

## F. University 1231

Chapter 1231: Audi? Take it!

"Chief Chu Jiannan, have all the parameters of the vehicle been adjusted?"

After Ding Yue approached, he directly asked Chief Chu Jiannan.

Today, this Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle would be personally driven by Ding Yue for a driving experience test. After the experience test, the team would organize the data and compare it with those from the development and manufacturing phase. Once complete, the launch event for this Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle could be held.

Once the launch event started, it would mean that the pre-sales of Feiyue Future could begin.

Typically, whether it's traditional car companies with fuel-based vehicles or new energy vehicles, there would be a period of pre-sales after the launch.

During the pre-sale period, consumers could pay and purchase the vehicles, and then the car companies would promise to deliver the vehicles to the consumers within a certain period.

To some extent, this kind of pre-sale was similar to pre-sales of houses, since a car was also considered a large commodity.

"Principal Ding, all the parameters have been tuned, but as for the onboard intelligence system Big White, we are using the default settings. The owner needs to perform their preferred personalized settings."

Chief Chu Jiannan answered seriously.

"Come on, Yue, let's start with the settings for the vehicle's intelligent control system."

At that moment, Xu Bin said.

So, Ding Yue came to the driver's seat, while Xu Bin sat in the passenger seat.

"Big White."

Ding Yue called out to Big White.

"I am here!"

The vehicle's intelligent control system "Big White" responded. Its voice was somewhat different from Ding Yue's AI robot assistant Big White, but not by much.

"Yue, do you feel that the voice is slightly different?"

Xu Bin asked with a smile.

"Mhm."

Ding Yue immediately nodded. When he heard the vehicle's intelligent control system "Big White" respond, he had noticed the difference, he just had not mentioned it.

"This is to better differentiate, this voice has been modified based on the voice of your Big White."

Xu Bin explained with a smile.

"So that's it, it's quite good. Aside from the medical health robot, Big White, we now have the vehicle intelligent control system Big White. It's indeed necessary to make it distinguishable."

Ding Yue felt that this setting was quite good.

"Yes, so let's start the settings now. All the settings can actually be done through voice, just call Big White within the vehicle's range. After Big White recognizes the voice, it's considered authorized."

Xu Bin explained.

"Similar to my Big White?"

After hearing this, Ding Yue asked.

This voice collection setting was the same as Ding Yue's AI robot Big White, which needed to recognize the voice of the vehicle's owner or someone authorized by the owner before it could be controlled by voice.

"Big White, turn on the navigation."

Ding Yue casually had the vehicle's intelligent system "Big White" set up.

"Intelligent navigation successfully activated!"

A voice of Big White sounded inside the car.

Following that, the vehicle's navigation system turned on.

"Turn on the air conditioning."

Ding Yue said again.

The next second, with a "beep", the car's air conditioning automatically turned on.

"Activate smart automatic driving!"

Ding Yue issued the most crucial command to the vehicle's intelligent control system.

The "automatic driving" function of new energy vehicles had always been difficult to perfect completely and had even led to accidents when automatic driving was activated.

Therefore.

Ding Yue wanted to experience how the automatic driving of this Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle, built by Feiyue Technology, was.

After all, aside from a nice driving feel, another attractive feature of a new energy vehicle is the automatic driving function.

"Smart automatic driving activated successfully. This function will conduct automated safe driving according to real-time traffic conditions. Please start the vehicle!"

As the voice sounded, Ding Yue started this Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle.

"Entered into smart automatic driving, zoning speed limit 40km/hour."

Ding Yue's hands were placed on the steering wheel, mimicking a driving posture. He didn't operate anything, but the Feiyue Future had already entered the smart automatic driving mode and began moving forward on this road.

Since the entire road had been cleared out, the on-board real-time sensing devices determined it could drive near the maximum speed limit of the road.

Quite quickly,

This Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle accelerated to a speed of 39 kilometers per hour in less than two seconds after starting and then maintained this speed.

This kind of intelligent automatic driving experience truly let Ding Yue feel what tech is all about!

This is the power of technology!

"Bin, this smart automatic driving experience is quite impressive, but how about the safety performance? There have been frequent news reports about wealthy people getting into accidents while using the automatic driving feature in new energy vehicles."

Ding Yue turned to Bin and asked.

"Although they say that holding the steering wheel in your own hands is the safest, our vehicle's intelligent system, Big White's automation capability far surpasses those previous automatic driving technologies, and our sensing devices and system are top-notch, and the safety performance is absolutely guaranteed."

Chapter 1232: Audi? Take it away! \_2

Xu Bin confidently said.

Ding Yue understood. In other words, when you need autonomous driving, you can safely entrust the driving task to the in-car intelligent control system "Big White," but usually, it's better to drive yourself. After all, driving should be about the experience.

"Big White, drive around our school's road once and then return to the starting point we just left from."

Ding Yue gave another driving command to the in-car intelligent control system "Big White."

"Planning route..."

The voice of car-mounted Big White rang out.

Then, on the screen, a route appeared that took the longest loop around Mist City Arts and Science University, and the Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle began to drive autonomously and intelligently.

Ding Yue didn't need to make any other operations.

"Wow, not bad."

After seeing the car drive very steadily for a distance, Ding Yue said with a smile.

"This road is empty. When we get back to where there are people, it'll perform even better."

Xu Bin said with a smile as well.

Sure enough.

When the Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle turned and drove onto another campus road, there were students walking there.

After all, the previous road had been cleared for the test experience; this one hadn't.

Ding Yue's hands were tightly on the steering wheel, and his foot was on the brake, ready to deal with any "accidents" that might occur with the autonomous intelligent driving, although he knew that accidents were unlikely.

When the Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle reached the road section ahead with people, Ding Yue thought the car would automatically avoid the pedestrians.

But reality was not as Ding Yue had imagined.

Instead of automatically swerving to avoid pedestrians, the Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle sounded its horn.

When Ding Yue heard the sound of the car horn, he frowned slightly. After a moment, he said with a smile, "Is honking the horn to remind pedestrians to make way the first emergency response on such roads?"

"Correct!"

Xu Bin nodded. In this situation, honking the horn to remind pedestrians to make way was indeed the first choice. Of course, if pedestrians really didn't move aside, the car should then automatically avoid them. If the road didn't allow for avoiding pedestrians, the vehicle would automatically follow the pedestrians' speed, and that's when we drivers would need to step in.

With such road conditions, the vehicle could make the best solution according to the situation.

Sure enough, after the Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle sounded its horn, the students walking on the road before it turned their heads and moved towards the sidewalk when they heard the car's horn behind them.

The campus roads were usually less crowded, so the students would inadvertently walk onto the road.

Now that the car had come and sounded its horn to alert them, the students naturally hurried to clear the way.

"Holy shit! What a cool car!"

"The car doesn't have a license plate?"

"That's a good-looking car!"

"Whose car is this?"

"Did you see that? It looks like Principal Ding is driving?"

"Principal Ding's taste is really good; where did he get such a cool car?"

"Is this a custom car?"

"But what is this car modified from?"

"I don't recognize the logo."

"So here comes the question, what brand is this car? It's really so cool."

Some students by the roadside couldn't help but exclaim and discuss enthusiastically when they saw the car.

As it took quite a bit of time to drive around Mist City Arts and Science University, it wasn't until twenty minutes later that Ding Yue and Xu Bin smoothly returned to the starting point.

After the car stopped, Ding Yue got out of the car with an utterly satisfied expression on his face.

At this moment, Chief Chu Jiannan hastily stepped forward and asked, "Principal Ding, how was your driving experience?"

"Not bad."

Ding Yue smiled and nodded, "Have the driving data come out yet?"

"They have already come out, all within the optimal range," Chief Chu Jiannan immediately replied.

As soon as the car had stopped, the test data had all been processed. Chief Chu Jiannan and his team had analyzed the test data, which fell uniformly within the optimal range.

This meant that the Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle's various performance parameters had all reached their optimal levels, making it a perfectly qualified car!

"So that means we can proceed with the press conference next, and then, once the car factory is successfully completed, we can start mass production, right?"

Ding Yue said, very satisfied.

"Yes, Principal Ding, the biggest issue now isn't the car, but rather our car factory," Chief Chu Jiannan replied, clearly relieved.

After all, Chief Chu Jiannan was in charge of the car's engineering design.

Now that the car had been built and its performance was "perfect," Chief Chu Jiannan's work was finished. What remained was the mass manufacturing and sales of the car, which fell outside Chief Chu Jiannan's scope of responsibility.

However, naturally Chief Chu Jiannan hoped that the Feiyue Future New Energy car would go into mass production smoothly and achieve excellent sales!

"Don't worry about the car factory; barring any accidents, it should be completed smoothly and ready for production,"

Ding Yue assured Chief Chu Jiannan not to worry about these matters.

Everything was under Ding Yue's control.

The equipment for the car factory had already been purchased, and the construction of the factory workshops was progressing rapidly. Before the Spring Festival, his Feiyue Technology's new energy vehicle factory would undoubtedly be ready for use.

"Chief Chu, after the press conference for this number 0 Feiyue Future, let's just make it my official car,"

Ding Yue said to Chief Chu Jiannan with a smile.

"Principal Ding, that is certainly no problem at all," Chief Chu Jiannan replied with a smile: "Having you, Principal Ding, drive our very first Feiyue Future is more than fitting."

Ding Yue felt the same way.

As the behind-the-scenes owner of Feiyue Group and the Principal of Mist City Arts and Science University, and with the Feiyue Future New Energy car being the first new energy vehicle developed and manufactured by his school and company, it was indeed very appropriate for him to drive the Feiyue Future number 0.

When consumers would see this, they'd think, wow, the boss of Feiyue Automobile himself drives the new energy car his company produces; surely they can buy with confidence, right?

In truth.

Ding Yue's desire to drive the number 0 Feiyue Future New Energy car wasn't for show; the sole reason was the driving sensation of the Feiyue Future was much better than that of his previous Audi.

So why continue driving an Audi at all, when he could drive his own Feiyue Future, which was clearly more delightful?

Audi?

Take it away!

"Miss An."

After testing the Feiyue Future New Energy car, Ding Yue began to consider the related affairs to come,

such as the press conference and mass production after the car factory was built.

"Principal Ding, I'm here,"

From within the crowd, An Yujia approached upon hearing Principal Ding call her.

An Yujia was also present at the site of today's Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle testing event, as it was a matter of great importance, and since she was in charge of the entire Feiyue Group, Feiyue Automobile naturally fell under her purview.

"Miss An, aside from the construction of the car factory, how are the preparations going for the mass production of the Feiyue Future?"

Ding Yue asked Miss An seriously.

"Principal Ding, we've prepared the equipment procurement and the production of car parts. We've mainly taken over the original Chang'an Group, which has naturally solved a lot of issues,"

An Yujia also replied very seriously: "However, we might now face a new issue, one I only learned about this morning..."

#### Chapter 1233: Chip Shortage Crisis, The Arrival of Opportunity

"What's the matter, Miss An? Is there a problem in our car manufacturing process?"

Seeing An Yujia furrow her brows, Ding Yue quickly asked.

Ding Yue had already planned out the car manufacturing process, and everything would be best if it proceeded according to plan, especially since they were all set to hold a launch event for the Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle later this month.

If there were any issues at this critical juncture, the impact would be a series of problems.

"I think everything looks pretty normal."

"Yeah, we visited the car factory last time, didn't we? And all the equipment seemed fine."

Huang Youjie and Xu Bin chimed in, one after the other.

"Principal Ding, Director Huang, Director Xu, there's no big issue with the car factory or the manufacturing equipment, but the problem is that our Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle's on-board intelligent control system 'Big White' requires chips."

An Yujia got to the point.

Yes, chips—chips!

"Chips?"

When Ding Yue heard these words, he was initially taken aback, but quickly felt that there shouldn't be an issue with the chips.

Indeed.

The Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle needs a chip because it has an onboard intelligent control system. Naturally, an intelligent car wouldn't be complete without a chip to process data.

But, if Ding Yue remembered correctly, his Mist City Arts and Science University, Feiyue Group, and the country's largest chip manufacturer, Guoxing Technology, had a close partnership; hence, getting chips shouldn't pose a problem.

Moreover, Feiyue Group's gallium nitride semiconductor material technology had already formed a deep collaboration with Guoxing Technology. Now, Guoxing Technology could get the gallium nitride semiconductor material technology from Feiyue Group to produce gallium nitride chips.

"Aren't we in partnership with Guoxing Technology?"

"Yeah, can't they just produce and supply the chips directly?"

Huang Youjie and Xu Bin asked, puzzled.

"That's true, but the problem is that this morning, Mr. Wang Liwu from Guoxing Technology called me to say that Guoxing Technology is under tremendous pressure and is desperately short on chips. Right now, the entire international scene is also facing a chip shortage."

An Yujia replied seriously, explaining.

"A shortage?"

After hearing those words, Ding Yue fell into deep thought.

Recently, Ding Yue hadn't paid much attention to the semiconductor chip industry, and he was unaware that the market's high demand and the limited production capabilities of chip manufacturers had led to an acute shortage of chips, which was only growing.

Moreover, the foreign players were bottlenecking the domestic supply, forcing local companies to place orders with Guoxing Technology, the largest domestic manufacturer. If they tried to order

from abroad, not only was there no guarantee that foreign manufacturers would produce for them, but it would also seem like a sign of weakness.

Besides, the foreign chips were in tight supply and unlikely to be available for the domestic market.

This compounded the domestic chip shortage crisis even further.

"I seem to recall seeing news that a chip shortage crisis was going to erupt again. Now that I think about it, it does make sense. With many domestic companies growing larger, their need for chips is increasing, but our chip technology hasn't made significant advancements, leading to the current shortage crisis."

Xu Bin stroked his chin and began analyzing involuntarily.

Ding Yue knew that Bin was right.

Presently, many domestic companies needed chips—not just ones like Huawei, but even companies like Penguin Group, which, after entering the new energy vehicle market, also need chips.

Not to mention traditional auto manufacturers transitioning to new energy vehicles, which increases the demand for chips even more.

There are many other companies in various fields that need chips for their products, and the government also needs them. With Guoxing Technology as the sole provider, it simply couldn't meet such enormous demand.

"That being said, the number of chips we need for manufacturing our cars is much less compared to smartphone and computer manufacturers. Maybe we can discuss it with Guoxing Technology Group?"

Ding Yue muttered.

Smartphone and computer manufacturers domestically produce and sell products in tens of millions, even crossing the billion mark annually, requiring an immense number of chips.

But it's different for new energy vehicles.

Even for a car model with good sales, selling a hundred thousand units a month means just over one million yuan a year.

Hence, compared to smartphones and computers, the quantity of chips required for vehicles is considerably less. In light of this situation, perhaps it would be possible to negotiate with Guoxing Technology to reallocate some of the production capacity from smartphones and computer manufacturers and give it to new energy vehicles?

After all, with the relationship between Feiyue Group and Guoxing Technology Group, Ding Yue felt they might have a chance to have a serious discussion with Mr. Wang Liwu.

"Principal Ding, Mr. Wang said the shortage of chips is too significant, which indicates it might be very difficult to adjust. However, there might still be a chance. Shall I discuss it further with Mr. Wang?"

After some thought, An Yujia suggested.

"No need, I'll talk to Mr. Wang myself."

Chapter 1234: Chip Shortage Crisis, The Arrival of Opportunity \_2

Ding Yue shook his head, deciding to personally step forward and have a good discussion with Wang Liwu, Mr. Wang from Guoxing Technology Group.

In these matters, only through amicable discussions could things work out.

In any case, Ding Yue was determined to come to an agreement with Guoxing Technology; otherwise, wouldn't the launch of the Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle be delayed?

Just imagine.

Without chips, the Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle couldn't be equipped with an onboard intelligent control system, and what would a new energy vehicle be without such a system?

Moreover, missing such a significant selling point would substantially reduce the allure for consumers.

"Yue, in the end, we entered the market a bit late. Companies like Penguin Car, Huawei Technology Group, and Dami Technology Group must have already negotiated agreements with Guoxing Technology Group in advance. If they get the chips and we don't, that would be quite bad."

Xu Bin continued with his analysis.

"Indeed, we are the latest to enter the market this year."

Ding Yue nodded.

Whether it was Dami or Huawei, or other traditional car manufacturers, they all launched their new energy vehicle products earlier this year.

Since they dared to launch, it meant they must have reached cooperation agreements with Guoxing Technology Group or other chip manufacturers.

But Feiyue Technology only managed to launch the Feiyue Future model at the end of this year, and mass production hadn't even started when they suddenly faced a chip shortage crisis.

And this chip shortage crisis seemed to be quite severe.

But!

When Ding Yue thought of the term "chip shortage" in his mind once again, he suddenly felt that it was a crisis but also an opportunity.

If you look at it from a short-term perspective, it meant that the launch of the Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle might be affected.

But if you look further ahead.

With the chip shortage crisis emerging again, could it mean that the stage for Mist City Arts and Science University and Feiyue Group to research chip technology and lithography machine technology had arrived?

If they could make a breakthrough and quickly master the lithography machine manufacturing process, then they could shine a light of hope in this massive market environment troubled by the chip shortage!

This is the opportunity!

However, despite this, the shorter-term perspective still needed attention; after all, the Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle, which had been difficult enough to get to the launch phase, couldn't be delayed due to the chip issue.

So, for Ding Yue, the most immediate issue to resolve was to have a good talk with Guoxing Technology and strive to sort out the chip matter.

Then, to push forward the progress of chip research at Mist City Arts and Science University, in hopes of establishing their own chip industry during this chip shortage window.

"Principal Ding, if there's a chip shortage, does that mean we have to delay our car manufacturing?"

At that moment, Chief Chu Jiannan approached Principal Ding and asked softly.

"Not necessarily, I will find a solution for this matter. You carry on as usual," thought Ding Yue, and then he said to Chief Chu Jiannan.

"Alright then."

As the Chief responsible for the future mass production of the Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle, it was natural for him to worry about this issue.

"Miss An, Huang, Bin, let's go. Miss An, please inform Mr. Wang that I'd like to have a video conference with him later."

After saying this, Ding Yue turned and headed towards the Administration Building.

An Yujia, Wen Ruohan, Huang Youjie, and Xu Bin hurriedly followed.

At Guoxing Technology Group, Wang Liwu was also in a dilemma.

He had just received a call from CEO An Yujia of Feiyue Group, saying that Principal Ding wanted to speak with him personally via video call about the chip matter.

But Wang Liwu knew very well that Guoxing Technology Group was running at full capacity and yet there was still a significant gap in chips available.

Previous orders had even been canceled due to the dire shortage of chips, and currently, it was difficult for Guoxing Technology Group to provide chip supplies to manufacturers for nearly the next half year.

Yet Principal Ding was different for Guoxing Technology Group; Wang Liwu didn't know how to break the news to Principal Ding.

Approximately half an hour later.

The video call from Mist City Arts and Science University came through.

Wang Liwu had already been prepared in his office.

"Hello, Principal Ding."

After the video call connected, Principal Ding's face appeared on the large screen.

Ding Yue, on his end, likewise greeted Wang Liwu after the video call connected, "Mr. Wang, hello."

"I heard from Miss An that you can't fulfill the recent order for 200,000 chips we placed, is that right?"

Ding Yue asked Wang Liwu very directly.

Because Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle was set to be released this month, and the automotive factory had to start mass production before the Spring Festival, it was time to start ordering the chips needed for the vehicles.

The first batch Ding Yue put in was for 200,000 chips, which wasn't a large number for a big enterprise like Guoxing Technology Group.

Yet, they couldn't produce them!

200,000 chips meant the need for 200,000 vehicles for Feiyue Group, and Ding Yue was quite confident in the Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle, estimating that pre-selling 200,000 units would not be a problem.

But the problem now was not this, but the sudden chip shortage crisis!

"Principal Ding, I truly apologize, but our Guoxing Technology Group has had a surge in orders recently, and, as you know, we have always been under pressure from foreign technology and equipment, with our production capacity being limited," Wang Liwu explained helplessly to Principal Ding.

"Even though we produce gallium nitride chips, our production capacity is still insufficient."

The problem of insufficient production capacity is due to the limited number of devices such as photolithography machines.

The number of new photolithography machines that Guoxing Technology Group can add each year for manufacturing chips is finite, after all, because of technological limitations.

Therefore, the production capacity for chips at Guoxing Technology Group couldn't possibly be limitless.

In previous years, although there were also many orders, they could be managed by appropriate planning to maintain a certain supply of chips. In fact, the chip shortage crisis already existed then, but it wasn't as severe as now.

Currently,

with the continuous development of more domestic enterprises, the demand for chips has greatly increased, and combined with the repression from foreign powers on related fields in Xia Country, the chip shortage crisis has worsened.

"I understand, I understand, I know how much pressure Guoxing Technology Group is under," Ding Yue nodded, indicating his understanding.

"Thank you for your understanding, Principal Ding," Wang Liwu said, relieved to hear Principal Ding speak this way, expressing his gratitude.

"However!"

Ding Yue quickly said the word "however."

"Mr. Wang, this time the need for chips is of utmost importance to our Feiyue Group," Ding Yue said earnestly and sincerely, "If your Guoxing Technology Group can help us solve this problem this time, I, Ding Yue, will definitely remember it."

Ding Yue didn't want to miss this crucial opportunity, with everything ready to launch the Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle.

"This..."

Seeing how sincerely Principal Ding spoke, Wang Liwu felt extremely conflicted.

Recalling their initial dealings with Mist City Arts and Science University, he knew Principal Ding was no ordinary man, and wasn't it said that Principal Ding's university was also researching photolithography machines?

Should he forgo some orders to accommodate Principal Ding's Feiyue Group?

This was a difficult decision to make.

After all, once these orders were forsaken, it would surely cause some other impacts and trouble.

"Mr. Wang, for this batch, we only need 200,000 chips. Can't you resolve such a small amount? Besides, we're not asking for high-end chips of the 5-nanometer class; 7-nanometer, or even 14-nanometer would be acceptable," Ding Yue continued.

"Principal Ding, about this matter, I... may I take some time to consider it properly?"

Chapter 1235: Guoxing Technology Group's Decision!

Feiyue Group only needed 200,000 chips this time, and 14-nanometer level ones would suffice.

But Wang Liwu was acutely aware.

Guoxing Technology Group currently had no spare capacity or energy to manufacture these 200,000 chips for Feiyue Group.

To supply Mist City Arts and Science University with the 200,000 chips, they must reduce the quantity from other confirmed orders.

However, this would mean breaching contracts with other orders.

After giving it some thought, Wang Liwu decided it wasn't wise to make a unilateral decision; it would be better to hold a board meeting for the company and make a decision there.

"Principal Ding, whether it's 7-nanometer, 14-nanometer, or even 32-nanometer chips, we really can't produce any more capacity. Truly, Principal Ding, I hope you can understand our situation,"

Wang Liwu tried his best to explain.

"Is there really no other way?"

Ding Yue asked.

"Principal Ding, I'm truly sorry. The orders we are working on were placed three months or even half a year ago. Recently, we've had to turn down new orders because the entire market is desperately short of chips. Everyone needs them; I can't just give priority to your institution alone."

Wang Liwu made his point very clear.

Currently, Guoxing Technology Group was producing chips for orders placed three months or even half a year ago.

Yet even so, there were many company orders that they could not meet, let alone the new order needed by Feiyue Group.

"Mr. Wang, these chips are crucial for us at Feiyue Group. If necessary, we are willing to accept a price increase,"

Ding Yue emphasized again.

"Ah, this... Principal Ding, to be honest, we've already raised chip prices three times. The national regulations on this matter are very strict, and we've done our utmost. But chip production isn't something that can be increased instantly; we are truly at a loss."

Wang Liwu continued his helpless explanation.

"I understand."

Ding Yue's mood was also somewhat "speechless."

The chip shortage had come on suddenly and was overwhelmingly frustrating. A significant part of the main reason stemmed from the foreign powers' suppression of Xia Country's chip industry.

Take, for example, the foreign-supported Chip Accumulation Group; they could easily deal with the chip shortage crisis.

But Guoxing Technology couldn't. They had only their own resources and Xia Country's research in the chips and photolithography machine fields to depend on.

"Mr. Wang, please try to find a solution for us. Mist City Arts and Science University is conducting research in photolithography machine process technologies, which I'm sure you're aware of, and we've already made significant progress. In the future, there will be many opportunities for collaboration between us, don't you agree?"

Finally, Ding Yue played his trump card.

He forced Guoxing Technology Group to make a choice.

Whether or not they wanted to maintain better cooperation in the future rested on whether Guoxing Technology Group could help with the chip issue today.

If Guoxing Technology Group provided assistance, then Ding Yue would certainly remember their "favor." When there were breakthroughs in photolithography process technology, sharing some of the cooperation wasn't out of the question.

Otherwise, Ding Yue was ready to establish his own factories to create photolithography machines and chips, turning into a competitor to Guoxing Technology Group.

Of course, this was under the premise that the photolithography machine experimental projects at Mist City Arts and Science University continued to progress smoothly.

So far as Ding Yue knew, the photolithography machine experimental project at his university had made substantial progress in the 5-nanometer photolithography machine domain.

And if the 7-nanometer and 14-nanometer photolithography process technologies could be maturely manufactured by themselves, they could easily navigate through this chip shortage crisis.

14-nanometer and 32-nanometer chips were relatively mainstream and widely used in various electronic products.

The 7-nanometer level represented the more high-end chips.

As for the 5-nanometer level, it was reserved for the top-of-the-line, most advanced products from major companies. At the 3-nanometer level, Xia Country had not yet overcome this challenge and was still behind the foreign competitors.

The technology to create mature-level chips was available, but the issue was the lack of photolithography machines!

The photolithography machine technology was controlled by foreigners, and domestic research was incredibly difficult!

Mist City Arts and Science University had been quietly conducting research in this area for several years. Ding Yue had deployed the most outstanding talents from related fields in his university, in addition to top-notch technologies exchanged from the system mall.

Even so, progress over the years had not been as smooth as anticipated.

This showed just how challenging the field of photolithography machines and chips was!

"Principal Ding, are you saying that... Feiyue Group has plans for photolithography machines in the future?"

After hearing this, Mr. Wang could not help but ask curiously.

"Yes,"

Ding Yue affirmed.

"I see..."

After pondering for a moment, Wang Liwu said, "Principal Ding, I'll think of a way to meet your chip needs, but I can't guarantee success. Moreover, I'll need to consult with the other executives of the company. If we supply you with chips, then we'll need to find a way to compensate elsewhere."

## Chapter 1236: Guoxing Technology Group's Decision!\_2

"I understand what you're getting at, Mr. Wang, so I'll leave this matter to you."

Ding Yue's tone softened when he saw that Wang Liwu had finally "relented," and then he added, "I hope we can maintain good cooperation in the future."

"Yes, yes, yes, I am very fortunate to partner with Principal Ding and Feiyue Group. I will go and discuss this matter with the other executives of our company. Once we have a conclusion, I will contact you immediately, Principal Ding. Does that work for you?"

Wang Liwu's tone finally carried a hint of a smile.

"Great, I'm looking forward to your good news, Mr. Wang."

After finishing the conversation, Ding Yue hung up the video call with Wang Liwu and waited for Mr. Wang to have the discussion.

In fact, the truth was that Ding Yue had also offered some bargaining chips—otherwise, Wang Liwu's attitude could not have changed so quickly.

"Yue, do you think Guoxing Technology Group can really get us those 200,000 chips?"

After the video call ended, Huang Youjie turned to Ding Yue and asked.

"Looking at the long term, Guoxing Technology Group should seriously consider it if they want to have closer cooperation with us,"

commented An Yujia, who was nearby.

"Why is that?"

Huang Youjie asked with confusion.

Ding Yue smiled and explained to Huang, "Because we at Mist City Arts and Science University are making good progress on the lithography machine experimental project. This means that once the research on the lithography machine project is successful, we will definitely need partners, and Guoxing Technology Group would be a good choice."

"Why should we cooperate with Guoxing Technology if we have our own lithography machine?" Huang Youjie rolled his eyes and muttered.

"Advanced, cutting-edge technologies—like the process technologies for 5-nanometer and eventually 3-nanometer lithography machines—naturally we will not share with outsiders. But, as for the technologies for more widespread and mature chips—like the 14-nanometer or 32-nanometer ones—where the profits are not high if we do it ourselves, why not sell it to Guoxing Technology Group as a favor?"

Ding Yue said with a shrug and a smile.

In the field of chips and lithography machines, naturally, the higher the level, the higher the profits, and actually, the demand is also the greatest.

After all, everyone wants better chips to give their products a more powerful competitive edge.

"Got it."

Huang Youjie was clever and understood immediately after hearing Ding Yue's explanation.

"But Yue, we're currently stuck on the 5 to 3 nanometer stage. Shouldn't we now concentrate our main efforts on maturing the manufacturing technology of the lithography machines for 32, 14, and 7 nanometer chips?"

Xu Bin, as a primary participant in the lithography machine project, was more aware of the details.

Since the subject had come up, Xu Bin briefed everyone on the current situation with the lithography machine experimental project.

Ding Yue was also very clear about it.

After all, this was the most cash-intensive project of Mist City Arts and Science University so far.

No, to be precise, the most cash-consuming project, into which hastily countless billions of cash flow had been invested.

The money earned by Mist City Arts and Science University and Feiyue Group in other fields was largely invested back into the lithography machine experimental project.

Although projects like graphene batteries and new energy vehicles would require more investment, the money put into them was not from Ding Yue's own cash flow but bank loans provided by the Mist City Government.

"I think it's a good idea."

Hearing what Xu Bin had suggested, Ding Yue nodded and said, "We can start by getting the simpler photolithography process technology mature and stable. This way, even without the high-end chip lithography manufacturing technology, we'd still be able to enter the market for 32 and 14 nanometer chip manufacturing, right? This could also help alleviate our chip shortage crisis to an extent. What do you all think?"

After speaking, Ding Yue looked to Huang, Miss An, and the secretary Wen Ruohan, among others, to hear their opinions.

Although in the end Ding Yue would be the one to make the decision, he still wanted to take everyone's opinions into account.

"Of course, I support you. Both Yue and Bin have said so,"

Huang Youjie shrugged noncommittally. He would unquestionably stand by Yue and Bin's side without question.

An Yujia frowned slightly, pondered for a moment, and then nodded, "Principal Ding, perhaps we should ask for the opinions of the main participants in the lithography machine experimental project?"

An Yujia offered her own suggestion.

In this matter, it mainly depends on what those involved in the photolithography machine experiment project think.

After all, the progress of the photolithography machine is due to their primary investment of effort, time, and technical expertise—it is their opinions that are absolutely crucial.

"That's also true, we need to hear what Luo Peng, Su Beilin, Tong Yihang, Liu Tiefei, and the others think."

Ding Yue nodded slightly upon hearing An Yujia's advice, agreeing that they indeed needed to ask for the opinions of the main participants in the photolithography machine experiment project.

"Then, Principal Ding, shall I call Luo Peng and the rest over for a meeting now?"

Secretary Wen Ruohan, quick on the uptake, immediately offered.

"Good!"

Ding Yue nodded his head.

...

At this moment, at the Guoxing Technology Group building.

Right after ending the video call with Ding Yue, Wang Liwu immediately contacted the company's main senior executives and board of directors. Like last time, a board meeting was necessary to decide whether to help Feiyue Group solve their chip issue.

In the conference room.

The board members who couldn't be present at the site were participating in the meeting via video conference.

"Has everyone who could make it arrived?"

Wang Liwu glanced around at the directors in the meeting room and then checked the few visible through the video conference to ensure that most board members had almost arrived.

As long as the majority voted in approval, they could pass the decision to reallocate some chips to Feiyue Group.

"Mr. Wang, why have you rushed us into this meeting? Is there something urgent?"

One of the board members inquired.

"Ladies and gentlemen, here's what's happening: today, Principal Ding from Mist City Arts and Science University video called me, hoping that we could provide them with a batch of chips."

Wang Liwu informed all the board members of the situation.

"Chips?"

Another director frowned and said, "Haven't our chip production already fallen behind the supply schedule? We are currently not accepting any orders. I don't think there's much to discuss here, right?"

Everyone was clear on Guoxing Technology Group's situation; the chips were in such high demand that even with price increases, the supply was inadequate, and Guoxing Technology would turn down requests from even other major domestic manufacturers.

Because Guoxing Technology Group's production was essentially at its limit, even if they took new orders, they couldn't fulfill them.

This accounted for the chip shortage crisis Xia Country was currently facing.

"Yeah, Mr. Wang, is there really something to discuss here?" A director surnamed Liu shrugged.

"Indeed, that's the case, but... Mist City Arts and Science University and Feiyue Group are somewhat special. For one, Principal Ding needs it urgently, and secondly, Principal Ding and our Guoxing Technology Group have a deep connection. Our gallium nitride semiconductor chip technology was licensed to us by them."

Wang Liwu explained.

"That may be so, and we're all aware of it, but the reality is, we just don't have the production capacity to manufacture the chips that Principal Ding needs."

A board member expressed helplessly.

This year, Guoxing Technology Group had undergone a "technological industry" upgrade, which was due to acquiring licensing for gallium nitride semiconductor chip technology from Mist City Arts and Science University and Feiyue Group. This allowed them to produce gallium nitride chips, propelling Guoxing Technology Group forward.

However, the issue was that all of Guoxing Technology Group's equipment was operating at full capacity to manufacture chips, and the chips being produced had already been ordered by others.

"Ladies and gentlemen, listen to me. Over at Mist City Arts and Science University, they are currently working on a photolithography machine project. Principal Ding mentioned that if we could supply them with chips this time, then in the future, regarding photolithography machines, we would still have the opportunity to continue cooperating."

Wang Liwu relayed this matter to all the directors.

Chapter 1237: Made an Example Of!

"Photo-lithography machines?"

Director Zhang of the board looked toward Wang Liwu and scoffed with disdain, then spoke, "A mere private university like Mist City Arts and Science University thinks it can develop photolithography machines?"

"Old Wang, you've been in the semiconductor field for many years, don't you know how difficult it is to manufacture and develop photo-lithography machines? Our Guoxing Technology Group has invested billions of yuan, and the results are not that significant."

Another board member shrugged his shoulders and said.

The most advanced technology for photo-lithography machines is in Europe, such as the ASML Group.

Xia Country also has many technology companies and institutions developing photo-lithography machines, but due to the sheer difficulty of the technology, and the technological blockades by foreigners, there hasn't been much progress.

For example, even the top domestic company, Guoxing Technology Group, can't fully master the 7-nanometer process technology of photo-lithography machines.

Not to mention the 5-nanometer level.

Currently, Guoxing Technology Group can barely achieve a mature process for 14-nanometer chips.

"Ladies and gentlemen, Mist City Arts and Science University is a university full of potential, and Feiyue Group has always brought us the unexpected. Consider this, semiconductor materials technology based on gallium nitride, graphene technology—weren't these all developed at Mist City Arts and Science University?"

Wang Liwu chose to believe.

Although it sounded incredibly unbelievable.

And it was precisely because it was unbelievable that the members of the board were so skeptical about Mist City Arts and Science University's so-called photo-lithography machine research project.

"Mist City Arts and Science University indeed has certain strengths, but that doesn't mean it can succeed in developing photo-lithography machines."

Mr. Liu shook his head and sighed.

"Old Wang, do you really believe in Mist City Arts and Science University, believe in Feiyue Group, believe in Principal Ding that much?"

Suddenly, a Director named Zhou looked toward Wang Liwu and asked.

"After careful consideration, I have decided to trust Principal Ding," Wang Liwu nodded without hesitation and said.

The directors in the meeting room immediately started discussing in low voices, and those in the video conference also appeared deep in thought.

It seemed that everyone was contemplating whether or not to accept the suggestion proposed by Wang Liwu.

Firstly, the fact that Wang Liwu had so much trust in Principal Ding of Mist City Arts and Science University indicated there must be a reason, and Wang Liwu, as an executive of the Guoxing Technology Group, had been responsible for managing the business of the group for years with very commendable performance.

Therefore.

In the meeting room, there were still some directors who supported Wang Liwu's ideas and suggestions.

Having received the support of some directors, Wang Liwu immediately added, "Ladies and gentlemen, let's not discuss whether Mist City Arts and Science University's Principal Ding can actually develop a photo-lithography machine. Let us speak about something closer at hand, in the field of semiconductor materials technology, Mist City Arts and Science University and Feiyue Group are at the forefront. In the future, we will inevitably collaborate with Feiyue Group to seek more advanced semiconductor materials technology..."

Wang Liwu began to analyze the matter seriously, with the directors looking at him, each listening attentively.

Because it seemed they were all realizing that what Wang Liwu was saying truly pertained to the interests of Guoxing Technology Group, and pertaining to the group's interests meant that it also concerned the interests of each and every one of them.

"By helping Feiyue Group solve the problem with new energy vehicle chips this time, we're essentially paving the way for future upgrades in semiconductor materials technology. This doesn't even account for whether Mist City Arts and Science University will be able to research photolithography machine technology; for us, no matter what, it will be beneficial, won't it?"

Wang Liwu explained the current situation thoroughly, with clear logic.

Helping Feiyue Group solve the problem with new energy vehicle chips would have significant benefits.

"Then comes the question—how do we help Feiyue Group solve the problem with new energy vehicle chips? We are already at full production capacity; there's absolutely no way to provide new energy vehicle chips for Feiyue Group."

Mr. Liu shook his head.

"We find a way. From our previous orders, we can spare some."

One director spoke simply and directly.

That was indeed the only solution.

Since Guoxing Technology Group had no way to produce additional chips, if they wanted to solve Feiyue Group's problem, they would have to allocate a portion from the previous orders.

"But wouldn't that involve breach of contract issues?"

Another director asked.

That was indeed true.

After all, taking 200,000 new energy vehicle chips from other orders meant breaching parts of the contract with other client companies, which could lead to a series of problems including breach of contract compensation.

"Let's weigh our options," Wang Liwu said calmly.

The implication was for everyone to consider whether a loss incurred from breaching an order was more significant or the future prospects of a lucrative collaborative return were more valuable.

By comparison, all the directors in the meeting room undoubtedly understood that breaching an order was nothing in the grand scheme of things.

"Although we can do this, the question arises: we have so many companies placing orders with us, who should we ask to give up these 200,000 new energy vehicle chips?"

Mr. Liu looked toward Wang Liwu and asked.

"Penguin Car, how about that?"

Chapter 1238: Made an Example of! \_2

Wang Liwu didn't hesitate and directly named the company they intended to "operate" on.

Indeed!

It was Penguin Car!

First off, Penguin Car's demand for new energy vehicle chips was quite large, so cutting off 200,000 units from them was something they would just have to "endure." They couldn't possibly cancel the entire order just because they were short 200,000 chips, could they?

If Penguin Car were to cancel the entire order, they wouldn't be able to find another chip manufacturer capable of providing the supply, since only Guoxing Technology Group had such a large-scale production capability.

When it came to other domestic chip manufacturers, not to mention their technology was a notch below that of Guoxing Technology Group, their production capacity was not on the same level either.

"Is it possible to touch the order from Penguin Car, which we've finally secured as a major deal, a major deal?"

Mr. Liu asked again.

"Discuss it with Penguin Car. We're in the midst of a chip shortage crisis, and we hold the initiative,"

Wang Liwu replied calmly.

Due to the severe supply and demand situation in the on-site semiconductor chip market, Guoxing Technology Group, as the largest domestic chip manufacturer, held considerable power.

"I say we can produce the chips for you, and then you'll be able to get them. If I say we're raising prices, you'll have to pay more. Of course, all this is predicated on not causing chaos."

The 200,000 chips required for new energy vehicles was indeed a significant number for Penguin Car, but compared to their even greater chip demand, Wang Liwu firmly believed that Penguin Car wouldn't turn hostile over these 200,000 units.

They wouldn't dare!

"What do you all think?"

Mr. Liu immediately looked at the other directors in the boardroom and then turned his gaze to the directors in the video conference, asking.

At first, no one responded.

After all, Penguin Car was part of Penguin Group, a colossal internet company that was once the most valuable in Asia. This move was undeniably going to slightly offend Penguin Car.

But now!

Wang Liwu had already made it clear that by slightly offending Penguin Car, they could gain a "future."

Although no one knew when this future would arrive, as businesspeople, failing to foresee and prepare for the future certainly spelled failure.

"Well, I think we can do it!"

Finally, one of the directors nodded in agreement.

Then another director nodded.

In the end, the directors in the video conference all nodded too.

Seeing this, Wang Liwu finally allowed a smile to emerge on his face, it seemed he had managed to handle the situation successfully.

"Alright, then it's decided."

After the meeting, Wang Liwu immediately called Principal Ding of Mist City Arts and Science University on behalf of Guoxing Technology Group.

Since his video call with Wang Liwu, Ding Yue had been anxiously awaiting news.

Now, Wang Liwu had finally called again.

"Hello, Mr. Wang. Do we have a result?"

Ding Yue inquired as soon as he answered the phone.

"Hello, Principal Ding, the result is in. After our board's resolution, we have decided to accept the Feiyue Group's order for 200,000 units of new energy vehicle chips and we will deliver them on time,"

Wang Liwu said, smiling.

"Really? Hahaha, that's truly fantastic. Thank you, Mr. Wang, and thank you for the assistance of Guoxing Technology Group,"

Ding Yue responded with a joyful laugh.

It was a thank-you that came from the bottom of his heart.

After all, if Guoxing Technology Group had been unable to provide those 200,000 new energy vehicle chips, then the launch and presales plans for the Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle could have been shelved.

"No need to thank me, Principal Ding. I hope we can cooperate even more pleasantly in the future,"

Wang Liwu said.

"Of course, no problem."

Ding Yue was someone whose word was as good as gold.

Once he achieved significant breakthroughs at Mist City Arts and Science University in semiconductor material technology and in the manufacture of lithography machines at the 32 nanometer and 14 nanometer levels, he could choose to collaborate with Guoxing Technology Group.

After all, Guoxing Technology Group had a solid foundation. For the 32-nanometer-level lithography machines, he could cooperate with Guoxing Technology Group when the time came.

For the 14 nanometer, or even the 7 nanometer level lithography machines, it would be better to keep part of the production under his own control, while he could collaborate with Guoxing Technology Group for the rest.

As for the more advanced 7-nanometer and 5-nanometer level lithography machine process technology, if achieved, he would definitely have to handle it himself.

"Then, Mr. Wang, we'll get in touch later."

After chatting with Wang Liwu for quite a while, Ding Yue ended the call.

The issue with the Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle chips had finally been resolved.

This matter still needed Ding Yue to step in.

Otherwise, given the initial attitude of Guoxing Technology Group, if An Yujia continued to communicate with them, it was likely that this issue would not have been resolved.

Sure enough, not long after, An Yujia came to Ding Yue's office.

"Principal Ding, have you finished negotiating with Guoxing Technology Group?" An Yujia asked directly upon arrival.

Because the announcement of the Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle press conference was to be scheduled according to the progress of this matter, to decide whether to confirm the press conference for Zhao Kai at the end of this month.

After all, if the chip issue couldn't be resolved, then the production and manufacturing of the Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicles would be delayed, and it was uncertain how long the delay would be, especially since the chip shortage crisis wasn't going to be resolved quickly. It could continue for a year or two, or maybe even longer.

In fact, as long as the foreign powers kept a stranglehold on Xia Country by blocking semiconductor technology, and there were no significant breakthroughs in domestic semiconductor technology, the chip shortage crisis would only worsen over time.

"Will our Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle press conference be held as scheduled, or should we delay it?" An Yujia continued to ask.

"The problem has been resolved. We will hold the press conference as scheduled," Ding Yue replied with a calm smile to An Yujia.

Upon hearing this, An Yujia's face lit up with a smile, "That's great! Then I'll arrange our new energy vehicle press conference according to the original plan."

At this point, the most important matter for Feiyue Group was undoubtedly the press conference for the Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle.

However, when the issue of the new energy vehicle chips for Feiyue Group was resolved, there were those who rejoiced and those who were worried.

Naturally, those rejoicing were Ding Yue and everyone at Mist City Arts and Science University.

Meanwhile, at Penguin Car's headquarters in Shencheng.

Kuang Xuejin, the boss of Penguin Car, received a call that almost made him explode in anger.

"200,000 new energy vehicle chips, just like that, they're reducing our order?"

Bang!

Kuang Xuejin slammed the desk, furious.

The company's manager, Dong Yan, hastily tried to console him, "Mr. Kuang, perhaps the Guoxing Technology Group is facing some difficulties. With the huge chip shortage crisis we're facing both nationally and globally, our order being cut by 200,000 new energy vehicle chips isn't that significant of an impact."

Although Dong Yan was aware this would affect the rollout of Penguin Auto Group's new energy vehicles, there was no helping it.

Who could have predicted the chip shortage crisis? Securing a sufficient amount of chips wasn't something they could simply decide on—even having the money didn't guarantee access to those chips.

Several domestic traditional car manufacturers couldn't get their hands on chips in the short term and, despite having plenty of funds, could do nothing but continually delay the delivery dates of their new energy vehicles.

"I know!"

Kuang Xuejin was still visibly angry, "But Guoxing Technology Group handling business like this, isn't that showing a lack of respect for us at Penguin Car, saying they'll cut the order just like that!"

"There's nothing we can do. Guoxing Technology Group is compensating us for the breach of contract as per the agreement, so we can't really say much," Dong Yan said helplessly.

Ding-dong!

Just as Dong Yan's words fell, Kuang Xuejin suddenly received another call...

Chapter 1239: A Student's Romance with the Principal

"What did you say?"

Kuang Xuejin felt a sudden discomfort after hearing the words from the person on the phone.

"The information is essentially true. The reason Guoxing Technology Group subtracted 200,000 chips from your Penguin Auto Group's order is that they took on an order from Feiyue Group."

The man on the phone was none other than the chairman of Q Entertainment Media, Chen Xueming.

He had a friend who held a senior position at Guoxing Technology Group and had, through various channels, learned the likely reason why a portion of Penguin Auto Group's chip order had been reduced.

"Is it that Feiyue Group, the one from Mist City Arts and Science University?"

Kuang Xuejin asked again.

"Who else but that Feiyue Group? They've made a splash with their graphene batteries, so it was expected they'd want to get into car manufacturing."

Chen Xueming said calmly.

"Damn it!"

Kuang Xuejin wasn't as composed as Chen Xueming; after all, this was hurting the interests of his Penguin Auto Group.

"Now our country is facing a severe chip shortage crisis, Guoxing Technology Group has long been running at full capacity. To give Feiyue Group an order at this time, and even subtract it from our Penguin Auto Group's order, could it be that Feiyue Group has internal connections within Guoxing Technology Group?"

Kuang Xuejin asked, puzzled.

"I don't know about that. Ding Yue seems to have no background, no powerful connections, but everything he does just seems to go so smoothly. I can't understand it."

Chen Xueming had already developed a deep grudge against Principal Ding of Mist City Arts and Science University.

After all, his Q Entertainment Media and his brother, Chen Xuejun's liquor business group, had both taken some falls in front of Mist City Arts and Science University.

"Forget it."

Kuang Xuejin thought carefully. The 200,000 chips for new energy vehicles wouldn't really impact his Penguin Auto Group too much this time.

"Mr. Kuang, tell me, how many talents can a private university really cultivate? And yet, this Ding Yue has expanded his business interests so broadly. He's competed with our Q Entertainment Media in the culture and entertainment industry, and now he's even getting into new energy vehicles. It's ridiculous."

Chen Xueming said with disdain.

"New energy vehicles aren't something anyone can just start making. Look at how glorious Hengtai Group was at one time, and now they are in debt. Hengtai Automobiles is practically stillborn. With just that little Feiyue Group, what waves can they possibly make?"

Kuang Xuejin said confidently.

In his view, there were plenty of big companies in the country that wanted to make new energy vehicles. Compared to these companies, Feiyue Group still had a long way to go.

Take Hengtai Group, for example. They had announced their intention to make cars early on and even listed Hengtai Automobiles on the stock market, reaching a market value of hundreds of billions. Such a large company failed in car manufacturing, not to mention a company like Feiyue Group.

"Of course. Your Penguin Auto Group's Penguin T666 new energy vehicles have firmly established a foothold in the market. The presales have already exceeded 200,000 units, haven't they?"

Chen Xueming said with a laugh.

Ever since the Penguin Auto Group launched the Penguin T666 new energy vehicle, it had been favored by market consumers and had become the latest mainstream new energy vehicle in the market, competing fiercely with America's Tesla Model 4.

As for the new energy vehicles launched by Huawei Technology Group and Dami Technology Group in collaboration with other traditional car companies, they have not been very impressive and were considered second-tier.

Currently, without a doubt, the popular first-tier new energy vehicles are Penguin Auto Group's Penguin T666 and Tesla's Model 4.

"Ha, presales, they're just so-so."

Kuang Xuejin said in a Versailles tone.

"Ha ha ha ha, okay Mr. Kuang, this matter won't have much impact on Penguin Auto Group. It's just a minor irritation, don't take it to heart. Give it some time and see how that Feiyue Group's new energy vehicles flop after release. You'll feel much better then."

Chen Xueming said, laughing.

In fact, Chen Xueming also wanted to see the farce that Feiyue Group's new energy vehicles would turn out to be.

"Fine."

Kuang Xuejin, who was initially quite upset, suddenly felt much better.

The last time, Chang'an Group's Chang'an·Nova, which used Feiyue Group's graphene batteries, ended up being a failure and even led Chang'an Group towards a dead end.

It was rumored that in the end, Chang'an Group would be taken over by Feiyue Group, who were now eager to unveil their own new energy vehicles.

Hadn't the last disastrous lesson been severe enough?

Thinking of this, Kuang Xuejin felt even better, secretly looking forward to seeing Feiyue Group facing a backlash from the market after launching their new energy vehicles.

...

December 10th.

In the campus of Mist City Arts and Science University, there didn't seem to be any significant happenings.

The students went about their regular routines: attending classes, taking breaks, eating at the cafeteria, reading in the library, and dating in every corner of the campus, all suffused with the vigor and vitality of youth.

#### Chapter 1240: Romance from a Student to the Principal \_2

Ding Yue had tested the Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle a few days ago and had resolved the issue with the lack of chips. Now, he was just waiting for the countdown to the launch event.

These past couple of days, whenever he encountered students, they would always ask when the new energy vehicle developed by the school would be launched.

It was clear that many students were quite looking forward to this new energy vehicle.

The most important thing was that Ding Yue had already replaced his Audi with this Feiyue Future No. 0 New Energy Vehicle. He would drive it around the school from time to time, attracting a lot of attention.

Every time Wen Ruohan came to the bottom of the Administration Building, she couldn't help but take a glance at Principal Ding's handsome car.

It really was handsome, with an exceptionally high aesthetic value and a sci-fi quality that no other car could match at the moment. Once the Feiyue Future was officially launched, she definitely wanted to buy one.

She might not be able to afford it in full, but she could buy it on installments!

Moreover, Wen Ruohan had heard from Principal Ding that the selling price of the Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle was not high. With this in mind, maybe she could afford to pay in full.

Since becoming Principal Ding's personal secretary, Wen Ruohan had saved up a considerable amount of money. Coming up with two or three tens of thousands of dollars shouldn't be much of a problem.

"Good morning, Principal Ding."

Wen Ruohan arrived at the principal's office and saw that Ding Yue had already come in earlier than usual.

Usually, it would be Wen Ruohan who arrived first, and then Principal Ding would follow, or they would coincidentally meet at the Fifth Canteen.

However, today Wen Ruohan didn't run into Principal Ding on her way to the Fifth Canteen for breakfast. After eating, she went to the principal's office to start her usual workday.

"Good morning, Xiao Wen."

Ding Yue greeted his secretary, Wen Ruohan.

But when Ding Yue saw Wen Ruohan naturally heading towards her work position, he couldn't help but wonder.

What was going on?

Today was Ding Yue's birthday. Although he didn't make a big deal out of birthdays in previous years, his secretary, Wen Ruohan, would always be the first to wish him a happy birthday.

How come today it seemed like she had forgotten?

Had she forgotten?

Ding Yue speculated that it was indeed possible; after all, Wen Ruohan was quite busy with her daily work, always running around here and there with him. It wouldn't be unusual for her not to remember that today was his birthday.

Ding-a-ling!

Just as Ding Yue was perplexed, his phone rang.

Picking it up, he saw it was a call from his mother, Zhang Yuping.

"Hello, Mom."

Ding Yue answered the phone.

As expected, it was his mother, Zhang Yuping, calling to wish him a happy birthday.

Anyone could forget his birthday due to being busy or whatever, but his mother, Zhang Yuping, would definitely not forget.

"Son, happy birthday! Based on how low-key you've kept your birthday in the past years, I'll prepare some delicious food for you, just like before."

His mother, Zhang Yuping, said with a laugh over the phone.

"Sounds good."

Ding Yue immediately responded.

He had kept his birthdays simple over the last few years, and except for Huang Youjie, Xu Bin, and his family members, not many others knew about it.

His secretary, Wen Ruohan, did know because Ding Yue had told her, but for some reason, Wen Ruohan seemed to have forgotten it today?

After hanging up with his mother, Zhang Yuping, Ding Yue continued with his usual principal's office routine.

There wasn't much going on today, mainly just things concerning the school's New Year's Eve Gala at the end of the month.

Each year, the New Year's Eve Gala at Mist City Arts and Science University was a rather grand affair. After all, it marked the transition into the new year and was also an important day for the teachers and students of Mist City Arts and Science University to come together to celebrate.

This year's New Year's Eve Gala, like previous years, would be hosted by the school's arts and sports departments, with the head of the department, Director Xiong Yang, responsible.

More than a month ago, the arts and sports department had already started preparing the programs, and at this point, the preparations were almost complete.

"Principal Ding, we're going to have our first rehearsal for the New Year's Eve Gala tonight. Could you come by later to inspect it?"

Director Xiong Yang had just finished reporting to the principal's office and then invited Principal Ding to come and observe the first rehearsal for the New Year's Eve Gala tonight.

"Sure."

Ding Yue thought that he didn't have anything else to do that evening, so he nodded in agreement, keen to see how the students were preparing for the New Year's Eve Gala.

In the blink of an eye, the day had passed.

Zhang Yuping, his mother, had prepared a "birthday special" for Ding Yue at the Fifth Canteen for both lunch and dinner, and his secretary Wen Ruohan, who tagged along with Principal Ding, had also enjoyed these two "birthday specials."

All the while, Ding Yue was puzzled; with things as they were, could it be that Secretary Wen Ruohan had not remembered that today was his birthday?

Ding Yue was still looking forward to Wen Ruohan wishing him a happy birthday; if she didn't remember, he might give her a subtle reminder before she left, otherwise, he felt that the day was somehow incomplete.

After dinner, Ding Yue, along with Secretary Wen Ruohan, made their way towards the school's Central Sports Ground, a walk that could help digest the meal, taking about fifteen to twenty minutes.

As the saying goes, "A walk after a meal will have you living until ninety-nine."

Tonight was the New Year's Eve Gala rehearsal, and Ding Yue planned to see which performances would be featured in this year's Gala.

Previous Galas had always been quite spectacular, especially last year's, which had featured an artist like Lin Zhirou, raising the overall standard.

If Lin Zhirou were to sing at this year's Gala, then Ding Yue would definitely be there to support her.

After all, Lin Zhirou was now a top-tier singer in Xia Country.

"Principal Ding, you're here! Come this way, please."

Seeing Principal Ding arrive, Director Xiong Yang of the Sports and Culture Department hurried over to greet him.

"Director Xiong, are there plenty of diverse acts at this year's New Year's Eve Gala?"

Ding Yue immediately inquired.

"Of course, our students are very talented. This year, so many of them wanted to sign up to perform that we ended up with too many acts; unfortunately, quite a few didn't make the cut for this year's Gala."

Director Xiong Yang explained with a smile.

"Hahaha, that's great. It's a good problem to have. For those who didn't make it this year, no worries, there's always next year, right?"

Ding Yue said with a chuckle.

Once upon a time, when Mist City Arts and Science University only had one cohort of students, they almost couldn't muster enough acts for the Gala.

But now, the university had grown to over 80,000 students, all multi-talented, leading to an abundance of acts.

"Absolutely."

Director Xiong Yang agreed repeatedly.

"Oh, by the way, Director Xiong, is student Lin Zhirou participating in the New Year's Eve Gala this year?" Ding Yue asked.

"Student Lin Zhirou? Well, you see, Principal Ding, she was actually invited by Dream Blue TV Station to their New Year's Eve celebration. "

"The Dream Blue TV Station?"

Ding Yue muttered, "That's impressive."

Dream Blue TV Station was one of the top provincial stations in Xia Country, known for high viewership.

"However, Lin Zhirou turned them down and chose to take part in our school's Gala," Director Xiong Yang added with a smile.

"Ah, that's something."

Ding Yue, on hearing this, momentarily didn't know whether to laugh or worry.

So, Lin Zhirou had turned down a live New Year's Eve broadcast on Dream Blue TV to perform at the school's Gala.

This surely reflected her deep affection for the school.

While Ding Yue was pondering this, suddenly there was a whooshing sound from the Central Sports Ground, like the noise of mechanical propellers spinning.

Buzz~

Accompanied by a humming sound, a fleet of drones took off in unison, immediately capturing Ding Yue's attention...