

The Queen 196

Chapter 196: Doubtfulness

On WeChat, Ya Yazhou fell silent.

In fact, she did not know what the Tang embroidery signified.

But, she had vaguely heard of the Tang embroidery method.

After all, in China, embroidery had a long, rich history of several thousand years. Of course, some embroidery methods were unfortunately lost, and the Tang embroidery method was one of them.

Tang embroidery was similar to Suzhou embroidery as both methods bring out the vigor and the dynamics of living things.

However, the Tang embroidery method surpassed the Suzhou embroidery method as it could bring the embroidered design to life.

Due to the complicated and obscure needlework, the Tang embroidery method is extremely time-consuming. The combination of these factors resulted in the eventual loss of the art form. To date, no one knows how to embroider using the Tang embroidery method.

When Su Cha brought up the topic of Tang embroidery, it was clear that Ya Yazhou did not know much about the subject.

When she heard that Su Cha was reintroducing the lost Tang embroidery method, Ya Yazhou was stunned.

Su Cha had suggested that Ya Yazhou should get an expert's verification. After thinking about it, Ya Yazhou decided that it would be best to speak to an expert about it.

Although she did not know how to execute the Tang embroidery method, Ya Yazhou understood the needlework involved.

At first glance, Ya Yazhou could tell that Su Cha was an embroidery expert who used advanced needlework. As the Meiyin video was sped-up, Ya Yazhou could only identify some steps in the needlework. But, it would be too difficult for her to follow along and learn.

Most importantly, it was an embroidery method that Ya Yazhou had never seen before.

Ya Yazhou: Thank you, will you be interested in joining the Embroidery Union?

Cha Yi: Embroidery Union?

Su Cha had heard a little about the Embroidery Union. It had an organizational structure with official titles, guidelines, and policies to safeguard the interests of the group and its members.

Ya Yazhou: I am part of the Embroidery Union in the Imperial Capital. With your skills, you are qualified to join our Union. There are also many benefits to joining the Union. For instance, bonuses and certificates will be awarded to members who win the grand prize in the different competitions...

The embroidery industry had to adapt to changes in the world. If the industry wanted this traditional skill to be passed down to the younger generations, it had to arouse the youngsters' interest in adopting this art form.

To respond to societal changes, embroidery competitions and unions emerged.

After all, most people who are leading a fast-past life in today's contemporary society would find embroidering with a needle and thread to be boring.

Cha Yi: Thank you, let's discuss that another time. I'm currently quite busy.

Ya Yazhou: Okay. If you are interested in joining, do contact me.

Su Cha considered joining the Embroidery Union. She felt that she had not figured out how the unions work. Su Cha did not know the differences between the unions or how they would resolve differences in skills and techniques among its members. Hence, Su Cha rejected the invitation as she believed that it was currently unsuitable for her.

Besides, she was extremely busy with different projects at hand. After she slowly mastered the embroidery skill, she would be able to make sense of her position in the industry.

After all, she was the only one who knew how to embroider using the Tang embroidery method. Her knowledge of the Tang embroidery method had given her a considerable advantage in this industry.

Ya Yazhou's actual name was Huo Zhongwei. She is an undergraduate and a member of the Imperial Capital Embroidery Union. In this Union, there were various embroidery masters.

As a student, Huo Zhongwei's embroidery skills were not particularly outstanding. She enjoyed watching popular embroidery videos online. As Huo Zhongwei browsed through the embroidery clips on Meiyin, she noticed that most of the content creators had mediocre skills. The true embroidery masters would not upload their videos to such social media platforms. The works of the masters could sell from several thousand yuan to several million yuan.

The masters cherish their reputation.

Huo Zhongwei never expected that she would ever come across the channel "S." She was immediately intrigued by the embroidery patterns and needlework shown in the video clip.

After contacting Su Cha, Huo Zhongwei knew that the Tang embroidery technique shown was complex. As she thought about it, Huo Zhongwei contacted her teacher from the Union.

Chapter 197: Let The Final Round Begin

"Tang embroidery? That's impossible!"

The sudden gasp over the phone startled Huo Zhongwei.

Huo Zhongwei was surprised at her teacher's stern and firm tone that concealed the small traces of anger. It was unusual to see the usually gentle and warm teacher behaving in such a manner.

“But, that’s what she told me...”

Huo Zhongwei paused before continuing, “I asked her how she managed to learn this loss skill, but she said that she could not tell me for the time being.”

“It can’t be Tang embroidery.”

The teacher began to calm down, but she remained cynical, “Do you know what the Tang embroidery means? It had been lost several hundred years ago. Back then, hundreds of teachers in the Union traveled the country to search for descendants who had inherited the Tang embroidery skill. Some of the teachers even traveled overseas. But, their efforts were futile as they could not find anyone who could do Tang embroidery. In the end, they determined that the skill had been lost! So, how could it be possible that there’s someone who knows the skill now? If it’s true, why is the National Embroidery Union not informed about it?”

“Tang embroidery signifies the peak in embroidery as an art form during the heyday of the Tang dynasty. It had a significant influence on Chinese embroidery, and this kind of joke should not be made.”

Huo Zhongwei’s heart skipped a beat, “Teacher, I know that. But, this was what she told me, and I can’t really tell what technique she used. It is not one of the five famous embroidery methods of today. I have a video clip of her embroidering, would you like to take a look?”

After a short moment of silence, the teacher replied, “Okay, send it to me.”

Huo Zhongwei could tell that her teacher did not believe her words.

From her teacher’s tone, Huo Zhongwei could sense that the Tang embroidery was an incredible technique.

After all, among all the embroidery methods, she had only heard of using the embroidery needles to end the piece. It was the first time she heard of using a tattoo design to finish an embroidered piece.

As she had not been part of the industry for long, Huo Zhongwei had only been exposed to a limited variety of embroidery. Besides, there were only a few documents that recorded details about the Tang embroidery. With limited information about the Tang embroidery, it was not surprising that Huo Zhongwei did not know much about it.

But, it would be great to revive a lost art form. Huo Zhongwei could not help but ponder, did she lie to me?

In Yonggu Town, everything was peaceful for Su Cha.

She was focused on preparing for the competition that would be held on the 29th. This time, Su Cha had decided to pick a difficult song.

Su Cha had tested her vocal range. She was able to hit the high notes with ease, but her voice was not deep and soulful enough. Su Cha also did not have sufficient stamina to sing the entire song without getting breathless.

However, Su Cha's rendition of the song was breathtaking. She was able to control her vocals well enough to hit all the difficult notes in the song.

But, heartbreaking love songs were unsuitable for her...

As the tone and style of singing were unsuitable for Su Cha.

Although Su Cha was the top scholar in the Jiang'an Province, she had decided to enroll in the Imperial Capital University. As she had made a decision early, her life had been peaceful. Su Cha did not have anyone to share the good news with. During this time, only Wu He and Cai Ziya reached out to encourage her during the competition preparation period. Hence, Su Cha's life was relatively peaceful and comfortable.

Online, Dong Yishan's fans were engaged in a fan war with Le Anqi's fans. As Su Cha was not considered famous, she had not experience having hardcore fans showing up at her door.

Every day, Su Cha kept herself busy with her martial arts training and embroidery. At night, she coaxed Bo Muyi before heading to bed. In the blink of an eye, it was June 29.

The "Dreams in Progress" selection of the Top 20 round had officially begun.

Chapter 198: You Don't Know How To Apply Makeup? Who Are You Kidding?

The competition would be broadcasted live online.

Compared to the previous rounds, the number of viewers was significantly reduced.

This time around, all the competition regions would have a live broadcast at the same time. Hence, most viewers would choose to watch the live show for popular competition regions such as the Imperial Capital and the Magic Capital. Besides, there were also live audiences who would be watching the final round.

There were only a hundred people in the live audience. The live audiences had been screened online before they were allowed to participate in the live voting process. It was essential to screen the live audience as their voting would directly affect the final results of the competition.

“Hello to our beautiful contestants, our online audience watching the live broadcast as well as our live audience who are present with us today. I am the host for ...”

The final round of competition had officially begun, the host had started to greet the audience on stage.

The three judges had arrived early. In the dressing room backstage, all the contestants were waiting for their make up to be done.

As there were only a few makeup artists and hairdressers, some of the contestants had chosen to put on their makeup on their own. Su Cha was one of the contests who did not know how to apply makeup. She only knew how to use a few skincare products.

In the past, other than her naturally strong mentality, Su Cha did not have other promising traits. She had lived in poor conditions. In today's fast-paced society, it was uncommon to meet an eighteen-year-old girl who did not know how to apply makeup.

Due to her poor financial background, Su Cha had to juggle between work and study. She did not have time to learn about makeup.

As she was born with flawless skin, Su Cha's delicate facial features did not need to be accentuated with makeup.

The makeup artist said in amazement as she applied makeup on Su cha, "Your skin is really soft and flawless. Other than using moisturizer, what other products do you use?"

Su Cha slightly raised her face as she allowed the makeup artist to apply the products, "Nothing else."

In ancient times, Su Cha had learned some simple makeup skills. However, the makeup she used in the past was different from the makeup today. In the past, makeup products were more natural. For instance, the rouge lipsticks used were mostly made from flower extracts. The lipstick could be applied easily by lightly rubbing the extract on her lips and pressing her lips gently together.

However, there is a wide variety of lipstick from a myriad of brands in today's society. The sheer amount of options made Su Cha's head ache.

When the makeup artist heard that Su Cha did not know how to apply makeup, she found it unbelievable and strange. The makeup artists asked Su Cha to identify some makeup products. Although Su Cha could identify the products based on the names printed on the products, she did not know their specific function.

Everyone in the dressing room noticed Su Cha's cluelessness. Dong Yishan said with a smile, "How can you not know that? It's for nose contouring. Little sister Su Cha, you are kidding, right?"

The contestants found it ridiculous that Su Cha did not know about makeup. Most of these contestants would bring along a bag of makeup with them wherever they go. Looking at Su Cha's flawless, smooth skin, most of the contestants did not believe that she had not applied makeup.

The contestants believed that Su Cha had set this up to appear innocent. Not knowing how to do her makeup at the age of eighteen? Who is she trying to kid?

As soon as Dong Yishan finished, another contestant immediately chimed in, "I might believe you if you said that you do not know how to apply makeup. Judging by your flawless skin, you must have spent a lot of time taking care of it, right?"

For a moment, the contestant tried to reach out to touch Su Cha's face.

Su Cha fiercely turned to glare at the contestant. Her dark pupils gave off an icy, murderous aura, which made the makeup artist stop her movement.

The contestant who reached out her hand immediately froze.

At that instant, the noisy dressing room fell silent and tense. Sensing the tense atmosphere, other contestants who were chatting among themselves also stopped talking instantly.

Chapter 199: If I Don't Make It To Top 10

The atmosphere in the dressing room was icy cold. The warm summer air could not resist the strong attack.

The dressing room was so quiet that the host's voice could be heard loud and clear.

"Today's competition results will be determined by the live audience. All live audience members will only have one vote each. After watching the performances of all twenty contestants, you may vote for your favorite performer. You may also choose to vote for the contestant right after her performance. However, you cannot vote for the contestants who are in the waiting area. You will only have one vote..."

With the host's voice in the background, Le Anqi giggled, "Look at you. If I have Su Cha's skin, I would also choose not to wear makeup."

Le Anqi's words broke the silence in the dressing room. Su Cha glanced at Le Anqi, her cold expression softened, and she smiled a little.

Jin Mou, who was having her makeup done, glanced at Su Cha subconsciously. Su Cha locked eyes with her as she shot Jin Mou a quick look.

When Jin Mou noticed Su Cha's gaze on her, she curled her lips into a faint smile.

Her smile was not cold; it was filled with kindness.

Su Cha was surprised.

Su Cha internally laughed. Did Jin Mou mean what she said in her interview? Does she like me because of my good grades?

Her admiration was apparent.

Su Cha's icy glare made the contestant, who tried to touch her face, freeze in fear. Le Anqi's words brought the contestant back to her senses. She immediately retracted her hand and forced an embarrassed smile.

The contestant did not want to admit it, but Su Cha's icy glare was petrifying.

Su Cha had always performed well. Although she appeared to be cold, Su Cha was not an antisocial person. She just did not like to initiate interactions with others.

However, women often ostracised one another without much reason.

As Su Cha was too outstanding, she was remembered by others.

The contestant wanted to use the makeup as an excuse to pinch Su Cha's face. However, she did not manage to do so. After Su Cha glared at her, the contestant felt like she would be dead if she had touched Su Cha's face.

At that moment, all the contestants realized that Su Cha was not only a cold person, but she should also not be messed with.

That glare was sharp and ferocious. Out of everyone they have met in their lives, the contestants had never met such a vicious girl.

Under normal circumstances, they would never be able to tell how fierce Su Cha was.

When the contestant was standing there in embarrassment, Mona walked over with a bright smile. She linked her arms with the contestant and said, "Okay, Han Han. How will you know if Su Cha

took care of her skin? She might be born with such flawless skin. Let's not get jealous over it now. We need to prepare for the competition. They will only be selecting ten people today."

As soon as she said that, the awkward atmosphere dispersed, and everyone's heart sank.

The contestants did not have time to think about such minute matters. After today's competition, only 10 contestants will be heading to the Imperial Capital. Each contestant only had a fifty percent chance of making it to the Imperial Capital.

But, some contestants had better skills than others. Their incredible skills gave them an advantage over their peers and increased their chances of making it into the Top 10.

Everyone was a competitor.

The atmosphere slowly tensed up again. Contestants who were relaxed started getting increasingly nervous. After Mona led the troublemaker away, Le Anqi began to get anxious, "If I don't make it to Top 10 today..."

Chapter 200: Both Men and Women Cannot Resist Her Charms

"Why do you always say such discouraging things about yourself?"

Su Cha directed her gaze at Le Anqi and said straightforwardly, "The last round has not even started, and no one knows the final results. Even if you do not make it to Top 10, you will be okay. I promise that I will not forget about you when I am famous. When I make it big in the entertainment industry, I will @ you on Weibo all the time so that my fans will know that you exist."

Tears welled up in Le Anqi's eyes, she was extremely touched, "Su Cha, I am so moved by you. But, why am I not happy about it..."

Le Anqi was worried that Su Cha's fans would investigate and reveal her entire family history on the internet.

The makeup artist laughed, "Su Cha, I think you are born to be a star. Given your looks, it would not make any sense if you do not get famous. The heavens would not tolerate that."

“All done.” The makeup artist said as she stood up.

Her eyes sparkled in amazement and awe.

Le Anqi gasped as she looked at Su Cha’s reflection in the mirror.

The makeup artist did not apply any heavy makeup on Su Cha. With her mediocre professional makeup skills, the makeup artist was worried about ruining Su Cha’s stunning features by using a layer of heavy makeup.

With a simple makeup look, the makeup artist highlighted Su Cha’s facial features.

Su Cha had big, dolly eyes that were as clear as the springs.

Her eye shape was rare among Asians. The simplistic eye makeup accentuated the shape of her eyes and made Su Cha appear livelier.

To bring focus to Su Cha’s eyes, the makeup artists used cherry red lipstick that would blend well with Su Cha’s eye makeup.

Su Cha’s skin was also soft and dewy.

Her fair complexion, together with the completed makeup look, made Su Cha stand out among the crowd.

She radiated a natural glow. Su Cha’s natural beauty and compelling aura did not contradict each other as they attracted the attention of others.

Le Anqi exclaimed in wonder, “Su Cha, you look so gorgeous with so little makeup. I am so jealous...”

As she expressed her jealousy, Le Anqi pulled her chair closer to Su Cha. She rested her head on her hands as she admired Su Cha’s beauty.

Ahh, Su Cha is beautiful.

To Le Anqi, Su Cha's beauty would please everyone's eyes, and both men and women would not be able to resist her charms.

When Su Cha chuckled, Le Anqi felt like her soul left her body as she was enchanted by Su Cha's bright laughter.

When the other contestants saw Su Cha, they were filled with jealousy. Despite their jealousy, they could not help but applaud Su Cha's beauty.

Su Cha's facial features were remarkable.

If Su Cha was placed in a girl group, she would definitely be the group's star. In addition to her elegant beauty, Su Cha had terrific vocals. The favoritism shown by the heavens was extremely obvious.

Jealousy flashed through Mona and the other contestants' eyes. They could not help but wish for someone to disfigure Su Cha's beautiful face with a knife.

The bystanders had different opinions and ideas. When Su Cha saw her face in the mirror, she lightly grinned.

Even in the past, Su Cha's face had never been ugly. Although the vitality she absorbed during her recent martial arts practice could not change her facial features, it could expel the toxins from her body. The detoxification and the daily physical exercise improved Su Cha's skin naturally, giving it a healthy glow.

The detoxification, together with Su Cha's naturally good skin, made everyone envious.

When Su Cha stood up from her seat, Le Anqi saw a squirrel hugging a pine nut design embroidered on Su Cha's nude pink chiffon blouse.

The squirrel looked lively and vigorous. Following Su Cha's actions, the squirrel's eyes seemed to watch Le Anqi every move. With the beautifully embroidered squirrel design, the plain female blouse now gives off a lively, refreshing, feminine aura.