

## F. University 161

Chapter 161: Increase in Tuition, Collecting Money

Was the last time Ding Yue had a conversation with Director Jiang Xiuli of the Arts Department when Lin Zhirou was participating in the National College Student Art Festival Music Competition?

She unexpectedly came to his office this time.

"Director Jiang, what can I do for you?"

Ding Yue looked at Jiang Xiuli, asking in puzzlement.

Busy department heads like Jiang Xiuli would definitely not come to him without reason.

Just like the last time when Zhu Youzhao from the Film and Television Academy came to see him.

"President Ding, there's something about our Arts Department I'd like to discuss with you," Jiang Xiuli said seriously after sitting on the sofa.

"Go ahead."

"Here's the thing. Ever since Lin Zhirou's 'Confession Balloon' officially went on sale and became a hit on May 20th, our school's Arts Department has gotten a lot of attention. My office phone has been ringing off the hook these past few days."

"What? Are people causing trouble?"

The first thing Ding Yue thought of after hearing this was that someone might be stirring up trouble on purpose?

"No, President Ding, that's not it. These calls are from many students who are about to take the College Entrance Examination this year, as well as some previous graduates, calling to ask whether our Arts Department at Mist City Arts and Science University will admit students this year and if so, how many."

Jiang Xiuli quickly shook her head and explained.

"Oh, that issue. Yes, we're admitting students. However many come, we'll admit that many," Ding Yue spread his hands and said.

He doesn't have to worry about insufficient dormitory space in the school now.

There are currently twelve apartment dormitory buildings under construction in the school.

In a modern university, a single dormitory building can accommodate at least two to three thousand students. If it's a four-person or six-person dorm room, then one dormitory building could even house five thousand students.

There are also two apartment buildings on top of that.

Ding Yue initially estimated that after the school's first phase of expansion was completed, the total accommodation capacity of the old and new apartment dormitories would be at least seventy thousand people.

How many students can the Arts Department admit as much as they want?

If they admit ten times more than last year, that would be a little more than a thousand students.

Admitting one student equates to several tens of thousands of yuan.

"That's not a problem, but President Ding, our teaching resources in the Arts Department are limited. If we have open admissions this year, should we consider the issue of tuition fees? After all, we're the Arts Department, different from other general departments."

Jiang Xiuli brought up this suggestion from the teachers of the Arts Department.

Of course.

Jiang Xiuli also supports the idea of separately charging tuition fees for the Arts Department, not uniformly charging 25,000 yuan per year like they did last year.

"Is Director Jiang suggesting that we raise the tuition fees of the Arts Department?"

Ding Yue furrowed his brows slightly when hearing this.

Upon further consideration, it seemed that Director Jiang Xiuli had a point. The increase in student numbers would inevitably require larger educational resources allocated into the Arts Department.

Therefore, it wouldn't be a problem to increase the tuition accordingly, right?

At 25,000 yuan per academic year, the tuition at an ordinary private university is indeed not high. In fact, many private universities charge much more — their fees are simply exorbitant!

In addition, the Arts Department is indeed a special department. It is quite normal to separately set tuition fees.

"Then, Director Jiang, since we are going to increase the tuition fees of the Arts Department, you have to also improve the teaching level of the department accordingly. Work closely with the administration to implement teacher recruitment."

Ding Yue agreed with Director Jiang Xiuli's suggestion.

But the premise of raising tuition is that the Arts Department must elevate the corresponding faculty strength.

"Okay, President Ding. I'll communicate with the administration and personnel about expanding the teaching staff. We'll definitely finish it before the start of the new year. So, President Ding, how much should we charge for tuition in the Arts Department in the new academic year?"

Jiang Xiuli asked again.

"We can't charge too much." After thinking for a moment, Ding Yue first shook his head and said, "Our Arts Department has gained a significant reputation thanks to Lin Zhirou's success. But you, Director Jiang, should also be aware that there's still a gap between our Arts Department and those professional art schools."

"Yes, President Ding, I understand. Why don't we increase it by 10,000 yuan based on the original tuition fee?"

Jiang Xiuli nodded and suggested.

"Three thousand five hundred yuan for Arts Department students. Hmm, that sounds about right. Let's settle on that." Ding Yue felt that an increase of 10,000 yuan was within a reasonable range.

After all, it is the Arts Department.

"Then, President Ding, I'll handle this matter right away." After Jiang Xiuli finished speaking, she stood up.

After leaving the principal's office, she was busy with the expansion of the faculty in the Arts Department and the new tuition standard.

Ding Yue has also considered before that as a private university, Mist City Arts and Science University can't possibly charge the same tuition fee of 25,000 yuan per academic year for all majors.

After all, the investment in some majors would indeed be higher, and the tuition will naturally increase once some majors become key development specialties in the school.

But Ding Yue did not expect the first one to raise tuition fees would be the Arts Department, and even took advantage of the opportunity when Lin Zhirou's song became a major hit.

In fact, Ding Yue knew why Director Jiang Xiuli and the teachers in the Arts Department were in favor of raising tuition fees.

That's because when the Arts Department increases the tuition fees, they, as the "old-timers" who joined the Arts Department in the first academic year, will certainly see a corresponding increase in their benefits from the school.

This point is indeed true.

After the Arts Department raises its fees and admits the second-year freshmen, Ding Yue will give Director Jiang Xiuli a raise.

However.

These days, Principal Ding Yue's primary focus was not the Art Department.

It was about the upcoming National Robotics Competition and National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition.

May 28th.

There were less than two days left before the kickoff of the National Robotics Competition and National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition.

Mist City Arts and Science University had already received a notice from the organizing committee after registering, instructing its competition team to participate in time.

As for the National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition, it was being held alongside the National Robotics Competition, so by participating in the competition, one could also appear at the exhibition.

In the afternoon.

After finishing her class, Wen Ruohan came to Principal Ding's office, ready to serve him at a moment's notice.

"Wen Ruohan, there are two days to go before the National Robotics Competition and National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition. Please confirm with the Mechanical and Computer Departments the number of people who will go to Shu City, and then prepare to book flights and hotels."

Ding Yue told Wen Ruohan to prepare in advance, it's not right to make a last-minute dash.

"Yes, sir."

Having received the task from Principal Ding, Wen went cheerfully about her work.

She first went to the Computer Department, counted the number of people going to Shu City in the Computer Department, and including Director Xu Bin and the department director, there were six in total, with the remaining four being one professor and three students.

They were all members of the team involved in developing Big White Robot's microchip.

"Computer Department, six."

After Wen Ruohan confirmed with Dean Liu Wei of the Computer Department, she quickly recorded the information in her notebook.

Then Wen Ruohan made another trip to Mechanical Engineering Department.

This time, the members of the Mechanical Department who were going to attend the National Robotics Competition with Principal Ding were Dean Cao Guowei.

And there were three students: Tong Yihang, Liu Tiefei, and Yang Jie of the Mechanical Engineering and Automation major, as well as Professor Li Shengbin.

That made a total of five people.

"Mechanical Department, five."

Wen Ruohan quickly wrote down.

That made eleven people here.

And Director Huang Youjie too.

Because Director Huang Youjie was also involved in the Big White Robot project; his major is Law, and he compiled the 'Comprehensive Legal Solutions' for Big White.

"Plus Director Huang, twelve people. Plus Principal Ding and me, that's fourteen."

After Wen Ruohan had tallied the number of people preparing to go to Shu City to participate in the National Robotics Competition and the National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition, she began to book flights and hotels.

Booking flights and hotels is one of the secretary's most frequent tasks.

Luckily, the flights from Mist City to Shu City were easily available these days, Wen Ruohan managed to book fourteen flight tickets all on the same flight.

Principal Ding must be in first class.

Then there were Director Huang and Director Xu, they needed business class; the remaining students could be in economy class.

"Done!"

With a few hours gone, Wen Ruohan finally booked the flights and the hotels.

Then she went to report flight and hotel reservation situation to Principal Ding.

"Wen Ruohan, please create a group for all of us who are going to Shu City with me to participate in the National Robotics Competition and the National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition, so that things can be announced."

"Okay, Principal Ding."

Wen Ruohan immediately ran to add everyone on Whatsapp, then created a group with over a dozen people and mentioned the booked flight and hotel information.

The flight time is at 11 o'clock on the morning of May 29th.

That is to say, everyone needs to get up early on May 29, eat breakfast, and head to the airport.

Wait a second.

Isn't May 29th tomorrow?

Wen Ruohan checked the time, and before she knew it, it was already evening. She hurried to the second cafeteria for dinner, then went back to her dormitory to rest early.

Early the next morning.

Principal Ding Yue got up early, woke up Huang and Bin, and the three of them went to the second cafeteria for breakfast.

The travel arrangements were basically sorted out by Secretary Wen Ruohan anyway.



Since there were a total of fourteen people going to Shu City this time, Ding Yue couldn't drive his own Audi A8, even with Huang and Bin's cars, it was not enough to carry all of them.

So Ding Yue asked Wen Ruohan to arrange with logistics to have a school bus to take everyone to Mist City Airport.

In the second cafeteria, Ding Yue saw Tong Yihang and Liu Tiefei come for breakfast.

So were several student and faculty from the Computer Department like Chen Jun.

Aside from the students who were about to go to Shu City, there were also other early risers in the cafeteria for breakfast.

After seeing Principal Ding and Director Xu, these students all wished, "Principal Ding, make sure you bring back a big prize."

"Principal Ding, our Mist City Arts and Science University is the best!"

## Chapter 162: Student-Organized Expedition Ceremony

[Misty City University of Arts and Sciences Mechanical Engineering Student Exchange Group ①]

Zhao Lung: The Mechanical Engineering Department is geared up. We're aiming to conquer the National Robotics Competition. Let's cheer for our classmates!

Qian Hong: It's a bit surprising. Our mechanical engineering department has actually signed up for the National Robotics Competition. Awesome!

Sun Minghao: I was totally stunned when I saw the official announcement from the university!

Li Yan: Tong Yihang and co. are amazing~

Zhou Longzhou: Does anyone know what kind of robot they're making?

Wu Jun: I heard it was a project supported by Principal Ding and it had been secretly underway. Haha, it feels so mysterious.

Zheng Yuan: Holy shit! I'm suddenly so excited!

Wang Xiaoxia: If we from the mechanical department could also bring back a prize, that would be spectacular.

On this day,

Many students of Mist City Arts and Science University came to know about the news that Principal Ding and his team will be heading to the National Robotics Competition and the National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition.

The news was shared on the school's official website yesterday afternoon, and then a notice was sent via the school's public WeChat account.

Consequently, many students organized themselves enthusiastically to cheer for Principal Ding and his team's departure, hoping for a triumphant return!

[Mist City Arts and Science University Official Forum]——

[Go Go Go! Mist City Arts and Science University is the best! Let's conquer the National Robotics Competition!]

[Participation in the National Robotics Competition and National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition is a great opportunity to showcase our university!]

[Principal Ding is amazing!]

Since yesterday afternoon, the most discussed topic among students has been the school's participation in the National Robotics Competition and National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition.

Perhaps because the news was very well kept secret before, many students were completely unaware.

They even didn't know that the students of mechanical engineering department were working on robot manufacturing.

At seven o'clock in the morning,

Ding Yue, Huang Youjie, Xu Bin, and secretary Wen Ruohan were having breakfast at the second cafeteria.

Computer Science Department Head Liu Wei and Mechanical Engineering Department Head Cao Guowei also brought their respective department's students participating in the competition to the second cafeteria.

After finishing their meals, they planned on gathering and waiting by the roadside next to the cafeteria for the school bus to the airport.

At this moment,

At the entrance of the Mist City Arts and Science University,

One after another, groups of volunteered students gathered around the school gate. Some were holding small flags.

Some students even prepared a banner.

Especially the students from Mechanical Engineering and Computer Science Departments, almost all of them were present.

Medical and Law students were also there.

As well as students from other departments and various majors. As long as they could wake up in the morning, they all gathered at the school gate, preparing for a spontaneous send-off ceremony for Principal Ding and his team.

"Everybody, please move to the sides to maintain order, okay?"

Upon seeing this, the head of security calmly organized the students to line up in an orderly fashion.

"I woke up really early today."

"Hahaha. The article posted on the forum yesterday was just so inspiring, so I decided to come to the send-off ceremony."

"Our school is really badass, they're participating in the National Robotics Competition."

"Principal Ding is awesome. I wonder how much money has been spent in researching robots this time."

"Did you hear? This robot is the joint effort of several departments and many students."

"I heard, the people from the Mechanical Engineering and Computer Science departments are pretty awesome."

"You don't know, do you? Our Medical Department also contributed."

"What did your medical department contribute? What does medical have to do with making robots?"

"I don't know either. Anyway, that's what our department head said, the things we were busy with recently were related to a school research project."

As the students waited for the departure bus to arrive, groups of students started chatting, maintaining order at the scene.

"How many people are here?"

"The crowd is growing, it's such a grand scene. I have to take a photo!"

As the number of students gathering at the school gate increased, many people took out their phones to take pictures and videos to memorialize the moment.

After all, this send-off was spontaneously organized by a student on the university forum yesterday afternoon. Initially, it was thought that there wouldn't be many participants.

But who would've thought, we might already have over a thousand people present?

The small plaza in front of the school gate is almost filled with students.

At seven fifty in the morning,

After finishing breakfast, Ding Yue, Huang Youjie, Xu Bin, and secretary Wen Ruohan went to pick up their luggage, then gathered at the roadside next to the second cafeteria.

Soon after, the students from the Mechanical Engineering and Computer Science Departments also arrived,

"One, two, three, four, ...eleven, twelve, thirteen, seems like we're missing someone." Wen Ruohan thought there was supposed to be a total of fourteen people headed to Shu City, if she didn't forget.

Snap!

Ding Yue knocked on Wen Ruohan's head, saying: "Are you stupid? Didn't you count yourself in?"

"Hahahaha!"

Hearing that, everyone burst into laughter.

"Oh right, I forgot to count myself," Wen Ruohan reacted, suddenly feeling foolish and a little embarrassed.

When everyone was present, Wen Ruohan sent a message to the school bus driver via Wechat, notifying him to come pick them up.

About three minutes later, a bus slowly drove towards the second cafeteria and stopped on the roadside.

"Get on the bus! Prepare to depart!"

At Ding Yue's command, the students took their suitcases and stowed them in the luggage compartment beneath the bus.

This National Robotics Competition and National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition will last for a week, so even if you're knocked out in the first round of the robot competition, you can still participate in the Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition for a week.

Therefore.

Everyone has packed their luggage for this trip, which is expected to last for a week.

Soon, all the students had packed their luggage, and after Ding Yue and other people had packed their luggage, they got onto the bus.

Once again, the number of people on the bus was recounted, and it was confirmed that there were fourteen people.

"Alright, we can get going." After Ding Yue finished speaking, Wen Ruohan went and told the bus driver.

The bus started and slowly headed towards the school gate.

There didn't seem to be many people in the campus early in the morning.

Ding Yue looked out the bus window at the two sides of the road, was it because it was too early today that the students hadn't gotten up yet?

That's not right.

If Ding Yue remembered correctly, even when he got up earlier than today, he could still see students walking by on the sidewalks next to the road.

But today was strange.

Could it be the weekend?

If it were the weekend, then it would be normal. After all, the students usually slept in on weekends, so it wouldn't be strange if there were hardly anyone on campus this early in the morning.

A few minutes later, the bus approached the school gate.

"Huh? Principal Ding, look quickly, why are there so many people at the school gate?"

Wen Ruohan was the first to notice the "abnormality" at the school gate.

There were so many people there, densely packed, almost filling the small school gate. It looked like people were shoulder to shoulder. Those with a fear of crowds would probably be scared.

"Huh? What?"

Upon hearing Wen Ruohan calling him and mentioning that there were a lot of people at the school gate, Ding Yue looked curiously toward the school gate.

Sure enough.

There were quite a few students gathered there.

He confirmed that they were students because the bus was very close to the school gate now, and he could tell at a glance who was a student.

Since they gathered at the gate of Mist City Arts and Science University, they must be students of his university.

"They should be our students, right? What are so many students doing gathered there?"

Ding Yue was also very curious.

Huang Youjie's Xu Bin, on hearing these words, also looked over, then the department heads, teachers and students in the car all looked towards the school gate.

"Here it comes, here it comes, the bus is coming."

"It should be this bus, right?"

"Of course it is, it's the time when Principal Ding and others are supposed to leave for the airport."

"It's this bus."

"Right, right, right, I asked last night, Principal Ding and others are taking the school bus to the airport today."

"Finally it's coming, I'm so excited."

"Everyone move aside a bit."

"Stand properly, stand just like we were trained to during military training."



"Ok, ok, stand up straight everyone."

"Raise the banners."

"Wave the flags!"

As the students watched the bus slowly driving up, they were so excited, their blood began to boil.

Honk honk honk!

The bus honked a few times.

Then the driver continued to slowly drive towards the school gate, while on both sides of the road, the students cheered excitedly.

"Principal Ding is awesome!"

"Go, school!"

"Grab the big prize!"

Outside the bus window, Ding Yue could almost hear the excited cheers of the students.

What's going on?

Were there so many students gathered at the school gate to see off the school team going to compete in the National Robotics Competition and National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition?

But.

Ding Yue hadn't organized any students to see them off because he hadn't considered such formality.

"Who amongst you organized the students to see us off?" Ding Yue looked at everyone in the bus.

First off Huang Youjie and Xu Bin shook their heads.

Then the heads of the Computer Science Department, Liu Wei, and the Mechanical Engineering Department, Cao Guowei, shook their heads.

Upon seeing this, Ding Yue couldn't help but feel a little puzzled.

Was it arranged by the Academic Affairs Office?

Probably not, Qi definitely wasn't like that, and without Ding Yue's instructions, who would take the liberty to organize such a farewell ceremony.

"Yue, could it be that the students have organized this themselves?" Huang Youjie asked, frowning.

"On their own initiative?"

Ding Yue was somewhat puzzled.

At this moment, Xu Bin, holding his mobile phone, said: "I'll be damned, the students really did organize this themselves. Yue, look, on the school's official forum, there's a post saying that the students spontaneously organized a send-off ceremony for us this morning. There are a few thousand replies under the post."

"No wonder..."

Chapter 163: Just a Bunch of Scrap Metal?

Looking at the crowded school gate, Ding Yue's feelings were quite complex.

Surprise!

Moved!

Pleased!

Just a moment ago, Xu Bin mentioned that the students organized this themselves, simply because a student posted an article on the school's official forum calling for everyone to spontaneously organize today's farewell ceremony at the school gate.

The result was indeed a strong respond from so many students.

What does this mean?

This means that the students' sense of identity towards the school and their sense of honor is very strong.

"Principal Ding, keep going!"

"Come on, Mist City Arts and Science University!"

The students cheered.

Some students even held banners that read, "Wishing our university's team all the best for the National Robotics Competition, may you return with honor!"

And there were banners that read "666, my school is so awesome!" and the like.

Ding Yue, moved at the sight of these passionate students and all the banners, and the small flags in the students' hands.

"Principal Ding, shall we park?"

The driver asked Principal Ding if he wanted to stop the car.

"Stop."

Ding Yue nodded his head and said.

So the driver pulled over the car.

Ding Yue got up from his seat and walked towards the bottom of the car, with Wen Ruohan quickly following behind.

Huang Youjie and Xu Bin saw this and also got out of the car.

"Good morning Principal Ding."

"Safe travels, Principal Ding!"

"Principal Ding, it's already amazing that our school is able to attend the Science and Technology Innovation Fair. It doesn't matter whether we win a prize or not."

"Mechanical department is awesome!"

"Computer department is awesome!"

Hearing the students' cheers, Tong Yihang and his team from the Mechanical Department, as well as Chen Jun and his team from the Computer Department, were overjoyed.

Because they were backed by a group of lovely alumni!

"Good morning students, I was touched to hear that you organized yourselves to come here and send us off to the competition. As the principal, I am excited. Though Mist City Arts and Science University is still very, very, very young, I have confidence in myself

and in you. Together we will build Mist City Arts and Science University into a shining and outstanding university!"

Seeing this good opportunity, Ding Yue gave the students a "small speech" in response to the farewell ceremony they had spontaneously organized.

He responded to the students' pledges of support for the outgoing team with a rousing speech!

Shalala~

After Ding Yue finished speaking, the students clapped enthusiastically and gave him a warm send-off.

"Students, wait for our good news!"

After that, Ding Yue turned around and returned to the bus.

He didn't want to delay too much time, otherwise they might not make it to the airport in time, which would be a problem.

Ding Yue was genuinely happy and pleased with this spontaneous gathering of students.

Since it opened, Mist City Arts and Science University has always adhered to a student-first principle. As the school is supportive of its students in every way possible, the students feel a strong sense of honor and belonging.

That's why, with the school team departing to participate in the National Robotics Competition and the National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition, the students came to arrange this farewell ceremony.

Actually.

The National Robotics Competition and the National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition have significant influence in our country. It's because of this that

Mist City Arts and Science University had the opportunity to participate. For the students, this alone was something to be excited and proud of.

"Everyone, please move."

While Principal Ding and the others got out of the car earlier, the students had gathered around. Thus, the exit of the school was crowded with students.

But quickly.

Seeing that Principal Ding and the others had returned to their car, the students orderly moved to both sides, making way for the buss.

Under the send-off of thousands of students, the school bus slowly drove out of the school gate.

"Principal Ding, the students are really enthusiastic. It was really shocking when I saw them just now."

Wen Ruohan said excitedly to Principal Ding.

"To be honest, I'm also surprised. I didn't expect our students to be so united." Ding Yue also laughed and said.

"Yue, our school's students are top-notch. Although they may not be as good in their academic fields as those prestigious universities, I feel that their affection for their school is truly profound."

Xu Bin praised.

"In just one year, the students have already considered this place as their home, which is quite remarkable." Xu Bin also said with deep emotion.

Many university students do not have such a strong affection for their alma mater. It's quite rare to see students who love their school as much as those at Mist City Arts and Science University.

Ding Yue again looked through the car window at the students.

At this moment, Ding Yue's heart was surging with emotion.

He felt that if they did not bring back some honor from this trip to the National Robotics Competition and the National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition, they would let down the students who had come out early in the morning for the farewell ceremony.

As the bus slowly drove out of the campus and onto the road, it began to speed up and headed towards the Mist City Airport.

After bidding farewell, the students went back to their own paths.

In the car, Ding Yue had caught a yawn after self-stimulating for a while.

Ding Yue realized he might have woken up too early and decided to take a quick nap in the car.

Before he knew it, they had already arrived at the airport in Mist City.

Wen Ruohan collected everyone's ID cards to pick up their plane tickets.

At the security checkpoint, two particular boxes drew the attention of the security staff. After carefully inspecting them, they learned that these boxes contained a set of robotic equipment—Big White!

However, this equipment had to be checked in.

So, Ding Yue asked Wen Ruohan to manage the check-in right away.

There was no cause for concern.

These two containers had a high level of security measures, and what they held were the results of Mist City Arts and Science University's preparation for the upcoming National Robotics Competition and National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition.

After a rigorous inspection, the two boxes were confirmed to have no issues and were checked in for the flight.

The time spent on checking these boxes and the security inspections caused a bit of delay. By the time they reached the waiting lounge, the boarding had already begun.

At this moment, Ding Yue, who was busy boarding the plane and then sleeping, was unaware that his school was trending online again.

This time, making it onto the trending list was indeed unexpected.

There was no behind-the-scenes promotion from the school's publicity department—it just naturally started trending.

Students had spontaneously organized a send-off ceremony that morning. Afterward, they posted short videos on TikTok and shared on Twitter, stirring up a lot of discussion.

Since it was a student-led event, it naturally attracted a lot of attention.

"So, they are going for a competition."

"A Robotics Competition? Your school, Mist City Arts and Science University, really has something to show then."

"I thought anyone could participate in the National Robotics Competition if they register?"

"You wouldn't understand. Try registering with a standard agricultural or political law university and see if they let you in."



"Being able to participate in the National Robotics Competition indeed signifies some level of capability."

"Mist City Arts and Science University again?"

"Wow, the atmosphere of your school is amazing. Even a student from a Double First-Class University is envious."

"It seems that Mist City Arts and Science University treats its students well. This could be a way for students to give back."

"Amazing. It was arranged spontaneously, even the Principal didn't know."

"Why do I feel like this is all for show?"

Even though the trending topic wasn't ranked high, the fact that it made it to the list due to organic discussions was impressive.

It reached a peak rank of 45th place, but it quickly dropped off the list by noon.

Above the clouds.

The plane was en route to Shu City.

Ding Yue was sleeping soundly on the plane.

Being in first class was indeed very comfortable—it felt like a luxury.

Ding Yue dreamt that he had become the richest person in the world, flying in his private jet.

The best part was —

This private jet was designed specifically for him by the students from the aerospace department of Mist City Arts and Science University.

It was said to be the most luxurious private jet in the world!

However, when Ding Yue woke up, he found himself on a commercial flight that had just landed at the Shu City Airport.

After disembarking from the plane, Wen Ruohan arranged for the party to be transported to the hotel.

The hotel was located in the new economic development zone of Shu City, not far from the Future Science City, the venue for the National Robotics Competition and National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition.

When Wen Ruohan had booked the hotel, there weren't many rooms left. Even Principal Ding could only stay in a standard suite.

After all, this hotel was close to Future Science City and was the only five-star hotel in the area. It was highly sought after as the National Robotics Competition and the National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition approached.

In fact —

The attendees of the National Robotics Competition and the National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition were not only from various universities across the country but also from major tech-related companies nationwide.

The Robotics Competition was an opportunity to explore robotics technology, and the Science and Technology Innovation Fair was a perfect place to discover business opportunities.

Hence, Future Science City was considered a hotspot for tech companies seeking new technologies.

In today's era, whoever has the latest technology holds the key to wealth.

Upon arriving at the hotel, Wen Ruohan checked in.

Afterward, they went upstairs. Ding Yue told the department heads, teachers, and students to rest in their rooms, while Tong Yihang and others, carrying the two boxes with Big White, brought them to Ding Yue's room.

Just as everyone was heading to their rooms —

A group of people, who seemed to be students and several teachers, emerged from the elevator, walking towards Ding Yue and his group, chatting and laughing.

"Have you heard that even a garbage private university like Mist City Arts and Sciences University is participating in the Robotics Competition and the Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition?"

"Hahaha, it's hilarious!"

"Don't laugh yet, what if they actually have something to show?"

"What could that rundown private university possibly have? Probably just a bunch of junk metal?"

"Junk metal! That's brilliant. Room 2124, right?"

"Yes, you are in rooms 2124, 2125, and 2126. Mr. Qin, you are in room 2126."

Hearing these disparaging comments about their university, the group from Mist City Arts and Science University felt a surge of irritation.

"Damn it..." said Tong Yihang, furious at hearing his university slandered in such a way. His fists clenched in anger.

## Chapter 164: National Robotics Competition

Hearing others say behind their backs that the robot built by their school was nothing but a pile of scrap metal, anyone would feel lousy.

Tong Yihang was so livid that he almost went up to argue with those few people.

However.

Fortunately, Liu Tiefei stopped Tong Yihang.

In no time at all, those few people, who were students and teachers from unknown universities, had all entered their hotel rooms.

"Bring Big White to my room."

Ding Yue glanced at Tong Yihang and ordered.

Ding Yue actually heard what those people said earlier on.

Although distressing to hear.

But the impression given by Mist City Arts and Science University to other universities at present was indeed like this, if they wanted to change this situation.

Then Mist City Arts and Science University needed to prove itself with real strength.

Ding Yue put his hopes on the robot, Big White, hoping that after Big White's stage appearance, they could have a good harvest.

Tong Yihang, Liu Tiefei, Yang Jie, and teacher Li Shengbin carried two boxes and followed Ding Yue into the hotel room.

"Place it there, and come over early in the morning."

Ding Yue pointed to a position by the wall, telling them to place the box there.

After everyone had put the boxes properly, they all left.

Then Wen Ruohan, Huang Youjie, and Xu Bin entered Ding Yue's hotel room.

"Yue, if nothing else, we'll head back to the hotel to rest." Huang Youjie looked around Ding Yue's room and then exclaimed, "Wow, Yue, your room is luxurious."

"Director Huang, when I booked the hotel, there was only this luxury suite available, so I reserved it for Principal Ding, hahaha."

Wen Ruohan quickly explained.

If not for this, Director Huang and Director Xu, who were staying in business rooms, would probably feel a sense of inequality.

"Alright, let's all have a good rest today and get ready for the opening of the National Robotics Competition and the National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition tomorrow."

Ding Yue nodded and told Huang and Bin.

"Alright, see you at dinner."

Following their exchange, Huang Youjie and Xu Bin left Ding Yue's hotel room.

Wen Ruohan was left, she blinked her shimmering eyes, looking at Principal Ding and asked, "Principal Ding, do you have any other instructions? Is there any way I could be of service to you?"

"It appears we don't have milk tea."

Ding Yue sat on the sofa, feeling like something was missing.

Upon pondering.

Oh right.

His favorite milk tea, which he hadn't had for a while now. No matter where he is, he needs his milk tea.

"Alrighty!"

Wen Ruohan excitedly turned and left to fetch pearl milk tea for Principal Ding.

Now, when Wen Ruohan buys pearl milk tea for Principal Ding, she no longer needed to ask about ice or sugar level due to her experience; she knew precisely when Principal Ding wanted an iced or hot pearl milk tea.

Twenty minutes later, Wen Ruohan finally got the beloved pearl milk tea for Principal Ding.

With no other tasks, Wen Ruohan went back to her room to rest.

Ding Yue sat in his room, sipping his pearl milk tea while looking over the list of schools joining this year's National Robot Competition on the official website.

The names at the top of the list were all premier engineering universities in Xia Country.

Like Xia Country University of Science and Technology, University of Electronic Science and Technology, Ha City Industrial University, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Liancheng University of Technology, and so on.

Not to mention Mist City University of Technology, Shu City University of Technology, Jiangnan University of Science and Technology, among others.

All these universities were prestigious Double First-Class Universities in Xia Country!

In addition to Double First-Class Universities, there were also some general undergraduate universities, such as Jiangcheng Polytechnic College, Shu City University of Technology, and so on.

In terms of Mist City Arts and Science University, they were generally ranked in the last of the list.

Helpless.

The list was ranked based on the comprehensive strength of the universities.

Universities like Xia Country University of Science and Technology are top-notch science and engineering schools. Nearly every year at the National Robot Competition, they would certainly win at least one first prize.

Universities such as the University of Electronic Science and Technology, Ha City Industrial University, Huazhong University of Science and Technology — all their reputations were illustrious.

Ding Yue realized that if his Mist City Arts and Science University were to compete with these universities at present, it would fall short.

So, Ding Yue's goal for participating in the National Robot Competition and the National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition was not to beat these varsities and win the highest honor or such.

That would be unrealistic.

Ding Yue's goal was to receive an award, regardless of what it was, as gaining something was better than walking away empty-handed.

Ding Yue checked the awards set for the National Robot Competition, and found that his school's robot, Big White, had the best chance of winning the Innovation Prize and the Progress Prize.

The competition mechanism in the National Robot Competition in this parallel world was different.

The Innovation Prize was mainly for innovative robot designs, while the Progress Prize was basically a consolation prize.

As for the first prize, only highly outstanding robot works could win it. The first prize was divided into first, second and third places, as well as places four through eight — all of which were considered first prize.

The first, second and third place winners will have their exclusive cash prizes, plaques and medals.

The cash prize for the champion is one million RMB.

It might not sound like a lot.

However.

This one million is the prize money awarded by the organizer. In fact, if you manage to win the National Robotics Competition, your robot will definitely attract the attention of major technology groups across the nation.

And once it attracts the attention of these major technology groups, it is very likely to bring about much larger profits.

After all, if these technology groups decide to buy out the robot technology or invest in it, it would start with a minimum amount of several million, if not tens of millions.

"Innovation Award."

After some thought, Ding Yue realised that the only target for Big White, the robot of Mist City Arts and Science University, could be the Innovation Award.



The Progress Award is pointless.

Ding Yue also asked the system about the Progress Award of the National Robotics Competition, which does not count as a university honor.

It must at least be the Innovation Award!

Given Big White's not-so-high cost, its unique appearance, and its functionality, Ding Yue felt that their university's robot, Big White, had a chance to compete for the Innovation Award.

It would all depend on how the judges of the competition evaluate it.

In the afternoon, Ding Yue, not feeling sleepy after taking a nap on the plane, decided to have a stroll through the Future City with his secretary Wen Ruohan and Huang whom he happened to bump into.

Today's Future City was not crowded.

Mostly, staff members were busily making preparations for the National Robotics Competition and the National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition that were about to start tomorrow.

Due to various circumstances this year, the National Robotics Competition and the National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition were held together.

Thus, the scale was larger than either the National Robotics Competition or the National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition of previous years.

Especially the National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition.

This was virtually the cradle and significant opportunity for Xia Country to showcase its high-tech achievements. Many technology companies would choose to launch their tech products during the Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition.

So Ding Yue saw lots of exhibition areas belonging to domestic technology companies.

It included tech companies that produced phones and other electronic products.

"Look, Principal Ding, over there is the Dami Phone exhibit." Wen Ruohan spotted a well-known domestic phone company, Dami Technology.

"Huh, Dami Technology, what new technology could they possibly have?"

Ding Yue did not have a good impression of Dami because he had previously used a Dami phone, and well, let's just say it was not great.

"And over there is Huawei Technology, I heard that Huawei recently developed a new operating system platform."

Huang Youjie was also glancing around.

Besides tech companies for phones, there were also exhibition areas of medical tech, aerospace tech and other group companies actively setting up their exhibits.

"Principal Ding, look quickly, VR equipment!"

Wen Ruohan saw that a gaming device company in the exhibit had displayed VR gaming equipment products that seemed quite attractive.

"VR is too weak."

Ding Yue shook his head.

Only when they could develop the kind of virtual gaming cabins featured in web novels, that would be truly impressive.

It seemed that Ding Yue had seen [Virtual Gaming Cabin and Gaming Technology] in the [Well-known] class mall of Mist City Arts and Science University.

"That over there must be the robot display stage for the National Robotics Competition."

Huang Youjie spotted a huge stage not far ahead, along with some information about the 2021 National Robotics Competition.

"That should be it." Ding Yue followed the direction Huang was pointing to and nodded.

"Student Ruohan, our school also applied to participate in the Science and Technology Innovation Fair, right? Where's our exhibition space?"

Ding Yue suddenly thought.

Although Mist City Arts and Science University was not as famous as those Double First-Class universities, and also didn't have big tech companies backing them.

But since they participated in the National Robotics Competition and the National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition, they should also have an exhibition space, right?

"Yes, Principal Ding, we plan to bring the things over tomorrow morning to set up the exhibition space. The location of the exhibition space is...this way."

Wen Ruohan quickly pulled out her phone and checked the location of Mist City Arts and Science University's exhibition space for this National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition.

The Future City was quite big. As the Science and Technology Innovation Fair gathered universities and tech companies participating from all over the country, as well as some foreign tech companies with domestic collaborations, therefore the exhibition space allocation will be arranged by the host after registration.

The host did indeed allocate an exhibition area to Mist City Arts and Science University.

However, the size and location of the exhibition space would certainly not be great.

Ding Yue had surmised as much.

Indeed.

When Wen Ruohan found the location of the exhibition space according to the information on her phone, Ding Yue and Huang Youjie were both stunned.

"This tiny spot?"

"Indeed, it's a bit small."

"And this is right next to a door. This door is obviously something like a fire escape back door." Huang Youjie complained.

This small door next to them, compared with the magnificent formal entrance they used to enter Future City just now, was like heaven and earth.

"Humph, this is bullying!" Wen Ruohan looked at the tiny exhibition space and angrily stomped her foot.

Chapter 165: Awesome Air-Land Dual Transformer Robot

As expected, a lesser-known school gets the worse conditions, even at the Science and Technology Innovation Fair's exhibition.

The spot is as small as a palm.

It's probably just enough for two people to stand and put up a Big White, right?

Moreover, this spot isn't even remotely eye-catching.

Unlike the exhibition areas of other tech companies or universities, which you can see right when you come in from the main entrance, those are absolutely grand, simply incomparable.

"Alright, having an exhibition area is already pretty good."

Ding Yue was rather generous.

Because Ding Yue knew that there was a huge gap between his Mist City Arts and Science University and the big tech companies and Double First Class Universities that were participating in the National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition.

The gap here might not be a gap in technology levels.

It's more like status, reputation kind of gap.

"Wen Ruohan, tomorrow after our school takes part in the preliminaries of the National Robotics Competition, you lead Tong Yihang and the others to bring Big White here to take part in the exhibition."

Ding Yue instructed Wen Ruohan on what to do tomorrow.

"OK, understood, Principal Ding." Wen Ruohan nodded her head, then muttered softly, "I feel that our school's robot, Big White, deserves the largest and most notable exhibition area."

The three of them strolled around Future Tech City for an hour.

Then they returned to the hotel and invited all the team members to have dinner together in the hotel restaurant.

At the hotel restaurant, Ding Yue once again saw the group of people who had previously called the robots of Mist City Arts and Science University junk.

And incidentally heard their conversation, learning that they were originally from Carp City University of Technology.

Just an ordinary public undergraduate university, Ding Yue initially thought they were a strong team and dared to bad mouth his Mist City Arts and Science University from behind.

Ding Yue looked up the historical records of Carp City University of Technology in the National Robotics Competition, they had never won the first prize, neither the innovation prize, but quite a lot of progress awards.

Really?

Where's the nerve to call the Mist City Arts and Science University's robot a piece of junk?

Did Liang Jingru give it?

After dinner, everyone from Mist City Arts and Science University went back to their hotel rooms to rest.

Ding Yue surfed the internet before bed.

He found that the National Robotics Competition and the National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition were actually quite popular.

Especially the National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition. This involved not only domestic universities but also major tech companies, as well as the press conferences arranged by the tech companies during the exhibition.

For example, the new product launch of Dami Technology, claimed to be unveiling a black tech product.

In fact.

This so-called "black tech" mentioned by these tech companies isn't that special, not that dark after all.

There doesn't seem to be any eye-catching news in the field of medical tech companies.

The gaming field this year is the same as last year, still primarily focusing on VR glasses and other virtual gaming devices. These devices have also started to mature in the last two years.

Some internet tech companies also attended this exhibition under the banner of "artificial intelligence".

After Ding Yue looked into it, there really was no tech innovation or product that caught his eye.

"Time to sleep."

Ding Yue speculated that perhaps these tech companies were hiding their best moves, so he didn't think too much about it.

After feeling a bit sleepy, Ding Yue went to bed.

The next morning.

Ding Yue woke up on time, and together with the other people from Mist City Arts and Science University went to have breakfast. Then, Tong Yihang and a few others followed Ding Yue back to the hotel room to pick up the two boxes that housed Big White.

Tong Yihang, Liu Tiefei, Yang Jie, and Teacher Li Shengbin, the creators of the Big White robot, were primarily responsible for the handling and exhibition of Big White this time.

But when it comes to Big White's participation in the National Robotics Competition, the task was still carried out by Ding Yue himself.

"Has everyone arrived yet?"

At the entrance to Ding Yue's hotel room, all the team members from Mist City Arts and Science University gathered here.

Ding Yue then had Wen Ruohan count the number of people.

All fourteen people were present.

"Alright, let's head to Future Tech City!"

Ding Yue took the lead and headed towards the elevator, Wen Ruohan, Huang Youjie, Xu Bin, and the others immediately followed.

Then were Tong Yihang and the others carrying two boxes with Big White inside, followed by a few people from the computer department.

The distance from the hotel to Future Tech City wasn't far, just a five to ten-minute journey.

Although it was still early, there were already quite a few people leaving the hotel who were heading to Future Tech City.

There were teams that looked like teachers and students from schools.

There were also teams that looked like mechanical engineers, as well as various personnel from various tech companies, etc.

In addition.

There were quite a few people from nearby hotels, these people included reporters, students, and middle-aged people in their thirties and forties.

Ding Yue speculated that many of the people there were technology enthusiasts visiting for the Science and Technology Innovation Fair.



Otherwise, the general audience for a robotics competition or exhibition would have not arrived that early.

After the fourteen representatives from Mist City Arts and Science University reached the Future Technology City, they waited for about half an hour.

More and more people began to gather at the Future Technology City.

In the exhibition area, people from major technology companies were onsite, one after another, placing various kinds of technology equipment on display.

The National Robotics Competition would officially begin at nine o'clock in the morning.

Ding Yue's Mist City Arts and Science University had a remarkable lineup order, astonishingly appearing right after Xia Country University of Science and Technology.

Xia Country University of Science and Technology!

This is an extraordinarily prestigious institution amongst domestic technology universities!

Appearing after this university team did not seem to be a very advantageous situation for Mist City Arts and Science University.

"Principal Ding, our entrance is right after Xia Country University of Science and Technology. That's quite unfortunate."

After noticing the preliminary exhibition order for Mist City Arts and Science University in the National Robotics Competition, Wen Ruohan couldn't help but express her dismay.

"It's okay."

Ding Yue reassured the team, saying, "When we appear right after Xia Country University of Science and Technology, there will be even more audience. Maybe the judges will consider this when they give us their assessment."

"That makes sense."

Wen Ruohan nodded thoughtfully.

In the center of Future Technology City, there was a huge stage. That was where the preliminary selection of the National Robotics Competition would be held.

At this moment, teams from all over the country participating in the robotics competition had pretty much arrived at the scene in Future Technology City.

The crowd was growing, with the vast majority of people not visiting the various exhibition areas of the fair, but gathering in front of the stage for the robotics competition.

After all, the robotics competition was something a lot of spectators liked, because they could see all sorts of robots.

After watching the initial selection of the robotics competition, it wouldn't be too late to check out the various technological products in the exhibition areas.

Not to mention, the exhibition period for the fair would be a week.

This would be similar to an anime exhibition. When there are activities happening at the exhibition, people would prefer to see the activities first before reviewing the exhibits in the area.

Next to the robotics competition stage, there was a panel of judges.

The members of this panel were quite prestigious.

There were deputy directors from the National Science Institution's robotics research institute, experts from the robotics association, as well as professors from various top-tier universities' computer and mechanical engineering departments.

Ding Yue noticed that there were ten judges in total.

According to the preliminary selection rules of the National Robotics Competition, a robot would pass the preliminary selection only if at least six out of the ten judges approve it.

"We welcome teachers and students from universities around the country, groups from major national tech enterprises, and all audiences that are enthusiasts of machinery electronics, to Shu City, a city with a lengthy history and cultural heritage, where scientific innovation develops with each passing day, to witness the official opening of the 2021 National Robotics Competition and the National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition!"

Finally, at ten past nine in the morning, the official in charge of the event announced the official opening of the National Robotics Competition and the National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition on the central stage of Future Technology City.

The opening ceremony was about to begin.

Staff were actively preparing a group of robots to enter the stage.

About ten minutes later,

The National Robotics Competition and National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition were officially launched with a dance performance by a group of small robots filling the entire stage.

Many spectators were busy taking photos and videos, and then posting on Twitter.

After all.

Here, people could witness the highest level of robot manufacturing technology in Xia Country.

After the performance by the small robots was finished, the host announced the start of the preliminary round of the National Robotics Competition.

The robots developed by the university teams that appeared in the beginning were humanoid robots.

Which is to say, they were the common robots we see with a head and a body, two arms and two legs. Their functionality includes some complex movements, playing football, and competing, etc.

These were the most common in the national research of robotics.

Then there was one university team's "Artificial Intelligence Robot", but the artificial intelligence seemed to be not intelligent enough, appearing somewhat slow, although its communication with humans was not bad.

There was also a university team that didn't exactly produce a robot, but a mechanical dinosaur.

Yes.

Just like a mechanical Godzilla, they showcased a mechanical dinosaur. However, it was not manufactured at a 1:1 scale. Otherwise, it would be too big.

As for the mechanical dinosaur, aside from its novelty, it hardly had any practical uses.

"Next, the Xia Country University of Science and Technology team, please!"

Finally, it was the turn of the robot team from Xia Country University of Science and Technology. That is to say, after they finished, it would be Ding Yue's Mist City Arts and Science University's turn.

"Tong Yihang, make sure you prepare Big White. Also, check the battery status again." Ding Yue instructed Tong Yihang and the others.

He wanted to ensure that when they went on stage to showcase their robot, Big White, there would be no mishaps.

"Our team's robot product is — a dual-transition robot that can freely switch between walking and flying state according to needs!"

At this moment, the spokesperson for the Xia Country University of Science and Technology team announced.

## Chapter 166: Big White Makes an Official Appearance

An aerial-land dual transformation robot?

Capable of freely switching between terrestrial and flight modes?

Upon hearing this, Ding Yue was intrigued.

It seems pretty impressive. And at first listen, the applications of this robot seem more suitable for the military.

Able to navigate air and land alike, it is clearly effective in dealing with various complex environments.

On the stage, the team leader from Xia Country University of Science and Technology showcased their developed aerial-land dual transformation robot.

It was a robot about a third of a human's height. Its appearance was undoubtedly cool, carrying a bit of that sci-fi vibe.

Darn it!

As expected from Xia Country University of Science and Technology, impressively creating robots with a touch of sci-fi.

Plus, quoting what the team leader initially mentioned about its free switch between airborne and land modes, it's even more like science fiction.

Wow!

When this aerial-land dual transformation robot made its appearance, the audience on-site erupted in applause.

"That looks pretty cool."

"With that size, it really would be suitable for the military, wouldn't it?"

"I feel the same way."

"A lot of the robot research from our Xia Country University of Science and Technology is used in the military."

"That's really freaking awesome, it's a military-grade robot after all."

This preliminary round of the National Robotics Competition was not only attended by hundreds of on-site spectators, but was also being live streamed and relayed on various platforms.

Therefore, on the internet, those interested in robots were also tuned in to watch this preliminary round of the National Robotics Competition.

Live broadcasts were being streamed on TikTok, Bilibili, and Twitter, and they seemed quite popular.

Because in Xia Country, the people are paying greater attention to science and technology-related activities and competitions. Backed by the previous extensive news coverage about the National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition, this interest was all the more.

The exhibition was also showcasing the cutting-edge technologies in the field of civilian science in Xia Country.

In a certain tech anchor's live streaming room on Bilibili,

"I heard some rumors about this robot research from Xia Country University of Science and Technology before, it's truly impressive."

"This is Xia Country University of Science and Technology after all!"

"Xia Country University of Science and Technology's robot research is quite famous, isn't it?"

"Feels like it's right out of a sci-fi movie."

"Once Xia Country University of Science and Technology's robot comes out, they should have no problem clinching the championship, right?"

"Today's hell, this thing can totally be used for military reconnaissance!"

"An aerial-land dual transformation robot? How does it transform?"

"There should be an operational demonstration later, right?"

Back on the stage,

The student standing next to the robot picked up the controller in his hand, explaining, and operating: "Currently it's in its terrestrial form, capable of performing exploration, reconnaissance, detonations, etc. I won't demonstrate each one here."

"What you are all probably the most excited about is the transformation between terrestrial and aerial forms, right?"

As the student spoke, a smirk appeared on his face.

"Then you better keep your eyes wide open, because by simply pressing this transformation control button, it will change from its terrestrial form to its aerial form."

As soon as these words left his mouth, the student pressed the transformation button.

*Zzzzz~*

Click, click, click~

The robot on the stage began to undergo mechanical changes in many places, reminiscent of the Autobots transforming in the Transformers movie.

"Oh damn!"

"Can it be that cool?"

"Holy smokes! This thing is something else!"

"My god, what???"

"I'm speechless!"

Accompanied by the mechanical changes of several components, the terrestrial robot extends similar to an airplane's wings on both sides along with a mini propeller.

Followed by the operation of the mini propeller, the robot turned into a flying... drone.

Ding Yue, standing by the stage, was stunned after witnessing this. This robot technology was seriously impressive.

Although the "transformation" was not as smooth as in Transformers, it still looked pretty sick.



It could transform from a standing robot into a drone robot?

No wonder it's called an aerial-land dual transformation robot!

"As expected from Xia Country University of Science and Technology's robot research team, they're superb!" Tong Yihang admired the aerial-land dual transformation robot by Xia Country University of Science and Technology's team.

"Indeed, quite impressive. Xia Country University of Science and Technology's level of robot research is among the top in the country." Teacher Li Shengbin couldn't help but express his admiration.

The cheers and applause rumbled in the auditorium, all for the aerial-land dual transformation robot from Xia Country University of Science and Technology.

"Our aerial-land dual transformation robot can be used in rescue and relief operations, agricultural measurements, geological explorations, and even in the military field..." the man from Xia Country University of Science and Technology continued to introduce their robot.

From what one could see, the ten judges on the panel were very satisfied with the aerial-land dual transformation robot from Xia Country University of Science and Technology.

"Such a robot...the only drawback, I suppose, would be a high cost." Ding Yue analyzed it and indeed, he couldn't really find any downsides to this robot.

It's really impressive.

Moreover, the dual-domain robot developed by Xia Country University of Science and Technology is likely to compete for the Innovation Award at the National Robotics Competition!

This made Ding Yue feel a bit of pressure.

Another ten minutes passed, and Xia Country University of Science and Technology finally finished showcasing their dual-domain robot.

"Next up, Mist City Arts and Science University."

When the organizers announced the next participating institution, the audience reaction was lukewarm, even somewhat quiet.

It was the total opposite of when Xia Country University of Science and Technology made their entry.

When Xia Country University of Science and Technology was announced, there was a tremendous round of applause.

"Mist City Arts and Science University, what kind of school is that?"

"Haven't you heard of it? Isn't it pretty famous?"

"Famous? More famous than the Xia Country University of Science and Technology?"

"I meant famous, not necessarily within the realm of robotics. This school probably plays a minor role in the field of robotics. What I meant is that this school is quite famous online. Didn't you know?"

"Oh, okay."

"Yeah, I've seen Mist City Arts and Science University trending several times online. This university conducts robotics research? Isn't this a private institution? Can they also develop robots? Hahaha!"

No one in the audience had high expectations for Mist City Arts and Science University.

Though Mist City Arts and Science University had some online popularity, it lacked any reputation in the field of technological research and development.

If anything, a while ago, a thesis from Mist City Arts and Science University had garnered some praise from several professors from Jiangnan University of Science and Technology.

But a thesis is a thesis, and a robot is a robot. Writing a good thesis does not necessarily mean you can build a robot.

"Humph!"

Wen Ruohan was quite upset hearing all this chatter from the audience.

Yet, there was nothing Wen Ruohan could do about it. All she could hope for was that once Big White made its appearance, it would make the audience turn their opinions around.

"Tong Yihang, Liu Tiefei, Xu Bin, are you ready?" Ding Yue looked at them and asked.

"Yes, Principal Ding, everything is ready." Tong Yihang nodded.

Xu Bin confirmed that the medical chip inside the robot Big White could function perfectly and was unlikely to make any mistakes.

"Good, Tong Yihang, Liu Tiefei, you two take Big White with you and join me on stage."

Upon hearing this, Ding Yue nodded, and took a wireless controller from Xu Bin's hand.

Initially, Big White was activated via a button on the red box.

But to showcase Big White at the National Robotics Competition and the National Science and Technology Innovation Exhibition, Ding Yue had Xu Bin and the faculty from the department of mechanics create wireless control.

So, Ding Yue could use the wireless controller in his hand to activate and awaken Big White inside the red box, and to initiate the robot's medical chip program.

"Please welcome!"

With the announcement from the organizer, Ding Yue took a deep breath and headed for the stage.

Following behind him were Tong Yihang and Liu Tiefei carrying the compact and lightweight red box.

Many robotics enthusiasts had never even heard of a robotics team from Mist City Arts and Science University.

After all, Mist City Arts and Science University had never participated in the National Robotics Competition before.

If anything was notable about Mist City, it was Mist City University of Science and Technology, but this year they did not stand out at all.

As for Mist City Arts and Science University? It was barely worth considering.

It seemed.

This year, Mist City was likely to have an utterly unremarkable performance at the National Robotics Competition.

After stepping onto the stage, Ding Yue faced the audience and slightly bowed to the judges.

Tong Yihang and Liu Tiefei, acting as show assistants, placed the red box on the stage and then stood up straight to the side.

"Hello everyone, we are the robotics team from Mist City Arts and Science University."

Ding Yue first introduced himself according to the procedure.

At first, there was no applause.

Then one judge on the panel clapped his hands, which triggered a few scattered claps from the people below the stage.

And then it stopped.

The atmosphere became slightly awkward.

"What's going on? Are they not even willing to give us applause? Isn't this a bit too real?" Huang Youjie couldn't help but remark about the very real reaction from the audience.

The audience was indeed very real. They would give enthusiastic applause when they heard the name of a gold-tier institution.

However, when an ordinary undergraduate university took the stage, the applause visibly weakened.

When a private institution like Mist City Arts and Science University took the stage, the applause was as sparse as before.

Facing this situation, Ding Yue's poise was commendable.

Calm and steady, he took a deep breath.

Then Ding Yue continued, "Today, our team from Mist City Arts and Science University will introduce a robot named 'Big White'. Why is it called 'Big White'? Because it's big and white."

Ding Yue read this line from the script.

As expected.

It worked!

The audience laughed after hearing his words.

"What on earth is Mist City Arts and Science University trying to do? A robot that's both big and white, and they call it 'Big White'?"

"Big and white, OMG my brain is completely blown!"

"Oh you, you're making me laugh so hard!"

Chapter 167: Cute Big White, Wins Over the Crowd

The audience on site, however, was quite expectant.

What does the big and white "Big White" look like?

Even the judges on the judge's bench were somewhat interested after Ding Yue's introduction.

"Does Mist City Arts and Science University have any research achievements in the field of robotics?"

A judge asked the person next to him.

"I haven't heard about that, and this university was only established last year, it's just a private university."

The young judge next to him answered, shaking his head.

"I heard they recently collaborated with Jiangnan University of Science and Technology in the field of physics," suddenly said a judge on the other side.

"So, is this the first time Mist City Arts and Science University is participating in the National Robotics Competition?"

"Let's just wait and see."

"Professor Liu is right, what if their university's robot turns out to be exceptional?"

Unlike the audience, the judges did not look at Mist City Arts and Science University through heavily colored glasses, but still, they had a bit of bias.

After all, Mist City Arts and Science University had never appeared on the stage of the National Robotics Competition before.

Furthermore, it is a private university.

It's really hard for people to have high expectations of it.

However.

The judges were willing to see what was exceptional about the robot of Mist City Arts and Science University.

What if, right?

At this moment, in a live broadcast room on Bilibili, a popular technology video poster, a lot of netizens were also intrigued by Ding Yue.

Somehow, they were starting to have expectations.

"What do you guys think the big and white thing is?"

"A car, is it a car?"

"Speaking of which, Mist City Arts and Science University has a lot of courage, a private university, and it dares to come to this battle of the gods, the National Robotics Competition."

"Hahaha, anyways they're just making up the numbers."

"I think I'm quite looking forward to it."

Ding Yue on the stage did not rush to introduce Big White.

He first whetted the appetite of the audience and the judges.

After sensing the anticipation of the crowd, Ding Yue walked up to the red box and continued, "Then let's see the medical health robot that Mist City Arts and Science University brought to us, please welcome Big White!"

Having said that.

Ding Yue pressed the button on the controller in his hand and activated Big White.

Ka ka ka!

The top of the red box automatically flipped to both sides and a "zzz" sound followed.

This sound was completely different from the mechanical noises other robots made when they moved.

"What sound is that?"

"It sounds like it's farting."

"Zzz, I feel like it's inflating."



"This sound is kind of weird."

When the audience heard the "zzz" sound, they all began to speculate.

A white object started to emerge from the red box, and they had no idea what it was.

But apparently, it did not look like those metallic robots, and people even doubted if it was a robot at all.

"What do you see, what do you see, what's that white thing coming out of there?"

"I don't know."

"Did Mist City Arts and Science University come here to make a joke? Hahaha!"

"Hahaha, I also feel like Mist City Arts and Science University came here to make a joke, that looks like plastic."

"Interesting, have you ever seen a robot made of plastic?"

"I feel like my intelligence has been insulted by Mist City Arts and Science University."

Because Big White had to inflate inside the red box before it could slowly stand up, it took some time.

All the audience and judges saw during this time, was something that looked like plastic.

The judge professors were all speculating about the white material coming out of the box.

"That must be polyvinyl alcohol fiber, right?"

Through observation, a professor deduced that the white material was polyvinyl alcohol fiber.

"Polyvinyl alcohol fiber like this is very tough and soft, what kind of robot is Mist City Arts and Science University making?"

"Are they making a robot out of polyvinyl alcohol fiber?"

"What's the principle behind that?"

"I think it might be interesting because most robots use metal or composite metal materials for the exterior, but I have a feeling that the robot of Mist City Arts and Science University is probably made with a polyvinyl alcohol fiber exterior."

"A robot with a polyvinyl alcohol fiber exterior?"

"An inflatable robot."

"Inflatable..."

The professors judged their way into a narrow path and eventually, the atmosphere became a bit awkward.

Zzz~

Big White continued to inflate inside the red box, and finally, its shape began to show.

Could everyone tell that this was a humanoid inflatable "doll"?

It was just white.

And it had a large belly, a small head, short legs, and arms that looked chubby.

Gradually.

As it inflated, Big White looked pretty full.

"Ahhhh!!! It's so cute!!!"

A girl in the audience was instantly captivated by the appearance of Big White.

After Big White, who was adorably dumb, stood up, it turned towards all the audience on the stage.

Visually, Big White's appearance undoubtedly left a profound mark on the audience.

Chapter 168: Cute Big White, Wins Over the Crowd

"Hahaha, this design is so cute."

"It's actually standing up!"

"How does this inflatable thing stand up?"

"Aren't you stupid? You must have bought inflatables before, they can totally stand."

"This one is a robot."

"Have you guys ever seen such a robot?"

"Never, never, this is the first time I've seen an inflatable robot, hahaha, I'm laughing to death."

An inflatable robot.

It's undeniably spreading a lot of "joy" around.

However, some questioning audience members were sceptical about what kind of robot this inflatable "doll" from Mist City Arts and Science University could be?

"This is our university's inflatable charging-type robot, Big White, and it is also a medical and health assistant that can monitor your health in real time and diagnose your medical condition, providing medical solutions."

Ding Yue extended his hand to introduce Big White, with a proud smile on his face.

Because Big White's appearance is unique, not only in the National Robotics Competition but in the global realm of robotics.

Ding Yue had long since applied for a patent for Big White's model.

Even if others wanted to copy it, they wouldn't be able to.

Because this is the one and only from Mist City Arts and Science University!

Ding Yue continued pressing the control button, a controller that commands Big White to move forward, backward, left, and right.

After Ding Yue pressed it, Big White looked blankly ahead.

Then it walked out of the red box, its little steps were irresistibly cute.

"My girlish heart is melting because of this guy."

"Ahhh, Big White is even cute when he walks?"

"Hahaha, quite interesting."

"Look look, it really is a robot, it can move around."

"I wonder if there's a person inside that white suit?"

"Are you sure this is a robot and not a person in a hoodie?"

"Are you blind? Didn't you see it inflate bit by bit?"

Big White's every move exudes cuteness and adorability, first capturing the heart of the young girls, then even the grown men present couldn't resist the cuteness attack of Big White!

"Big White, scan my health condition."

Ding Yue issued a health-related instruction to Big White.

Big White immediately started the execution, scanning Ding Yue's body with its ultraviolet spectrum lens.

"Scanning completed, diagnosing health conditions, diagnosis completed, your health is good. Big White warmly reminds you to pay attention to your diet, have regular rest, ensure sufficient sleep and avoid staying up late. These will be highly beneficial to your health. "

After Big White complete the scan, it gave out the diagnostic result.

Big White's voice had a warm and adorable feeling, undoubtedly creating another strong impact on the audience.

"Can it even diagnose health conditions? That's something indeed!"

"Didn't you hear what they just introduced? This is a medical health robot."

"Health is too important for people. Having such a robot that can monitor health in real time is just awesome."

"Yes, yes, yes, and the key is that this robot looks so warm."

"It's white and chubby, looks like a marshmallow, squishy, I really want to squeeze it."

"Not only do I want to squeeze it, I want to hug it. I feel like hugging Big White would be really nice?"

The observant Ding Yue noticed that the audience's love for Big White was almost exactly what he had anticipated.

Firstly, Big White's warm and adorable appearance drew everyone's attention and affection.

Secondly, the medical and health diagnostic function exhibited by Big White removed all doubts from everyone about its "functionality."

The panel of professors also found this quite interesting.

"I feel that the inflatable charging-type robot from Mist City Arts and Science University, with its appearance made from polyvinyl alcohol fiber, is quite original."

"Can its originality be compared with the design of Xia Country University of Science and Technology's air-land convertibility?"

"Professor Zhang, that's not what we're discussing here."

"The function of this robot is very clearly defined, and its exterior perfectly complements its function."

"Can you explain that, Professor Xie?"

"Just look at this robot Big White, it's a medical diagnosis robot, providing care to patients. Its appearance gives a kind of... how do young people put it?"

"Professor Xie, the term is 'adorably warm.'" A younger reviewer immediately offered.

"Yes, that 'adorably warm' feeling, it's very easy for people to accept. Imagine if you had to choose between a cold, clinical machine or a friendly 'adorably warm' robot to diagnose your condition, who would you prefer?" Professor Xie quickly nodded and responded.

"Professor Xie makes a sensible point. In fact, what I'm more interested in is the materials used to manufacture this medical health robot Big White from Mist City Arts and Science University."

"Isn't it made of polyvinyl alcohol fiber?"

"Professor Xu probably wants to know about the internal materials and components, as well as the chipset program?"

"Yes."

Even the professors on the judging panel were now interested in Big White.

The health scan and diagnosis that Big White had just performed were truly heart-warming, not to mention its advice against staying up late, advising regular meals, and promoting regular sleep to ensure good health.

Chapter 169: Cute Big White, Wins Over the Crowd

Immediately, the thought of owning a Big White Robot sprung up in the hearts of the audience on site.

"Do you all want a Big White?"

"Hahaha, I'm in love with this Big White."

"I wonder which tech company will purchase Big White and then start mass-producing."

"But wouldn't it be quite challenging to mass-produce this kind of robot?"

"I feel like this robot might liaise with hospitals or something."

"To be honest, I really do want a Big White."

At this point, Ding Yue, hoping to further showcase Big White's medical functionalities to both the audience and the judge professors, prepared to select an audience member who was feeling a little unwell to give Big White a try.

"So, moving on, may we have an audience member feeling slightly unwell to experience our robot Big White from Mist City Arts and Science University, and its medical and health diagnosis function. Is that alright?"

Upon finishing his statement, Ding Yue looked towards the working staff of the National Robotics Competition.

After discussions within the work team of the National Robotics Competition, it was agreed to grant this request from the Mist City Arts and Science University.

The whole point of the preliminary rounds of the National Robotics Competition is to present the various advantages of the robots from varied institutions, after all.

If Mist City Arts and Science University's medical health robot needed others to experience it to better exhibit its advantages, then the committee members might as well let them give it a shot.

It was perfect.

The members of the National Robotics Competition were also keen to see whether the medical health robot, Big White, from the Mist City Arts and Science University, truly had real abilities.

"Me me me! I'll go!"



At that moment, a male audience member raised his hand, seemingly rather enthusiastic.

"Great, we can see our audience is very keen. Could this gentleman please grace the stage."

Seeing this, Ding Yue decided to go with him.

It didn't matter who it was anyway. As long as it was the typical display of various illnesses, there wouldn't be any difficulty for Big White.

Because Big White's medical chip contains over ten thousand medical cases and treatment plans.

The male audience member from below stage held his stomach, swiftly rushing onto the stage area.

Then he stood before Big White, his eyes seemingly shining.

"Um... May I hug it first?"

The male audience member felt that Big White looked even more adorable up close, hence making this request.

Ding Yue chuckled and nodded his head, "Of course."

With that, the male audience member charged into Big White's embrace, its stomach big, soft and slightly springy.

All at once.

This man felt as if he'd plunged into a cotton ball, it was just too soft.

The audience became increasingly envious at this sight.

"I'm so jealous, I also want to feel what it's like to hug Big White."

"Oh no, why didn't I raise my hand earlier?"

"I doubt he is even unwell. He just wanted to get onstage and hug Big White, huh!"

"Sigh, I was just thinking since I'm not unwell, it won't be suitable for me to go up and experience it, but someone else capitalized on the opportunity in the meantime."

When Big White saw the man had been hugging him for quite some time, it reminded him, "Sir, can Big White proceed with scanning for health checks?"

"Mmm hmm."

Upon hearing Ding Yue's reminder, he unwillingly let go of Big White.

"Ahh~ My stomach hurts~!"

As soon as the man let go of Big White, he suddenly clutched his stomach, looking rather uncomfortable.

"Big White!"

Ding Yue called out to Big White.

Big White immediately stepped forward for a scan: "Hello, I am Big White, your healthcare assistant. It's detected that you're possibly unwell. Next, I will conduct a scan for you!"

"Scan completed, diagnosing, diagnosis complete. Based on my diagnosis, you seem to have diarrhoea-caused intestinal mucosa damage, causing your intestinal peristalsis to accelerate. This might result in intestinal spasms and abdominal pain. I suggest using medication such as Smecta and Intestine Inflammation Soothing to protect your intestinal mucosa. You could also try antibacterial medication, such as Ofloxacin, combined with Huoxiang Zhengqi Capsules for conditioning. When inflammation

subsides and the damaged intestinal mucosa is repaired, your abdominal pain should gradually subside. Normally, Big White suggests you refrain from consuming sour and spicy food, avoid catching a cold, and avoid eating rotten or spoilt food, which will likely reduce occurrences of diarrhoea."

Big White gave this diagnosis to the man.

Just then, the male audience member clutched his stomach, bent his body over, and hurriedly asked the staff beside him, "Sorry to bother you. Could you tell me where the restroom is located? I can't hold it in any longer."

"Based on your physical condition, you can hold off your diarrhoea for another 46 seconds at most." Big White analyzed the man's physical status further.

seconds!

Hearing this, the man immediately grew anxious.

"You've started to feel anxious, which will likely bring forward need for the restroom by ten seconds..."

"Quick, where is the restroom?"

"Hello sir, the restroom is in this direction, please follow me." The staff, who saw what was happening, was somewhat doubtful of what Big White had said. However, seeing the man, who was brought onstage for cooperation with the Mist City Arts and Science University robot's demonstration, clearly urgently needed the toilet, he hurriedly led him towards the restroom.

Chapter 170: Cute Big White, Wins Over the Crowd

"Sorry everyone, we had a minor hiccup."

Ding Yue chuckled, addressing the audience below the stage.

This was indeed a small hiccup.

Ding Yue had never imagined that the first one to come up and experience Big White would be a viewer who was feeling unwell due to diarrhea.

Well, would you look at that.

Big White had actually managed to scan and diagnose the man's condition, even offering medical advice.

"As you all can see, our Big White accurately diagnosed our volunteer's health condition and provided treatment suggestions."

Ding Yue continued to introduce Big White in light of the hiccup: "Diagnosing illnesses, providing treatment advice, and even being able to dial 120 for help during emergencies, performing critical life-saving measures—it is our medical health robot, Big White, brought to you by Mist City Arts and Science University for this competition!"

Applause!

As Ding Yue's introduction grew more impassioned, the audience's excitement level rose with him. As he mentioned the name "Big White" again, applause broke out, along with enthusiastic cheers that echoed throughout the venue.

At this moment.

Ding Yue knew that their medical health robot, Big White, had finally gained the approval of the audience.

Just like the surprise that the land-air-transforming robot from Xia Country University of Science and Technology had brought, Big White also brought similar delight to the audience.

"Hey bros, I feel that Mist City Arts and Science University's robot is quite interesting, not to mention useful. It seems more practical than Xia Country University of Science and Technology's flashy land-air-transforming robot."

A Bilibili UP who was livestreaming at the venue began discussing the Mist City Arts and Science University's robot with his viewers.

"Agreed!"

"Yeah, I feel the same as the UP."

"The robot from Xia Country University of Science and Technology is cool, but it is not very relevant to us ordinary people. On the contrary, this medical health robot from Mist City Arts and Science University is really useful and feels much closer to us."

"I'm in love with Big White, the robot from Mist City Arts and Science University, it's so cute."

"Who wouldn't like such a cute and warm-hearted robot?"

"It would be even better if Big White were an intelligent robot."

"The technology for intelligent robots isn't quite there yet. I'm talking about real intelligence, not those fake intelligences being advertised."

"I really want to be there to experience Big White, even a hug would be nice, or at least a pat 0.0"

The netizens and the live audience were extremely interested in Mist City Arts and Science University's robot, Big White. Compared to all the previous run-of-the-mill robots, it was simply much better.

Wen Ruohan, Huang Youjie, Xu Bin and others stood at the side of the competition stage. Seeing that the audience's response was so positive, they were overjoyed.

At the start.

Everyone had little faith in the robot of Mist City Arts and Science University and even thought that they couldn't make a decent robot.

But when Big White appeared on the stage, it really won over the audience for Mist City Arts and Science University with their praises.

At this moment, Wen Ruohan finally felt better.

"Director Huang, Director Xu, this is great. Our school robot Big White seems to be really liked by the audience."

With her hands balled into fists resting on her chin, Wen Ruohan excitedly told Huang Youjie and Xu Bin who were standing next to her.

"I'm not feeling well, can Big White check on me please?"

"Ah! I feel like I am going to be sick, let Big White check on me now."

"Damn, I think my heart disease is acting up!"

"To be frank, I think I might be impotent, can Big White cure that?"

The audience suddenly started to act dramatically.

With only one goal in mind.

They all wanted to experience the feeling of being hugged and checked by Big White, just like the previous male audience member.

Especially hugging Big White.

There wasn't a single audience member who didn't want to hug Big White.

Because Big White's big belly looked so soft, it was tremendously attractive.

But, some of the audience members were really going too far, bringing up heart diseases and even impotence?

What ruthless people!

"You people are really something...Big White! I think I might be...pregnant! Big white! Scan me, Scan me!"

Suddenly.

The air at the scene became a bit tense as everyone turned to look at the man claiming to be pregnant.