

The Queen 161

Chapter 161: Have You Ever Cared For Me?

When Su Cha noticed Bo Muye's tensed body, she took the initiative to hug him, "I will be there soon. You should go back and settle your family's matter first. Otherwise, you might have to deal with a bigger problem in the future."

Hearing Su Cha's comforting words, Bo Muye relaxed a little.

However, the thought of being apart from Su Cha made Bo Muye anxious.

Although he was uneasy, an accident had happened.

He had to return home to help his family.

Bo Muye sat in silence while holding onto Su Cha. Su Cha did not know when she fell asleep.

In the morning, Su Cha felt someone gently laying her on the bed. She opened her eyes and saw an outline of a man.

The man covered Su Cha's eyes with his palm and planted a kiss on her forehead, "Good Cha Cha, go to sleep. I will be waiting for you in the Imperial Capital."

"Hmm." Su Cha replied.

When she heard the man leave, Su Cha turned around to check the time. It was 5 o'clock in the morning.

As she was already awake and well-rested, Su Cha decided not to return to sleep. After Bo Muye left, she got out of bed to continue with her training.

After training for some time, she moved on to embroidery.

Su Cha was not only embroidering pieces for sale but also for herself.

In the past, she preferred simple, monotone clothing. Hence, most of her clothes were black and white. Although she could continue pulling the simple pieces off, a girl should still wear some color to appear more vigorous.

Su Cha did not plan on wearing the poor-quality clothes she had purchased in the past. She had recently spent around 2000 yuan on buying better quality clothes.

Bo MUYI had wanted to purchase tailored clothes for Su Cha, but he did not bring the matter up.

It was not because it was unimportant, Bo MUYI knew that Su Cha wanted to have some control over her own life. He would not interfere with her decisions as long as they do not affect their relationship.

He knew that Su Cha would not like it, and decided to restrain himself.

Su Cha would have asked for it if she had wanted it herself.

Now that Bo MUYI had left for the Imperial Capital, Su Cha had more free time. After her morning run around the residential area, Su Cha received a call from Mr. Su.

“Su Cha, now that you are done with the college entrance examinations, you should come home for a visit. Fill up your aspirations form when you are home. I found a few reputable schools in the town I’m living in. You can choose which ones you prefer based on your examination results.”

When Su Cha heard that, she became unhappy. She disliked people speaking to her in such an authoritative tone. As the caller was her father, Su Cha suppressed her anger and restrained herself. When she spoke, her voice became colder and more distant, “Let’s talk about it another time. The results for the college entrance examination have not been released, and my lease is not up. I will have to discuss it with the landlord.”

Su Cha did not want to discuss her participation in the “Dreams in Progress” competition with Mr. Su. As Mr. Su was a conservative man with deeply entrenched stereotypes, he believed that the entertainment industry was flawed. He despised the talented artistes in the industry. Mr. Su would never agree to let Su Cha enter the entertainment industry.

Su Cha did not care about Mr. Su's disapproval. She had not shared the information to prevent making trouble for herself.

Mr. Su was momentarily stunned by Su Cha's coldness. After a brief moment, he snapped, "Now that your college entrance examination is over, you think that you are an adult? You don't need your parents to care for you anymore?"

It would have been better if he had said something else. Hearing Mr. Su's words, Su Cha sneered, "Have you ever cared for me?"

Chapter 162: Selection of Top 20 Contestants

"I respect you because you are my father. I know that you raised me, and that is an indisputable fact. But, Dad, can you really say that you have actually cared for me?"

Su Cha asked seriously, she meant every word she said.

Since her parents' divorce, Su Cha's memory of her family had blurred. She could not remember how her mother and father looked.

When her step-mother entered the family, she gave birth to Su Cha's stepbrother. Since a young age, Su Cha did not have much recollection of her parents.

It had been three years since her family left her all alone in Yonggu Town.

Su Cha could not remember how she died in her first life, but she recalled that she was all alone with no one by her side.

In her second life, she struggled to survive in the palace. Her experience had taught her that power was more important than familial relationships.

Coming back to this life, she felt no connection with her father.

"I... I..."

Su Mingzhe stuttered, he knew what Su Cha had said was the truth.

Since he remarried, he had not spent any time disciplining his daughter.

The birth of his son made Su Mingzhe extremely happy. His wife's dislike for his daughter, coupled with his busy work schedule meant Su Mingzhe did not spend time bringing the family together.

Besides, Su Cha had been slow and naive since youth. A vocal child would be able to get treats and attention by crying. But, Su Cha had always been quiet, so why would Su Zheming actually care?

When his wife suggested that they leave Su Cha behind in Yonggu Town, Su Zheming agreed to it without giving it any thought.

As he thought about it, Su Zheming realized that he really did not have any right to mingle with Su Cha's life.

However, he did not want to lose his authority as a father. He simply replied, "You have to come back after the release of your college entrance exam results! We will discuss this when you are home."

He immediately hung up afterward to prevent Su Cha from rebutting his words.

Su Cha coldly smiled as she listened to the disconnect tone.

Half of the city's Top 50 had been selected from the 100 contestants. The rest would be chosen from the contestants who were in the holding area. These contestants would have to compete among themselves, only 25 contestants in the holding area would be selected. Su Cha was one of them.

Before this, Su Cha had sold another piece of embroidered clothing.

Due to time constraints, Su Cha could only embroider simple designs. The clothes were mainly T-shirts, skirts or sleeveless dresses.

The white cotton materials had arrived. However, the material was unsuitable for advanced designs, and there was no time to embroider intricate patterns.

With another 2000 yuan in her savings, Su Cha took part in the competition's Top 50 selection round.

As she had predicted, Yu Siqing did not dare to be too obvious in expressing her displeasure. Su Cha performed a simple love song and was awarded three passing votes from all the judges. With an easy win, Su Cha made it to the city's Top 50.

Due to unresolved issues with her personal style, Le Anqi was also in the holding area. After competing again, she also successfully made it into the Top 50.

After successfully making it into the city's Top 50, Le Anqi happily pulled Su Cha along for a big celebratory meal.

The next round of competition would be another elimination round, the city's Top 20 contestants will be selected. Also, the subsequent rounds for all the competition regions would be broadcasted live online.

Although Yonggu Town was considered a smaller competition region, the competition would still be watched by a significant number of people.

During the live broadcast, contestants would have to really display their talents during the performance without any mistakes. However, the program's team would not be bothered by covert competition among the contestants. In fact, the program's team was looking forward to them.

Because the covert competition among the contestants could be used to create suspense and hype up the show.

During this time, the program's team had started to conduct one on one interviews with the Top 50 contestants. One of the interviewed contestants was Su Cha.

Chapter 163: The Top Three Most Popular Contestant

The selection of the Top 20 contestants was held on 23rd and 24th June, and the live broadcast was from 10 am to 7 pm.

It would happen 2 days after the release of the college entrance examination results.

The last round of competition would be the selection of the Top 10 contestants, and it would be held on 28th June. The Top 10 contestants would then enter by July for the final round of competition in the Imperial Capital.

Among the contestants, some would sit for an Arts exam.

The contestants had different preferences and skills. With more segments in the competition, the contestants would have more opportunities to showcase their talents. Besides, it was common for students to participate in the competition even before their Arts exam.

After Su Cha entered the city's Top 50, she went for an individual interview with the program's team.

As the interview segment was in its initial stage of development, there were no unusual questions asked. The key questions contestants were asked included what they thought of the other contestants, and which contestants they thought highly of.

These interviews were opportunities for contestants to secure more screen time during the broadcasts. Interview opportunities were given by the program's team to promising contestants they thought highly of.

The program's team had not staged any interactions, and all the answers given were the contestant's real thoughts and opinions.

If the contestants did not answer well, it will give them a disadvantage. The interviews were opportunities for contestants to show their perfection. It would be silly of the contestants to express their displeasure or criticize others during their interviews.

Even if they did not have a contestant they thought highly of, they must name a few role models.

The majority of the contestants did not like one another. After all, they were competitors, how could they like each other?

Only a small majority of contestants would genuinely praise others.

When Su cha was asked about a contestant she thought highly of, she replied without hesitation, “Jin Mou.”

The interviewer immediately asked, “What do you like about her?”

Su Cha: “She sings well.”

Interviewer: “What else?”

Su Cha: “Nothing else.”

“...”

The interviewer laughed awkwardly, “Are there any other contestants you like?”

Su Cha replied indifferently, “Le Anqi, and no one else.”

To put it simply, her reply was simple and crude.

Judging from her reply, the audience might perceive Su Cha to be arrogant.

The program’s team knew that Su Cha and Le Anqi were friends, and they were often seen spending time together. Hence, it was not strange for Su Cha to name Le Anqi as a contestant she liked. But, for Su Cha to praise Jin Mou for her singing...

That was unexpected.

It was an indisputable fact that Jin Mou sang well. There were rumors that state that Jin Mou was the daughter of a real estate tycoon who spent a fortune to bribe the competition region’s judging panel.

Jin Mou had an incredible singing ability. Her vocal range was different from Su Cha's, and she could belt out high tones with a fantastic tremble. It could be said that she was the only contestant with such a phenomenal ability.

However, Jin Mou was even more reserved than Su Cha. Jin Mou did not return greetings from other contestants, and most contestants did not choose Jin Mou as a contestant they liked. Most contestants named Mona as a contestant they like.

Hence, Su Cha's answer may be perceived by others as bootlicking.

But, Su Cha did not care about the opinions of others. After her interview, she went home directly.

After the interviews with the Top 50 contestants were filmed, the program's team updated the contestants' information on the competition's official website.

At this time, the disparities in the contestants' popularity were apparent.

The voting system on the official website was also refreshed. The voting system was designed like a water irrigation system. If the viewers like a particular contestant, they can vote for the contestant by adding a water droplet to the seedling under the contestant's name.

Hence, the speed at which the contestant's seedlings grew signified their popularity. The more votes the contestants get, the faster their seedlings grow, and the higher their popularity.

It could be said that the voting system was innovative and unique. After the voting system was refreshed, the popular contestants immediately stood out.

To Su Cha's surprise, she was among the top three most popular contestants in her city.

What was more surprising was that Mona, Le Anqi, and Su Cha were the most popular contestants.

Chapter 164: Unexpected News

It was not surprising that Mona was ranked first in popularity in the competition region.

During the competition, everyone realized that Mona was an extremely social person who could get along with anyone.

Besides, she was a small influencer with a higher follower count than Le Anqi. However, Mona never boasted about her internet fame.

Hence, Su Cha never paid any attention to her.

Besides, Mona knew how to engage with her fans online. Su Cha was surprised that Mona was placed first in popularity, but she thought that it was normal for Le Anqi to place second.

Su Cha was ranked third in popularity, she believed that her individual performance video that the producers had uploaded on the website had boosted her popularity.

Jin Mou was placed fourth.

The other contestants were seeded contestants that the program's team found to be promising. After all, viewers and producers alike, they would be able to determine which contestant sings well based on their performances.

After the release of the popularity ranking, Le Anqi called Su Cha, "Wow! Su Cha, I can't believe that I am ranked second in popularity in our competition region!!"

Le Anqi did not mean to show off. She just could not contain her surprise and excitement.

Su Cha smiled, "Congratulations."

Su Cha was not concerned about the ranking. With a high ranking, it would provide Le Anqi an advantage in the competition and increase her chances of making it into the Top 10.

Su Cha was unsure about Le Anqi's ability to perform after getting into Top 20. As compared to the other contestants who were competing for the Top 10, Le Anqi's singing ability was considered mediocre. Her popularity would make up for it and increase her chances of getting into the Top 10.

“Su Cha, you are third! Congratulations! I think you will make it into Top 10. That’s good. But, the results of the college entrance examination will be released soon. Su Cha, I’m so nervous.”

Le Anqi changed the topic rather quickly. Su Cha laughed, “What are you nervous about? Aren’t you confident about getting into Imperial Capital Arts College?”

“I’m not nervous about myself! I’m nervous for you!”

Le Anqi continued in a panicked voice, “Do you know what I saw on our school’s forum yesterday? Everyone is waiting for your college entrance examination results to be released! That mentally retarded, Yu Chuai, said that she is waiting for you to kneel in front of her, and I was so angry when I saw that!”

The joy of being in Top 50 could not be compared to the degree of anger this matter brought.

“Oh, Su Cha. I haven’t asked you this, did you estimate your scores after the test?”

After the examination, some students would compare their answers with the answer sheet to gauge their scores.

“No, I’m too busy.”

Su Cha’s simple response revealed her indifferent attitude. Le Anqi almost puked blood in exasperation, “Why are you unconcerned about the college entrance examinations? You are really....urgh! I don’t even know what to say. I have a call, I will hang up now. When the results are released, don’t check it! I will check it for you.”

With that, Le Anqi hung up.

Su Cha lightly smiled as she put her phone away to complete her own errands.

After Bo Muyi left, Su Cha temporarily moved back to her own home.

As she was moving soon, Su Cha had made arrangements with the landlord to end her lease by the end of the month.

When Li Dongfeng was murdered at her apartment complex, several families in the neighborhood immediately moved out. Su Cha was a young girl, and she had stayed in her apartment for a long time. The landlord knew that it was not easy for her to live on her own. He promised Su Cha that he would return her deposit when she moved out.

At the end of the month, Su Cha would officially move out of her apartment.

That night, Su Cha's phone was unexpectedly bombarded with all sorts of messages.

As Su Cha had set her phone on silent mode, she only saw the message notifications when she woke up. The messages were not advertisements but rather messages sent by top universities in the country. Su Cha had not only received multiple messages but also several missed calls from these universities.

Chapter 165: Celebration

Su Cha had heard that before the official release of the college entrance examination results, the universities would receive the students' results beforehand.

Because that would give the universities time to snatch the top-performing students.

These universities would only reach out to students based on their qualifications. Only top students from the major cities were worth reaching out to.

Su Cha had never expected to be in such a situation. Although she was confident in her results, she sighed when she saw the messages.

Now, her life was about to really begin.

In the past, Su Cha would have never been met with such a situation. No universities would fight to snatch the old Su Cha and enroll her in their university.

Now, she had the experience of being a top student.

Universities were fighting to enroll Su Cha into their schools. Besides, both the local and overseas universities had reached out to Su Cha.

The universities offered Su Cha great benefits to entice her to enroll in their schools. Other than waiving the tuition and miscellaneous fees, they would even provide her with a scholarship.

The favorable conditions showed that Su Cha must have attained an excellent score.

But, there was an unwritten rule that the universities could not reveal the students' specific results in advance. However, through the information the schools had provided her, Su cha could make an accurate guess.

Top scholar.

They said that she was the top scholar.

Su Cha curled her lips into a smile. Top scholar, this title made everything clear.

However, the universities did not specify the school's top scholar or the city's top scholar. Su Cha did not care about that.

As long as she is the top scholar, it would mean that she is placed first in school.

She had won the bet.

Su Cha closed her eyes and calmed herself down before she headed out.

She knew that in the past, the universities would directly visit the top students to snatch the student for their school. Two years ago, a tragedy happened. A top student lost his life during a brawl involving the student and the administrative staff from the universities. After the accident, universities were banned from physically visiting the students. They could only reach out to students via reasonable means such as calling and sending messages.

The physical act of snatching students was too ugly.

If universities were not banned from physically visiting the students, Su Cha believed that she would not be able to leave her apartment.

Now, it was easy for her to read through some of the messages the schools had sent.

In her heart, Su Cha had decided to enroll in the Imperial Capital University. Of the messages she had received, the Imperial Capital University was one of them. They had called Su Cha, but she did not answer.

Su Cha firmly but politely rejected the other universities who had reached out to her. Su Cha had to be firm to prevent future harassment from the schools.

This was, in fact, one of the troubles top students have to face.

Su Cha had invited Le Anqi and Cai Ziya for dinner. When the girls saw Su Cha, they frowned. Le Anqi asked, "How are you still so calm? How are you relaxed enough to invite us to dinner? The results will be tomorrow, and I'm already so nervous."

Cai Ziya nodded in agreement, "I am so nervous too. I will be going to the Magic Capital. I think with my results, I should be able to enroll in any university there. Su Cha, what about you?"

As compared to the two girls, Su Cha was exceptionally calm. It was usual for the girls to be in a frenzy as the results will be released tomorrow.

"Being nervous does not help."

Su Cha faintly smiled as she offered Cai Ziya and Le Anqi a cup of tea each, "To celebrate, I will treat you guys to this meal."

"Celebrate?"

Le Anqi was puzzled, "What are we celebrating? Didn't we already celebrate our entry into Top 50?"

Cai Ziya, who was more academically inclined, had a better understanding of the college admission process. She suddenly gasped, “You received the notice?”