

All R. Artist 241

Chapter 241: No flowers, No wine, Tilling Fields 1

The promotional content is wildly exaggerated, and the cover features a hot girl flashing her long sexy legs to catch the wolf's attention. Deng Chi thought that "Flirting Scholar" perfectly fits his concept of a crappy movie, so he wasn't interested in watching it.

But then, he opened the movie, and didn't close it right away.

How does the old saying go?

Since he's already here...

Even if it's a terrible date he initiated, he has to see it through...

Watching a movie he opened himself, a few glimpses shouldn't blind him, right?

And while Deng Chi was contemplating, the plot had already started.

The protagonist of this movie is Tang Bohu, exceptionally skilled in both poetry and painting, with an enormous fortune, and also regarded as the most talented of the four great scholars of the Jiangnan region.

Deng Chi knew that Su City in Qin Continent was called Suzhou in ancient times and the area south of Qin Continent was known as Jiangnan.

But that's not the main point.

The main point is the beginning of this movie.

Behold, Tang Bohu elegantly pulls out a brush...

Deng Chi thought the protagonist was about to start creating, writing calligraphy, or painting something, but this dude started using the brush to grill chicken wings?

So the ink in the brush was not ink, but soy sauce?

What's going on in the script writer's head?

It's kinda funny though.

Following that, Zhu Zhishan made his entrance.

The movie introduced Zhu Zhishan's identity through a rough dialogue. He's one of the four great scholars of Jiangnan, and a good friend of Tang Bohu.

But that's still not the main point.

The point is this Zhu Zhishan, he doesn't look like a scholarly person at all, even less reliable than Tang Bohu using a brush as a skewer for chicken wings.

He's actually a hopeless gambler, who often loses everything, and then asks Tang Bohu to paint for him to sell and make money...

Although the dialogues are simple and crude, there are quite a few comedic subtleties inserted within.

Next, Tang Bohu is finally about to paint.

But Deng Chi is utterly dumbstruck to see that Tang Bohu's mode of painting is...using Zhu Zhishan's body...

Bang bang bang.

Boom boom boom.

After such arrangements, Tang Bohu really has created an exceptional ink painting!

Exaggerated?

Very exaggerated!

Bullshit?

Very much bullshit!

The scriptwriter is nothing short of whimsical.

Yet, for some reason, Deng Chi found it even more entertaining, although he didn't laugh-

As someone with a high humor threshold, Deng Chi declaring a movie as "entertaining" is already a high rating.

At this point, Deng Chi wasn't in a rush to quit anymore.

This movie had successfully aroused his interest.

Meanwhile,

Deng Chi noticed a barrage of rolling comments on top of the movie. Compared to Deng Chi, who has a high humor threshold, these comments were far too lively:

"Holy shit!"

"I'm dying of laughter!"

"Hahahaha, this guy's penis painted out the bug inside the beak of an eagle."

“Are you an eagle or the bug in its mouth?”

“Anyway, I won’t hook.”

Deng Chi didn’t block the barrage of comments.

Although his laughter threshold is high, seeing these funny comments from the netizens makes him feel good.

Maybe because happiness is contagious?

The plot continued.

As it turns out, Tang Bohu had eight wives.

Except the depiction of these eight wives seemed a bit odd.

They were all addicted to Pai Gow, turned Tang Bohu’s bird paintings into “Important birds”, and even used Tang Bohu’s poetry book as a tablemat...

Tang Bohu had to put up a brave front.

His mother couldn’t understand, “You’re young and successful, having accomplished so much in your career, possessing great wealth, and surrounded by a group of wives and concubines. You should be the happiest person in the world. So why are you always looking so gloomy?”

At this point, Deng Chi felt as if he had been hit.

Tang Bohu seemed so similar to himself!

There were also people who couldn’t understand Deng Chi. They said Deng Chi was not only handsome but also rich with pretty girlfriends. They couldn’t understand why he still suffered from depression...

At this moment, Deng Chi felt that he really understood Tang Bohu.

Unfortunately, this melancholic feeling couldn't ripple out and was diluted by the following scene, all of Tang Bohu's eight wives together...

Committed suicide by hanging themselves?

Tang Bohu praised, "Eight people hanging themselves together, what a spectacular sight!"

For the first time, Deng Chi felt an urge to laugh.

Your eight wives commit suicide, and you only find it spectacular?

His thoughts were once again confounded by the protagonist's decision making, or to be precise, the scriptwriter's whims...

This movie continues to take unexpected, humorous turns.

Every time the plot diverges, it brings out an intense sense of humor.

Having watched so many comedies, "Flirting Scholar" is definitely the most unconventional!

The most unconventional part is when the Prince of Ning invited Tang Bohu to be his advisor, but Tang Bohu, pretending to be sick, was joyfully eating chicken wings.

Facing doubts, Tang Bohu casually burst to a song, "Because... I love to eat braised chicken wings..."

The person followed along, "But your mother says you're about to die..."

His mother chimed in, "If you're about to die, you should eat desperately. If you don't eat now, there's no chance in the future..."

Huh?

What the heck?

Deng Chi felt the corners of his mouth twitching, sensing that he had been fully played.

Is this how you play it?

You guys even started singing?

What happened to the rebellion? Can't you be a bit more serious?

The weirdest part is ...

The rhythm of the song is quite catchy?

Deng Chi felt like he was about to crack up.

When the doctor took Tang Bohu's pulse, but Tang Bohu played a musical piece on doctor's wrist, Deng Chi's jaws twitched even harder.

The bullet screen had turned into an ocean of laughter:

"My god, is it that much fun?"

"I'm laughing my head off!"

"I believe this must be Xian Yu's movie, the songs in it are amazing!"

Please give me the source of the original music!"

“What kind of divine movie is this?”

“The scriptwriter certainly isn’t a Blue Starian. Only an alien could think of such a plot!”

This movie was not at all rigorous, and the logic didn’t stand up to scrutiny. But strangely, nobody saw anything wrong with that, on the contrary, they just found it amusing.

Absolute mockery!

It was outrageous!

This style permeates the following plot.

The Four Talented Men go on a trip, and without a word, they strip...

Then, there’s Ruhua’s backward glance, and the classic counter-performance of picking her nose...

The barrage hits a peak, each wave in quantity seems to exceed the previous, and the humor also escalates wave after wave.

The plot enters the main line.

Tang Bohu, to get close to Qiuxiang, infiltrates Hua Mansion, and competes in misery with pedestrians.

Tang Bohu has someone fake death, selling himself to bury his father.

To his surprise, the pedestrian brings over seven dead bodies from his family, with their dog dying with a whimper...

“Puff!”

Deng Chi inevitably bursts out laughing.

When Tang Bohu pinches a cockroach, yells Xiao Qiang, and cries bitterly, Deng Chi can't stop laughing.

Lastly, to win the competition of misery, the pedestrian even knocks himself dead with a stick, and Deng Chi laughs so hard that it hurts!

At this moment, he was indistinguishable from the stupid-netizen commenters...

"God damn Xiao Qiang!"

"The dog is dead, haha... I can't stand it anymore, this is killing me with laughter!"

"A competition of misery, is this for real?"

"This guy actually knocked himself out..."

"Working too hard, man!"

"A friendly reminder, don't eat or drink anything while watching this movie! Don't ask me how I know!"

"You should've said that sooner! I just took a gulp of water, now I'm choking!"

"I can't stand it, I can't...I laughed so hard I'm about to wet myself!"

After quite a while, Deng Chi finally manages to contain his laughter.

For those who have never seen such a nonsensical film, once they tune themselves in, the impact of "Flirting Scholar" becomes terrifying!

Deng Chi almost forgot when he last laughed out loud.

Of course, not all comments are praise.

Some comments say:

“What the hell?”

“What a mess.”

I just don’t get it.”

“This film has no substance.”

Deng Chi filters out these comments automatically.

There are trolls everywhere.

Looking for substance in a comedy, buddy, are you in the wrong theater?

And haven’t you figured out the style of the movie after watching for so long?

Anyway, the majority of the viewers could not stop laughing at this point.

And amid the laughter of countless audiences, Tang Bohu finally gets into Hua Mansion.

The plot threads have linked up at this point.

Madam Hua hates the Tang family, thus she dislikes Tang Bohu greatly...

However, Qiuxiang, the woman Tang Bohu always programs his heart for, unexpectedly has a secret crush on him and starts to murmur his poems:

“In the Peach Blossom Abbey at Peach Blossom Bay sits the Peach Blossom Fairy, growing peach trees for wine money in exchange for peach blossoms.”

Seeing this, Deng Chi’s laughter fades a bit, and his expression flashes a hint of peculiarity —

Did the screenwriter write this poem?

Regardless of how absurd the previous narrative was and how extraordinary the screenwriter’s train of thought was, it could not let the audience ignore the level of this poem.

Anyone with a bit of literary taste can feel the artistic conception of this poem!

This screenwriter, not bad!

There are quite a few people having similar feelings as Deng Chi, and they are noticeably stunned by the barrage:

“This poem is of a high level!”

“Looked it up, it’s original by the screenwriter.”

“You have quick hands, how many years have you been single?”

“The screenwriter is Xian Yu...I honestly admit defeat, Xian Yu’s literary talent is frightening, this poem is absolutely amazing!”

“No wonder the lyrics Xian Yu wrote are all so good!”

“I feel that, Xian Yu is a little like Tang Bohu?”

“You’re right...his songwriting is elegant...but the script he wrote is extremely absurd, resembling Tang Bohu’s vagabond and squirrel style...”

n

n

The audience is more or less shocked.

But it does not end there, for Tang Bohu himself follows with a few more lines, which seem to belong to the same poem that Qiuxiang was reciting:

“World laughs at me for being too insane, I laugh at others for not seeing through. See not the tomb of heroes at Wuling, who farm with no flowers and no wine.”

Wow!

It exploded!

If the few lines recited by Qiuxiang only provoked a bit of surprise and astonishment among the audience, then when those lines of poetry came out, many viewers were already dumbfounded and shocked!

“Again?”

it

This poem rocks!”

“The screenwriter is truly a genius!”

“It’s the same poem Qiuxiang read, right?”

Those saying this movie has no substance, stop right there! Is this poem deep enough for you yet?”

I thought it was just a comedy...now I know how genius the screenwriter is!”

“Confirmed! Tang Bohu is Xian Yu, Xian Yu is Tang Bohu!”

At this moment, Deng Chi’s eyes are wide as eggs!

His breath couldn’t help but hasten a few ticks...

World laughs at me for being too insane, I laugh at others for not seeing through?

At first, Tang Bohu’s tribulation only made Deng Chi feel sympathy, but these lines of poetry pierced his heart like a sharp blade!

He feels that his mood is perfectly vented in this poem!

Comedy?

If you truly think that the screenwriter can only write comedies, that would be the real comedy!

This screenwriter conceals too deep!

His literary accomplishment, his poetic level, instantly raises the level of this movie!

“Xian Yu?”

Many comments say the screenwriter is Xian Yu.

At first, Deng Chi didn’t pay much attention, he just found it familiar, but at this moment he suddenly remembered...

Isn’t Xian Yu a songwriter?

The screenwriter of this movie is Xian Yu?

This guy is amazing!

At this moment, there was a trace of admiration for Xian Yu in Deng Chi's heart. Farming with no flowers and no wine, what a state of mind...

Never mind Qiuxiang admiring Tang Bohu!

Deng Chi feels he is about to become a hardcore fan of Tang Bohu!

At this point...

The movie is not over yet!

Chapter 242: Second Brush

The comedy continues.

Due to a collection of Tang Yin's poetry and Madam Hua's rage, Tang Bohu had no choice but to continue to masquerade as Hua An.

When Tang Bohu starts his self-deprecating rap with bowl beatings, the comments grew dense:

"I can't be human anymore!"

"I insult myself!"

"Pfft, can't you produce something more positive?"

"Look at Madam Hua and the others, they are so strange!"

"These women are reaching their climax merely by listening to this song?"

“Who knows that Tang Bohu... he is too bewitching!”

“Xian Yu is indeed a genius composer, the music in this movie, excluding the parodic elements, is really good to listen to!”

“My stomach hurts from laughing!”

Tapping bowls, stools, pillars, Tang Bohu can use anything for his music, completely embodying his own characteristic evaluation:

Monumentally proficient in both poetry and painting, especially rhythm.

In other movies, this setup would only be a superficial characterization, but in this movie, everything carries conviction!

Tang Bohu’s poetry.

Tang Bohu’s rhythm.

Both are unmistakably top-notch!

As the most notable one out of the four talented individuals in Jiangnan, he indeed lives up to his reputation!

The movie is a series of connected events, extraneous characters need not exist.

As the story takes another turn, Zhu Zhishan appears.

He impersonates Tang Bohu, resulting in him being caught and taken to Hua Mansion, precisely during the instance that the rebellious Prince of Ning was looking for trouble with Chancellor Hua.

Therefore.

When Zhu Zhishan, impersonating Tang Bohu, started a fleeting romance with Sister Pomegranate and painted a “Chick Pecking” picture in front of everyone, even those resistant to humor doubled down in laughter!

This is a classic scene from “Flirting Scholar”.

The reason it became a classic is because this segment is indeed iconic—

“The Phoenix’s Pride painting is impressive!”

“The real Bohu should come on stage hahahaha.”

“Brother Zhishan, hurry up and find your Sister Pomegranate.”

“Pfft, Sister Pomegranate...”

“Who can handle this!”

“Beauty beyond comparison, Sister Pomegranate!”

Deng Chi also started to clutch his stomach in pain.

Yes, from laughter.

It appears that every second of this movie conjures up new comedic elements, making it hard to suppress one’s laughter.

What?

Depression?

At least in this moment, Deng Chi completely forgot about it, he clutched his stomach, almost bursting into tears from laughter.

In fact.

As the movie plot progresses to this point, one memorable scene follows another.

At this moment.

The Prince of Ning's envoy put forward this verse: "A town with two villages under three teachers, yet without knowledge of the four books, the five classics and the six principles, dare to teach seven, eight, or nine sons, indeed daring!"

As soon as this verse was presented, not just Chancellor Hua, but the audience were also flummoxed!

Undoubtedly, this verse is difficult.

Under the anticipation of the audience, the real Tang Bohu emerged and instantly replied: "Ten impoverished houses manage to scrape together eight taels, seven maces, six fen, five hao, four li, yet still vacillate, forever an underclass."

"Wrong."

The envoy sneered.

Deng Chi furrowed his brow.

Tang Bohu's verse, while amusing, was indeed irregular and asymmetrical, but this is a movie, perhaps there's no need to quibble...

"Just joking."

Tang Bohu casually retorted: "Among the ten temples, nine monks devote themselves to eight scriptures, strictly adhering to seven precepts, six paths, and five principles, yet lament that no four, three, two disciples are left in utter helplessness."

Deng Chi's eyes lit up!

This response is indeed brilliant!

Though that's not the only brilliant part.

As if to provide Tang Bohu's literary talent with more credibility, the following verses delivered by him were continuously impactful—

“While the dragon in the painting doesn't roar and the tiger doesn't growl, it's laughable that a little book boy could.”

“On the chessboard, the chariot has no wheels and the horse no reins, yet they exclaim ‘checkmate’, beware!”

“Oriole by oriole, swallow by swallow, green by green, red by red, harmony everywhere!”

” Rain after rain, wind after wind, flower after flower, leaf after leaf, year by year, dusk after dawn!”

“With ten hearts pondering, pondering about you, the country, and the society animals.”

“Eight eyes focusing, focusing on the flowers, the moon, and Qiuxiang ~ ”

“You...”

“Just kidding, an inch of my body gratefully speaks, thanks heaven, earth and to the king.”

Cracking jokes, yet effortlessly poetic...

The rhymes might not be neat, but it was just a joke...

Not to say that they're unparalleled, but at the very least, these couplets bear great value!

Not just for comedy!

But they also give one a feeling of refreshment and satisfaction!

The style of this movie never stays serious for more than three seconds, after the audience feels refreshed, laughs follow. A scene where a staff member suddenly collapses and coughs up blood...

"Is this the legendary 'coughing up three liters of blood'?"

"These couplets are lit!"

"Why can't I come up with such couplets?"

"First it's poetry, now it's couplets, Xian Yu, I'm down on my knees in admiration!"

"Mom asked me why I'm watching this movie on my knees..."

"This movie is practically a one-man show by Xian Yu!"

"He shows off his music, poetry, couplets, I can only say Xian Yu is awesome..."

"I'm crying from being shown off!"

"Xian Yu should write more poetry in the future!"

"Sorry, I'm too uncultured. I'm just laughing."

"Me too, I laughed myself hoarse!"

"What's that? I can laugh myself into pig squeals!"

From laughter, to surprise, to being stunned, the barrage of comments at this moment is dense, even the audience who usually don't interact are shocked by these famous scenes!

No audience can remain calm...

Not that this movie wins over every audience, but at this point, those who didn't like it have already left, and those who are watching have truly been attracted by this movie!

Just then.

A comment floated out of the corner which gave many a jolt, "Let me tell you a ghost story, look at the progress bar."

Deng Chi just happened to see this comment, and then he felt his depression begin:

"Hold on, progress bar!"

The movie... is about to end!

Apart from Deng Chi, other audience members also noticed that the progress bar could not hold up, and for a while, numerous comments encouraging the progress bar sprang up...

Pleasantly surprised!

The movie is energetic all the way, and many viewers don't want the film to end.

But there are no endless feasts in the world.

With the Prince of Ning defeated, after Tang Bohu and the Evil Scholar had an exciting fight, he finally ended up with the beauty.

Of course.

The comedy in the process did not weaken with the end of the movie. Many interesting gags kept appearing.

Like “Give me back my blows”...

Like Madame Hua and the Evil Scholar battling it out, and then swapping clothes...

Like Tang Bohu completed a painting called “Spring Trees and Autumn Frost” in a very short time and nonsensically said something about the weather being wet...

Again, during the Qiuxiang appreciation, Tang Bohu recites poetry, as a result Sister Pomegranate urgently needs a loo, and she steps forward...

The appearance of these jokes almost made Deng Chi forget about the progress bar.

Therefore, when the movie ended with the scene of Qiuxiang pulling Tang Bohu to play a round of cards, Deng Chi suddenly felt a hint of regret.

Is it over?

Really over?

Hello, this is the time when our web film’s superiority should be brought into play.

Deng Chi didn’t hesitate to re-play the movie.

The university’s unique on-demand feature is that you spend five dollars to watch it once and you want to watch it again?

That will cost more money.

This is like a movie theater.

Watch a movie once and spend the money once, it's not because you have watched it once, and then the second time is free.

However, Deng Chi definitely doesn't care about this money, the first time he watched this movie for fun, the second time he can appreciate it again...

Replay!

As a result, Deng Chi saw that many of the bullet screen comments at the beginning of the movie were the same as his own, coming across in rows:

"Second sweep."

"Same second sweep."

"Lookback again."

"Hahaha, second sweep, second sweep, this movie laughs to death!"

"Beast, just came out of the movie and already doing a second sweep?"

"It's so damn good, I can't resist watching it again."

"Originally in a bad mood, after watching this movie, all troubles are gone."

At this time, the incoming audience, seeing so many "second sweeps" comments, are wondering if they walked into the wrong theater.

A new movie just came out, where did so many "second sweeps" come from?

Where are they?

Hired a navy?

Can you bring me together?

Chapter 243: This Movie is Pretty Intense_i

Of course, the instances of second-time viewers are few.

After most people watch a movie, they won't revisit it anytime soon.

The memory of just having watched a movie is too vivid; rewatching it would inevitably lose a bit of that freshness.

It's better to wait a while until you've forgotten some of the movie's content- rewatching it then is much more enjoyable.

Thus.

As the first batch of audience finished viewing, the comments section for Catmill's "Flirting Scholar" was bustling —

"I'm gonna die laughing at this movie!"

"I just saw a barrage of comments, someone said they laughed like a goose, another said they laughed like a pig, and I laughed like a chicken: cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck, cluck."

From now on, roaches shouldn't be called roaches, but Xiao Qiang instead. This naming is so damn clever, considering the roach's survival ability; it totally deserves such a title!"

The comedic timing in this film is so dense, it could trigger claustrophobia!"

"The misery competition part had me laughing till my muscles cramped...."

The movie's design is so clever, aside from being funny, the ending where Tang Bohu stabs someone to death without a gun was a bit suave."

“For the first time in my life, I give an Internet-movie a perfect score...I used to watch Internet-movies just for fun...but this whole movie is fun....”

“The comedy in this movie is very innovative, I don’t know what to say, it’s both baffling and hilarious!”

“My mom watched it with me, and we both couldn’t stop laughing- ”

Audiences have a certain disregard for network blockbusters-they don’t really treat it seriously.

Even if they occasionally watch these movies, it’s just for amusement; they don’t have high expectations.

However, “Flirting Scholar” delivers a pleasant surprise to numerous viewers!

It’s a classic comedy movie!

Catmill’s website has a rating function, with the highest score being ten.

And currently, the score for “Flirting Scholar” has reached an astonishing 9.4!

Of course, this is also due to the low number of reviewers.

A movie’s score will inevitably be lowered as more people comment.

And there are some who specifically target high-scoring movies, then give them the minimum score, under the pretense of ‘balancing it out’.

To highlight their grasp of the big picture.

But for now, there aren’t people who enjoy ‘balancing it out’, after watching

this movie, most people have simply enjoyed it.

Therefore....

In Xian Yu's Tribe comment section, a small bombshell was dropped.

Just became a fan! Came here to bow down to the great one, just finished watching "Flirting Scholar", the finest comedy film I've seen in years!" This is a new fan who only became Xian Yu's fan after watching the movie.

And there are more than one such new fan:

Also became a fan after watching the movie, the scriptwriter turns out to be a composer, such a genius!"

With my many years of movie-watching experience...no matter what kind of movie I watch...this movie is definitely going to be a hit!"

If this movie doesn't become a hit, there's no justice in the world! It's good enough even for a theatrical release!"

"Spent five bucks to watch such a classic movie, geez, feels like I got a great bargain, I must follow the scriptwriter GOAT."

"Kneel down to the great one!"

"I was busy today and didn't have time to go to the theater, a bit regretful, so I just found a network blockbuster to watch, but who would have thought I'd get to watch such an excellent movie, I'd support this movie even if it was in the theaters!"

Apart from new fans, old fans were also especially excited:

"Who dares to say Xian Yu becoming a screenwriter isn't his main job!"

“After watching the movie, I don’t know what to say, how does Xian Yu’s brain operate? His music composition is already amazing, but his screenwriting is just as superb!”

“This movie is undoubtedly phenomenal- ”

I initially just gave it a casual watch, since I pride myself as Xian Yu’s fan, but I didn’t expect to be pleasantly surprised!”

“Xian Yu should make more movies in the future, we’re behind you!”

“I was wrong, I shouldn’t have doubted Xian Yu. When I started watching the movie, I even told my friend online that this movie is definitely going to flop, but now my face feels pulverized!”

“Just watched for five minutes, and then...! impulsively jumped into it...This is

the most worthwhile five dollars I’ve spent this year!”

“You’re telling me this is a network blockbuster? Its ceiling has been upped by whole levels because of this movie!”

Humorous, innovative, surprising, delightful!

The first group of viewers gave the most direct and straightforward approval and reviews, especially the previously skeptical old fans of Xian Yu, who are extremely shocked right now!

Of course.

Some of the poems and couplets in the movie also caused some discussions.

However, the discussions about the poems and couplets do not compare to that about the movie itself, after all, people watch movies mainly for the quality of the movie itself.

A good storyline is the key.

The rest, while done well, only serve as icing on the cake.

Moreover.

These people also highly recommended “Flirting Scholar” to their friends and family through channels like the Tribe and circle of friends:

“Quickly come and watch, it’s a legendary network blockbuster!”

“The first network blockbuster of July, I strongly recommend!”

“If you don’t laugh after watching this movie, I’ll send you a ten bucks red packet!”

“You guys have to watch “Flirting Scholar”, it’s a classic comedy!”

“Only after watching “Flirting Scholar” did I realize that Xian Yu is a writer who was distracted by composing, suggest everyone come and watch it, don’t miss this spectacular show!”

The video site has a gifting feature.

That is, by spending five bucks, you can gift the movie to a friend, and then they can watch it for free.

The price of five bucks is only the cost of a few cigarettes.

So, after the first group of viewers finished the movie, not only did they recommend it vocally, some even spent an extra five bucks to share the movie with people they are close to for free.

Brothers... sisters... parents...

Even boyfriends... girlfriends...

Under such a wave of promotion, the views for “Flirting Scholar” surged in a short time.

When it was five hours into the release of “Flirting Scholar”.

The office for Penguin Video.

The department for Internet-movies.

The staff member Ji Hao, who was in charge of monitoring the data for this month’s movie releases, suddenly broke the office’s silence with a sharp voice:

“Holy cow, this movie is awesome!”

Usually, the first few hours of an Internet-movie’s release don’t really have anything worth noting, and it typically takes until the second or third day to gauge which new release is more popular.

But there are always exceptions.

Sometimes, certain movies would explode with incredibly high popularity on the very first day of their release, so when Ji Hao let out a shrill exclamation, many colleagues in the department curiously looked towards Ji Hao’s computer screen, and some even joked:

“How awesome?”

However, when this group saw what was on Ji Hao’s computer screen, the room fell into silence.

Immediately following that, there were sounds of inhaling sharply throughout the office...

Chapter 244: Short of a Producer_1

Web page viewing data is delayed, and only the online film department can see the real-time data in the background.

But looking at the real-time data displayed on Lu Hao’s computer, many Penguin Video employees were doubting their eyesight.

A web movie titled “Flirting Scholar” had an astounding view count of one hundred thousand!

Exact view count: 100,467!

As internal employees, everyone was naturally aware of the inside scoop about this online movie just launched.

“Flirting Scholar” had a production budget of less than ten million, no publicity, no famous director, no well-known actors-

Otherwise, it would not be released online.

The only advantage of this film is probably that the scriptwriter Xian Yu is a celebrity?

But Xian Yu is not known for his scriptwriting, but for his composing, which might even deter some viewers.

Compared to other online films of the same period, “Flirting Scholar” did not seem to have any apparent advantages, so no one initially expected this movie to explode-

“The data is insane!”

“There must be a bug in the calculation!”

“The views exceeded one hundred thousand in just five hours?”

“Damn, the movie isn’t exclusive, it’s also available on Catmill, so why did it get one hundred thousand views within five hours? People might think it’s a theater movie...”

“How many views on Catmill?”

“Check the website data.”

Everyone quickly opened Catmill's website and sure enough saw that "Flirting Scholar" had climbed to the top of the daily views chart.

The displayed view count was: 97,654.

"Web page data is generally delayed. I assume the actual view count of "Flirting Scholar" on their side has also broken one hundred thousand!"

"It wasn't an exclusive signing, the two sides can be added together, which means... this movie got two hundred thousand views about five hours after it went live?"

"As far as I recall, didn't the film's budget just come just to nine million?"

"Two hundred thousand views... both websites combined, sold a million in just five hours?"

"Oh my god!"

"This making money rate is too sick!"

"Looking at the movie reviews, it really did explode, filled with positive comments!"

"A rating above nine, it's not just word of mouth, the number of comments is also overwhelmingly large!"

"The problem is, the movie has only been online for five hours, who the hell knows how high it can go, I need to inform the manager!"

"We need to increase publicity!"

"Such an awesome movie, and we'll let Catmill profit?"

The same scenario, occurred in the online film department of Catmill!

Receiving alarming news in real-time, the manager of Catmill's online film department could almost pop out his eyeballs:

"This movie is insane!"

In the face of this movie's data, even the exclamations from the employee next to him, were filled with astonishment:

"Crazy!"

"Can such a no-cost, no-publicity, no-star online blockbusters also be so powerful? According to this trend, I suspect this movie will break many records of online films!"

"The heat will definitely ferment. Wait until the data explodes in a few days, I guess even the theaters will be jealous?"

"We need to step up promotion!"

"It's a pity that this film wasn't signed exclusively, or we would have made a fortune this time. Hurry up and promote it, we have to compete with Penguin Video!"

Since the movie wasn't exclusively signed, viewers can watch "Flirting Scholar" on both Catmill and Penguin Video.

For the audience, it doesn't matter which website they watch this movie on, as long as the picture quality is the same.

But for the two websites, there's a huge difference!

Therefore, the two websites will definitely be scrambling for audience, and might even sacrifice part of the website's interests to implement price reduction strategies!

When both broadcasting platforms also realized the immense potential and horrifying worth of "Flirting Scholar", the site's promotion began to build momentum!

The movie's rise to popularity was unstoppable!

At this time, Shen Qing had just finished working for the morning.

As he arrived at the company cafeteria, while eating, he took out his phone to check the performance of "Flirting Scholar" after its launch.

Not that Shen Qing didn't care about the movie...

As an industry insider, Shen Qing knew very well that not much could be discerned just after an online film was launched.

However.

When Shen Qing took out his phone, he received a major information push from Penguin Video: [Hilarious comedy movie "Flirting Scholar" now live!]

Shen Qing was slightly stunned.

Why would Penguin Video give "Flirting Scholar" such heavy promotion?

Aren't these kinds of recommendations reserved for the most popular videos?

Before Shen Qing could recover, another information stream push appeared above his phone: [The year's most surprising blockbuster "Flirting Scholar" is now live, stay and laugh a while, Catmill guarantees!]

Shen Qing was a little bit stunned.

Why are they both promoting "Flirting Scholar"?

It felt as if Penguin Video and Catmill were competing in a drum-beating contest for viewers?

He instinctively clicked on Catmill's push, then he saw "Flirting Scholar" was placed in the most conspicuous recommendation on the website.

Even without clicking the push, anyone who entered the website could see the movie advertisement at first sight!

This...

Seemingly realizing something, Shen Qing's heartbeat sped up slightly.

When he clicked into the movie category, his expression almost froze, and he even forgot to chew on the food in his mouth.

Daily movie leaderboard first place: "Flirting Scholar"!

Rating: 9.4!

View count: 113,453!

"Gulp."

A mouthful of rice was forcibly swallowed by Shen Qing.

He closed the video website and used Tribe to search for "Flirting Scholar", then confronted with numerous netizen discussions on Tribe, he fell silent- juxtaposed with this time.

A surprised voice came from the side: "Producer Shen, you're here. Have you seen the activity online, damn! We blew up! Our movie blew up! Hahahaha Lin is invincible!"

The person speaking was the assistant director of "Flirting Scholar", one of the key person in the movie's creative team.

"Blew up..."

Shen Qing felt his head spinning a bit, had the world gone a little mad?

This somewhat abnormal movie Lin had made, it had exploded?”

The website’s data wouldn’t lie... Tribe’s discussion volume wouldn’t lie...

The assistant director sat next to Shen Qing in excitement, didn’t even rush to order food, and enthusiastically said: “Lin is so awesome! I knew this movie would be hot!”

Shen Qing looked at the assistant director, how could this guy be so shameless?

How could he have known after the fact?

Tell it like it is.

Of the entire production team, other than that quirky director Yi Chenggong, who else believed that “Flirting Scholar” could explode?

No wait...

Shen Qing suddenly had a bitter smile.

Yi Chenggong’s judgment was right, he was the one with the most accurate vision, “Flirting Scholar”, he was the one who was wrong.

So the quirky person wasn’t Yi Chenggong, but he, the producer!

Quirky Producer!

Chapter 245: Now He Really Becomes the

Crown Prince_i

If a five-hour on-demand streaming data of an online movie can create a “boom” in the eyes of Penguin Video, Catmill, and a minority group including Shen Qing, then when this timeline is extended to be calculated in days, it can create a well-deserved “boom” in the eyes of the ordinary people!

In the following days.

With the website’s push and the rising heat, the playback volume of “Flirting Scholar” has been skyrocketing in a way that didn’t quite align with many people’s perceptions and understandings of online movies!

2.03 million...

3- 5 million...

4- 92 million...

6.25 million...

By the time it was the seventh day and the first week was about to end, the number of times “Flirting Scholar” was played on Penguin Video and Catmill combined officially broke the 10 million mark!

“Less than seven days.”

“Online movie.”

“Ten million streams.

These keywords combined together are quite dazzling. It’s enough to make anyone who knows the industry slightly startle, after all this isn’t the Celestial Dynasty video site that usually calculates in billions.

This is Blue Star!

The ten million views on Blue Star are all genuine, and there are no inflated figures. For each view, viewers would spend five dollars, giving us ten million plays!

In other words.

Without discussing taxes, sharing expenses, and advertising splits, this online movie has earned a real 50 million just based on the number of on-demand views in less than a week, causing the other video sites to grit their teeth in envy as they watched Catmill and Penguin Video rake in the profits...

As a matter of fact.

When such a monster appears in the online movie market, its impact is no longer confined to the online movies itself. As the discussion heat of “Flirting Scholar” increases, more and more people in Xian Yu’s movie industry begin to pay attention.

At this time.

Compared to the bustling online movie circle, 01’ Zhou, who has been working at Starlight, wasn’t very cheerful because the box office performance of the company’s highly anticipated first movie “Thunderstorm” wasn’t looking good. It’s not quite accurate to say that the movie was a flop, but it did leave something to be desired. Perhaps for this reason, 01’ Zhou was called into the chairman’s office.

Entering the chairman’s office, 01’ Zhou’s expression is somewhat downcast, but he still musters up his spirit and says, “Chairman, you need not worry too much. According to our current box office trend, it won’t be difficult for “Thunderstorm” to recoup its cost.”

A box office smash is a success.

But if we can recoup our costs, then “Thunderstorm” would still be deemed passable. After all, our company’s first large-scale movie has gained a lot of experience without losing money, which is also a kind of yield. At least, that’s how 01’ Zhou consoled himself.

“Mmm.”

Li Songhua seems to pay no mind to 01' Zhou's words, and he goes on, "Today, a friend of mine suddenly called to congratulate me, saying that our company's movie was done excellently, and the return on investment is conservatively estimated at more than ten times."

"Exaggerated!"

Upon hearing this, 01' Zhou frowns and says, "How could your friend be so sarcastic? After all, "Thunderstorm" is our first foray into the film market, and we will surely be more adept at it in the future."

"Yes..."

Li Songhua's eyes narrow into a dangerous curve, staring at 01' Zhou in a daze, "I thought he was being sarcastic at first, but then I realized he was telling the truth. The investment return of our movie is indeed over ten times. Even when you compare this to the entire industry, we are a standout!"

"Huh?"

01' Zhou is a bit stunned.

Although he doesn't know what Li Songhua means by his words, he can clearly feel a chill in the air, signifying that the Chairman's mood is very bad right now. Feeling a bit cold, 01' Zhou says quietly, "Could the Chairman please clarify, I... I don't quite understand..."

"Don't understand?"

Li Songhua's eyelids twitch violently, his voice suppressed and low, "Don't you have any idea about the movie you sold yourself? I find you more generous than me, pampering our little Maestro without limit!"

"Lin Yuan?"

01' Zhou's heart skipped a beat and then he defended himself, "You also agreed with Lin Yuan making a movie. I also reported to you that the movie was sold to him, and you also implicitly

agreed. Besides, that movie won't make much money. What's the issue with selling it to him? It was destined to lose..."

"Can't make much money? Destined to lose?"

Li Songhua suddenly picked up a document from the table and tossed it to 01' Zhou impatiently, "Then you tell me what this is? You tell me his movie won't make much money? It'll lose? What about your "Thunderstorm", isn't it earning a lot?" 6

01' Zhou was taken aback.

He flipped through the file.

His eyes went wide!

The document clearly outlined the viewing data, revenue, and various professional-grade analyses of the film "Flirting Scholar", and one particular figure almost made 01' Zhou scream:

"Fifty Million!? In a week!?"

If it weren't for the fact that Li Songhua had thrown this across, 01' Zhou would certainly have doubted this data, but considering Li Songhua's present attitude, he wouldn't question the authenticity of this document –

It wasn't 01' Zhou's fault for overlooking this.

Regardless of how well the internet film circles were doing, usually they made few millions, and he was completely focused on "Thunderstorm", the major project the company was preparing, and he didn't care about such low-scale projects.

But right now.

Looking at the clear records in the document about the exaggerated achievements of the film "Flirting Scholar" after it was released online, 01' Zhou was completely blown away: "So, so, so... this...movie...is a hit!?"

Li Songhua held his forehead in frustration.

This news surprised not only 01' Zhou but also him. Only after "Flirting Scholar's" popularity had been fermenting for a full week did he realize that a monster-hke film had been released online, and it was produced by his own company, but the film didn't belong to the company.....

What the hell was going on?

01' Zhou felt like crying.

No wonder the chairman said he had spoiled Lin Yuan too much... Did he sell such a profitable movie like "Flirting Scholar" to Lin Yuan for just 10 million?

Am I getting old?

This movie is a hit?

Wait, I am still carrying this burden!

01' Zhou suddenly plucked up the courage to argue with Li Songhua: "There's your part in this too, Chairman. I had reported everything to you during this whole process. This problem can't be blamed on me alone!"

"Are you sure?"

Li Songhua's eyes threatened.

01' Zhou opened his mouth, and finally sighed, his words filled with textbook-level workplace wisdom: "Without informing the chairman, I sold Thrting Scholar' on my own. The chairman was very fond of this film, it was just me, old Zhou, who was confused."

"That's right."

Li Songhua nodded in satisfaction and coughed: “Last time, you advised me not to invest in Xian Yu’s movie-making, and what did I tell you? We should fully support our child’s desire to make a movie! I knew it was something special as soon as I read the script, and anyone with discerning eyes would know it was bound to be a hit!”

“Yes, yes, yes.”

01’ Zhou nodded like pounding garlic.

Li Songhua coughed again, “Although we gave the movie to him, it was still made under our company name. We don’t want to grab pocket money from the kid, but...”

“I get it.”

No need for the chairman to say more, 01’ Zhou understood completely.

No matter how much the company lost, it was a given fact that Starlight produced a web-based blockbuster film that was a huge hit.

“But some people in the company already know about this, we can’t just kill them all, can we?” 01’ Zhou was a bit worried.

“Then you tell them.”

Li Songhua completely restored his chairman’s authority, saying domineeringly, “I, Li Songhua, am ready to zip lips now. If anyone dares to spill the beans, let him come and talk to me!”

“What about Xian Yu?”

01’ Zhou asked cautiously.

Li Songhua paused and stared at 01’ Zhou for a good while before he sighed deeply: “Can’t you pacify it?”

01' Zhou:

What happened to your authority and dominance before?

So now, Xian Yu has become the Crown Prince of Starlight?

Chapter 246: The Core of Comedy is Tragedy

Upon leaving the chairman's office, 01' Zhou immediately made a call to Lin Yuan.

“Director.”

Lin Yuan answered 01' Zhou's call with his usual stable demeanor.

However, 01' Zhou could no longer maintain his usual calmness when facing Lin Yuan, even though he had long since become accustomed to Lin Yuan's attitude.

“You...”

01 Zhou had a lot of thoughts in his mind but found himself speechless when it came to voicing them.

What could he say?

“You've screwed me over?”

But he himself agreed to sell the movie rights.

He couldn't blame Lin Yuan for this whole deal, he only underestimated “Flirting Scholar” and never took this movie seriously from the beginning.

“Here's the thing.”

He said with a bitter smile, “About the company selling you the rights, you better not go around talking about it, save me, 01’ Zhou, some face.”

Lin Yuan replied, “But isn’t it something already known amongst many in the film department?”

01’ Zhou kept his bitter smile, “I will notify the company. The performance of ‘Flirting Scholar’ is very good, the company wants to take this opportunity to do some publicity...”

“Alright.”

Lin Yuan agreed.

Lin Yuan was grateful that the company sold the movie to him. Now that “Flirting Scholar” had made money, it would not be right for him to widely publicize it and show the company lacked foresight.

Lin Yuan knew these basic matters of human relationships.

After hanging up.

01’ Zhou suddenly laughed, but this time there was a hint of...

Expectation.

Wonder how the mainstream film industry will react?

Although both fields were about making films, the web films and traditional cinema were essentially different from each other.

The former was trivial, the latter was the mainstream in the market.

But when a web film with a budget less than ten million yielded over fifty million within a week of its release, even the cinema industry could not remain indifferent—

Why make a movie?

In any industry, even those formed around so-called art, over ninety-five percent of the crowd is there for money.

It's not meant to be sarcastic, just to illustrate that it's not just about the small land owned by web film industry or Starlight's belated realization...

With the release of the first week's box office results and the brewing heat of the movie, the terrifying money-making capability of "Flirting Scholar" began to emerge.

But this is just a beginning.

For both cinemas and web films, the first week is only a start, the second week is the true explosion!

Whoosh!

When the second week ended, the viewings of "Flirting Scholar" had already exceeded thirty million!

At that point.

The popularity of this film had spread across the entire network like some big-budget cinema films
—

"This film is so, so, so, so hilarious! Please pardon my excitement, but this is really the funniest film I've ever watched!"

"Would you believe I have already watched this film three times?"

"Xian Yu's thinking process simply amazed me. Besides being funny, there were also some enlightening points. This film is really adept at expressing some concepts in a popular way."

“What I want to say is...recently the cockroaches in our house have been renamed Xiao Qiang.”

“I thought it would be a costume drama, but the dialogues are extremely modern... This is a costume film with modern colors. From a contemporary perspective, Tang Bohu is definitely a rich, handsome man, while Qiuxiang is a smart and gentle woman of the new era, although she is a maid, she is talent-packed.”

“I always thought the female lead Yu Xilu was just a pretty face, but after watching ‘Flirting Scholar’, I think she... is still a pretty face, but a useful one.”

Without a doubt.

The movie was a massive hit!

With the total count of on-demand viewership on both platforms reaching thirty million in the second week, the total profits of “Flirting Scholar” have reached a terrifying one and a half billion!

Yes, terrifying!

Not to mention there has never been a web film with such popularity in the history of web films, even amongst cinema films, a film with a budget of nine million garnering such results could be considered unimaginably successful!

At this point.

The mainstream film industry of Qi Continent, and the crowd of insiders who always had their eyes on cinemas were utterly shocked by the performance of this web film—

“It made fifty million in the first week of release?”

“Oh my God, is this the same online film I remember?”

“Only a budget of nine million? That return on investment really is a little terrifying.”

“Which company’s film is this, it’s so fierce?”

“It seems to be filmed by Starlight...”

“Pfft, Starlight had high hopes for ‘Thunderstorm’ but the performance was mediocre, yet an online film is skyrocketing in popularity?”

“A mere online film is making more than cinema!”

This is a miracle of leveraging small investments for huge returns.

But this miracle did not occur in the cinema, it bloomed from the online film industry!

After the merger of Qin and Qi.

There are many movie rating websites, including online films.

The most authoritative movie rating site of Qin Qi is called “Starlight Network”.

On Starlight Network.

A professional film critic has already posted a lengthy review of “Flirting Scholar”.

The title of this review is called: [This is a revolution about comedy!]

“A few days ago, a friend recommended me to watch ‘Flirting Scholar’. I was quite surprised, because this is the first time someone has seriously recommended an online film to me. It’s not that I look down on online films, but we have to admit that the quality of online films is uneven. Limited by the budget, there often aren’t many exceptional films...”

“But I still watched this film.”

“At the beginning, I didn’t hold too many expectations, I was merely curious as to why a friend, who is usually so selective, would highly recommend an online film. But after watching this film, I was ashamed of my ignorance and prejudice.”

“I’m not trying to hype it up, I genuinely believe that ‘Flirting Scholar’ is a revolution about comedy!”

“There’s no doubt that this film is classified as a comedy, but even comedies should be differentiated. We are familiar with styles such as black humor, physical comedy, and linguistic comedy, but this is the first time I’ve seen a comedy using gratuitous humor...”

“Gratuitous represents a Qi Continent dialect, meaning a little ridiculous but reasonable. I learned this word from a netizen in Qi Continent. I believe that this word is the most apt description, ‘Flirting Scholar’ is a gratuitous comedy!”

“In reality, we know there wouldn’t be a situation where everyone suddenly breaks into song during a conversation...No one would think of using a person as a brush for painting... No one would die for comparison of hardships...”

“But in ‘Flirting Scholar’, there are many scenes that seemingly make no sense or are absurdly hilarious, yet we can’t help but laugh till our stomachs hurt.” “This is gratuitous!”

“This is a brand new comedic device that every comedian, comedy scriptwriter, and even directors should study.”

“A calm persona suddenly behaving absurdly, seven-day life-insurance disperser, advertisements in the middle of a dialogue. If scenes like this occurred in a regular film, I might scold the director and scriptwriter one by one. However, when it appears in a gratuitous comedy film, I would only applaud and laugh till I choked...”

“This is a period piece, yet I see an ingenious postmodern deconstruction!”

“I can boldly predict that in the future, many comedies can consider this direction for development. Comedies can not only conform to old models but also adapt the pattern of ‘Flirting Scholar’. I believe the audience will love it!”

“Lastly, I want to mention Xian Yu.”

“It’s hard to imagine that the scriptwriter of ‘Flirting Scholar’ is a composer and a very excellent one at that. I’m a semi-fan of Xian Yu, I’ve listened to his songs and I have a deep admiration for his talent. However, I didn’t expect that he also has screenwriting talent. You have to know that this film doesn’t just contain comedic elements, but also poetic and cultural ones. I am sure that all the poetry in this film was originally composed by the scriptwriter because I searched the entire internet and could not find any of the same lines...”

“Others laugh at me being mad, I laugh at others not seeing through.”

“I started to think that perhaps Tang Bohu is a projection of Xian Yu’s inner self. ‘Flirting Scholar’ might not only be a comedy but also carries a tragic core. For instance, at the end of the film that many might have overlooked, Aquarius invited Tang Bohu to play Pai Gow on the day she marries Tang Bohu. So, who really is the Aquarius that Tang Bohu likes? Is it the Aquarius he imagines or is it the ordinary woman in front of him who’s just like his previous wives...”

This analysis may not be comprehensive.

But the content indeed cuts through some features of ‘Flirting Scholar’, and it also provokes thought among audiences who have watched this film.

Therefore, as soon as this film review was published, it quickly sparked numerous discussions among netizens.

“I also want to say, the ending of the movie felt a bit ironic. I don’t know if the screenwriter only wanted to create humor, or was there a deeper meaning?”

“If you look at how Aquarius treats Tang Bohu, it’s more accurate to say she admires Tang Bohu’s talent rather than likes him. She developed such strong infatuation before even meeting him, isn’t that similar to current star-chasing culture?”

“The film critic is right, to view the movie as more than a pure comedy is the right mindset. The scene where they compare hardships is funny, but if you think about it, doesn’t that segment remind you of a talent show scenario? The contestants try to sell their hardships to gain sympathy from the audience, but it seems like they are not here to showcase their talent, but to show how strong they are.”

“Tang Bohu couldn’t stand being at home so he messed around with the Four Scholars of Jiangnan outside. So, logically these friends should be Tang Bohu’s true friends, right? But then a plotline immediately overturns this view – Zhu Zhishan asked Tang Bohu for a painting to pay off his debt.”

“Think about it carefully.”

“The martial arts scholar painted a picture of Sister Pomegranate, all the house servants said it looked good, then after saying that they threw up. It’s simultaneously funny and sad.”

“Damn, hearing what you said, I even started to question whether I’ve watched this movie.”

“What does ‘thinly thinking is horrifying’ mean?”

“I’m sorry, I was too busy laughing.”

“So, is ‘Flirting Scholar’ actually a tragedy?”

“We all received nine years of compulsory education, but why are you so outstanding that you were able to find so much detail in a comedy?”

The netizens were shocked. Many people even specially re-watched ‘Flirting Scholar’ due to the discussions.

As a result, upon rewatching...

Even more movie details were found!

Chapter 247: Still Saying You’re Not Tang Bohu

The one who found the most details is a person named Deng Chi.

Yes, it’s that wealthy young man with depression who strongly resonates with “The world laughs at my madness, and I sneer at their blindness.”

After the first watching of the movie, Deng Chi immediately watched it for a second time as he liked it very much.

After the second time, however, Deng Chi unexpectedly noticed some details that many people would probably overlook.

For example, at the beginning of the movie, it is in front of Tang Manor.

A group of elegantly dressed intellectuals are gathered outside the gate of Tang Manor, having been waiting there for three hours. Initially, it seems they are waiting for something; however, all the rubbish thrown out clothes gets snatched up, while the couplets outside the gate of Tang Manor read:

“Five willows shine by the house of the famous, and three old trees stand in front of scholars.”

“In the mortal world, one’s ambition to reach the sky is yet unfulfilled, whereas in heaven, a jade edifice is already established.”

“Both Queen of the Night and Chang’e are afraid of the cold, showing off in the frost in the middle of the moon.”

The horizontal scroll reads: “To become an immortal!

Tang Bohu’s Picture of the Phoenix presiding over the assembly of birds is missing a sparrow head, being played as a mahjong tile. The couplet beside it says: “The deep courtyard has scarce dust and his writings are refined; prosperous wealth comes from hard work and being diligent in farming.”

A self-written quatrain of Tang Bohu also appears briefly in the movie.

It is a painting titled “Dream in the Paulownia Shade,” and the poem beside it reads: “A ten-mile paulownia shade covers the purple moss, the elegantly idle scholar enjoys drunken sleep. The pursuit of fame and wealth is already given up in this life, and clear dreams should not reach the old hackberry tree.”

The couplets on the columns of the ancestral shrine in Tang Manor read: “Ancient literature is the hereditary path of humanity; filial piety brings joy to human relationships under one roof.”

The couplet on the post when Qiuxiang is worshipping Buddha read: “Arriving here, one recognizes a clear body of law; engage with the green lion of wisdom, the white elephant of three flavours. Bordering here are the faithful bones of the scaled ridge, observing the peach blossoms in the jade blood, looking up to the red bird in the waves of the tower.”

In Qiuxiang’s room, the pair of couplets reads: “On a sunny day, the carved trusses are adorned with clouds floating over the Yao terrace; green mountains lie at the doorstep with white clouds passing through the courtyard.”

In the Hua Mansion guest room, a couplet reads: “Clouds hang and cranes wander above, groups of wild geese play in the ocean; winter-flowering plum and summertime algae, the scent of harvested wheat welcomes autumn.”

A couplet in the Hua Mansion study says: “Of all things, one should enjoy doing good; a hundred flowers compete against the fragrance of reading.”

The meaning of the couplet is obvious; it advocates doing good deeds and advocating reading more.

Also in Hua Mansion, there is a couplet saying: “In society, one must be cautious; in holding an office, one only needs to be polite and modest.”

Deng Chi doesn’t have a deep understanding of the couplets.

But his strong literary attainment makes him sure that the level of these couplets is very high!

So when Deng Chi identified these details, he was astounded!

What shocked him even more was that in this movie, there were some frames featuring verses:

“The morning rain in Weicheng dampens the light dust, the guest houses are decked with fresh willows. Try another cup of wine, my friend, there is no old friend in the Western Pass.”

“A thousand mountains, no birds in flight; ten thousand paths, no footprints left. A lonely boat, an aged straw hat, one man fishing alone in the cold river snow.”

“Knowledge is gained through diligence; behind the glow-worm window, a myriad of books. Having enough use for three winters, who would laugh at the emptiness inside?”

“A poem of four verses comes out with ease – whom are you comparing to in your own mind? A white head is also ready to wear a flower bud; the bright moon is hard to illuminate the wine. A day of leisure is boundless fortune; a thousand years of fun is viewed as a fool’s laugh; filled with mundane strife all day, ask me why, I don’t know at all?”

“The unforeseeable weather brings much wind and rain; human affairs are hard to measure, full of intrigues. When heaven’s timing and human affairs are not aligned, don’t let the spring light be committed to flowing water.”

That’s insane!

The verses are too brilliant!

You should know that Deng Chi majored in literature in college, so his ability to appreciate poetry is quite high.

So when he noticed these film shots that probably caught nobody’s attention, he was completely shocked!

He could more or less be certain that these were all the works of Xian Yu....

Because only Xian Yu, who wrote “The world laughs at my madness,” could have such caliber!

To thoroughly collect these details, Deng Chi watched “Flirting Scholar” five times!

After five screenings, Deng Chi’s admiration for Xian Yu had reached its peak!

Deng Chi decided that he must let everyone know about the brilliance of Xian Yu!

And so...

He posted an article via his Tribe account and collected all the couplets and poems from the movie.

Unfortunately, Deng Chi is not a star, nor is he a famous film critic.

He published the article, but not many people noticed it.

But Deng Chi was not deterred by this.

It is the digital age, and it's not difficult to attract attention

Deng Chi promptly contacted several Tribe influencers with millions of followers.

There were even a few influencers with tens of millions of followers.

And he had these influencers share his article!

You ask why?

It's simply because Deng Chi is a super wealthy young man, bored with sports cars and watches already.

He just needed to give out some pocket money, and the influencers would obediently share his post.

This is called "financial ability."

Even some influencers who initially didn't want to share...

But...

He was giving out too much...

Moreover, the couplets and verses mentioned in the article truly were quite excellent.

So, many influencers quickly reposted Deng Chi's article.

As a result...

Countless internet users who had seen the movie were shocked!

"Damn! I thought the seemingly hilarious yet satirical plots in the movie were already awesome, but I never imagined something more terrifying!"

"Are the couplets and verses... all written by Xian Yu?"

"They must be Xian Yu's work. Only Xian Yu could have such talent!"

"Should I start addressing him as 'Xian Yu-Tang Bohu'?"

"A thousand mountains, no birds in flight; ten thousand paths, no footprints left. A boat, an aged man in a straw rain cape alone, fishing in the cold river snow... I'm moved."

"What a great line: an old man fishing alone in the cold river in snow! I never knew Xian Yu was so profound!"

"Try another cup of wine, my friend, there is no old friend in the Western Pass! What kind of divine verse is this?!"

"The blogger is amazing, discovering all of this. These details, what a treasure trove!"

"The director is such an idiot. Why didn't he focus the shots more on these verses!"

"I thought [Others Laugh at Me as a Madman] was impressive, but when I saw the poems in it, I realized that Xian Yu is way more impressive than I could ever imagine!"

“Don’t just stare at the poems, the couplets contained within are also incredibly strong!”

“I thought the couplets in the movie were already strong enough. Turns out, there are hidden gems in some of the most insignificant scenes in the movie?”

“I used to introduce ‘Flirting Scholar’ to people as a comedy with no depth... I’m sorry, the one with no depth was me.”

“This is a screenwriter? No, this is a poet!”

It’s no wonder that netizens were shocked. Indeed, these couplets and poems were mind-blowing.

In the original version, these couplets and poems were borrowed from the works of the ancients.

Such as Liu Zongyuan, Wang Wei, and so on.

However, Blue Star didn’t have great figures like Liu Zongyuan and Wang Wei-

So, having these poems appear in the movie scenes was simply terrifying!

Some of the audience members who have a high level of literary accomplishment even developed goosebumps when they read these lines...

Needless to say?

Share it, share it without hesitation!

Blue Star is a genuine artistic world, where connoisseurs are aplenty!

With this.

As more and more people shared it, some of the big names in the literary world also noticed the article.

They had no choice but to notice.

Many netizens had already posted the couplet and poems from the movie under their online comment section.

Everyone knew how impressive these things were, so they wanted to see how the literary world would evaluate them.

To their surprise, many people in the literary world were also taken aback.

“‘Persuade you to drink more wine, there’s no old friends to bid goodbye when you depart west from Yangguan’... Although I’m not sure about the specific allusion, I can tell it’s a Farewell poem, with very sophisticated imagery.”

“‘Thousand mountains with no birds in flight, Ten thousand paths that mankind does not tread’... This poem has a universal appeal.”

“At least three of these couplets in here can be categorized as unparalleled through the ages. If it were not for the movie providing the second line, I thought 90% of people in the literary world wouldn’t be able to properly match it!”

Starting from the film reviews on Starry Sky Web, many people felt that they had underestimated ‘Flirting Scholar’.

Now, with these couplets and verses being dug out, the fans were thoroughly convinced!

Show!

This film is simply a one-man-show of Xian Yu’s talent!

There are those who see the comedy on the surface layer.

Those who understand the tragedy are on the second layer.

Those who notice these details are on the third layer!

Could there be a fourth layer?

At this moment, no one can be sure.

Indeed, that saying was true...

While I thought Xian Yu was on the first layer, he was actually in the stratosphere...

Whoosh!

Because of this article, Deng Chi's popularity skyrocketed to over a million in just a short period of time.

Of course, this had something to do with Deng Chi constantly showcasing various sports cars, watches, and different beautiful women in his past posts...

Deng Chi was just a start.

There's no need to mention Xian Yu's official Tribe account!

Due to the popularity of 'Flirting Scholar', Xian Yu's Tribe account already had fifteen million followers.

But now.

With the massive success of this film, and various details being dug out little by little, Xian Yu's fan base, like a rocket, started to rise crazily!

Twenty million...

Twenty-five million...

Thirty-one million...

Five hours after the posting of Deng Chi's article, Xian Yu's fan base reached an astonishing thirty-three million!

The comment section of his posts had blown up, with comments reaching eight hundred thousand:

"I've come to pay a visit to the master..."

"Can you play the flute too..."

"The man is Xian Yu, proficient in all forms of poetry."

"And you said you weren't Tang Bohu!"

"Tang Bohu, stop pretending."

"I heard that Tang Bohu was unrivaled in poetry and verse..."

"So 'Flirting Scholar' is your autobiography, isn't it!"

In the movie, Tang Bohu knew music and could write poems and couplets.

In reality, Xian Yu is not only the author of the music, but also a scriptwriter, and his ability to write poems and couplets is simply terrifying!

At this point, it was hard for the audience, fans, and netizens not to make connections.

Of course.

There were also those who noticed that Tang Bohu...

Oh, no, sorry, it's Xian Yu.

Xian Yu was also following Chu Kuang and Shadow.

Chu Kuang's fan base used to be larger than Xian Yu's.

But with the success of 'Flirting Scholar', Xian Yu's fan base is now almost as large as Chu Kuang's!

Even more.

Some fans even made a special trip to comment on Chu Kuang's Tribe profile, and their comments evidently born out of Chu Kuang's fame as a writer with literary talent:

"Xian Yu: 'Little bro, I heard you are quite talented in writing?'"

Chapter 248: Zhou Isn't Laughing Anymore

Chu Kuang, how literary and elegant!

He wrote not only the best-selling fantasy novels, firmly establishing himself in the book market as a pioneer, but also classical short stories, which many people consider to be among the best in the short-story genre.

So it's natural to assume in many people's minds that Chu Kuang's writing surpasses Xian Yu's.

In fact, people never even thought to compare Chu Kuang and Xian Yu.

There was simply no need for comparison.

The former was an excellent novelist, while the latter was an extremely talented composer.

Comparing two different fields doesn't make sense.

Can we simply say that Chu Kuang's writing surpasses Xian Yu's, while Xian Yu's composing does the same to Chu Kuang?

If these two individuals hadn't been paying attention to each other and collaborating frequently, their fanbases would likely not intersect.

But now things are different.

Following the success of "Flirting Scholar", Xian Yu's writing skills have been thoroughly demonstrated, and the fans have started to make jokes about it. Of course, it's not meant with any malice.

As everyone knows, Xian Yu and Chu Kuang are like best buddies; they would never see each other as rivals.

Oh, and there's also Shadow.

This is a trio of "best buddies".

However, as Shadow is a newcomer in the comic industry and his popularity and influence aren't as great as Chu Kuang's and Xian Yu's, he isn't paid much attention.

It's like in the Little Tiger Team, when everyone knows 01' Wu and 01' Su, but very few people pay attention to the third member.

Shadow is like the invisible third in their trio, usually only appearing in Chu Kuang and Xian Yu's storylines.

In short.

As Xian Yu's writing has been recognized by fans, and considering he is the screenwriter of "Flirting Scholar", who also writes stories...

People finally unconsciously began to compare the two.

After such a comparison, it really is interesting.

Could Xian Yu's writing skills really be no less than Chu Kuang's?

Some fans even feel that they're close to the truth... Perhaps it's precisely because Chu Kuang and Xian Yu are both great writers that they became good friends?

Enough of that, it's not important.

What's most important now is the terrifying influence of "Flirting Scholar"!

As the second week came to an end, coupled with countless detailed analyses of "Flirting Scholar", the popularity of this film actually soared even higher!

The media started reporting!

[Rise of the web giants: low-budget film "Flirting Scholar" rakes in over 150 million in two weeks!]

[Xian Yu: From top composer to screenwriter of "Flirting Scholar"]

[Xian Yu makes his film debut, with his first script "Flirting Scholar" becoming an online sensation!]

[Summer movie season: both web and theatre films flourishing, "Flirting Scholar" leading the online movie trend!]

[This film already made over 150 million, but only cost 9 million? “Flirting Scholar” made a lot with a little, showcasing Xian Yu’s talent and achieving a miracle!]

There were also news pieces that reproduced Starlight Network’s movie review.

Of course, Deng Chi’s article was also reprinted by media.

It was quite an odd situation...

For those who didn’t know, they might think “Flirting Scholar” was also a theatre film for this year’s summer season.

Because during such a hot summer season, media usually wouldn’t pay attention to web films, let alone spend any actual resources covering them.

This season is filled with blockbusters; what is there to talk about a film with a few million budget?

But “Flirting Scholar” was impossible to ignore!

There was even a media outlet that humorously depicted this summer’s film season with a four-panel comic...

This media outlet was called “Funny News”, and they liked to hint at the news with comics.

In the first panel...

On a magnificent race track...

A few dominant and flashy race cars were stepping hard on the gas, revving up to go.

On the outer lane, a bicycle was also eagerly stepping on its pedals.

The names of various summer blockbusters, including Starlight’s

“Thunderstorm”, were fixed on the top of the cars.

The bicycle, meanwhile, bore the large characters “Flirting Scholar”.

In the second panel...

The race cars took off, as did the bicycle...

In the third panel...

Some cars pulled ahead, while others lagged behind, including Starlight’s “Thunderstorm”.

Next to “Thunderstorm”, was the bicycle.

Above the bicycle was a line: “I’ll wait for you at the front.”

Obviously, it was speaking to its ally “Thunderstorm”.

In the fourth panel...

The bicycle stayed level with the leading race cars, while beads of sweat were clearly visible on the bodies of the cars...

Many people in the web film circle had knowingly knowing smiles on their faces; they were quite meaningful.

Because this comic was too real!

Isn’t reality just like that?

Theatre films are the race cars on the magnificent race track.

Compared to theatre films, a web film with a 9 million investment is at best a bicycle.

But...

The popularity of the web film was on par with the theatre films!

This bicycle, how impressive!

Not impressive in terms of box office...

If we're talking about box office, the films in the summer season usually have a box office of billions.

But the thing is, "Flirting Scholar" is so cheap to make.

The film industry has a concept called investment return rate.

Suppose your film cost 200 million, then your box office needs to reach 6 or 7 billion for the production side to break even.

The budget for a web giant was 9 million, and they've already made 150 million.

That means "Flirting Scholar" has already earned over 70 million for the production side...

After all, the profit-sharing model of web giants and theatres is not the same.

Web giants can retain half of the earnings, whereas theatres usually only give the production side about one-third.

This competition is not about total box office, but about earning power!

Compared to the schadenfreude of the web giants, the mainstream film circle is a bit crushed.

Driving a race car, but caught up by a bicycle...

How could they not be devastated?

Is your bicycle made by Phoenix?

As a web film, can you please act more like a web film?

See that designer, just look...

Starlight really got lucky!

Originally, “Thunderstorm” had mediocre box office results, and everyone started to overlook Starlight.

Who could have known that Starlight would shine brightly in the seemingly insignificant corner of the web films?

Yes.

The July summer film season was indeed Starlight’s first battle.

Clearly, this first battle was just average for Starlight.

But what can you say when Starlight also released “Flirting Scholar”!

To say that Starlight was lucky...

Of course!

If it was shown through web films, it means Starlight didn’t really care about “Flirting Scholar”!

However, it turns out that the film Starlight didn't care about saved Starlight's first battle!

Outsiders didn't know that "Flirting Scholar" had been sold by Starlight to Lin Yuan.

Everyone thought Starlight was secretly happy now, but little did they know, there was a pall over Starlight's film department.

People know their own business.

Actually, the success of "Flirting Scholar" had nothing to do with Starlight.

Even 01' Zhou did not laugh...

No matter how he thought about it, it was Xian Yu's fault...

Chapter 249: All Staff are Tools_1

The Starlight Film Division seemed to be in a bit of collective self-denial, tinged with an unspoken sense of shame. After all, everyone had openly criticized Lin Yuan's movie in one way or another:

"Who could have imagined..."

"In the end, we were all outdone by a novice."

"I still don't understand why 'Flirting Scholar' was so successful. I watched the movie... but my kid loved it so much. Maybe we're just too old and out of touch."

"Perhaps we should just let Admirable Fish run the studios and focus on online productions."

"I just feel bad for Director Zhou... his decision to sell the movie is now backfiring. I heard he was heavily criticized in today's high-level meeting."

"I heard it too; it was a bloodbath."

“It’s not a big problem; the company has begun damage control. Look how they are celebrating on the official Weibo.”

They weren’t lying about that.

01’ Zhou was indeed reprimanded.

The members of the film crew were also questioning their judgement. After all, it was a serious mishap—

Specifically, a collective case of ‘missing the mark’.

But Starlight was equally proficient at deceiving themselves.

On the company’s social media account, they have been sharing all sorts of reviews and data about ‘Flirting Scholar’.

Basically, it was brazen boasting.

They just stopped short of saying, “Did you see this movie? Cool, right? We, Starlight, made it.”

Then the unsuspecting audiences shouted praises like “666”.

Indeed, those in the industry felt sour like they’d eaten unripe grapes.

Looking at it this way, the company still managed to gain quite a bit.

As for Lin Yuan...

Lately, he spent every day huddled with his calculator, tallying up how much he had earned.

He had anticipated ‘Flirting Scholar’ to be a hit,

But the revenue this movie churned was truly staggering!

Tens of millions in profit!

And given the current trend, 'Flirting Scholar' would continue to attract viewers and continue to earn!

Writing novels...

Releasing new songs...

Teaching painting...

None of these could compare to the speedy earnings of making a movie.

Making a movie was pure joy!

Online movies did as well as theatrical releases!

Although, Lin Yuan wanted to correct a widespread misconception.

The production cost of 'Flirting Scholar' was not less than nine million Yuan.

The system props he used for the actors were exchanged for real money and they were very expensive!

But as the old saying goes...

There must be input for there to be output.

If the actors hadn't used any props and messed up their performances, 'Flirting Scholar' would not have turned out so well.

The only regret was that Admirable Fish had gained too many followers.

If those followers could be transferred to Chu Kuang, that would have been perfect.

Lin Yuan even considered using Chu Kuang's account to announce that...

The script for 'Flirting Scholar' was actually written by Chu Kuang?

The thought came and went quickly; in the end, Lin Yuan decided against it. That would be too risky.

After all, the company knew Admirable Fish was him, and everyone knew that he was always on set during filming...

As for the poems in the movie, they were actually from the system-provided script of 'Flirting Scholar'.

The script was so detailed that it included such elements.

Luckily, this was not a problem.

After all, if you can write song lyrics well, you must also have a good literary foundation.

Who could deny the formidable literary skills of Fang Wenshan and other songwriters?

Given this premise, it's understandable that Lin Yuan, under the pen name Admirable Fish, could write remarkable ancient-style poems.

This was highly reasonable and logical.

In the future, Admirable Fish could just focus on songwriting and scriptwriting.

When a movie becomes a hit, not only one person reaps the rewards.

True, the scriptwriter Admirable Fish made quite a splash.

But the director, actors, and key members of the film's creative team also benefited tremendously!

First of all, was the male protagonist, He Sheng.

As the undisputed leading man of 'Flirting Scholar', He Sheng instantly shot to fame two weeks after the movie was released!

Invitations began flooding in, busting down Starlight's doors—

After all, He Sheng was Starlight's artist.

Previously, he was just a bit player at Starlight.

Now, he had become the hot new talent in the film industry!

This delighted the company's chief agent, Zhao Jue. She immediately arranged for a formidable agent for He Sheng.

As part of the company's transition, Zhao Jue now managed artists from both film and music industries.

Previously, Lin Yuan had discovered a few new singers for her...

Now, he was also helping her scout film talent!

This was horrifying!

If Lin Yuan's success this time was not a fluke and his scriptwriting skills were reliable, then his value to the company would not be inferior to other prominent songwriters—

He actually might offer even more!

Given the company chairman's personality, Lin Yuan would probably be untouchable at Starlight in the future!

The Little Prince?

Not quite...

When Lin Yuan wanted to make a movie, the company let him. There were rumors then that Lin Yuan was Starlight's Little Prince-

Now, it seems the title "Little Prince" describes him better than "Maestro Junior".

Naturally, He Sheng was over the moon.

After the company had him registered with a Tribe account, the first thing he did was follow Admirable Fish. Then, he went ahead and skimmed through all of Admirable Fish's blog posts, liking each and every one of them...

Occasionally, he left comments, such as:

"Go, Teacher Admirable Fish!"

"Teacher Admirable Fish, you're the best!"

"I'm Admirable Fish's die-hard fan!"

These were the types of comments he generally left, demonstrating his incredibly sincere attitude.

Sharing similar sentiments to him was Yi Chenggong!

It was clear that the bigwig of “Flirting Scholar” was Admirable Fish, the screenwriter.

This film was indeed a textbook example of a “screenwriter-centric” production.

However, Yi Chenggong was the director after all!

Even if the screenwriter shined the brightest, the director would certainly be one of the top three contributors to the film’s success!

Previously, Yi Chenggong had been somewhat disappointed that “Flirting Scholar” hadn’t made it to the big screens.

But looking at it now, who cared about the big screens!

Earning internet streaming revenue, wasn’t that delightful?

Leaving an iconic workpiece behind for online films, wasn’t that cool?

Furthermore...

With the prestige gained from this film, if Yi Chenggong wanted the company to fund a big-screen film for him now, they would likely not refuse.

Because after all, one only needed to succeed once to build credentials!

People previously said that Admirable Fish was talking nonsense.

Now it seemed, the company would likely beseech Mr. Lin to produce another film like “Flirting Scholar”, wouldn’t it?

Speaking of which.

Though Yi Chenggong was the one who believed in “Flirting Scholar” the most aside from Admirable Fish, the overwhelming success of the film was equally startling to him.

Yi Chenggong knew the film had potential, but he didn’t expect it to explode like this!

Of course.

If the director and the lead male actor gained benefits, the lead female actress naturally wouldn’t be left out.

Flirting Scholar...

The one being flirted with, was Yu Xilu’s Qiuxiang!

As the female lead of the film, Yu Xilu realized for the first time that being a vase character wasn’t too bad!

Others were in charge of the comedy, and she just had to look charming as support...

However, compared to the excited Yi Chenggong and He Sheng, Yu Xilu thought a bit more about it.

Being more seasoned in the industry, she had a better understanding of the importance of alliance-building:

“When is Mr. Lin shooting his next film?”

“Should I beg him for a part?”

“I’m sure Mr. Lin wouldn’t mind my vase character...”

“Though I have numerous offers now, if Mr. Lin needs my time, I will definitely reserve it for him...”

Some people might think “Flirting Scholar” was purely a stroke of luck, but Yu Xilu didn’t see it that way.

There were times when she almost laughed herself breathless during the shooting of this film!

She had also seen how Mr. Lin turned He Sheng into a comedy master with her own eyes!

This assured Yu Xilu that Mr. Lin truly had talent!

In fact...

Yu Xilu had tried to make conversation with Mr. Lin during the shoot.

Didn’t they say men love beautiful women? She was so attractive, many male crew members would steal glances at her. Maybe Mr. Lin would show some interest?

Unfortunately, Mr. Lin didn’t spare her much attention.

In fact, Mr. Lin paid more attention to He Sheng and Yi Chenggong than to her...

It seemed her charm didn’t work on Mr. Lin.

Yu Xilu wasn’t disappointed. After all, she was just trying out.

And she wasn’t trying to use this to climb up the ladder, she simply had a genuine desire to align herself with Mr. Lin.

If the big boss was Yi Chenggong, Yu Xilu wouldn’t have had any thoughts whatsoever.

She would rather never make it in the industry than be involved with Yi Chenggong!

“I suppose other actresses in the company will soon have their eyes on Mr.

Lin... But whether or not Mr. Lin chooses me as the female lead, I must maintain a good relationship with him...”

In the entertainment circle these days, which female actor doesn't have some tricks up their sleeves.

Similar cunning was shared by He Sheng, Yi Chenggong, and many others involved in the film.

But others' responses were somewhat slower than Yu Xilu's...

But no one would forget who made “Flirting Scholar” a success.

In fact...

Following the film's success, almost everyone was thinking about how to quickly align themselves with Mr. Lin in their own ways.

Following, liking and commenting on his Tribe posts were just basic interactions.

The film's producer, Shen Qing, was the only one feeling a bit awkward lately...

Many people around him began to congratulate Shen Qing, praising how good “Flirting Scholar” was.

Being the main producer, he naturally reaped many benefits.

But the more he was congratulated, the more awkward Shen Qing felt...

Could he tell everyone that he actually had no hope for “Flirting Scholar” at all?

Okay, he didn't dare to say it.

Shen Qing still had a sense of propriety.

What he feels most relieved about now is his work attitude. He didn't neglect his duties just because he didn't think highly of this film.

When Mr. Lin asked him for help with the web film negotiations, he duly complied.

From this perspective, though he didn't earn Mr. Lin's favor, at least Mr. Lin wouldn't detest him, would he?

But estimating, Mr. Lin wouldn't go for his cooperation next time...

After all, for this film crew, including himself and the director, they were tools to execute Mr. Lin's vision.

Yes, tools.

If Mr. Lin had greater ambitions in the future, he wouldn't be satisfied with such a crew of tools.

Chapter 250: Return on Investment 1

"Do you write scripts too?"

Sister Lin Xuan looked at Lin Yuan and the more she looked, the more surprised she became. Of course, Lin Yuan's family knew about his movie's success.

Since the Lin family now lived in a villa, they had a home theater setup when they renovated, so Lin Xuan, her sister, and their mother naturally watched the movie together.

"Just good luck."

Lin Yuan answered nonchalantly.

It was now the third week since the online release of "Flirting Scholar".

From the third week on, the viewership of "Flirting Scholar" inevitably began to decrease.

As a result, the two websites hosting the movie have started to implement new strategies.

Such as limited-time discount on demand, or buy one get one free activities, etc...

Of course, the costs are covered by the websites.

Either way, the two websites made quite a lot from this movie, so it was only natural to invest some money into promotions.

The advantage of this was that it could increase the total viewership of the film.

The effects were immediate.

With the promotional discounts offered by the two websites, the viewership of “Flirting Scholar” quickly surged back up...

By the end of the fourth week, that is, the end of July.

This miraculous web blockbuster had garnered more than 40 million views!

Based on this trend, the final viewership of the film is bound to surpass 50 million!

The movie industry pays attention to the return on investment.

The return on investment for “Flirting Scholar” is roughly estimated to be over ten times.

This is a record high for a web film!

Even for films screened in theaters, such a return rate is of the top tier!

In order to further stimulate the viewership of “Flirting Scholar”, both Catmill and Penguin Video, without prior arrangement, extended interview invitations to Xian Yu.

Lin Yuan declined.

Showcasing his face too often could lead to his downfall.

The people from Catmill and Penguin Video did not insist, it's normal for people, even filmmakers, not to enjoy publicity.

To promote the film, they could invite the actors, as well as the director and producers.

Setting aside the video streaming platforms.

On the fifth week of the film's launch, Lin Yuan went to the ninth floor of Starlight, which belongs to Mr. Lin.

"The representative is really talented!"

"The representative's movie is so good!"

"The movie produced by the representative is so exciting!"

"Our department wholeheartedly supports the representative's filmmaking!"

Upon entering the composition department.

The composers under him naturally took turns to heap praise on him.

Already accustomed to all this, Lin Yuan smiled, and went into his office.

After entering the door.

Lin Yuan noticed many gifts on his desk, some large and small exquisite packages were simply placed on the floor because the desk was too full.

“They are all from the film crew.”

As Lin Yuan’s assistant, Gu Dong appeared right on time.

She answered Lin Yuan’s questions: “Most of the gifts on the desk are from Producer Shen and Director Yi, and on the ground, the one on the left is from He Sheng, the one on the right is from Yu Xilu...and this...I’ve made a list for you.”

“Hmm.”

Lin Yuan glanced at the gift list.

Gu Dong was reliable, she had systematically noted down what each person had gifted, making it easy for Lin Yuan to understand at a glance.

While Lin Yuan was looking at the gift list, Gu Dong was looking at Lin Yuan, with a hint of admiration in her eyes.

Since getting to know Mr. Lin, it seemed as though Mr. Lin could succeed in anything he did?

As of today, Mr. Lin had attained massive success even in crossover filmmaking!

Gu Dong couldn’t help but wonder...

Is there anything in this world that Mr. Lin can’t do?

This thought was of course a bit exaggerated.

However, having interacted with Lin Yuan for so long, Gu Dong did have this almost incredible feeling.

This even put a lot of pressure on Gu Dong.

If she was able to handle Lin Yuan's assistant work with ease at the beginning, now, working for Mr. Lin, Gu Dong had gradually begun to feel like she was walking on thin ice.

That's because Mr. Lin was too amazing!

So the more she understood Mr. Lin's excellence, the more Gu Dong felt the heavy responsibility of being a small assistant.

Of course, while feeling the pressure, Gu Dong also found motivation.

Being Mr. Lin's assistant was not only an honor for her but also a precious opportunity in her life.

She couldn't allow herself to make mistakes, and she would have to complete Mr. Lin's assistant work beautifully in the future!

Of course, Lin Yuan had no idea of his little assistant's thoughts.

After looking at the list and roughly remembering who had given what gifts, Lin Yuan finally looked up and asked, "Could you do something for me?"

"Please tell me."

Gu Dong immediately replied.

Lin Yuan thought for a moment and said, "Help me find a young composer in our department who is promising. I'm thinking of training another student to compose music."

Lin Yuan wanted to continue with the task of taking in students.

Recently, the System had reminded Lin Yuan that there was less than half a year left for his teaching task!

If Lin Yuan could not train three students in this time, the Yang Zhongming character card would disappear.

Honestly speaking, the time was tight.

Lin Yuan hated the idea of losing the Yang Zhongming character card, so he must hurry up with the task now, and there was no issue with him accepting some special methods for it.

“Okay!”

Gu Dong nodded.

The success of Xue Liang proved that Mr. Lin was really good at teaching students.

Just like the outside world, Gu Dong was also very curious, could Mr. Lin train a second Xue Liang?

After Gu Dong left.

Lin Yuan’s phone rang.

After he picked up, he heard an excited voice from YangFeng from the phone, “Congratulations to Teacher Chu Kuang, you have been awarded the first batch of GOAT Awards announced by the Literature and Art Association, the list has been published and many people are discussing it online!”

“Oh.”

It wasn’t unexpected for Lin Yuan, with “Ghost Blows Out the Light” as the foundation, it would be strange if he didn’t get this award.

YangFeng smiled and said, “Maybe to avoid controversy, they only announced the list and did not publish rankings...”

“Hmm.”

To Lin Yuan, it was enough to have received the GOAT award.

YangFeng did not mind Lin Yuan’s calm tone, this was human nature’s innate adaptability: “Teacher Chu Kuang, do you want to attend the award ceremony?”

Lin Yuan frowned, “Is attendance mandatory?”

YangFeng quickly said, “Not necessarily, whether you attend or not is up to you. If you need it, Silver Blue Books could send someone to pick up the award on your behalf, or you could designate someone to pick it up, preferably your agent...”

“Can you guys receive it on my behalf, and then mail it back to me.”

I wonder, is the GOAT award trophy valuable?

After chatting for a bit, including the news that the second volume of “Ghost Blows Out the Light” had been successfully published, Lin Yuan hung up the phone.

Whether it’s interviews or awards ceremonies...

It seems like there have been a lot of occasions recently trying to get me in the spotlight?

But there was one thing YangFeng said that reminded Lin Yuan.

Maybe he could find an agent to help him arrange and handle such occasions.