

# E19 - The Feelings Entrusted to the Duck

Source: [Crunchyroll](#)

Translator:

Editor:

Timer:

QC:

(Please feel free to edit the speaker names if incomplete or inaccurate. Names are handled on a best-effort basis depending on the info on the source file. Dialogue is left as is.)

**SIGN** Chrysanthemum Tower

**[00:04] Luan**

The sacred cooking contest to determine  
which chef will cook for the prince

**[00:10] Luan**

will now begin!

**[00:14] Mao**

I refuse to lose to you, Zhu Qi!

**[00:18] Zhuqi**

Please go easy on me, Mr. Super Chef.

**[00:22] Luan**

First, the subject and judge  
of this contest shall be—

**[00:25] Meili**

Wait, please.

**[00:32] Mao**

M-Mei Li!

**[00:34] Luan**

What is it, girl?

**[00:35] Meili**

Governor Luan, forgive my insolence,

**[00:40] Meili**

but for the battle between  
Guangdong Super Chef Master Mao

**[00:43] Meili**

and Master Zhu Qi of Inner Mongolia...

**[00:46] Meili**

I request that I be allowed  
to judge their contest.

**SIGN** True Cooking Master Boy

**[02:27] Luan**

Mei Li, do you understand

how important this contest is?

**[02:31] Luan**

To start, you're Mao's traveling companion.

**[02:34] Luan**

Wouldn't your judgment be biased?

**[02:38] Meili**

Master Mao is merely my traveling companion.

**[02:40] Meili**

I have no further feelings for him.

**[02:43] Meili**

Furthermore, I am the daughter of Zhou Yu  
of the Yang Spring Restaurant in Guangdong.

**[02:47] Meili**

I swear by Heaven and Earth that my tongue  
will not be affected by any personal biases.

**[02:55] Luan**

*What a fortunate coincidence!*

**[02:57] Luan**

*It just so happens that I have  
a terrible sense of taste!*

**[03:00] Luan**

*And if it comes to it, I can dump  
all responsibility on this girl.*

**[03:05] Luan**

Very well!

**[03:06] Luan**

Mei Li, I appoint you judge of this contest.

**[03:10] Meili**

Thank you.

**[03:14] Shirou**

*Sis, what do you mean you're  
just traveling companions?*

**[03:17] Shirou**

*What was all that time we spent together?*

**[03:21] Shirou**

*Mao's gonna be too shocked to cook—*

**[03:28] Mao**

*Thank you, Mei Li.*

**[03:30] Mao**

*I've made up my mind.*

**[03:31] Mao**

*Once I've cooked a dish  
tastier than Zhu Qi's,*

**[03:34] Mao**

*for the first time, I'll be able  
to tell you how I truly feel.*

**[03:38] Mao**

*I'll cook you a dish that  
will reach your heart.*

**[03:42] Mao**

All right!

**[03:44] All**

He's really fired up!

**[03:46] All**

That's it, Mao!

**[03:47] Keling**

Keep it together, Mao!

**[03:49] Shirou**

They're competing both for  
the right to cook for the prince,

**[03:51] Shirou**

but also for Mei Li.

**[03:54] Shirou**

Zhu Qi possesses some kind of  
strange power, though.

**[03:57] Shirou**

It might be a struggle.

**[03:59] Fei**

I wouldn't worry about that.

**[04:00] Shirou**

Huh?

**[04:01] Fei**

Nobody can compete with that spirit.

**[04:05] Fei**

Just like I couldn't then.

**[04:09] Shirou**

You're right. There's no way Mao will lose!

**[04:12] Shirou**

You know what you're talking about, Mister!

**[04:16] Zhuqi**

*I can't believe you're judging this contest.*

**[04:21] Zhuqi**

*But there's no turning back now.*

**[04:23] Zhuqi**

*This must be fate.*

**[04:25] Zhuqi**

*Forgive me, Mei Li.*

**[04:30] Luan**

I shall now announce  
the theme of this contest.

**[04:32] Luan**

An ingredient as high-class  
as pork or chicken...

**[04:36] Luan**

Duck!

**[04:39] Shirou**

They're so big and round!

**[04:42] Keling**

I've heard of these high-class ducks...

**[04:45] Keling**

They're Peking ducks!

**[04:47] Luan**

Indeed. I had the genuine article shipped  
in from Chengdu this morning.

**[04:52] Luan**

You have two hours to cook.

**[04:54] Luan**

You may use any and all ingredients.

**[04:57] Luan**

Let the cooking begin!

**[05:05] Mao**

All right. These will do.

**[05:06] Keling**

He's choosing fat ducks  
with lustrous feathers.

**[05:10] Shirou**

Mao's full of determination.

**[05:12] Shirou**

How about Zhu Qi?

**[05:17] Shirou**

He's so fast.

**[05:18] Shirou**

He already finished removing the feathers  
and is starting to boil his duck.

**[05:23] Zhuqi**

Here we go.

**[05:25] Zhuqi**

You can't have duck without these.

**[05:29] Shirou**

Century eggs?

**[05:30] Keling**

What's he going to do with those?

**[05:35] Man A**

He's crushing the yolk of the century eggs  
and mixing it into his dough?

**[05:39] Man A**

Which means...

**[05:40] Shirou**

Noodles.

**[05:41] Shirou**

He's using century eggs instead

of normal eggs as a thickener?

**[05:45] Keling**

I'm not sure what's happening,  
but it's amazing.

**[05:50] All**

His long chopsticks are stretching  
the noodles right before us!

**[05:53] All**

Duck broth and century egg noodles!

**[05:55] All**

A duck noodle dish  
featuring all kinds of duck!

**[05:57] Zhuqi**

Watch this, Mei Li. This...

**[06:01] Zhuqi**

is how I feel!

**[06:03] All**

Showoff!

**[06:05] All**

That's it, lady-killer!

**[06:06] Zhuqi**

What do you think, Mao?

**[06:09] All**

He's hanging his plucked  
ducks by their necks!

**[06:12] All**

Which means he's making  
the quintessential duck dish!

**[06:15] Mao**

Exactly.

**[06:17] Mao**

China's most luxurious dish, Peking duck!

**[06:23] All**

Peking duck...

**[06:25] All**

The extravagance of roasting a whole duck

**[06:27] All**

and consuming only the crisp fatty  
skin, discarding the interior.

**[06:32] All**

The moment you stuff your mouth full of duck

**[06:34] All**

wrapped in thin skins with onions  
and soy mash is supreme bliss.

**[06:39] Shirou**

It's truly the most quintessential dish!

**[06:41] Shirou**

Impressive as always, Mao!

**[06:52] Fei**

*This aroma...*

**[06:54] Fei**

*This is no ordinary Peking duck, Mao.*

**[06:57] Mao**

Mei Li, you won't be disappointed

**[07:00] Mao**

by my special Paradise Peking Duck!

**[07:07] All**

Zhu Qi's ingenious duck noodles versus

Mao's quintessential Peking duck!

**[07:11] All**

Neither one is backing down!

**[07:13] All**

What kind of Peking duck will you cook, Mao?

**[07:17] Zhuqi**

*You've become self-complacent, Mao.*

**[07:20] Zhuqi**

*You're about to lose everything.*

**[07:24] Zhuqi**

*That's right. Everything.*

**SIGN Chrysanthemum Tower**

[07:30] Luan\*\*

Time's up.

**[07:32] Luan**

Chefs, have you finished cooking?

**[07:35] Zhuqi**

Yup, I'm all done!

**[07:37] Zhuqi**

Judge my dish first.

**[07:41] Meili**

Why are you sticking  
your face right in mine?

**[07:45] Zhuqi**

I want to see your cute look  
of surprise up close.

**[07:49] Meili**

Don't try to flatter me.

**[07:51] Zhuqi**

I know.

**[07:52] Zhuqi**

Come on. Taste my noodles  
before they get soggy.

**[07:58] Zhuqi**

Zhu Qi's special Sunshine Dandan Noodles!

**SIGN** Sunshine Dandan Noodles

**[08:01] Meili**

It's... It's beautiful...

**[08:02] Zhuqi**

I modeled it after your  
sunflower-like qualities.

**[08:07] Shirou**

He's using tricks she'll fall for again.

**[08:10] Meili**

What are the petals made of?

**[08:13] Zhuqi**

Ground duck breast and steamed duck feet.

**[08:18] Zhuqi**

It's a Zhu Qi original.

**[08:20] Meili**

D-Duck feet?

**[08:27] Meili**

The texture is so soft and springy!

**[08:30] Meili**

Have these always tasted so good?

**[08:32] Zhuqi**

Now try some of that mashed fish  
underneath the sunflower with the noodles.

**[08:38] Meili**

O-Okay.

**[08:44] Meili**

The noodles are endlessly rich  
and powerfully springy.

**[08:48] Meili**

It's the power of the century  
eggs he mixed in.

**[08:51] Meili**

The mashed fish was fried  
with plenty of chili bean paste,

**[08:53] Meili**

and the rich duck broth soup  
comes oozing out.

**[08:57] Meili**

It's a luxurious dish that allows you  
to fully experience all the duck's flavors.

**[09:01] Meili**

It's ideal for Szechuan-style  
imperial court cuisine!

**[09:05] Luan**

Impressive. I'm sure the prince  
would enjoy it, as well.

**[09:12] All**

Nice work, Zhu Qi!

**[09:13] Zhuqi**

This multi-layered duck dish expresses  
the depth of my love for you, Mei Li!

**[09:22] Shirou**

Damn that Zhu Qi...

**[09:24] Shirou**

He's getting ahead of himself.

**[09:26] Fei**

*His dish is certainly excellent,*

**[09:29] Fei**

*but it's too ordinary a dish  
to compete with Mao.*

**[09:32] Fei**

*Could Zhu Qi be up to something?*

**[09:38] Luan**

Next, Mao.

**[09:44] Mao**

Mei Li, I made this dish  
as both a Super Chef

**[09:48] Mao**

and a man after your heart.

**[09:56] Mao**

Liu Maoxing's special Paradise Peking Duck!

**SIGN** Paradise Peking Duck

**[10:02] Keling**

How is that Peking duck, Mao?

**[10:04] Mao**

They're special steamed dumplings made only  
from stuffed Peking duck wings.

**[10:11] Keling**

I see. Peking duck is typically  
eaten by wrapping it in thin skins.

**[10:16] Keling**

He reversed the idea by wrapping  
the ingredients inside the skin.

**[10:20] Shirou**

What effect will it have?

**[10:35] Meili**

It's delicious. Truly.

**[10:39] Meili**

The juices ooze out of the duck  
you used for the dumpling skins.

**[10:44] Meili**

They're perfectly steamed,  
but they haven't lost their crispiness.

**[10:48] Meili**

The stuffing uses vegetables

such as the mushrooms

**[10:50] Meili**

and Manchurian rice  
Szechuan is famous for.

**[10:52] Meili**

The rich flavor of the duck is presented  
with an excellent texture.

**[10:57] Meili**

Then there's this aroma.

**[10:59] Meili**

The sugar water you used to glaze  
and season the duck

**[11:03] Meili**

is mixed with the smell of fruit.

**[11:06] Meili**

Pineapple, lychee, peach.

**[11:10] Meili**

They draw out the flavors of the duck  
in a refreshing and lustrous manner.

**[11:16] Meili**

*I alone understand, Mao.*

**[11:20] Meili**

*I know the meaning behind  
this dish you made as a man.*

**[11:25] Meili**

*I know why you used these fruits.*

**[11:29] Meili**

*When the restaurant was closed,  
we ate pineapple on the beach.*

**[11:30] (Flashback) Mao**

This looks just like your hair.

**[11:32] (Flashback) Meili**

Oh, come on.

**[11:34] Meili**

*We secretly ate lychee together on the roof.*

**[11:38] (Flashback) Mao**

Happy birthday, Mei Li.

**[11:38] Meili**

*On my 15th birthday, you made  
sweet buns filled with peach.*

**[11:44] Meili**

*This is the sweet and sour  
fragrance of paradise*

**[11:48] Meili**

*that we'd left behind in our  
hometown of Guangdong.*

**[11:51] Meili**

*I understand the weight of all the precious moments we spent together, Mao.*

**[11:58] Meili**

*I hear you loud and clear.*

**[12:03] Meili**

*You entrusted your feelings to this aroma.*

**[12:07] Meili**

*Mao, thank you.*

**[12:12] Mao**

*Mei Li...*

**[12:16] Shirou**

*Jeez. Those two are always causing trouble.*

**[12:19] Shirou**

*If Mao wins this contest, that'll settle the issue.*

**[12:37] Mao**

Mei Li!

**[12:43] Mao**

Mei Li. Wake up, Mei Li!

**[12:45] Zhuqi**

Mei Li!

**[12:46] Shirou**

Sis!

**[12:48] Zhuqi**

Move!

**[12:49] Zhuqi**

She's got a fever, and her pulse is weak.

**[12:52] Zhuqi**

Keling, get a doctor!

**[12:54] Keling**

Got it.

**[12:58] Keling**

Mei Li, hang in there.

**[13:01] Mao**

Mei Li!

**[13:02] Zhuqi**

Mao.

**[13:05] Zhuqi**

These mushrooms you put in your dumplings...

**[13:08] Zhuqi**

You know what these are, don't you?

**[13:11] Mao**

They're hen-of-the-woods, obviously.

**[13:14] Zhuqi**

This is no laughing matter, Mao.

**[13:17] Zhuqi**

They look similar, but these

are east Asian brown death caps.

**[13:20] Zhuqi**

They're poisonous mushrooms!

**[13:23] Mao**

You're lying!

**[13:24] Mao**

I can tell the difference  
between hen-of-the-woods

**[13:26] Mao**

and east Asian brown death caps!

**[13:28] Mao**

I made sure I was using the right ones.

**[13:32] Mao**

This tingling sensation...

**[13:37] Mao**

No. That's impossible...

**[13:41] Zhuqi**

Hen-of-the-woods and east  
Asian brown death caps.

**[13:45] Zhuqi**

Amateurs often confuse the two.

**[13:47] Zhuqi**

But it's not a mistake a chef should make.

**[13:50] Zhuqi**

Mao, you don't deserve to cook  
for the prince, much less be a chef!

**[14:07] Shirou**

Mao!

**[14:08] Fei**

Wait.

**[14:09] Shirou**

Huh?

**[14:11] Fei**

There's something I want to ask you.

**[14:20] Mao**

*I checked. I know I checked.*

**[14:24] Mao**

*I checked over and over that they  
weren't east Asian brown death caps.*

**[14:37] Mao**

*I've lost everything.*

**[14:46] Mao**

Mom, I can't keep going.

**[14:52] Mao**

If it's going to hurt this much...

**[14:55] Mao**

If it's going to be this painful,

I can't keep being a chef.

**[15:02] Mao**

I don't deserve to wear  
this Super Chef's crest.

**[15:09] Fei**

You're still just a kid.

**[15:14] Fei**

You're playing into the enemy's hands.

**[15:18] Mao**

What are these?

**[15:20] Fei**

The chopsticks Mei Li used.

**[15:22] Fei**

They're coated with a slow-acting poison.

**[15:24] Mao**

Poison?

**[15:25] Fei**

Mei Li had been using these chopsticks  
since she tasted Zhu Qi's dish.

**[15:31] Fei**

The poison finally started  
to affect her after she ate your dish.

**[15:37] Fei**

Think about it.

**[15:40] Fei**

Who would've thought to use her chopsticks

**[15:43] Fei**

and had the opportunity  
swap your hen-of-the-woods

**[15:46] Fei**

for east Asian brown  
death caps and frame you?

**[15:51] Fei**

It's Zhu Qi.

**[15:54] Mao**

Zhu Qi?!

**[15:57] Mao**

Who are you?

**[16:02] Mao**

Fei.

**[16:04] Fei**

It's good to see you again, Mao.

**[16:09] Narration**

*Said to be China's most difficult  
and fiercest battle,*

**[16:13] Narration**

*Guangdong's previous Super Chef Test.*

**[16:17] Narration**

*Only two participants defeated numerous other chefs and passed the test.*

**[16:22] Narration**

*Praised as stars who would someday shake the world of Chinese cuisine,*

**[16:28] Narration**

*both were boys still in their teens.*

**[16:32] Narration**

*One was Liu Maoxing, while the other...*

**[16:39] Narration**

*was Lan Feihong.*

**[16:41] Narration**

*After an entire year, the heavens have reunited these stars.*

**[16:49] Mao**

Fei, what are you doing here?

**[16:51] Fei**

I'm currently a member of the kitchen staff accompanying the prince.

**[16:56] Mao**

What? Which means...

**[16:58] Fei**

That's right. I cook in the emperor's kitchen.

**[17:02] Mao**

That's amazing!

**[17:04] Mao**

You've already become a court chef, Fei!

**[17:07] Fei**

Save your admiration for later.

**[17:10] Fei**

I came running when I heard a cooking contest

**[17:12] Fei**

was being held at the Chrysanthemum Tower.

**[17:15] Fei**

I wasn't expecting to see you throw the match.

**[17:21] Mao**

But, Fei, I refuse to believe that Zhu Qi poisoned Mei Li.

**[17:25] Mao**

This contest happened because he fell in love with her.

**[17:30] Mao**

Poisoning her in order to win would be

putting the cart before the horse.

**[17:34] Fei**

That's why I said you're still just a kid.

**[17:37] Fei**

Think carefully on Zhu Qi's actions.

**[17:42] Fei**

He entered the Chrysanthemum Tower  
and took your spiritual home from you.

**[17:47] Fei**

He made advances on Mei Li  
in order to upset you

**[17:51] Fei**

and challenged you to a cooking contest.

**[17:53] Fei**

Finally, he framed you  
during your competition.

**[17:59] Mao**

No...

**[18:00] Mao**

But why?

**[18:01] Fei**

You still don't get it?

**[18:03] Fei**

He has only one goal:

**[18:05] Fei**

to destroy Liu Maoxing the chef  
beyond any hope of recovery.

**[18:11] Fei**

You nearly fell for his plan.

**[18:16] Fei**

It should be obvious what kind of  
person would be willing to use Mei Li

**[18:20] Fei**

to accomplish that goal.

**[18:23] Mao**

I see. So that's how it is...

**[18:27] Mao**

I'm a fool.

**[18:29] Mao**

Why didn't I notice who  
Zhu Qi truly is until now?

**[18:37] Mao**

Fei, you saved me again.

**[18:40] Fei**

I'm just making sure you keep your promise.

**[18:44] Fei**

We swore we'd face

each other again at the top.

**[18:53] Fei**

Endlessly battling against you is my destiny.

**[18:57] Fei**

It's my dream.

**[18:58] Fei**

And it's also the promise  
I made to Master Bei.

**[19:03] Fei**

Mao, if you're defeated here, I won't  
be able to keep pursuing *my* dream.

**[19:09] Mao**

Fei...

**[19:14] Mao**

Thank you.

**[19:15] Mao**

I'll challenge Zhu Qi to another contest.

**[19:25] Fei**

*What a troublesome kid.*

**[19:28] Fei**

*Your little chick is about to  
take flight again, Master Bei.*

**SIGN** Chrysanthemum Tower

**[19:41] Zhuqi**

Are you serious?!

**[19:43] Zhuqi**

You think I'd accept that?!

**[19:48] Zhuqi**

What, you're back?

**[19:50] Zhuqi**

What's the meaning of this?!

**[19:52] Zhuqi**

Explain yourself!

**[19:54] Mao**

What are you talking about?!

**[19:56] Shirou**

Mao, huge news!

**[19:58] Shirou**

Mei Li regained consciousness  
and gave her judgment.

**[20:02] Shirou**

She said you won!

**[20:04] Mao**

Why?

**[20:06] Zhuqi**

Don't play dumb.

**[20:07] Zhuqi**

You nearly killed the judge.

How could you win?!

**[20:11] Zhuqi**

I *knew* you were working together.

**[20:13] Zhuqi**

You put on this farce in  
an attempt to set me up!

**[20:17] Mao**

*No, we didn't do that.*

**[20:19] Mao**

*Things must have been hardest for Mei Li,*

**[20:24] Mao**

*but she trusted me and my cooking.*

**[20:29] Mao**

*Thank you, Mei Li.*

**[20:31] Zhuqi**

Are you listening to me?!

**[20:33] Zhuqi**

I won't accept this.

**[20:34] Zhuqi**

No matter how you look at it,  
I won this contest!

**[20:39] Zhuqi**

What?

**[20:40] Fei**

You can have Mei Li's chopsticks back.

**[20:45] Zhuqi**

Could it be?

**[20:46] Fei**

If you refuse to accept her judgment,  
then there's only one way to solve this:

**[20:50] Fei**

with a rematch.

**[20:53] Fei**

The subject will be duck once again.

**[20:55] Fei**

We'll have Governor Luan judge the contest.

**[20:58] Luan**

What? Who are you?

**[21:02] Zhuqi**

Yeah! Who do you think you are?!

**[21:05] Fei**

I am the emperor's Dragon Chef Lan Feihong.

**[21:10] Fei**

I will oversee this contest.

**[21:13] Luan**

D-Dragon Chef?!

**[21:15] Luan**

The one said to be  
the imperial court's top chef?

**[21:20] Luan**

As you wish!

**[21:23] Zhuqi**

*I don't believe this.*

**[21:25] Zhuqi**

*Not only did they figure  
out the chopsticks,*

**[21:27] Zhuqi**

*but a Dragon Chef has shown up.*

**[21:30] Zhuqi**

*Just when I'd finally driven  
him to the breaking point...*

**[21:40] Mao**

Zhu Qi.

**[21:41] Mao**

You're one of the Cooking Underworld's  
Five Tiger Stars, aren't you?

**[21:47] Zhuqi**

*H-He even figured out who I am.*

**[21:52] Mao**

Now that I know,

**[21:55] Mao**

I won't show mercy.

**SIGN** Next Time

**SIGN** "Like the Phoenix"

**[23:57] Narration**

*"Like the Phoenix."*

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Revision #1

Created 2024-03-01 03:51:23 UTC by whimsee

Updated 2024-03-01 03:51:24 UTC by whimsee