

## All R. Artist 861

Chapter 861 Paintfection

December 26th was the next day.

Starlight officially started its year-end vacation mode.

When Lin Yuan woke up, it was already ten in the morning.

After washing up, he couldn't help but ponder over a philosophical dilemma that had bothered many people:

To eat or not to eat?

The awkward thing about this time was:

It was a bit too late for breakfast, yet somewhat too early for lunch.

Forget it.

Let's wait for lunch then.

Having made up his mind, Lin Yuan took out his phone to play, and as soon as he logged onto his blog, he discovered the incident from yesterday where he congratulated Xian Yu using Chu Kuang and Shadow's accounts.

Lin Yuan was startled.

How much did I drink yesterday?

He actually couldn't remember doing this at all.

"Thankfully, others don't know I'm praising myself."

Lin Yuan comforted himself but quickly looked deflated.

Because the Chairman and Jin Mu knew, and the studio also knew part of the truth...

Stop thinking about it.

Lin Yuan checked Shadow's comment section, no issues there.

In the eyes of regular netizens, Shadow congratulating Xian Yu was a very normal thing.

Then he checked Chu Kuang's comment section.

No problems either, just that some netizens mocked him with a few comments:

"Getting weak, old rascal!"

"It was said that we have Xian Yu in the South, Chu Kuang in the North, and Shadow at the center. Yet, Shadow's comics had an elevenfold success, Chu Kuang snagged twelve awards just last night, and you're the weakest."

"Are you going to release a new book or not?"

"After your last short story success, you went silent. Have you been drained dry?"

"Shadow's comics can still stand strong even after eleven openings; can't you handle seven? And you opened with short stories too!"

"If you don't start a new book soon, you'll become the invisible one among the Three Bros."

"Chu Kuang hasn't been infected by Shadow, has he? Now he's too lazy to even write novels!"

Lin Yuan breathed a sigh of relief.

No mess was made.

Being drunk was quite dangerous.

If he made a slip due to drunken mishandling, the scene would be more than just awkward.

However, the netizens' comments did give Lin Yuan a wake-up call.

It was time to find something for Chu Kuang to do.

He couldn't let Chu Kuang really become insignificant.

The puzzle at Fairytale Town wasn't completed yet, so why not have Chu Kuang write fairy tales?

Mystery novels would also be good. Chu Kuang's mysteries were mostly long stories, and aside from the Hercule Poirot Series, there were many short stories worth writing.

Or maybe, fantasy novels?

If all else fails, then launch into new fields; there are still some novel genres Chu Kuang hasn't tried.

Lin Yuan pondered over Chu Kuang's next direction.

At this moment, his mother's voice calling for lunch came from downstairs.

Lin Yuan, already hungry, hurried down the stairs for lunch.

"Bro."

His sister Lin Xuan, while eating, suddenly spoke up, "There's something you might want to remind Teacher Chu Kuang about."

Lin Yuan, gnawing on a beef bone, asked casually, "What's that?"

His sister said, "I only got the news this morning. The Literature and Art Association is planning to unify the literary awards and create a Literary Festival."

"Literary Festival?"

Lin Yuan was surprised, "Like a music festival?"

"Yes."

His sister nodded, explaining some details to Lin Yuan:

Blue Star has many music awards, but the one with the highest recognition is undoubtedly the Music Festival.

Other music awards are worthless compared to the Music Festival and do not gain recognition from all musicians.

On the other hand, the literary world lacks an award like the Music Festival to lead the way.

This has resulted in a plethora of literary awards that are constantly criticized for their lack of fairness.

Therefore, the Literature and Art Association wants to establish the most authoritative literary award to oversee Blue Star's literary awards.

Like the position of the Music Festival in the music industry.

No wonder even the award's name will be "Literary Festival."

His sister concluded, "The preparations for the Literary Festival will probably take some time, and it's not clear when it will officially begin, but with the Music Festival's prestige in the industry, the Literary Festival will surely attract countless authors. So I'm telling you to remind Teacher Chu Kuang that if there's any award he wants to aim for, he should start preparing in advance."

The most important award?

Lin Yuan nodded thoughtfully.

...

After lunch.

Lin Yuan went back upstairs and eagerly summoned the System, "Show me my Prestige information."

Ding dong.

The air before him instantly displayed several lines of blue text.

Lin Yuan skipped over the name section at the top and looked toward the key information below.

[Age: 24]

[Lifespan: 30]

[Gaming: 193,456]

[Film and Television: 693,423]

...

[Painting: 1008666]

[Literature: 2145678]

[Music: 3007655]

[Comprehensive: 7048878]

Lin Yuan's gaze finally rested on the comprehensive item, and then he said to the System, "View life-extension mission."

In an instant.

Several lines of subtitles appeared in front of Lin Yuan, the life-extension mission that he hadn't paid attention to for a long time:

[Mission Name: Survive]

[Mission Content: The host must break through ten million Prestige Value before the age of thirty]

[Mission Reward: A certain amount of life]

[Extra Reward: Gold Treasure Chest]

Lin Yuan's expression turned solemn, and he mused to himself, "The gap between my music and literature Prestige Values was small before, but after Xian Yu swept ten awards at the music festival last night, my music Prestige Value has surpassed the literature one by a large margin. Awards are still the main source of Prestige Value, perhaps because of the industry's recognition of awards, and industry professionals can provide far more Prestige Value than ordinary people!"

In a few days, it will be the New Year.

By then, Lin Yuan would be twenty-five.

The System calculates age in years, not by birthdays. This means that Lin Yuan has five years left to complete the mission.

And right now, his total Prestige Value is 7248878.

With less than three million to go to the mission target of ten million, the difficulty is not particularly high, but if Lin Yuan becomes complacent, there is a real possibility that he will not complete the mission.

"It seems Chu Kuang will have to take the lead."

The information my sister provided today is extremely crucial.

The Literature and Art Association intends to organize a literary festival, an award to match the music festival!

If Chu Kuang can win enough awards at the literary festival, he will definitely gain a substantial amount of literary Prestige Value, maybe even enough for the literary Prestige Value to catch up with the music Prestige Value!

Of course.

While Chu Kuang is the main force, other categories are also important.

For instance, the currently weak film and gaming, as well as painting, which has been quite promising this year, all have great potential for development.

Leveraging all these categories, it won't be difficult to make up the three million Prestige Value in the end.

Don't be fooled by Lin Yuan's current healthy appearance.

Lin Yuan is well aware that this is all thanks to the completion of the previous life-extension missions.

If it weren't for extending his life through completing System tasks, he would have died two years ago.

Even now, nothing is certain.

If the new life-extension mission cannot be completed, then he will only live to thirty without illness or disaster.

Taking a deep breath.

Lin Yuan said, "The mission for Sun Yaohuo to become the King of Singing is completed, and there should be a Gold Treasure Chest. Why didn't I receive it?"

The System said, "It's in your backpack."

Lin Yuan wondered, "Why was there no prompt?"

The System said helplessly, "There was a prompt last night, but you were drunk and didn't notice."

Lin Yuan: "..."

It seems I need to drink less in the future.

He entered the System's small backpack and looked at the Gold Treasure Chest, without any hesitation:

"Open it!"

"Wait a moment!"

The System paused, then gave an information prompt: "Gold Treasure Chest has been opened successfully. Congratulations to the host for obtaining the special painting skill: Paintfection!"

Paintfection?

What is this?

Just as this doubt surfaced in Lin Yuan's mind, the System provided an introduction in the form of text.

[Painting Skill: Paintfection!]

[Skill Effect: Readers can directly experience the artistic conception of your artwork through your paintings!]

[Additional Explanation: Even ordinary people without any background in art appreciation will be able to feel the charm of your work (Paintfection skill only effective for live spectators)!]

Lin Yuan was stunned.

This thing is similar to the Teacher's Halo, mystical and unreasonable.

For example.

Ordinary people looking at Van Gogh's "Sunflower" mostly wouldn't think it is a world-class painting, while top-tier art masters highly praise it.

Why?

Because the art masters have a high enough level of appreciation to directly experience the meaning within "Sunflower".

So...

Even if Lin Yuan painted "Sunflower".

Or even Van Gogh's "Starry Night".

Or even things like "Along the River During the Qingming Festival".

Some people who can't appreciate it still won't be able to.

But with the magical skill of Paintfection, it changes everything.

Artworks completed by Lin Yuan himself, even ordinary people will be able to feel the conception of the painting!

It's a pity that this effect is only active for live viewers. If they are looking at a printed version on the internet, people without a certain level of appreciation still won't understand.

But this is already enough!

Worthy of a Gold Treasure Chest, the rewards are truly extraordinary. It looks like Shadow has a lot of work ahead!

Hmm.

First, I must complete the painting I planned to hang in Sun Yaohuo's hotel suite. The works I painted in the previous few days will have to be scrapped.

This time!

Lin Yuan will use the Paintfection skill to complete these artworks!

Chapter 862: Zhao Continent Joins the Merger

Villa.

Study.

Lin Yuan stood near the window, his breath calm and steady as he held his arm suspended in mid-air. With each twist of the wrist, he carefully outlined the painting before him, his brush gliding smoothly across the paper, leaving behind fluid, ink-black lines...

The subtlety of the ink punishment completely came from the brush.

Between reality and fantasy, strength and softness, coarseness and fineness, dense and light—Lin Yuan, with his Master Level painting skill, had reached a state where technique was second nature, with his works radiating a natural beauty and inherent elegance.

And while he was painting,

Lin Yuan's gaze seemed to capture a certain charm.

This charm poured onto the paper with each stroke as if it were mountains and rivers brushed in ink.

It was an indescribable atmosphere that lingered around the unfinished painting, remaining cohesive —

This was Paintfection!

Paintfection is a very mystical skill.

With Paintfection activated, Lin Yuan felt his painting technique had improved compared to before, yet it was as if his level remained the same, only now he seemed able to infuse his understanding and perception into the painting through his brush.

In the heated competition of brush strokes,

gradually, an ink-washed painting of a galloping horse appeared on the paper!

The simple image emanated a lofty air, with forceful and unrestrained strokes. With no saddle or reins, one could see the noble spirit and wild pride of the horse through the surface of the painting...

Whew!

With the final brush stroke laid down.

Lin Yuan put away his brush and let out a slight sigh of relief.

He had been working on this painting for an entire week, not only employing his newly acquired Paintfection skill for the first time but also consuming some power potions. Now, at last, it was complete.

As for why he still chose the galloping horse as a subject...

It was because the galloping horse painting Lin Yuan had prepared for the chairman had been snatched up by Zheng Jing.

Today, he finished another galloping horse painting, ready to be gifted to the chairman, after all, it was something he had planned in advance.

It's worth mentioning:

With the addition of Paintfection, the value of the galloping horse painting Lin Yuan completed this time had surpassed that of the one taken by Zheng Jing.

Stretching his back,

Lin Yuan muttered to himself, "Next, I should paint a few pieces of different themes for Senior Yao Huo."

In order to paint, Lin Yuan hadn't left the house for several days.

And as Lin Yuan sequestered himself, time had quietly moved into January, bringing the new year!

Lin Yuan, 25 years old!

This also meant:

The Zhao people had joined the merged continents!

Blue Star's unification had advanced another step!

Although Lin Yuan had not ventured outside, he could already feel the impact of the Zhao Continent's inclusion.

As the cultural barriers broke down, the people of Zhao Continent eagerly engaged with the popular culture of Qin, Qi, Chu, Yan, and Han, and quickly recognized quite a number of celebrities from these regions!

Xian Yu!

Chu Kuang!

Shadow!

These three personas of Lin Yuan quickly became familiar to the people of Zhao Continent, given the influence of his works in the five continents of Qin, Qi, Chu, Yan, and Han.

Music.

Literature.

Painting.

Games.

Lin Yuan's prestige in these four fields had seen an uptick thanks to the addition of Zhao Continent, though because today was only January 2, and Zhao Continent had joined the merge for just two days, the increase was not significant. It would take more time to see the real effects.

...

Online.

Due to the addition of Zhao Continent,

The forums have been very lively these past two days.

The netizens of Qin, Qi, Chu, Yan, and Han warmly greeted the Zhao people and constantly interacted with the netizens of Zhao Continent.

The people of Zhao Continent had an interesting way of speaking.

For example, some netizens recommended the TV series "Lotus Lantern" to people from Zhao Continent, and those who fell into the trap cursed out loud that night:

"This drama is terribly poisonous!"

"Your intentions deserve to be condemned!"

"Chu Kuang, old rascal, come and face your doom!"

Zhao people speak with a flavor of costume dramas, and their style of speech is somewhat different from that of Qin, Qi, Chu, Yan, and Han.

Fortunately, most of the time, everyone's language style is quite similar, and Zhao people just like to use more classical Chinese characters for certain words.

Interestingly:

The way Zhao people speak has also sparked a wave of imitation among netizens from Qin, Qi, Chu, Yan, and Han.

They think this way of speaking is very retro and has a certain level of pretentiousness.

It's a common cultural shock after the merger.

As for recommending "Lotus Lantern" to Zhao people, netizens from all continents do it without any psychological burden; instead, they enjoy teasing them and seem to have a lot of fun.

On the other side.

Having completed his painting, Lin Yuan was also actively getting acquainted with Zhao Continent's culture.

Many calligraphy and painting works from Zhao Continent were spreading online.

Some of the paintings and calligraphy were so impressive that even Lin Yuan considered them Master Level!

Yes.

Master Level!

This discovery shocked Lin Yuan!

Lin Yuan himself possessed Master Level painting and calligraphy skills, he couldn't possibly be mistaken!

Blue Star truly was full of hidden dragons and crouching tigers.

He did not anticipate that in contemporary Zhao Continent, there would also be master-level painters and calligraphers at his level!

No wonder people say:

Zhao Continent is a position of books and paintings.

This phrase was not wrong at all.

The artistic mastery of Zhao people in calligraphy and painting completely overshadowed that of Qin, Qi, Chu, Yan, and Han continents.

Just as Lin Yuan was planning to delve further into Zhao Continent, his phone rang. It was Ol' Zhou calling.

"We've wrapped up filming 'Resident Evil', and now it's time for post-production, but that's not important. The main thing is, Happy New Year!"

"Happy New Year!"

Lin Yuan showed a smile.

Not long after the phone call ended, Sun Yaohuo also contacted Lin Yuan.

After Lin Yuan answered the call, Sun Yaohuo's voice came through, "Happy New Year, junior brother. I have a bit of good news, our game is now fully developed and will be launched at the end of this month."

Landing and becoming a box?

Oh, wrong.

I think it's called "PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds."

These were two pieces of good news.

Both the movie and the game would provide Lin Yuan with a considerable amount of Prestige Value upon their releases.

"Also..."

Sun Yaohuo went on, "Yu Dynasty Hotel will officially open in a month, but we've already started inviting some lucky guests to try out the rooms. We plan to install an internal version of 'PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds' on the computers in the hotel rooms. If the trial guests are interested, they can play it without affecting the game's release."

"Oh?"

Lin Yuan became interested, "Then I want to play too!"

Sun Yaohuo laughed, "No problem, I plan to invite everyone from Yu Dynasty over to play together. I'll protect you in the game, junior brother!"

"Sure!"

Lin Yuan looked forward with anticipation.

He didn't need Sun Yaohuo's protection at all.

In his previous life, Lin Yuan had played "PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds." Although he was just average at it, he was definitely better than some players who were new to the game!

At least in the early stages of the game, Lin Yuan could dominate!

Invincible!

Too bad Blue Star's tech tree was not developed aggressively enough; if gaming helmets and gaming pods could be invented, it would certainly make the game more interesting.

Chapter 863: Bloodthirsty Lin Yuan

The next day.

Sun Yaohuo directly gathered everyone at the newly opened Yu Dynasty Hotel.

Now that the Spring Festival had just passed, the singers of the Yu Dynasty were relatively free, without too many engagements.

That evening at seven o'clock, everyone gathered at the hotel, and Lin Yuan couldn't wait to head over.

Sun Yaohuo had already told everyone that tonight they would be playing a new game designed by Teacher Admirable Fish!

Everyone was quite enthusiastic about this:

"Finally, a new game!"

Zhao Ying Ge rubbed his hands together, "I'd already mastered 'Plants vs. Zombies' a long time ago."

Xia Fan said, "I've played through even its adventure mode."

Wei Haoyun asked, "Is this a puzzle game like before?"

Jiang Kui silently glanced at Zhao Ying Ge, "Can we team up? I mean, really team up!"

"No teaming up, but we're all on the same battlefield—it's a shooter game, and everyone is an opponent!"

Sun Yaohuo was very familiar with 'PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds,' the first to harness being close to the water by developing the game himself, and he had secretly been practicing his skills for a long time.

"pkpkpkpkpkpkpkpk!"

Chen Zhiyu spoke swiftly, showing off a pop singer's nimble tongue.

Lin Yuan didn't say anything.

He wanted to keep a low profile, quietly enter the game, and then amaze everyone with his rich experience and superb skills!

"Then get ready,"

Sun Yaohuo said with a smile, "Enter 'PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds'!"

This was one of the few large suites inside the hotel. Sun Yaohuo had set up a long rectangular table in the living room of the suite, which had seven computers on it, one for each person from Yu Dynasty.

It had a bit of an internet café vibe.

Chen Zhiyu curiously looked at the desktop icon, "PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds?"

He clicked to enter.

Everyone also followed suit, entering the game, creating characters, and then joining the room to queue up.

"How many people are in this game?"

Zhao Ying Ge spoke up, glancing at his character and then at other characters in the room dressed in camouflage.

Sun Yaohuo smiled, "A total of a hundred people participate in each game, and only one person can become the final winner."

"How long will matchmaking take?"

Lin Yuan couldn't help but ask.

He was feeling quite bloodthirsty, eager to get in and wreak havoc.

"Wait a moment, junior!"

Sun Yaohuo quickly said, "I've already arranged it."

Lin Yuan nodded.

His blood was already boiling.

Good luck, have chicken tonight!

Lin Yuan imagined he could see the final victory banner waving at him!

...

Sun Yaohuo indeed had made arrangements in advance.

At this moment.

In a floor of the hotel.

A waiter rang the doorbell of a room.

The person inside opened the door and asked, "What can I do for you?"

The waiter smiled, "Congratulations on being one of the first guests to try our hotel for free. Aside from complimentary stays, our hotel has another event. If you just open the computer and play a round of 'PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds' right now, you can automatically become a platinum member of our hotel, enjoying a 20% discount on future stays. If you manage to be the last winner in the game, besides the membership card, you will also receive five free stays at our hotel!"

"Really?"

The guest inside, a young man, became interested, "I just need to play a game?"

The price of a five-star hotel isn't cheap!

A 20% discount membership card is pretty attractive for some guests!

If he won, he could also get five free stays!

This event seemed great!

...

Meanwhile.

In other rooms, doorbells were also being pressed successively.

Each waiter was diligently introducing, "Just open the computer and enter the 'PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds' game..."

This event was quite interesting.

Many guests trying out the hotel were attracted.

Sun Yaohuo had issued free stay offers tonight, specifically targeting young people.

These young people's common interest was in gaming, which he had researched in advance.

Not enough trial guests?

It's okay.

Sun Yaohuo even pulled the hotel staff to join in, which was definitely more interesting than playing against computers.

In any case, he put a lot of thought into making sure everyone from the Yu Dynasty, especially the younger students, had fun.

...

Of course.

Not everyone was interested in Sun Yaohuo's invitation to join the event for playing "PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds".

Inside a top-tier suite.

A young man with slightly curly hair, wearing a full set of top-tier designer clothes, and looking rather flashy, was necking with a hot-bodied girl.

This young man was named Harvey.

Today, Harvey had brought a girl he had been chasing for two or three days to the hotel on the pretense of being a poor drinker.

At this moment, he was ready to make his move.

Suddenly.

Someone rang the doorbell.

Harvey ignored it, continuing to neck.

The girl couldn't help but push him and said hesitantly, "Someone's knocking."

"Damn!"

Harvey got up angrily, opened the door with a very bad mood.

Anyone would be upset if they were interrupted right when things were heating up.

At the door.

The waiter smiled and said, "Sorry for the interruption, sir, would you like to join our hotel activity? If you enter the game named 'PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds' on the computer desktop, you could get our..."

"I have seven or eight of this kind of hotels at home!"

Harvey rudely interrupted him, not boasting since his family really did own several five-star hotels.

He had chosen this place only because it was close to where he was dining.

He was too eager to push forward and hadn't bothered going to one of his own hotels.

Can he be any more pretentious?

The waiter's face turned awkward: "I'm sorry."

"Don't bother me again."

Harvey slammed the door hard, thinking venomously:

I'll give this lousy hotel a bad review later!

Turning back, his passion reignited: "Let's continue..."

The girl shyly said, "I haven't taken a shower yet."

"What shower!"

"Not taking a shower is too dirty."

The girl insisted on taking a shower, not letting Harvey touch her.

This girl was a master at playing hard to get, knowing exactly how to make this rich kid cherish her more.

What if this rich kid took the chance to barge in?

Well, that wouldn't matter much either—spicing things up could be important too.

"Fine."

Harvey impatiently said, "Hurry up."

The girl shyly ran off to take a shower, while Harvey paced back and forth in agitation. He really hadn't considered barging in, as forcing someone went against his principles.

He just waited a few minutes like this.

Harvey got annoyed, and suddenly remembered what the waiter had said.

There's a game on the computer?

Hmm.

Play a game for a while.

Just to pass the time.

Harvey opened the computer out of sheer boredom, and immediately saw the game's name.

"PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds?"

Harvey smirked, clicked into the game, and created a character.

Playing for a bit to kill time was fine, and after the girl came out, he would applaud, not play any damn games.

After creating the character.

Harvey clicked match.

Surprisingly, he entered the game immediately.

...

Elsewhere.

Inside the suite where the Yu Dynasty folks were, Lin Yuan suddenly shouted excitedly:

"Everyone's here, let's start the battle!"

Chapter 864 Aren't You Going to Eat Chicken?

Harvey entered the game and found himself on a transport plane.

Inside the same transport plane, there were many other players, both male and female, each with distinct appearances.

To Harvey's surprise:

He could actually hear the other players talking!

Before he could listen carefully, the System popped up a parachute prompt.

"Parachute?"

Harvey raised his eyebrows and saw that players had already started jumping down one after another.

Following the System's prompt, he randomly chose a parachuting location. After all, he had just started playing this game and was not familiar with the map.

Kind of interesting.

Watching himself falling through the air, Harvey felt amazed.

He wasn't a complete novice; he had played some shooting games before. His skills weren't strong, but his comprehension was alright. For example, he opened his parachute quite smoothly...

After landing.

Harvey found himself in a wasteland.

The game's graphics were very realistic, and the background music created a tension that inexplicably made one feel as though they were in the midst of a battle royale.

He started wandering around randomly.

After running for a few minutes, Harvey entered an abandoned warehouse.

"Bang bang bang..."

Suddenly, bullets came flying!

Harvey quickly controlled his character to run away.

Swish swish swish!

Footsteps came through the headphones.

This game even lets you hear other people's footsteps?

The realism gave Harvey the creeps, his heart pounding as if there really was a guy with a gun chasing him.

Wait a minute!

Where's his gun?

Harvey suddenly realized he seemed to be unarmed...

Where's my gun?

Why don't I have a gun?

The gunshots from behind continued. The shooter seemed rather mediocre, unable to kill Harvey quickly, but Harvey's health was steadily dropping.

That was enough to panic Harvey, who ran desperately.

While running, Harvey suddenly stumbled and fell!

Damn!

This game actually includes tripping?

Harvey cursed loudly and was about to get up and continue running when he saw a weapon nearby.

A gun!

The gun was called an M9!

Harvey lacked military knowledge, but he had still heard of the famous Blue Star M9!

He picked it up and counter-attacked the opponent head-on, the barrel aligning with the adversary's head!

Bang!

Harvey's gunfire rang out!

Unlike his opponent, who strafed Harvey for a long time without success, as soon as Harvey fired, the guy coming towards him fell straight down!

Headshot!

System notification:

"Harsky used an M9 to kill Yan Yan employee number 9527!"

Harvey's eyes widened, and in that moment, he was thrilled, even more so than successfully taking a girl to the hotel:

"That's what you get for messing with me... That's what you get..."

Harvey wanted to take another shot, but to his surprise, the opponent's corpse turned into a box.

What's this?

A cremation urn?

Just as Harvey wanted to take a closer look, more gunfire erupted from behind.

Harvey was hit, and his health dropped to a precarious level. He hastily began to return fire from cover, but luck was not on his side this time. He didn't manage to headshot his opponent, and to his despair...

He ran out of bullets!

His opponent laughed menacingly, surprisingly a woman's voice: "This game's pretty simple, isn't it? This guy's so bad, I almost feel sorry for killing him."

Harvey was enraged!

He felt insulted!

To be looked down upon by a woman!

He wanted to rush up and fight her melee, but he suddenly found himself next to the box. Inside the box were a gun, several bullets, and even a series of medical supplies for healing.

Huh?

This gun seems to belong to the dead guy.

So, dying in this game turns you into a box, and all your equipment is dropped?

The chance for a comeback kill!

Harvey experienced the first loot of his life. He picked up the gun and went on a firing spree...

"You can't insult the Gun God!"

Harvey shouted while firing away!

The female player did not expect her opponent to become so fierce suddenly and fell to the ground, dead.

"Harsky used a K002 to kill Ying Chrome Beauty!"

Harsky laughed out loud, then quickly took medication to recover health and applied bandages.

He was starting to get a feel for the game.

So, after landing, you need to quickly find equipment. When you kill other players, their equipment drops.

Interesting!

So interesting!

The immense sense of achievement from killing two people made Harvey quiver with excitement!

Deep down, it was as if something had been awakened within him!

Harvey's eyes suddenly burned with intense passion!

He suddenly remembered there were game instructions on the desk; he'd been too lazy to read them before, but now he was thoroughly hooked!

Hiding away.

Harvey minimized the screen to read the rules, and finally, his gaze locked on the last eight characters, feeling a call to duty:

Winner, winner, chicken dinner!

...

On the other side.

Zhao Ying Ge cursed as she took off her headset.

Chen Zhiyu sat beside her, glanced at Zhao Ying Ge's screen, and teased, "Didn't you just say that your opponent was a noob? How did you get killed instead?"

"I was careless. I didn't dodge."

Zhao Ying Ge thought the other party had run out of ammo, but who would have guessed they pulled out another gun? Was it because of that crate?

She stood up to look at other people's screens.

When she saw Lin Yuan's screen, Zhao Ying Ge excitedly said, "Teacher Admirable Fish, you're in the same location as me! The person who just killed me is right there in that warehouse ahead!"

"Really?"

Lin Yuan responded excitedly, "I'll avenge you!"

While others needed to slowly figure things out, Lin Yuan didn't. He had been gathering equipment all this time and had amassed quite a collection of good stuff; he was ready to go on a rampage!

This game was not fully designed based on PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds gameplay.

It also incorporated elements from similar games on Earth, making it even more interesting than the original.

"Awesome!"

Zhao Ying Ge was excited too!

Teacher Admirable Fish was actually going to avenge me!

Swish!

Inside the warehouse.

A shadow flitted by.

Lin Yuan's eyes narrowed, found you!

He immediately took out a grenade, "Watch closely, this is how you play the game."

With that, Lin Yuan threw the grenade out.

Click!

Pulling the pin and warming it up, the grenade arced through the air in a fluid motion!

Zhao Ying Ge was watching Lin Yuan play and upon witnessing this scene, her face was full of admiration:

"So awesome, Teacher Admirable Fish is amazing!"

"Piece of cake."

Lin Yuan rarely felt a sense of accomplishment in the game, but in the next moment, he was stunned.

The grenade he threw hit the wall and then bounced right back, rolling to Lin Yuan's feet.

Bang!

The grenade exploded.

Lin Yuan's character died gloriously.

Lin Yuan's expression was stone-cold.

Zhao Ying Ge was also dumbfounded.

Lin Yuan didn't even scratch his enemy but got killed by his own grenade.

...

While Sun Yaohuo was gaming, he stealthily opened a chat group on his phone.

The group was named "Xian Fish Guard"!

Sun Yaohuo typed quickly: "Hurry over to provide cover, help Teacher Admirable Fish eliminate the opponents, and then feed him the final kill. The approximate coordinates of Teacher Admirable Fish are..."

Suddenly.

System notification: "Great White Shark killed Great White Shark with a grenade!"

Group members: "..."

Sun Yaohuo: "..."

Harvey also saw the message notification.

This Great White Shark seemed to have killed himself?

Quite something.

Harvey cautiously approached and found Great White Shark's crate, opened it, and burst into joy!

This guy had such amazing loot!

How the heck did he die?

Harvey excitedly collected the loot.

But just as Harvey was immersed in excitement, gunshots suddenly rang out nearby.

Before Harvey could react, he was about to die!

What baffled Harvey was that seven or eight figures suddenly popped up around him!

He was being focused fired!?

Harvey roared in despair: "My chicken!"

As he went down, a figure appeared who smacked him on the forehead with a frying pan.

"You dare to loot anyone's pack?"

The person huffed coldly, then looted Harvey.

...

Harvey took off his headset, raging impotently!

"I wanted my chicken dinner!"

At that moment, the bathroom door opened, and a figure wrapped in a towel emerged, her face shyly saying:

"Then let me try..."

The girl slowly bent over.

Harvey was stunned for a moment, then pushed the girl away: "What are you doing?"

The girl was puzzled: "Didn't you say you wanted to chow..."

"Get away!"

Harvey snapped irritably, not giving the girl even a glance, his eyes fixed on the screen!

He swore!

He had to win the next game!

He was very unsatisfied with his loss this round!

If he couldn't have his chicken dinner tonight, he would have trouble falling asleep!

What's the big deal?

Playing games?

With me standing here so temptingly, and you're telling me you want to play games?

Chapter 865: Parachute Simulator

A game usually lasts about half an hour.

After Lin Yuan died, he waited for twenty-five minutes before Sun Yaohuo organized the second round.

On the other side.

After Harvey died, he had been matchmaking and ended up waiting until the start of the second round.

Unlike the first round of newbies pecking at each other.

Everyone had figured out the rules by the second round, and the game became even more intense!

Lin Yuan's expression was grave.

He couldn't accept the way he died in the first round.

In the second round, he decided to prove his strength to everyone!

"Dadadada!"

Entering the second round, Lin Yuan played fiercely. He hid behind a vehicle for cover, picked up a gun, and sprayed bullets towards a figure in the distance!

"Junior brother?"

Sun Yaohuo, who was being sprayed by Lin Yuan, recognized him. After briefly pondering, he deliberately exposed a few flaws.

It couldn't be too obvious, or else the junior brother wouldn't have a good experience.

However.

Many of Lin Yuan's bullets hit the body of the car.

Sun Yaohuo hadn't been killed yet when the car providing cover for Lin Yuan exploded with a bang.

Boom!

Lin Yuan blew up the car and spectacularly killed himself in the process.

Sun Yaohuo was dumbfounded.

"Hurry up, start the next round!"

Lin Yuan took off his headset, a bit irritable, as his luck was too bad today.

Jiang Kui couldn't help but mutter, "Isn't this game designed by Teacher Admirable Fish?"

Everyone: "..."

Meanwhile.

Harvey was making good progress and had already killed four opponents in a row!

His heart was ablaze!

This game was just too damn fun!

A design combining shooting skills, strategy, and survival!

The loser loses everything, while the winner takes all from the loser!

The pleasure Harvey felt while looting his spoils surpassed everything!

Only on the second round.

Harvey was already completely addicted!

He didn't notice that the girl lying on the bed and watching him had a face full of grievance.

Even if he did notice, he wouldn't care.

Women, they just slow down the speed of drawing a gun!

Unfortunately, Harvey still didn't win the chicken dinner in the second round; he was struck down by divine judgment.

Harvey was extremely unwilling and shouted in the lobby, "Another round!"

Tonight at the Yu Dynasty Hotel, it was destined to be a night of chicken dinners.

Not just Harvey was addicted!

The guests in the other rooms were addicted too!

...

Room 701.

A woman in pajamas with her feet up on the chair was excitedly shaking her body:

"This game is too interesting!"

...

Room 803.

A guy with his eyes fixed on the screen, the whites of his eyes veined with blood:

"Just a little bit more, I refuse to believe it today!"

...

Room 904.

A young man tightly gripping the mouse, imitating the sound of gunfire:

"Dadadadada, I'll kill you all!"

Besides.

Room 632...

Room 545...

Similar scenes unfolded in different rooms.

...

The next day.

Two o'clock in the afternoon.

Harvey sent away the girl directly.

After checking out and returning home, the first thing he did was look online for the game "PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds".

However.

When Harvey searched, he only saw the game trailer for "PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds"; the game wouldn't be released until the end of the month!

Harvey was stunned.

He had played "PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds" all night yesterday, but he never managed to get a chicken dinner.

His soul was ablaze with the desire for a chicken dinner!

He was planning to go home and play to his heart's content, only to find out the game hadn't even been released yet!

How could the hotel offer a game that wasn't released yet?

Harvey immediately made a call to the hotel.

"Good day, sir. It's like this, 'PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds' will indeed only go live online at the end of the month, but this game is developed by our hotel owner's company, so currently it's only available for trial within our hotel..."

The person on the other end explained patiently.

Harvey understood: "So it's only playable inside the hotel, is that right? Book a room for me, I want it until the end of the month!"

The person replied politely, "Our hotel is not officially in business yet, you were just trial staying. Unless you become a Diamond member of the hotel directly, we unfortunately don't provide..."

"Isn't it just a membership!"

Harvey was getting impatient: "Just sign me up!"

Right now he didn't want anything else, he was solely focused on winning the game!

After hanging up the call.

Harvey made several more calls.

He wanted to invite friends to play together and bully them a bit—the game was too much fun!

...

Lin Yuan and the others played at the hotel until midnight and simply decided to sleep over, considering that Sun Yaohuo wasn't short on rooms.

The next day.

After finishing lunch at the hotel, everyone prepared to leave.

Passing by the reception, they found it surrounded by people.

A crowd of customers was making a ruckus.

Sun Yaohuo asked the service staff and found out that these customers all wanted to become hotel members to play the game. Having tried the game last night, they all got addicted, yet they absolutely couldn't play it outside the hotel.

"Good grief."

Wei Haoyun looked at Sun Yaohuo with a mix of laughter and helplessness: "Is this a net café or a hotel?"

Sun Yaohuo was also baffled.

His original intention was to just play games with the Yu Dynasty and have a good time. He didn't expect that the gaming experience would be so terrible for his juniors, and despite getting a bunch of fake players to protect him, it ended up being the hotel that spawned the first batch of members because of the game...

But one must not underestimate the power of this first batch of members.

The kind of people who can afford to become Diamond members of a five-star hotel have money to burn. If they got used to the Yu Dynasty, who knows how much profit the hotel could shear from these people in the future.

Chen Zhiyu said, "But this game is really fun!"

Zhao Ying Ge nodded: "I feel this game is definitely going to be a hit upon release. Teacher Admirable Fish is incredible at designing games!"

"Sun Yaohuo."

Jiang Kui looked at Sun Yaohuo with envy: "It seems that you're going to make a lot of money once the hotel opens."

Xia Fan told Sun Yaohuo, "Remember to include me if there's another opportunity to make money in the future."

"Me too!"

Madam Haoyun said hastily.

Sun Yaohuo really had a genius for business.

This move to attract the first group of members through the game was nothing short of brilliant marketing!

Everyone was discussing the game on the surface, but inside they were filled with admiration for Sun Yaohuo's business acumen!

Following Sun Yaohuo, they could surely earn a lot of money!

Lin Yuan remained silent. He was somewhat introspective because last night he played so many rounds of the game and not once did he manage to kill anyone.

Showboating whether in life or death.

Only Admirable Fish was getting beaten up.

A perfectly normal 'PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds,' somehow turned into a parachuting game for him, his whole gameplay being nothing but a parachute simulator.

Every kind of bizarre death.

Dying on landing over and over again.

Finally, when he had a round where he lasted a bit longer, because he found a car to drive, the car flipped.

Death by car accident.

A true car-flipping scene.

This was just a game of luck.

Lin Yuan comforted himself with this thought.

In fact, the basis for his conclusion was quite persuasive:

Because during one round yesterday, Jiang Kui actually won the game with zero kills! She did nothing but collect some equipment and then camped in a hidden corner. As it turned out, her spot was the final zone.

The others fought and more than half died.

The remaining few, failing to outrun the poison gas, simply died from it.

She won the game without realizing why.

If this wasn't a game of luck, what was it?

Pity his own skills and experience constantly met with frustration just because of bad luck.

While Lin Yuan was wallowing in self-pity, Sun Yaohuo suddenly laughed: "If you are really interested, you could buy shares in the hotel. Our hotel is named Yu Dynasty, making use of our common title, and I won't hog it all for myself."

Sun Yaohuo's business dealings never involved others.

The exceptions were his juniors and the members of the Yu Dynasty.

Lin Yuan got interested, as he liked the idea of being a shareholder: "Then I'll invest some shares."

Seeing that Lin Yuan was investing, others followed suit without much thought, all the more because they genuinely believed in Sun Yaohuo's business acumen:

"Count us in!"

"I'll arrange it later!"

Sun Yaohuo agreed very readily.

This wasn't just talk; a few days later, everyone finalized the contracts for their investments and became hotel shareholders!

All of them were big stars, each with some assets.

Lin Yuan held the most shares among them, a full thirty percent, second only to Sun Yaohuo!

What no one had expected was:

Because of the maneuvering of the Yu Dynasty Hotel, even though 'PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds' was not officially online yet, the game had already caught fire within a certain small circle...

Chapter 866: Envy, Jealousy, and Hatred from Peers

"The game recommended by Harvey is really good, I've been playing for three days straight, grabbed the 'chicken dinner' twice, the only downside is that you can only play online with other customers in the hotel, but once the game officially launches there should be more players, getting a Diamond membership at this hotel to play the game ahead of everyone else is pretty awesome."

"I was also lured into the trap by Harvey, this game is really addictive."

"Haven't encountered such an interesting FPS game in a long time, this game brought back the joy I felt playing shooter games for the first time as a kid, the variety of fun designs is impressive!"

"Long live camping for 'chicken'!"

"Damn, what's with the camping, come out and fight fair and square, I hate you sneaky bastards, if you're a man, come out and face off in a gunfight with me!"

"This game is a masterpiece!"

"The design is indeed brilliant, highly entertaining, the intellectual struggle between friends and foes, restraint and patience can defeat opponents with divine shooting skills, and with good luck, you can even win 'chicken dinner' without any kills, both pros and noobs can enjoy it, you can win

by marksmanship, or if that's not your thing, by strategy and tactical awareness, there are so many fun tactics to be developed here, calling it a masterpiece is not an overstatement!"

...

This is a chat group called "Spawn and Turn into a Box".

Established by Harvey.

Harvey became insanely addicted to PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds as soon as he played it!

The purpose of forming the group was to drag more people into the game, to accompany him in playing PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds at the Yu Dynasty Hotel.

Playing games is more fun with more people.

And it's even more fun to play with friends.

Most of the members in the group are young rich second-generation kids, after all, without a certain amount of money and leisure time, you wouldn't go to a five-star hotel just to play games.

In fact.

Not only Harvey.

But also many of the hotel guests who stumbled upon PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds while staying at the Yu Dynasty Hotel became addicted to the game and recommended it to their friends who could afford to play:

"Ol' Wang, come to the Yu Dynasty Hotel!"

"Ol' Luo, oh Ol' Luo, why are you calling me to a hotel room? I'm not interested in group activities!"

"What are you on about? Women are nowhere near as exciting as this thing, I'm calling you to play a game, this game is the shit, I guarantee you'll love it once you've played!"

"What game that has to be played in a hotel?"

"You'll see once you play it, this game is exclusive to this hotel, it's really damn fun!"

"I'm here."

"Hurry into the game."

"Wow, this game is impressive, I'm going to call my cousin to play too!"

"I didn't lie, right? The core gameplay of this genre is about direct gunfights, whoever has better skills usually wins, with almost no randomness, a newbie versus a veteran is just a dead man walking, this game has ultra-realistic graphics, a greater variety of weapons and gear, it really plays on the player's thinking and strategy, you can camp or go aggressive, it's super friendly to gameplay-impaired players like us!"

...

Very quickly!

PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds became popular among some wealthy second-generation youngsters!

They all started calling their friends.

From a friend to that friend's friend, and then to the friend's friend's friend.

Just like that!

One tells ten!

Ten tell a hundred!

In just one week, the Yu Dynasty Hotel was packed with players here for PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds!

...

Inside the hotel.

In the general manager's office.

Wang Yu was startled as he looked at the performance report:

"This doesn't make sense, our hotel hasn't officially opened yet, we're just in the stage of selecting lucky customers for a trial stay, how did we suddenly get so many Diamond members?"

"There aren't many lucky customers left, this group is here to play the game!"

The assistant was somewhat excited, "Didn't the chairman install a game that hasn't been officially released in the marketplace on the computers in our hotel? It's this game that has attracted so many customers!"

"A game?"

Wang Yu was flabbergasted. These people applied for the expensive Diamond membership just to play games in the hotel?

Business genius!

These two words suddenly popped into Wang Yu's mind.

Many in the business world call Sun Yaohuo a "business genius"!

Wang Yu had always felt this label was overrated. His own chairman Sun Yaohuo seemed pretty ordinary no matter how he looked at it. He even suspected that luck played a big part in Sun's success, especially after seeing how he whimsically removed the famous paintings in the suites because of one comment from Teacher Admirable Fish.

But at this moment.

Wang Yu viewed Sun Yaohuo with new respect!

Turns out the chairman really was a business genius, he had the idea of using an unreleased game to attract so many customers to apply for Diamond memberships!

Diamond memberships aren't cheap!

The hotel policy states that if customers want to skip accumulating days of stay, they must pay fifty-thousand yuan in one go to become a Diamond member!

And under normal circumstances.

A standard room at the Blue Star five-star hotel costs just a thousand yuan a night, how can you easily convince customers to charge 50,000 yuan and become members in one go?

This performance seems too easy, right?

The assistant said excitedly, "I heard that this game was designed by Teacher Admirable Fish from the chairman's Yuan Huo Game Company, so ultimately it's Teacher Admirable Fish's game design that's interesting enough to make customers willing to spend the money!"

"Teacher Admirable Fish?"

Wang Yu was stunned for a moment, he seemed to have a sudden understanding of why Sun Yaohuo would remove those masterpieces from the suite as soon as Teacher Admirable Fish said a word.

The assistant wasn't wrong.

Teacher Admirable Fish is the key!

Sun Yaohuo's idea was indeed good, but such an operation is actually very difficult to execute, even hard to replicate.

Where can a newly established five-star hotel find a game that can directly attract a bunch of people to joyfully open Diamond memberships?

...

A new five-star hotel has emerged in Su City!

This is significant news for the entire hotel industry of Su City.

As one of Blue Star's more economically developed cities, Su City already had a total of twenty-nine five-star hotels.

The Yu Dynasty Hotel is the thirtieth five-star hotel in Su City.

Seeing the Yu Dynasty Hotel, many people became aware of the crisis.

However, a brand-new five-star hotel didn't pose a big threat in its early stages.

The old-brand Blue Star chain five-star hotels in Su City were the first choice of the rich and prestigious guests, so initially, the counterparts in the five-star hotel industry didn't take the emergence of the Yu Dynasty Hotel too seriously, they just paid a little attention.

However.

Just by paying a little attention, the industry peers unexpectedly discovered:

The Yu Dynasty Hotel hadn't even officially opened yet, and there was already a sight of customers flocking in!

What's happening?

How can a new hotel have such traffic?

Hotel industry peers immediately investigated the reason.

This kind of investigation wasn't difficult, and soon the peers learned the specific reason, but this reason left all the hotel industry peers in Su City collectively dumbfounded, even doubting if they had heard wrong!

"A game?"

"Those customers go to the newly-opened Yu Dynasty five-star hotel just for the damn game?"

"Is this Yu Dynasty Hotel a five-star hotel, or an e-sports hotel?"

"Just for this game, a bunch of customers became Diamond members without even blinking an eye?"

"The game can't be played outside for the time being?"

"Seriously! There's such a move?"

"With such fancy tricks, using a game to attract customers is just temporary. Not to mention that if a game is played for too long, it gets boring. With a room rate over a thousand yuan a night, who would want to be the sucker over time, the rich are not fools. Besides, this game is said to be released soon, and by that time, it will be playable everywhere, even the small internet cafes could do a night for seven yuan!"

"They have lowered the class of five-star hotels!"

"This play is too low, once the game loses its novelty, let's see what they use to attract customers. If they can, they might as well change the hotel into an internet cafe!"

...

While peers were discussing.

There was a bit of sourness in their hearts.

Put simply, it's envy, jealousy, and hatred!

Whether or not it's about class, being able to attract so many customers to open Diamond memberships at a five-star hotel in one fell swoop, any peer would inevitably covet such performance!

However...

Although everyone was speaking jealously, their conclusions were not intentionally pessimistic, but pragmatically judged.

The novelty brought by the game is temporary.

Once the Yu Dynasty Hotel officially opens and the game is officially released.

It will be extremely difficult for this new five-star hotel to attract customers then!

The patrons of five-star hotels are always picky. Without something special, why would they choose a new hotel with no foundation?

Because the hotel's internet is fast?

The manager of a well-established five-star hotel scoffed:

Do they really think that with some money and a five-star hotel, they can make a fortune every day?

Making money is not that easy!

Neither is it that easy to survive in this industry.

The waters of the five-star hotel industry run deep!

Chapter 867: Five Paintings

Lin Yuan certainly didn't know about the situation over at the hotel.

As a shareholder, he didn't like to inquire into the specific operations of the company, even though he was the hotel's second largest shareholder—

The shareholding structure of the Yu Dynasty Hotel was not complex.

Xia Fan, Jiang Kui, Chen Zhiyu, Wei Haoyun, and Zhao Ying Ge each held 6%.

Combined, they accounted for 30% of the shares.

Lin Yuan alone held another 30% of the shares.

As for Sun Yaohuo himself, he held 40% in his capacity as chairman.

In fact, Sun Yaohuo wanted to give Lin Yuan even more, but Lin Yuan felt that 30% was already quite a lot, especially considering he was not putting in the effort to manage the hotel—

Although it probably couldn't be said that way.

Lin Yuan indeed had to make an effort.

The Yu Dynasty Hotel had a total of five top-level suites.

Within the hotel's design, the five top-level suites corresponded to five classic national paintings.

Because Lin Yuan felt that the quality of Sun Yaohuo's five paintings was not up to par, the original national paintings were taken down.

In other words:

Apart from the completed "Gallop," which was ready to be given to the chairman, Lin Yuan also needed to paint five more national paintings to fill the void left by the original artworks, which were to be hung on the walls of the five top-level suites of the hotel.

This was a big project.

Taking into account that the hotel was going to officially open next month, Lin Yuan directly exchanged for an Energy Potion with the System to work overtime on this daunting task.

Lin Yuan had already decided on the contents of the five paintings:

Ink Shrimp Picture!

Herding Horses Picture!

Phoenix's Pride!

Spring Tree and Autumn Frost Picture!

Eagle Spreading Wings and Swallowing Rivers and Mountains Picture!

The Ink Shrimp Picture used shrimp as the prototype, which Lin Yuan once painted using Qi Baishi's character card, gaining some insights.

The Herding Horses Picture was similar to the Gallop, only with the number of horses increased.

As for the remaining three pictures, audiences who have seen "Flirting Scholar" will not find them unfamiliar.

All three pictures were mentioned in that movie, and the protagonist Tang Bohu drew them one by one, it's just that Shadow's painting skills had not reached the Master Level at that time, so those few pictures did not attract much attention when the movie was released.

Now.

Lin Yuan possessed Master Level painting skills and also had the Paintfection skill to enchant his Master Level painting skills, so displaying the unique features of these paintings was not difficult.

Lin Yuan was simply having fun.

Choosing subjects to paint was one thing, but he specifically chose the paintings mentioned in "Flirting Scholar".

However, it turned out to be a serendipitous decision.

The choice of these paintings was actually not bad, in fact, it could be said to be very suitable.

Those who could afford five-star top-level suites were likely to be very wealthy, and such people mostly liked those paintings that looked supremely grandiose, preferably filled with overwhelming power and an invincible aura!

It just so happened that Tang Bohu's works fit the bill, with a style that was luxurious and somewhat flashy.

An eagle.

A phoenix.

Some people really liked this style.

Even Herding Horses fit this style.

As for Ink Shrimp and Spring Tree and Autumn Frost, these were to add a variety of elements; not everything could be extremely domineering in style, as the delicate beauty of small, fresh, and eternal works were also appreciated by some.

With the Paintfection skill,

These paintings would present completely different artistic conceptions to different viewers, without any loss of quality.

Having made up his mind,

Lin Yuan once again secluded himself to paint, even refusing invitations from the Yu Dynasty team to play video games with remarkable self-discipline.

Five days!

Ten days!

Twenty days!

Half a month!

Lin Yuan didn't leave his house or step outside his door, deeply immersed in painting and beyond extrication.

And after this period of focused effort, one masterpiece after another was gradually born.

Write songs?

Out of the question.

Becoming Maestro; clinching twelve consecutive championships; sweeping through music festivals!

Now, Lin Yuan was not very interested in the seasonal music chart.

...

While Lin Yuan was focused on painting, the hotel business was still booming and even reaching new heights!

At the end of January.

Harvey's newly created Landing Box chat group suddenly got frantic!

"Damn!"

"Please, I'm begging you guys, stop recommending friends to play 'PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds,' I can't even book a room anymore!"

"Damn it!"

"I had something come up at home yesterday, so I canceled my room, and now today when I come to open a room, there aren't any left!"

"Same here!"

"I just want to eat chicken!"

"It's all your fault, constantly recommending this game to others—now everyone's scrambling to play, and I can't get a turn!"

"Heh, good thing I'm clever, I've kept my room, it's just a thousand bucks a day."

"You beasts, the hotel's 500 rooms are no longer enough!"

...

Yes.

With word of mouth over the past month, the Yu Dynasty Hotel had its first full house!

Five hundred rooms were all booked by guests!

Now, 'PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds' could quickly form a match just with players inside the hotel, unlike initially when Sun Yaohuo had to scrape together staff to fill in!

"The game feedback is really positive, I feel like our second game is also going to be a hit!"

The Yuanhuo game team walked into a meeting room at the hotel, and seeing the situation, couldn't help but slap their thighs in excitement!

The hotel was like a pilot.

A good response from the pilot indicated that the game would have great potential after it went live!

"Looks like my Dad gave me a good name."

Sun Yaohuo joked about his own name, then turned to the Yuanhuo game director and said seriously:

"I have an idea."

"Please, boss, go ahead!"

"I want to enhance Teacher Admirable Fish's gaming experience—he tends to land and become a box easily, so while others play for half an hour, my junior can usually only play for about ten minutes..."

"Huh?"

"Those ten minutes, I want to make sure my junior has fun, so I thought about designing some cool skins for him, the kind that are limited editions and can't be used by others, and the box should ideally be gold-colored, that's more domineering."

"..."

The director of Yuanhuo games had yet to speak when Wang Yu, who had been following Lin Yuan, got excited. He looked at Sun Yaohuo with an admiring and heated gaze:

"That's brilliant!"

He expressed his admiration wholeheartedly: "Chairman, this move is so smart, I'm truly fortunate to follow you!"

Huh?

What's brilliant?

Sun Yaohuo felt confused when he saw Wang Yu stand up, moving excitedly, and spouting energetically:

"Recently, our competitors have been saying that after the game is released, our hotel will lose its appeal to customers, but Chairman, this move makes great arrangements!"

"What arrangements?"

The director of Yuanhuo games was also puzzled.

Wang Yu said unreservedly: "That's where we can't compare to the Chairman. His idea is to design exclusive hotel skins. You know how gaming characters have skins, right? We develop exclusive skins for players who play 'PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds' at our hotel, which can only be used inside our hotel. For some rich folks, not being able to buy better gear than others with money, getting top-tier skins that other players can only envy is a benefit. Surely customers will come to our hotel specifically to play the game for these limited edition skins. These skins in-game are a

symbol of status, even the box you become after dying is different—don't you guys think it's a clever move?"

Wang Yu truly admired Sun Yaohuo's brilliance!

Calling the Chairman a business genius wasn't without reason!

"So that's it!"

The Yuanhuo games director's eyes lit up: "There are no significant technical obstacles, we can design exclusive skins for the hotel right away. After the game release, others won't be able to use them, they are just for use inside our hotel—Chairman, your strategy is indeed brilliant!"

Sun Yaohuo looked bewildered.

When did it get so complicated?

I just wanted to improve my junior's gaming experience.

Oh well.

Let it be.

As long as my junior's gaming experience improves, that's good enough.

Thinking this, Sun Yaohuo's phone suddenly rang.

"Junior."

Sun Yaohuo motioned for everyone to be silent, then stood up.

Lin Yuan's voice came through the phone: "Senior, come to my house to pick up the paintings."

It was the end of the month.

The Yu Dynasty Hotel was about to open;

The game 'PlayerUnknown's Battlegrounds' was about to be released;

Lin Yuan, after spending a month and using the system's Energy Potions, finally completed five traditional Chinese paintings following 'Paintfection,' ready to be gifted to Sun Yaohuo—

These were the five paintings infused with the essence of Paintfection.

Chapter 868: Sky-High Priced Suite

Evening.

Sun Yaohuo, carrying a large and small bundle of gifts, arrived at the Lin family's villa and excitedly rang the doorbell.

He had been the one to help his junior buy this villa.

However, it was Sun Yaohuo's first visit since the house was renovated.

Who might open the door, the junior or one of his family members?

A smile was already on Sun Yaohuo's face, ready to greet them at first sight.

Click.

The door opened.

Sun Yaohuo paused, and then with a strange expression, he lowered his head to look at who was opening the door—

Antarctica.

His mom, who was watching TV on the sofa, stood up and came over with a smile, "Oh, it's Yaohuo! Come in, come in. This dog is quicker than me, always rushing to open the door for guests."

"Good evening."

Lin Xuan and Lin Yao, who were watching TV with their mom, also politely stood up to greet him, having previously dined with him at the Yu Dynasty's seabed restaurant.

"Good evening, everyone!"

Sun Yaohuo quickly recovered his smile and didn't dwell on how a dog could skillfully open a door:

"Auntie, I brought you a massager, and there are some supplements in this package; older sister, I have some cosmetics here, they have a good reputation in the market; younger sister, the snacks are imported from various continents, I'm not sure if they'll suit your taste; and this black bag contains junior brother's gift..."

"It's enough that you came, why bring gifts."

The mom's smile grew warmer, and both sisters also smiled warmly, looking at Sun Yaohuo with kindness.

"My junior brother's family is my family, please don't be so polite with me."

Sun Yaohuo glanced around the living room quietly wondering what was missing and quietly decided to bring it himself next time:

"Junior bro called me over..."

"He's upstairs, I'll take you there."

Lin Xuan led Sun Yaohuo upstairs, while Antarctica made a few sounds at him.

I forgot to bring a gift for Antarctica, next time I definitely can't forget, Sun Yaohuo reflected on himself and then gave Antarctica an apologetic smile.

"Senior."

Upon reaching upstairs, Lin Yuan opened the door to his study, having heard the sounds from outside:

"Come in."

"You guys chat."

Lin Xuan waved her hand and went back downstairs, while Sun Yaohuo followed Lin Yuan into his study and chuckled:

"Junior brother asked me over the phone to come collect a painting, where did you..."

He couldn't finish his sentence.

Sun Yaohuo was suddenly stunned.

Inside Lin Yuan's study, there were five paintings hanging.

Ink Shrimp, Herd of Horses, Phoenix's Pride, Spring Trees and Autumn Frosts, Eagle Spreading Wings and Swallowing Rivers and Mountains...

At that moment,

these five paintings were right before Sun Yaohuo's eyes.

Sun Yaohuo's eyes widened, his lips quivering slightly without his control, even his breathing grew heavier!

"These paintings..."

"Shadow painted them."

Lin Yuan was already prepared with his explanation:

"The hotel's five suites, previously hadn't we taken down five paintings? We can replace them with these later on, what do you think of these paintings?"

What do you think of the paintings?

Sun Yaohuo opened his mouth, seemingly trying to arrange his thoughts, but his mind was somewhat in disarray, barely able to follow basic logic, as if his very soul had been sucked away by these five paintings!

"Good..."

"Good..."

"Good..."

After much thought, Sun Yaohuo only managed to give this simple assessment.

He couldn't professionally critique what made these paintings good.

All he knew was that whenever he glanced at any one of them, the profound artistic conception within would instantly engulf him, almost as if he was transported into the world of the painting!

For example, the Phoenix's Pride.

Standing before this painting, Sun Yaohuo felt an unprecedented sense of smallness.

In the vast universe beneath, the phoenix bathed in divine fire, exuding a dominating aura!

He even felt a bit hot!

As if the phoenix in the painting was alive, ready to soar at any moment!

Sun Yaohuo didn't understand paintings!

Not at all, a complete novice!

Actually, most people are novices.

He had also seen some paintings by so-called famous artists before.

Not to mention the distant past,

take, for example, the several paintings that were recently removed from the hotel's top suite, weren't they also claimed to be by renowned artists from Zhao Continent?

Yet Sun Yaohuo really couldn't see anything exquisite about those paintings.

All he could say was that those paintings were quite pretty, but beyond that, he couldn't discern anything else.

Even the previous paintings by Shadow, Sun Yaohuo also had seen them, such as the "Running Horses" displayed at the art exhibition.

After all, Shadow was a good friend of his junior, and Sun Yaohuo actually paid a lot of attention privately.

However, even for that "Running Horses," which had gathered countless praises at the art exhibition, Sun Yaohuo merely found it quite nice, but he felt nothing deeper.

Yet, these five paintings were different!

Even Sun Yaohuo, who completely lacked knowledge in painting, could feel the extraordinary nature of these five paintings!

At this moment.

For the first time in his life, Sun Yaohuo was shocked by artworks!

No wonder some people become obsessed with calligraphy and painting, appearing intoxicated with art, even willing to spend a fortune on it!

In the past, Sun Yaohuo thought that it was just some wealthy people pretending to be cultured.

However, at this moment.

His heart suddenly surged with an instinctive intention—he actually wanted to collect these five paintings!

No matter how much it cost, he had to get them!

Not right.

His junior seemed to say...

these paintings were meant to be hung in the hotel?

Sun Yaohuo suddenly became excited, shaking his head vigorously at Lin Yuan, "We can't hang them in the hotel, junior. Such fine works would be wasted on the walls of a hotel, and if they get damaged, that would be the end of them!"

Are you kidding?

Keeping these paintings private and putting them in a hotel?

It would be a crime against nature!

Lin Yuan smiled, Sun Yaohuo's reaction gave him a good idea of the effect of Paintfection.

"It's okay, I can paint them again."

As soon as he finished speaking, he realized the inappropriateness of his words and discreetly corrected himself:

"Let Shadow paint them again."

"But, this... this is also..."

Sun Yaohuo still felt it was highly improper to put these five paintings in a hotel suite!

"Let it be."

Lin Yuan spoke, "Senior, take the paintings and hang them later. After all, the hotel is opening in a couple of days."

"To really hang them?"

Sun Yaohuo bit his lip, his eyes suddenly becoming sharp, "Since the junior insists, I must ensure these five paintings have the best insurance and have guests sign a compensation agreement when they check in!"

"Hmm."

"Also, our pricing is too low!"

We need to raise the price!

Raise it significantly!

Yu Dynasty Hotel being a five-star hotel, has five top suites, normally priced at twenty thousand yuan for one night.

This is the standard price for top suites in all major five-star hotels in Su City.

However, now, with these five paintings, Sun Yaohuo felt that the pricing was far too cheap!

Only twenty thousand yuan to stay in a room decorated with such artworks?

Dream on!

Any one of these five paintings couldn't possibly be so cheap!

Lin Yuan was curious, "How much do you want to charge per night?"

Sun Yaohuo pronounced each word clearly, "For one night, five hundred thousand!"

There are a few super five-star hotels in Zhong Continent with the price for one night in a top suite reaching over a million.

Sun Yaohuo planned to set the rate for the top suites at Yu Dynasty Hotel at five hundred thousand per night!

After all, the hotel's facilities had not yet reached the level of the top hotels in Blue Star.

Yet these paintings were too rare!

Sun Yaohuo didn't think other hotels had such artworks; only Yu Dynasty Hotel in Blue Star had these kind of paintings!

"Five hundred thousand..."

Lin Yuan thought for a moment and said nothing.

Normally, this price would definitely be exaggerated; there's no other hotel in Su City with such an outrageous price. But Paintfection, this thing, is far more exaggerated than the price itself.

It's merely a matter of exclusive commodity.

Several billion wouldn't even come close to exchanging for a Paintfection.

Paintfection is a special skill that is very difficult to measure with price.

From this perspective, the price is actually reasonable.

Chapter 869: The Eagle Spreads Its Wings with Ambition to Dominate the World

January 28.

The Yu Dynasty Hotel held its grand opening ceremony.

Lin Yuan directly led Sun Yaohuo and others, promoting it under the whole name of the Yu Dynasty.

Using their inherent advantage as celebrity shareholders for promotion was definitely a good strategy.

The publicity campaign for the opening ceremony was very successful.

The opening of the Yu Dynasty Hotel attracted countless reporters.

Even before the ceremony had ended, there was already free media publicity online.

"The Yu Dynasty has such great connections!"

"They even collaborated to open a hotel!"

"Nowadays, many celebrities like to do business."

"A hotel opened by Fish Daddy, I must stay there if I get the chance."

"A five-star, unaffordable for me."

"A five-star, where a single room per night costs thousands, made for rich people."

"Haha, 'Yu Dynasty Hotel', what a straightforward and forceful name!"

"Will there be a Yu Dynasty Group in the future?"

The news sparked a lot of discussion.

But it was just that—discussion.

The vast majority of people were reluctant to stay at a five-star hotel, especially since this one was in Su City. Would people really travel all the way there just to stay in a hotel?

Moreover, these days, celebrities doing business was nothing rare at all.

Celebrities with a bit of status all had their own businesses, like opening hotpot restaurants, so nobody found it peculiar.

However, some fans who could afford it were quite interested and were shouting about going to stay there.

This was exactly what the Yu Dynasty aimed for with their promotion.

Sun Yaohuo did not use his status as a celebrity shareholder to hype this up.

The rates for standard rooms at the hotel were no different from other five-star hotels.

The real difference lay in those few top-tier suites, although the prices of these suites were not mentioned during the opening ceremony; outsiders didn't know the details and would probably just think that the Yu Dynasty was just robbing them.

In fact.

People were already furiously accusing the Yu Dynasty of robbing them.

"Why doesn't your hotel just rob me directly? Robbing my money? 500,000 a night? Have you gone mad or have I? Am I someone who has never stayed in a five-star hotel suite?"

At the front desk of the Yu Dynasty Hotel.

Harvey glared harshly at the staff.

The majority of the Yu Dynasty Hotel's customers came to play games, all staying in private rooms.

Harvey was the only customer who booked a top-tier suite to play games; he could accept 20,000 a night, even felt it offered high value for money.

Setting aside the game's allure.

The hotel environment was indeed good, stylishly decorated and the service was quite satisfactory.

Especially the several restaurants within the hotel, which were outstanding. It was unclear where the hotel had found such talented chefs, definitely a cut above other five-star restaurants in Su City.

But...

500,000 a night for a top-tier suite was just excessive!

Harvey had been taken aback by the staff's notice of the price hike today and even doubted whether he had misheard, which was why he was arguing now and also processing his checkout.

He was better off not staying at this hotel!

He could afford 500,000, but he wasn't about to let others take him for a fool just to play a game.

Moreover, the game would be released in a few days.

By then he could play anywhere, enduring a few more days was not a problem.

As for switching to a standard room?

Sorry, but Harvey, as someone who frequents hotels, never considered staying in anything but suites. When it comes to style, he was very particular.

"Sorry, sir!"

The staff carefully explained, as they wouldn't want to offend a customer like Harvey:

"Because our rooms have been upgraded, there's a painting inside that's very special..."

"Pfft."

Harvey laughed sarcastically, cutting off the other person: "You're raising the price just because you hung a painting? Even if you put Zhao Continent's finest painting in there, I'm not interested!"

Fool's play!

He checked out and left immediately!

Watching Harvey leave, the hotel front desk staff couldn't help but smirk:

"What in the world is this?"

"What exactly is the chairman thinking, setting the price at 500,000 a night? Who will want to stay in our hotel's top-tier suites in the future?"

"I guess those suites won't see any guests anytime soon."

"Speaking of which, what's the deal with those paintings?"

"I have no idea, I'm not privy to that information. The chairman has assigned specific people to take care of those rooms, even the cleaning staff have been carefully selected, the chairman attaches great importance to those rooms."

Not only was Harvey baffled.

Many people inside the hotel were baffled too.

There was absolutely no explanation from above, just one instruction for them:

If a guest wants to stay in the top-tier suite but complains about the price being too high, just rave about the painting in the room as if it's a miraculous masterpiece unmatched and unique in the world."

Are they asking us to fool idiots?

Trying to fool whoever they can?

...

That evening.

A private jet landed at the airport of Su City.

This private plane was one of the top long-range jets from Blue Star, currently worth about two hundred million.

The owner of the plane was Wang Xin.

A first-tier tycoon from Zhao Continent.

This man was not very tall, around 5'7", a bit portly, disembarking with a beer belly.

Following Wang Xin was a woman and a girl.

The woman was Wang Xin's wife, and the girl, his daughter.

Wang Xin was in Qin Continent to talk business.

Following Zhao Continent's inclusion in the Blue Star merger, Wang Xin was looking to make some investments in Qin Continent and had also brought his family for a tour.

Flanking Wang Xin and his family were several bodyguards tasked with their safety, a standard arrangement among tycoons of his level.

Nearby.

Wang Xin's secretary smiled and said, "Boss, the Hi-Class Excellence Hotel has sent someone to pick us up."

Chapter 869: The Eagle Spreads Its Wings, Aspiring to Dominate the World Picture\_2

Wang Xin nodded, about to speak, when his daughter, who was playing on her phone, suddenly said:

"Daddy, can we switch to another hotel?"

Wang Xin was taken aback. "Why switch hotels?"

Wang Yue showed him her phone screen: "I want to stay at this one!"

Displayed prominently on her screen was the news that the Yu Dynasty Hotel had just held its grand opening ceremony today.

After Zhao Continent merged, Wang Yue quickly became fascinated with Xian Yu.

She had watched all the videos of Xian Yu on "The Masked Singer" and his concert videos over the past few days.

Just on the plane, she had watched "Sugar's" MV and been blown away by the handsomeness.

The more she learned about this Maestro from Qin Continent, the more Wang Yue liked Xian Yu. It just so happened that she saw the news about Xian Yu leading the opening of a five-star Yu Dynasty Hotel and naturally harbored the thought of staying there for a night.

"Miss, the rooms at Boyue have already been booked..." The secretary said helplessly.

"I don't care, I want to stay at the Yu Dynasty Hotel. You promised, Dad, that you would do as I say on this trip!"

Wang Yue began to act spoiled.

Wang Xin couldn't help but smile and actually felt quite pleased that his daughter was acting spoiled with him:

"Okay, Secretary Liu, cancel Boyue, and let's stay at this Yu Dynasty Hotel tonight. Let's drive over first."

"Understood."

The secretary made a phone call.

Twenty minutes later, Wang Xin and his family arrived at the Yu Dynasty Hotel.

"The environment isn't bad."

The Wang family entered the hotel.

Wang Yue's mother looked around and then spoke.

Wang Yue lifted her chin: "The hotel opened by our Teacher Admirable Fish will certainly not be bad!"

Wang Yue's mother chuckled: "All you think about is celebrity idols, how many times have you changed idols?"

"It's different this time!"

Wang Yue's expression was serious: "I'm not changing idols anymore. Teacher Admirable Fish is my only idol from now on!"

Mom teased: "That's what you said last time too."

Wang Yue indignant: "Mom!"

As the mother and daughter were chatting, the secretary's slightly dissatisfied voice came from ahead:

"A suite for five hundred thousand a night, are you serious?"

"What, five hundred thousand?"

Wang Yue's mother asked.

Wang Xin frowned from ahead:

"It's the price of the hotel suites. They say there's a painting in each of the few suites, very precious."

To Wang Xin, a suite costing five hundred thousand a night was nothing; after all, he had stayed in a suite that cost a million a night in Zhong Continent.

But in Su City, a newly opened five-star hotel charging such a price was like fleecing people.

Even valuable paintings shouldn't be used like this.

Moreover, although Wang Xin was a wealthy man in Zhao Continent and liked to use paintings and calligraphy to decorate his facade, that was merely for appearances, so others wouldn't say that he, Wang Xin, was a nouveau riche without any cultural heritage.

This was Wang Xin's deepest pain.

Wang Xin was different from many other wealthy individuals with family inheritance.

He had gained his initial capital for starting a business from selling several houses compensated by the government due to demolitions, resulting in his considerable family wealth.

Privately.

There were often people in the rich circles of Zhao Continent who called him a nouveau riche, a label Wang Xin detested the most.

To lose that label, Wang Xin liked to spend money to purchase famous calligraphy and paintings and other valuable art pieces, which were highly esteemed in Zhao Continent, to decorate his image; not for his own enjoyment but for others to see.

Actually, he looked down upon these things.

Famous calligraphy and paintings—he couldn't understand them. They were just better-looking writings and paintings, that's all.

Therefore, the hotel staff's fantastical boasting about the paintings in the rooms didn't spark any interest in Wang Xin.

"It costs five hundred thousand for one night; why is it so expensive?"

Even his daughter Wang Yue couldn't help but be astonished: "That's my monthly allowance!"

"Let's go to a different one."

Wang Yue's mother shook her head.

Wang Yue hesitated for a moment, then gritted her teeth: "Let's stay here. I'll pay for tonight."

Mom was displeased: "Wang Yue! Stop being capricious. Isn't your pocket money still given to you by your father?"

"I... Alright..."

Wang Yue looked down, dejected.

Wang Xin saw his daughter's disappointment and his heart softened. He turned to knock on the front desk counter:

"Book us a suite."

He had made so much money just for his family.

It didn't matter if the hotel was fleecing them; seeing his daughter distressed was something he couldn't bear.

"Ah... You... Which one do you want?"

The voice of the front desk staff changed!

They didn't expect there would really be someone willing to pay five hundred thousand a night for a room!

The secretary, standing to the side, couldn't help but facepalm.

He realized then that his boss was probably the first sucker since the hotel opened.

He asked, "What rooms do you have?"

The staff quickly replied: "There are five rooms available for selection, including 'Ink Shrimp', 'Herd of Horses', 'Trees of Spring and Frost of Autumn', 'Pride of the Phoenix', and 'Eagle Spreading Its Wings'..."

All so fancy-schmancy.

Wang Xin said indifferently: "Let's take 'Eagle Spreading Its Wings.'"

Businessmen like these kinds of auspicious implications, and even though he understood it was a tax on stupidity, what mattered was that his daughter liked it.

"Alright, you'll need to sign a contract before checking in. The paintings in our hotel are insured, and the compensation price for any damage is very high..."

A contract to stay in a hotel?

The secretary became angry: "Don't go too far!"

Wang Xin waved his hand and, after glancing over the contract handed to him, signed it directly.

A few minutes later.

Someone came to lead the way.

The family entered the elevator.

Upon opening the suite's door, the Wang family went in.

The secretary and others took standard rooms nearby, with two bodyguards assigned to guard the door of Wang Xin's suite.

Chapter 869: The Eagle Spreads Its Wings and Dominates the World Figure\_3

...

Inside the suite.

Wang Xin's family looked around.

His wife complained, "Apart from pretty decorations, this room is no different from other five-star hotel suites. We've really run into a rip-off today."

"I think it's okay."

Wang Yue plopped down on the couch.

She didn't have the slightest awareness of being a die-hard fan, just considered it as footing the bill for her idol.

Wang Xin said, "Alright, as long as our daughter is happy, let's rest early."

His wife disagreed, "No way, I have to see their painting. They talked it up so much, where is it?"

"You look by yourself."

Wang Xin was not interested at all.

He headed straight for the bedroom.

However.

As he passed through the corridor, he suddenly stopped and turned his head to look at the wall on his left!

"What is this..."

Wang Xin's gaze froze!

On the wall.

The painting that spanned nearly the whole wall, quietly sitting behind a pane of glass.

Standing in front of this painting.

Wang Xin subconsciously held his breath, his heartbeat quickened, and an indescribable feeling rose in his heart!

In a trance.

Wang Xin felt as if the scenes around him were changing rapidly!

One moment he was standing in the hotel suite's corridor, and the next, he seemed to be amidst the boundless universe.

The painting seemed no longer just a painting, but had transformed into a real scene!

He saw mountains and rivers under his feet!

The continuous mountain range without an end!

Rugged rocks winding and undulating like a great dragon!

The lake water echoed in the valleys, and above, waterfalls fell like the Milky Way, churning countless sprays that leaped and danced, resonating in one's eardrums!

High above!

The image was sometimes blurry, sometimes clear, with layer upon layer of clouds floating.

The wind that blew from the distance, swift and gentle, sequences of hard and soft. One moment roaring through the mountains, and the next nurturing the heart like a gentle rain...

Pines grew on the precipices.

The cliffs were steep beyond measure, countless pines stood proudly.

They were like the mountain range's fangs, bravely facing all the wind and storms!

Suddenly, the cry of an eagle resonated in the distance!

An eagle approached, its grey feathers extraordinarily magnificent!

The eagle's sharp gaze, almost tangible, pierced the clouds, patrolling between the cloud layers and mountains.

Its mighty wings beat powerfully in the wind, each movement full of vigor, as if the ruler of this realm had descended upon the earth!

In this moment.

Wang Xin felt as if he were the eagle, breathing along with the wilderness, his chest feeling an unprecedented sense of breadth, his thoughts lofty and unfettered in the high skies, dominating the countless rises and falls of the vast land!

The eagle spreads its wings!

It swallows mountains and rivers in its aura!

His gaze fixated on the eight big characters in the upper right corner of the painting, Wang Xin finally came to his senses, feeling a surge of strength fill his body!

"Dad, what are you looking at?"

His daughter Wang Yue's voice called out.

His wife also walked over to Wang Xin unconsciously.

And when both of them saw the painting on the wall, they were just as astounded as Wang Xin had been previously.

This painting seemed to possess a magical power, instantly capturing the viewer's mind, savoring the majestic scene!

"Secretary Liu, call the manager right away!"

Wang Xin kept staring at the painting, but suddenly took out his phone and dialed his secretary's number, his tone filled with intense excitement!

The secretary said quickly, "Boss, please don't be angry, rest assured, I'll arrange for it right away. I will make sure this hotel's reputation is tarnished. They dare to charge an outrageous price of five hundred thousand, no wealthy person will..."

"There's nothing wrong with the hotel, five hundred thousand is not expensive!"

Wang Xin cut off Secretary Liu's words, "I want you to ask the hotel manager if they're willing to sell the painting in this room. If he can't decide, have the owner of the hotel negotiate with me!"

Huh?

The secretary on the other end was dumbfounded.

## Chapter 870: The First "Full House"

"This painting is incredible!"

As Wang Xin hung up the phone, Wang Yue's excited voice rose, her eyes almost pressed against the glass!

"Unbelievable!"

Wang Xin's wife looked at the painting, her eyes full of obsession, murmuring to herself, "How can there be such a painting in the world..."

Wang Xin said nothing.

He and his family stared at the painting, breathing growing heavier, the more they looked, the more intoxicated they became, the more they felt overwhelmed!

Five hundred thousand a night?

He felt the money was well spent!

No!

Wang Xin even had a feeling of having made a profit!

As a Zhao Continent tycoon, a socialite, Wang Xin had seen quite a few works claiming to be of Master Level, and had even bought many so-called masterpieces to decorate his place.

At the gatherings of the wealthy.

He always heard people discussing the artistic conception of some Master Level paintings and calligraphy.

However, even though he outwardly agreed with others' assessments, he actually never agreed inside; buying paintings and calligraphy was just to put on airs of refinement and not to be seen as a crass upstart without a shred of culture.

But today!

Wang Xin understood for the first time!

A painting can indeed shock one's soul and convey an artistic conception!

Yes!

Artistic conception.

For the first time, Wang Xin experienced the so-called artistic conception!

It was an incomparably marvelous shock, with just one look he was deeply mesmerized.

He felt as if he could directly sense the message conveyed by the painting and experience the aura of looking down on the world, his boldness enough to swallow mountains and rivers...

His chest felt expanded!

His heart surged with pride!

This purification of the mind was entirely brought about by the painting; the last time Wang Xin had felt this way was at the moment of his first brilliant success in business!

At this moment, he had only one thought:

No matter the cost, he had to buy this painting, to appreciate and treasure it himself!

Just then.

His secretary called.

Wang Xin immediately answered the phone, eager to know, "What's the word?"

The secretary's tone was a bit odd, "The manager says the hotel's paintings are not for sale to the public..."

Not for sale to the public.

Wang Xin's expression immediately fell.

In fact, he could understand; if he were the hotel owner, he too probably would not sell these paintings, and wouldn't even bear to hang them in the hotel suites.

Unable to help herself, the secretary said, "Boss, if you like paintings, there are many masters in Zhao Continent..."

"What use do I have for those paintings? It's not like I don't have them at home!"

Wang Xin directly interrupted the secretary's suggestion; those paintings were worthless in his eyes!

The painting before him was different, unlike any other works he had seen before!

Wang Xin confirmed his own feelings!

He suppressed the disappointment in his heart, taking a deep breath:

"For the next few days, I'll be staying at this hotel, including future business trips to Qin Continent, I have to stay at this hotel only, other hotels need not be considered!"

"Understood."

The secretary, though full of questions, did not dare to question the boss's decision.

"By the way."

After thinking for a moment, Wang Xin added, "Mr. Miao and Mr. Fang are meeting with me tomorrow to discuss business, invite them to come directly to this hotel."

"Have them come over?"

The secretary hesitated for a moment but couldn't help reminding her boss, "This collaboration is very important for us, if we ask them to come to the hotel to meet us, won't these two bosses feel we're neglecting them?"

"Forget it, I'll call them myself."

Wang Xin didn't explain to the secretary; it was precisely because the business was so important that he would directly invite them to the hotel!

Both these tycoons were lovers of paintings.

Even he, who didn't understand art, was so attracted by the painting before his eyes.

Wang Xin didn't believe these two couldn't see the vast artistic conception of the painting in his room.

Who said that business negotiations have to involve alcohol?

After hanging up the phone.

Wang Xin suddenly heard his daughter's surprised exclamation, "This painting is actually a work by Teacher Shadow!"

Wang Xin's wife quickly asked, "Who is Teacher Shadow?"

Wang Yue stared at the signature on the painting, which read "Shadow":

"Teacher Shadow is a good friend of Teacher Admirable Fish, best known for his comics, but his traditional Chinese paintings are also very good, no, judging by this painting, Teacher Shadow's traditional paintings are more than just good..."

Wang Yue was already a qualified fan of Xian Yu.

As a Zhao Continent resident, she was very knowledgeable about information on Xian Yu, including the relationship with Three Bros.

"Husband!"

Wang Xin's wife looked at him, "Since they don't sell this painting, what about paying Teacher Shadow to paint another one for us?"

Another one?

Wang Xin was stunned, his expression quickly heating up!

Suddenly awake as if from a dream!

Right!

If this one wasn't for sale, then why not simply pay the author of the painting to create another similar piece?

...

The next day.

Still at the Yu Dynasty Hotel.

Wang Xin stood at the entrance, watching two stretch limousines arrive one after the other at the hotel's front door.

"Mr. Miao, Mr. Fang, thanks for taking the trouble," he greeted the two bosses with a smile as they got out of their respective cars.

Mr. Fang responded coolly, "President Wang certainly does things unexpectedly; this is the first time someone has asked me to meet at a hotel for business."

His name was Fang Mokan.

A well-known tycoon in Qin Continent.

Mr. Miao also expressed his dissatisfaction indirectly, "You know, it took me forty minutes to get here on my way; President Wang, you're rolling in wealth, could you reimburse my gas money?"

Mr. Miao's name was Miao Bai.

His status was comparable to that of Fang Mokan.

As if he hadn't noticed their dissatisfaction, Wang Xin made a gesture of invitation, "Would you please excuse the trouble and follow me upstairs?"

Chapter 870 The 1st "Full House"\_2

Weiwei frowned.

The two exchanged glances, didn't say anything further, but simply followed Wang Xin into the hotel at a leisurely pace.

A few minutes later.

The three entered a suite.

Wang Xin's wife and daughter left for another room.

He led the two before the "Eagle Spreading Wings and Swallowing Rivers and Mountains Picture" and said with a smile,

"I invited the two esteemed guests to the hotel not out of disrespect, but because I am humble in talent and shallow in learning. Knowing that both of you have always been keen on calligraphy and painting, and there happens to be a painting in this hotel suite that has deeply captivated me, I would like to ask the experts to help appraise it."

This was a formal occasion, and Wang Xin spoke very much in the style of Zhao Continent.

Fang Moka and Miao Bai were momentarily stunned, then chuckled inwardly.

Although Wang Xin was from Zhao Continent, he was notoriously known as a nouveau riche in the Blue Star elite circles, fond of pretending to appreciate art, though he lacked any actual artistic sense.

What good painting could such a person recognize?

And a painting kept in a hotel at that?

These thoughts briefly crossed their minds. They both smirked slightly but didn't say much, merely casually walking up next to Wang Xin to look at the painting that filled the entire wall behind the transparent glass.

The result.

Just that one look.

Miao Bai and Fang Moka suddenly widened their eyes as if struck by lightning!

In the painting.

Green mountains twisted around ravines;

Waterfalls hung like the Milky Way falling from the sky;

An eagle with flapping wings flew among the clouds, its piercing gaze captivating, so lifelike it seemed as if it was about to break free from the painting!

A masterful work of colors!

A graceful display of brushstrokes!

Wang Xin beside them smiled knowingly.

Their reactions were entirely within his expectations; he had been gazing at this painting until midnight the night before, unable to tear himself away.

"Mr. Miao, what do you think of this painting?"

Feeling the timing was right, Wang Xin suddenly spoke up.

Miao Bai opened his mouth, full of countless thoughts, yet at a loss for words momentarily, unable to mask the shock and affection in his eyes!

"Mr. Fang, what do you think?"

Wang Xin turned to Fang Moke beside him.

Fang Moke glanced warily at Miao Bai, suppressed the shock in his heart, and coughed before saying,

"The painting is quite decent, though some parts are overly elaborate. However, generally speaking, it indeed qualifies as a fine piece. Luckily, I'm not too picky. I'll just buy this painting from the hotel in a while."

"Mr. Fang!"

Miao Bai's heart skipped a beat, and he said with a feigned smile, "Since the painting is so mediocre, why don't you let me buy it? I particularly like eagles, and I generally buy paintings that depict eagles."

"Mr. Miao, there's no need to force yourself..."

"Mr. Fang, you are the one who shouldn't force yourself."

"This painting isn't worth your effort, Mr. Miao. The painting industry is quite intricate, and I'm afraid you might not handle it well; let me take care of it."

"Mr. Fang, as I said, I just like eagles."

"What a coincidence, I just happen to have a famous Zhao Continent artist's masterpiece at home, which also depicts an eagle, and it's much better than this one. I'll buy this painting myself if you don't mind."

"Fang Moka, cut the crap!"

Miao Bai became serious: "I must have this painting!"

Fang Moka narrowed his eyes slightly: "Miao Bai, are you insisting on competing with me today?"

Damn!

Wang Xin, standing aside, couldn't help but laugh and cry, only managing to interject, "Gentlemen, let's not fight. Let's not ruin the harmony. Plainly speaking, we all like this painting. If the hotel was willing to sell, I would have bought it myself yesterday, but the hotel absolutely refuses to sell, claiming it's just for guests to enjoy."

"I don't believe it!"

Both simultaneously exclaimed, "Call the manager over!"

Wang Xin: "..."

He could only arrange for someone to call the manager.

Soon after, the hotel manager, Wang Yu, hurried over.

"This painting, I want to buy it."

Fang Moka said to Wang Yu, pointing directly at the wall.

Wang Yu smiled bitterly: "The chairman has strictly ordered that the hotel's paintings are not for sale..."

Sun Yaohuo had indeed issued a strict order.

Still, Wang Yu managed to thoroughly convince them that the painting was definitely not for sale after much persuasion.

"Alright, since that's the case..."

Miao Bai suppressed the disappointment in his heart, but suddenly said with a smile,

"President Wang must have enjoyed this painting enough by now. How about changing suites? I'll cover the room charges, and I will stay in this suite tonight. I really love this painting. As for the business we need to discuss, I'll sign directly in a while for a pleasant cooperation, right?"

"Really?"

Fang Moka was anxious: "You two stay at the hotel, and I'll pay for two suites for you. I can stay in this room, and I have no issues with the business either. President Wang, please grant my humble request!"

"Now you're even competing for this?"

Miao Bai looked at Fang Moka with disdain.

Wang Yu, sensing the uneasy atmosphere, interjected, "Excuse me, gentlemen, our hotel has five suites, and the other suites also have delightful paintings. There's no need to fixate on this one suite."

"There are paintings like this in other rooms?"

Miao Bai and Fang Moka were startled, wondering if paintings of such caliber really existed in more than one suite.

"Yes."

Wang Yu confidently nodded: "These are the 500,000-per-night suites, naturally they need a reason worth that amount!"

"500,000 a night?"

Miao Bai and Fang Moka had just learned the price of the hotel's top suites, but considering the painting on the wall, they didn't see the price as an issue.

"Book one for me!"

"I'll take one as well!"

Both spoke in succession, then looked skeptically at Wang Yu, their tones gravely serious:

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"Don't let us down with the paintings in here."

"Please be assured."

Wang Yu smiled as he spoke and quickly checked the two of them into their rooms.

...

The suite that Miao Bai entered was the "Spring Trees and Autumn Frost Picture" suite.

He had chosen it himself.

Wang Xin followed behind, "Mr. Miao wouldn't mind if I came to appreciate it together, would he?"

"Of course."

Miao Bai smiled faintly, "Let's enjoy it together."

He and Fang Moka were both true lovers of painting; otherwise, two wealthy patrons of such stature and status wouldn't have almost come to an argument over a single picture.

He was very grateful to Wang Xin for bringing him here today!

Had he not made the trip, he really would not have had the chance to see such fine paintings, so all his prior discomfort had vanished without a trace!

At this moment.

Wang Xin hesitated, "It's just that I don't know if the painting in this room is as good as they say."

It wasn't that he didn't trust the hotel.

It was that the painting of "Eagle Spreading Wings and Swallowing Rivers and Mountains Picture" in his own suite was so good that Wang Xin dared not believe the hotel could have another painting of the same caliber!

"We'll see when we look."

Miao Bai was also feeling nervous.

And as the two delved deeper, they finally arrived in front of the painting.

Swoosh!

When the "Spring Trees and Autumn Frost Picture" was unveiled before them, both of their expressions changed simultaneously!

Unlike the grandeur of the eagle spreading its wings.

In this painting, there were green mountains bursting with spring vitality, with playful streams splashing in the valleys, babbling softly.

Tall peaks loomed everywhere, barren trees sprouted new branches, displaying delicate fresh buds, creating an intense atmosphere of spring.

Between the green mountains, there were breathtaking peaks that obscured the sky;

on the mountaintop, the dense Forests appeared like a giant black blanket cap, fastened to the sheer cliffs, with black and green hues among which bunches of unnameable wildflowers sprang from the rock faces.

Strange rocks lay across the gurgling streams;

light mist-like cloud shadows moved in the space between mountains and rivers, seemingly tangible and intangible, half-concealed and half-revealed, as if transforming into rising, swirling mists.

At the mouth of the valley.

Two scholars were seated on the riverside rocks, engaged in a serene and insightful conversation.

Beneath them flowed a cascading spring, which merged into the stream, with beads of water leaping and splattering, as if whispering in the cold.

Graceful and ethereal!

A scene right out of a poem or a painting!

The combination of the mountains and water was a pairing of stillness and motion, monotony and splendor, forming the most beautiful scenery.

The beauty of nature!

Fully expressed!

Standing in front of this painting.

Miao Bai felt as if he were one of the scholars in the painting, inhaling the fragrance unique to the spring earth.

He even felt an inexplicable chill on his cheeks, as if splashed by the stream water in the painting, then gently blown upon by a breeze, instantly refreshing and pleasantly cool.

Miao Bai felt this sensation.

Wang Xin beside him had a similar experience, murmuring, "There really is a painting that doesn't fall short of the one in my suite, only slightly inferior to the previous one..."

"Beauty lies in the eye of the beholder."

Miao Bai felt an unprecedented calmness in his heart, his speech also becoming gentle,

"Brother Wang finds 'Eagle Spreading Wings and Swallowing the World' better, yet I find this 'Spring Trees and Autumn Frost Picture' more to my liking; it's about the tranquility and detachment of the soul..."

"Shall we go see Mr. Fang's room?"

Wang Xin did not argue, as in his heart, only 'Eagle Spreading Wings and Swallowing the World' could showcase infinite dominance!

This painting was too gentle.

Just like drinking, some people prefer red wine, while others favor white spirit.

"Let's go!"

Miao Bai immediately went with Wang Xin to Fang Moka's suite.

A few minutes later.

The three of them stood before the "Phoenix's Pride Picture" in Fang Moka's room, experiencing another silent astonishment.

Right after that.

The hotel received orders:

Miao Bai and Wang Xin both extended their stay.

Besides.

The two of them also took the other two suites, going round several times in turn.

Later, Wang Yu was once again entangled by the three of them.

"Can't you really sell us these paintings?"

"Absolutely not!"

This was the Yu Dynasty hotel's first-ever "full house."