

The Kiss 971

Chapter 971

After calming down, Ellinor took Theo's hand and sat back on the couch, curiously asking, "Mr. Howard, you don't live here. Why would you have a dog in

this house?"

Balfour petted the dog's head, "It's not mine."

Ellinor was slightly surprised. "This is your house, but the dog isn't yours?"

Balfour patiently explained, "A friend of mine went abroad. She couldn't take her dog with her, so she left it here for me to take care of for a while. Someone comes to walk and feed the dog every day. I just drop by occasionally."

To Ellinor, Balfour was a man with strong class consciousness who always put his interests first when dealing with others. Would he agree to help others

take care of a dog?

Ellinor's curiosity was piqued. "Is this friend a guy or a girl?"

Caught off guard by her question, Balfour paused, then laughed, "You're interested in my personal life now?"

Frowning, Ellinor popped open a drink, "Just asking. If you don't want to answer, then don't!"

Balfour honestly replied, "A female friend."

Ellinor squinted, "What's your relationship? Lovers?"

Balfour shook his head, "No, just ordinary friends."

Ellinor snorted, "I don't believe you."

If they were **just** friends, would Balfour really agree to help her take care of her dog? They definitely had some kind of ambiguous relationship.

Balfour chuckled, "Really, she's a married friend."

Ellinor scowled, "You're not trying to break up her family, are you?"

Balfour denied it, "There's really nothing between us. If she were my girlfriend, why would I lie about it to you?"

Losing interest, Ellinor handed her drink to Balfour and got up to take the dog onto the balcony

Only Balfour and Theo were left in the living room.

Leaning tiredly against

the couch, Balfour asked, "How's the stock market for the Blanchet Corporation? Can we keep it under control?"

Theo replied, "There are some difficulties, but it's still manageable."

Balfour rarely showed goodwill towards the Blanchet Corporation, "If you need help, I can send Quinton to handle it."

Theo was slightly surprised, "In what capacity are you saying this to me? As Ellinor's brother?"

"All of this is because of what Patri has done, so the Howard family also has to take responsibility." Balfour rubbed his temples, "Of course, if I had a choice, I wouldn't want to be your brother-in-law, but since Ellinor chose you, I have to accept you."

Theo gave a soft chuckle, "Balfour, don't you find your behavior very contradictory? Before, you spoiled Patricia and put a lot of pressure on me to make me take responsibility for her. Now that you've found out that Ellinor is your real sister, you've changed your stance and now treat Ellinor the same way. Do you think Ellinor would accept this kind of behavior?"

Balfour, of course, understood the contradictions in his actions and felt remorse, I'm sorry, I was indeed confused back then."

Chapter 972

Theo **gave it** a deep thought and said, "Ellinor doesn't want to be part of your whole brother and sister thing. And even if she did, I wouldn't let her go. back to the Howard family."

Balfour knitted his brows, "Why? You afraid our family feud will mess with your marriage?"

Theo replied. "No outside drama will shake us. But if she returns to the Howard family, it'd be super awkward for her in the Blanchet family. Sure, I can protect her when I'm around, but I can't always have her glued to my hip. And knowing her, she'd hate being dragged around everywhere with me. She had a tough time growing up, so I think we should stop making things hard for her. Keeping the status quo ain't such a bad thing"

Balfour thought for a moment and admitted that Theo made sense. "Alright, we'll keep things as they are for now. But if you ever screw her over, the Howard family won't stand by and watch."

Theo took a determined sip of his drink, "You're worrying over nothing."

Soon enough, Quinton and the caregivers arrived.

Ellinor handed over all the doctor's orders to Quinton and then left with Theo.

Quinton was initially surprised to see Theo in Balfour's private residence, but when he saw Ms. Mendoza there too, it didn't seem so odd anymore.

Balfour's private residence held a special meaning to him, and he didn't just let anyone in. Even his beloved Patricia never stepped foot in there.

But Ms. Mendoza was different. She was Balfour's sister, the person he cared about the most in this world, so she had access.

“Balfour, how did your foot get so messed up? And they haven’t found the car that hit you? Want me to get someone on it?” Quinton asked.

Balfour replied, “Theo will take care of the car. Quinton, I asked you to keep an eye on any suspicious activity around the Blanchet family. Found anything?”

Quinton shook his head, “Nothing suspicious so far.”

Balfour squinted uneasily, “Keep watching. Stay sharp!”

Quinton replied. “Got it.”

Three days later.

Ellinor held a press conference under her own name at Central Park.

She had Chase Larios send out invitations to news outlets both domestic and international on her behalf, inviting them for an on-site interview.

The press conference was scheduled for 8 am, and by 7 a.m., the park was swarming with media.

Actually, Ellinor was just a small fry and was not very well-known. Before this news broke, there was almost no information about her online; only her teachers and classmates at Creston University knew her.

The reason the media turned up in droves today was entirely because of the internet rumor that Ellinor was the wife of Theo Blanchet.

The Blanchet Corporation was one of the wealthiest and most powerful groups in the country, and news related to it was naturally juicy.

In the morning, after Theo dropped Ellinor off, he headed to the company.

Chase and Ida Gipson’s car was parked nearby. While the reporters were still oblivious, Ellinor found them and got in the car.

It was not yet half past seven. She planned to stay in the car until the press conference started; otherwise, she would definitely be swarmed by reporters and bombarded with crazy questions.

Chapter 973

After watching their boss get into the car, Chase and Ida turned around to look at Ellinor, who was yawning

Chase seemed a bit peeved, asking. “Boss, why are you the only one here? Didn’t the Blanchet family send anyone to help you? Where’s Mr. Blanchet?”

Ida pitched in her own question too, “What’s the deal with the Blanchet family? Are they worried you’ll flunk the test and are in a hurry to cut ties with you?”

Ellinor, looking a bit tired, shook her head, "It's not that complicated. Mr. Blanchet dropped me off. I didn't think the situation was that serious, so I had him head to the office."

Chase frowned, "You told him to go, and he just went? Does he really love you? He left you alone with those vicious media people. Isn't he worried you'll get picked on?"

Ellinor raised an eyebrow lightly, "You think I'd get bullied?"

Chase shrugged, "I know you won't be bullied; you're a real scholar! But does Mr. Blanchet know you?"

Ellinor responded. "Him staying wouldn't help, it would just attract more media attention. And right now, I don't want the media to link me too closely with the Blanchet family. I don't want any of my movements to impact the Blanchet family's stock prices, so I can't give the media too clear a picture of my relationship with them."

Chase mulled this over and admitted it made sense, "Okay, I just thought it's tough that when the chips are **down**, your boyfriend isn't there for you to lean on, and you're shouldering everything like before."

Ellinor shot him a glance, "Mind your own business! How's that thing I asked you to deal with last time?"

Chase grinned, playing dumb, "Boss, you're always assigning me tasks; I have no idea which one you're referring to!"

Ellinor gave him a stern look, "Stop playing dumb! Is Belinda Wesley still working at the company?"

Chase spread his hands, "She is!"

Ellinor narrowed her eyes, "What's her position?"

Chase chuckled, "My secretary..."

Ellinor furrowed her brows unhappily, "You're taking my words lightly. Are you just keeping her around for fun?"

Chase waved his hands, "No, no, boss, I wouldn't dare mess with your niece! I've just been intentionally keeping her close lately."

Ellinor stared at him seriously, "What do you mean by that?"

Chase sighed in irritation, "Didn't you say that I should find a way to make Belinda dislike me? But I'm not supposed to hurt her pride. So I kept her close to let her see what kind of person I am. Eventually, she'll be fed up and quit on her own. If I fired her outright, she'd never let go. What woman would give up a charming man like me?"

After finishing his explanation, he was met with skeptical looks from the two girls in the car.

Ellinor asked again, "How are you showing her your true self?"

Chase laughed unabashedly, covering his face shyly, "I'm too embarrassed to say."

Ellinor was speechless.

Ida couldn't stand his disgusting behavior anymore and spoke for him, "He brings different women into his office every day, and they do inappropriate things, making a terrible impression"

Chase rolled his eyes, 'Ida, don't make things up! Would I really mess around in my office? I'm just putting on a show for the secretaries outside"

Ida scoffed, "You think just because it's an act, you're still a pure person?"

Chapter 974

Chase was preening in front of the mirror, saying, "I've always been pure."

Ida glanced out the window, "Boss, those two rumor-spreading women are back."

Ellinor followed her gaze and saw the middle-aged woman and her daughter who once came to the Blanchet villa to seek justice, and the media immediately swarmed around them.

Reporters started to bombard them with questions, but the two of them still repeated the story they had been telling online, claiming they were confident they would win the contest that day.

The girl named Rosie held her head high as she faced the media cameras. A stark contrast to her previous tearful state, exuding great confidence.

Ida adjusted her glasses. "That woman seems very confident, but according to our research, her academic performance isn't outstanding Ellinor, be careful, she might cheat"

Ellinor nodded, "I'd like to see how she plans to cheat in a live-streamed exam."

With that, she opened the door and got out of the car

The media saw Ellinor and immediately switched their focus. But before they could approach her, they were stopped by a group of hefty men

Ellinor was not surprised by this.

These people could have been arranged by Theo or Balfour, or maybe both.

Having someone block the media for her allowed her to quietly make her way to the stage of the press conference.

The stage was simply set up, with a microphone in the middle and two desks on each side for the exam.

Ellinor sat down at the desk on the left, quietly waiting for the exam to begin.

Now that Ellinor was on stage, the middle-aged woman also brought her daughter up.

Rosie sat down at the desk on the right, and the middle-aged woman shot Ellinor a hostile glance.

"Ellinor, you can still back down now, admit your mistakes in front of everyone; it's not too late! Otherwise, it's going to be even more embarrassing when my daughter beats you!"

Ellinor gave a small smile, "How would I know I'm going to lose if I don't take the exam?"

The middle-aged woman huffed and turned away

The host of the press conference was arranged by the Howard family.

After getting on stage, the host first asked Rosie's mother to step down, then tested the microphone and adjusted its height.

"All members of the media, please quiet down and quickly return to your seats.

The live stream of the exam between Ellinor and Rosie is about to begin.

The exam will be broadcast live on the internet to ensure the results are fair, open, and transparent."

The media were mainly here to capture the results of the exam; not wanting to delay the start, they quickly returned to their original positions

The host introduced the name of the creator of the exam and the main subjects of the exam.

Then he showed the front and back of the exam paper to the camera, confirming there were no issues, before distributing them to the two candidates on

stage

Rosie took the exam paper and glanced at the questions. Her eyes were filled with determination, and then she sneakily glanced at Ellinor.

Ellinor yawned, supporting her forehead with one hand, looking like she just woke up, while the other hand twirled a pen, like a student not paying attention in class. She didn't look like she was taking the exam seriously.

Rosie thought Ellinor was stumped by the questions. Feeling even more confident about winning, she picked up her pen and started to answer the questions seriously

Chapter 975

"Why does Ellinor look like she doesn't give a damn? Is she even taking this exam seriously?"

Isn't that just the attitude of a rebellious teen? Leopards don't change their spots! Are we really expecting her to ace this thing?"

"On the other hand, Rosie seems to be acting like a real top student!"

"Rosie looks so focused and confident!"

"My thoughts exactly! Go. Rosie!"

I'm an alum of Creston University, so I can vouch for Ellinor being a real brain at Creston"

"Hey, commenter above, did Ellinor pay you to be her fan? How much does a comment cost?"

"The results will be out soon, we'll see who the real brain is!"

"Even if the President showed up, Rosie would still be the real brain."

"Go, Ellinor! All of Creston University's faculty and students are behind you!"

“Good grief! Creston students are so united. What’s the benefit of supporting the capitalist for you **guys**?”.

“We’re just supporting our alum. How did **that** turn into supporting capitalists?”

“Isn’t Ellinor one of those girls who has been coddled by capitalists and suppresses the efforts of us regular folks? If you support her, aren’t you supporting capitalists?”

“Looks like these top students from Creston University are just trying to suck up to the Blanchet Corporation to secure their future there.”

“Top students? What a disgrace!”

“Everyone, quit the bickering! Won’t the results be out in a bit? We can resume our debate then.”

“Right! Go Rosie! The fruit of our common struggle should be in our own hands!”

“Ellinor will definitely win!!!”

“Rosie will definitely win!!!”

The two test-takers were blissfully unaware of the online kerfuffle.

The elders of the Howard family and the Blanchet family were watching the live **stream** in their respective homes, waiting for the results.

Balfour, injured and unable to go to the office, was at his spacious flat, stroking his friend’s dog while watching his sister’s exam live.

Theo also wasn’t at the office. He **was** sitting in his car, resting his forehead on one hand with his eyes sharply focused as he watched the live stream on

his car TV.

Time ticked by, and the two contestants on stage had already finished most of their questions.

The exam paper was broken up into three parts, without distinguishing between subjects but rather combining high school knowledge from all areas.

onto one paper

Rosie finished first, getting up to hand her exam paper to the host, who was also acting as the examiner.

Ellinor then also put down her pen, raising her hand to show she was done.

After the host collected their papers, he invited the high school teacher who set the questions onto the stage to correct the papers live and tally up the

Chapter 976

While the teacher was busy grading, the chatter in the live stream kept going

“Rosie was the first to hand in her paper. That shows her confidence and academic prowess”

Totally! I bet Ellinor freaked out a bit when she saw Rosie was done, so she wrapped up quick too.”

“What good is it to hand in your paper early if you’ve not nailed all the answers?”

“Did you see that? Ellinor’s snoozing at her desk! Seems like she couldn’t care less about this competition.”

“That’s exactly how the slackers in our class behave. All they do is snooze during class and then skip after! Can’t believe some folks still think she’s got good grades!”

“Guess you’ve never seen a real top-notch student, huh? It’s not just about being a bookworm; even if they do nap in class, their grades are still top-notch!”

“Hah! Sleep in class and still get good grades? I don’t buy it that there’s someone that badass in the world. You think Ellinor is a protagonist from a novel?”

“Creston University’s Ellinor is exactly a character like that from a novel! Just because you’ve never seen it doesn’t mean it doesn’t exist. You guys need to broaden your horizons, get out in the world more!”

“Wow, students from Creston University sure have a broad view. But let’s wait to see Ellinor’s grades first.”

“Looks like the teacher’s done grading: any moment now the results will be announced”

“Can’t wait for the results! Rosie’s got this in the bag”

The teacher handed over the graded papers to the host.

The host checked the results, but his expression was a bit complex.

Then, the host announced to the media and live stream viewers, “Good evening, everyone, the exam results are out! After grading by our professional high school teacher, both Ellinor and Rosie have scored full marks. It’s a tie.”

Media personnel started expressing their confusion.

“Both got full marks? Then how do we determine who got into Creston University back then?”

“What just happened? Both are good students?”

“How do we report this result? Who’s the real one who got into Creston University?”

“It has to be Rosie! Didn’t Rosie’s mom say that **on** the day of the entrance exam, Ellinor didn’t even show up at the exam center; she was getting an abortion!”

“Exactly! Even if their grades are the same, Rosie seems more like a good student!”

“I feel the same.”

The live stream viewers also started voicing their opinions.

“What’s going on? Both got full marks? How do we determine who’s better?”

“Obviously Rosie! Rosie’s been out of school for years, yet she still managed full marks; doesn’t that speak volumes?”

“Yeah! Ellinor is the one who got into Creston University, which is the best university domestically. She probably just brushed up on her high school knowledge, getting full marks now doesn’t mean much”

“Are you guys **even** making sense? Just because Ellinor got full marks doesn’t mean anything, but Rosie getting full marks means she’s an excellent student? You guys are so contradictory!”

Chapter 977

We’re just going by what we see! Rosie’s been doing farm work at home for years, yet she still managed to ace her exams. That’s way better than Ellinor, who cheated her way into college!”

“Absolutely! Rosie’s definitely the one who’s good at studying!”

At the Howard family’s mansion.

The entire family sat in the living room, watching the live stream, and saw that both sides had scored full marks. Their expressions varied

Dean and Alyssa’s brows were furrowed. They initially leaned towards believing in Ellinor, but now that both sides had scored full marks, they didn’t know

who to trust

McNeil was sitting off to the side, sipping his coffee with a gloomy expression on his face. His eyes were fixed on Ellinor, who was yawning continuously on the screen, making him feel a bit worried.

Why was she so sleepy? Was it because she was nervous about the exam and didn’t sleep well last night?

Patricia and her mother sat on the other side, exchanging glances.

It was within their expectations that Rosie could score full marks because Xenia had stolen the questions from the teacher who set the paper, quickly found someone to calculate all the correct answers, and gave them to Rosie to memorize.

But the fact that Ellinor also scored full marks was somewhat disappointing for them. They thought that even if Ellinor was good at studying, she wouldn’t be able to score full marks. Even if she got one or two questions wrong, that meant they would win.

Now that it was a tie, things were a bit tricky.

Xenia thought for a moment and asked, “Mom, Dad, who do you think won this exam?”

Dean said, “Didn’t you just see that both of them got full marks? There’s no way to tell who won, right?”

Alyssa also said, “Yes, the live stream is currently showing both of their exam papers, and they both indeed scored full marks.”

Xenia shook her head,

“Even though they both scored full marks, I think we can still determine who won.”

Dean frowned, “How can you tell who won when they both got full marks?”

Xenia opened the live chat and slowed down the rolling speed to show her parents, “Look, Mom, Dad, the netizens are saying that Rosie, despite doing farm work at home for years, still managed to score full marks. She’s definitely the stronger one! As for

Ellinor, she just graduated from Creston University this year and has been receiving the best education, so it’s no surprise that she got full marks. Compared to that, Rosie’s full marks are more valuable!”

Patricia echoed her mother’s words, “Yeah, Grandma and Grandpa, after Ellinor cheated her way into Creston University, she must have been worried that her actual grades were much lower and that people would discover her deception, so she must have brushed up on her high school knowledge. But Rosie, despite not studying for so many years, still managed to achieve such good results. That’s really something!”

Dean and Alyssa looked at each other, wanting to protect Theo and Ellinor, but hesitated for a moment.

McNeil looked at Xenia, who **was** stirring up trouble, with some displeasure in his eyes, but he didn’t say anything.

On the other side, the Blanchet family’s mansion.

Putnam Blanchet sat in his wheelchair, heavily pounding the armrest, “See, she also got full marks! Why did they have to hold this press conference? Is it because they think the Blanchet family hasn’t been humiliated enough?”

Marissa Blanchet frowned, “Why are you so worked up? Didn’t Ellinor also score full marks?”

Putnam said discontentedly. “Humph, it’s not the same, is it? Others can score full marks even if they haven’t gone to school or studied for years! How long has your grandson’s wife been out of school?”

“You talk as if Ellinor isn’t your grandson’s wife!”

“Do you think I **want** to accept this girl with an unknown background?”

Chapter 978

At the press conference, a media reporter stood up and asked, “Now that both of you have perfect scores, doesn’t that make this competition meaningless? We can’t even tell who really got into Creston University **back** in the day Ladies, what are your thoughts?”

Rosie raised her hand and stood up, indicating she had something to say

The host walked over and handed her the microphone

Rosie, with a bit of an accent said, "I think I won this competition because I handed in my paper earlier, and I haven't studied much these past few years, so I answered all the questions from memory! As for Ellinor, I heard she's been studying at Creston University non-stop, but she handed in her paper later than me!

The reporters in the audience agreed with Rosie's point of view, believing she had the aura and confidence of a high achiever

Yeah, Rosie's got a point, the big brains usually finish their tests faster, they're always the first to hand in their papers"

"I think Rosie's the real deal too!"

"Right, after all, she quit studying years ago and still managed to ace the test! I can barely remember what I learned in high school"

"Same here! If I had to take a high school test now, I might not even pass."

"Looks like the one who really got into Creston University back then was Rosie!"

"Ellinor, do you have anything to say?"

A reporter called out to Ellinor on stage.

However, Ellinor didn't respond because she had fallen asleep at the table.

Due to getting up early and pregnancy-induced sleepiness, she was just too tired. After handing in her paper, she laid down to rest for a bit and ended up falling asleep.

The reporter who didn't get a response frowned in displeasure, "Ellinor, what's with the attitude? Are you just gonna give up defending yourself like that?"

The host, feeling a bit embarrassed, walked over and knocked on Ellinor's table, "Ellinor? Wake up, please."

Ellinor finally woke up, tiredly looking at the host who had disturbed her sleep, "What is it?"

The host gave an awkward smile, "Ellinor, this isn't the place for a nap, and it's not nap time yet! A reporter just asked you a question, and we'd like to hear your answer.

Ellinor raised an eyebrow, "Oh, what did he ask?"

She had genuinely fallen asleep and missed it.

Everyone present expressed dissatisfaction with Ellinor's attitude.

The host helped recount. "The reporter was asking, since both of you aced the test, do you have anything to say?"

Ellinor squinted her eyes, "We both aced it?"

She glanced **at** Rosie, who looked confident, and her mother in the audience, who was also grinning from ear to ear.

The host said, "Right, you and Rosie both scored full marks. You probably missed my announcement because you were sleeping"

Ellinor yawned, nonchalantly saying, "I don't buy it

The reporters in the audience looked at her skeptically.

"She said she doesn't believe it? Is she doubting her own score or Rosie's?"

"Definitely Rosie's score! She must think Rosie, having been out of school for years, would've forgotten loads and couldn't possibly have aced it. Turns out Rosie's quite the brainiac, still scoring full marks even years after leaving school."

"I think so too! Isn't Ellinor being too cocky?"

The audience was buzzing with chatter.

The host emphasized to Ellinor, "Ellinor, this is the deal. After your answer sheets reached me, they were marked on-site by the examiner. After the results were announced, your answer sheets were shown to the reporters and the audience in the live room, and no one objected

And just now. Rosie claimed that since she handed in her paper first, she should have a slight edge in this competition. What's your take on this?"

Ellinor, having heard this, yawned again, "Even if we both got full marks, it doesn't mean she's better **just** because she finished earlier. Since when does handing in papers early count as bonus points?"

A reporter in the audience raised his voice, "Even if handing in early doesn't give bonus points, we all think Rosie is better than you!"

Ellinor turned to the reporter, "Why's that?"

The reporter said, "Because you've been receiving the best education possible at Creston University all these years and had time to review high school courses. Rosie, on the other hand, hasn't been to school for years and has been farming at home, yet she managed to ace the test. Isn't that telling enough?"

Ellinor chuckled, "My dear reporter friend, your conclusion is clearly based on the assumption that I did replace Rosie's entrance exam score, which doesn't seem to hold water."

The reporter was tongue-tied by her rigorous logic but still stood by Rosie, "Then do you have any evidence to prove that you didn't replace Rosie's entrance exam score?"

Ellinor nonchalantly shook her head, "Nope."

The reporter smirked. "Since you don't, doesn't that mean you're indeed suspicious?"

Ellinor sat on the stage, looking down at the reporter with clear bias from a higher position, calmly saying, "First off, the basic quality of a journalist is to remain neutral and look at the event objectively, which you clearly lack. Also, in any situation or event, one can only prove the existence, not the nonexistence. Don't you understand this basic logic? Which media outlet are you from? Hiring a reporter like you doesn't seem like a wise move."

The reporter's face turned ugly after her response, "You..."

Most of the other reporters also sided with Rosie. They originally had a soft spot for the underdog, and after seeing Ellinor's casual attitude towards the test and her arrogance, they were more inclined to support Rosie, who seemed more docile.

A reporter stood up for his colleague, "So according to your logic, you can't prove that you didn't replace Rosie's entrance exam score, but we can't have doubts about you? I think your logic is the absurd one!"

Ellinor laughed it off lightly, "I never thought that an old classmate with mediocre high school grades could score full marks at this point."

Hmm... This is a bit of a pickle! To prove something I didn't do, why don't we have another test? What do you

Chapter 980

Rosie frowned in confusion, "Another exam?"

Ellinor nodded, "Yeah, since neither of us clearly won this time, let's have another round. It'll help settle the score for the media and audience, don't you think?"

Rosie's eyes darted around nervously, "Uh well."

Just then, Rosie's mom briskly came onto the stage, "Ellinor, can't you accept defeat?"

Ellinor smirked, "We both scored full marks, right? I didn't lose"

Rosie's mom retorted, "Even if you both scored full marks, everyone agrees that my daughter is superior! And you still want to take another exam? How's that going to work? The teachers have to spend more time and energy setting new questions, it's not as simple as you make it sound!"

Ellinor grinned, "I never said anything about having the teachers set new questions. A retake doesn't need fresh ones."

Rosie's mom was taken aback, not getting Ellinor's point, "If it's not about new questions, then what's the point of a retake? Just to see who hands in the paper first?"

The media folks were also confused by Ellinor's suggestion.

"What's the point of re-testing with the same exam?"

"Looks like Ellinor can't swallow her pride!"

"So, if they retake it and both get full marks again, then what? Another retake? Where does it end?"

"Can't she just admit defeat and reflect on her mistakes? Maybe then she'll gain the public's forgiveness?"

Facing the hubbub, Ellinor raised her voice a bit, "We don't need new questions; just change the values in the original ones, then we can retake it. How about that?"

People were even more baffled.

"What's she on about?"

“Ellinor, can’t you face reality?”

“The questions remain, but only the values change, so the equations stay the same; what’s the point of retaking it then?”

Ellinor twirled her pen, There’s a point. If you’ve truly mastered the knowledge, you won’t falter just because the values change. Let’s do this retake. If we both score full marks again, I’ll admit defeat!”

After hearing this, people exchanged glances.

“Rosie, go for it! You’re smart, you’ve got nothing to fear! Do the retake and let her accept defeat gracefully!”

“Yeah, go ahead, Rosie. We’ve got your back!”

“She said it herself! If it’s a tie again, she’ll lose! Do the retake!”

With everyone’s encouragement, Rosie was in a bind.

Ellinor kept twirling her pen, glancing at her, “Rosie, you’re not scared to retake the exam, are you?”

Rosie fell silent

She only remembered one solution method. If the data changed, she wouldn’t be able to solve it. What should she do?

Seeing this, Rosie’s mom stepped forward, her face stern, “Rosie is already very tired; she doesn’t have the energy to do this!”