every question!

Every question was set by him!!!

At this moment, the examinees became so angry they cried out loudly in rage. Every injustice has its perpetrator. They once again launched their attack on Zhang Ye's Weibo with wave after wave of scolding!

"You still dare claim that the questions were not set by you! And even tried to accuse Dean Pan of being the one?!"

"I give in to you, Teacher Zhang! How could it be that all the crazy difficult questions were set by you?"

I'm Really a Superstar

Chapter 713: The average scores of the Beijing examinees are published!

The next day.

The storm was not over yet.

The first thing he heard when he woke up and opened his eyes was the ringing of his cell phone.

Zhang Ye was in a half-awake state when he answered the call, "Hello, who is it?"

"It's Pan Yang." It was the Dean of Peking University's School of Mathematical Sciences on the line.

Zhang Ye suddenly felt more awake, and asked knowingly, "Ha, Dean Pan, what's the matter for you to call so early in the morning?"

Pan Yang did not hold back. "Why did you pull that shit on me yesterday?"

Zhang Ye played dumb. "Ah? Did I?"

"You claimed that the questions were set by me?" Pan Yang asked.

Zhang Ye said, "What? What questions were set by you? Did I say that? I don't remember anymore. I was too tired yesterday, so I went to bed immediately after I got home."

"You rascal, still pretending to be innocent."

"Hehe, that's not it."

After quibbling for a bit, the call ended and Zhang Ye was no longer feeling sleepy. He got up and went out of his bedroom only to see that his family had already gathered in the living room to watch the news. Chenchen was sitting at the computer desk, fidgeting around, doing something.

"Dad, Mom," Zhang Ye greeted.

His mother turned her head. "You're up? I'll go prepare breakfast then."

"Sure. Thanks, Mom." Having said that, Zhang Ye turned to Chenchen. "What are you doing?"

Chenchen did not turn to look at him and just replied, "Using the computer."

Zhang Ye grunted, "Playing games again?"

"No," Chenchen said.

"Let me see." Zhang Ye walked up behind her and saw the interface of Weibo in the browser. When he saw that the entire screen was filled with the angry comments and scolding by the examinees and their parents, he couldn't help but sweat at this. "Why are you looking at this so early in the morning?"

Chenchen simply said, "I want to know how everyone is scolding you."

Zhang Ye nearly fainted. "Why would you want to know that!"

Chenchen said, "It's fun."

Zhang Ye: "..."

His father was amused by this as he sat there beside them.

His mother said, "You rascal, you deserved it. You could have just stayed at home in peace, yet you chose to go out there and get into trouble!"

Zhang Ye said depressed, "You say it like it's such a simple situation. If I just stay at home all the time, where would I get my popularity? How could I boost my reputation that way?"

His mother rolled her eyes at him. "Whoa, you're still talking about reputation? Do you even have any reputation left now? It's already turned into notoriety! When I went out to buy the groceries this morning, I bumped into our neighbors, Little Sun and Sister Chen, at the market. They would usually chat with me for a bit whenever we see each other, or at least greet me. But today, it's like they pretended not to have seen me at all and just walked past me. I only found out later that Little Sun's and Sister Chen's children were taking their college entrance exams this year! Grandma Wang told me that Little Sun's child went home after the exam and broke down crying! Look at the trouble you've caused me! I have to go over there to make a visit to clean up your mess!"

Zhang Ye blinked. "Surely that's not necessary? The questions I set were definitely not easy, but they also weren't that difficult either. It shouldn't have been so difficult that it would cause them to cry, right?"

His father interrupted. "Just watch the news for yourself later. You can't imagine how many people are crying because of this year's college entrance exam."

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The scoldings continued on the Internet.

If the examinees had just recounted from memory the Mathematics exam questions yesterday, then as of today, the entire exam had been uploaded with all the answers included in it. Anyone could see it. It was only then that the netizens discovered that those questions they had seen yesterday were only for the multiple choice or fill in the blank sections at the beginning part of the examination paper. The short answer questions at the end of the test were even crazier in difficulty. One of them required the examinees to solve a question that was at the university level using high school algebraic geometry knowledge. The attached ideal answer for this question took up more half the paper it was written on, leaving anyone who read it trembling!

The examinees were in tears as they checked through the answers.

"I scored 50 points!"

"I calculated mine and I only got 45 points!"

"I'm so sad, I think mine is only about 40-45 points. There were a few multiple choice questions that I couldn't understand and guessed at, so I can't remember which options I chose for those!"

"I did a little better, but I won't get higher than 70 points!"

"Having analyzed the questions and answers today, I've realized that we were too careless during the exam. We totally underestimated that scammer Zhang Ye back then. Many of the questions could still be solved and were within most of the examinees' level. But what is most wicked about Zhang Ye is that he totally tries to catch you off guard with the questions' approach. The style of the questions are all done in a way that we have never come across before, so when we first read the questions on the exams yesterday, most of us were stunned by them. It happened to me as well and I was totally unprepared for it!"

"It's useless to say anything now!"

"I hereby announce I will officially join the 'Zhang Ye's Lifetime Adversaries Organization'!"

"I will join too!"

"A lifetime of adversary? I will be his adversary for at least two lifetimes!"

"Three lifetimes for me!"

"Ahem, don't be so harsh. Teacher Zhang was just following orders. He's still a nice guy no matter what."

"Right, don't be too harsh on Teacher Zhang now."

There were still a few netizens who were speaking up for Zhang Ye.

In the end, an examinee from this year's college entrance exam posted a reply that left everyone laughing: "It's not like I want to be so harsh on Teacher Zhang, I really don't wish to do so. But among all the insanely difficult questions, if any one, just one question, was set by another teacher, then I wouldn't have said anything. I would understand and I could point my finger at the other question setter instead. All it needed was for a single question to not be set by him! But as it stands? They were all set by him! Every single question was his creation! So give us a reason not to be harsh on Zhang Ye? Just a single reason will do!"

If it were any other question setter, when faced with all these public opinions, they would have long since crumbled from the pressure and come forward to give an explanation to save their reputation. But Zhang Ye did not do so. He just went ahead with the most straightforward response—lie low! It was a good thing that this guy's mental strength was so strong. He had already gone through many similar situations where he was scolded by a lot of people at once, so it was just routine for him now.

Perhaps that was also the same reason why the Beijing Higher Education Entrance Examination Board had approached him in the first place. The Beijing Higher Education Entrance Examination Board were very committed to the reform of the college entrance examination this time as they wanted to change the perception of their exam questions being too simple. That explained their determination but also

explained why they needed someone to carry out this dirty job. They needed someone who could become the focused target of the backlash from the examinees and their parents, thus lessening the pressure focused on the Board itself!

But who could they find?

Who would be the most suitable target?

Among all the teachers at the university level, who was the most unafraid of getting scolded? Whose mental strength was the strongest? Who had the thickest skin of all?

The Board did not even need to think and made their decision immediately—recruit Zhang Ye! This fellow had already been through a hundred battles. His skin was amazingly thick. Even if the examinees and their parents did not scold him, there were still many other groups scolding him. Since he wasn't lacking in this area, it wouldn't matter much even if another group were to join in and scold him. So no matter how you looked at it, Zhang Ye was clearly the best candidate for this role! There was no one more suitable than he!

-That was probably why the Board invited him to join them in the first place.

However, at the very end, the Beijing Higher Education Entrance Examination Board might not have even expected that Zhang Ye would be able to write such insanely difficult questions that it would bring the examinees to tears. This was something no one could have predicted!

.....

Later in the morning.

At the Beijing Higher Education Entrance Examination Board. More than a dozen people had gathered here for a meeting.

A female staff member said nervously, "Leader, the scores for this year's Math and Chinese Literature tests might be a little bit low. Professor Liu has already informed us to be prepared for it. The teachers who graded the papers have already given us some feedback. They told us that after marking more than 20 papers, no one scored higher than 100 points for the Chinese Literature test yet. It's even worse for the Math test. Among the 20 papers...not one scored above 70 points!"

The Board's leader: "..."

The Board's office supervisor: "..."

Finally, the second-in-command wiped his sweat away and said, "For the reform this time, I think we might have tried a little too hard....It feels a little too harsh even. Could the tier 1 grade really not even be above 480 points?"

A staff member coughed and said, "Only over a few dozen papers have been graded. We still don't know about the rest of the papers after that. However, it's true that this year's questions were too difficult."

Faced with the incredibly low scores of the examinees, the people on the Board were also feeling a little guilty now. This was the first time they were doubting their decision in getting Zhang Ye to join them and wondered if it was a mistake. They felt they might really have gone too far this time!

.....

A few days later.

The national college entrance examination's results were gradually released.

The Internet buzzed with activity.

A Shandong Province examinee: "I checked it out! I scored 560 points!"

A Beihe Province examinee announced excitedly: "I got 530! It should be enough to qualify for tier 1! Hahahaha!"

A Jinshi examinee: "I scored 510. I didn't do as well as I could have, but it should be enough to qualify me for tier 2. Why haven't they announced the grading yet? Hurry up! It's taking too long!"

"596 for me! Do you all think that I will become the top scholar of our province?"

"Nonsense, I scored a point higher than you, what top scholar are you talking about!"

"Hai, I only got 488. I'm in trouble this year!"

"I got 601 points, higher than any of you!"

Many examinees from the different provinces were bragging about their scores actively online, except for one place. That place was where the Beijing examinees were from.

Everyone began to notice.

"Eh, why haven't any of the Beijing examinees talked about their scores yet?"

"Beijing examinees, how did you guys do?"

"Right, your exams made the headlines this year!"

"How many points? Tell us quickly."

The other provinces' examinees were all full of anticipation and curious.

At this moment, a female Beijing examinee posted on Weibo: "Are you sure you want to see?"

The netizens actively replied: "Of course!"

"Alright then." The female Beijing examinee immediately posted her results slip online.

When the netizens saw it, they were all dumbfounded!

Chinese Literature: 78 points.

Mathematics: 25 points.

"Damn!"

"Surely that's too low?"

"Are you serious? 25 points for Mathematics?"

"This girl must be just average in her studies. Is there anyone else who scored higher?"

Another group of Beijing examinees gradually posted their results slips online. They were even the students from some of Beijing's key focus schools!

A student from No. 15 High School: "My total score is 391 points."

A Beijing Normal University Affiliated High School's student: "I only got 69 points on my Chinese Literature test."

A student from No. 4 High School: "My total score is 482 points. It's already considered high, but I only received 69 points on my Math test! It's low as f**k. Not even labeling it as going overboard on the scores would explain the situation properly!"

Very soon, the various provinces' average scores were tabulated and released.

It was generally as follows:

Shandong Province Chinese Literature Examination Average Score: 97 points.

Jiangnan Province Chinese Literature Examination Average Score: 101 points.

Jiangsu Province Mathematics Examination Average Score: 102 points.

Liaodong Province Mathematics Examination Average Score: 99 points.

But the average score everyone had their attention on for this tabulation was the Beijing Municipality's examinees' average scores. For example, the English, Arts, and Science average scores of the Beijing examinees were still in line with the national average. But the Chinese Literature and Mathematics average scores, together with the weighted total score for the Beijing examinees were basically eyesores!

Beijing Municipality Chinese Literature Examination Average Score: 72 points.

Beijing Municipality Mathematics Examination Average Score: 59 points.

When they saw the statistics, many of the netizens were stunned!

I'm Really a Superstar

Chapter 714: The National Higher Education Entrance Examination Board wants to invite Zhang Ye too?

It was too low!

It was way too low!

Every year's college entrance examination, whether it be the provincial or the nationwide version of the exam, had always had different difficulty levels. Sometimes, a certain province might have it easier and sometimes more difficult. It was impossible to maintain the same difficulty level across the entire country, therefore there would be a difference in the scores between each province's or municipality's zone. However, the scores usually did not differ by much and only came down to a difference of perhaps one or two points!

For this year's Beijing exams, however?

The Chinese Literature examination's average score was lower than the national average by nearly 30 points?

It was even more shocking for the Mathematics exam where it was lower than the national average by a total of 40 points!

When all the scores were combined, the total scores that the Beijing examinees got was lower than the national average by more than 70 points??

These figures had truly shocked a lot of the netizens who saw it!

Another group of people who were similarly shocked by this were the people from the Beijing Higher Education Entrance Examination Board and their question setters!

.....

At the Board's office.

"What the hell!"

"This..."

"There was nothing wrong with the tabulation of scores, right?"

"Why don't we tabulate the data again?"

Many of the staff working at the Higher Education Entrance Examination Board were sucking in gasps of cold air due to the low scores. The data had been available to them earlier, and they were even the ones who were in responsible for tabulating the data. But from the time they received the data until now, every one of the staff couldn't help but draw in a breath of cold air every time they saw these figures!

It was terrible!

It was really, really appalling to look at!

If the media and industry insiders had analyzed this year's Beijing Mathematics test to be the hardest in the history of the Beijing college entrance exam, then after seeing these statistics, they would have to modify their stance to place it as the most difficult in the history of the national college entrance exam!

The Mathematics exam had an average score of 59 points?

The average of all the examinees was only 59 points?

There had never before been an occurrence of such a low average for the Mathematics test of the college entrance exam!

This was an eye-opener for many of the veteran staff at the Board's office. Such low scores were previously unheard of or seen before!

Zhang Ye and dozens of other question setters had also arrived at the Board's office today to join a meeting and discussion on some issues, but he was somehow caught in such a scenario.

Su Na looked at Zhang Ye.

Suddenly, everyone's focus turned to Zhang Ye.

Zhang Ye gave an awkward cough, probably feeling a little embarrassed. "Ahem, about that, in any case, the cutoff score will be adjusted lower, so there isn't really a difference and shouldn't affect the admissions." When he gave this excuse, even he was not totally convinced of it. To be honest, Zhang Ye himself did not expect the examinees to score this low either.

There was silence.

No one spoke as they let this awkward scene play out. Then Zhang Ye immediately said to Dean Pan, "I'd already said that I didn't want to take this job at the beginning, yet you insisted that I do it! Hai!"

All of the Higher Education Entrance Examination Board office staff: "..."

Dean Pan nearly fainted at that. "You rascal, pushing the blame onto me again, are you?"

A leader of the Board didn't know whether to laugh or cry. He quickly mediated, "It's already turned out like this, so even if the scores are low, so be it. At most we will suffer a little loss of face, but it's really nothing much."

Zhang Ye immediately said, "That's right, that's right. It's not even a big matter at all! We can definitely get through this!"

That leader of the Higher Education Entrance Examination Board nearly fainted at this response. He was just trying to mediate the situation so that everyone could take a step back, but it seemed like Zhang Ye was really good at latching onto the topic!

But it was really as he said it. What's done was done, so what else could they do about it? All they needed to do was to just stick to the procedures and move on from there!

"Luckily, there was someone who got a perfect score on the Math test," a Board supervisor consoled.

Zhang Ye's curiosity perked when he heard that. "Someone got a perfect score?"

That person nodded. "Just one. A girl."

Zhang Ye was very curious about who it was. "What's her name?"

That person said, "Huang Lingling."

Huang Lingling?

It's her??

Zhang Ye smiled, looking very pleased.

He knew who this girl was. At the previous International Math Olympiad held at Summer Palace, Huang Lingling was a representative of the youth team for China, together with her brother, Huang Leilei. Zhang Ye got to know them both on that occasion and had spoken to them quite a bit. Huang Lingling had even mentioned that if she managed to qualify for Peking University, she would want to be a student of Zhang Ye's so that he could personally teach her more about math. He didn't think at that time that she would be taking her college entrance exam this year.

.....

Soon after.

The Beijing college entrance exam admission cutoff scores were released.

Arts Subjects Tier 1 Grade cutoff score: 467.

Science Subjects Tier 1 Grade cutoff score: 464.

Arts Subjects Tier 2 Grade cutoff score: 425.

Science Subjects Tier 2 Grade cutoff score: 421.

The cutoff scores for the entire admissions exercise had dropped drastically! It was so low that the scores were totally unheard of by many people!

Immediately, the Beijing college entrance exams were once again the focal point of discussion in society. This time, not only Beijing Television and the other provincial satellite stations were reporting about it on their news programs, even Central TV Department 1's News Simulcast reported about it that very night!

Although Zhang Ye was also working at Central TV Department 1, but with the corporate structure rather bloated and the staff divided into many different departments, those who were involved in the variety shows had nothing in common with those program teams involved in the news. Even Zhang Ye who had been working at Central TV Department 1 for so many days now did not know which floor the News Simulcast program team was situated at. That was why Central TV Department 1's news program reporting on the Beijing college entrance exam was not done so for Zhang Ye, nor was it out of respect for The Voice's program team. It was purely because of the big commotion that the Beijing college entrance exams had caused!

The Beijing exams' exposure in the media skyrocketed even further!

Zhang Ye's exposure rate also soared along with it!

Overall, even though he had been scolded a lot, it was still not a bad thing for Zhang Ye as his reputation continued to rise every day!

.....

On Weibo.

When the Beijing admissions cutoff scores were published, the condemning comments from the examinees also gradually lessened.

"I was scared to death, but luckily I managed to get a tier 1 score!"

"I qualified for the tier 2s. Your sister! I initially thought that my low score of 430 in the Science subjects would only have qualified me for a vocational college, but I never expected to manage to qualify for tier 2 instead!"

"Everyone's scores are low, therefore the admissions cutoff grades were also adjusted accordingly!"

"I was very lucky too. Somehow I got a tier 1 score!"

"Good, good. From the results, it looks like I did pretty well this year. Usually, I only get tier 2 scores, but because of those wondrous questions this year, it somehow went my way instead, allowing me to realize my potential and getting myself a tier 1 score!"

"Still, I feared for my future."

"Yeah, I would never want to come across questions like this again in the future!"

"Reject drugs, stay away from Zhang Ye!"

"Please send Teacher Zhang as far away as possible! Don't let him come near us in case we get ruined again!"

"I'm in eleventh grade this year and will be taking my college entrance exam next year. To the Beijing Higher Education Entrance Examination Board, may I thank you first for getting rid of someone like Zhang Ye in advance?! That guy is such a bastard!"

"Please get rid of Zhang Ye!

"Seconded!"

Suddenly, a lot of eleventh grade students from the other provinces started gloating at the Beijing students who were due to take their college entrance exam next year.

"Hehe."

"The Beijing college entrance exams had always been so easy all these years, so it's high time that you guys have it hard now. That kind of difficulty level shouldn't be too bad, right? Haha!"

"Yeah, the wheel of fortune is always turning. It's finally your turn!"

"Good luck to the Beijing examinees! Have a good one!"

"Ha, I'll suggest to the Beijing Higher Education Entrance Examination Board to get Zhang Ye to set the questions every year. Since the schools in Beijing have so many resources and places for students, they should have to go through a tougher process!"

"I'd be delighted to see that!"

"Zhang Ye, beautifully done!"

"There's still room to raise the difficulty of the questions!"

"Teacher Zhang, work harder next year. Make it so difficult that they want to kill themselves!"

"Right, please do that. I will be taking the national college entrance exams anyway, so there's nothing for me to be afraid of!"

Quite a lot of people were adding fuel to the fire.

The Beijing examinees gnashed their teeth with hatred!

But right at this moment, a piece of news was suddenly published online. It was a conversation between a reporter and the supervisor of the national college entrance examination question setting team.

The conversation was as follows:

Reporter: "Professor Niu, the college entrance exam results are finally out."

Professor Niu: "Yes."

Reporter: "The Beijing exams this year have attracted all the attention. I've just received the latest update that says that the Beijing examinees only scored an average of around 50 on the Math test while the scores for the Chinese Literature test were not much better either."

Professor Niu: "I saw it too."

Reporter: "What are your views on this? There's an uproar of condemnation online about whether the Beijing exams were too harsh on the examinees."

Professor Niu: "I've seen those comments online as well. Actually, my opinion is different from most of you. I think that the questions used in this year's Beijing exams were very good. It was something new and had a good level of difficulty. On top of that, it also achieved its basic function of evaluating the examinees and assigning them to their tiers. My comment on this is—the standard of the Beijing exams is very high, the question setter is also of a very high standard, and in terms of the reform steps needed to be taken for our exam standards, Beijing is leading at the forefront of this revolution. We have also discussed this before and would like to make some reforms on our side as well, so if it's at all possible, we would like for Teacher Zhang to join us for next year's question setting task in the national college entrance exam."

•••••

When they saw this news article, those eleventh grade students who were just making fun of the Beijing students earlier also turned green in the face!

Suddenly, an explosion of reactions followed!

"The National Higher Education Entrance Examination Board also wants to invite Zhang Ye to join them?"

"Goddammit, goddammit to your fifth great grandma!"

"Don't, please don't!"

"Oh brother, please don't joke like this, I have a weak heart!"

"How did it turn out like this!"

"Go f**k your grandpa! Are they planning to send us all to our graves!?"

"Beijing was already a warning with the immediate damage it caused among the examinees, could it really happen to us next year? Your sister! I protest! I will be the first one to protest against this!"

"That's too inhumane!"

"Professor Niu, don't mess around like this!"

"Our Old Comrade Niu, if you dare invite Zhang Ye to join the National Higher Education Entrance Examination Board next year, do you think I won't head to your house to smash your windows with rocks!? What kind of a grudge do you bear against those of us who are taking the national college entrance exams?!"

"Please get rid of Zhang Ye! Get rid of him!"

"Wu wu wu. I don't want to see him either!"

"It's over, we're definitely done for next year!"

Those who had been mocking the Beijing examinees sometime earlier were dumbfounded at this moment!

If the Beijing college entrance exams had implicated just a small percentage of the examinees, then the national college entrance exams which covered a lot more of the provinces and examinees would affect a great deal of people. This was something that countless eleventh grade students who would be next year's examinees from the various provinces and municipalities would not agree to at all! When such a massive group of people came together online and exploded into protesting "voices," earth-shattering wails and howls could be "heard"!

"Don't, please don't!"

"Teacher, I want to die!"

"I suddenly feel like I'm screwed!"

In contrast, the Beijing examinees doubled over laughing at the turn of the tide!

"Hahahaha!"

"Serves them right!"

"They deserved it for taking us as a joke!"

"Aiyo, how hilarious! I'm dying from the joy!"

"This is what they mean by 'pride goes before the fall'!"

"You'll all have a chance to try out Zhang Ye's exams next year! Let's see if you all can still laugh when the time comes!"

"Take care!"

"The jinx has gone to look for you guys. You're on your own! Good luck!"

Yet another commotion was beginning on the Internet!

Some people were crying, some were angrily scolding, some just joined in to observe the fun as it all devolved into chaos!

Chapter 715: Meeting Wu Zeqing

On the weekend.

In the morning.

The Internet bustled with noise and controversy. However, Zhang Ye, the person at the center of the controversy, was still sleeping in at home. Probably tired from working too hard recently, Zhang Ye, who almost never snored, was snoring away. He didn't look too pretty sleeping there, hugging his blanket and drooling on his pillow unawares.

The bedroom door opened.

His mother walked in. "Little Ye."

"Ah?" Zhang Ye responded in a confused state of mind.

His mother said, "Get up and go have your breakfast."

Zhang Ye turned around and covered his head with the blanket. "I'm not eating. I want to sleep."

His mother said, "I've already bought soy milk and fried breadsticks for breakfast."

"I'm not prepared to get up so early. I'm too tired. Wake me when lunch is ready," Zhang Ye said.

His father overheard their conversation from outside the bedroom. "Didn't you say yesterday that you would accompany your mother and go shopping during the day? It wasn't easy for you to get some days off, so stop sleeping already."

Zhang Ye grumbled, "Dad, I really can't get up, I'm too tired."

Chenchen also walked into the bedroom and glanced over at the bed. "Zhang Ye, you're so lazy."

His mother stared at him. "See, even Little Chenchen is criticizing you. Don't you feel ashamed?"

Zhang Ye grunted, "No matter who criticizes me, I will not get up."

His mother said, "Hurry up and get up, breakfast is getting cold."

"I'm not eating." Zhang Ye drowsily remained lying down in bed. "Mom, it's not that I don't want get up, but I really can't get up. This bro is so tired and aching all over that I intend to sleep until the afternoon. Even if the sky is falling, I won't get out of bed." With that, his droopy eyelids closed and he went back to sleep again.

When his mother realized that he would not wake up, she helplessly prepared to leave his bedroom.

At that same moment, Zhang Ye's cell phone beside the pillow started to ring.

Zhang Ye woke up again and picked up his cell phone impatiently and answered: "Who is it?"

A mature and gentle woman's voice at the other side replied: "It's me."

"Oh, Old Wu." It was Wu Zeqing. "You're up already?"

Old Wu: "Are you still sleeping?"

Zhang Ye: "Yes, you don't have work today?"

Old Wu: "I took the day off. Are you busy today?"

Zhang Ye: "No, I've got nothing on."

Old Wu: "I've been thinking about how we haven't met in a long time. Since I have the next two days off, if you're not busy, do you want to come over to Big Sis's place? Or do you want to sleep awhile longer? Another day maybe?"

Upon hearing this, Zhang Ye immediately sat up. "...I've had enough sleep. I'll be right there!" After hanging up, he got out from his bed and said, "Mom, Dad, I'm going to visit a friend. I'm leaving now!"

Mom: "..."

Dad: "..."

Chenchen: "..."

The three of them were at a total loss for words.

Didn't you say that even if the sky collapsed, you wouldn't get out of your bed?

.....

It was around 8 in the morning.

In the high-end district of Taoran Pavilion's East Gate.

When Zhang Ye drove his car over, he found that the gates to Wu Zeqing's house were already open. He drove directly into the courtyard and parked it there instead of in the garage. He knew that Wu Zeqing had kept the gates open for him. When he got out of the car, Zhang Ye immediately spotted Old Wu sitting near the flower beds in the yard. She was holding something and tilling the soil, appearing to be fiddling with the flowers.

Wu Zeqing also looked at him at this moment. Their eyes met.

How long had it been since he had last seen Old Wu? Zhang Ye could not remember how long it had been anymore. He only knew that it had been a very long time, at least a month or two. When Wu Zeqing was newly appointed as the SARFT's Deputy Chief, she was too busy with work. After that, Zhang Ye had accepted the offer to work on a program at Central TV Department 1 and the question setting duty for the college entrance exam, leaving him too busy for other things. The two of them only kept in contact by texting or through phone calls since they basically had no time to meet up, so when he finally got to see Wu Zeqing again this time, Zhang Ye's heart thumped with excitement. He had missed her badly. Otherwise, he wouldn't have even gotten up from his bed immediately after just receiving a call from Old Wu. Zhang Ye quickly walked over to her. "What are you doing?"

Wu Zeqing smiled. "I'm loosening the soil for the flowers. I was away on a business trip for the past week and had just returned to Beijing yesterday. It's been such a long time since I've taken care of the them."

"Let me help you," Zhang Ye volunteered.

Wu Zeqing said, "Don't dirty your hands. I'm just finishing up here."

"I've nothing else to do anyway." Zhang Ye picked up a forked stick from the ground and followed along, mimicking her loosening of the soil. At the same time, he also helped her to water the flowers.

They chatted as they gardened.

Old Wu said, "I heard that many of the examinees are scolding you now?"

Zhang Ye said, "Are they?"

Old Wu looked at him. "I think so. It was even published in the newspapers."

Zhang Ye said, "Hai, don't talk about that. It's so unfair to me, and I don't even have a way to seek redress. The Beijing Higher Education Entrance Examination Board came to find me and demanded a reform of the college entrance exam. They wanted the question setters to word the questions in the most difficult way possible. So when I heard that? Sure, I'll make the questions then! But as it turned out, when the exams were done, the examinees started blaming it all on me. Why didn't they criticize the other question setters as well? Why didn't they scold the Beijing Higher Education Entrance Examination Board instead? Don't you think I've been wronged?! Therefore, I'll simply not show my face for now and lie low for a few more days. After this issue passes, this bro will return as good as new again!"

Wu Zeqing stood up and dusted the soil off her hands. "Alright, I'm done here. Go into the house and have a seat first, I'll tidy up the things outside. Oh right, there are some boxes on the sofa. Open them up and take a look."

Zhang Ye asked curiously, "What's in them?"

Wu Zeqing smiled gently. "I went shopping during my business trip and I bought two set of clothes for you. Try them on and see if they suit you. I think they will look nice on you."

Zhang Ye chuckled. "You're super busy, yet you still found time to buy clothes for me."

Wu Zeqing smiled and said, "Go on. Try them."

Although Zhang Ye affectionately chided her, he was actually very happy inside. He went into the house and searched around on the first floor. He spotted the packaging on the sofa and unwrapped them one by one. After looking at the clothes, he immediately took them and went upstairs to try them on.

He went downstairs.

"I changed." Zhang Ye showed off his new attire.

Wu Zeqing had finished tidying up the flower beds and had just returned to the house. "Let me get a good look." After studying him thoroughly, she nodded slightly and beamed. "You look pretty good. This color and style are quite suitable for you. Do they fit?"

Zhang Ye also liked the clothes a lot. "Yep."

'That's good." Wu Zeqing walked up to him and adjusted his collar a little. "It's a bit crumpled here. Take it off later. I'll iron it for you."

"OK." Zhang Ye also looked in the mirror. "You have good taste indeed. I was getting worried recently that I would have no more clothes to wear. It's already been some months since I've bought any new clothes."

Old Wu said, "You're quite frugal."

Zhang Ye said, "I'm not being frugal; it's just that I don't have the chance to buy clothes. Whenever I go to the mall, I get recognized easily so it's inconvenient to buy anything there. Unlike other celebrities, they have an agent and agency to help take care of their necessities and even have companies providing custom-made clothes for them. I don't have an agent nor an agency. Although I have an office, Central TV is such a petty employer. Although they will prepare a wardrobe for the show, after the show ends, you have to sign for it and return it. If we do not sign or the clothes go missing, we still have to compensate them out of pocket."

Wu Zeqing looked at his reflection and said, "Next time you want to get some clothes, let me know and I'll help you get them. You are a public figure and associate professor now, so you definitely have to be particular about your clothing. When people look at you, they'd at least have to see you as a professor, right?"

"Right."

"Have you eaten breakfast yet?"

"Not yet, what about you?"

"I just ate. There's still some congee left. Do you want some?"

"What type of congee?"

"Millet congee."

"I'll take it."

"Do you want eggs?"

"Yes, I want them sunny side up."

"Hur hur, wait awhile then."

"Sorry for the trouble, Old Wu."

"It's no trouble."

Zhang Ye wasn't modest; he treated her home as his own. He closed his eyes and leaned back on the sofa comfortably with his legs crossed while waiting for breakfast to be ready.

Whenever he was with Old Wu, she would never let him do any chores. In the past, Zhang Ye had in fact tried to argue for a bit, wanting to help her with the chores. But after that, he no longer insisted.

<u>I'm Really a Superstar</u> Chapter 716: Zhang Ye's Classroom is back!

After breakfast.

"Old Wu, I'm full."

"Did you like it?"

"It was really delicious. It's not like this bro is sucking up to you by saying that, but your culinary skills are truly excellent. Among all the people I've come across since childhood, your cooking tastes the best. I've never eaten anything so delicious before. I even had two or three bowls of the millet congee. If I ate any more than that, my stomach would've burst apart. I'm so full now that I can't stuff myself any further."

"As long as you like eating it."

"That's for sure."

"Do whatever you need to do. Big Sis will go and do the dishes now."

"Oh, do you have a notebook?"

"Laptop you mean? Yes, it's upstairs in my bedroom's drawer."

"Alright, I need to use it."

"Go ahead and get it from upstairs."

Zhang Ye made himself at home and headed straight up to Old Wu's bedroom. He found the laptop and brought it downstairs. He spotted a shady area in the front yard of the villa where there was a rocking chair. Seeing that it was Old Wu's garden and how it looked pretty nice out there, he headed outside and laid back on the rocking chair. He powered on the laptop and placed it on his lap, then got online. He also played some music to listen to by-the-by.

Old Wu was washing the dishes while Zhang Ye admired her. There was a sense of harmony in the air. Sometimes, this was what a relationship should be like. There wasn't any earth-shattering, over-the-top excitement. Both people could just be doing their own things and not say a word to each other, but as long as they were together and could see each other, it was still something they could be very happy about and the relationship would still be as strong as any other.

Old Wu was wearing a neat white shirt today. It was very simple, without any decorations or patterns on it. She was in a pair of coffee-colored slacks and her shirt was tucked in, secured with a thin belt. She looked very capable and experienced doing what she was doing. Her clothes did not get in the way of

her scrubbing the bowls, nor did any water splash onto her. Just from this alone, it could be seen that she regularly did her own chores.

Just thinking about how a great beauty like that was his girlfriend, all of the cells in his body were exploding with happiness. However he thought, she was beautiful. However he looked, he felt extremely pleasant. The so-called mood, defined actions. When a person was happy, anything they did wouldn't feel tough. Zhang Ye hummed along to the music from the laptop as he logged into Weibo.

He posted: "Good news! Good news! Zhang Ye's Classroom is back!"

Zhang Ye had actually intended to lie low for several days and not appear anywhere for at least 10 to 15 days. However, as he was unable to suppress the good mood he was in today, he decided that he would just make an appearance.

When he appeared, his Weibo suddenly became lively.

"That Zhang guy is here!"

"You still dare appear?"

"Capture the wild Zhang Ye!"

"Scold him!"

"Everyone, come and beat up this guy! Zhang Ye is planning on proposing another question!"

"It's Zhang Ye's Classroom again? Those elementary math questions from the previous time nearly made me vomit blood. What kinds of questions are you planning on this time? The key question is: what are the prizes?"

"If the prizes aren't attractive enough, I won't be taking part!"

"I would like to see just what sort of wondrous question you can come up with this time!"

Quite a lot of people had gathered around, including some of this year's college entrance examinees, Zhang Ye's fans, and some observing netizens, pushing the popularity of his Weibo up the charts.

When Zhang Ye saw enough people observing his Weibo, he smiled and posted: "The same rules apply. I will post several questions and prizes will be awarded for those who get them all correct. Because of this year's college entrance examination's Chinese Literature and Mathematics questions' difficulty level, many of you have very strong negative opinions of me, so I have decided to increase the level of the prizes. Those who can correctly answer all the questions that I give will not only receive an autographed calligraphy piece from me, they will also be able to scold me face-to-face for 30 minutes. There's no limit to the amount of prize winners, but it's on a first come, first serve basis. Come and quickly join in!"

When he announced this, the netizens were all stirred up!

"Are you for real?"

"Are you sure, Teacher Zhang?"

"Hahahaha! I must definitely join!"

"Can we really scold you face-to-face? That would be great!"

"Count me in! Everyone, let's answer this together!"

"Everyone, come and join in. The more people we have, the stronger we get. If we can win this, then we will have a chance to scold Zhang Ye right to his face!"

"Come on, give us the questions!"

"Zhang Ye is totally underestimating us! After he presented those elementary math questions previously, I went through them many times and ascertained his style of question writing. Now that we're doing this again, I'm sure I'll definitely be able to answer all of them correctly!"

"Everyone, let's do this. This opportunity might never come again!"

"I've been waiting so long for this day to come!"

"Everything was written out in black and white and with everyone as witness, let's not give Zhang Ye the chance to deny it when he loses!"

"Hehehe, I've already taken screenshots for evidence. We must definitely let Zhang Ye have a taste of defeat this time!"

Word of this event spread like wildfire. In the blink of an eye, countless people had gathered here, especially those examinees from this year's Beijing college entrance exam. They were all gnashing their teeth, hating Zhang Ye. So when they saw this chance, they immediately put down whatever they were doing and charged over, each more high-spirited than the last, each roaring more than the last!

When Zhang Ye saw all the excited netizens, he mustered up a laugh: "This time, it won't be an elementary math question. The scope of these questions will be the same as the college entrance exam, except they won't distinguish between different subjects."

"Come on!"

"Whatever you say!"

"I can answer any question you give!"

"Give the questions quickly! I'm getting impatient!"

"There's nothing to be afraid of even if it's a college entrance exam question. We have so many examinees here. Even if I can't do it, there are still university students around. If they are unable to answer as well, there are still all the postgrads getting their Masters or PhDs. If all of us unite, we can definitely bring down Zhang Ye!"

Countless netizens were all gathered on Weibo, their eyes watching and waiting for the questions to be released.

At this moment, Wu Zeqing finished washing the dishes and was walking out of the house. "Are you chatting online?"

Zhang Ye raised his head and smiled at her. "I'm holding an event, a question and answer session with a chance at winning a prize."

"Let me see." Old Wu walked beside him.

Zhang Ye slid over. "Let's sit together?"

The chair wasn't exactly spacious, because how large could a rocking chair be?

Old Wu looked down and did not reject the offer. She sat down next to him.

Old Wu read all the posts on his Weibo. "Are you seriously going to find some time to let the netizens scold you?"

Zhang Ye said, "How is that possible?"

"Then why did you say that?" Old Wu said with a smile.

Zhang Ye replied happily, "The key here is that they must first be able to answer my questions correctly."

Old Wu who was leaning back in the chair now suddenly had her interest perked. "I want to see what kinds of questions you have prepared too."

A number of people on Weibo were already pressing for the questions to be released faster.

"Quickly!"

"Where did he go?"

"Did Teacher Zhang run away because he got scared?"

"Quickly post the questions. I'm getting anxious here. You've already promised us that we can get to scold you if we get everything correct. We're all witnesses here. Even if you run, it's no use."

"Teacher Zhang, you're definitely going to lose this time!"

Everyone was very excited.

At this moment, Zhang Ye's Weibo updated. He posted the interesting questions from his previous world line by line onto Weibo.

I'm Really a Superstar

Chapter 717: Zhang Ye, you've really won!

The questions were announced on Zhang Ye's Weibo.

Question 1: Essay.

The question was as follows:

A young man is wandering around at the beach, looking glum.

"Why the long face?" an old man asks.

The young man explained that even though he had always done his best—in life and his work—he had never gotten recognized or respected.

"Watch carefully." The old man picked up a grain of sand and threw it away. "Can you find that grain of sand?"

The young man smiled wryly and shook his head.

"I have here with me a pearl as well." The old man took out a huge pearl and weighed it in his hand, then proceeded to throw it onto the beach. "Now, that won't be difficult to find, right? Become a pearl and no one will ignore you."

The question was posted on Weibo, line by line.

When many of the netizens read up to here, they smiled.

"This is too simple!"

"This question is a very traditional one."

"This composition isn't bad. This is the first time I've read this story, and while it looks very simple and straightforward, it carries a rather strong philosophy behind it. Even if this question had been included in the college entrance exam this year, it would have been very suitable. It allows for a very clear thought process so that the examinees can reflect and extend on it, as it focuses on the importance of self-worth and society's acknowledgment that could then be written as an essay. The essay can start off with the story of the sand grain and pearl, or from the importance of hard work and..."

As the netizens commented and analyzed the question in all seriousness, the topic of the question was suddenly and unexpectedly revealed.

-If I become a pearl, no one would ignore me anymore? That made a lot of sense, as the young man thought about it for a moment. Then he picked up the pearl and ran off!

Question requirement: Please use the topic of "Where should the most basic level of trust between people exist?" to write an essay. The is no limitation to how the topic is used, but the essay must not be fewer than 800 words.

At this line, all the netizens were dumbfounded!

"Holy f**k!"

"The most basic level of trust...between people?"

"What kind of a twist is this!?"

"Zhang Ye, I'm cursing your great-grandpa!"

"Where did the self-worth and society's acknowledgment we were just talking about go? And the story of the grain of sand and pearl that somehow got cut short and became a mess? Why did he steal the pearl and run away?! Does he need to have such low moral integrity?! Your sister! After that long-ass introduction, the requirement of the question had nothing to do with it at all!"

"Zhang Ye, you cheat!"

"Pfft! I'm cramping from laughing!"

"Damn, we've been tricked by this passage again!"

When the question requirement was given, everyone immediately jumped up and started cursing colorfully. They'd witnessed wondrous questions before, but nothing as wondrous as this. Was this a Chinese Literature question or a joke?

"I was still wondering why Zhang Ye would offer that prize so calmly!"

"Yeah, this question is basically unanswerable!"

"Who says it's unanswerable? I'll give it a try!"

"Right, it's just asking for 'Where should the most basic level of trust between people exist?' I'll write an essay!"

Some of the netizens charged forward, ready to give their answers.

"Come on, next question!"

"Where's the second question?"

"I won't believe that we can't answer your questions!"

"That's right, we will settle it once and for all with this guy today! I'm getting so furious!"

•••••

At the Wu residence.

On the lawn in the front yard.

When Wu Zeqing saw the question Zhang Ye had typed onto his screen, she let out a laugh and then said, "No wonder you're always getting a scolding from everyone else."

Zhang Ye sniggered. "That's how they show their love for me."

Old Wu said, "Is that so?"

"Of course," Zhang Ye replied as his hands continued typing the next question.

•••••

On Weibo.

With the countless netizens waiting, the second question was revealed.

Mathematics problem:

50 women are performing a square dance in a plaza. They are all spread out 1 meter apart from each other, with the speakers broadcasting at 170 dB. Xiaoming's house is situated on the seventh floor. The current wind speed is 3 m/s.

The netizens began analyzing the problem.

"It's time for a math question!"

"Will it ask for the duration needed for the sound to travel? Or something else?"

"50 people spread out in a formation, 1 meter from each other? Hmm, the decibel unit is a little troublesome, and there's even wind speed involved?"

"If we ignore the acoustic resonance factor and transmission loss of power, then it won't be difficult to solve this problem."

"I've already started my calculations. It's quite simple. All I need to know now is what the problem is asking for."

Then, within the next second, the question was revealed.

Question: What is the probability of success should Xiaoming attempt to dump feces on the women in the plaza?

Ah??

The netizens all fainted all once!

"Dumping feces? Why would it be asking about dumping feces?"

"I'll dump on your sister, Zhang Ye!"

"What about the transmission of sound we were just talking about?"

"Let me calm down for a moment, I feel a little lightheaded!"

"How did this become a probability question?"

"Hey Zhang, why do you never play according to the rules!"

"Let me give this question a try. I don't believe I can't do it! Since the weight of the feces is unknown, as well as the throwing strength and speed, the women in the question are also gathered in a single location. When the feces are flung, their surface area will gradually change. Let us first establish the axes of the objects. If Xiaoming is on the z-axis, then the senior ladies will be on the x-y axis....Next, we have to calculate the parabola of the flung object..."

"Previous poster, you're awesome!"

"Bro, we are all depending on you!"

"Good luck! I think you can do it."

Some science geek started doing the calculations!

At this moment, Zhang Ye's third question was posted.

Question: Spring is the season for mating. At 6 PM Beijing time, on the day of the vernal equinox, Police Constable Xiaoli raised his head to the sky at a 38° angle of elevation and saw the North Star.

Afterwards, he led his team and rushed into an underground prostitution den to raid it. What are the most likely words that the John in the room would shout out when he realizes that this is a raid? [1. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chunfen]

A. É Dī Gè Shén Ah [2. "Oh my god" in Guanzhong dialect]

B. Diū Léi Lóu Móu [3. "F**k your mom" in Cantonese]

C. Nóng Xiǎng Zǔ Sā [4. "What do you want" in Shanghainese]

D. Ssibal [5. Motherf*cker/씨발 in Korean]

Countless strings of "what the f**k" were already flashing in front of the eyes netizens eyes!

"What kind of a question is this! What the heck is this!"

"Why does it even include the word 'ssibal!""

"Who the hell would know what they would shout out!"

"Who can solve this question!"

With that, Zhang Ye followed up with his last question.

Question 4: A BMW sedan with a power rating of 6.0 x 104 watts is traveling on a level highway when it comes to a braking stop 5 meters away from an old granny. The old granny's weight is known to be 50 kg.

With the experience from the previous three questions, the netizens were wiser this time and did not assume the question's requirements before they were mentioned. Since they had fallen for Zhang Ye's tricks previously, they just patiently waited for Zhang Ye to finish and announce the full question.

The question requirement was posted.

Question requirements:

1: Please state the power at which the old granny would fall to the ground at.

2: How much would the old granny demand as compensation?

The netizens: "...!@#\$%^&*()! ! !"

"Power of the fall?"

"How can a fall still be measured by power?"

"How much in compensation? Like hell I know how much the old granny would want for compensation!"

At this moment, many of the netizens and examinees felt that they had been too naive. When they first saw Zhang Ye announcing the prizes, they still came over excited, thinking that they would get a chance to scold Zhang Ye right to his face. However, when they gave it some thought now, they should have known what kind of a person Zhang Ye was. He was so wicked and sly, and the past experience would have told them that only Zhang Ye could give others a face smacking, not the other way around. Just

looking at these questions, this fellow must have planned to not let them win from the very beginning. All of the questions were "broken!"

"I'm so angry that I could cry!"

"How despicable!"

"These questions are basically unsolvable!"

"I was wondering why he would dare make such big claims!"

"Zhang Ye, come out!"

No one was having any of this.

Zhang Ye posted on Weibo: "The questions have all been announced. Is there anyone who can answer them? I can relax my requirements a little. As long as someone can answer 3 out of the 4 questions correctly, I will pass him or her and award the prizes accordingly. That means that, other than the old granny demanding compensation question, as long as the other 3 questions are answered correctly, it is good enough for me."

The netizens continued scolding.

"What the hell! Other than the essay which we can still write about, who could answer the other questions?!"

"These broken questions must not even have answers!"

"The way I see it, you're just bullshitting us right now!"

"That's right, this guy must have come up with the questions without thought. Even he couldn't answer them!"

"That must be it. He even included something like 'ssibal'? And 'É Dī Gè Shén Ah'? What has this question got to do with the information that was included at the beginning! If you're so capable, tell us the correct answer! Otherwise, stop bullshitting us!"

"Right, this question must be unsolvable. Zhang Ye is definitely trying to cheat us!"

"Zhang Ye, you're too wicked. During the college entrance exam, you cheated our examinees. Now that the exam is over, you're trying to cheat us?"

"Down with this guy!"

"This broken question can only be thought up by someone like you!"

"Stop using your brainpower. What Zhang Ye's Classroom? This is all just Zhang Ye making fun of us. The questions don't have answers, so let's not waste the effort to solve them!"

No one was trying to solve them anymore as all of them began scolding Zhang Ye on Weibo.

After Zhang Ye waited for the longest time and no one came forward with an answer, he posted: "Who says that I am making fun of you all? Since I can give the question, of course there is an answer. Does anyone still want to give them a try?"

The netizens found it both funny and annoying.

"Bullshit!"

"What answers have you got!"

"Hur hur!"

"Teacher Zhang, you're too stubborn!"

"Then why don't you show us the answers?"

"I still won't believe you!"

With the commotion becoming livelier, a lot of celebrities also came to observe.

Yao Jiancai's Weibo: "F**k, how is this a college entrance exam question? This is obviously a joke!"

A female singer's Weibo: "Do these questions really have answers? It must be a scam, right?"

No one disagreed. They all believed that Zhang Ye was using the questions to tell a joke.

However, a minute later, Zhang Ye followed up with a post with the answers in it!

For example, the third question: "In the guise of an absurd situation, there is a geographical question that is packaged very nicely into it. Why? First off, the John would likely utter something in his native language in the midst of his panic. As such, the objective of the question was to find out where he was located. Then just where is this prostitution den located? We know that the angle of elevation of the North Star is also the latitude of the location, so we can say that the location is situated on the 38th parallel north of the equator. By looking at the answer options, B. is Diū Léi Lóu Móu which we clearly know it to be the dialect of Guangdong Province. That location is situated somewhere around the 20th parallel north of the equator. We can safely exclude that answer because of that, while C is Nóng Xiǎng Zǔ Sā which we know to be a dialect somewhere in Shanghai. Shanghai is based around the 31st parallel north of the equator, so that is clearly the wrong answer as well!"

Seeing the explanation by Zhang Ye regarding the answer, the netizens were all stunned!

"Holy f**k!"

"Holy shit!"

Zhang Ye continued: "The answer comes down to A and D. É Dī Gè Shén is a language from where? That is from the Shaanxi dialect, while ssibal is obviously from Korean. The problem now is that both Shaanxi and Korea are both located around the 38th parallel north of the equator, so we are unable to judge from the information we have on the latitude. Because of this, it won't be easy to solve, so what can we do? Well, there's still the longitude information! However, looking at the question, there is no such information given. What is given is that it is 6 PM Beijing time and the incident happened on the day of the vernal equinox. That given time was right during sunset in Beijing. Korea is located at the east of

Beijing, so at 6 PM, their skies are already dark, while Shaanxi is located at the west of Beijing and for them, the sun has not set yet. When Police Constable Xiaoli raised his head, he could see the North Star. That would mean that it was no longer daytime, therefore the likelihood of the prostitution den being situated in Shaanxi can also be excluded. And with that, we arrive at the answer of D. ssibal. By the way, the usage of the 'Police Constable Xiaoli' was just a red herring. Some of you might have excluded the possibility of the foreign option in the answers because of it, but remember that there are also people with the last name of Li in Korea!"

The answer was revealed!

The netizens fell into a dead silence!

Yao Jiancai was stunned!

That female singer was stunned!

The examinees were stunned!

"...Zhang Ye, you've won! You've truly won!!"

Chapter 718: A hardworking comic!

Faced with such an answer from Zhang Ye, the netizens could only react with a "f*ck" to express their feelings!

"I'm in the process of being dumbfounded!"

"He actually solved it!"

"Wow, you really had the answer!"

"Awesome! I'm totally convinced!"

"Pfft, me too, I'm convinced as well!"

"I faceplanted onto my keyboard because of laughing too much. Teacher Zhang is indeed Teacher Zhang. Even his way of teaching is unlike others. He is always so interesting and funny, even to the point of being wondrous. I thought he had invented those questions on the spot at the spur of the moment, but who knew that there were really answers to them!"

"Just how bored did Teacher Zhang get? He must have been really bored to have been able to come up with questions like that! On top of that, he could even come up with such a goddamn logical answer to such a far-fetched question!"

"I'm kneeling!"

"Zhang Ye, I'm also kneeling to you!"

"Teacher Zhang, you're too strong! No one in the world can stop that comedic march of yours! The netizen with post #679 is right, just how bored were you!?"

The netizens fainted one by one!

A few Peking University teachers had also appeared because of these questions.

Dean Pan from the School of Mathematical Sciences on his Weibo: "..."

Su Na from the Chinese Department on her Weibo: "..."

The Chinese Department's Director Chang Kaige's Weibo: "..."

These questions were typed out by Zhang Ye spontaneously without the need to use the Memory Search Capsules. It wasn't because his memory was so good that he had them all memorized from his time in the previous world. Rather, during his time at the online television station, while working on his show Zhang Ye's Talk Show, Zhang Ye had made use of the Memory Search Capsules to retrieve all the memories in regards to Tonight 80s Talk Show, Mr. Zhou Live Show, Bao Zou Big News Events, and other similar talk shows. He had already locked down that batch of memories, therefore he could pull up all those questions without needing to think. The questions he threw out here today were all questions from his previous world's Bao Zou Big News Events.

If he had used them as the college entrance exam questions, there would definitely be some problems due to the impreciseness of the questions. But at the very least, it was enough for a good laugh that everyone could enjoy. On this matter, Zhang Ye's objective had been met. He only needed to be rigorous with regards to the college entrance exam questions, but now that the college entrance exam was over, if he still maintained that rigorous façade, then he was just going to bring more contempt upon himself. If he instead clowned around in an impromptu fashion, occasionally teasing others, it would help him improve his image a little and bring him back to being loved by the people.

From the looks of it, it was working rather well.

"Teacher Zhang is still just as funny!"

"Yeah, you're presenting a geography/physics question just like how you'd perform a crosstalk!"

"I was one of those examinees tortured by Zhang Ye this year. The thing I hate most about him is that no matter how hard I try to hate him, I can't do it. Zhang Ye keeps adapting and keeps us laughing, so even if I want to scold him, I would be scolding him while laughing. Hai, I guess this is what Zhang Ye's individual style is—a hardworking comic! He includes his jokes in everything he says, in his shows, in his poems, and now even in his questions!"

"I find myself liking Zhang Ye more and more!"

"A comedic associate professor!"

"Where there is Zhang Ye, there will not be a lack of doubt and scoldings, yet at the same time, there is also a lot of joy. He is truly the ideal entertainer of my heart!"

At this moment, some of the netizens started another commotion.

"What about the other questions?"

"The answers to the other questions!"

"That question with the flinging of feces, how do you solve that?"

However, just when Zhang Ye was about to announce the next question's answer, someone suddenly posted their own version of the answer in the comment section of Weibo. This answer immediately left everyone stunned, not because it was an exceptional answer but because most of them couldn't understand what was written. X-axis, y-axis, differentials, and functions were all squeezed into the formulas, leaving people baffled but impressed by how amazing it looked!

"Damn, who is this person?"

"Could someone really have solved it?"

"Godly!"

"Hahaha, how awesome!"

"Has it been solved? Is the answer correct?"

When Zhang Ye saw it, he was also stunned for a moment, but then immediately gave it a Like afterwards. Then, when he noticed the Weibo handle, he was stunned for another moment but recovered with a smile on his face as he came to a realization. That person's Weibo username was— LinglingPO. Intuitively, Zhang Ye guessed that this person was probably Huang Lingling, the young girl he had met at Summer Palace during the International Math Olympiad.

Then, LinglingPO sent Zhang Ye a private message: "Teacher, did I get it correct?"

Zhang Ye immediately replied: "Student Huang, you did well."

Student Huang? LinglingPO immediately replied with a horrified emoticon: "How, how did you know that it was me? Teacher, you...still remember me?"

Zhang Ye sent her a smiley face: "I guessed. As for whether I remember you...I am not that forgetful yet. Has your brother also taken his college entrance exam?"

Huang Lingling: "He's taking it next year."

Zhang Ye: "I've seen your Math exam. You got a perfect score. You did great. You were the only examinee to get a perfect score in Math. No one else managed to."

Huang Lingling: "Hehe, thanks Teacher, I will work even harder."

Zhang Ye asked: "Where did you apply for your first choice?"

Huang Lingling replied without even thinking: "Peking University, of course! My greatest goal is to become your student, but I don't know if I will qualify for the school since I didn't do too well on my other subjects."

Zhang Ye: "It's not going to be a problem. If you don't meet the admission cutoff score, come look for me. I will help arrange something for you."

Huang Lingling replied surprised: "Ah, really? Thank you, thank you, Teacher!"

The tier 1 scores had already been released, but the cutoff scores for Peking and Tsinghua University still didn't have clear distinctions. Sometimes, even if your score was very high, you might not be admitted

into Peking or Tsinghua University. In other words, this meant that even if your score was not high, you might still be able to get admitted into Peking or Tsinghua University.

For the other higher institutes of education, the cutoff score boundaries were very straightforward. For example, if a specific score qualified you for Beijing Normal University, or a range between one score and another allowed you to qualify for Renmin University, then as long as the application for your intended university was within the top two choices, there would be an automated ranking to assign you to the institution you applied for. However, for institutions like Peking or Tsinghua University, they had greater freedom, fewer restrictions, and the authority to conduct their own admissions exercises. They even had special recruitment spots with more space to maneuver and overwrite the processes. For instance, in the case of an examinee qualifying with enough points for their first choice of Beijing Normal University, the second choice university couldn't steal this student for their own institution nor would they have the chance to do so. However, the authority Peking and Tsinghua University wielded allowed them to do so under the same set of circumstances as long as the examinees agreed to it. This was the special authority that the country's top two educational institutes had—and it was exactly as unreasonable as it sounds.

After a short conversation with Huang Lingling and having chatted for a while with the other netizens, Zhang Ye successfully accomplished his mission of downplaying the "scammer" label the netizens had given to him and went offline.

Chapter 719: An independent woman!

In the front yard of Old Wu's house.

Zhang Ye closed the browser.

Wu Zeqing's smiling eyes left the screen. "Those are the questions you gave?"

"Hah." Zhang Ye looked at her. "They're not bad, right?"

Old Wu nodded and said, "They're quite good."

Zhang Ye said, "I still have a whole lot of such questions. Maybe when I'm in a better mood someday, I might hold another session like this. Even if it doesn't contribute much to my popularity compared to me filming TV shows, or writing some essays and poems, it could still gain me some fans. Do not look down on the smaller things."

Old Wu laughed, "A thief does not leave empty-handed?"

"What are you saying, 'a thief does not leave empty-handed?" Zhang Ye said, "I had nothing to do anyway, might as well use the opportunity to entertain everyone. If I didn't do things like that, would my popularity have risen so quickly? I'm already going quite far up the list of the B-list celebrity rankings, so my goal now is to aim for the A-list celebrity rankings. I'll just try to flex my muscles a little more to see if that would be a viable goal since The Voice has already given me quite a significant increase in my fame."

Old Wu smiled. "If there's anything you need help with, just let me know."

Zhang Ye gave a wave of his hands. "I won't trouble you."

"Why are you still being so polite?" Old Wu glanced at him.

Zhang Ye sighed and explained, "It's not like that. You're now the Deputy Chief of the SARFT and overseeing the entire entertainment circle, so all the more I can't receive any help from you. It will be difficult for you to answer to administration. And if anyone finds out, they might start talking behind your back too. Besides, I'm not in any trouble now anyways. As long as no one is deliberately trying to pull me down or ban me, I'll definitely be fine in the entertainment circle. Who can stop me?"

What he said was really reasonable. This guy was now famous for being a stubborn and unreasonable person in both the entertainment circle and education world.

Old Wu smiled and said, "I'm not afraid of people gossiping behind my back, nor will there be any gossips either. If there's anything you need help with, just tell me. Don't forget, you're my boyfriend now, right?"

Zhang Ye corrected her, "Not only now, I still will be in the future."

Old Wu nodded. "Yes, in the future as well."

"I like hearing that." Zhang Ye smiled. "OK, don't worry that I'll be too courteous to you. If I feel that there's anything I need your help with, I will surely let you know. But most of the time, I should be able to handle any problems on my own. There won't be a need for such a high-ranking official to show her authority. Besides, if those foes of mine from the entertainment circle know that you're my girlfriend, who would still want to challenge me? I wouldn't have anyone to entertain me at that time. Without them looking for a fight, I would be bored as hell. Don't you know that my popularity so far was all because of duking it out with those people?"

In the entertainment circle, the partners of the celebrities were always these few categories:

1. Business persons, tycoons, or wealthy women and affluent second generations.

2. Fellow celebrities of similar fame.

3. Industry outsiders, usually with some status or background.

A majority of the partners of celebrities fell in those three categories. Even if there are exceptions, they are only in the small minority. However, for Zhang Ye to have found someone who was the leader of the SARFT, and not just a low-level leader, but the Deputy Chief of the SARFT, that was basically an exception of exceptions in this case. If this news were leaked, probably no one would have believed it. Actually, even Zhang Ye found it unbelievable and felt like this was a dream when he gave it the occasional thought.

Old Wu gently laughed. "You're addicted to the fighting?"

"It's not like that. They're always going against me, so how can I not fight back? It's not my style to just stay quiet." Zhang Ye said happily, "That's why, as time passes, I even begin to feel uneasy if no industry peers scold me. It's like I'm asking for it, don't you think? It's all because of those people that I've become this way."

"It's common to have such ongoing feuds. It's also necessary. The show you came up with recently is very good." Old Wu said, "I've watched The Voice and heard the staff at the SARFT talking about it

privately too. Many of them are watching this show right now and have very good things to say about it."

Zhang Ye nodded in acknowledgment. "Including all those poems, songs, stories, novels, and TV shows, this is by far my best work, and is also the most popular."

Old Wu asked, "What will you do when The Voice ends?"

Zhang Ye replied, "I've not thought of that yet. Maybe when the time comes I'll know better."

Old Wu said, "Will it go straight to the second season?"

Zhang Ye said, "That won't happen. The second season has to be at least a year later. If the time between the seasons is too short, the show's branding will be affected. That doesn't help its long-term development and sustainability."

The two of them spent quite a long time just talking about their job problems.

As Wu Zeqing was the head of the SARFT, she had insight into the most accurate news and data statistics of the entertainment industry. Naturally, Old Wu's general suggestions to Zhang Ye were also the most reliable. For example, the future policies' inclination for the variety show industry, or the current trend of the overall television show industry, all these information helped Zhang Ye gain a better understanding of this market. Even the information on some of the SARFT's major policies for the television industry which had not been implemented yet was not held back from Zhang Ye by Old Wu. In the entire television industry, the number of people who could get information on unimplemented policies was probably only Zhang Ye, and only he alone could get such favorable treatment. As they said, a great tree would provide the best shade.

The more he spent time with Old Wu, the more Zhang Ye realized he liked her. It was not because of the fact that Old Wu could help him, as Zhang Ye was never the type who liked receiving help. Whatever he did, he would usually only do whatever was within his means. Things he couldn't handle, he would just not take on. He hardly ever asked for help with problems. This was all down to his personality and habits. This was just the type of person he was.

The thing he liked most about Old Wu was that no matter what he did, she would support him 100% as long as it did not deviate from her principles. She would also encourage him and use her more mature and experienced viewpoint to analyze and suggest advice to him. Not only did she help Zhang Ye a lot in his decision-making process, the more important factor was actually the psychological one. With a girlfriend who spared no effort in supporting him from behind, what more could he ask for?

Old Wu might not know how to act spoiled, wasn't she the romantic type, and didn't play the little lady role. However, she was the kind of woman who would drag you back onto the correct path if you deviated from your original goals, lift you up when you were down, plant you back firmly on the ground should you get too proud, and encourage and support you on your way to success. She was someone you couldn't find anywhere else in the world even if you tried your hardest. Zhang Ye didn't know what he had done in his previous life to deserve such a woman who became his girlfriend.

When all was said and done, a woman's inner beauty was still the most important!

Does being beautiful make you any more useful?

Would long legs help?

What about large breasts?

Zhang Ye pondered over this for a moment.

...Alright, well, those are pretty important too.

I'm Really a Superstar

Chapter 720: Tsinghua and Peking University fight over the students!

The next day.

Sunday morning.

In the guest room of Old Wu's house, Zhang Ye lay in bed sleeping, snoring loudly. Yesterday night, he had discussed with Old Wu many topics regarding calligraphy and even made a few pieces. When it got late, Zhang Ye decided to stay over, though he didn't intend to leave in the first place. It wasn't easy to have matched his schedule to Old Wu's days off, so Zhang Ye definitely wanted to spend more time with her.

At 8 AM.

"Are you up?" Wu Zeqing came into the guest room from outside.

When Zhang Ye heard her voice, he opened his eyes. "Old Wu."

Old Wu said, "Let's go downstairs and have something to eat. I've already prepared breakfast."

"What time is it now?" Zhang Ye asked.

"8 o'clock," Old Wu said, dressed in her nightie.

"It's only 8? Let me lie down a little longer." Zhang Ye drowsily stayed under the covers and yawned twice in succession. "I don't know why I've been so tired for the past few days."

Old Wu smiled. "Then do you want to eat?"

Zhang Ye smacked his lips together. "Of course. Why wouldn't I want to eat the food you've cooked?"

Old Wu said, "Then shall I bring them up to have in bed?"

"Ai, that sounds great." Zhang Ye felt extremely pampered. If he were at his parent's house or the rented apartment and dared to make such a request, he would surely be given a good beating. However, at his girlfriend's house, Zhang Ye was clearly enjoying his days being treated like a young master, waited upon with great care.

Soon after, Old Wu carried the tray into the room. "Here, eat it while it's still warm. It won't be as good once it turns cold." She bent over and pulled aside a grandfather clock, then proceeded to place the tray on the bedside table beside Zhang Ye.

When she did that, Old Wu's nightie drooped down at her chest and revealed something for a second. Zhang Ye did not purposely wait for this, but subconsciously turned his sight towards her nightie's neckline. He took in the view of a pair of jiggling white and a nude-colored bra with dark undertones. Within a second, Old Wu stood straight up again and Zhang Ye couldn't see anymore, leaving him itching for more.

If only there wasn't a bra!

Ai, just tell me, which bastard invented that lousy thing called a bra? What the hell was it good for? Where was the most basic level of trust between people?

"Have you eaten yet, Old Wu?"

"Not yet."

"Then let's eat together."

"Yes."

Wu Zeqing pulled over a chair and sat beside him.

Zhang Ye was sitting up on the bed, staying under the covers as he ate from the side of the bed. With every bite, he remarked on how good it was. He was full of praise for the breakfast Old Wu had prepared, not flattering her but rather because it was truly delicious. Old Wu's culinary skill was surely not just a level or two above his mother's. "Staying at your place for two days has surely made this bro gain five kilos."

Old Wu asked, "You're not going to work today?"

Zhang Ye nodded. "I have the next few days off."

"Peking University should be recruiting students soon. How was it this year? Are there many good students?" Old Wu asked while slowly chewing her food.

Zhang Ye took a pork with scallions bun Old Wu had steamed and said, "The admission cutoff score for Peking University hasn't been announced yet, but they should have started the recruitment already. The top scorers should be quite difficult to recruit, so they must have taken preemptive action already, but I'm not too sure about those details. I do not have a role at Peking University since I'm still suspended and haven't been back to the school yet."

Old Wu said, "Regarding your suspension, I'll ask around for you later."

"Don't worry about that," Zhang Ye said indifferently. "I'm fine with it as is, so just let nature take its course. Even if I were reinstated now, I might not have the time to go back to teaching. There's still enough things to keep me busy with on The Voice, and after that I have to think about the next show."

After breakfast.

Zhang Ye suddenly remembered something. Seeing that Old Wu had gone downstairs to do the dishes, he took out his cell phone and made a call to Dean Pan of Peking University. "Hello, Dean Pan? Has the admission cutoff grade been released yet?"

Dean Pan: "It's not out yet, but it should be out anytime now. There's probably going to be some fluctuation. What about it?"

Zhang Ye laughed: "It's like this. Do you know Huang Lingling?"

"Huang Lingling?" Dean Pan said: "The examinee who had a perfect score on the Beijing Math section?"

Zhang Ye said: "Yes. That girl might not have done too well on her other subjects and I'm afraid we might miss out on a good student if she doesn't qualify for Peking University."

Dean Pan suddenly said: "Don't worry about that. She won't slip through the net. The student recruitment team has already gone to meet with the top scorers of the exam and Huang Lingling's name is also on that list."

"Alright then, I understand."

After hanging up, Zhang Ye got up from bed and went downstairs to look for Old Wu to talk.

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Meanwhile.

In the outside world, this year's student recruitment began and immediately spread like wildfire!

Peking University's student recruitment team had been established early on. Like in previous years, Peking University had activated many student recruitment staff members and resources and cast their net out to various key focus schools and the homes of the examinees. Most of the student recruitment teams were made up of female teachers and staff. It was still in line with the previous years' approach policy in which they would play the emotions card to appeal to the examinees. If and when necessary, they could promise the examinees scholarships and other preferential treatments.

Su Na was a member of the Peking University student recruitment team this time. On this morning, she had come alone to a small district in Chengxi. She went upstairs to the apartment building and knocked on a door.

The door opened, revealing a middle-aged woman who had come to answer it.

Su Na gently smiled and said, "You must be Auntie Song?"

That woman asked, "You are?"

Su Na said, "I am from the Peking University student recruitment team. I contacted you last night over the phone."

"Ohhhh, you're Teacher Su," the woman spoke very politely.

Su Na looked into the house and smiled. "Is Little Chen around? I would like to chat with him."

The woman looked a little embarrassed. "My son, he...some of the Tsinghua University teachers just came over to pick him up."

Su Na was stunned. "Didn't we make an appointment yesterday?"

The woman said apologetically, "I'm so sorry, Teacher Su. I wanted my son to wait for you as well, but the two recruitment teachers from Tsinghua University had arrived at my place at 6 in the morning.

They insisted on taking my son away with them. It felt a little forced, but my son and I don't want to offend anyone, so..."

Su Na was flustered. Tsinghua??

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Elsewhere.

No. 4 High School.

Han Henian from Peking University's Math Department had just led his team here when he was stopped by the security guards and two of the school's teachers at the gates.

The security guard asked, "What are you all doing here?"

Han Henian got out of the car. "Hello, we're from the Peking University student recruitment team. We would like to speak to your students, Zhang Zhipeng and Su Xiao, for a while. Could you please open the gates for us?"

The teachers from No. 4 High School stared at them. "It's our students' graduation ceremony today and we're having an assembly right now. You all can come back in the afternoon."

A female staff member from the student recruitment team said, "We'll just be having a quick chat with those two students and will not disrupt the graduation ceremony. We're doing this for the future of the students, aren't we?"

The No. 4 High School teacher gave a wave of his hands impatiently. "Not today, please go back."

It didn't seem like their team could get through to this school's teachers. In the end, Han Henian and the others could only park their cars on the side of the road and wait there. The two students they wanted to meet today were the sixth and eleventh place scorers of this year's Beijing college entrance examination. Peking University had already indicated that those two students must be recruited no matter what. Han Henian also had his eyes on the student named Zhang Zhipeng as he was just 5 marks short of a perfect score in the Mathematics exam. He was not only strong in math; all his other subject exams nearly scored full marks as well. That was the reason why Han Henian personally had come down today to see if he could persuade him to become their student.

After waiting for quite a while, the security guards were still unwilling to let them in.

Suddenly, a small sedan car drove over and stopped at the gate for a moment before being allowed to enter the school grounds.

Han Henian and his team thought that this might be a car belonging to the school or a school teacher and thus did not pay much attention to it. But after around 15 minutes, when this car reappeared and drove out, one of the eagle-eyed female teachers suddenly let out a scream.

"It's Zhang Zhipeng and Su Xiao!"

"Ah?"

"They've been taken away!"

"Was that Tsinghua University's Old Xu sitting in the passenger seat?"

Several members of the Peking University student recruitment team suddenly realized what was going on and immediately went up to the people from No. 4 High School to ask, "What's that about? Didn't you say that no one could enter because of the graduation ceremony?"

That teacher from No. 4 High School plausibly retorted, "The assembly is over, so they could enter."

Han Henian raged. "You!"

They finally understood that the student recruitment team from Tsinghua University had colluded with some of the teachers from No. 4 High School. They denied all entry to the Peking University student recruitment team so that they wouldn't have a chance to talk to the exam's top scorers!

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The same thing happened at No. 8 High School.

A press conference was being held at No. 8 High School today because their school had produced a top scholar, along with five other students ranked within the top 100 scorers of this year's Beijing college entrance exam. There was also a student who had defied all logic and scored full marks on the Beijing Mathematics exam, the only one to do so in all of Beijing. Naturally, the press conference attracted a lot of people, such as newspaper reporters, people from TV stations, parents of examinees, as well as the student recruitment teams from Peking and Tsinghua University who were poised to attack.

Once the press conference was over, four male teachers from the Tsinghua University student recruitment team rushed forward.

One of those teachers was from this year's Beijing college entrance examination's question setting team, the teacher who had a conflict with Zhang Ye and competed with him in a poetry contest, Liao Qi.

"Student Huang Lingling, we're from Tsinghua University!"

"Student Zhou Zheng, let's have a chat. Our car is waiting outside and the Tsinghua University professors are already waiting for you at the school. Let's chat about your aspirations."

Several of those top scorers were suddenly surrounded by the people from Tsinghua University's student recruitment team.

The Peking University student recruitment team had only sent three teachers, one in her forties and two in their twenties. They were also all female teachers, so couldn't shove aside the Tsinghua team. They could only stand frozen on the outside of the crowd.

A female teacher from Peking University said furiously, "What are you guys trying to do! Huang Lingling and Zhou Zheng's first choice is our Peking University! What has it got to do with you people from Tsinghua?"

Tsinghua University's Professor Liao Qi looked at her coldly. "Everyone has a chance. Are there any rules that state that if they filled in Peking University as their first choice at the start that they must definitely go to Peking University? We have to respect the examinees' choices!" Having said that, they pulled both Huang Lingling and Zhou Zheng aside and walked out of the school. "Make way, make way!"

While Huang Lingling was being pulled away, she said alarmed, "I-I've already applied for Peking University."

A Tsinghua University male teacher pointed at Liao Qi and said, "That is Professor Liao from our institution. Professor Liao has come personally to pick you two up, so that clearly shows how sincere we are. Your filled-in intentions are not important for now. As long as you are willing to join Tsinghua University, we can accept you. Let's go. We'll chat once we're at Tsinghua University. There will be teachers there to explain to you two in detail."

Huang Lingling anxiously said, "I really don't want to go, I..."

The 3 female teachers from Peking University said in anger, "Is this even respecting the wishes of the examinees?!"

When the reporters saw that the teachers from Peking University and Tsinghua University fighting, they all looked at each other with some surprise. They had not expected that this year's competition for the top scorers would be this intense.

In previous years, the top two institutions in the country had always played the emotions card. It had always been so in recent years as well. No one had expected Tsinghua University to change to such a strong-arm tactic this year, totally foregoing the emotional side of things. They even mostly sent in their bigger and physically stronger male teachers for this specific reason—to physically get the top scorers back to the university first above all else! This tactic caught the Peking University student recruitment teams off guard!

The Peking University female teachers shouted, "They are our students!"

Liao Qi stared coldly at them. "Go away!"

The Peking University female teachers said, "Are you guys still being reasonable here?"

The male teachers of Tsinghua University did not bother with them and just continued pulling the students out of the crowd!

The teachers of No. 8 High School were all dumbfounded. They did not know whether they should intervene in the situation or not, but they were totally helpless to do anything about the situation!