Limits 731

Chapter 731

While her two roommates chatted, Luna's eyes scanned the surroundings for any handsome guys.

Then, she spotted Jack not far away.

Her eyes lit up, and she couldn't help but greet him first.

"Hey, handsome. Long time no see!"

Luna would never forget the shock of seeing Jack ring the bell at the New Vork Stock Exchange on the massive Pulse Point screen. Now, with this handsome guy standing right in front of her, it felt almost surreal.

Thinking back, Luna used to tease Jack often. Every time she recalled those days, even she couldn't help but laugh.

Seeing the three women, a faint smile appeared on Jack's face. He greeted Luna politely, "Hey there."

Even though Bella was no longer around, they had once known each other. Saying hello and chatting a bit was only natural.

Remy and Gigi also lit up slightly when they saw Jack, then nodded at him.

Remy took the initiative to greet him.

"Looking good, handsome. Where are you heading? Got yourself a new girlfriend?"

They still didn't know about Jac and Feena. Jack, of course, had no intention of bringing it up.

"I'm heading to grab some food. What about you guys?" Jack replied.

"We just finished eating," Luna jumped in, eyeing Jack for a moment before smiling. "It's been so long. Do you still think about Bella?"

The question made Jack a little uncomfortable.

Did he still think of her? Of course he did.

But he was now with Feena, in the midst of a sweet relationship. He wasn't supposed to be holding on to thoughts of Bella.

Those memories should have been left behind with the wind.

Luna, who was sharp-eyed and well-versed in the subtleties of relationships,

could already guess most of what Jack was feeling.

With a gentle smile, she said, "Do you still miss Bella? Do you want us to give you her contact info?"

Jack's eyes lit up at that. "You have Bella's contact?"

Luna nodded with a grin. "Yeah. After her mom changed it, she got a new one

again. We've got her WhatsApp and phone number."

She blinked playfully and asked with a teasing smile, "Do you want it?"

But Jack replied, "Bella didn't ask you to give it to me, did she?"

Luna paused for a moment. She quickly picked up on the meaning behind Jack's words, but still answered truthfully.

"Well, I guess she probably just forgot?"

Which meant Bella gave her new contact info to Luna and the others, but not to Jack?

Maybe Bella was afraid her mother would find out they were in touch, so she chose not to contact him.

But the fact that she stayed in touch with Luna, Remy, and Gigi, yet didn't reach out to him, left Jack with a bitter taste.

Even though he was with Feena now, a small part of Jack had still held on to a few unrealistic hopes about Bella.

But after hearing Luna's words, he felt like it was time to let those go.

He was disappointed-but also at peace.

Seeing the change in Jack's expression, Luna felt a little bad. She wondered if she had said too much and ended up hurting him.

After thinking for a moment, Luna added.

Chapter 732

"I think... Bells must have not told you about her new contact information because her mom is keeping a close eye on her," Luna explained. "Besides, she could have shared the information with us thinking that we would eventually share it with you?"

Remy hurriedly chimed in, "She's right! Bells probably wanted us to tell you!"

Jack knew that they were trying to comfort him, so he only smiled at them without saying a word. However, Luna seemed to hesitate when she pulled out her phone. She said, "Here, why don't I give Bell's number and WhatsApp to you? Don't lose them!"

He quickly shook his head and said, "There's no need."

Since Bella didn't have any intention to tell him, Jack figured that he didn't need it. Besides, he was with Feena now. It would be deeply disrespectful to her if he continued to hold on to his lingering feelings for Bella.

Luna could care less if Jack wanted the information or not. She pulled out her phone and started reciting a string of numbers to Jack.

However, she was disappointed when he noticed that Jack kept his phone in his pocket and didn't bother noting down Bella's new contact information. Despite her disappointment, a wave of relief also washed over her.

It was a shame since Jack and Bella would be considered a match made in heaven at that moment. An unfulfilled love always had a way of making one's chest tighten uncomfortably, after all.

On the other hand, her relief stemmed from the knowledge that Jack would never belong to Bella. At the end of the day, she was just a woman and had the capacity to get jealous.

Jack continued to chat idly with Luna and the other ladies.

"If you're free let's go out for a meal together, handsome!" Luna eventually suggested. "It's to thank you for helping me out when we were in Federia."

Jack blinked at her playfully before he answered her with a flippant smile, "If there comes an opportunity for it, sure."

Jack strolled along the road that led to the canteen after he bid his farewells to Luna and her friends, Bella's number bobbing around in his mind after Luna had announced the string of numbers to him earlier.

Jack had an excellent memory. He was able to recall anything with crystal clear clarity even if he had only glanced at it once.

Even when he was eating, Bella's new number continued to haunt his thoughts. He wondered if he should try giving her a call.

Jack knew that it would be unfair to Feena if he did call Bella. It was as if he was betraying the relationship he had with Feena at that moment.

However, at the end of the day, he was just a man. He wanted to hear what Bella was truly thinking, wanted to know why she had disappeared without so much as a word to him.

Why did she leave him with only that letter that hurt him so deeply?

Still with these thoughts swirling in his head, Jack wandered toward the lake that was next to the university after he was done with his meal. He stared at the lake and let himself get lost in his thoughts.

The surface of the lake glimmered with the colors of spring that was slowly giving way to summer. Occasionally, he would see couples being affectionate with one another as they strolled along the sidewalk. Some would stop in their tracks and feed the fish that lived in the lake.

The couples appeared to not have a single care in the world as they basked in the happiness of their relationship.

It made Jack recall how he had behaved when his romance with Bella had reached its peak. They were just as sweet and inseparable. It was a shame that

they had ultimately decided to walk their own paths.

Jack pulled his phone out and stared at it unsurely before finally deciding to throw

all caution to the wind. He dialed Bella's number.

The dial tone continued for a few seconds before the call connected.

A light and feminine voice echoed from the receiver. "Hello?"

It was Bella's voice. Although the tone was faint and a little cold, Jack would

recognize the raspiness in her sweet voice anywhere.

"Hello? Who is this?" Bella asked after realizing that Jack hadn't spoken a single word.

Jack suddenly felt a heaviness pressing down on his heart. He still remembered Bella's old number. Perhaps he wouldn't remember it forever, but for the time being, he could still recall it as easily as breathing.

However, Bella didn't remember Jack's number, which was probably why she sounded so distant from him. Jack guessed that she hadn't paid much attention to his number after saving it to her contact list.

The problem was that Jack didn't know what to say in response to the distance in her tone.

"I..."

Chapter 733

"Sir, if you have nothing to say to me, then I'm going to hang up. I have other things to do," Bella said.

She sounded rather impatient, perhaps due to the fact that Jack had stayed mute for so long. Perhaps she thought that he was a prankster with nothing better to do than to prank call others. She hadn't recognized Jack's voice from the single word he had managed to squeeze past his lips.

Was he such a stranger to her now that she couldn't recognize Jack's voice anymore? Unless she did recognize his voice but her feelings for Jack had faded with the passing of time, so she chose not to acknowledge him. Were the vows of love that they had promised each other once upon a time broken beyond repair?

Jack started to suspect if Bella had always just treated him as a part of her game. However, he had fallen deeply into her trap and was unable to escape from it.

Noticing that Jack continued to stay silent, Bella asked again, "Who are you?"

A soft but masculine voice echoed from the receiver, asking, "Who is it?"

"A weird stranger. He refuses to speak, so I'm assuming he must be some sort of scammer."

She cut the line then. Her words were so familiar and yet so unfamiliar at the same time.

Jack continued to be in a daze as he clutched his phone in his head. His heart felt incredibly hollow at that moment. Before Bella disconnected the call, he had heard a masculine voice on the other end of the line.

A storm of chaotic thoughts began to rage in his mind as he wondered if the man's voice belonged to Bella's current boyfriend. It couldn't be, could it?

Bella was beautiful and had an outstanding personality. She was the type of woman who drove men crazy and never lacked any suitors. It was only natural that she would have a boyfriend.

Jack felt dizzy just thinking about it. He wasn't the type of foolish man who would let himself be influenced by his emotions, but when he thought about Bella throwing herself into another man's arms, he couldn't help feeling terribly upset.

Perhaps the reality would be as Bella described in her letter. Whenever they met again in the future, they would be completely different people who might not have much to say to the other.

That night, as Jack lay in bed after returning to the dorm, the images of three women cycled in his thoughts. The first one was Bella, followed by Feena, and finally Phoebe. Jack could feel his emotions surging whenever he thought about Phoebe.

In his heart, Phoebe was an untouchable existence, not unlike a fairy. The position she occupied in his heart was even higher than Bella and Feena. However, Phoebe was abroad. When he thought about how he might never run into her in this lifetime, he couldn't help but feel upset.

He wondered what Phoebe was up to at that moment. He wanted to get in touch with her, but had no way of doing so. After all, she was oceans away in another country, and he didn't have any of her contact information.

As he tossed and turned on the bed, Jack suddenly recalled the existence of Haven Connect.

The current version of Haven Connect was akin to an instant messaging service. The app's popularity was on par with Facebook and TikTok within the country. In fact, it could even be argued that Haven Connect had surpassed Facebook and Tik Tok's popularity.

One of Haven Connect's most basic functions was to connect the world, to be a platform where friends who resided all over the globe could gather and spend time together.

Jack logged into his Haven Connect account and used the advanced search function to seek out Phoebe's profile from amongst his circle of friends.

The app was immensely popular in Euphoria, so there was a good chance that Phoebe had created an account. If Jack added her as a friend, he would be able to follow what she was up to on a daily basis.

He quickly put his plan into motion. He logged into his account and was just about to set the parameters to be able to accurately pinpoint Phoebe's profile when he was hit with a barrage of messages from his friends and friend requests from strangers.

It had been a long time since he logged into his account, and he didn't expect that so many people would want to connect with him.

Despite being the founder of the company, Jack rarely used Haven Connect. His account was amongst the first that was created, thus it had a unique ID that stood out from the other accounts.

Chapter 734

Jack approved his pending friend requests one after another.

An account that had the username "Pale Frost" caught his attention. The user had

a message pinned to the top of their page that read, "Do you keep my present close to you? When the night is quiet, would you perhaps spare a thought for me?"

However, what caught Jack's attention the most was the user's profile picture. In it, there was a woman with long, flowing hair. Her stature looked quite small as she sat on a bench, and her gaze was pointed in a direction far off into the distance, giving her an almost lonely bearing.

Jack couldn't believe his eyes. The woman in the picture was Phoebe. Not only that, but he also remembered that bench.

She was in the same spot where he had bumped into her during his time in Brightland. Phoebe had been seated on that very same bench as they engaged each other in lively conversation.

Across the bench was a crystal clear lake. The air around them was refreshing, and Phoebe's presence seemed to add a touch of divine to the place.

Jack had no idea who was the receiver of the present she was referring to in her pinned message. However, he was still quietly elated when he realized that Phoebe had sent him a friend request of her own volition. When he checked when she had sent him the request, he noticed that it had been over a month ago.

Luckily, Haven Connect had a function that allowed the users to set when their requests would expire.

Jack went ahead and approved Phoebe's request. He assumed she wouldn't be online and figured that it wouldn't be too late for him to chat with her when she

was.

However, he was surprised when a chat window suddenly popped up with Phoebe's profile picture displayed at the very top of it.

"Is this Jack? Hello there, it's Phoebe!" was the first message that appeared, followed by a cute but bashful emoji.

Jack didn't expect that Phoebe would be online at that moment. Not only that, but she had initiated the conversation with him of her own accord. Jack felt his heart flutter as he sent a smiling emoji in response.

"Yes, it's me. I just got online."

"Wow! If I'm remembering correctly, it should be around 10:00 pm where you're at right now? Why aren't you asleep yet? You need to take care of your body!"

Although Jack had always known that Phoebe had a warm heart beneath her cold exterior, he couldn't help but be moved by her concern. It didn't matter that the concern might purely stem from her being polite.

"Thank you for your concern," Jack replied. "What about you? Aren't you sleeping yet?"

Phoebe's reply was swift. "Haha! Have you forgotten that I'm in Vexburg? I'm in a different timezone from you! It's currently daytime for me."

Jack quickly realized his mistake and switched the topic, instead asking Phoebe about her life in Vexburg. Since she had officially transferred over, he was curious if she was able to adapt to the lifestyle there. He wondered if she was the same

as she was when she was a student of Crestfield High School and Alnewgo University and was curious if she was still a reputable figure in Brightland University.

Jack led most of their conversation with his questions while Phoebe dutifully answered each and every one of them. He didn't feel like he was being neglected by her since her replies were very quick.

As the conversation dragged on, Jack suddenly found himself at a loss of what to say next. He checked the time and realized that he had unknowingly chatted with Phoebe for more than an hour. It was nearing midnight, and his phone's battery was nearly drained.

"Phoebe, it's getting late over here, so I'm going to head to bed. Thank you for chatting with me for so long. Let's talk again soon when we're both free!"

After sending his message, Jack was about to log out of Haven Connect when he was stopped by Phoebe's reply.

"Wait," she said.

"Is there something else?" Jack asked.

Chapter 735

"I heard that you're with Feena now. Is that true?" Phoebe asked in her next

message.

A considerable amount of time had passed before Phoebe finally sent the message to Jack. He suspected that she had actually fought with herself as to whether she was going to send it at all.

After all, Phoebe had always been an indifferent person who didn't seem to be concerned with what was going on in the world. She definitely wasn't the type to engage in gossip.

It wasn't a big deal that Phoebe knew about him being with Feena. They were often together, and Wesley had been the first one to find out about them. There was no way that Wesley, with his big mouth, would be able to keep such an earth- shattering revelation a secret for long.

Furthermore, Feena liked to post about them on her social media, so everyone who was a part of her circle was also in the know.

Even though Phoebe was all the way in Brightland, she wasn't actually cut off from the world. Just because it had been a long time since she chatted with Jack didn't mean that she wasn't in contact with her other friends.

Besides, for someone like Jack, who was a legendary figure, and Feena, who was also someone who was close to being a legendary figure, to be dating each other, it was only natural that their relationship would be used as a topic of conversation whenever people gathered around to share a meal.

Jack had no plans to hide the truth from Phoebe. His fingers flew across the screen as he typed out a reply. "That's right. I've been with Feena for quite some time now."

"I see!"

A whole 10 seconds passed before Phoebe's next message appeared. "Then... I have to congratulate you! Who's to say that the two of you won't get married in the future? Did you know? After I found out about you and Feena being a couple, all I could think about was the scene of you confessing your love to her by the river."

"You remember that?"

"Of course, I do! I often wondered why Feena would reject you since you're such a great guy. I even thought that Feena must have made an error in judgment. She's such an intelligent person, after all. Who knew that the two of you would eventually get together."

Jack's heart filled with gratitude upon hearing Phoebe's praises.

Phoebe's next message read, "But Jack, I also wanted to ask you what happened with Bella since you're together with Feena now."

Jack felt his chest tighten as he typed out a reply. He couldn't help but recall Bella's voice from earlier, and how she had sounded both so familiar and yet like a stranger to him at the same time. "We broke up a long time ago, so our relationship has also gone with the wind."

"You... you're truly willing to let go of Bella? If she finds out that you've given up on waiting for her and that you're dating Feena now, wouldn't she be so upset?"

"I don't think so," Jack replied. "Actually, I called her earlier today. However, she treated me like I was a stranger."

He proceeded to describe to Phoebe how his conversation with Bella had gone, including the tone she had used with him.

"What happened to her?" Phoebe couldn't quite believe what Jack had told her. "So you're suspecting that Bella was just playing with your feelings all along? But... I don't think she would do that!"

After all, Phoebe was a woman, and a woman's intuition was typically quite accurate. Furthermore, her dorm had been close to Bella's when they were both still in Alnewgo University. Rumors of her relationship with Jack would often spread until reached Phoebe's ears.

At least from what Phoebe had seen, Bella's feelings for Jack had been genuine. If not, then she was a truly frightening person for harboring such malicious intentions.

Jack wasn't able to provide an answer for Phoebe's confusion. He also wished to know the real truth. Unfortunately, he would probably never get the answers to his questions.

Drowsiness began to creep up on Jack as his conversation with Phoebe dragged on late into the night. He bid his farewells to her before falling into a deep sleep.

In his dreams, he realized that not only was he with Feena, but Bella and Phoebe

had also appeared by his side. The three women confessed their love to him, with Phoebe even saying, "I love you."

Chapter 736

Feena, Phoebe, and Bella weren't bothered by each other's presence, which allowed Jack to enjoy a wonderful life where he could have all three of them.

However, the dream faded away when he woke up. His stomach was growling loudly, demanding to be fed, for the dream had left nothing in its wake, not even a single slice of bread for him to stave off his hunger.

...

The much anticipated college entrance exams had finally arrived.

It was June 6th, a day before the exams would start.

Jack called Joanne to give her advice, reminding her to stay calm when she was taking the exam. He then engaged in idle chatter with her and told her not to stress herself too much by aiming too high-she just had to do her very best.

No matter what Joanne's results were, her family would always support her. Joanne appeared to be quite relaxed. After she was done speaking with Jack, she helped Helena with the chores around the house. She looked to be very calm despite the exams looming over her head the next day.

Perthter City had gorgeous weather on June 7th and June 8th. The sun shone brightly in the sky while a gentle breeze blew across the city.

Joanne entered the exam hall with light steps, looking as cool as a cucumber, not at all like Jack, who had played the hero right before it was his turn to sit for the

exams.

The college entrance exam season was a busy and anxious time for all students, but ultimately, they survived it.

Jack called Joanne again on June 8th, around night time, asking her how her exams had gone.

"Not bad," Joanne replied in an easy tone, which finally dispelled the worry that had festered in Jack's heart.

The next day, Joanne's estimated score was released. Although Joanne was the one who sat for the exams, Jack couldn't help but feel nervous for her as her elder brother. He was worried that her results would be less than stellar.

Joanne usually scored well on her exams, but a student's college entrance exams results largely depended on how well they could perform under immense stress.

There were many cases where students who usually did well on their exams would cave under the pressure of being in the exam hall and end up scoring badly. They would then go on to regret their poor performance for the rest of their lives.

Joanne's estimated score would be a good indicator on how well she performed during the exams. Most people who had thoroughly prepared for it would usually have a favorable estimated score.

Jack chose to call Joanne some time in the afternoon. After hearing that her estimated score was around 650 points, his heart that had been stuck in his throat for most of the day finally returned to its original position.

Joanne was the type to play it safe, so 650 points must be her lowest projected score. There was a good chance that her score was actually higher and in between 680 to 690 points. Her results were more than good enough to land her a spot in prestigious universities such as Lightfield University or Tarrington University.

However, Joanne's dream had always been to attend the same university as Jack. With her results, she should have no issues enrolling in Alnewgo University. Of course, these were all just Jack's speculations. Her actual results would only be released a month later.

As Joanne waited anxiously for her college entrance exams results to be released, summer had also officially arrived. It wouldn't be long before summer break began.

A number of things happened during this time.

Haven Connect's registered users officially crossed the 800 million mark.

After emerging victorious against Capitol University, Isaac and Joshua suffered defeat at the hands of Capitol University of Technology in the semi-finals. However, they had still left their mark on Alnewgo University's basketball team's history books. They had led the team to heights that had not been achieved before, and as the core of the team, their statistics showed outstanding results. They even managed to capture the attention of scouts from the National Basketball Association. Suddenly, their dreams of being professional basketball players no longer seemed so far-fetched and out of reach.

With the juniors' year in Alnewgo University coming to close, the seniors dumped their thick and heavy textbooks into duffel bags and tried to sell them on campus. The money they had saved up in these duffel bags was only enough to buy a bag of books.

A faint melancholy permeated the air around campus as graduation season approached. That year, Soul's campus ballad, "Time", began to play on the radio again across the country, gently washing away the inevitable sadness that the graduates felt at the prospect of having to leave their respective schools.

The juniors resonated deeply with the melancholic feelings as well. Even though they were only in their third year of college, they had already begun their preparations for their own graduation.

Chapter 737

Many students were beginning to have to make decisions that would determine

the course of their future. Some chose to pursue a master's degree, some chose to try their luck at taking the civil service examination, while some chose to look

for a job.

Some students who were from affluent families chose to delay their entrance into society, instead choosing to travel the world after their graduation.

Isaac and Joshua had clear ambitions while Samuel was already part of a business since he followed after Jack. Only Ronnie, who had spent most of the year addicted to playing games, did not have a clear direction for his future.

There were many students who were just as befuddled as Ronnie even though they would be graduating from university soon. Not everyone in the dormitory was destined to leave their mark as a legendary figure on campus, but not everyone would end up at the bottom of the barrel when it came to their education as well.

When one looked back after several years had passed, they would realize that some people shone brighter than others, while some people faded into obscurity.

Summer break started for most high schools, which also meant that the release date for the college entrance exams results had arrived. The Hollands didn't have a working internet connection at home because of Joanne, so she had no choice but to visit a cyber cafe with her friend to check her results.

They chose a cyber cafe that was located closest to Jack's home. The establishment was a regular haunt for Jack, Wesley, and Eddie back in the day. They had even checked their own college entrance exams results at the very same cafe when they sat for their exams.

When Joanne and her friend, Millie Erikson, entered the cyber cafe, they noticed that it was packed with people. Many other students were also visiting the cafe to check their results.

Ever since Jack discovered that he was the top scholar of the province after checking his results at Royal Dynasty Cyber Cafe three years ago, the place would be packed with people once the exam results season rolled around. They believed in the superstition that Royal Dynasty Cyber Cafe was a lucky location and hoped that some of the establishment's good fortune would rub off on them, so they would get a favorable result.

Joanne and Millie could only stand outside the cyber cafe as they waited for a booth to free up. As they waited, they noticed that there was a computer that was clearly of an older model tucked away in a corner. It seemed that that particular computer had been separated from the rest since a thick layer of dust had settled atop it.

Curiosity piqued, Millie asked one of the employees, "Hey, handsome, why isn't anyone using that computer? Is there something wrong with it?"

The employee, who was named Percy Harris, glanced at the dust-covered computer before a smile stretched across his face. "Maybe the two of you aren't aware, but that computer was the very same one that the top scholar used in the past. He checked his results on that computer and found out he was the top scholar of the province."

Percy was obviously implying that the top scholar had only achieved such stellar results because he had entered their establishment and used that particular computer.

Millie's eyes brightened. She asked, "Can we use that computer to check our results?"

Seeing how Percy hesitated, Millie begged him in a coy voice. "Come on, you can let us check our results on that computer, can't you? Maybe we'll score flying colors on our results if we checked it on that computer. Who's to say that the next top scholar of our province isn't either one of us?"

Millie pulled Joanne to her side before continuing, "You might not believe me, but my best friend is an ace at studying! If she manages to achieve a high score, you could promote her achievement everywhere and get more people to visit your cyber cafe!"

Percy looked at Joanne, who had turned rather bashful. He realized that both Millie and Joanne were pretty and had an energetic air about them. Furthermore, his heart had skipped a beat at the coy way Millie had spoken to him. He found it immensely difficult to deny the request of a pretty lady.

However, he didn't believe another top scholar would magically appear like Millie described. He only hesitated because the owner of the cyber cafe had forbidden anyone else from using the computer. He had turned it into a landmark of sorts for people to visit.

Even if he could get permission from the owner, the software was very outdated, so the computer would most likely run very slowly. It might take over half an hour just for the computer to switch on.

Seeing the hesitation that lingered on Percy's face, Millie continued her coy assault. "Can you turn the computer on for us, please? I guarantee you that our results will not embarrass the top scholar who used it in the past.

"Besides, the cafe is packed with people! Who knows how long we'll have to wait before we get a chance to check our results."

Chapter 738

Percy looked around and noticed that there were a lot of people around. He finally relented and said, "Fine! The two of you can use this computer. However, I do have to warn you that it's been a long time since anyone used it, so the software is outdated.

"I don't want to hear any complaints when you realize how long it takes just to load a single page! The fee will be the same as well. I'll only boot it up if you're absolutely sure that you want to use it."

"We want to use it!" Millie exclaimed while nodding her head vigorously.

Joanne also nodded her head in agreement. When she heard Percy explain how the top scholar of the province had once used the computer, she immediately knew that Jack was the one who had used it.

She could feel anticipation building within her chest at the prospect of using the same computer Jack had used to check his results. Perhaps some of his luck would rub off on her.

Percy wasn't lying when he warned them about the computer being slow. They could even hear the computer humming loudly when he switched it on. After it was fully booted up, they had to wait for the antivirus to finish its sweep over the files before they were allowed to use the computer.

"It's all ready now. You can go ahead and use it," he said.

Millie nodded before she turned to Joanne and said, "Why don't you check your results first, Joanne?"

Joanne shook her head in response. "You can check yours first!"

Millie pondered her words for a short moment. She decided to take Joanne up on her offer and planted herself onto the seat.

She worried that she would lose the courage to check her results after seeing Joanne's. She was extremely talented when it came to her academics, so Millie had no doubt that she would have a great score.

A string of numbers appeared after Millie entered her ID number into the system. The total points one could score for the college entrance exam was 750 points. After tallying all her results, Millie had scored 544 points.

Millie would have no problem enrolling into first-tier universities with her results. 544 points was already considered a high score for Millie, since she usually only scored a little over 500 points normally. A radiant smile bloomed across Millie's face after she found out her results.

Following the rapid advancement of technology, the speed of the internet also improved by leaps and bounds. Thus, even the education department's website loaded faster, allowing the students to check their results in a more timely manner. Three years ago when Jack had checked his results, it had taken him a good half an hour before he was able to log in on the website. Furthermore, too many people had tried to access the website at the same time, which caused the entire site to crash at one point with error messages popping up all over the screen.

Such a situation would never occur again following the rapid advancement of internet technology.

Millie vacated the seat after she was done checking her results, leaving Joanne to take her place in front of the computer. Her fingers flew across the keyboard as she typed in her ID number. Just as before, a string of numbers appeared after she typed the final number into the search bar.

"Mathematics: 138 points."

"Language: 133 points."

"Foreign Language: 145 points."

"Science: 268 points."

Joanne's total score tallied up to 684 points! However, the most eye-catching part of her results was the position she had placed in the entire province. Just as Jack had achieved in the past, Joanne had achieved a stunning first place.

Joanne had inherited Jack's excellence, turning her into the new torchbearer that represented the top scholar of the province.

Next to her, Millie's eyes widened to the size of saucers when she noticed Joanne's score and her placing in the entire province. She covered her mouth with her hand as she let out a surprised gasp.

Joanne was actually the top scholar of their province! It was a near unbelievable feat. The entire situation felt incredibly unreal to Millie.

A flush had appeared on Joanne's face as well. She had a hard time processing what she was looking at.

Chapter 739

Although Joanne had indeed reported a lower score estimation to play it safe, she had no idea she would actually achieve such a high score of 684 points. What surprised her even more was the fact that she had managed to follow in Jack's footsteps, achieving the position of top scholar of the province.

Her heart was in chaos at the sudden turn of events, but she also felt a small sense of pride. She hadn't disappointed Jack's expectations of her.

"Jack, are you watching over me?" Joanne thought to herself. "I've also become a top scholar of the province, just like you!"

Millie's gasp of surprise had attracted Percy's attention, who was standing nearby and playing a game.

His tone sounded displeased when he said, "I already told you, the machine isn't the best, so it might not function properly. Let me remind you once again that you still have to pay the fee even if the computer malfunctions!"

Percy assumed that the computer was malfunctioning, which was why Millie had let out that surprised gasp.

Her temper exploded upon hearing his stern words. She stamped her feet in anger and rolled her eyes at Percy before saying, "Open your eyes wider, and take a closer look. Who said that the computer was malfunctioning?"

Percy wondered what could have elicited such a reaction from Millie if the machine wasn't malfunctioning. He moved closer, curiosity piqued. He immediately noticed the string of numbers on the screen when he glanced at it, as well as the eye-popping title of "first place in the province".

"What... What..."

Percy was left speechless as he struggled to find words. When he finally found his voice again, he let out a strange yelp. "What the fuck! A top scholar? You're actually another top scholar?"

His exclamation was akin to a bomb that had been tossed into a calm lake, causing large waves to ripple along the surface. He had attracted the attention of the other students who were also checking their results as they trotted over to find out what the commotion was all about.

"Who's causing a racket over here? Why are you making mountains out of molehills?"

"Oh fuck, that's another top scholar! Another top scholar has appeared at Royal Dynasty Cyber Cafe!"

"Is he telling the truth? Don't try to lie to me! Let me take a look for myself..."

"What the hell? That's too awesome!"

The students whispered amongst themselves as more and more people laid their eyes on the phrase "first place in the province". Their whispers eventually morphed into full-blown discussions as they shot envious and respectful glances at Joanne.

A new top scholar of the province had been born in Perthter City, in Royal Dynasty Cyber Cafe no less. It was an incredible turn of events. Could the rumor that Royal Dynasty was the promised land for all students be true?

Was it possible that as long as one checked their results here, there was a chance that they too would achieve the title of top scholar of the province? Even if they weren't the top scholar, they could perhaps score a result that was higher than normal.

Percy finally regained his senses. His hands were trembling when he pulled out his phone and rushed to call his boss. "Hello! Boss, is that you? Oh my god-I have great news for you! A student who checked their college entrance exam results in the cafe turned out to be the top scholar of the province!

"That's right! A new top scholar has made an appearance. You need to hurry over here to see for yourself!"

The owner of Royal Dynasty Cyber Cafe was a man called Terence Dormin, and he had been operating the cafe for many years. Although the cafe's business had steadily worsened following the

advancements of computers and phones, Royal Dynasty was still the preferred cyber cafe for the patrons that lived nearby.

Terence discovered a lucrative business opportunity when the first top scholar of the province had been born in his cyber cafe. He could use the "top scholar" card to attract more customers to visit the establishment.

He even installed several learning programs and tutorials on the computers, promoting the cafe as a place where customers could visit to not only play games, but also learn. The students who were fond of visiting cyber cafes could boldly use the excuse that they were visiting Royal Dynasty to learn and gather information when their parents tried to stop them.

As for the parents who had to deal with such boldness, after they discovered that their child was visiting Royal Dynasty, they became less opposed to the idea.

Everyone was somewhat superstitious. When Royal Dynasty produced a top scholar of the province all those years ago, many parents became convinced that the establishment was the promised land for students who were looking to score good results.

Chapter 740

Terence's tactics had produced effective results. Royal Dynasty Cyber Cafe had managed to survive despite how the other cyber cafes struggled to stay in business. However, the advent of mobile gaming dealt a harsh blow to cyber cafes.

Terence had just been considering the idea of transferring the ownership of the cyber cafe to someone else when he received the call from Percy. He had exclaimed excitedly through the phone that a patron had visited the cafe to check her results, only to discover that she was the top scholar of the province.

The news created a golden opportunity for Royal Dynasty Cyber Cafe to make a comeback after their business was beginning to fail. Terence's heart hammered against his chest just thinking about the possibilities that were available to him.

Royal Dynasty Cyber Cafe had basked in the spotlight for a good while three years ago when they produced a top scholar of the province. He never would have imagined that another one would show up at their doorstep!

"You're not pulling my leg, are you, brat?" Terence asked, his voice dripping with disbelief.

Percy declared, "I wouldn't dare do such a thing to you, Boss! She discovered that she's the top scholar after checking her results on that old and dusty computer- Oh, that's right! It's the same computer that the previous top scholar used in the past!

"Don't be stingy, Mr. Dormin. You have to treat all of us to a grand feast tonight!" "Of course, I will!" Terence agreed easily.

Hearing how confident Percy sounded over the phone, Terence couldn't hold back the elation that bubbled in his heart. He quickly gave Percy a few orders to carry

out.

"Hurry and save the page of the results! Also, whatever you do, do not turn off that computer! I want to display that page on banners and set off firecrackers! I want to celebrate the fact that our cafe has once again produced another top scholar of the province!"

Perhaps it was pure dumb luck that a top scholar had appeared at the establishment the first time. However, they had managed to produce not just one, but two top scholars. It proved that Royal Dynasty Cyber Cafe was indeed the promised land for all students who wished to score a good result.

If Terence managed the promotions well, Royal Dynasty Cyber Cafe would be able to return to its former glory as business started coming in again.

Percy was grinning ear-to-ear when he ended the call. As long as there was good business at the cafe, Terence would also reward him handsomely. He was all smiles when he turned to Joanne and said, "You're amazing, miss! I didn't get to meet the top scholar from three years ago, so you're the first one I've ever met in person! You're really too awesome!"

"It's also my first time seeing a top scholar in the flesh. It's amazing!"

"I can't believe that she's a beauty too. She's got the brains and the looks."

"Pretty Miss Top Scholar, can I take a picture with you? Can I also get your autograph?"

Someone noticed that Joanne's appearance was similar to the top scholar from three years ago. They couldn't help themselves as they teased her.

"You're Joanne Holland? I remember the top scholar from three years ago also had the last name Holland. I think his full name was Jack Holland. How curious that both of you share the same last name. Don't tell me that the two of you are actually related?"

Joanne only smiled lightly before she answered in a gentle voice, "Jack is my elder brother. He used this very computer three years ago to check his results and discover that he was the top scholar of the province at the time."

"Wow! So, he's your actual brother!" Millie chimed in from the side.

Seeing how the people were tripping over themselves to worship Joanne, Millie also felt a strong sense of pride as her best friend. Not everyone could boast about having a best friend that was also the top scholar of the province, after all.

Later on, Millie and Joanne held hands as they exited the cafe with light footsteps. They were like two comets that were streaking across the night sky, brilliant but ephemeral. The crowd could only watch as they eventually disappeared from their sights.

There was one thing that was certain, Royal Dynasty Cyber Cafe was about to experience its second coming. Meanwhile, news of the Holland siblings achieving the title of top scholar of the province respectively spread like wildfire all across Perthter City.

It was such a wonderful story, becoming a hot topic of conversation for the citizens of Perthter City who gathered to share a meal.