



CLOVER

The Full Interview

Key Information:

This is more like an article style thing, but I labelled it as an interview.

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Soloist CLOVER comes out with the depressing reality of the K-POP Industry



Following the almost overnight success of soloist CLOVER's newest album titled: “우울해요 **TURMOIL**”, the singer under the entertainment company DA Entertainment came to sit and chat to us about the motivation, creation and overall message of the album.

“The motivation of this album?” the first question seemed to have already stumped her, as she stared out into space for a moment before responding. “I don't know. I guess it was just a manifestation of my thoughts.” she paused before replying to me, “The feeling of being stuck in the same place- especially in the K-POP industry, is tough. I've had friends, friends of friends, heck, people I don't even know that always tell me, ‘I've been a trainee for 10 years, 12 years, maybe even 13 years.’ It's a struggle, mentally and physically, because even if you get used to the trainings, the yelling and the disappointment you get, it still hurts in the end.”

She also mentioned that this album was meant to be brutally honest and upfront, as she liked to be with her fans in her previous songs, “All the songs I've written before are happy-go-lucky songs with obviously sad lyrics. This album changed a lot for me as a person and my company, because it's more out there compared to anything I've seen. My producers were actually against it at first,” Then she went on, “Nobody really ever talks

about the thoughts you get when you're in the K-POP scene for too long. The thoughts..... In short, I..."

"They're kind of- they were like a virus, basically. They spread and infect the minds of innocent people who have done nothing, and not much can be done about it. But then again, I mean, what could I have done? I was just a trainee who knew nothing of the fame- the blood, the sweat, the glory and the tears. I knew nothing about fame and the money and the toxicity."



Upon asking her more about the sadder aspects of the album she then commented, "Yes, it was related to my struggles with anxiety. Yes, it was related to my struggles with depression. It's how most Idols now are- not just in Korea, but internationally. We're all a little sad somewhere in our career, right?"

She then moved to continue on the topic of her album, "My title track, everything I wanted, is actually an idea I had written way back in my trainee days- mind you, it was

only a while before I had planned on showing the album to the world when my producers had found it on one of the files in my computer while they were looking through for the album. It, at first to say the least, was actually pretty messy of a recording- I felt as if my throat was on fire when I recorded the song. It was as if my producers saw a diamond underneath the layers of dirt I had put on the surface, and after rewrite after discussion after rewrite, when I heard it again, it seemed like a completely different tone of sadness- as if you turn the darkness of the colour Blue all the way down to black. It certainly hit me hard, and I'm really proud it turned out the way it did."

She then moved to continue, mentioning things about her previous debuts, "Dahlia, Rose and Daffodil are all in their own way, as sad as Turmoil, but this album's the only one that's been ever been so upfront about anything talking about sadness or depression. Hopefully though, people see past this, much like I have, as this album really marks the end of a...Sadder part of my life, and I hope it's the same for my fans too."

Smiling, the conversation seems to slowly draw itself to a close as she ends with a powerful yet still open and honest remark, "Lastly though, I want to mention that it is okay to be sad. No matter what's going on, what or who you are, it doesn't matter. Sadness and Depression is something not to be brushed away, because in the end, it won't really go away until you confront and forgive what confines you. Someone is there to listen to you, even someone you may not think will be. Talk to someone, because you will be missed when you're gone."

After the interview ended, she seemed to thank me heavily for allowing her to go off on such a topic, but really, I believe at the end of the day, we should all strive to be someone as inspiring and special as her. To overcome a mental illness in such a way that you want to show the world the reality of it is astonishing, and to even manage to talk about it so smoothly in a way that she has is all the more special.

Though this only seems like the mid-point of this young soloist's career, it certainly will not be the last we see of CLOVER. For this experience, as she's mentioned, is only the end of a tough time of turmoil and a new beginning filled with hope, happiness and good luck to come.

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