

Genius 46

Chapter 46 Dark Box Operation_1

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The competition continued, and gradually, people started migrating from Afanti's side to ours, and the queue for our food was steadily growing. After Qin Fang and Tang Feifei repeatedly persuaded them and considering these die-hard fans knew they had to garner more votes for Qin Fang, they reluctantly gave up their spots, albeit unwillingly.

However, the frenzy for the food never ceased. The prime spots at the front of Qin Fang's barbecue station were highly sought after, and nobody seemed to care about the smoke from the grill or the sporadic splashes of grease.

If it wasn't for the presence of the beautiful Tang Feifei by Qin Fang's side, I feared that some girls might have resorted to using their charms.

"Feifei, why don't you sit over there for a while, it's too hot here..."

In the summer heat, with the crowd growing, the temperature soared even higher. Seeing that Tang Feifei's clothes were beginning to get a bit damp, Qin Fang couldn't help but express his concern.

"It's alright, I can hold on!"

Tang Feifei stubbornly shook her head. "I believe it won't be long before we win! Hehe, let's see how they can compete with us..."

Just like Tang Feifei said, the crowd on Qin Fang's side continued to grow, while Afanti's side seemed to dwindle. Even some judges who had been waiting at that side couldn't help but sneak away to ask their friends to snag a few skewers for them.

"Young Master Feng, the situation looks grim!"

This change was quite obvious, and Fatty Li's forehead was dripping with sweat. It wasn't the heat that bothered him, but the tense situation.

"Send someone over to check..."

Li Feng's expression wasn't looking too good. Things seemed to be moving in a direction extremely unfavorable for him. Afanti, who had held a significant advantage, now had barely any, and even seemed to be at a disadvantage.

"Yes..."

Fatty Li nodded immediately and instructed one of his men to blend into the crowd on the other side.

Afanti was also becoming aware that something was amiss. Seeing the decline in popularity on his side while Qin Fang's area was heating up, he could barely maintain the status quo and seemed to have already foreseen his defeat. This made him curious—he couldn't understand how Qin Fang, a barbecue newbie, could surpass the skills of a master like himself, who had been perfecting his technique for over a decade.

"Bring me a skewer..."

Afanti instructed his assistant, continuing his work with increasing unease. Even his craftsmanship seemed to be affected, and the taste was not as good as before. However, the remaining customers didn't say anything; they just quickly tried his food and then headed over to the bustling atmosphere around Qin Fang.

"Young Master Feng..."

In a short while, Fatty Li's man fought his way out of the crowd with a few hard-earned skewers and delivered them to Li Feng.

Li Feng took them, eyeing the unimpressive looking food skeptically. He couldn't believe it tasted better than Afanti's cooking but still took a bite.

A refreshing burst of meaty flavor exploded between his lips, instantly intoxicating Li Feng. He was a connoisseur who had tasted delicacies from all over the world, but this skewer brought him an incredibly unique sensation. Not only was it delicious, but it also seemed to offer a very comforting feeling.

"The voting results will be announced right away..."

After a brief moment of astonishment, Li Feng's face turned ashen, and he shouted at Fatty Li by his side.

As it currently stood, because Qin Fang's side had attracted too many taste-testers, very few had actually tried his food. If voting were to be announced at this moment, then Afanti would gain the upper hand; they still had a chance to win!

Li Pangzi understood this very well and immediately called the host over, giving him strict instructions. With Li Feng's and the barbecue venue's reputation on the line, he didn't dare hesitate.

"The competition time is up, all judges please take your seats! Now I announce, voting officially starts!"

The host also grabbed the microphone and immediately started bellowing out.

"F*ck, I haven't even eaten yet?"

"Isn't this bullying?"

"What the hell, rigging the game..."

However, with the host pulling this stunt, the reaction from the crowd was extremely intense. It was clearly agreed that everyone would try food from both contestants before making a judgment, yet many had only tasted Afanti's, and some hadn't tasted any at all when the competition was announced over.

"Please everyone, quiet down. Due to limited time, the competition cannot continue indefinitely. Essentially all the guests have already sampled both chefs' creations, and voting can now commence! Everyone, please cast your votes into the ballot boxes labeled with the names of the two contestants. We will have officials count the votes to ensure fairness and justice!"

The host didn't care about the cursing from the crowd; he ate from Li Feng's bowl. These guests, no matter how impressive, couldn't feed him, so a few curses didn't matter as long as the job was done right. Then, he could wait for a promotion and pay raise!

"Shameless, truly shameless!"

"Fair and just my ass!"

"Even this competition is rigged, utterly shameless..."

The cursing continued, but it didn't cause much impact. Apart from those who were unhappy because they hadn't eaten their fill, many were complaining out of a sense of injustice on behalf of Qin Fang.

"Looks like it'll be tough for us to win..."

Qin Fang could only give a wry smile. It was clear that the person with power would swing the biggest fist. Competing on Li Feng's turf, being 'censored' seemed inevitable, but he hadn't expected Li Feng to be so utterly shameless.

"Hmph, what a shameless person! Qin Fang, we still have lots of people supporting us, it's not certain we'll lose..."

Tang Feifei also glanced over at Li Feng, then humphed and cursed under her breath, while not forgetting to bolster Qin Fang's spirits.

With the organizers making such an announcement, the guests and judges had no choice but to gather together in small groups, waiting to cast their votes. Activities like canvassing for votes were naturally out of the question, and Li Feng certainly wouldn't give Qin Fang that kind of opportunity.

The official voting began, and the majority of guests who hadn't tasted Qin Fang's barbecue hesitated. Without comparison, they couldn't know how good Qin Fang's skills were, but Afanti's food had already greatly whetted their appetites; naturally, Afanti became their first choice for voting.

Within just a few short minutes, the ballots for Afanti had already surpassed twenty, whereas only a sprinkling of two or three votes had been cast for Qin Fang; most people were still hesitating.

"Young Master Feng, that's brilliant, truly brilliant..."

Seeing the situation, Li Pangzi immediately flattered him, and Li Feng was obviously very pleased, his smile growing even broader as he looked at Qin Fang standing there somewhat helplessly.

However, just noticing Tang Feifei gently comforting Qin Fang was enough to instantly erase Li Feng's joy, leaving only a jealous fury in his eyes...