

All R. Artist 821

Chapter 821: The Gambling Game of Zhong Continent

Lin Yuan soon received a notice from Han Jimei through Jin Mu.

The deal was done!

The result was even smoother than Lin Yuan had anticipated, saving him some unnecessary trouble.

"Tribe Comics is finished!"

Jin Mu couldn't help expressing his excitement. Having borne the brunt of Tribe Comics' various assaults, he had long harbored a grudge.

And now, at last, the Alliance was going to strike back.

This counterattack would completely change the industry's ecology; the days of Tribe's monopoly over the comic world were gone for good!

"Hmm."

Lin Yuan nodded.

Tribe was no easy adversary, and while the impact on just one comics division might not cripple this giant capital, it would certainly have an effect.

"I guess things will be settled once the contract is signed in a while."

Jin Mu spoke with a smile: "Not letting Han Jimei go was the right decision. In the end, it was your comics that attracted that crowd, but the candidates Han Jimei picked out were also key."

Originally, Han Jimei had offered to resign due to a mistake at work.

It was only after Lin Yuan personally intervened with the company that Han was retained.

With his contributions this time, Han had made amends for many of his previous errors.

Before Lin Yuan could respond, Jin Mu's phone suddenly rang.

After speaking for a few moments, Jin Mu's expression turned grim.

Lin Yuan frowned: "Complications?"

Could there be a problem with the comics?

Jin Mu shook his head, his gaze serious: "I'd rather it were some hiccup with Han Jimei, than receive this bit of news—it has nothing to do with the comics. It's related to your twelve consecutive championships."

"What do you mean?"

"Wonder Lu, one of the top maestros within Blue Star's top ten, you must be familiar with him. He's the last one who achieved a season's twelve consecutive championships before you. At thirty-two, he ascended to become the youngest Maestro in Blue Star's history. However, there's been little news about him in recent years—he's said to have been traveling the Continents, studying the various musical styles. But now he has returned to Qin Continent, and through the media, he's announced that he will be releasing a new song in November. He's going to be your most formidable challenger since you began your streak for the twelve consecutive championships..."

"I know."

"You already knew?"

Jin Mu was startled: "Then are you prepared?"

"Somewhat."

Although the song hadn't been formally recorded, Lin Yuan had already decided on the song with which he'd confront Wonder Lu in November.

"That's good."

Jin Mu let out a slight sigh of relief: "When Wonder Lu was interviewed, he said the new song would be in the ancient style, and he was generous enough to admit that the inspiration for his song came from your 'Dong Feng Po', probably a similar type of song."

It was as Zheng Jing had mentioned before.

Wonder Lu's new song was in the Chinese style, also known as the classical style on Blue Star.

"Hmm."

Lin Yuan knew he had his work cut out for him now.

It was already the middle of October.

Since his opponent had appeared, it was time for him to start working on a musical accompaniment for his song.

...

Without a doubt.

When Wonder Lu, one of Blue Star's premier Maestros, announced he would release a song in November, it sent shockwaves through the entire industry!

One media outlet reported it, and others followed suit!

"Maestro Wonder Lu to Release New Song in November!"

"Wonder Lu Returns to Qin: New Song to Feature Classical Style, Inspired by Xian Yu!"

"Xian Yu's Road to Twelve Consecutive Championships Finally Meets Its Strongest Challenger!"

"..."

Under the deluge of media coverage, the whole network was abuzz with heated discussion!

"Guys, something big has happened!"

"Wonder Lu is actually making a move in November!"

"What do you mean Wonder Lu is making a move? Is Fish Papa's streak of twelve going to be broken?"

"I knew it wasn't going to be easy to achieve twelve consecutive championships. Fish Papa is up against Wonder Lu before the battle of the gods, the youngest Maestro in Blue Star history!"

"It's over!"

"Being called 'Wonder Lu' isn't just because it's a play on his name. It's mainly because the man himself is freakishly talented. He's the last one to achieve the twelve consecutive championship feat, and Wonder Lu has even won the singles composition award. It's said that even the Zhong Continent team has suffered at his hands!"

"I say it's not certain. Xian Yu is soon to be the youngest Maestro on Blue Star."

"Folks, times have changed. With the merger of the five continents, it seems unlikely that even Wonder Lu could take the twelve in a row now, and Fish Papa has already clinched ten in succession; he's just two months away from that formidable achievement."

"I admit that, but can Xian Yu hold on for the last two months?"

"If he doesn't get it, it's just a streak of ten victories. I don't think Wonder Lu can't achieve that."

"I like both Wonder Lu and Xian Yu, but if you were to compare the two, Wonder Lu is definitely stronger than Xian Yu. I remember in the beginning, some media even called Xian Yu 'Little Lu Sheng,' if you think about it."

"Little Lu Sheng is okay, I don't know which crappy media outlet made that stuff up."

"It's a toss-up between these two, even if Lu Sheng is great, it's at most a 60-40 split."

Netizens were passionately discussing.

Xian Yu's fans were sweating bullets.

This was the strongest opponent Xian Yu had ever faced.

In many people's minds, Lu Sheng was even more formidable than Yang Zhongming!

After all, compared to Lu Sheng's early accomplishments, Yang Zhongming seemed more like a late bloomer.

Actually, everyone could guess.

The path to Xian Yu's twelve consecutive victories would only get harder as it progressed.

A big name making a move in November isn't surprisingly, but a heavy hitter of Lu Sheng's caliber was a bit beyond everyone's expectations.

...

No one expected Lu Sheng's move, nor did anyone foresee that this news would draw even higher level attention.

Zhong Continent!

Inside a certain teahouse.

On both sides of a rectangular solid wood table sat three people each, both men and women included.

"Just received the news."

The leading middle-aged man was pouring tea for the others, smiling as he said:

"Lu Sheng is going to make a move in November, he wrote a classical music piece similar to 'East Wind Breaks.'"

"Lu Sheng? He's writing a song like 'East Wind Breaks'?"

The others had various expressions, a few frowning, apparently not too keen on this name.

"Heh."

One of the men with a moustache above his lip laughed and said, "Maybe Cheng Sang doesn't need to bother going back to his hometown."

"Hmph, you seem quite confident in Lu Sheng."

The man known as "Cheng Sang" took a sip of his tea, his words laced with meaning.

The moustached man suddenly got a little annoyed: "Lu Sheng is arrogant, but his skill is undeniable!"

The woman sitting next to the man chuckled and smoothed things over, "I think it's hard to call. If Xian Yu dares to aim for twelve consecutive victories, wouldn't he have some trump cards prepared for the last month? Despite being younger, he has already won two year-end honors. He should know how difficult the battle of the gods at the end of the year can be."

The tea-pouring man's interest was piqued:

"You mean to say, Lu Sheng's surprise attack might force Xian Yu to play the trump card he intended for December. How will he then deal with an opponent in the year-end battle of the gods who's no less formidable than Lu Sheng?"

The woman countered, "What would you do if you were in his shoes?"

After thinking, the tea-pouring man said, "If it were me, I would first try to win in November. If I lose in November, then even if I win in December, it wouldn't mean much."

Everyone nodded in agreement.

The man called Cheng Sang rubbed his temple: "If that's the case, won't December be easy pickings for me?"

"You seem quite optimistic about Xian Yu."

The moustached man spoke with a hint of irritation, "You say it as if Xian Yu is going to beat Lu Sheng in November."

Cheng Sang raised an eyebrow but said nothing.

"Old rules, let's place bets, just betting tea leaves. I don't know why, but recently the price for good tea leaves in Zhong Continent has skyrocketed, supposedly because some mysterious people have been buying in bulk and have spent a lot of money. I didn't manage to buy much of this year's new tea."

The tea-pouring man spoke with a laugh, then continued:

"Anyway, regarding these two, our music circle in Zhong Continent hasn't been paying little attention; we should be aware of their situations. I'll start off by betting that Xian Yu will win, what about you guys?"

"Lu Sheng."

"Lu Sheng."

"Xian Yu."

"Lu Sheng."

One after another, people called out their bets.

Cheng Sang hesitated for a moment before finally saying, "'East Wind Breaks' is Xian Yu's work. I'll bet on Xian Yu."

How coincidental.

Three to three.

Unlike the laypeople, this team from Zhong Continent clearly placed Xian Yu and Lu Sheng at an equal level.

Chapter 822 Blue and White Porcelain

After spending two hours in the studio, Lin Yuan went to the company for lunch.

After lunch.

As soon as he entered the office, he noticed that there were several more packs of tea leaves on the table, mainly the white tea he had recently taken a liking to.

"Who sent this this time?"

"Sun Yaohuo."

Gu Dong stared at the tea leaves on the table, somewhat vexed, "The office cabinet is almost full. If this keeps up, I will have to make tea-leaf eggs for Mr. Lin with top-grade tea leaves."

Alas.

No one knew who started the rumor that Mr. Lin was a tea enthusiast who even dared to take risks and robbed the chairman of his tea leaves.

Now, those who gave gifts to Mr. Lin didn't send anything else, just picked out fine tea leaves to give.

"Simple."

Lin Yuan said without hesitation, "Later, give some to Uncle Yang and Aunt Zheng. It seems your father also drinks tea, send him several boxes. There's no need to give any to Director Zhou; he'll come and take some himself."

"Alright."

Gu Dong hesitated for a moment then said, "Have you heard about Lu Sheng's song release in November?"

"I have."

Lin Yuan nodded.

Gu Dong sneakily observed Lin Yuan's expression but didn't notice anything unusual.

Lin Yuan suddenly looked up, meeting Gu Dong's eyes.

Gu Dong panicked, thinking he'd been caught in the act of spying, but then he heard Lin Yuan say,

"Has Senior Yao Huo left the company?"

"He should still be here. He just went to the artist department."

"Ask him to come over."

"Okay."

Gu Dong quickly nodded.

Before long, Sun Yaohuo appeared in Lin Yuan's office.

"Junior, do you like the tea I sent this time?"

"It's good, but you sent too much. I can't finish it all. The chairman is also sending some, including a few others from the Yu Dynasty, and some from the industry we've collaborated with..."

"So many people?"

Sun Yaohuo raised his eyebrows.

Why didn't he think of opening a tea shop or something before?

"Let's not talk about this now. I want you to sing my song in November."

Lin Yuan began, revealing his plan.

The System task involving Sun Yaohuo had yet to be completed; it was time to bring it to the agenda.

After all, within the Yu Dynasty, the closest to the King of Singing position was Sun Yaohuo.

Lin Yuan felt that he should prioritize helping Senior Yao Huo to that position, no matter how he thought about it.

Whoosh!

Sun Yaohuo's spirit was electrified, his eyes shining brighter than when making a lot of money.

To Sun Yaohuo, Lin Yuan's simple sentence was like a thunderclap!

The long-absent excitement caused Sun Yaohuo's heart to thunder like a drum, his voice trembling,

"Junior... do you mean the song for November... the one to go up against Wonder Lu?"

Not long had passed since the news of Lu Sheng releasing a song in November came out, just half a day.

However, in the land of the five continents now, as long as a village was connected to the internet, everyone knew that Maestro Lu Sheng of Blue Star was going to release a new song in November, not to mention Sun Yaohuo who was eagerly watchful of Lin Yuan and the number one fan of the Yu Dynasty!

It was obvious.

The seasonal chart for November would definitely be a pinnacle duel between Lu Sheng and the junior, with others on the seasonal charts only being able to watch helplessly!

It was a battle of immortals.

Mortals had no way to intervene.

And different songs have different values!

Aiming for twelve consecutive championships, the junior definitely wouldn't be satisfied with faltering in November, so the song for November must be one he considered capable of arm-wrestling with Lu Sheng.

What quality would a song that the junior brought out to compete with Wonder Lu be?

Sun Yaohuo knew without having to think with his butt!

The quality of this song would even surpass the battle-worthy songs of past years!

Only...

He had thought that for such a crucial game, either the junior would sing it himself or Jiang Kui—who had already been crowned Queen of Singing—would take charge!

It had never occurred to him that the junior would entrust such an important task to him!

That was the reason for Sun Yaohuo's excitement.

If not for this reason, he wouldn't have been unable to restrain his composure.

The junior really trusts me so much!

This is a critical moment for the twelve consecutive championships!

If he wins this round, the junior will be able to get the ticket to participate in the battle of the gods!

If this round fails, however well the junior performs in the battle of the gods, it's useless because his goal of twelve consecutive championships will have already failed...

"Yes."

Unaware of Sun Yaohuo's thoughts and feelings, Lin Yuan produced the score he had prepared in advance.

"Blue and White Porcelain?"

Sun Yaohuo, with sharp eyes, spotted the song title at once!

"Mm."

Lin Yuan nodded.

The song he prepared to compete with Lu Sheng for the November seasonal chart was "Blue and White Porcelain"!

How amazing was this song?

In his previous life.

Not only did this song make it to the Spring Festival Gala, becoming the most unforgettable act of that year, but it also swept major awards such as Best Song, Best Lyrics, and Best Composition in the professional field, and it even appeared on college entrance examination papers more than once.

Its social impact was enormous!

Even among Director Zhou's countless excellent works, this song was definitely among the top!

In terms of popularity and professionalism, it was off the charts!

Mentioning Director Zhou's songs, this one was absolutely a work that had to be mentioned.

Even the ground-breaking "Farewell," which pioneered the China Wind genre, couldn't compare in terms of notoriety with this song.

But speaking of which.

Actually, Sun Yaohuo singing this song, stylistically, was not quite a perfect match.

In terms of singer selection, it would be best if Lin Yuan could sing it himself.

However, Lin Yuan had recently been studying the System's props and had seen several good items.

Among them were props that could improve singing skills, expand vocal range, and even enrich vocal timbre.

The only drawback was, they were expensive!

So expensive that even wealthy Lin Yuan found them staggeringly so.

But using them on Senior Yao Huo was not a waste.

Although Lin Yuan felt the pinch, he gritted his teeth and bought them.

With these props, Sun Yaohuo can grasp "Blue and White Porcelain."

At this thought.

Lin Yuan said, "The demo isn't ready yet, so I'll just sing it a cappella for you to listen to."

Having said this.

Lin Yuan sang "Blue and White Porcelain" following the melody in a simple manner.

"With plain clay, a delicate brush outlines the blue and white, the brushwork shifts from thick to light..."

Just from the first line, Sun Yaohuo's eyes lit up!

And as more and more of the melody was sung, his eyes were leaping with innumerable sparks!

Excitement!

Thrill!

Fever!

As a professional singer, Sun Yaohuo instantly recognized the terrifying appeal of the song. This rare style of music was just like the impact-making "The East Wind Breaks" his junior had released at the end of last year, and in some aspects, it even made a huge leap forward!

However.

When Lin Yuan finished the first chorus and stopped, Sun Yaohuo suddenly seemed to remember something, his face abruptly filled with countless hesitations and struggles!

In his eyes, even a trace of wandering flashed.

"What's wrong?"

Lin Yuan noticed Sun Yaohuo's abnormality.

Complex emotions intertwined on Sun Yaohuo's face, but eventually, he suppressed his excitement and followed his heart, speaking in a low and hoarse voice:

"Junior, can you answer me a question?"

"Sure."

"Am I the most suitable person for this song?"

"..."

Lin Yuan didn't answer, but quietly used a series of props purchased by the System on Sun Yaohuo.

"Junior, I'm not suitable, you sing it yourself."

Sun Yaohuo, oblivious to Lin Yuan's actions, spoke with some difficulty, as if mustering all his strength.

Sun Yaohuo knew.

Saying these words meant that he was giving up a song for himself that he might never encounter again in his life.

Sun Yaohuo had heard it.

This song could be one of the best among all of his junior's current works.

He could sing it well.

But to say who could sing this song to the best, unleashing its full potential, that should be his junior himself.

November is too important to allow any mistakes.

If a problem arises because of him, Sun Yaohuo might blame himself for a lifetime; to avoid that, he would rather give up the song.

Because of these reasons, no matter how much regret and desolation he felt, he could only grit his teeth and swallow it down.

"You are."

Whether or not he was the most suitable person before didn't matter.

Because now he was.

Having said that, Lin Yuan handed the sheet music over to Sun Yaohuo:

"Give it a try."

"Junior..."

I'm not, how could I be the most suitable person for this song?

Sun Yaohuo took the sheet music with both hands, wanted to speak, but in the end, swallowed back a thousand words.

He took a deep breath.

He adjusted his emotions, cleared his throat, and with the utmost seriousness, tried to sing a line.

Hm?

The first line came out, and Sun Yaohuo suddenly felt a very strange sensation, as if he had more control over his voice.

He felt an inexplicable excitement within.

He continued singing according to the melody in the sheet music.

Although he stumbled slightly due to unfamiliarity with the melody, his excitement grew, and his heartbeat sped up!

It seemed like he could really sing this song!

And it seemed like his skills had made a leap in improvement!?

Could it be a breakthrough under pressure?

As if he had gained special powers!

Recently, Sun Yaohuo had been reading some fantasy novels where the protagonist would always break through under pressure, creating one miracle after another. He felt like he was in that state, getting smoother with each line he sang, until he finished the first chorus and stopped with reluctance!

"Not bad."

Lin Yuan praised.

If Sun Yaohuo now adds proper training to his skill level, he could likely be no weaker than the King of Singing grade like Fei Yang.

This was something Sun Yaohuo himself hadn't realized. He only knew he had improved.

Lin Yuan was not surprised by the power of the System's props.

If the System could turn a dog into a skilled actor, what difficulty would it have in crafting Sun Yaohuo into a true King of Singing?

Although the price was outrageously expensive.

Forget it, as Senior Yao Huo said well, money is an external object...

Li Bai also said:

Wealth spent can be regained!

Senior Yao Huo has the spirit of the Immortal Poet Li Bai!

I should learn well from Senior Yao Huo!

Right, with Senior Yao Huo becoming the King of Singing, I will have a reward too!

Lin Yuan psyched himself up, and after convincing himself, he felt less heartache.

"Junior, I think I can do it!"

Sun Yaohuo could no longer suppress the excitement in his heart, exclaiming loudly!

Lin Yuan was also happy: "Then you go back and practice well. Once you've got it, we'll record."

"Sure!"

Sun Yaohuo left the office, and as he walked out the door, suddenly hugged the sheet music and kissed it passionately!

Swish, swish, swish.

Outside was the office, and the composers all turned to look at Sun Yaohuo's act of kissing the sheet music, their expressions odd.

This guy is acting strangely...

Deputy Director Wu Yong passed by, asked in surprise, "Teacher Sun, what is this about?"

"Leave November to me!"

Laughing, Sun Yaohuo said to Wu Yong, then left the office blissfully under countless astonished gazes.

Strangely enough:

Sun Yaohuo wasn't thinking about the song or his progress in singing at the moment, but rather, his thoughts were spinning on something completely unrelated:

"The wood of the cabinets in junior's office isn't top-tier, and the space is lacking too, seems not quite big enough for storage. I should replace it with a bigger one for him."

This thought spun as naturally as an instinct.

Chapter 823 The Best of Chinese Style_2

After all, this is Lu Sheng, the Maestro among maestros.

Defeating him without using trump cards was essentially impossible.

But if Lin Yuan used the song he had prepared for the Battle of the Gods, what would he do at the end of the year?

You should know.

At the end of the year, the opponents Lin Yuan was about to face might be on the same level as Lu Sheng.

What if he didn't use his trump card?

Then losing in November would be even more painful.

It was a paradox.

In November and December, there were wolves in front and tigers behind.

That was Yang Zhongming and Zheng Jing's worry.

So they approached Lu Sheng, hoping he would step back and not force Lin Yuan to reveal his trump card prematurely.

"..."

Realizing this,

Lin Yuan felt both amused and a little helpless.

He could completely understand their worries and was even touched, as their concerns were entirely reasonable from a conventional line of thinking.

The one that was unreasonable was himself.

More precisely, it was the System.

Indeed, in November and December, there were wolves in front and tigers behind.

However, the premise considered by these three was entirely mistaken.

It was true there were wolves and tigers,

But who said he had only one bullet in his gun?

In November, facing Lu Sheng and using a trump card, so what?

He had also made very adequate preparations for the end-of-year Battle of the Gods.

...

Lin Yuan's thoughts raced as he analyzed the situation. Just as he was about to speak, Lu Sheng suddenly smiled.

"I can't dismiss Brother Zhongming's face, but..."

Lu Sheng's tone shifted, "I've always been conceited, especially since Ms. Jing has said that the song Teacher Admirable Fish prepared for the Battle of the Gods could beat me. In that case, let's see if Ms. Jing's judgment holds true."

"Hey!"

Zheng Jing was not pleased, "You said you were going to give Ol' Yang face, so why are we still competing? Besides, I only said Little Fish's trump card might beat you, not that it certainly would."

"Ms. Jing, don't rush."

Lu Sheng suddenly turned to Lin Yuan, "To drop out of the November season ranking is to let you step on me to fight in the Battle of the Gods. By then, the whole network will be saying my new song is inferior to yours. That's quite a sacrifice for someone who cherishes his reputation like me. Teacher Admirable Fish, would you like to use that trump card and compare it privately with my song?"

That's more like it.

Zheng Jing pursed her lips and didn't stop him this time. They were only comparing privately, and the outside world would not know.

And Lu Sheng wasn't wrong.

Whether he suddenly dropped out of the November season ranking or casually released a song to deal with the issue, he would ultimately lose to Xian Yu. That was like actively letting Xian Yu get one over on him.

In the end, it was still a loss for Lu Sheng.

After all, Lu Sheng had the freedom to choose when to release his songs.

Was it his obligation to step aside in November because Xian Yu wanted the twelfth consecutive championship?

There is no such rule.

It was only because of the great face of Yang Zhongming and Zheng Jing that Lu Sheng took this step back, even actively allowing Xian Yu to get the upper hand and achieve an even more dazzling halo.

"Okay."

Lin Yuan agreed, "I'll release my song first."

Lu Sheng shook his head, "Please wait a moment. I'll take the loss in November for Brother Zhongming's sake. At that time, laypeople can say my new song is not as good as yours; I don't care about that. But I, Lu Sheng, can't lose face in front of people I know, or I'll likely become the laughing stock among those guys, so you wouldn't mind if I invite a few friends over, would you?"

"You really care about face."

Zheng Jing glared hard at Lu Sheng.

Lu Sheng's meaning was simple. He wanted some songwriters in the industry to witness this private contest.

At that time,

No matter what the outside world said about him losing to Xian Yu, the truth would be clear to the songwriters in the industry.

"His request is reasonable."

Yang Zhongming said, "I'll call some people over. Xian Yu, do you have any objections?"

Lin Yuan shook his head.

Yang Zhongming nodded and made several phone calls.

Lu Sheng reminded him from the side, "Remember to invite Yin Dong over."

Zheng Jing held her forehead, "Are you trying to provoke Yin Dong?"

Lu Sheng said with a smile, "Just recently, I returned to Qin and met up with a few old friends. At that gathering, everyone was saying Yin Dong always loses to Fish. I'm just trying to help brother Yin Dong win one back, right?"

"The word 'brother' sounds so twisted coming from your mouth."

Zheng Jing said irritably, "You're just trying to annoy him. If something goes wrong, it'll be interesting. After all, Little Fish's song is a trump card for the Battle of the Gods."

Lin Yuan: "..."

Of course, he remembered Yin Dong. He had collaborated with Fei Yang several times and had many interactions with himself.

Lin Yuan also listened to others' songs in his spare time.

There were several songs composed by Yin Dong on his playlist, which he quite enjoyed.

"Bring them on then."

Lu Sheng seemed quite confident.

...

This club was where Yang Zhongming and Zheng Jing met privately with other songwriters in the circle.

Shortly after Yang Zhongming made the calls, the club started bustling.

Several songwriters arrived one after another.

This included Yin Dong, whom Lu Sheng specifically reminded Yang Zhongming to invite.

Within the hour,

The club's room was filled with more than twenty songwriters!

This lineup, if placed in the music industry, could scare people to death!

Some of them even took the initiative to greet Lin Yuan, showing considerable friendliness.

Because Lin Yuan had participated in "Our Song" and had decent relationships with some of the songwriters, such as Ye Zhi Qiu, who had once competed with Lin Yuan for the season's chart, was also present and greeted Lin Yuan.

But when it came to age, Lin Yuan simply didn't fit in with the other songwriters.

If it were anyone else at Lin Yuan's age, they wouldn't even have the right to speak among these songwriters, let alone be greeted by them with utter equality.

Chapter 824 Wonder Lu Admits Defeat

In the clubhouse.

Inside the room.

The music carried a faint melancholy.

Within the melancholy, a hint of heaviness was mixed.

The maestros in the room were savoring the prelude of "Blue and White Porcelain".

The main verse, for the first time, resounded:

"The plain white porcelain is sketched with cobalt blue, the dense ink fades to light

The peony depicted on the body is like your initial makeup

The gradual scent of sandalwood through the window, my thoughts of you are clear

The brush travels on the rice paper and stops halfway..."

As the first part of the main verse began, Lu Sheng, who had been full of confidence, suddenly lifted his head, as a ripple passed through his heart.

Pure.

Elegant.

The gentle and delicate lyrics, accompanied by the melody, still had the flavor of new classical style, but these lyrics instantly dazzled him!

And it wasn't just Lu Sheng.

Everyone else in the room also showed a hint of astonishment, clearly impressed by the lyrics!

"The glaze renders a painting of elegant ladies, its charm privately hidden

And your smile, blooming like a flower yet to unfold

Your beauty drifts away

To a place I cannot reach..."

Still as mesmerizingly beautiful lyrics, and as the song continued, Lu Sheng's heart finally began to undulate!

Plop!

Like a pebble falling into the heart of a lake, ripples spread out in all directions!

He subconsciously adjusted his seated posture, causing the chair to grate against the floor with a somewhat grating noise.

The friction was fleeting.

No one spoke aloud at the scene, but the maestros seated around began lifting their heads one after another, with a clear change in their eyes!

Among the crowd.

Yin Dong and Ye Zhi Qiu exchanged glances, both seeing the amazement in each other's eyes!

Just then.

The singing abruptly climbed in pitch!

Sorrow and desolation, like the drizzle of an autumn rain, quietly cascading, as if the song was the only thing left between heaven and earth!

"The azure sky awaits the misty rain, and I await you

The smoke from cooking fires spirals up, across a thousand miles of river

At the base of a vessel, Han clerical script is written, emulating the elegance of bygone days

Consider it a foreshadowing of my encounter with you

The azure sky awaits the misty rain, and I await you

The moonlight salvaged spreads out and blurs the conclusion

Like heirloom Blue and White Porcelain, being beautiful unto itself

Your eyes carrying a hint of mirth..."

Pitter-patter, like pearls and jades falling onto a jade plate!

The sublime melody, still tinged with a trace of hesitance and coldness, like a cool breeze blowing through the persistent drizzle, penetrating the hearts of all present!

Chilling!

Yet scalding hot!

Everyone's expression changed, a look of astonishment creeping onto the faces of all maestros simultaneously, forming a standardized and unified look of utter astonishment in the melody-imbued room!

Stunned!

Completely stunned!

Lu Sheng's face lost its prior confidence!

His body tensed instinctively, while his mouth was slightly agape!

The musical instruments were being played with fervor.

Traditional playing techniques composed a slow, leisurely tune, the deep and shallow currents of love and separation flowed within the room, the song bearing an indescribable sense of antiquity and depth, as if both history and time were mottled.

Gong, shang, jiao, zhi, yu!

The ultimate simplicity!

The ultimate shock!

When the entire song ended, the whole room was silent as a tomb!

The next moment.

The silence shattered.

Loud voices melded together, making the entire room boil!

"This is a masterpiece of the new classical genre!"

"I thought no song could surpass 'The East Wind Breaks,' even Lu Sheng's work could only try a different approach, but this song did it!"

"The five notes have been used to their utmost!"

"How is this possible!"

"The beauty of scenery, the beauty of metaphor, the beauty of emotion, so many elements combined yet so harmoniously blended, this song is simply more flawless than 'The East Wind Breaks'!"

"..."

Amidst the tumultuous voices, gazes converged on Lin Yuan's expressionless face, though everyone's mindset was now utterly different!

Nobody expected it!

Xian Yu had actually written a song that surpassed 'The East Wind Breaks'!

In a daze.

Some looked towards Lu Sheng.

A wry smile flickered across Lu Sheng's lips and he couldn't help but ask Lin Yuan, "Can I take a look at the lyrics?"

"Sure."

Lin Yuan took out the score and handed it to him.

Instantly.

All the maestros crowded around Lu Sheng, peering at the score of "Blue and White Porcelain," their appraisal still accompanied by intense whispering.

"Indeed."

Looking at the lyrics, Lu Sheng glanced at Lin Yuan with a bittersweet expression: "Your talent for writing lyrics is truly astounding."

The azure sky awaits the misty rain, and I await you.

What kind of genius creativity does it take to write such lyrics?

If the classical-style 'May We All' is undoubtedly the pinnacle, then Xian Yu's song is the peak of vernacular-style lyrics, and it's beyond dispute!

Next to them.

Ye Zhi Qiu mused, "Whether it's composing the music or the arrangement, the two songs are neck and neck, but the lyrics put a gap between them."

"Yes."

Zheng Jing sighed from the side: "But overall, 'Blue and White Porcelain' is a little more impressive."

"Taken individually, every standard of the song is nearly on par."

Yang Zhongming spoke up, and even his voice couldn't help but carry a hint of emotion: "We can only say that Xian Yu's song named 'Blue and White Porcelain' has reached the pinnacle of the new classical genre in terms of overall score."

Everyone nodded in agreement.

In composing, writing, arranging, and so on, "Blue and White Porcelain" scored extremely high in every category, not much better than Lu Sheng's song, and it wouldn't be an overstatement to say they're equally matched.

This is true even when compared with 'The East Wind Breaks'.

However, when considered as a whole, "Blue and White Porcelain" clearly has the upper hand, especially the lyrics of this song seem tailor-made for the new classical genre!

Chapter 824 Wonder Lu Admits Defeat_2

The entire song's mood is half derived from the melody and the other half from the lyrics.

Combined, "Blue and White Porcelain" reached a height that no one else could surpass!

"I could have gone up too."

Suddenly, Yin Dong said this to Lu Sheng.

Lu Sheng rolled his eyes.

Everyone burst into laughter.

Indeed.

This round really was such that anyone who went up would do.

After all.

Whoever went up would lose.

...

The maestros arrived quickly and left just as fast.

When everyone left with countless emotions, only Yang Zhongming, Zheng Jing, Lin Yuan, and Lu Sheng remained in the room.

"I admit I was outplayed."

Lu Sheng gave a resigned smile, "I truly embarrassed myself today."

Lin Yuan shook his head seriously, "The victory of 'Blue and White Porcelain' lies in the lyrics. Mr. Lu Sheng's composition was not inferior, and I truly respect your piece as well."

He wasn't being modest on purpose.

Lin Yuan was telling the truth.

In terms of composition, "Blue and White Porcelain" did not assuredly beat Lu Sheng.

Lu Sheng's competition wasn't me, but the combination of Director Zhou and Fang Wenshan!

If it were just about the composition, Lu Sheng's "Water Rhyme" could entirely contest with Director Zhou!

Ultimately, "Blue and White Porcelain" just won owing to Fang Wenshan's hand.

You know, Fang Wenshan is a top lyricist on Earth, and the lyrics of this song are a peak masterpiece of Fang Wenshan himself!

Just think about it.

If "Blue and White Porcelain" lacked Fang Wenshan's perfect lyrical performance, could this song stand out among the numerous similar songs by Director Zhou and become the pinnacle of Chinese style in many people's hearts?

"You don't need to comfort me."

Lu Sheng smiled resignedly, "Although I am vain, I am not someone who can't accept defeat. Use this song in December, I'll withdraw from November."

"That's not necessary."

Lin Yuan shook his head, stunningly saying:

"Actually, 'Blue and White Porcelain' was intended to be released in November."

Lu Sheng stiffened, his face suddenly changing!

Yang Zhongming and Zheng Jing also showed astonished expressions!

The three exchanged looks.

Was this song not Admirable Fish's secret weapon prepared for the battle of the gods!?

The fact that these three were shocked shows just how astonishing Lin Yuan's words were!

"Do you have an even better song in December?"

Lu Sheng's voice changed, "Please don't act out of pride. I'm the one stepping down voluntarily; you don't need to feel like you took advantage, especially since you've already beaten me!"

"There's another song in December."

Lin Yuan hesitated for a moment, then added, "It might not necessarily be better, but it won't be far off."

Yang Zhongming's expression was strange, "Are you serious?"

Zheng Jing couldn't help but say, "You really should not mess around, if you release this song in December, even if Zhong Continent makes a move, it would be hard to compete with this song!"

"It should be fine."

Lin Yuan also had his doubts, but he ultimately decided to release "Blue and White Porcelain" in November, despite the song's quality being more than sufficient for December.

Moreover...

Why should someone else step down for him? Everyone has the freedom to choose their song release timing. In this matter, Lin Yuan knew he wasn't being reasonable, but inevitably, it felt like letting down the kindness of Uncle Yang and Aunt Zheng.

With this in mind.

Lin Yuan said to Yang Zhongming and Zheng Jing, "Thank you, Uncle Yang, thank you, Aunt Zheng."

"Since you've made this decision, there must be a reason behind it. Seems like I still underestimated you," Yang Zhongming waved his hand, "I hadn't planned to intervene. It was Aunt Zheng who insisted I step in, plus, I couldn't bear to see you play your ace in November. Now that you still have something for December, it actually eases my guilt towards Lu Sheng."

"This is my fault; I should have discussed it with you in advance."

Zheng Jing laughed heartily, "I was afraid you might feel slighted, so I informed you at the last minute. However, you shouldn't feel this goes against principles all too much; the music industry has a tradition of giving heads-up. Maestros to some extent always have such an understanding among themselves; there is no need to make a big deal out of it, looking back, haven't you also stepped aside for others."

"That is true."

Lu Sheng looked at Lin Yuan and smiled, "The year I got the twelve consecutive titles, Brother Zhongming stepped aside for me once. If Brother Zhongming hadn't, I really wouldn't have gotten the twelve consecutive crowns that year. In that regard, you are stronger than me."

For this outcome, the three of them were somewhat amused yet sad.

Everyone thought Admirable Fish had only one secret weapon.

And that it would be played in December!

However, who could have imagined that Xian Yu still had an ace up his sleeve!

Whether it was November or December, Xian Yu's side was quite confident!

The three of them never doubted that Lin Yuan was bluffing.

By December, things would be clear, and there was no point in bluffing at such a time, especially as it involved the crucial twelve consecutive championships, no one joked about such a thing!

"Let's have dinner together tonight."

Lu Sheng suddenly said, "Just release my song as usual, there's no need to purposely choose a date, since you're not planning on changing the schedule anyway."

"Okay."

Lin Yuan agreed.

Lu Sheng's song had shown Lin Yuan the capabilities of a world-class composer.

If his song hadn't been "Blue and White Porcelain," but just another Chinese-style song, Lin Yuan might not have any other songs in November that could definitely beat the opponent.

Of course.

This just meant that apart from "Blue and White Porcelain," Lin Yuan had no other songs that could definitely win, but he still had songs that could compete on an equal footing with the opponent's.

That settled it.

The four made a dinner plan.

During the meal...

Lin Yuan and Lu Sheng exchanged contact information and found they quite hit it off.

"Actually, for you, the battle of the gods isn't scary. I have experience in this as someone who's been through it."

"What experience?"

"The experience is, when a composer can win for eleven seasons, the twelfth season, no matter what the quality of your song, many people will support you; it's called letting a gentleman finish his journey."

"The righteous are helped, the unrighteous are few?"

"Your words are interesting. No wonder you could write a song like 'Blue and White Porcelain'. Overall, the season chart is not purely a stage of strength. You cannot expect everyone to be completely fair; if people like certain singers or composers, what can you do? For example, if you're a newcomer, even if your song in November is better than mine, I would still win because I'm Maestro, and these off-stage factors all affect the season chart rankings, but you have momentum to leverage, and by then you will find a group of people helping you. Of course, if your song isn't good enough, off-stage factors can't play a decisive role."

"Hmm."

The two talked a lot.

Mostly, Lu Sheng did the talking while Lin Yuan listened.

Lu Sheng didn't mind Lin Yuan's quiet demeanor.

Geniuses differ in character.

In Lu Sheng's eyes, Lin Yuan's character suited him very well.

Yang Zhongming, sitting nearby, busied himself with his food and occasionally chipped in a word.

Only Zheng Jing looked at Lin Yuan and Lu Sheng with an odd expression:

Who would have thought these two were about to compete in the November season chart?

After the meal ended...

Lin Yuan drove home.

It was just past ten-thirty in the evening.

Less than two hours remained until the season chart update.

Online...

The November season chart competition between Lu Sheng and Xian Yu was trending!

"Only one and a half hours left!"

"Wondering who between Fish Papa and Wonder Lu will win or lose!"

"I like both sides, so I can accept any outcome. But comparing their achievements, I feel like Fish Papa's chances are slim."

"Didn't GOAT analyze it? It's slightly in favor of one."

"Some say it's more tilted the other way."

"Saying Fish Papa is like Little Lu Sheng is just too much. Isn't that implying Fish Papa will definitely lose?"

As for the November season chart competition between Xian Yu and Lu Sheng, countless people online were analyzing it.

The most widely accepted conclusion was "slightly in favor of one."

Xian Yu slightly less favored, Lu Sheng slightly more favored.

However...

As this opinion took deep root and time ticked ever closer to the season chart update...

On his blog...

Lu Sheng, a top composer from Blue Star and the youngest Maestro to score twelve consecutive championships, suddenly posted a special update:

[Today I listened to Teacher Admirable Fish's new song and I was dumbfounded. I give up for November, but I certainly won't flake. I recommend everyone listens to my song first; it should not disappoint you, but if you listen to Admirable Fish's song before mine, you might be disappointed. Am I spoiling something here?]

The update was accompanied by a photo.

In the photo, Lu Sheng's cheeks were flushed as if he had drunk quite a bit; he and Xian Yu were standing shoulder to shoulder, both making a classic scissor-hand gesture at the camera.

Duang!

Netizens across continents were stunned!

Chapter 826: King of Singing Sun Yaohuo (Seeking Monthly Tickets)

Some people listened to "Blue and White Porcelain" and couldn't sleep all night.

But Lin Yuan slept until dawn, sweetly and deeply.

Get up.

Wash up.

Brush teeth.

Lin Yuan went downstairs for breakfast and heard the song playing downstairs:

"The color white with blue, the koi fish seems to leap at the bottom of the bowl, while imitating the Song typeface's signature, yet you ponder about you, Hide in the kiln's secrets of a thousand years, so exquisite like a needle dropping on the floor from an embroidery..."

Mom said, "Blue and White Porcelain is so nice to listen to."

Sister looked at Lin Yuan, "I'll reward you with an extra egg."

Sister thought for a moment, "The yolk is yours."

Antarctica drooled with envy.

And when the driver came to pick up Lin Yuan, the same song was playing in the car:

"In the splash-ink landscape painting, you are hidden in the depths of the dark ink..."

Even upon arriving at the company.

Passing by some departments, Lin Yuan could still hear the song.

Overnight.

This song "Blue and White Porcelain" became popular throughout Jiangnan and beyond!

And when Lin Yuan went online, his eyes were met with numerous discussions about "Blue and White Porcelain"!

Among them.

Ni Hongwu, a lyricist who wrote songs for Fei Yang in the battle of the gods the year before last but encountered "May You Live Long," published a long review on Starlight Network about this song:

"Nothing is more beautiful than 'Blue and White Porcelain.'"

This is the title Ni Hongwu used for her long review:

"In terms of artistic conception, 'Blue and White Porcelain' is like a misty Jiangnan ink wash painting, where the fluttering movement of the water and clouds just barely reveals the figure of a

lady in white, with her skirts and ribbons flying; in terms of lyrics, 'Blue and White Porcelain' is like a plain-hearted letter written by the window, its twists and turns only due to the heart being a double-silk-net, with thousands of knots; as for the melody, 'Blue and White Porcelain' is like a mountain spring whispering on stones in a gentle breeze, cool and clear yet meandering with an endless intention.

When these three elements combine, 'Blue and White Porcelain' is true to its name.

Just like the 'self-absorbed beauty' of fine celadon, stripped of all pretension, simple and elegant, refreshing and smooth, with the guzheng strings plucked crisply and the pipa bubbling...

When researching, I came across a legend.

The legend says that to achieve the sky-blue glaze color, the right humidity and kiln temperature must be met, so one must wait for a smoky rainy day for a chance of successful firing. The refrain of the lyrics seems to draw from this legend, and it's truly beautiful, so beautiful that I no longer need to question the authenticity of the legend.

And yet, the most exquisite part of the song does not stop there.

The following verse about the initial encounter is nothing short of astonishing; so much so that this morning, countless lyricist colleagues have been analyzing it, with an old friend even joking that this verse could be used as a reading comprehension question in a Chinese language college entrance exam.

Blue Star's number one lyricist is none other than Xian Yu.

And if the lyricist happens to also be the composer, with such a perfect integration of both, it's no wonder that Wonder Lu admitted defeat. For Wonder Lu, he might not fear any opponent when it comes to composing, but if the opponent possesses such terrifying lyrical talent, then it's a different story."

Just as Ni Hongwu said.

Many lyricists online were analyzing the lyrics of "Blue and White Porcelain" word by word, sentence by sentence.

Netizens were stunned.

Especially when Ni Hongwu mentioned the story behind "waiting for the smoke and rain."

The beautiful legend deepened the connotation and the richness of the lyrics, sparking countless emotions.

Beyond "Blue and White Porcelain".

There were also many discussions about "Water Rhyme".

The same neo-classical style, the same divine level of composition, from public reaction, "Water Rhyme" didn't tarnish the name of Wonder Lu.

When Lu Sheng admitted defeat, he joked:

If you listen to Xian Yu's new song first, followed by my "Water Rhyme," listeners will be disappointed.

But that is not the case.

Even professional music critiques ranked the songs of Xian Yu and Lu Sheng at the same level.

Including on the seasonal chart for November.

Xian Yu did not pull far ahead of Lu Sheng.

For a simple reason, because the composition of "Water Rhyme" is also perfect.

It is not inferior to "Blue and White Porcelain".

Just like Lin Yuan said.

As Blue Star's top Maestro, Lu Sheng only lost because of Fang Wenshan.

In terms of composition alone, the two songs are actually on par with each other.

For both insiders and outsiders of the industry, the November season chart contest was indeed a battle of immortals, it was just that after showing off their powers, Xian Yu performed a "flying immortal outside the sky."

Lu Sheng's "Water Rhyme" is that "heaven" that mortals look up to.

Lin Yuan, too, downloaded "Water Rhyme" with excitement and listened to it more than once, feeling deeply impressed.

And in this pinnacle showdown.

The biggest beneficiary was undoubtedly the performer of "Blue and White Porcelain"—

Sun Yaohuo!

It's kinda strange.

In the numerous discussions about "Blue and White Porcelain" Sun Yaohuo initially didn't draw much attention.

Alright.

It's not strange.

All the news of the November season's charts revolved around Xian Yu and Lu Sheng. Naturally, everyone's focus was on Xian Yu and Lu Sheng, not Sun Yaohuo himself. This included who sang Lu Sheng's song, which also failed to spark widespread discussion at first, because at times like these, it's usually the Maestro who is the soul of the song.

So.

It was only when everyone snapped back to their senses that Sun Yaohuo, the singer of "Blue and White Porcelain," burst into everyone's field of vision with a slightly abrupt flair!

Hot damn!

How could we forget about Sun Yaohuo!

This song, it's actually sung by Sun Yaohuo!

This exclamation might seem a bit exaggerated. After all, everyone obviously knew that "Blue and White Porcelain" was performed by Sun Yaohuo.

None of us grew eyes and ears for nothing.

What actually surprised netizens was:

Sun Yaohuo could sing "Blue and White Porcelain" so well!

Perhaps a certain netizen's comment hit the nail on the head:

"The halo of Xian Yu is just too dazzling, almost overshadowing Sun Yaohuo the singer, until I listened to the song on loop numerous times and suddenly realized, Sun Yaohuo as the singer performed too well!"

This remark garnered countless agreements.

"Honestly, he sang incredibly well, almost completely overturning my impression of Sun Yaohuo!"

"I feel like Sun Yaohuo's vocal skills have improved so drastically, did I not pay enough attention to him before? He shouldn't have been able to handle this song with his previous skills, right?"

"He could handle it, but he got the flavor so right, Sun Yaohuo really made a huge breakout!"

"Fan for life, this is the first time I fell for Sun Yaohuo's singing!"

"Fish Papa really favors Sun Yaohuo, to give such an awesome song to someone else to sing."

"Actually, whether Fish Papa sings his songs himself is meaningless since he's not aiming to be a singer. Besides, his own halo is too dazzling. Whether he sings it himself or not, his songs will always be his songs, it doesn't make much difference."

"Exactly."

"I also think that Fish Papa's songs are as if he's singing them all himself, singers from the Yu Dynasty are just like his voice and mouth. Considering singing involves nasal sounds, we might as well add a nose to the list."

"Lungs are also involved."

"Chest cavity too."

"Well then, singers from the Yu Dynasty turned out to be Fish Papa's various organs, the tool people of the Yu Dynasty confirmed."

Netizens had a good laugh.

Despite being a jest and joker, it is in some sense, a fact.

Every single song by Xian Yu is stamped with his signature.

People may forget who the singer of those songs is, but they don't forget the songwriter. Blue Star is ultimately the world of composers.

And within the Yu Dynasty.

No matter who sings the songs of Xian Yu, it always feels like Xian Yu himself is singing.

Others are merely different vocal tones chosen by Xian Yu to express his voice.

Of course.

The inherent value of the singer himself is still irreplaceable.

Especially now in the Yu Dynasty, any one of them stepping out could stand on their own.

And just as outside discussions began to center around Sun Yaohuo.

Someone discovered an unbelievable fact!

Sun Yaohuo's comprehensive data in all aspects seemed to have reached the standard of the King of Singing?

Upon learning this.

Countless netizens were dumbfounded for a few seconds:

"Holy crap!"

"Sun Yaohuo has become the King of Singing?"

"Speaking of which, when others are crowned king or queen, it's usually discussed extensively beforehand. Like with Jiang Kui's time, I remember before "Diao" was even released the whole world was discussing whether she would clinch the title of Queen of Singing with it. How come when it gets to Sun Yaohuo ascending to King of Singing it's so sudden, with none of the grandeur you would expect of someone about to become the King of Singing!"

"Hahaha, I died laughing, but not entirely."

"Because we barely take any notice of Sun Yaohuo, this guy's truly a dark horse, quietly making a huge fortune. Normally unassuming, and by the time we regain our senses, he's already the King of Singing!"

"The Yu Dynasty really has great fortune behind it!"

"Who would've thought that Fish Papa would actually boost Sun Yaohuo to the King of Singing position, and with Jiang Kui before, the Yu Dynasty now has two—hey!?"

Suddenly, the air was silent!

As quiet as if all the birds had ceased to chirp!

So quiet you could hear a pin drop!

The next moment, everyone's eyes bulged as they leaped up, screaming!

Chapter 827: Maestro Xian Yu (Seeking Monthly Pass)

Queen of Singing, Jiang Kui!

King of Singing, Sun Yaohuo!

The Yu Dynasty now has both a King and Queen of Singing!

Xian Yu personally produced both the King and Queen of Singing!

Even the slowest to react should understand what this means!

"Maestro, Maestro, Maestro..."

"Maestro your head, call him Maestro Junior!!!"

"Junior your head, he's still called Maestro Junior now, which of your eyes sees him as junior!?"

"My goodness!"

"Are we just going to drop the 'Junior' from our Maestro Junior like that?"

"So, Xian Yu = Maestro!?"

"Did Xian Yu really just become the Maestro like that!?"

"My heavens!"

"How old is he?!"

"The age listed on the encyclopedia is..."

"24 years old?"

"Terrifying to this extent!"

"This is going to scare someone to death in broad daylight!"

"The record held by Lu Sheng as Blue Star's youngest-ever Maestro, has it really been broken by Xian Yu!?"

"Maestro has descended!"

"Xian Yu really became Fish Papa!"

"Welcome to the era ruled by Xian Yu!"

Boom!

The tribe exploded!

The blogs exploded!

The whole internet blew up!

This was so sudden!

Even more sudden than Sun Yaohuo becoming King of Singing!

After the suddenness, there was a boiling over the entire internet, with the force of a nuclear explosion!

Who on Blue Star doesn't know that one of the ways for a composer to become a Maestro is to produce two Kings or Queens of Singing?

And now!

Xian Yu has done it!

He really has done it!

Jiang Kui in his left hand, Sun Yaohuo in his right!

No matter how one might nitpick, the undeniable fact was right in front of them. Keep in mind, all of Sun Yaohuo's hit songs were composed by Xian Yu, just like Jiang Kui who had become Queen of Singing. Before meeting Xian Yu, Sun Yaohuo was just an unknown newcomer, and even their debut works were crafted by Xian Yu. Who else but Xian Yu could be credited for their rise to stardom?

But...

Xian Yu is only 24 years old!

For young people who started school late or who've had a history of being held back a grade, some of them haven't even graduated from university yet, and even the lonely graduates are struggling with jobs and salaries. Meanwhile, Xian Yu has already produced both a King and a Queen of Singing, achieving the music world's most honorable title:

Maestro!!

Don't be fooled by how everyone casually calls Xian Yu "Fish Papa", "Maestro Junior", or holds no doubt about his future as a Maestro. But as long as Xian Yu wasn't officially a Maestro, his name wasn't truly justified, and he could only enjoy a nominal reputation endorsed by fans without an official stamp of approval. Even some Maestros, no matter what they said out loud, in their hearts they did not truly see Xian Yu as an equal, but looked down on him as a junior because they were the true Maestros!

And now.

Everything has changed!

With Xian Yu ascending to Maestro, he will officially take his place at the pinnacle of the music world, joining the ranks of those who once dominated Blue Star's music scene, smiling proudly above the rest. Even the Literature and Art Association of Blue Star will have to grant him the most prestigious award and recognition, with no one daring to say that "Maestro Junior" is mere chatter!

To describe it without exaggeration:

Becoming a Maestro of the Blue Star music world is like ascending to the heavens in broad daylight for any composer, changing their status completely!

Just at this moment.

The official Literature and Art Association account suddenly released a global statement: [We extend early congratulations to Qin Continent's composer Xian Yu for becoming the new youngest-ever Maestro in the history of Blue Star, at the ripe age of twenty-four, breaking Lu Sheng's record of becoming the youngest Maestro at the age of thirty-three, and also congratulate Xian Yu for joining the battle of gods in December with divine status!]

The official congratulations were out!

Now the whole world will know about the 24-year-old monster from Qin Continent who ascended to Maestro, because the official account used its global publication privileges, and no cultural wall from any continent could hold it back!

A storm!

This is a storm!

The entire Blue Star was shaken by this terrifying earth-shaking storm, the news spreading its wings and flying to every corner of Blue Star!

...

Zhao Continent!

Although Zhao Continent has not yet joined the great unification of Blue Star, the moment the Literature and Art Association issued the announcement, the netizens here all saw this message aimed at the whole world!

In an instant!

The whole Zhao Continent was shaken, followed by an outcry of shock and disbelief, wave after wave!

"???????"

"What is this?"

"Who is Xian Yu!?"

"A new Maestro from Blue Star!?"

"Only twenty-four... and he's already vying for the title of Maestro?"

"How is this possible, even Wonder Lu only became a Maestro at thirty-three, how can there be such a freak who becomes a god at twenty-four, and this person isn't even from Zhong Continent, what kind of monster has Qin Continent produced!?"

"Are those from the merged continents really that terrifying?"

"Are you sure there hasn't been some mistake?"

"How could the Literature and Art Association get it wrong, there's really a twenty-four-year-old musical prodigy who vied for the title of Maestro in the Blue Star music scene!"

...

Wei Continent!

It's another continent that hasn't joined the merge.

The announcement from the Literature and Art Association was like a heavy nuclear bomb dropped on Wei Continent!

"A Maestro only twenty-four years old!?"

"Are my eyes playing tricks on me?"

"What on earth is going on with the world, why are such insane things happening!"

"I saw a bunch of strange news this morning and none of it was as scary as this message, who the hell is this Xian Yu!"

"Freak, monster, utterly insane!"

"Don't tell me the official account of the Literature and Art Association has been hacked..."

"Tired of living, hacking an official account like this, this message is clearly announcing to the whole Blue Star that Qin Continent has a genius the likes of which appears once in a millennium!"

"Feels like our Maestros in Wei Continent are going to wet themselves."

...

Merged Continent.

Qin, Qi, Chu, Yan, Han!

The music composition community of the five continents faced an unprecedented and unparalleled earthquake!

"This day had to come eventually."

"We all knew that this day would inevitably come, just a matter of timing."

"But this day has come sooner than I imagined, the boast of twelve consecutive crowns has not been realized, the Battle of the Gods has yet to begin, yet he has already vied for the title of Maestro. No matter the outcome in December, his age is already unsurpassable."

"Twenty-four years old, ah, how wonderful."

"What were we doing at twenty-four?"

"Many Maestros back then were wracking their brains over a single song, only to fall flat on the season chart; struggling with all their might for a job, only to watch as famous composers slaughtered all around."

"He brushed aside Lu Sheng's record by nearly ten years."

"With such a new record, will anyone be able to break it in the future?"

"An announcement for the whole Blue Star, the record has been beaten too severely. This year's music festival will turn into Xian Yu's solo show, with all Maestros focusing on him."

...

At home.

His mother looked at the message on her phone, and suddenly her eyes reddened!

"This is my son!"

"Mom, brother has become a Maestro!"

Big Yaoyao, who was usually as reticent as Lin Yuan, couldn't help but get excited, her hand holding the phone turned white from the grip!

"Truly worthy of being Lin Xuan's brother!"

The sister almost roared it out; she was so overwhelmed with excitement that she immediately posted on her social circle: "My brother Lin Yuan has the aura of a great emperor!"

In an instant a heap of comments!

"My husband is so awesome!"

"My husband will dominate the era!"

"Ah! Fish! My treasure!"

"Treasure, you've finally become a Maestro!"

By her side, Antarctica howled: "Awoo!"

Who knew how that dog managed to howl like a wolf.

In his twenty-fourth year, Lin Yuan, known as Xian Yu, astounded the whole world!

Chapter 828 Universal Admiration

Zhong Continent.

It was still that teahouse.

It was still those six people from last time.

Someone was playing a song.

The melody lingered in the thick tea aroma, seeming to add a touch of antiquity even to this small teahouse.

The song was "Blue and White Porcelain."

And when the song ended, the expressions of the six people each had changed.

This song was not simple.

All present were elites of Zhong Continent and immediately recognized the terrifying aspect of "Blue and White Porcelain"!

"It seems this time the bet is won by me."

The middle-aged man who was brewing tea for everyone smiled and broke the silence. His expression fleetingly complex, so much so that he didn't even mention the matter of the wager:

"What does Cheng Sang think?"

"As for the bet, I've won too."

Cheng Sang spoke, hesitated for a moment, then suddenly uttered a self-contradictory phrase:

"At the same time, I've also lost."

Someone frowned, "Where did you lose?"

Cheng Sang, expressionless, replied, "I bet on Xian Yu to win, which I did; but if this is the ace Xian Yu prepared for the Battle of the Gods, then my songs likely won't stand a chance, so I've lost as well, unless I try music of a different genre. But such a comparison would be meaningless. Are you suggesting I switch to piano pieces or even symphonies?"

The expressions of everyone slightly shifted.

Clearly, everyone knew Cheng Sang was speaking the truth.

Any person here facing a song like "Blue and White Porcelain" dared not claim they were sure to win.

Just then.

The leader suddenly received a call.

Whatever was said on the other end of the phone, his face changed dramatically.

He put down the phone.

He suddenly revealed a piece of news that shocked everyone:

"Today, Xian Yu has become a Maestro..."

In an instant!

Tea sloshed!

Even though this group was the elite of Zhong Continent, they were inevitably taken aback, one after another!

"Today?"

"How did it happen so fast!"

"He's already a Maestro?"

"According to the data, that Xian Yu is only twenty-four years old, right? I remember we were just talking about how young he is, and now he's broken Lu Sheng's record of nearly ten years?"

"It seems that no matter the outcome of the Battle of the Gods, he has already secured an invincible position."

"A twenty-four-year-old Maestro; today not just Zhong Continent's music scene, but the entire musical world of Blue Star won't be calm."

...

Indeed, the music scene of Blue Star was far from calm today!

And now, one of the most excited groups was Yu Dynasty!

"My god, Teacher Admirable Fish has become a Maestro!"

"Hahahaha, that's fantastic, congratulations to Teacher Admirable Fish!"

"Teacher Admirable Fish has ascended to Maestro, and Yao Huo has also become the King of Singing following Jiang Kui. Our Yu Dynasty's power is becoming increasingly formidable; from now on, we shall be invincible!"

"Yao Huo is on fire, ah!"

"This is a dual celebration!"

"Isn't Yao Huo going to distribute a hefty red packet now?"

The Yu Dynasty's chat was bubbling with excitement, tagging Yao Huo incessantly!

And amidst the crowd's clamor, Yao Huo sent a 10,000-yuan red packet!

[My King of Singing Red Packet!]

Just as everyone had finished grabbing the first, not even having had the chance to thank him for his generosity, they saw Yao Huo send out a 50,000-yuan red packet!

[Junior's Maestro Red Packet, keep up everyone!]

This was the first time the group saw such exaggerated red packets. After receiving them, people weren't surprised anymore; rather, they were stunned!

Has he gone mad?

Isn't this too much?

Of course, Yao Huo hadn't gone mad, but nobody knew just how tumultuous his emotions were at the moment!

It could be described as turning the seas!

The ecstasy was half from becoming the King of Singing, and the other half from Lin Yuan becoming a Maestro!

"Junior, thank you..."

In a place unseen by others, Yao Huo's eyes reddened as he sent a message to Lin Yuan.

I know.

You could sing this song yourself, including many of the previous ones, but you chose to give them to me, to give them to us.

I'm aware of all.

You've made me who I am.

In this life, I dare not forget you.

Although he had a myriad of words in his belly, in the end, they all condensed into a heavy "thank you," weighing a thousand pounds.

He was well aware of his own situation.

From his first meeting at Starlight, his life was rewritten by his junior.

It's a pity he was too mediocre.

But even so, no matter what the junior needed, Yao Huo would try everything to accomplish it.

You have treated me with great honor, and I shall repay you in kind.

This was the only way Yao Huo could think of to repay him:

"Perhaps Junior will encounter trouble in Zhong Continent, and the Tribunal is also against Junior. Last time, Xia Fan suffered because of this.

Hmph!

Bullying the Yu Dynasty is bullying the junior, bullying the junior is bullying me.

The junior is not involved in worldly desires, unlike me, who only has money.

No, in the end, it's my fault for being too poor to resist such capital as the Tribe.

I must earn more money to help the junior solve his problems, one day I will make the Tribe apologize to the junior obediently!"

With this thought in mind,

Sun Yaohuo clenched his fists.

...

Starlight.

The same excitement swept through all the departments of the company!

"Teacher Admirable Fish is too awesome!"

"Unconsciously, he has become a Maestro!"

"Invincible, invincible, invincible!"

"With Yang Zhongming and Teacher Zheng Jing, our Starlight is invincible!"

Almost within ten minutes of the Literature and Art Association announcing the news, the threshold of Lin Yuan's office was nearly worn out by the executives!

The entire ninth floor was vibrating.

The Chairman actually brought the entire company's executives to offer congratulations!

Admirable Fish becoming a Maestro, this was exciting news for the whole of Starlight!

That's the influence of a new Maestro!

Not to mention that Admirable Fish had seized this honor as the youngest Maestro in history!

"Crazy!"

Gu Dong exaggeratedly shouted, "Mr. Lin, look, there are so many people sending congratulations online too!"

...

As Gu Dong said,

The tremors online had not subsided yet.

Maestro Lu Sheng was the first to send his congratulations to Admirable Fish, "Twenty-four years old, young and promising!"

Maestro Ye Zhi Qiu also quickly sent his congratulations, "Congratulations to Admirable Fish for becoming a Maestro, may you move forward unhindered from now on!"

Maestro Yin Dong exclaimed, "Welcome to the Maestro club!"

Maestro Zheng Jing said, "Little Fish, you have created a new history in the Blue Star music circle."

Maestro Yang Zhongming said, "Lin Yuan, rather than envying Fish, you succeeded by casting your net."

All from Maestro-level masters!

All the Maestros who had interacted with Lin Yuan basically sent their congratulations!

This massive wave of support made the whole internet turn its eyes!

...

Wave after wave of congratulations.

An overwhelming flood of well-wishes.

Wave after wave, Lin Yuan himself was a bit dazed, feeling that everything before him was somewhat surreal.

I am already a Maestro?

He had thought it would still be some time before Sun Yaohuo could become the King of Singing, as the popularity of the songs needed to ferment, but he hadn't expected that, in no time at all, he had shot up the charts!

One could only say, "Blue and White Porcelain" was too fierce!

This song alone was worth a thousand troops!

This also made Lin Yuan realize that giving Sun Yaohuo the opportunity to sing "Blue and White Porcelain" was the right decision!

Even though he could sing it himself, he wouldn't reach the level of the King of Singing because the data was quite off, and moreover, the pioneering song of the Chinese style, "The East Wind Breaks," was sung by him, there was no need to sing it again.

Sun Yaohuo was different.

Senior Yao Huo was already very close to the level of the King of Singing, so he could break through the threshold from a top-tier singer to the King of Singing with the help of "Blue and White Porcelain"!

Maestro, ah...

He had finally taken this step.

All kinds of past events appeared before Lin Yuan's eyes.

Unknowingly, he had reached a position in the entire Blue Star music circle that everyone looked up to.

Even Lin Yuan himself couldn't help but feel a joy from the bottom of his heart at this moment!

Just then,

The phone rang again.

From the moment Lin Yuan became a Maestro, friends and family had been calling non-stop.

This time the call was from Jin Mu:

"Congratulations, boss, the studio here is thrilled, everyone is clamoring for a treat from the youngest Maestro in history!"

"You're amazing, Teacher!"

Through the phone, Lin Yuan could hear the excited shouts of Luo Wei and others; many people at the studio already knew that the real identity of Shadow was Admirable Fish.

"Sure."

Lin Yuan agreed readily.

Debts more don't oppress, before this, he had already agreed to a bunch of dinner invitations:

First was his family, then the Yu Dynasty, then the company side, including the few apprentices Lin Yuan had at the company clamoring for their teacher to treat them, and now there was the studio...

So this is the feeling of becoming a Maestro?

That's nice.

Lin Yuan's lips curled up.

"Ding dong."

The System suddenly appeared.

Lin Yuan thought there might be some task, but the blue text that appeared in front of him was:

"Congratulations, Maestro Lin."

Lin Yuan burst into laughter at this,

Chapter 829: Playing Xian Yu's Song for You...

The following days.

Major media outlets reported the news of Xian Yu becoming the Maestro everywhere.

Lin Yuan kept shuttling between various banquet engagements.

With good news, one had to treat others to a meal or send out red envelopes.

This seemed to be a glorious tradition at Blue Star.

And becoming the Maestro was an occasion that certainly couldn't escape social interactions.

Lin Yuan didn't resist this, or else he wouldn't have accepted them one by one.

That day.

Lin Yuan finally faced the last banquet.

The gathering of the Maestros.

The invitation was sent out by Zheng Jing and Yang Zhongming.

And the meeting place was the same club where Lin Yuan had met Lu Sheng before.

The club was named "Wisdom".

Obviously.

This Wisdom club was a gathering headquarters for some well-acquainted Maestros.

"In the future, you can come over whenever you want. Our chairman is one of the shareholders of this club, and the other shareholders are the bosses of several large entertainment companies at Blue Star. So all the facilities here are provided free of charge to Maestros. Without a Maestro's lead, ordinary people have no way to get in, no matter how rich they are. The identity of a Maestro is the only pass to get here,"

Zheng Jing explained to Lin Yuan with a smile.

Lin Yuan curiously surveyed his surroundings.

He hadn't paid much attention the last time he was here, but now that he looked around, he realized that the club was decorated very luxuriously and subtly, built entirely around the theme of music. As he walked along the corridor, he saw rooms filled with various musical instruments, including top-

notch sound equipment and other expensive-looking items. There were also high-end food and drinks available for the taking, or one could ask the waitstaff for assistance.

"How does the club make money?"

Zheng Jing couldn't help but laugh at Lin Yuan's question:

"This is a private gathering place for a group of Maestros. Just the resource itself is worth a fortune. Moreover, apart from the Maestros, occasionally some people looking for collaborations with Maestros manage to get in through relevant channels. They have to pay each time they come here, considering they might strike a big deal. Not to mention, the bosses of the companies the Maestros belong to are already shareholders here. Take our chairman's shares, for instance. Do you think the chairman would charge you?"

"I see."

Maestros have their own world.

It wasn't until Lin Yuan officially became a Maestro that Zheng Jing and Yang Zhongming could bring him into this circle.

This was normal.

People from different levels have different circles. Certain communications can only take place among people in the same field and at the same level. Otherwise, it's like talking to a wall.

"This is the case in Zhong Continent as well."

Zheng Jing said with a smile, "Each place has its circles. This club is the exclusive circle for Maestros of Qin Continent. Maestros from other continents have their own meeting spots. Now that I've brought you in, many people are quite looking forward to you joining."

With that, Zheng Jing pushed open a room door.

As Lin Yuan entered, he immediately saw several familiar faces.

Yin Dong.

Ye Zhi Qiu.

And Lu Sheng.

Including some other Maestros that Lin Yuan had interacted with on the variety show "Our Song".

"Xian Yu, welcome,"

a Maestro said with a smile as he spoke up.

"Hello,"

Lin Yuan recognized the man, Maestro An Xin, whom he had encountered once in a previous season's charts.

The other Maestros also showed friendly smiles, all turning their attention to Lin Yuan as soon as he entered.

"Xian Yu!"

Lu Sheng wasn't shy, and as soon as he saw Lin Yuan, he stood up and said with a smile, "Congratulations on becoming a Maestro. You don't have to feel constrained here, there are no special rules; it's just about sitting down, eating, and chatting together."

Lin Yuan was taken aback and nodded.

The room was spacious, with different tables and sofas where everyone was chatting in small groups.

This place was completely different from the other banquets he had attended before.

"Feel free to sit anywhere,"

Lu Sheng lead Lin Yuan to a table.

Zheng Jing and Yang Zhongming joined them at the same table.

Another Maestro at the table was listening to music with headphones on. Seeing the others, he took off his headphones and said with a smile:

"Xian Yu, hello, I'm Chen Hexuan. We've interacted before."

"Hello."

Lin Yuan realized that he had dealt with quite a few Maestros, most of which involved battling it out on the seasonal charts.

"Still fiddling with your crappy headphones, huh."

Lu Sheng said with a smile, clearly familiar with Chen Hexuan.

Chen Hexuan pouted, "If I'm being paid, I have to do the job. These headphones are pretty good, I'll send you a pair once they're released."

"Chen Hexuan has the best ears among the Maestros."

Seeing Lin Yuan's curiosity, Yang Zhongming spoke up to explain, "This new pair of headphones developed by Nai Technology was tested by him; they wanted him to provide feedback for the tech department to make improvements."

"That's impressive."

Lin Yuan exclaimed, surprised. Could Maestros earn extra money like this?

"I'm not as impressive as you are."

Chen Hexuan laughed, then turned to Lu Sheng, "You listen too, does the bass part for the male vocals lack something?"

"Hmm."

Lu Sheng put on the headphones to listen for a while and began discussing with Chen Hexuan.

"Without dinner parties, things here are simple, we all help each other out."

Seeing Lin Yuan still curious, Yang Zhongming continued to explain, "Like at that table to the south, Yin Dong is discussing his new song with Ye Zhi Qiu and others, seeking their opinions; or at the north side, Liu Rumei is asking people to write a song for her niece, after all, Maestros aren't necessarily adept at all styles..."

"Basically, this is a mutual aid society," Zheng Jing said. "Here, you can see some collaborative intentions from companies. The pay is good, and the goal is to invite the Maestros present to help write songs, just like on that big screen on the wall behind you."

Lin Yuan turned his head to look, and it was true.

The big screen advertised offers of a certain amount of money for a Maestro to come forward and tailor-make a new song for some company's artist.

There was also a game company seeking a Maestro to take on the game background music.

Other offers for custom-made songs from different continents were abundant as well.

Even some advertising companies were collecting music for their commercials here.

Zheng Jing said, "If you're interested in a collaboration, just let the waiter know, and they will contact the parties and our company for you."

Lin Yuan understood.

Lu Sheng seemed to have finished his discussion with Chen Hexuan and looked toward Lin Yuan, "There's another thing. Here, if someone wants to release a new song, they'll notify in advance, except for the 'Battle of the Gods,' ya know. This way, everyone can avoid overlapping and prevent the competition among Maestros from getting too fierce. This is only for Qin Continent's Maestros, though. We don't need to coordinate with the other continents; we'll just roll up our sleeves and get to work."

Lin Yuan: "..."

No wonder the number of Maestros releasing songs each season is limited.

Turns out it's mostly pre-arranged among the Maestros of different continents.

"By the way."

Yang Zhongming suddenly added, "The 'Battle of the Gods' at the end of the year has confirmed that there will be composers from Zhong Continent aiming to snipe, and there are two of them—one should be in pop music, the other in classical piano. Climbing to the top with a piano piece isn't easy, so that should be about getting a professional reputation. Your biggest competitor on the seasonal charts is still pop music."

"Two?"

Lu Sheng was a bit stunned, then snorted, "That's ruthless, sending out two just to stop Xian Yu's twelve successive championships?"

"Xian Yu's recent prominence is too much."

Yang Zhongming said, "If it were not for his record as Blue Star's youngest Maestro after eleven consecutive championships, they probably would have only sent one."

"Actually, it's no different than facing one person."

Zheng Jing told Lin Yuan, "I know the one responsible for the piano piece. He's into the classical piano style. It's quite difficult for that genre to top the seasonal charts, so he's aiming to beat you on professional acclaim, as the barrier to appreciating classical piano is quite high. But it doesn't matter if we lose in terms of acclaim as long as we secure a ranking. However, you should really watch out for the other one—a top-notch Maestro from Chu Continent, Ito Makoto. After entering Zhong Continent fifteen years ago, he hasn't been back to his homeland for a long time. His return this time is definitely for you."

"Hmm."

Lin Yuan nodded thoughtfully.

A pop song, and a classical piano piece?

Lu Sheng suddenly laughed, "They still underestimate him. Ito Makoto is less proficient at writing pop songs than at pure music. They definitely thought you had no more tricks up your sleeve, so they came up with this lineup they consider to be a safe bet. But if you can produce another song that's not weaker than 'Blue and White Porcelain' their plan won't be hard to deal with. The key is that you're accurate with the timing of your final move."

"As good as 'Blue and White Porcelain'?"

Lin Yuan considered it. Would 'Nocturne' qualify?

Different people would give different answers, but what's certain is that both songs are first-tier masterpieces of Director Zhou. 'Nocturne' ringing out on a stage to accept awards is no joke—it's the most awarded song among all of Director Zhou's works, without any equal.

As for the classical piano piece... what about adding Chopin's 'Nocturne'?

Combining the two, it's not simply a matter of one plus one equals two.

Chapter 830: Lotus Lantern Airing

Indeed, the song Lin Yuan planned to release in December was "Nocturne."

This song, along with "Blue and White Porcelain," belonged to the same batch of works.

The lyrics were written by Fang Wenshan.

The composition was still personally done by Director Zhou.

In terms of behind-the-scenes setup, it was the same as "Blue and White Porcelain."

For Lin Yuan,

both songs were eligible to participate in the battle of the chart-ranking gods.

He had two reasons for choosing to release "Blue and White Porcelain" first.

First, his opponent Lu Sheng's work was also in Chinese style, which was Blue Star's new classical;

Second, "Nocturne" being released in December allowed more flexibility in dealing with the opponent—if the opponent proved tougher than expected, Lin Yuan was prepared to add the piano piece as leverage.

Yes.

"Nocturne" could merely be a pop song, but if necessary, it could also transform into a classical piano piece, linking with pop music.

As it seemed now,

this change was indeed necessary.

Lin Yuan thought so, and a strange feeling suddenly surged within him.

The name Ito Makoto seemed familiar—where had he heard it before?

Never mind.

It wasn't important.

Lin Yuan then learned a lot more.

At the Wisdom Clubhouse, Lin Yuan was initially exposed to Maestro's world.

It seemed that after securing the twelve consecutive championships, if he wanted to make money or play around, he could totally accept missions here.

The large screen in the room occasionally refreshed.

Lin Yuan noticed that some of the missions here were actually quite suitable for him.

But now, Lin Yuan wouldn't take on any missions since the twelve consecutive championships weren't officially in his hands yet.

If he had already become a Maestro, then he certainly had to be the more prestigious kind.

Having just promoted one King of Singing and one Queen of Singing wasn't enough.

This level of Maestro couldn't be mentioned in the same breath as one who had managed twelve consecutive championships.

Besides, Lin Yuan had painstakingly secured eleven consecutive championships.

Even if the final step was as long as the Long March, how could he ease up simply because he had become a Maestro?

December was the decisive battle!

For this decisive battle, Lin Yuan even planned to take the stage himself.

There was no choice.

Lin Yuan needed to maximize the download numbers for "Nocturne."

And in the entire Yu Dynasty, the most capable of rallying support was Lin Yuan himself.

Or rather, the identity of Xian Yu.

Furthermore, the Yu Dynasty only had two male singers—Sun Yaohuo and Chen Zhiyu.

Director Zhou's songs, nowadays Sun Yaohuo could sing them, but Senior Yao Huo had already become the King of Singing, and his new identity was enough for him to digest for now.

As for Chen Zhiyu, he had his own vocal style.

Giving Director Zhou's songs to Chen Zhiyu would fit less than the greatly improved Sun Yaohuo.

This was somewhat regrettable.

If Chen Zhiyu's voice matched, Lin Yuan wouldn't mind letting Chen Zhiyu sing "Nocturne."

Perhaps this song could also make Chen Zhiyu a King of Singing.

After all, the gap between Chen Zhiyu and the King of Singing wasn't notably large.

What's different now was:

Previously, each continent in Blue Star could only yield one King and Queen of Singing every year.

If Chen Zhiyu reached the data of the King of Singing, he would have to compete directly with Sun Yaohuo.

After all, there was only one quota for the King of Singing.

But the rules of the game have changed now.

Related to the mergers of continents in recent years, one quota for the King and Queen of Singing definitely wasn't enough.

So the authorities revised the rules in a very flexible manner:

As many continents as are merged, there will be that many quotas for the King and Queen of Singing.

For instance, now, the Qin, Qi, Chu, Yan, and Han continents have merged.

By the time the awards are settled next year, there will be five male Kings of Singing and five female Queens of Singing born.

The downside is:

It's possible for one continent's quota for Kings and Queens of Singing to be overtaken by singers from other continents, resulting in a total loss for their own continent.

The continents speak through strength!

If capable, it's even permissible for one continent to snatch all ten spots!

Many people suspect that this system was intentionally designed like this, to ensure that continents always maintain a competitive mindset, which is essential for progress.

Of course.

Lin Yuan didn't feel too sorry for Chen Zhiyu for long.

In his conception, it was only a matter of time before the singers from the Yu Dynasty became Kings or Queens of Singing.

He just needed to free up his hands.

Jiang Kui and Sun Yaohuo were just the beginning.

Just like becoming Maestro was only a beginning for him as well.

...

After leaving the Wisdom Club.

Lin Yuan was marveling at the convenience of being a Maestro, being able to eat and drink for free at the club, when he suddenly received a message from Zhao Jue saying that the TV series "Precious Lotus Lantern" was set to premiere on a streaming website tonight.

"So soon?"

Lin Yuan was quite surprised.

Even for Blue Star's technology, this speed was indeed fast.

Zhao Jue replied, "One month was just enough to finish shooting, and we are currently doing post-production. The post-production for the first ten episodes has already been completed. The rest will definitely be done by the time they are streamed. Our film and television industry values efficiency the most; time is money, and every day delayed means hundreds of people's living expenses. If it can be premiered earlier, then there's no delay. Especially with web dramas, they start promoting from the moment shooting begins, and now we've reached the base where it can be screened, with the star-studded cast ready..."

"Hmm."

Lin Yuan understood.

It really was that way.

Lin Yuan had spent quite some time on set, after all, he had also served as the core screenwriter for many movies. He noticed that any of Blue Star's production teams placed a high premium on efficiency. The shooting pace was never too slow, and if any actors performed poorly, they would be mercilessly replaced by the director. This was different from Celestial Dynasty and even more ruthless than the Hollywood norms. Moreover, these production crews pursued not just speed but also quality, which always amazed Lin Yuan. Being an actor was clearly more tiring than being a singer under the same star status.

The conversation didn't last long.

Lin Yuan returned home.

His mom was sitting in front of the projector with Lin Yuan's sister.

Lin Yuan asked, "What's going on here?"

His sister said, "The 'Precious Lotus Lantern' is about to start!"

Lin Yuan: "..."

It seemed that everyone was quite interested in "Precious Lotus Lantern."

He hadn't noticed any intense online promotion.

But thinking about it, it made sense.

After all, the drama was a derivative work from "Journey to the West," and many of the actors were from that series.

Without knowing the storyline, just seeing familiar faces from "Journey to the West" in "Precious Lotus Lantern" must have made the audience quite happy.

At that moment,

Mom suddenly said, "It's eight o'clock!"

His sister urged Lin Xuan, "Quick, play it!"

Lin Xuan turned on the computer connected to the projector and played "Precious Lotus Lantern."

Lin Yuan thought about it, and decided to just sit down and watch together.

As a result,

the TV show hadn't even started, and the theme song of "Precious Lotus Lantern" had already caught Lin Yuan's attention:

"This song is really good."

His mom said, "Seems the song is called 'Splitting the Mountain'?"

His sister checked the TV subtitles, "Wow, no wonder, the theme song was written by Zheng Jing!"

His sister nodded, "That explains it."

Lin Yuan also had some songs related to "Precious Lotus Lantern," but he felt their quality was average, so he simply handed them over to other composers in the company. He didn't expect the TV department to directly ask Zheng Jing to take charge, which showed that they highly valued this drama. The fact also proved that even without Lin Yuan's involvement, the other composers in his company could still perform their tasks excellently.

Two minutes.

The song ended.

Whether a theme song is worth listening to can be judged by whether viewers set their player to skip the intro. Zheng Jing's song passed the test — the sister did not choose to skip the intro—

The actual episode finally began.