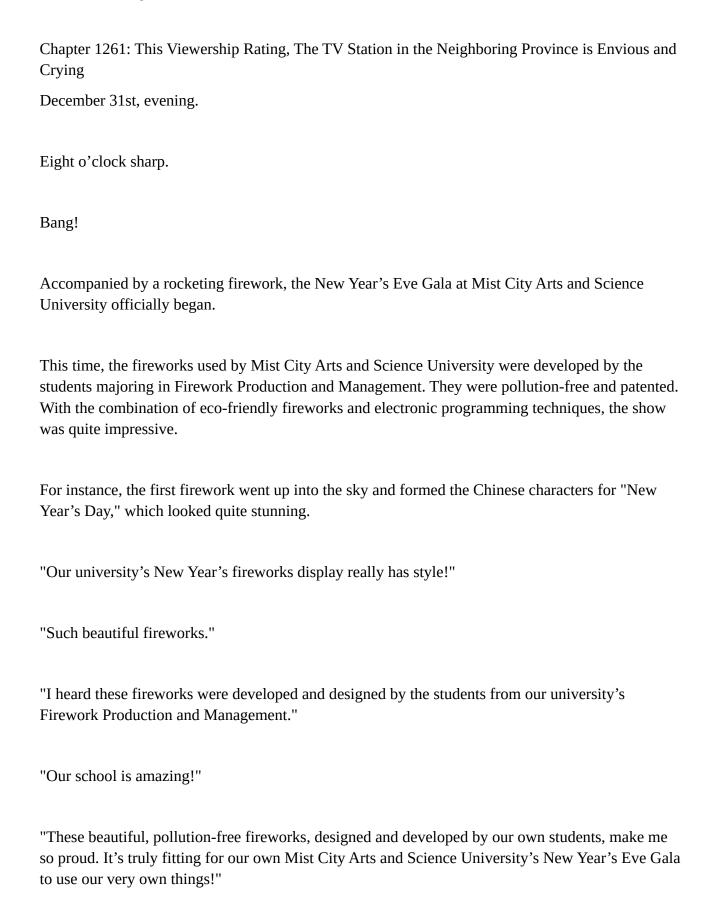
F. University 1261



At this moment, as the fireworks shaped various characters, numbers, and patterns in the sky, the students at the venue and those watching the live stream from Mist City Arts and Science University felt immensely proud.

The last pattern to go up was the university's emblem!

At this moment, every student from Mist City Arts and Science University felt a surge of passion!

"This firework display is so beautiful."

"Look at their New Year's Eve Gala, such style!"

"It really is stylish!"

"This New Year's Eve Gala from Mist City Arts and Science University surely didn't disappoint!"

"Guys, spam the chat with 'beautiful!'"

"Beautiful!"

"Beautiful +1!"

"Beautiful +10086!"

In the official live-streaming room of Mist City Arts and Science University, viewers who came to watch the New Year's Eve Gala were greatly impressed by the opening firework show.

Because the fireworks rose so high and formed very beautiful patterns, what's crucial is the live stream's camera work was truly great, finding the perfect angles, making the firework show even more gorgeous.

As the fireworks opened the show, the hosts of the New Year's Eve Gala were also introducing the origin of the fireworks and their features, telling the audience that these were designed and

| developed by students from the Firework Production and Management program and that the fireworks were pollution-free. |
|---|
| The online audience, upon hearing the host's introduction, all hailed in admiration with 'Awesome!' |
| Buzz~ |
| Buzzing~ |
| Following the end of the fireworks display, at the Central Sports Ground, numerous drones began buzzing. |
| Ding Yue had a very profound impression of these drones. |
| Because on his birthday, when he came to the Central Sports Ground for a rehearsal, it was this batch of drones that gave Ding Yue a huge surprise. |
| The drones took off! |
| This batch of drones was autonomously designed and developed by the students from the Drone major at Mist City Arts and Science University. Their technology was patented and core, and technically speaking, it could compare with the domestic DJI. |
| However, Mist City Arts and Science University's drone technology had not yet been commercialized on a large scale. |
| Partially because Ding Yue was considering that domestic DJI was actually very good, and if his Feiyue Group were to start drone operations, it would inevitably compete with DJI Group. |
| Ding Yue had a much better impression of DJI Company than of Penguin Group. |
| Penguin Group would be thrown out if possible, but DJI Company was different. |

Watching the slowly ascending drones, Ding Yue began to ponder that perhaps the drone technology and related talents from Mist City Arts and Science University could form a partnership with DJI Company. In doing so, they could expand the domestic and even global market for national drone technology, consolidate their position, and avoid fierce competition with DJI if they were to start a drone manufacturing company.

With this idea in mind, Ding Yue thought that perhaps it was worth a try.

The first batch of students from the Drone major at Mist City Arts and Science University was graduating next year. After graduation, they could either join DJI Company or create a drone company and then cooperate with DJI Company.

Buzz, buzz, buzz!

After the drones ascended slowly for a while, they quickly rose to a higher altitude, and then the lights on the drones turned on according to the program.

The drone performance officially began.

The firework display and drone performance were the opening acts for this New Year's Eve Gala at Mist City Arts and Science University and also served as an opportunity to showcase the hard technical skills of related majors.

"Alright, what we are now seeing in the drone performance are over 2000 drones, jointly created by our Drone major and the Drone Club from Mist City Arts and Science University, whose core technology was all autonomously designed and developed by our students!" the host began to introduce to the online audience.

"Wow, that's pretty awesome, right?"

Chapter 1262: This Viewership Rating, The Neighboring Province's TV Station Is Jealous to Tears 2

"I'm blown away, the students majoring in drones can actually build their own drones now?"

"This is really freaking awesome!"

"Is everyone at Mist City Arts and Science University this impressive? The fireworks for the performance are independently developed and designed by yourself, and even the drones used in the drone performance, it's all your own independent research and design too, Mist City Arts and Science University is really amazing!"

"As a student of Mist City Arts and Science University, I feel very proud at this moment."

"Holy shit! One and a half million viewers now!"

"I came to see Lin Zhirou, I really like Lin Zhirou!"

"I'm here for Big White, come on, every guy's dream is robots!"

"I wonder what that 'Mechanical Enhancement' act in the program list is like, can't wait!"

The audience watching the drone performance listened to the host's commentary and couldn't help but praise the show!

Not only that, but in just a few short minutes, the official live streaming room of Mist City Arts and Science University has already surpassed one and a half million viewers.

This has become the biggest live streaming room on the platform, and the numbers are about to explode.

Twitter and TikTok platforms, in order to ensure that such huge streaming traffic for Mist City Arts and Science University can be smoothly cashed in on, have specially assigned personnel to watch over the official streaming room of Mist City Arts and Science University to provide the necessary technical support for the stream.

After all, Twitter and TikTok are not foolish, they know that Mist City Arts and Science University's New Year's Eve Gala is a huge hot spot, because it's been trending several times, as a platform they definitely want to cash in on this wave of traffic!

The drone performance was met with wave after wave of applause from the audience.

Because just now, more than two thousand drones had performed a super cool and highly difficult technical display, sweeping through the entire Central Sports Ground like a tornado.

"Wow! This is so cool!"

"Dude, how is this program even written?"

"This drone tornado is so badass!"

Even Ding Yue clapped.

"I've always heard that the Computer Science department of Mist City Arts and Science University was awesome, now I've finally seen it."

"Programmers are gonna faint, okay? How do you even play like this without worrying about crashing?"

"Sadly, I'm uneducated. A simple 'holy shit' expresses the brilliance!"

This drone tornado performance indeed amazed everyone at the event and in the live streaming room; even Ding Yue was surprised.

"Who wrote the program for this drone performance, that tornado just now?"

After Ding Yue finished applauding, he turned to his secretary Wen Ruohan and asked.

Wen Ruohan was trying hard to recall details from the program list she had seen for tonight's New Year's Day Gala, trying to remember who the producer was for this drone performance.

Before Wen Ruohan could recall, Huang Youjie said with a smile beside him, "Yue, notice who's not here right now?"

After Ding Yue heard this, he looked at the seats around him; everyone who should be there was there.



And in Mist City Arts and Science University's official livestream room, the netizens and viewers could only use expressions like "Holy shit" and "Freaking awesome" at this point, and the chat was completely flooded with these two phrases.

The number of online viewers in the livestream room shot up from one and a half million to one and eight million in no time, and was still climbing at an incredibly fast pace.

In a college dorm room somewhere.

A bunch of people were either playing games preparing for the New Year's countdown, or watching Dream Blue or Toi TV Station's New Year's Eve Gala.

However.

There was someone who had once followed Mist City Arts and Science University and was now in their livestream room watching this private university's New Year's Eve Gala.

As soon as this person saw the drone performance, they couldn't contain the excitement in their heart anymore, turned around immediately, and began persuading their roommates, "Guys, this performance is seriously epic, you have to check out Mist City Arts and Science University's New Year's Eve Gala, or you'll regret it for the rest of your life!"

"Pfft, what's there to see in some crappy school's New Year's Eve Gala?" a roommate replied.

Half a minute later.

All the students in this dorm room were now huddled in front of the computer, watching the livestream of Mist City Arts and Science University's New Year's Eve Gala intently, while exclaiming, "Holy shit!", "That's so cool!", "Epic!" and the like.

Throughout the country, whether in universities or amongst young people, everyone who had seen the opening performance of Mist City Arts and Science University's New Year's Eve Gala was fervently recommending it to their roommates, classmates, and friends.

Just like that, the number of viewers in Mist City Arts and Science University's livestream room surged once again!

"Holy fuck! In one minute, about 300,000 viewers came in, nearly crashing the server!" an IT technician responsible for this particular Twitter livestream room of Mist City Arts and Science University exclaimed.

He had never seen anything like this before.

First of all, a livestream room with over one million real viewers was already rare, usually happening when some megastar was streaming, or during a national event, or even the Olympics.

But right now, in just a single minute, about 300,000 viewers had entered Mist City Arts and Science University's livestream room!

This sudden spike in viewership broke through to over two million online, astounding the technician for an entire year!

Similarly, almost the same thing was happening in TikTok's livestream rooms as well.

Meanwhile, over at Dream Blue TV Station, they thought they had prepared a New Year's Eve concert that the youth would enjoy and would set new viewership records.

But the person in charge of Dream Blue TV Station's New Year's Eve Gala looked at the data and felt that something was off from what they had expected.

Why were the ratings for this year's New Year's Eve concert so low?

Even in several platforms' livestream rooms, the number of online viewers was merely around tens of thousands, how could that be possible?

"What's going on? The concert has been on for a while, why are our ratings so poor?" Zhou Qian, who was in charge of Dream Blue TV Station's New Year's Eve concert, asked confusedly to someone nearby.

The quality of the New Year's concert hadn't declined compared to last year or the year before, so why did the viewership data plummet so drastically? Did the young people not like watching Dream Blue TV Station's New Year's Eve concert anymore?

Or did they all switch to watching Toi TV Station's New Year's Eve concert?

That shouldn't be the case!

Zhou Qian had checked out Toi TV Station's New Year's Eve concert lineup and it was fairly on par with their own at Dream Blue TV Station!

"You guys check how Toi TV Station's New Year's concert is doing," Zhou Qian ordered the people around her.

After a while, one of the staff members reported back, "Director Zhou, the situation on Toi TV Station's side is similar to ours."

"Really weird, it's like they've seen a ghost. Where have all the viewers gone?"

Zhou Qian was utterly puzzled.

Could it be that the viewers just vanished into thin air? Or did they all actually go out to celebrate the New Year in real life?

That's not possible either!

In the past, the TV station's livestream rooms could easily have over one million viewers, but now they're barely reaching tens of thousands.

"Director Zhou, I think I know why..."

Chapter 1263: Are You Freaking Kidding Me with Hand-rolled Mechs?

After the New Year's Eve Gala at Mist City Arts and Science University officially began, more and more netizens flocked to the live broadcast room of Mist City Arts and Science University to watch,

and most of them were young people, including many university students from various high schools.

In the past, these viewers usually watched the New Year's Eve concerts on Toi TV Station and Dream Blue TV Station.

But this year, they were attracted by a New Year's Eve Gala hosted by a private university.

After the drone and the pollution-free fireworks performances concluded, the next New Year's Eve Gala performance was a dance piece called "Nishang Yuyi".

This was a dance program rich with Xia Country's cultural elements, performed by twelve female dance students from Mist City Arts and Science University.

Accompanied by classical and elegant music, the entire stage was transformed under the performance of these twelve female dance students, creating excellent visual dance effects.

The "Nishang Yuyi" dance performed by these twelve female students vividly showcased the ancient culture of Xia Country!

Most crucially,

the twelve female dance students performing "Nishang Yuyi" were all incredibly attractive in terms of both physique and beauty, with even the least ranked starting from 80 points.

Hence, the overall watching experience was extremely eye-catching.

"It's beautiful!"

"This dance really has the classic charm of our Xia Country."

"The tune of 'Nishang Yuyi' should only exist in heaven!"

"The quality of this dance is really high, it must be difficult to achieve such complexity without many years of foundation."

"I heard these are students from the dance department of Mist City Arts and Science University."

"That's really impressive. Mist City Arts and Science University isn't an arts institution, right? Yet their dance students are as good as those from specialized dance institutes."

"This program is superb, truly classic."

"It has a bit of the flavor of Central Plains TV Station."

"Our Xia Country's cultural heritage is profound; the beauty displayed through the dance always makes one can't help but praise."

Thanks to the performance of the twelve female dance students, the dance program "Nishang Yuyi" received a lot of praise.

Because of this program, it brought much astonishment. Considering this dance foundation, stage effects, and costume effects, it was top-notch, even comparable to major provincial and even NTS stations.

This shows that Mist City Arts and Science University truly put one hundred percent effort into today's New Year's Eve Gala!

After the performance of "Nishang Yuyi" ended, netizens unanimously praised it as the best program so far!

In fact, this was merely the first officially started program.

Next was a recitation program by the Chinese department of Mist City Arts and Science University called "Children of Huaxia," which also performed quite well, imbued with a spirit of vigor.

However, the viewers commented that, although spirited, the recitation had a slightly dull taste compared to the shock brought by the first dance program "Nishang Yuyi."

Then came the third skit program "Celebrity by Data?"

This was brought by the members of the serial club at Mist City Arts and Science University.

Skits have always been a favorite among viewers. The programs at Mist City Arts and Science University's New Year's Eve Gala were diverse, starting from previous years, not just limited to songs and dances, but also including skits, recitations, National Arts, and others, which were very rich and splendid.

The skit "Celebrity by Data?" narrated a story about the entertainment industry, using the form of a skit to fully satire the chaos brought by stars fueled merely by their social media presence and even mocked the fan circle, earning unanimous praise from the netizens.

"Well done, this skit's script is good."

"These lines are really powerful."

"Everyone's performance is also great, hahaha, it killed me."

"Indeed quite funny, while being humorous it also critiques the chaos caused by flow-based celebrities and fan circle messes, really impressive!"

"I would call this the best program of the whole gala!"

"Q Entertainment Media, come take a hit; this is a total satire on Q Entertainment Media!"

"So on point, so on point. Who would've thought Mist City Arts and Science University could pull off such an excellent skit? This level of skit, I think it could make it to the Spring Festival Gala without any problem."

After watching this skit, netizens watching the live broadcast continuously praised the high standard of the performance of Mist City Arts and Science University's New Year's Eve Gala.

In the stands, Ding Yue smiled and said to the Director of the Sports and Arts Department, Xiong Yang, "Director Xiong, you've arranged a good skit."

"Thank you for the praise, Principal Ding," answered Director Xiong Yang with a smile, nodding.

"The next program is by the mechanical engineering department, right?"

Ding Yue had a good memory of the program list of the New Year's Eve Gala at Mist City Arts and Science University and knew that the next program was the "Mechanical Enhancement" by the mechanical engineering department.

The name of the program sounded very interesting, seemingly very suitable for young people to watch.

"Yes, yes, the next program is the 'Mechanical Enhancement' by the mechanical engineering department," Director Xiong Yang nodded and said.

Chapter 1264: Is This Directly Hand-Molding Mecha? _2

Ding Yue didn't speak, but silently anticipated the upcoming performance.

After the comedy skit "Celebrity for Likes?" ended, the host took the stage and began introducing the next act.

"Next up, please look forward to a performance titled 'Mechanical Enhancement,' created by the mechanical engineering students and faculty!"

After the host finished speaking, he exited the stage.

Then, the stage lights began to flash, followed by mechanical-like special effects appearing on the large screen.

The heavy industrial feel of the mechanical effects conveyed an overwhelming sense of urgency, accompanied by grand sound effects, immersing the atmosphere from the previous comedic skit into a world of industrial mechanics.

Students from the mechanical engineering department gradually took the stage, followed by various props that also exuded a strong mechanical industrial feel. After the props were assembled, the mechanical engineering students, with the accompaniment of special effects and music, began their performance of this craft art.

Yes!

The act "Mechanical Enhancement" was, in fact, a type of craft art performance, but not ordinary craft art—it was mechanical craft art.

Under the hands-on operation of the students from the mechanical engineering department at Mist City Arts and Science University, the massive mechanical parts began to be assembled!

"Damn! This is so hardcore!"

"What are they doing?"

"This looks so energetic."

"I just love the clanking sound of machinery; it's absolutely thrilling."

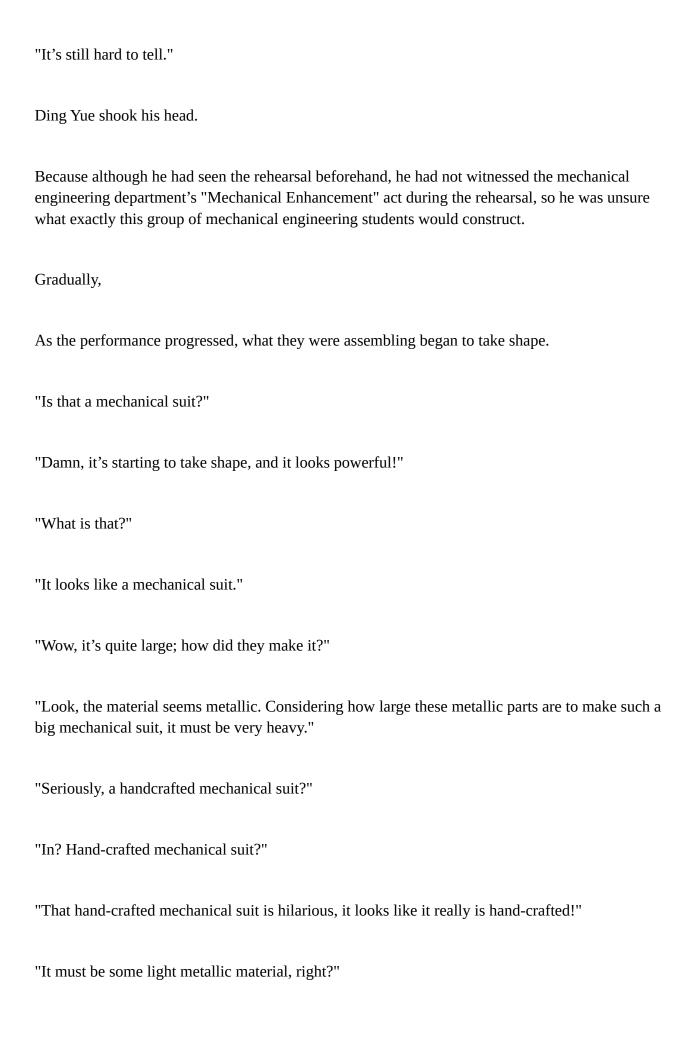
"Are they assembling something?"

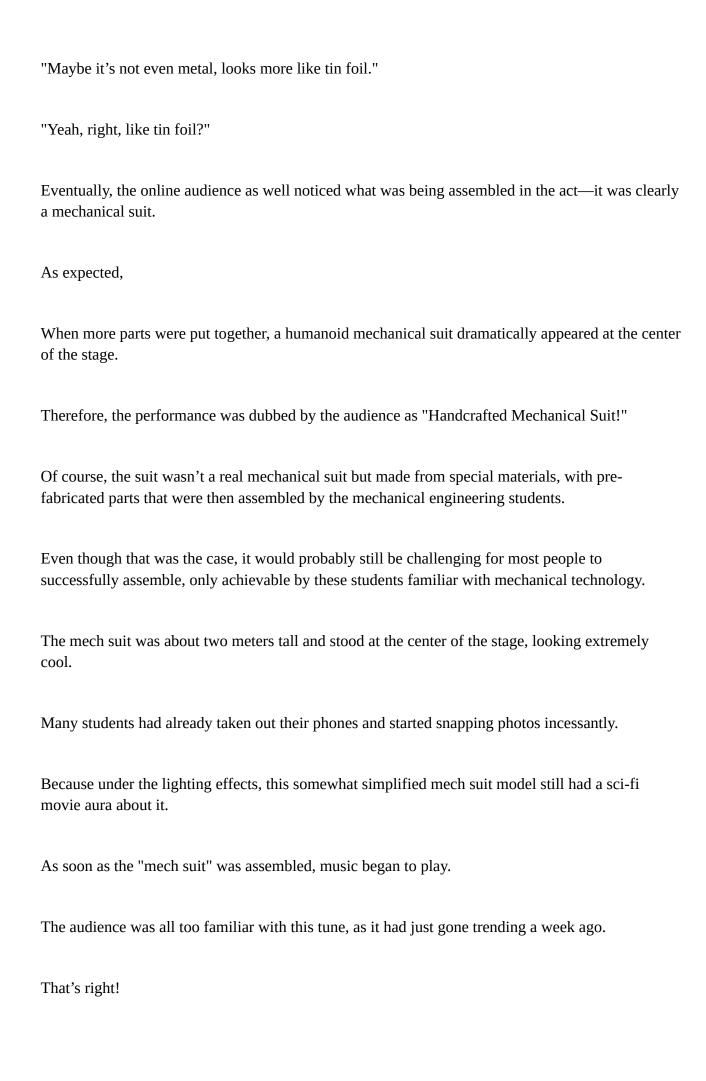
"The name of the showcase, 'Mechanical Enhancement,' sounds incredible!"

Both the student audience at the venue and viewers online were captivated by the name of the performance. After all, "Mechanical Enhancement" did sound very impressive.

On closer look, the act was a group of students methodically assembling something, coordinated with heavy industrial mechanical effects and music on the backdrop screen, making even the assembly mesmerizing.

"Yue, what are they assembling?" Huang Youjie asked Ding Yue, bewildered by the showcase titled "Mechanical Enhancement."





| It was the theme song of "Pacific Rim"! |
|--|
| The BGM, paired with the mech suit on the stage, instantly fired up both the stage and the entire show! |
| "Activate!" |
| A robust voice echoed from the stage. |
| The next second, the "mech suit" standing on the stage began to slowly rise, its feet emitting faint blue flames. |
| "Is it flying?" |
| Ding Yue watched in astonishment. |
| It was incredible that the mech suit, although just a model, was flying; did they install a propulsion engine in the model? |
| Such a costly undertaking? |
| But Ding Yue quickly realized he might be overthinking it. |
| Seeing how the mech suit slowly ascended, it didn't seem to be driven by propulsion. On closer inspection of the faint blue flames at the feet of the mech model, good heavens, it wasn't flame from an engine but merely a lighting effect. |
| "I knew it." |
| Ding Yue murmured to himself. |
| "How is it flying up?" |

"Ah, so it's hoisted by wires." Huang Youjie and Xu Bin started to converse. Ding Yue saw it too. As Huang Youjie and Xu Bin were discussing, the mech suit model was indeed hoisted up by wires. And the faint blue flames at the feet were indeed lighting effects, not real flames. However, the stage effect was still quite impressive. From the assembly of the "mech suit" to its slow ascent, coupled with the BGM of "Pacific Rim," the show was taken to new heights. This program, unsurprisingly due to its novelty and creativity, as well as the quality-looking "mech suit" model and the topic of "handmade mech," successfully reached the trending topics on Twitter. Quickly, as netizens spread the word, "handmade mech" became the hottest phrase of the evening, even turning into a popular meme. Just before this program, "Mechanical Enhancement," the skit "Celebrity or Not?" was considered the best of the New Year's Eve Gala at Mist City Arts and Science University by netizens. Once "handmade mech" appeared, "Mechanical Enhancement" unquestionably became the new highlight of the show, propelling the New Year's Eve Gala to a new peak in viewership. "Principal Ding, the number of online viewers in our Twitter, TikTok, and our own Feiyue Streaming Media Platform's livestream has already exceeded five million," Secretary Wen Ruohan reported happily to Principal Ding.

Initially, Mist City Arts and Science University planned to use only the Feiyue Streaming Media

Platform for the official livestream.

"Didn't you see? There, yes, right there."

However, after considering the platform's insufficient traffic, Ding Yue realized the New Year's Eve Gala was a great opportunity to attract and redirect viewers.

Thus, Mist City Arts and Science University opened official livestreams on both Twitter and TikTok – the combined online audience across the three platforms had now surpassed five million, a tremendous number for a livestream.

After the "Mechanical Enhancement" program concluded, a very familiar melody resonated from the stage.

Ding Yue recognized this melody instantly; it stirred his very DNA.

Indeed.

It was Lin Zhirou's song "Meet." It had been a while since Ding Yue last heard this song, and today he could experience it live.

He wondered just how much Lin Zhirou's singing had improved over these two years.

Chapter 1265: National Arts Performance, Is This a Real Fight?

Listening to "Meet" again, Ding Yue couldn't help but reminisce about the time he introduced this song to Lin Zhirou.

Back then, Lin Zhirou was just a budding music talent showing her potential at Mist City Arts and Science University, and now, she had become a highly popular little queen of the pop music arena.

Ding Yue quietly listened to Lin Zhirou performing "Meet." It was clear that Lin Zhirou's singing skills, especially her live performance, were incredibly stable and explosive, showing significant improvement from before.

Such a girl, so devoted to music, truly had not had an easy journey.

Of course.

Behind all this, naturally, was the substantial support of Ding Yue, the principal; otherwise, it wouldn't have been so easy for Lin Zhirou to reach her current celebrated status in the music world.

For Mist City Arts and Science University, the most popular person at tonight's New Year's Eve Gala was undoubtedly Lin Zhirou.

Because Lin Zhirou's popularity was extremely high.

From her debut with three classic songs standing tall in the Pop Music Arena to now achieving a top-level popularity among the younger generation.

However.

Due to the continuous skyrocketing of her popularity, over the past year, fans' expectations for Lin Zhirou were exceedingly high.

Besides the continuous improvement in Lin Zhirou's singing skills, what the fans and netizens looked forward to more, unquestionably, was Lin Zhirou's new song.

Almost every day someone would ask when Lin Zhirou's new song would be released.

Would Lin Zhirou release a new song this year?

There was no helping it; "Meet," "Confession Balloon," and "Blue and White Porcelain" had been listened to over and over again.

Previously heard on Web Cloud Music and Penguin Music, now it was on the Feiyue Home Streaming Media platform where the fans eagerly awaited Lin Zhirou to release a new song.

In today's young generation of the Pop Music Arena, having one hit song was enough to be considered a pop star, but to produce three national-level songs like Lin Zhirou had done, she was probably the only one.

But to consolidate her status in the music arena, new songs still needed to be released.

After all, looking at the top stars of the Pop Music Arena, which of them didn't have many classic pop songs remembered by people?

Thus, before this, Ding Yue had already prepared Lin Zhirou's new song for this year.

To pair with tonight's New Year's Eve Gala, the song would be released tonight, to be performed live by Lin Zhirou herself before the digital version went online on the Feiyue Home Streaming Media platform.

This live performance of the new song was still to come.

After finishing "Meet," Lin Zhirou's next act was one of the highlights of today's New Year's Day Gala.

The name of this performance was "Hanfu Show," provided by the members of the Hanfu Society of Mist City Arts and Science University, mainly featuring Hanfu designed by Xu Meijia for the "models" to display!

Most importantly, several of the "models" displaying Xu Meijia's designed Hanfu were beauties from Mist City Arts and Science University, like Jiang Yao and others, whom Ding Yue had seen during rehearsal, each with exceptional beauty, scoring above ninety.

What did ninety points mean?

In Ding Yue's standard for beauties, a score above eighty was considered beautiful; he even wondered if Xu Meijia had called over all the beauties of Mist City Arts and Science University to be "models" just to showcase her own Hanfu designs?

"Next, please enjoy the performance brought to you by our university's Hanfu Society—'Hanfu Show'!"

After the host finished introducing, the style on the stage changed drastically.

It instantly took on an ancient aesthetic.

The atmosphere was rich with national arts.

Moreover, a BGM that everyone was extremely familiar with started playing; indeed, it was the music of "Blue and White Porcelain" by Lin Zhirou, purely instrumental, but even as just instrumental, it sounded very beautiful and elegant.

Accompanied by the national arts-themed stage and BGM, the first model dressed in stunning Hanfu walked onto the stage.

This model was none other than Jiang Yao, the second beauty of Mist City Arts and Science University!

Following her appearance were Jiang Qiuying, Zhang Yu, and other beauties from the third batch of beauties from Mist City Arts and Science University, each incredibly attractive, especially dressed in stunning Hanfu. As they made their appearance, they immediately drew cheers from the students in the audience.

"They're so beautiful!"

"Are these our school's beauties? I recognize one, that's Jiang Qiuying."

"This Hanfu looks so good, paired with these models, absolutely fabulous!"

"I was most looking forward to this Hanfu Show."

"I've seen them wear Hanfu before; this Hanfu seems to be designed by Xu Meijia, right? It's really beautiful."

"This Hanfu performance coupled with 'Blue and White Porcelain' as BGM, it's simply perfect."

And in the official live broadcast room of Mist City Arts and Science University, as soon as the audience in the chat saw the models wearing Hanfu come onstage during the "Hanfu Show," the chat was filled with one term—wife!

Everyone wished that one or even all of these models dressed in Hanfu were their wives or wouldn't mind if all of them were their wives.

Chapter 1266: National Arts Performance, Is This a Real Fight? _2

Ding Yue was different. Watching the Hanfu fashion show performance and seeing the beautiful university students from Mist City Arts and Science University dressed in the Hanfu designed by Xu Meijia, he quietly cultivated his own temperament. It was a pure appreciation of beauty, nothing else.

The performance of the "Hanfu Show" program, with the stunning Hanfu designed by Xu Meijia, shocked the vast online audience and the beautiful students of Mist City Arts and Science University likewise stunned the viewers. In the live stream of Mist City Arts and Science University, the number of online viewers spiked, reaching new heights once again.

After the Hanfu show ended, the BGM of "Blue and White Porcelain" didn't disappear. Instead, Lin Zhirou made another appearance and seamlessly connected with the "Hanfu Show" program. Lin Zhirou stood on the stage again and sang live, bringing the audience the popular song "Blue and White Porcelain."

Moreover, Lin Zhirou was also dressed in Hanfu, still designed by Xu Meijia. In fact, Lin Zhirou's performance was part of the previous "Hanfu Show" program, essentially achieving a seamless transition.

"These two programs' seamless connection is really well done."

"It's my goddess Lin Zhirou again!"

"They're singing 'Blue and White Porcelain,' I'm so excited!"

"'Blue and White Porcelain' is coming, everyone stand up!"

Tonight, the New Year's Eve Gala at Mist City Arts and Science University, from the start to this moment, could be said to have consistently surprised and amazed the audience with a high-energy show!

After the song "Blue and White Porcelain," the next performance was a hardcore one!

It was also something many online viewers had been eagerly anticipating: a joint performance by the AI robot Big White and National Arts star Sun Chengkang, showcasing a program called "Cyberpunk 3077."

Big White's popularity was undeniable, even possibly rivaling Lin Zhirou's, and since gaining fame from that one fight, Sun Chengkang continued to build his fanbase with his solid skills, becoming a National Arts star himself.

Now, the two were joining forces to present a performance in the National Arts, and the expectations for this program were naturally sky-high.

"An exciting show is coming."

"Yue, who do you think would win in a fight using National Arts between Big White and Sun Chengkang?"

Huang Youjie beside Ding Yue asked excitedly.

Ding Yue rolled his eyes and muttered, "Huang, are you dumb? Big White is an AI; it learns National Arts incredibly fast."

"But Sun Chengkang is quite powerful. Last time, his beating of the Thai Boxing expert was so thrilling. A human's agility and maneuverability are not something a machine can match."

Huang Youjie argued, believing that humans could defeat robots.

However, just then, Xu Bin laughed and said, "Can Ke Jie even beat AlphaGo?"

"It seems he really can't."

Huang Youjie rubbed his chin, recalling the past AI-human battle where AlphaGo consistently defeated Ke Jie.

"Besides, Big White's mobility is so strong, humans can't compare," Xu Bin added.

Moments later, Huang Youjie couldn't help but mutter, "If Big White is that powerful, what will happen if AI goes out of control one day?"

"Artificial Intelligence, artificial comes first, intelligence follows; it is still based on human premises."

Ding Yue shrugged and said with a smile, "The show is about to start."

By the way, Ding Yue changed the subject, reminding his two friends to focus on the performance because if they continued discussing the topic of AI losing control, the three of them could probably debate here for days and nights.

The stage lighting and the large-screen effects gradually turned cyberpunk.

Then there came a heavy introductory voiceover.

The story background of the performance was set in an era when humans had entered the cyberpunk era, where robots and humans coexisted, and some humans had even modified their bodies to become mechanical.

This backdrop immediately piqued the interest of the vast online audience.

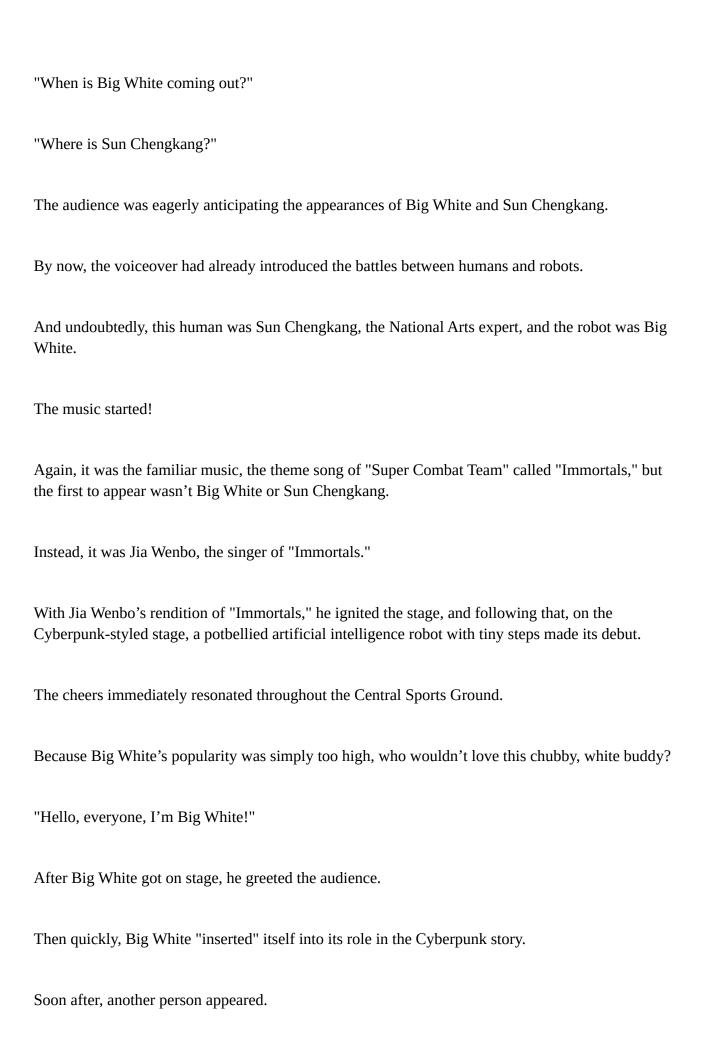
Because in this Parallel World, a popular cyberpunk worldview had not yet formed, making cyberpunk quite niche for this world's culture.

"This is interesting!"

"Is this what cyberpunk is?"

"Awesome, mechanical enhancement of humans. This reminds me of that mechanical enhancement program from before."

"The story background seems really interesting."



It was Sun Chengkang! The well-known star of National Arts from Xia Country—Sun Chengkang, who was still young, otherwise, he could have been honored as a master or grandmaster of National Arts. After Sun Chengkang got on stage, he confronted Big White. According to the backstory, the two were "adversaries" who were now about to engage in a duel, one representing human National Arts and the other the robot's National Arts. How fascinating would this clash of National Arts be? The students of Mist City Arts and Science University and the audience watching the live broadcast were all eagerly anticipating. "Wow, this show is quite interesting, National Arts superstar Sun Chengkang and Big White are having a duel?" "Looks like two individuals, no, one person and one robot are going to fight." "The entertainment value here is high." "My adrenaline is shooting up!" "I wonder if Big White can beat Sun Chengkang?" "Big White is an AI robot, learning National Arts must be a matter of minutes, right?" "It's starting!"

While the audience was abuzz, the robot Big White and Sun Chengkang started exchanging blows

on stage.

Good heavens!

When Sun Chengkang made his move, it was with a punch as swift as the wind, while Big White also demonstrated powerful National Arts moves, handling Sun Chengkang's attacks effortlessly.

From the outset, a man and a robot plunged into intense combat mode. It was needless to say for Sun Chengkang, whose prowess had already proven admirable in many National Arts competitions or duels against foreigners.

And Big White, don't be fooled by his chubby, iron-clad appearance; when it came to fighting, his agility was incredible—a real demonstration of what it means to be an agile big guy!

The fight between Big White and Sun Chengkang was obviously a series of solid punches, definitely a real duel, not just for show.

"Why does this look like a real fight?"

"Right, it's too intense."

"Big White hasn't gone out of control, has it?"

"At first, I thought it was a National Arts showcase between Sun Chengkang and Big White, but now, it seems it's not that simple."

"Holy shit, it's not a performance match? It's a real fight?"

The audience was completely stunned.

Everyone thought it was just a performance between the robot Big White and Sun Chengkang, but unexpectedly, Sun Chengkang and Big White were genuinely sparring.

And as the intensity of the PK escalated, Sun Chengkang was already somewhat out of breath.

After all, Sun Chengkang was human, while Big White was a machine, and Big White's power was much stronger than Sun Chengkang's.

"Big White, you are really amazing!"

During a break in their combat, Sun Chengkang couldn't help but praise Big White.

"The principal said, if you're running out of strength, you can tell me right away!" Big White responded.

This was a command Ding Yue had set for Big White.

That meant the two were "really" sparring, but if Sun Chengkang felt his strength waning, he could immediately end the duel.

Chapter 1267: Not Raising Them for So Many Years for Nothing

The thrilling duel between a martial arts superstar and an artificial intelligence robot at the New Year's Eve Gala had once again pushed the performance to new heights of excellence.

"It's just too thrilling."

"The fight was intense, but I think humans still can't beat robots, because robots, as long as they have a power source, have essentially limitless stamina, but humans are different."

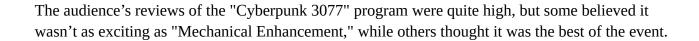
"Sun Chengkang's martial arts skills seem to have improved a lot."

"Is this Big White? He usually looks so clumsy and cute, I didn't expect him to be able to fight like this."

"I would call this program the best of the entire event."

"While this program was quite exciting and intense, I still think the previous 'Mechanical Enhancement' was more creative and thrilling."

"Yes, yes, I prefer 'Mechanical Enhancement' a little more."



"Whew."

On stage, the martial arts duel between Sun Chengkang and Big White was fiercely contested, but as the audience had anticipated, Big White, powered by a graphene battery, had a strong energy source, whereas Sun Chengkang, being only human, had limited stamina, so as the duel drew on, Sun Chengkang felt himself running out of energy.

"I can't do this anymore. Big White, I can't keep up."

Sun Chengkang said to Big White.

Sure enough, Big White quickly withdrew his hands and then moved in front of Sun Chengkang.

And just at this moment, the song "Immortals" sung by Jia Wenbo also ended, marking the close of the martial arts duel.

Rustle~

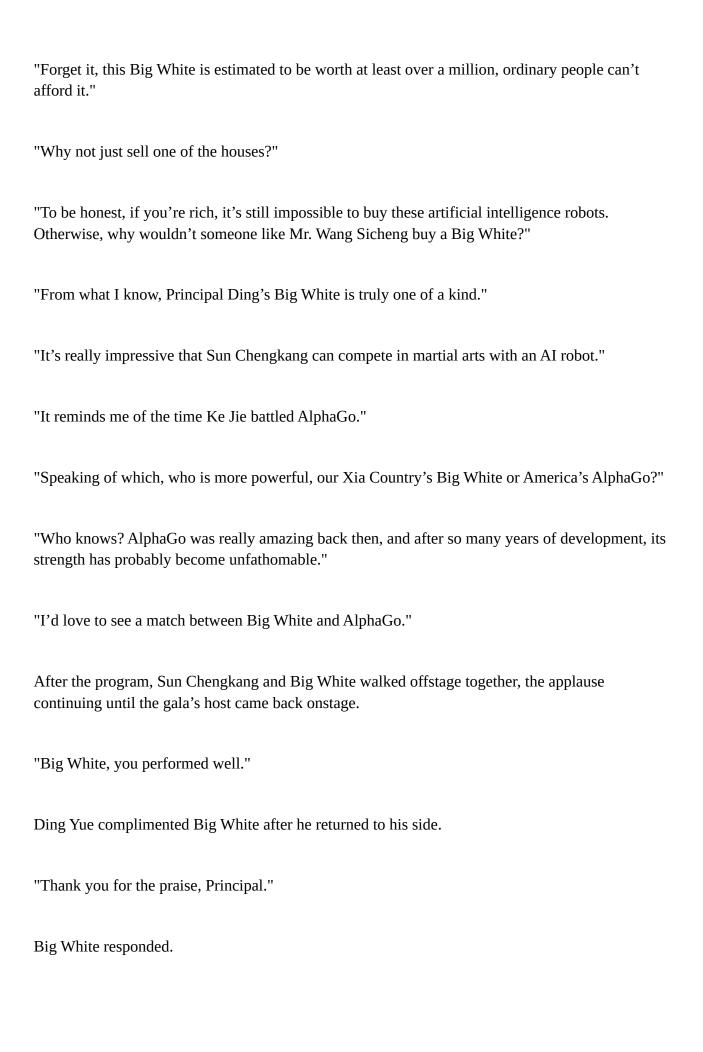
As both Sun Chengkang and Big White stopped fighting, the venue erupted with a round of loud applause.

The martial arts duel that Sun Chengkang and Big White presented deserved that applause. The audience watching the live stream also very much affirmed the program by the duo, or rather, by one man and one robot.

"It really leaves you wanting more."

"When is Sun Chengkang's next martial arts PK? I'll definitely buy a ticket and go watch it live to support him."

"I really want a Big White myself."



Then Big White stood by his owner, Ding Yue's side, looking charmingly naive, while Sun Chengkang returned to the dressing room. The performance had really taken a lot out of him since it was a real fight against Big White, leaving him no choice but to rest.

After "Cyberpunk 3077," another major segment was next.

From the program schedule, everyone knew what was coming up next—a trailer for the sci-fi movie "Wandering Earth," directed by Su Yangfan. It was a production involving Mist City Arts and Science University's School of Film and Television, Feiyue Media, and many talented actors.

Until recently, the sci-fi movie "Wandering Earth" had maintained good confidentiality, with director Su Yangfan only having released some news in recent weeks.

Tonight, the trailer would be released, and Feiyue Media had submitted "Wandering Earth" to the film bureau for approval. If it passed, it would be secured for a release during the Spring Festival Period.

Now, with just over a month until the Spring Festival...

"Hello everyone, I am director Su Yangfan."

Su Yangfan was now standing in the center of the stage with a microphone.

The next moment was for Su Yangfan and his sci-fi movie "Wandering Earth."

"Believing that everyone has watched my sci-fi TV series 'Transdimensional Contact,' I am fortunate to have led a team of excellent filmmakers from Mist City Arts and Science University to direct 'Wandering Earth,' a sci-fi movie. I am very grateful to Principal Ding for giving me this opportunity. Having spent nearly two years on this project and investing more than 1.5 billion yuan, we have created a top-notch sci-fi movie with stunning special effects and an exciting plot. Now, let's all enjoy the first trailer of 'Wandering Earth.'"

Chapter 1268: Years of Nurturing Not in Vain _2

After Su Yangfan finished speaking, he invited everyone to watch the big screen on the stage.

Then, a two-minute-plus trailer edited by Su Yangfan himself began to play. In the trailer, a lot of key element information was presented, information that the audience of this Parallel World had almost never heard of. For example, the sun was expanding rapidly and was about to engulf the Earth. And humanity, in order to survive, was pooling global resources to build planetary engines to propel the Earth away from the solar system and toward Proxima Centauri, which is 4.2 light-years away! The trailer was only a little over two minutes long, but after it played, the students onsite couldn't help but exclaim. "Wow, this setting looks awesome." "What? Propel the Earth out of the solar system?" "Now I understand why it's called 'Wandering Earth.'" Not just the students onsite, but also the online viewers in the livestream were exclaiming that the idea was simply explosive! "This idea is awesome!" "Holy shit! Planetary engines, that sounds so cool!" "The special effects seem pretty good." "I love this theme!" "There really aren't any top-notch sci-fi works in our country yet." "There are a few sci-fi movies that are pretty good."

"I wonder if it will be good when it's made?"

"It's hilarious, using an engine to push the Earth out of the solar system? It might be better to just build a spaceship and fly out of the solar system."

It must be said, the first trailer of 'Wandering Earth' had really whet the audience's appetite. The Mist City Arts and Science University official livestream, with its several million viewers, was filled with people eagerly anticipating this sci-fi movie.

"Thank you all for watching the trailer of 'Wandering Earth.' Barring any surprises, 'Wandering Earth' will meet everyone on the first day of the Spring Festival Period. If you like this genre or are interested in this idea, please go to the cinemas and support us when the time comes. Thank you!"

After the trailer for 'Wandering Earth' had played, Su Yangfan spoke for a bit more and then sincerely bowed to everyone.

After all, the success of a movie definitely depends on the strong support of its audience.

The segment featuring the 'Wandering Earth' trailer ended after Director Su Yangfan left the stage.

Today's Mist City Arts and Science University New Year's Eve Gala was one thrilling segment after another, and after each exciting part finished, the next segment was something the audience was eagerly anticipating.

Because next, Lin Zhirou was going to perform again.

And this time Lin Zhirou was not singing an old song, but a new song!

Lin Zhirou's new song was something her many fans had been eagerly awaiting, and even ordinary netizens were looking forward to what this powerful diva would bring this time.

"Hello everyone, I am Lin Zhirou, and we meet again."

After coming on stage, Lin Zhirou greeted the audience enthusiastically.

The students onsite were needless to say, all alumni and fans of Lin Zhirou, naturally cheered continuously.

And in the livestream, without even thinking, the barrage of "wife" completely flooded the screen.

If Ding Yue saw the barrage in his Mist City Arts and Science University's livestream, he would probably be furious, thinking these people really needed to find their own wives

"I know you've all been waiting a long time for my new song, and today I brought it for you. Next year, I will also actively work on releasing more new songs, and if possible, I'd like to release an album," Lin Zhirou continued.

The conversation quickly turned to the new song.

"It's hard to describe the new song, but I'll sing it in a bit, and you all can take a listen. Also, at midnight tonight, the digital music version will be promptly available on the Feiyue Home streaming media platform. I welcome everyone to come to Feiyue Home streaming media platform to listen to my new song."

As Lin Zhirou said this, she didn't forget to wink.

That one wink was enough to make countless people shout that Wei was dead!

As Lin Zhirou promoted her new song, she naturally didn't forget to promote the school's Feiyue Home streaming media platform, since Feiyue Home streaming media platform really needed the traffic now.

"Okay, let the music begin."

Lin Zhirou finished speaking and was ready to start singing.

Everyone silently watched the stage, viewing the live broadcast, waiting for Lin Zhirou to bring this mysterious new song.

The melody gradually rose, vast and ethereal, long and distant, giving a very unique feeling that instantly deeply captivated those who heard this song for the first time.

Ding Yue was the only person in the audience who was familiar with this melody.

"The silent waves drowned the night, spreading over the corners of the sky..."

Lin Zhirou's singing was pure and haunting, and there couldn't have been a more perfect song for her to sing.

This was also the reason why Ding Yue had chosen this song for Lin Zhirou, "Big Fish" matched her very well.

"Big Fish swims through the crevices of dreams,

Gazing at your sleeping silhouette,

Watching the horizon blend with the sea, listening to the wind and the rain,

Holding your hand, dispersing the vast smoky waves,

The wings of the Big Fish are already too vast,

I let go of the rope of time..."

This "Big Fish," from a gentle chanting to a distant and stirring expression, was rich in layers and consistently heartfelt; the audience was intoxicated, completely engrossed and unable to extricate themselves.

Lin Zhirou's strong singing ability, especially during this live performance of "Big Fish," was incredibly steady. With her continuous practice over this period, she had mastered the song.

"Watching you fly away, watching you leave me,



"You don't need to subscribe on Feiyue Home Streaming Media, bro!"

"Really? That's just terrific!"

Regarding Lin Zhirou's new song, whether it was students at the venue or the audience watching the live broadcast, everyone wanted to hear it immediately, but they would still have to wait until midnight for it to be available on the Feiyue Home Streaming Media platform.

Now, many viewers watching the live stream pulled out their phones or got on their computers to download the Feiyue Home Streaming Media platform.

Suddenly, the download count for the initially stabilizing Feiyue Home Streaming Media platform surged once again.

After singing "Big Fish," Lin Zhirou added, "If you liked it, don't forget tonight at midnight, it will officially go online on the Feiyue Home Streaming Media platform. My songs will be exclusively released on Feiyue Home Streaming Media from now on, so please go and listen. Thank you, everyone."

Lin Zhirou finished speaking and respectfully bowed.

Ding Yue, watching from the stands, nodded happily as he watched Lin Zhirou's promotional effort, pleased to see that the years of nurturing her talent were well worth it!

Chapter 1269: Reviewing the Past, Looking Forward

After Lin Zhirou's mysterious new song segment concluded, today's New Year's Eve Gala at Mist City Arts and Science University eased into less high-energy performances.

The subsequent shows, "New Year's Canteen" and "Doctors without Boundaries," though of decent quality, clearly couldn't match the astonishing impacts of "Mechanical Enhancement" and "Cyberpunk 3077."

These two shows, organized by the students from the Medical School and the Cuisine and Gastronomy Department, focused on themes of food and medicine.

As these performances concluded, Mist City Arts and Science University's New Year's Eve Gala tonight moved towards its final stage.

This meant that Principal Ding Yue was soon to take the stage.

For tonight's New Year's Eve Gala featured a segment that was meant to summarize the past year's accomplishments at Mist City Arts and Science University and set forth the expectations for the future.

Essentially, it was a classic reflection on the past and vision for the future.

"Next, please welcome our Principal Ding Yue of Mist City Arts and Science University to deliver the annual summary," the host announced.

A torrent of applause erupted.

To the students of Mist City Arts and Science University, Principal Ding was nothing short of a "god-like" figure. Had it not been for Principal Ding establishing this private university, none of these students would have a place to realize their dreams.

In Mist City Arts and Science University, at least ninety-nine percent of the students pursued majors related to their personal interests.

Principal Ding Yue had already risen from his seat in the audience and made his way towards the stage.

In no time, Principal Ding Yue reached the stage, microphone in hand, smiling as he greeted everyone, "Hello, everyone."

"Hello, Principal Ding!"

The students in the audience cheered passionately.

Seeing Principal Ding, everyone was thrilled, especially since he was about to present this year's summary for Mist City Arts and Science University.

In his hands, Principal Ding Yue held a summary report prepared in advance, covering the areas of educational work, scientific research, practical results, and mutual accomplishments between Mist City Arts and Science University and the Feiyue Group.

"Next, I will present our past year's achievements in education, research, and development in our annual summary," said Principal Ding Yue calmly.

At this moment, all of the more than 80,000 students of Mist City Arts and Science University, whether present on the scene or watching the live broadcast from their dormitories, were earnestly awaiting Principal Ding Yue's annual summary.

"In the past year, we welcomed over fifty thousand new students to our university, bringing the total number to over eighty thousand. Thanks to everybody's diligent studies and the hard work of our thousands of teaching staff, Mist City Arts and Science University has successfully completed another year's educational and learning missions," Principal Ding Yue stated with increasing fervor.

"Over the past year, all aspects of our educational work have run smoothly, with knowledge and technologies being tangibly implemented across every department, major, and class. I've witnessed the students' efforts, and I am proud of you all!" expressed Principal Ding Yue.

What he highlighted were his own students at Mist City Arts and Science University.

They had not disappointed him as their knowledge was profoundly rooted, forming a foundation strong enough to build up great achievements.

If this were an ordinary undergraduate university, failing subjects might be overwhelmingly high.

"Across departments and specialties like mechanical, medical, legal, computer, agricultural, fishing and animal husbandry, construction, media arts, film, Chinese, National Arts, eSports gaming, and cuisine and gastronomy, our school has achieved commendable results over the past year," Principal Ding Yue began, addressing the colleges that had demonstrated notable performance.

This message was aimed particularly at the department heads of each college.

After all, being mentioned by Principal Ding Yue in Mist City Arts and Science University's annual summary was a great honor.

"In terms of science and technology, our university has reached an internationally advanced level in areas such as graphene materials, graphene batteries, battery energy, artificial intelligence, and new energy vehicles, thanks to the efforts of our excellent students and faculty. Here, I want to thank them for their contributions!" continued Principal Ding Yue in his summary.

This aspect was particularly significant for both Mist City Arts and Science University and Feiyue Group, achieving such impressive results in the field of technology was no small feat.

"Wow, Mist City Arts and Science University is really incredible?"

"Just two or three years ago, Mist City Arts and Science University was a private university that everyone looked down upon."

"I remember the trending topics a few years ago, back then many people didn't think highly of Mist City Arts and Science University."

"But now, Mist City Arts and Science University has completely transformed."

"To be honest, if I hadn't already graduated from college, I would want to study at Mist City Arts and Science University. The vibe of this university is just too amazing."

"Exactly, if I were studying at Mist City Arts and Science University, maybe I could have achieved even more."

Chapter 1270: Reflecting on the Past, Looking Forward to the Future _2

"My younger brother is planning to apply to the Mist City Arts and Science University after he finishes his College Entrance Examination next year."

"Now, the Mist City Arts and Science University is no longer considered a subpar private institution; it has become the place where many dream-filled College Entrance Exam students realize their dreams."

Upon hearing the summary given by Principal Ding during the livestream, the netizens watching couldn't help but feel moved.

The Mist City Arts and Science University indeed initially gave off the impression of a money-grubbing, low-quality private school, but after years of development and construction, it renewed its image in the hearts of many netizens time and again through its own strengths.

"What's past is past. We cannot rest on our laurels and become complacent; as an innovative institution, our duty is to look to the future."

After summarizing the past achievements, Principal Ding naturally moved on to envision the future.

"In the coming year, we are going to welcome the first cohort of graduates from Mist City Arts and Science University, namely, the senior students."

Principal Ding first mentioned this point.

This would also be the focus for the Mist City Arts and Science University in the next year — the graduation status of the first cohort of students.

In general, senior students start thinking about job searching or preparing for postgraduate studies during their senior year, as most of their main courses are finished and internships begin.

For senior students, this is a year to prepare for graduation, and by the second half of the next year, the situation will be even more serious.

By the first half of the year after next, Mist City Arts and Science University will officially issue diplomas to the first large group of students, witnessing their graduation.

When Principal Ding spoke about this, the most excited were undoubtedly the first batch of students who entered the University.

They had already mastered the professional knowledge they loved through their study at Mist City Arts and Science University, and some had even achieved success in postgraduate examinations and joined Feiyue Group, finding very satisfying jobs in their lives.

Of course, this was the minority; most of the first cohort of students followed the ordinary graduation process, studying their professional knowledge diligently every academic year, earning the related credits, and eventually accomplishing a smooth graduation in their senior year.

"I hope that when the time comes, our graduates from Mist City Arts and Science University can present a satisfactory report card to their alma mater," said Ding Yue with a smile.

"Absolutely!"

"We won't disappoint our alma mater."

"Hahaha, sorry, I've already secured a spot for postgraduate studies."

"I've already found a job, thank you Principal Ding for offering me work at Feiyue Group!"

"For ourselves, for Mist City Arts and Science University, and for the rise and prosperity of our nation, we must strive ceaselessly."

These junior students, one by one, felt their blood boil after hearing what Principal Ding said.

"In the future, Mist City Arts and Science University will undoubtedly continue to create more miracles in professional knowledge and scientific and technological fields, so please look forward to it."

Principal Ding merely gave a brief description when looking to the future.

He didn't elaborate on what Mist City Arts and Science University would do in the future regarding the instruction in professional knowledge, research and development in scientific technology, and the like, but there's no doubt that the University will continue to advance.

In actuality, Ding Yue knew very clearly that in the next one or two years, the most critical challenge for Mist City Arts and Science University was semiconductor chips.

With the launch of new energy vehicles and the crisis in domestically-produced chips, semiconductor chips were presented with a huge opportunity.

Naturally, Principal Ding wanted his University to seize this chance, to make the photolithography machine project progress more smoothly, and to gradually help domestic semiconductor chips break free from foreign strangleholds.

And so, Ding Yue completed his annual summary of the past and outlook for the future.

And as for tonight's Mist City Arts and Science University New Year's Eve Gala, it was also reaching the time to say goodbye.

Once the annual summary was over, there were no more artistic performances, but there was a drone show still to come.

After the drone performance ended, time quickly approached midnight.

Ding Yue, the students present, and the several millions of viewers in the livestream prepared to countdown to the New Year together.

"Okay, we've got the final ten seconds before we welcome the New Year, let's countdown together."

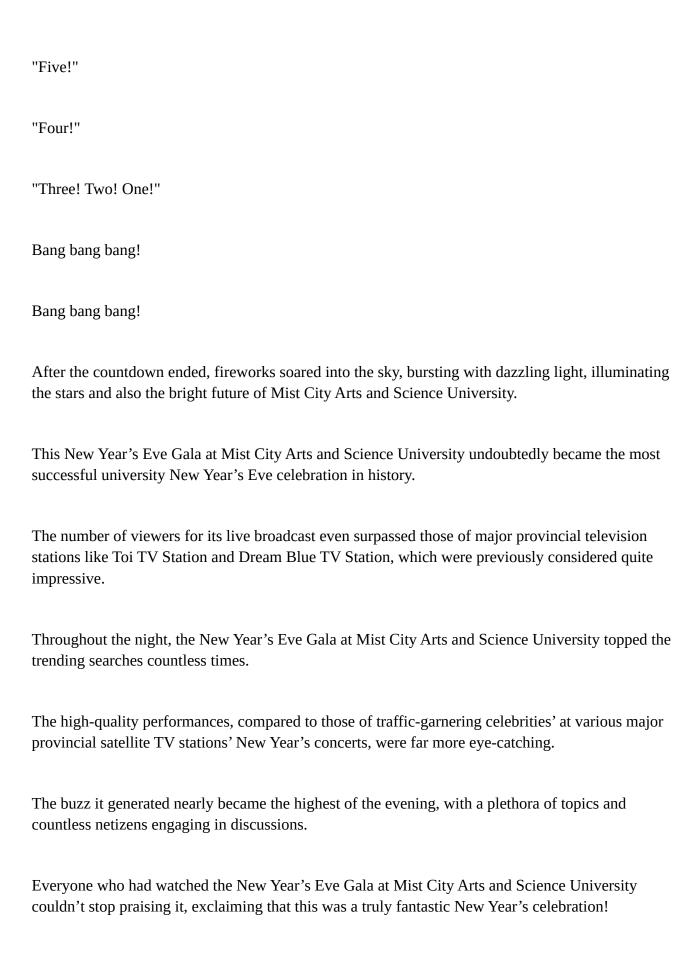
"Ten!"

"Nine!"

"Eight!"

"Seven!"

"Six!"



That night, the Feiyue Home streaming media platform also gained a batch of new users because of

the event.

Especially after midnight, when "Little Diva" singer Lin Zhirou's new song "Big Fish" officially hit the Feiyue Home streaming media platform, there was a huge surge in new user registrations.

Without a doubt, all these new users came for Lin Zhirou's new song "Big Fish."

This time, to generate traffic for the Feiyue Home streaming media platform, Lin Zhirou made a decision: her new song "Big Fish" would be temporarily available for free, offering the listening service to the audience at no cost for a limited time.

Because in Parallel World copyright awareness is very strong, original works—whether they're novels, music, or drama series—are charged for once released.

For instance, individual music tracks are usually priced at one to two yuan, which ensures that creators and musicians can profit and thus continue creating.

Previously, Lin Zhirou's songs "Meet," "Confession Balloon," and "Blue and White Porcelain" created extremely high sales volumes on Web Cloud Music and Penguin Music platforms!

This time, offering it for free for a limited time was to attract a user base to the Feiyue Home streaming media platform.

But this would definitely reduce Lin Zhirou's income. She was willing to do so—and Ding Yue, of course, had nothing to say against it and naturally supported Lin Zhirou's decision.

After midnight, into the first of January, it wasn't just Lin Zhirou's new song that drew a massive audience.

A new shopping interface was added to the Feiyue Home streaming media platform.

Within the shopping interface, one item was particularly eye-catching, a product that many had long anticipated—the pre-sale page for the Feiyue Future New Energy Vehicle.

That's right!

Feiyue Group directly placed the sales of the Feiyue Future new energy vehicle on the Feiyue Home streaming media platform.

After all, the Feiyue Home streaming media platform is a core element of Feiyue Group. With movies, TV, games, music, live broadcasts, and shopping all to be developed, Feiyue Group could completely free itself from other companies' "restrictions" or "suppression."

"Tonight, our Feiyue Home platform is destined to welcome a huge wave of users," Ding Yue confidently speculated before going to bed. After browsing his Feiyue Home streaming media platform, Ding Yue covered himself with a blanket and went to sleep.