

E20 - Like the Phoenix

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] All

What an unusually large hot plate!

[00:07] All

And he's ready to go!

[00:10] All

Meanwhile, Mao...

[00:13] All

He's cooking with just one pot, huh?

[00:16] Fei

The tasting will begin in two hours.

[00:18] Fei

The winner of this contest
will cook for the prince.

[00:24] Fei

Now... Begin!

SIGN True Cooking Master Boy

[02:01] Zhuqi

Check this out.

[02:04] Zhuqi

Watch as my chopsticks
dance along this hot plate

[02:07] Zhuqi

in a demonstration of my
tribe's greatest cooking skills.

[02:09] Zhuqi

First, leeks.

[02:11] Zhuqi

Then comes the duck meat
marinated in soy sauce, alcohol,

[02:14] Zhuqi

ginger sauce, sugar, and sesame oil.

[02:23] Zhuqi

I'll use every last inch
of this piping hot plate.

[02:26] Zhuqi

The truth worth of these long chopsticks

[02:28] Zhuqi

is their ability to flip
ingredients without cease!

[02:32] Zhuqi

The scent of the fragrant pine
firewood I carefully selected

[02:37] Zhuqi

passes through this slatted hot plate,
giving the meat a superior aroma.

[02:42] Zhuqi

This traditional Mongolian recipe
is the land's greatest grilled dish:

[02:46] Zhuqi

Mongolian Barbecue!

[02:48] Zhuqi

What do you think? For me,
cooking is a performance.

[02:52] Zhuqi

And cooking's ultimate
performance is the aroma!

[02:57] All

Keep it up, Zhu Qi!

[02:59] Zhuqi

What do you think, Liu Maoxing?!

[03:04] Zhuqi

What?!

[03:07] Zhuqi

What's with that attitude? I don't like it.

[03:10] Zhuqi

And what's this sweet, perfume-like smell?

[03:15] Zhuqi

*It's Szechuan's famous
Luzhou Laojiao liquor.*

[03:18] Zhuqi

What's he planning on doing with that?

[03:23] Shirou

Mao, he's winning over
the hearts of the audience again.

[03:28] Shirou

What are you gonna do about it?!

[03:31] Zhuqi

There! This coriander's
the finishing touch!

[03:35] Zhuqi

Now my dish will become even more fragrant!

[03:37] All

Looking good, Zhu Qi!

[03:39] Zhuqi

How do you like that?

[03:41] Zhuqi

I don't get it. What is he doing?!

[03:45] Zhuqi

Hey, Liu Maoxing!

[03:47] Zhuqi

What do you think you're doing?

[03:49] Zhuqi

I'm cooking my heart out over here.

[03:51] Mao

I'm taking this contest seriously.

[04:00] Fei

Everyone fears what they don't know.

[04:05] Fei

*That's why Zhu Qi frightened
and confused Mao.*

[04:08] Fei

*But now that your true identity
has been revealed...*

[04:11] Fei

*Five Tiger Star Zhu Qi,
it's your turn to fear him.*

[04:16] Mao

All right. It's done.

[04:19] All

The flames are vanishing.

[04:22] All

I see something.

[04:25] Shirou

What is that?

[04:26] Keling

An egg?

[04:28] Mao

Zhu Qi, would you like a taste...

[04:31] Zhuqi

What?

[04:33] Mao

...of the immortal flavor
breathing inside this egg?

[04:36] Zhuqi

What?

[04:37] Zhuqi

Immortal flavor?

[04:41] Luan

It's huge!

[04:43] Luan

What kind of egg is this?

[04:47] Mao

You'll know once you taste it.

[04:57] Shirou

Inside the egg is...

[04:59] Keling

A steamed duck?

[05:03] Luan

It's finally time.

I have to taste the dishes.

[05:06] Luan

A steamed duck...

[05:07] Luan

It looks white and simple.

[05:12] Luan

Damn it! I have a terrible sense of taste.

[05:15] Luan

There's no way I can taste subtle flavors!

[05:23] Luan

What? No!

[05:25] Luan

This is no duck!

[05:27] All

What?

[05:28] Luan

It's a super duck that has far surpassed the standard duck.

[05:32] Luan

This intense flavor was amplified a hundred times over within the egg

[05:37] Luan

and was reincarnated as...

[05:41] Luan

A phoenix!

[05:42] Luan

It's truly an immortal flavor that lives eternally in my tongue's memory!

[05:48] Mao

Liu Maoxing's special Phoenix Bowl is complete!

SIGN Phoenix Bowl

[05:55] Luan

How did you produce this flavor?!

[05:58] Luan

You hardly did anything

that looked like cooking.

[06:02] Mao

Look carefully at the egg shell.

[06:10] Luan

Is this salt?

[06:12] Mao

I encased the whole
seasoned duck inside salt

[06:15] Mao

hardened using egg whites to form the egg.

[06:19] Mao

I laid down a nest made
from thin strips of taro,

[06:22] Mao

placed the egg in a pot
full of Luzhou Laojiao,

[06:26] Mao

burned off the alcohol,

[06:28] Mao

and heated the egg while adding flavor.

[06:32] Mao

All I had to do was wait
for the alcohol to burn off.

[06:36] Mao

It's not that I wasn't cooking.

[06:39] Mao

Waiting is part of cooking, too.

[06:42] Zhuqi

This brat...

[06:44] Mao

The salt functioned as a steamer
for evenly cooking the egg.

[06:48] Mao

It prevents the flavor
of the duck from escaping,

[06:51] Mao

condensing and amplifying it instead.

[06:54] Mao

It not only adds the aroma
of grilled salt to the meat,

[06:56] Mao

but also draws out
the sweetness of the duck.

[06:59] Mao

It's the ultimate steamer.

[07:03] Mao

Additionally, the remaining

fragrant grilled salt serves

[07:05] Mao

as the perfect seasoning just
before you bite into the duck.

[07:10] Luan

Simple and strong flavors and preparation!

[07:13] Luan

Mild flavor and dignity!

[07:16] Luan

From the idea to the presentation,
it is a dish fit to serve the prince!

[07:23] Shirou

All right! Mao's as good as won!

[07:26] Shirou

He's made a comeback!

[07:28] Zhuqi

I see.

[07:31] Zhuqi

Then let me show you my power.

[07:36] Luan

I believe you prepared
Mongolian Barbecue, correct?

[07:40] Zhuqi

Give me one second.

[07:43] Zhuqi

My dish...

[07:47] Zhuqi

is not yet complete.

[07:50] Zhuqi

All right. The time is ripe.

[07:57] Shirou

He dug something up.

[07:59] Keling

It's a muddy pot.

[08:05] All

Is that a soup?

[08:07] Zhuqi

Duck, Jinhua ham,
dried sea cucumbers, dried squid,

[08:10] Zhuqi

dried prawns, bamboo shoots,
and shiitake mushrooms.

[08:13] Zhuqi

I sealed the delicacies of land
and sea inside this pot

[08:16] Zhuqi

and boiled it low and slow

to create the ultimate luxurious soup.

[08:21] All

Its aroma is more complex
and mellow than the grilled meat.

[08:27] Zhuqi

I actually had this soup
cooking from the start.

[08:31] Zhuqi

The flame I used to heat the hot
plate also heated the buried pot.

[08:38] Zhuqi

Like Mao said, waiting is part of cooking.

[08:42] All

Impressive, Zhu Qi!

[08:43] All

So clever!

[08:47] Zhuqi

This bottled barbecue that combines grilled
meat and soup is my completed dish.

[08:55] Shirou

Either way, that's odd.

[08:58] Shirou

He dug up the pot like he knew
when the soup would be done.

[09:02] Shirou

How did he know when it would be ready?

[09:06] Mao

That's his ability.

[09:08] Shirou

What?

[09:09] Mao

He guessed the flavors of my
dishes without tasting them

[09:13] Mao

and determined the doneness
of the soup sealed inside the pot

[09:16] Mao

without digging it up or opening it.

[09:18] Mao

There's only one sense that can do that.

[09:21] Mao

It's smell.

[09:23] Mao

His keen nose allows him to determine
the qualities of an ingredient

[09:26] Mao

without touching it and accurately

identify them without tasting them.

[09:35] Fei

You noticed, Mao.

[09:37] Fei

*Then you must already know
what his other secret is.*

[09:42] Zhuqi

Go ahead, Governor.

[09:46] Luan

This combination of grilled meat and soup
are playing a marvelously fragrant duet.

[09:53] Fei

*Zhu Qi's other secret will be
revealed in this tasting.*

[10:07] Luan

Th-This flavor...

[10:10] Zhuqi

Well, Governor?!

[10:12] Zhuqi

I've combined China's most fragrant
Mongolian barbecue with a bottled soup

[10:15] Zhuqi

bursting with flavors derived
from luxurious ingredients!

[10:20] Zhuqi

The aromas of both dishes are mixed
together in one miraculous dish!

SIGN Bottled Barbecue

[10:25] Zhuqi

There's no way it doesn't taste good!

[10:30] Luan

It's disgusting.

[10:33] Zhuqi

What?!

[10:35] Zhuqi

What did you just say, you pig?

[10:41] Luan

You're not qualified to be a chef.

[10:43] Zhuqi

What?

[10:44] Zhuqi

Who do you think I am?

[10:46] Zhuqi

You shouldn't casually make
such shocking remarks!

[10:50] Fei

Zhu Qi.

[10:52] Fei

We have the results
of the governor's judgment.

[10:55] Zhuqi

Hold on, Mr. Dragon Chef.

[10:57] Zhuqi

I know this old man has
an incredibly poor sense of taste.

[11:02] Zhuqi

Why doesn't he tell us what fault
he found in my flawless dish?

[11:06] Zhuqi

Or are you working with them, too?

[11:09] Luan

Silence, monkey.

[11:12] Luan

I may have a poor sense of taste,
but it's obvious even to me.

[11:15] Luan

The exceptionally fragrant and richly
flavored Mongolian Barbecue.

[11:19] Luan

The Bottled Soup flavored with luxurious
ingredients of the land and sea.

[11:24] Luan

Each one is luxurious and well-made.

[11:28] Luan

But when combined, they feel incomplete.

[11:33] Luan

The crispy grilled meat becomes slimy,
emphasizing its strong flavor.

[11:38] Luan

The powerful smell of the grilled
meat erases the flavors of the soup,

[11:42] Luan

emphasizing only the unpleasant
stench of the land and sea.

[11:46] Luan

When tasted using only the nose,
they still appear to play a duet of aromas.

[11:50] Luan

But the contrasting strong flavors fight
and erase one another.

[11:56] Luan

It's a diffuse reflection of flavors!

[11:59] Zhuqi

That's impossible!

[12:02] Fei

Zhu Qi.

[12:04] Fei

Let me ask you something.

[12:05] Fei

After mixing the grilled meat and soup,

[12:07] Fei

if you'd boiled your dish again,
the flavors would've come together.

[12:12] Fei

Why didn't you do that?

[12:15] Zhuqi

B-Because if I had, the grilled meat
would've lost its aroma.

[12:22] Zhuqi

That's all. Are we done here?

[12:28] Fei

Governor, could you please
tell us your judgment?

[12:33] Luan

It's hardly necessary for me
to repeat my judgment, Lord Fei.

[12:39] Fei

Very well.

[12:41] Fei

The winner of the Chrysanthemum Tower
Duck Contest is Super Chef Liu Maoxing.

[12:49] Mao

All right! I did it!

[12:52] Shirou

Yes!

[12:54] Keling

Now Mao will have the honor
of cooking for the prince.

[12:59] Shirou

You're the phoenix, Mao!

[13:04] Mao

I did it, Shirou!

[13:06] Meili

Mao!

[13:10] Mao

M-Mei Li...

[13:18] Meili

Mao, I... I...

[13:24] Mao

I'm glad you're all right.

[13:28] Meili

Mao?

[13:32] Meili

This pendant...

[13:35] Mao

Mei Li.

[13:38] Mao

Let's visit the Leshan
Giant Buddha together.

[13:43] Meili

Okay.

[13:45] All

Good for you, Mao!

[13:47] All

Ladykiller!

[13:49] All

This contest is adjourned.

[13:51] All

See you later, Mao.

[14:00] Zhuqi

What do you want? The contest is over.

[14:04] Zhuqi

Because I skipped tasting
my dish at the end, I—

[14:06] Fei

You're wrong.

[14:08] Fei

It's not that you didn't taste it.

[14:11] Fei

It's that you *couldn't*.

[14:14] Fei

Zhu Qi.

[14:16] Fei

You don't have a sense of taste, do you?

[14:23] Keling

Zhu Qi has no sense of taste?!

[14:25] Shirou

You mean he can't taste anything?

[14:28] Fei

That's your secret.

[14:31] Fei

It's the reason you hate cooking

[14:32] Fei

and acquired your exceptional sense of smell.

[14:37] Fei

Despite your skill as a chef,

[14:41] Fei

your fixation on smell and

last minute failure prove it.

[14:44] Fei

Isn't that right, Five Tiger Star Zhu Qi?

[14:48] Zhuqi

I'm impressed, Dragon Chef Lan Feihong.

[14:52] Zhuqi

That's right. I'm Sky Soaring
Great Sage Zhu Qi.

[14:57] Zhuqi

Top-ranking chef of the Cooking
Underworld, Five Tiger Star Zhu Qi.

[15:03] Keling

No way. Zhu Qi.

[15:05] Keling

Why did you join the Cooking Underworld?

[15:10] Zhuqi

When I was a little kid,
I lost my parents, who were chefs.

[15:16] Zhuqi

I was all alone in the world.

[15:19] Zhuqi

*That day, standing alone in
the middle of the Mongolian plains,*

[15:23] Zhuqi

I was just waiting for the wolves to eat me.

[15:26] (Flashback) Zhuqi

Dad, Mom. I can't do it.

[15:30] (Flashback) Zhuqi

I can't live alone out here.

[15:37] (Flashback) Kaiyou

Don't rush to your death, boy.

[15:41] (Flashback) Kaiyou

I shall grant you the power to live.

[15:44] Zhuqi

*The man who found me was
Cooking Underworld leader,*

[15:48] Zhuqi

Dragon in the Clouds Kai You.

[15:52] Zhuqi

*I just happened to be gifted,
so I trained my skills under Kai You*

[15:57] Zhuqi

and rushed up the Underworld's ladder.

[16:00] Zhuqi

But one day, I fell ill.

[16:02] Zhuqi

For ten days, I suffered from a high fever.

[16:07] Zhuqi

And when it was over...

[16:12] (Flashback) Zhuqi

My tongue!

[16:14] (Flashback) Zhuqi

I can't taste anything!

[16:17] Zhuqi

A chef without a sense of taste? Impossible.

[16:20] Zhuqi

*This means my death in
the Cooking Underworld.*

[16:24] Zhuqi

*What am I supposed to do?!
What can I do from here?!*

[16:29] Zhuqi

*That's when the blood of my
equestrian people was awakened.*

[16:34] Zhuqi

The ability to detect both distant enemies

[16:36] Zhuqi

*and prey on the wind
blowing across the plains.*

[16:39] Zhuqi

The sense honed by my tribe.

[16:42] Zhuqi

My sense of smell.

[16:45] Zhuqi

*Instead of my sense of taste,
I'd hone my sense of smell*

[16:49] Zhuqi

and rise up in the Cooking Underworld.

[16:52] Zhuqi

I got on my hands and knees like a dog

[16:55] Zhuqi

*and trained my sense of smell
like my life depended on it.*

[16:58] Zhuqi

*And then, finally, I was
promoted to Five Star Tiger.*

[17:07] Zhuqi

But I paid dearly for it.

[17:11] Zhuqi

*People were delighted by
the flashy performances I put on*

[17:14] Zhuqi

using my long chopsticks and aromas.

[17:16] Zhuqi

They happily ate my food.

[17:20] Zhuqi

But I didn't know the joy of my own flavors.

[17:25] Zhuqi

Of eating my own food.

[17:29] Zhuqi

Gradually, I lost my love for cooking.

[17:34] Zhuqi

All that's left now is hate.

[17:38] Zhuqi

Mao, you're lucky.

[17:41] Zhuqi

The more you cook, the more
your love for cooking grows.

[17:48] Mao

I understand now that you went
through a lot of pain.

[17:51] Mao

But no matter the reason,

[17:54] Mao

I can't forgive you for poisoning Mei Li.

[18:03] Zhuqi

That was a miscalculation.

[18:07] Zhuqi

That's right. My plans were already starting
to go off track from that moment.

[18:12] Zhuqi

My plan to crush your spirit, Mao.

[18:17] Zhuqi

I wasn't expecting Mei Li to do that.

[18:22] (Flashback) Meili

I request that *I* be allowed
to judge their contest.

[18:28] Zhuqi

*Do you know how I felt when
I poisoned Mei Li's chopsticks?*

[18:39] Zhuqi

It really was love at first sight, Mei Li.

[18:42] Zhuqi

From the moment I met you in the mountains,

[18:45] Zhuqi

not realizing you were Mao's friend.

[18:49] Mao

Zhu Qi...

[18:52] Zhuqi

Mao, I wish I could've met you sooner.

[18:57] Zhuqi

But it's too late, now.

[19:06] Shirou

His precious cooking utensils!

[19:08] Mao

What do you think you're doing, Zhu Qi?

[19:11] Zhuqi

I don't need these anymore.

[19:17] Fei

Zhu Qi, where are you going?

[19:19] Zhuqi

Who knows? I can't go back
to the Cooking Underworld now.

[19:24] Zhuqi

I'll go wherever the wind takes me.

[19:27] Fei

You know the Underworld
won't allow a loser to escape.

[19:34] Zhuqi

What a beautiful sunrise.

[19:37] Zhuqi

Things would be so much easier
if it would melt my body away.

[19:46] Meili

Zhu Qi, I'll never forget.

[19:52] Meili

The taste of those mooncakes.

[19:55] Meili

I'll never forget!

[20:02] Zhuqi

Thanks.

[20:06] Mao

*That smile that seemed to melt
into the deep red morning sun*

[20:11] Mao

was forever burned into the back of my mind.

[20:15] Mao

I'll probably never forget the proud name

[20:18] Mao

*of Five Star Tiger Sky
Soaring Great Sage Zhu Qi.*

SIGN Chrysanthemum Tower

[20:31] Prince

This Phoenix Bowl is a marvelous dish.

[20:36] Prince

Fei, who cooked this dish?

[20:41] Fei

Guangdong Super Chef Liu Maoxing.

[20:45] Fei

The only man in this world
who I consider my rival.

[20:50] Prince

I want him.

[20:52] Prince

I want him to cook in the court kitchen!

[20:55] Prince

Do you think you could recruit him?

[20:59] Fei

Recruit Mao?

[21:01] Fei

I'm not sure I can.

[21:06] Fei

He may seem docile, but he's quite stubborn.

[21:13] Shirou

You did it, Mao!

[21:15] Shirou

Now that we know this is a map of
Chengdu, this'll take no time at all.

[21:19] Mao

Yeah. The legendary utensil is in Chengdu.

[21:22] Mao

Thanks for your help, Sis.

[21:24] Keling

I'm glad I was able to be useful.

[21:26] Keling

You're finally leaving, huh?

[21:29] Keling

Huh?

[21:30] Keling

Mei Li, what's wrong?

[21:33] Meili

Um, Mao. Here...

[21:40] Mao

Thanks, Mei Li!

[21:41] Mao

You mended it for me.

[21:43] Meili

I caused a lot of trouble this time.

[21:50] Keling

See you later!

[21:52] Shirou

All right! Fresh start!

[21:54] Mao

The fourth utensil is right
before our eyes in Chengdu!

[21:57] All

Let's go!

SIGN Next Time

SIGN "Dazzling Dunhuang"

[23:57] Narration

Next time, "Dazzling Dunhuang."

Revision #1

Created 2024-03-01 03:51:25 UTC by whimsee

Updated 2024-03-01 03:51:25 UTC by whimsee