

F. University 421

Chapter 421: Did You Do it on Purpose?

"Congratulations to Twitter user [@Just a Step Away] for being the lucky koi of this lottery!"

Ding Yue began the lottery on Twitter.

This user named "Just a Step Away" was the winner, and according to Bin's hacking program, this user must be a student from Mist City Arts and Science University.

No, that's not right!

We can't be certain. It's possible they're not a student at Mist City Arts and Science University, but the odds are in favor of it.

Bin's hacking program was designed to locate the cell phone IPs of those who liked the tweet and then divided them into groups - one with likes from all over the country and another with likes from phones within Mist City Arts and Science University.

However, inside Mist City Arts and Science University Campus, it wasn't only first and second-year students, but also tourists checking in at popular sites.

Such as tourists in line at the themed hot pot restaurant on the third floor of the second cafeteria and at the Book Ship Library.

Albeit they only number a few hundred, what if among these few hundred people, someone had liked Ding Yue's lottery tweet?

So, there was certainly a chance that one of these tourists could potentially win the prize.

"Yue, we have over seven thousand people from our university who liked your tweet." Xu Bin sent a message on WhatsApp to Ding Yue.

He could get this data from the hacking program.

In other words, after Ding Yue posted the lottery tweet, over seven thousand students from Mist City Arts and Science University saw it and liked it to enter the lottery.

This was quite normal, considering the fact there were over thirty thousand students in total and not everyone is always on their phone, plus not every student follows Ding Yue on Twitter.

After the lottery, Ding Yue sent a private message to the student named "Just a Step Away".

"@Just a Step Away, congrats, you've won a ticket to 'Our Youth Time'. Which department and which major are you in?"

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In Mist City Arts and Science University, inside apartment number two at Elegant Garden.

In a two-bedroom apartment, Jiang Yao picked up her phone and couldn't believe what she was reading in her private messages from Principal Ding.

"I won?"

Jiang Yao blinked her sparkling eyes and it took a while for her to calm down from her excitement.

She had liked Principal Ding's lottery tweet when she saw it.

Even though Jiang Yao had hoped to win at the time of liking the tweet, the experience of watching a movie with Principal Ding was akin to a strike of luck, right?

Not to mention that Principal Ding was quite handsome.

Despite this, after liking the tweet, Jiang Yao didn't expect to actually win, because she has participated in many Twitter lotteries but had never won before.

Jiang Yao even suspected she was just immune to winning.

Jiang Yao was always entering these Twitter lotteries for the fun of it. Her family was quite wealthy, which is why she could afford to live in the two-bedroom apartment at Elegant Garden No. 2.

Who could've predicted she would actually win the lottery!

"Principal Ding, I am a freshman in the Department of Art, majoring in Fashion Design. My name is Jiang Yao." Jiang Yao responded to Principal Ding's private Twitter message.

When Ding Yue saw the reply from "Just a Step Away", saying she was Jiang Yao, a first-year student in the Art Department, he was taken aback.

"This name, it sounds familiar."

Ding Yue couldn't help but frown, but in less than a second he remembered.

Jiang Yao!

It was none other than the girl who was the popular choice during the formation performance commentary at the Military Training Closing Ceremony, the freshman super popular school idol, wasn't she?

He even discussed Jiang Yao with his buddies Huang Youjie, and Xu Bin.

A pretty girl with a distinctive aura, who looked like she was of mixed race, but wasn't.

What a surprise!

"Another one from the Art Department?"

Ding Yue couldn't help but wonder.

If Ding Yue remembered correctly, it seemed like the school idol from the previous year, Lin Zhirou, was also from the Art Department, right?

Lin Zhirou was a student of music in the Art Department, while Jiang Yao was a fashion design major in the Art Department.

In reality, fashion design should be considered part of the textile discipline, commonly found in Textile and Food Science departments.

However, as a rather comprehensive private university, Mist City Arts and Science University did offer the fashion design major but doesn't have a Textile and Food Science department, so the fashion design major was incorporated into the Art Department.

After all, fashion design could be considered an Art major.

"Congratulations, Jiang Yao. Are you still on campus?" Ding Yue continued to ask in the private message.

"Yes, I am."

"That's good, the movie is at 5:30 in the afternoon. Can you come directly to the theater? Or we can meet up at the gate."

Although Ding Yue had purchased the movie tickets, he hadn't picked them up yet. Typically, you only pick up the tickets once you get to the theater. So, Ding Yue figured that Jiang Yao could just meet him at the theater.

But then he thought about it.

Since he's driving to the theater anyway, why not pick Jiang Yao up?

"Oh, that would be great!"

Jiang Yao could hardly contain her excitement and happiness.

Just the thought of watching a movie with the handsome Principal Ding made today feel like a particularly wonderful day.

The afternoon passed by in a flash.

At five o'clock, Ding Yue and his secretary Wen Ruohan descended the stairs together. Then Ding Yue drove, taking Secretary Little Wen with him, heading for the school gate.

By this time, Jiang Yao was already waiting at the school gate for Principal Ding.

When Ding Yue drove to the school gate, he instantly spotted Jiang Yao—her runaway good looks made her instantly recognizable.

After stopping the car, Ding Yue asked Wen Ruohan to call over Jiang Yao.

So Wen Ruohan got out of the car and walked toward Jiang Yao.

"Jiang Yao," she said.

Hearing someone call her name, Jiang Yao turned around only to see Wen Ruohan—Principal Ding's Secretary.

"Secretary Wen?"

Jiang Yao was momentarily taken aback.

"Let's go." Wen Ruohan beckoned Jiang Yao and led her toward Principal Ding's car.

Jiang Yao was dumbfounded!

Wasn't it agreed that Principal Ding was going to take her to the movies?

Wah, wasn't it supposed to be just her and Principal Ding—a world only for them two?

Why was Secretary Wen also here?

Once inside the car, Jiang Yao finally saw the driver—Principal Ding.

He was even more handsome in profile.

"Jiang Yao, you're really lucky. When I was buying the tickets, my hand slipped and I accidentally bought an extra. So, in keeping with the principle of not wasting resources, I thought of taking a lucky student along. And you happened to win the draw!" Ding Yue said to Jiang Yao with a smile.

Upon hearing this... so, that's what happened.

But it didn't matter anymore.

At least she could go and see that youth romance movie with Principal Ding.

"Jiang Yao, do you like this movie?" Seeing that everyone was a girl, Wen Ruohan started chatting cordially.

Jiang Yao nodded quickly, "Mm-hmm, I was planning to see it after its official release anyway."

Once the two girls started chatting, Ding Yue was virtually left out.

So Ding Yue drove off, heading toward the cinema in University Town.

Driving from Mist City Arts and Science University to the cinema actually takes less than ten minutes.

But if they were to walk there, it would take a long while. After all, the roads in University Town were wide and long—while one could easily speed past in a car, walking would be a trying ordeal.

This was why the students of Mist City Arts and Science University, situated on the edge of University Town, would rather stay on campus, hardly going out even on weekends.

Upon arriving at the cinema, they parked the car, picked up the tickets, then went in to have them checked. Just as they entered the hall, it was almost time for the movie to start.

When Ding Yue bought the tickets for this screening, there weren't many people around, but now the place was quite packed.

In addition, he encountered one of his students from Mist City Arts and Science University, who proactively came forward to greet Principal Ding.

Beyond that, the hall was mostly filled with couple after couple. If they weren't couples, they were on their way to becoming one. Otherwise, why would a girl agree to come with a boy to watch such a youth romance movie?

Presumably, Ding Yue was the only one here for reasons other than that.

Ding Yue wasn't here for the youth romance, nor was he here on a date—he was here to assess the quality of this movie so as to better understand the competition for the Super Combat Team from Mist City Arts and Science University during the National Holiday Period!

Meanwhile, Ding Yue was also one of the most distinctive figures in the cinema hall.

While others were either couples or a three of girl-friends, Ding Yue was the only one who came with two incredibly good-looking ladies—much to the envy of all the other men in the cinema.

Ding Yue took a seat in the middle, with Wen Ruohan on his left and Jiang Yao on his right.

The two girls were among the most beautiful young women in the entire cinema hall.

The advertisements on the big screen ended, and the feature film "Our Youth Time" was about to start.

Just then, Ding Yue was about to put his phone on silent when he noticed a new message from Xu Bin.

Xu Bin: Yue, how's it? The movie trip with school beauty Jiang Yao going well? Hehehe!

"Oh, it's fine... Wait a minute!"

Ding Yue was just about to reply to Xu Bin.

But something felt off!

Something was off! Xu Bin was off!

How did this guy know he was going to the movies with Jiang Yao?

"Hold on, Bin, did you do this on purpose, did you rig the draw so I'd pick Jiang Yao?" Ding Yue immediately asked.

After all, for this draw, he had used Xu Bin's hacking techniques.

Xu Bin: Oops, you got me.

"Bin, how could you... do something so wonderful!" Ding Yue laughed unscrupulously, then turned off his phone screen and put the device in his pocket.

Right at this moment, "Our Youth Time" began playing on the big screen. Ding Yue instantly switched into 'serious viewer' mode.

Now, let's see if this movie is as good as they say online!

Chapter 422: Overdraft Potential in Advance!

In the movie theater, towards the end of "Our Youth Time", all the girls in the audience were moved to tears.

Both Wen Ruohan and Jiang Yao, seated beside Ding Yue, could not help but cried.

"Is it that moving?"

Ding Yue was a bit puzzled.

All it was, after all, just a typical tragic ending of a youthful romance film, designed to elicit the audience's tears.

The storyline was about the male protagonist sacrificing his own life to save the female protagonist at the last critical moment.

To Ding Yue, this kind of plot was rather clichéd.

Yet, it's precisely such a plot that caught the fancy of its target audience, the girls. They easily lost themselves in the movie and were deeply touched.

However, the overall quality of "Our Youth Time" was quite good. The shooting techniques, scene transitions, and the like were commendable. Clearly, it's a film directed by an experienced director.

Today, Ding Yue came to watch this competitor's film to study its strengths and weaknesses.

Then evaluate if this movie has a chance to become the box office champion for the National Holiday Period.

To win the box office championship during the National Holiday Period, the movie definitely needs to be a big hit and have excellent reputation, otherwise, it is very difficult.

As for "Our Youth Time", it has no significant problems in terms of quality. But chances for it to become a blockbuster, Ding Yue speculated, are rather slim.

Maybe the box office performance will be decent because the audience, consisting mostly of young people, is quite large.

Excluding those films that could become a nationwide sensation and have a box office explosion, many movies that capture the massive young audience would also yield good box office revenues, especially during a favorable time like the National Holiday Period.

"Did you enjoy it?"

After the movie was over, Ding Yue turned to his secretary Wen Ruohan and asked.

"Hmm, it was so touching." Wen Ruohan nodded, her emotion now returned to normal.

Then Ding Yue looked at Jiang Yao and asked, "What do you think of this movie, Jiang Yao?"

"It was okay. It was indeed touching, but I felt it was too deliberate," Jiang Yao gave her brief assessment.

From their reviews, Ding Yue could see that Jiang Yao's expectation for movie quality was rather high.

On the other hand, Wen Ruohan seemed to have a looser standard for movie quality.

"What do you think, President Ding?"

Jiang Yao asked back.

Ding Yue nodded slightly, "Hmm, although the storyline is somewhat clichéd, the director innovatively adopted some shooting techniques. The overall quality is good, but it's not as exaggerated as the internet comments!"

Ding Yue's review was very rational.

After hearing Ding Yue's comments, Jiang Yao quite agreed: "Yeah, that's exactly how I feel. The movie is good, but it's not that good, there are some shortcomings."

"Ah, why do I feel it's really good!" Wen Ruohan looked at Ding Yue and Jiang Yao discussing so seriously and murmured a few words herself.

Ding Yue then turned around and patted Wen Ruohan's head, laughing: "Well, Wen Ruohan, isn't there a saying that for every thousand readers, there are a thousand Hamlets?"

"Right."

Wen Ruohan nodded thoughtfully, then her stomach suddenly growled.

"Our Youth Time" started at half past five. After its two-hour duration, it was already seven o'clock when it ended.

By the time they left the theater, it was past seven. Wen Ruohan usually had dinner around six o'clock at school. Now it's been more than an hour, so it's normal for her to feel hungry.

"Are you hungry?"

Ding Yue asked when Wen Ruohan's stomach growled.

Wen Ruohan scratched her head embarrassingly: "Hehe."

"Let's go eat, it's on me!" Ding Yue said and then took Wen Ruohan and Jiang Yao to a restaurant in the mall.

This shopping center, located in the University Town, primarily caters to the students.

On weekends or holidays, the shopping center is usually crowded.

The fourth and fifth floors house various restaurants, including ones serving hot pot and western cuisine.

Ding Yue initially planned to have dinner at school after the movie, but seeing Wen Ruohan's stomach growling with hunger, he decided to eat at a restaurant in the shopping center that night.

However!

After the three of them found a Chinese restaurant, they regretted a bit because the food was mediocre.

After dinner.

Ding Yue drove Wen Ruohan and Jiang Yao back to Mist City Arts and Science University.

"Jiang Yao, didn't the freshman year students already start their holiday? Why didn't you go home?"

After dropping Jiang Yao off at Elegant Garden No.2, Ding Yue curiously asked her.

Jiang Yao looked dejected and shook her head: "I don't want to go back home. I like it here at school."

"Hehe, then Jiang Yao, let's go to the library together during the holiday, shall we?" Wen Ruohan quickly befriended Jiang Yao.

Wen Ruohan is just a friendly girl who seems to get along well with anyone quickly.

"Alright."

Jiang Yao suddenly nodded, a smile on her face.

"Then you should get some rest early. See you later." After sending Jiang Yao to the Elegant Garden No.2 Apartment, Ding Yue then drove Wen Ruohan to her dormitory. Afterwards, he returned to the Peach Garden Apartment.

Speaking of which, Ding Yue had planned to move to a three-bedroom, two-living room apartment on the top floor of Elegant Garden No.1.

But he hasn't had time to move yet.

Now with the National Holiday period, after Ding Yue returned to the Peach Garden Apartment, he made a voice call to Huang Youjie via WhatsApp.

"Hey, Yue."

"Huang, can you arrange for some people from the logistics department? I plan to move to Elegant Garden No.1 in the next few days. Have you and Bin moved yet?"

If Ding Yue was going to move, he would need the help of the university's logistics department.

"Bin and I were waiting for you to decide when to move, so we could follow suit. Alright then, I'll make the arrangements now. The apartment at Elegant Garden has been ready for quite some time."

"Great!"

After ending the call, Ding Yue informed his family – his parents and his younger sister, Ding Xiaoyou – of his moving plans, suggesting that they all move to the Elegant Garden No.1 as well.

After all, Elegant Garden Apartments were new, with better facilities. Despite the Peach Garden and Liyuan also being high-rise apartments, they were getting a little old.

At first, his parents thought moving would be a hassle and suggested it wasn't necessary. However, once Ding Yue assured them the university's logistics staff would handle everything, they didn't object any further.

As for his sister, Ding Xiaoyou...

Ding Yue tried calling her twice, to no avail.

"Could it be that little girl is still in the lab?" Checking the time, he saw it was already eight in the evening.

Right after completing the military training, she threw herself into lab work and had been there all this while?

Just like her brother, always so dedicated!

Seeing as Xiaoyou didn't pick up, Ding Yue didn't call again. Instead, he took a shower before snuggling into bed, readying himself to go to sleep after scrolling through his phone for a bit.

Ding Yue first checked the data on the Cat Eye Movie app, looking at how many people wanted to watch his film, "Super Combat Team," along with the box office results of "Our Youth Time."

Movie: "Super Combat Team"

Genre: Animated Feature Film

Producer: Feiyue Animation Studio

Want-to-see: 1.2 million people

Rating: No rating yet

"That many people want to see it!" After seeing the number of people who wanted to watch "Super Combat Team", Ding Yue felt confident about his university's film.

In fact, he had always been confident. Given the novelty of the film, its good integration with the character of Big White the medical robot, and the high-quality production of Feiyue Animation Studio, he would be speechless if it ended up failing.

Next, Ding Yue checked the box office stats on the Cat Eye Movie.

The top-grossing movie for the day was "Our Youth Time", still in its preview phase with a total box office revenue of 112 million yuan.

"Was there a large-scale preview?"

Ding Yue muttered to himself.

Considering that the ticket sales from a few days of previews could exceed 100 million yuan, it had to be a large-scale preview. After all, even in Mist City University Town, there were two preview

showings a day – if that didn't qualify as large-scale, he would be willing to stand on his head and wash it.

Previews can definitely test the waters for a movie's audience reception, but large-scale previews might consume the potential box office performance after its official release.

Just that day, after watching "Our Youth Time", Ding Yue estimated that the movie might rake in over 1 billion yuan in box office revenue.

But now, considering that the extensive previews might have drawn on potential revenue prematurely, breaking the 1 billion yuan benchmark seemed unlikely.

Given this, "Our Youth Time" could face difficulties in becoming the box office champion for the National Holiday Period.

Ding Yue remembered there were two other competitors.

One was "Chronicles of Demon Sealing", and the other was "Space Fortress".

Both of these films had over 2 million people waiting to watch them on Cat Eye. They were undoubtedly this year's hottest and most anticipated domestic blockbusters for the National Holiday Period.

"I wonder if you two can make the cut?"

With that thought, Ding Yue put his phone on the bedside table. Pulling the covers over his head, he fell asleep.

The next day, the logistics staff arranged by Huang Youjie came over to help Ding Yue's family, as well as Director Huang and Director Xu, move.

They were moving from the Peach Garden Apartment to Elegant Garden No.1.

A change in their living circumstances for the better.

Ding Yue's apartment had now transformed from a two-bedroom to a spacious three-bedroom, dual-living room flat with large floor-to-ceiling windows and a big balcony!

Standing on the balcony, Ding Yue could overlook the classrooms of Mist City Arts and Science University in the east.

It was for this very view that Ding Yue had chosen to move to Elegant Garden No.1.

Chapter 423: Primitive Humanoid Brain Intelligence

The morning of September 30th.

It was the first time Ding Yue woke up in his new room in Elegant Garden No.1 apartment.

He had planned to go to bed early last night.

However, as he was browsing on his phone before he knew it, it was late into the night. When he woke up again, it was already ten in the morning.

Today was a significant day for Mist City Arts and Science University.

Firstly, the sophomores began their National Holiday break. A lot of students went home or took advantage of the holiday to travel.

However, at least over ten thousand students stayed on campus, neither returning home nor going out to play.

Besides, today was also the premiere day of "Super Combat Team," an animated film produced by Mist City Arts and Science University.

However, screenings would only begin after six in the afternoon.

After waking up, the first thing Ding Yue did was check the national film scheduling rate for the National Holiday Period.

Film: "Space Fortress"

Scheduling Ratio: 35.7%

"Goodness, how could the scheduling ratio for "Space Fortress" directed by Ma Wenhai hit so high?" As soon as Ding Yue saw the scheduling rate for this science-fiction film, he was in awe.

Many hit films would debut during the National Holiday Period, and "Space Fortress" accounted for nearly thirty-five percent of the scheduling rate.

How many cinemas could he have influenced?

Besides, as of yesterday, Ding Yue began noticing the hot debates about "Space Fortress." However, he was certain that these hot topics were bought, after all, they jumped to the top places directly, and they are all related to the young male star.

Considering this high scheduling ratio, Ding Yue estimated that the box office of "Space Fortress" would possibly reach a hundred million yuan from six in the evening to midnight today.

Unfortunately, with high scheduling ratios, even if the seating rate is relatively low, the basic box office wouldn't decline too much.

"Money makes the world go round," he sighed.

The blockbuster, "Space Fortress," claimed to have invested several billion yuan; perhaps more money was spent on non-production costs?

Film: "Chronicles of Demon Sealing"

Scheduling Ratio: 29.1%

Ding Yue also checked the second-highest scheduled film, "Chronicles of Demon Sealing", which was expected.

Whether it's about special effects or actors, "Chronicles of Demon Sealing" has a stable base. The investors and director are pretty famous in this field as well.

"Chronicles of Demon Sealing", a popular film debuting in the National Holiday Period, holding a scheduling ratio of 29 percent is pretty standard.

And 29 percent is already a high scheduling ratio.

If the reputation of "Chronicles of Demon Sealing" isn't bad after its release, earning 1.5 billion yuan at the box office should be feasible.

The third-highest scheduling ratio, unsurprisingly, is "Our Youth Time."

Film: "Our Youth Time"

Scheduling Ratio: 21.6%

It is impressive that this youth love film, screened on a large scale, has such a high scheduling rate on its first day.

Just these three super popular films take up about eighty-five percent of scheduling ratios.

Thus,

The remaining scheduling ratios can only account for the last fifteen percent.

Ding Yue originally predicted that twenty to twenty-five percent would be allocated to films excluding these three.

Unexpectedly, the reality was beyond his expectations. The capital behind these three films, especially "Space Fortress," is indeed substantial!

Usually there are reasons behind such a large disparity in scheduling ratios compared to other popular movies.

Film: "Super Combat Team"

Scheduling Ratio: 8.7%

Ding Yue finally saw the fourth-highest scheduling ratio belong to "Super Combat Team," the animated film from his own school, Mist City Arts and Science University.

Since Mist City Arts and Science University didn't sign a more in-depth scheduling contract with the cinemas, the cinemas scheduled the screenings based on their forecast and the film's popularity.

Although "Super Combat Team" is quite popular, most of the scheduling slots were taken away by the three films — "Space Fortress," "Chronicles of Demon Sealing," and "Our Youth Time."

However, Ding Yue was ready for this situation.

Besides, he thought that the box office proceeds of "Super Combat Team" from Mist City Arts and Science University don't solely depend on the scheduling ratio of the first day of release.

But the public review and seating rate do make a difference.

As long as its public review is positive, the cinema will realize the film's potential, and naturally, increase the scheduling ratio for the film in the following days.

Film: "The Magic Lamp"

Scheduling Ratio: 3.3%

Movie: "Debt of Death"

Screening proportion: 2.1%

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The rest of the films hardly got a share of the screenings.

Ding Yue made a rough prediction.

According to the current proportions of screenings, on the first day of release, the box office earnings will most likely be highest for "Space Fortress", followed by "Chronicles of Demon Sealing", then "Our Youth Time".

The next would be "Super Combat Team" by Mist City Arts and Science University.

Ding Yue was prepared for the fact that the box office earnings of "Super Combat Team" on its first day of release would certainly be somewhat less compared to the other three popular movies.

Just as Ding Yue was checking the Cat Eye data, a call suddenly came in through his cell phone.

The call display showed—CEO Wang Liwu of Guoxing Technology!

"Huh?"

Ding Yue muttered.

Then he picked up the phone: "Hello, Mr. Wang."

"Principal Ding, the 7-nanometer gallium nitride chip you wanted was air shipped to Mist City last night by our company. I believe it should have almost arrived by now," Wang Liwu said with a chuckle on the other end.

"Is it ready already? That's quite efficient," responded Ding Yue, his heart filled with joy. He then asked, "If it was delivered by air, it should be at Mist City Airport right now. Is there a designated vehicle to send it over?"

"Principal Ding, rest assured, we've arranged for that gallium nitride chip you need to be delivered the whole way," answered Wang Liwu.

This is, after all, a chip that costs a million yuan to make!

Moreover, it is the first gallium nitride chip used for civilian purposes in the country. Guoxing Technology also produced another fifteen chips specifically for military use.

"That's great. I'll be waiting at school for the arrival of this gallium nitride chip," Ding Yue said with a chuckle. "Thanks, Mr. Wang."

"Principal Ding, don't mention it. I believe we will have ample opportunities for cooperation in the chip business in the future."

"Sure, sure."

Mr. Wang was not wrong at all.

The medical healthcare robots made by Mist City Arts and Sciences University are constantly being produced on the assembly line and being sold to hospitals all over the country at a price of 100,000 yuan each. After all, orders from hospitals across the country have piled up.

Hence, the chips needed to manufacture these Big White, the medical healthcare robots, must be ordered from Guoxing Technology.

Previously, An Yujia told Ding Yue that ever since Feiyue Group started working with Guoxing Technology on gallium nitride semiconductor material technology, the price Guoxing Technology had been offering for regular chip orders from Feiyue had been somewhat reduced.

This goes to show Mr. Wang's sincerity.

After discussing matters related to potential future cooperation with Mr. Wang, Ding Yue hung up the phone, eagerly awaiting the arrival of the gallium nitride chip.

At the same time, he called over Xu Bin.

"Yue, is the chip arriving soon?"

"Um-hum, Mr. Wang from Guoxing Technology just called me to say they had air transported it and it should be at the airport by now."

"Great, once we have this gallium nitride chip, I can take the computer team and start writing an anthropomorphic intelligence program for Big White!" Xu Bin exclaimed with immense excitement.

The purpose of the gallium nitride chip that Ding Yue ordered was very clear to Xu Bin.

To upgrade Robot No.1, Big White, from having basic "artificial intelligence" to an advanced level, other than needing this very powerful gallium nitride chip, we will also need the software from Xu Bin and his computer team!

Xu Bin and his team believed that the development direction of AI should be based on a framework similar to human neural systems, namely, writing a similar set of mental logic to human neuron, endowing the robot with the ability to learn, rather than rigidly executing the fixed program in the chip.

The healthcare robot Big White made by Mist City Arts and Sciences University is currently running on its inherent chip program, whether it's a healthcare chip or a law chip.

But now, Ding Yue is planning on upgrading Big White.

Once that first Big White gets its upgrade, it will become a semi-intelligent robot, and even though its functions will to some extent be limited by physical design, it will hold much more capabilities compared to robots with fixed function chips.

And this AI-driven robot, Big White, could not be mass-produced for now. Even if Mist City Arts and Sciences University becomes successful, it will still be for Ding Yue's personal use only.

The intelligent technology that Ding Yue had obtained was given to Xu Bin's team, which was why they are capable of developing a neural-like intelligent program.

Xu Bing named this type of AI as—Anthropomorphic Intelligent Robot.

It sounds pretty impressive. In reality, it leverages software to simulate human cognitive function. Though an intelligent robot like this is a long shot from becoming a genuine AI with its own consciousness, it's still somewhat intelligent.

Ding Yue understood that the anthropomorphic intelligent robot Xu Bin mentioned is still a pseudo-AI due to technology limitations.

It's just that its level of intelligence may be higher than ordinary robots.

Ding Yue had seen real AI technology in the System Mall, but it requires a higher university level to exchange and unlock it.

During lunch when Ding Yue, Xu Bin, Old Huang, and secretary Wen Ruohan were dining at Cafeteria No.2, Wen Ruohan received a call from the security personnel at the school gate.

"It's the delivery vehicle from Guoxing Technology? Okay." After receiving the call, Wen Ruohan turned to Principal Ding and announced, "Principal Ding, Guoxing Technology's delivery has arrived and is outside the gate. The security guard is asking where he should deliver it."

Chapter 424: University Education Innovation Exchange Meeting

Underneath the computer science department's teaching building.

Several students are gathered around a black vehicle that resembles an armored truck for delivering money, but it clearly isn't. You can see the English words of 'Guoxing Technology' on the body of the vehicle.

"Director Xu said that this is a gallium nitride chip customized by our Principal Ding from Guoxing Technology."

"Wow, they use such a big truck to transport just one chip?"

"What else would you prefer? Courier delivery? Do you know how much this chip costs?"

"Buying a chip... Isn't it usually couriered?"

The few students from Xu Bin's team in the Computer Science department, who were looking at this black truck, were all talking about it.

"How much can this chip cost?"

"A conservative estimate - one million!"

"Wow, really? A really good Intel CPU only costs a few thousand!"

"What kind of chip do you think this is? This one ordered by Principal Ding is a gallium nitride chip, and it should be our country's first gallium nitride chip."

"Director Xu said that this gallium nitride chip will be used to write humanoid brain intelligent programs."

"That must be so cool!"

While the students were chatting, a few people walked over from not far away - Principal Ding and Director Xu.

Ding Yue had instructed the security guard at the school gate to lead the delivery truck from Guoxing Technology to the computer science teaching building.

Then, after Ding Yue and Xu Bin had lunch, they came directly here.

"Principal Ding, good afternoon. I am the Sales Manager of Guoxing Technology in Mist City. Mr. Wang specifically instructed me to personally hand over your order."

A middle-aged man in his forties stepped forward and greeted Ding Yue.

"Thank you for your effort."

Ding Yue gave a slight nod and then looked at the black truck.

Guoxing Technology's staff opened the back door of the vehicle and took out a silver metal box from inside.

"Principal Ding, you can come over and check it out." The middle-aged man led Ding Yue to the side of the vehicle.

After a staff member unlocked the password of the silver metal box, there was a click sound as the box opened.

Upon opening the silver metal box, there was an even smaller metal box inside.

This super-performance nitride chip worth a million, even its packaging was designed to be reassuring.

"Bin, why is this so complicated for just one chip including using a password box?" Huang Youjie curiously asked.

"This chip is very valuable!" Xu Bin smiled and explained, "It's worth a lot of money. It's normal for it to be protected like this during transport."

"I see."

Huang Youjie nodded upon hearing this.

Ding Yue watched as a staff member opened the small metal box inside, revealing a specially packaged chip from Guoxing Technology right before his eyes.

This is a gallium nitride chip, but it doesn't seem very different from regular chips. It looks even cooler.

"Good."

Ding Yue nodded his head.

Following that, the staff member closed and locked the metal box, then handed it over to Principal Ding.

"Let me do it! Let me do it!" Xu Bin had been eager to jump in for a while.

As a computer genius, encountering such a high-performing gallium nitride chip, how could he not be excited?

Seeing Bin's enthusiasm, Ding Yue had the Guoxing Technology staff hand over the metal box to Xu Bin without worry, and also gave him the password.

After completing the handover of the gallium nitride chip, the people from Guoxing Technology drove away.

Ding Yue followed Xu Bin up the building to the classroom where their computer team was located.

This place had some of the best computers at Mist City Arts and Science University, meant to enable Xu Bin and his team to more smoothly complete the tasks assigned by Ding Yue.

That included previously writing chip programs and the soon-to-begin humanoid brain intelligent chip programming.

During this short break, since Ding Yue knew the gallium nitride chip might arrive in a few days, all the members of Xu Bin's team stayed at school.

Currently, Xu Bin's team basically consists of him leading, with Chen Jun and a computer science teacher assisting, alongside six other outstanding computer science students for a total of nine people. After being given related intelligence technology by Ding Yue, they are now about to start developing the "humanoid brain intelligent chip program".

These nine people are currently the most badass computer experts of Mist City Arts and Science University. Any one of them could easily create a good APP, so if they didn't have any abilities, they wouldn't have been chosen by Xu Bin to join the computer team.

Especially Xu Bin, who is incredibly talented, the internal system used by the school was all created by him.

If it were any other institution, they would likely collaborate with an outside company for systems such as the campus all-in-one card.

Xu Bin even developed his own computer system, yes, a computer operating system like windows.

However, since it's not quite perfected, this computer operating system named "Feiyue" is currently only being used and continuously modified by Xu Bin himself.

"Bin, now that we have the Gallium Nitride chip, how long will it take to create the 'Human-like Intelligence Program' you mentioned?"

Ding Yue curiously asked, looking towards Xu Bin.

"It means we'll be busy again, now that we have a team of nine people, our efficiency will certainly be higher. Initially, I estimated it would take a month, but it seems like now the first test can probably happen in a week. The premise is that we can't be disturbed by anything from now on."

Xu Bin shrugged as he spoke.

His meaning was quite clear, the entire computer team of nine people, lead by Xu Bin, basically eat, drink, and live here. In about a week's time, they will be able to complete the first draft of the 'Human-like Intelligence Program'.

"Good, Huang, as the logistics department, you have to ensure everyone's living necessities, understand?" Ding Yue turned his head to look at Huang Youjie.

Huang Youjie gave an OK sign with his hand.

A logistics department supporting a computer team of nine people would have no problem at all.

After arranging for Xu Bin and his team to focus on writing the 'Human-like Intelligence Program', Ding Yue left the Computer Science Building with Huang and his secretary Wen Ruohan.

"Originally, we were all going to go watch a movie tonight, but it seems Bin won't have time for that, haha!"

Ding Yue concluded, and then walked towards the Energy Chemistry Laboratory to check the progress of his sister's experiments.

Since the end of military training, Ding Xiaoyou, his sister, had spent almost all her time in the laboratory except for sleeping and eating.

Ding Yue was really worried, wondered if his sister's body could bear such intensity?

After all, she's a girl.

So Ding Yue planned to look in the system shop to check if he can buy a personal Physical Fitness Scroll or similar items to boost her health, so that she doesn't end up ruining her health before she's done with her experiments.

However, just as Ding Yue reached a plaza in the teaching area, Wen Ruohan came up from behind, paced quickly, and handed her mobile phone to Ding Yue, "Principal Ding, it's Director Xiao."

"Director Xiao? What would Director Xiao need from me at this time?"

Ding Yue was somewhat confused, but soon took the phone and answered the call, "Hello, Director Xiao."

"Principal Ding, I have good news for you!"

As soon as Ding Yue heard that it was good news, he was immediately relieved.

"Director Xiao, what's the good news that you would call me personally?" Ding Yue guessed this good news must be something significant.

It seems today is a lucky day for Ding Yue.

Just when he successfully obtained the first civilian Gallium Nitride chip, he also heard from Director Xiao about good news.

"Principal Ding, the 4th National College Education Innovation Exchange Conference, which is also the University Education Innovation Exchange Conference, will be held in our Mist City this year. As a benchmark for private universities in Mist City, I thought about it and nominated your university for a spot, which has been approved."

Xiao Wenxing explained in detail.

"Director Xiao, do you mean I can attend this University Education Innovation Exchange Conference?" Upon hearing this, Ding Yue's eyes widened in surprise, and he asked.

"Yes, the date is October 10th, and the venue of this University Education Innovation Exchange Conference will be at Mist City University. Principal Ding, you should prepare well."

Xiao Wenxing confirmed.

Phew!

Ding Yue nearly lost his senses, thinking that the 4th University Education Innovation Exchange was to be held at his Mist City Arts and Science University.

Listening carefully, he realized that it was Mist City University!

Although there's only a small difference in the names of Mist City University and Mist City Arts and Science University, there's a huge gap between the two universities in terms of their place in the educational system of Xia Country and their rankings.

Mist City University is a prestigious national Double First-Class University, it's the best institution in Mist City.

On the other hand, Ding Yue's Mist City Arts and Science University is a private university. Although it has achieved minor success in the past year, it still falls far short when compared to a Double First-Class University like Mist City University.

"Alright, Director Xiao, I'll make sure to attend the event on time." Ding Yue quickly responded.

The University Education Innovation Exchange Conference, as well as the University Presidents' Exchange Meeting, are great opportunities to get acquainted with more universities, and Ding Yue certainly wouldn't miss out.

Besides, this was a spot that Director Xiao had earnestly sought for him. Otherwise, as a private university, he probably wouldn't have been eligible to participate in such a University Education Innovation Exchange Conference.

"That would be great. See you at the conference then." After Xiao Wenxing finished speaking, he hung up the phone.

Ding Yue thought for a moment and then said to his secretary Wen Ruohan next to him, "Help me check which universities have attended the University Education Innovation Exchange Conference in previous years."

"Okay, Principal Ding."

Wen Ruohan immediately took out her mobile and began to search, "The third National College Education Innovation Exchange Conference (University Presidents' Exchange), universities that attended include Qinghua University, Yanjing University, Dongkai University, Fudan University, Zhecheng University...Changan Industrial University...Guangzhou Polytechnic University...Shu City University..."

"Stop!"

Ding Yue stopped Wen Ruohan.

No need to continue, otherwise he would start feeling inferior...

Chapter 425: I Thought He Was a King, But This Is It?

The majority of attendees at this University Education Innovation Exchange Conference were public universities, and practically every Double First-Class University was represented.

Additionally, there were also undergraduate universities present.

It took Ding Yue quite some time to find a few private universities amongst the attendees.

These private universities were rather well-known in the country, ranking amongst the top of the private institutions.

Director Xiao Wenxing even included his own Mist City Arts and Science University - a sign of his immense faith in Ding Yue!

Most importantly, the application was accepted!

Ding Yue figured that this acceptance was based on a few reasons - one being the collaborative relationship between Mist City Arts and Science University and Jiangnan University of Science and Technology, a Double First-Class University.

Secondly, the Gallium Nitride Semiconductor Materials Technology developed by Mist City Arts and Science University held significant merit.

Moreover, Ding Yue was also honored with the title of Honorary Researcher by the Xia Country Academy of Semiconductor Material Research.

Hence, Ding Yue's Mist City Arts and Science University got this chance to attend the National College Education Innovation Exchange Conference.

Since this is the National College Education Innovation Exchange Conference, the focus is definitely on innovation and exchange in education.

In terms of educational innovation, Mist City Arts and Science University had some authority to speak.

When it came to a sense of belonging amongst university students, Qinghua University and Yancheng University were undoubtedly at the top. Their sense of belonging was inevitably strong. However, Ding Yue's Mist City Arts and Science University was not far behind.

Every student at Mist City Arts and Science University harbored deep affection towards the school.

Of course, this strictly applies to older students, as the new students are still unfamiliar with the environment of Mist City Arts and Science University.

The National College Education Innovation Exchange Conference was a great opportunity for Ding Yue to expand his network.

If Ding Yue were still as obscure as when he first started the counterfeit university, he probably would not have had a chance to participate in this conference.

Even if he was allowed to attend, he would be the subject of ridicule!

After all, every university principal attending the conference boasted impressive qualifications or held significant social standing.

While Ding Yue's personal qualification was only an undergraduate degree without any postgraduate studies, he held the honor of being an Honorary Researcher at the Xia Country Academy of Semiconductor Material Research and public recognition, which provided him some credibility when standing on the conference stage.

Additionally, Ding Yue was planning to do some homework before attending this exchange conference.

For example, he needed to decide which universities' principals he should interact with and see if there are opportunities for further cooperation.

His university's equivalent to the Physics Department at Jiangnan University of Science and Technology, for instance.

After all, Mist City Arts and Science University was a very comprehensive private institution, and the development of many disciplines could be slow if they rely solely on their own growth.

On the other hand, establishing a cooperative relationship with a Double First-Class University could greatly improve their future prospect, like the Physics Department.

Ding Yue hoped that the Mist City Arts and Science University could become a private comprehensive university cooperating with various national Double First Class Universities rather than being perceived as a diploma mill by the public.

Although the social recognition of Mist City Arts and Science University is gradually changing, associating with public Double First-Class Universities has its advantages.

Moreover, not every university in the nation is isolated from each other, and there are frequent exchanges and collaborations between Double First-Class Universities.

Ding Yue was initially prepared to visit his younger sister Ding Xiaoyou and see how she was doing in the Energy Chemistry laboratory.

But now, Ding Yue became more interested in the National College Education Innovation Exchange Conference that Director Xiao Wenxing had mentioned to him earlier.

"I'm going to the office."

Hence, Ding Yue changed his path and headed straight back to his office, to consider which university principals he should interact with at the National College Education Innovation Exchange Conference on October 10th.

Firstly, he considered the departments that Mist City Arts and Science University planned to focus on developing, such as the Mechanical, Computer, Architecture, and Medical schools.

The Medical school was fine since it had established a cooperative relationship with Mist City Central Hospital and didn't need to worry about future development.

Departments like Mechanical and Computer, as well as schools like the Architecture school appear to be strong, but they have a gap compared to more professional and stronger institutions.

Just like comparing the Mechanical Department of Mist City Arts and Science University with that of Qinghua University, there is simply no comparison.

Unless the Mechanical Department of Mist City Arts and Science University successfully manufactured a world-leading lithography machine, at that moment in time, they would truly be leading.

Ding Yue spent the entire afternoon listing the specific universities corresponding to these relevant departments.

"I'm kinda hungry."

Ding Yue patted his stomach and looked over at his secretary Wen Ruohan. "Let's go get something to eat."

On the way to the second cafeteria, Ding Yue called up Huang and then gave his younger sister Ding Xiaoyou a call.

After dinner, Ding Yue was planning on going to watch 'Super Combat Team' at the cinema.

Although Ding Yue had already seen a screening of 'Super Combat Team', the cinema offered a 3D IMAX version, which was sure to be more exciting.

"Hey, Xiao You, your phone is pretty hard to reach." Ding Yue finally got through with a call to his sister.

"Are you calling to invite me to watch 'Super Combat Team' together?"

On the line, Ding Xiaoyou was rather direct with her question.

"How did you know?"

Ding Yue was taken aback. He had only just managed to get through to her, and she had guessed his intention without him saying anything?

"No guessing required. The first showing of 'Super Combat Team' is about to start just after six. You calling me around this time means what else could it be?"

"As expected of my little sister, you're so smart. Are you on your way to the cafeteria now? We'll wait for you in the second cafeteria."

"Okie dokie!"

As the saying goes, it's better to arrive at the right time than too early. As soon as Ding Yue and Wen Ruohan finished ordering their meals, Ding Xiaoyou arrived perfectly on time.

"Yue, how much box office do you think our 'Super Combat Team' can make?" Huang Youjie asked while eating and discussing the box office potential.

"Hard to say."

Ding Yue shook his head.

If he really had to guess, well... it would be difficult. Although he enjoyed it, it was uncertain whether the audience in this parallel world would appreciate it too.

After all, this was the first film project he came up with after crossing over into this parallel world. No, it was the second one.

The first one was the food-themed documentary of the Film and Theatre Academy, "A Bite of Xia Country."

Speaking of "A Bite of Xia Country," it had been entered in the National Documentary Contest and would be judged in October. He was uncertain if it could win any awards.

After dinner, Ding Yue and Huang headed to the cinema.

Four tickets for 'Super Combat Team' in 3D IMAX, over fifty yuan each – costing a total of over two hundred yuan. It was quite expensive.

IMAX tickets were indeed more expensive than regular 3D, around thirty yuan each, but for movies of this visual magnitude, the cinematic experience of regular 3D doesn't compare to IMAX.

Today was September 30th and almost all the universities in University Town were on vacation. Hundreds of thousands of students either went home or came to watch a movie if they didn't.

Therefore, the cinema was bustling tonight.

Ding Yue noticed that in this cinema, most people were here to watch one of four films.

It seemed that quite a few were here to watch "Super Combat Team."

Although "Super Combat Team" had a relatively lower share of the schedule, and even this large cinema was only screening it at two venues concurrently.

Ding Yue found the number of college students discussing "Super Combat Team" or Big White didn't seem to be less than the other three popular films.

"I've been looking forward to 'Super Combat Team' for a long time. I can finally see it."

"Which platform did you buy your ticket from?"

"I plan to watch 'Space Fortress' first, then 'Super Combat Team.'"

"Darling, after we finish 'Our Youth Time,' it will only be a little past eight. Let's go watch 'Super Combat Team' afterwards, shall we?"

"Is it the animated film with Big White?"

"Yeah!"

"Good! Since we have a day off tomorrow and no classes, let's watch 'Super Combat Team' later."

In the midst of a bustling crowd, Ding Yue and his friends entered the projection hall after checking their tickets.

As soon as he entered the hall, Ding Yue noticed that it seemed a bit empty. After a moment, it occurred to him that he had come in too early.

Audiences kept pouring in afterwards, some chattering and laughing, some in couples, some alone.

Even two male students walked into the hall hand in hand with an air of affection...

Gradually...

The number of people in the entire hall seemed to exceed Ding Yue's expectations!

It was astonishing that such a pricey 3D IMAX hall could nearly fill up all the seats!

"Principal Ding, there are so many people, it seems almost all the seats are taken." Wen Ruohan exclaimed in surprise after scanning the seats in the hall.

"Are there really this many people coming to watch animated movies?" Ding Xiaoyou rolled her eyes and muttered, "Even though Big White is indeed quite likeable."

Seeing this, Ding Yue immediately took out his phone to check the ticket sales for his cinema hall on the Cat Eye Movie APP.

When he bought the tickets, the hall seemed rather empty.

But now, the ticket sales page displayed a substantial area of red!

On the cinema ticket APP, a red area in the hall represented seats that had been sold.

This particular viewing that Ding Yue was at, excluding the front and rear edge rows, all seats were sold!

Shock!

Ding almost thought he had purchased the whole hall for a private viewing!

A moment later, Ding checked out the seating situation for 'Space Fortress' in the other simultaneous 3D IMAX screening.

When Ding Yue saw the ticket sales for Director Ma Wenhai's 'Space Fortress,' he couldn't help but wonder.

Is this it?

Is this it?

I thought you were a king of glory, and yet... is this it?

Chapter 426: The Sister's Perspective is Always Strange

In the center was a cluster of red.

Surrounded by white vacant seats.

Ding Yue even went on counting, finding that the cluster of red was made up of 47 people.

Does this mean that during the same time slot in the 3DIMAX theater, with almost two hundred seats, only 47 tickets for "Space Fortress" were sold?

After seeing the status displayed on his mobile phone screen, Ding Yue almost thought he had checked the wrong cinema.

After all, he might have mistaken it for a remote, less popular cinema, right?

But after a reconfirmation, he found out that it was indeed the hottest cinema in University Town. It was built two years ago and had become the top choice for university students to watch movies.

"Really?"

Ding Yue couldn't help but mutter with a laugh.

"What's the matter, Principal Ding?" Wen Ruohan, standing beside him, asked curiously.

"Nothing."

Ding Yue smiled mischievously, shaking his head, then switched to another 3DIMAX theater showing "Space Fortress" in the same cinema.

Since "Space Fortress" had a considerable screen share, meaning that more sessions were scheduled in the cinema, Ding Yue decided to take a look at several theaters at the same time for comparison.

However, the box office trend of "Space Fortress" in this 3DIMAX theater was almost the same: a cluster of red seats in the middle, a few red ones at the back, and the rest were vacant.

"Maybe the sales performance in the regular 3D theater is better?"

Ding Yue thought, switching to a regular 3D theater showing "Space Fortress" to check its ticket sales.

Hmm!

Admittedly, ticket sales were somewhat higher, but they still fell short of a full house!

Still worried about potential errors in his analysis, Ding Yue checked the ticket sales for a new session starting after eight o'clock.

It had sold tickets, but the movie had not yet started. The situation was almost the same as the six o'clock session.

At this point, Ding Yue was almost certain of the ticket sales situation of "Space Fortress". It was performing poorly during pre-sale and had a low attendance rate!

Wondering what Ma Wenhai was feeling at this moment?

...

In a high-end villa community in Yancheng.

After seeing the pre-sale status and attendance, Ma Wenhai grew very anxious.

"Mr. Chen, hear me out. Today, the attendance is low probably because people are on a long weekend holiday. Many young people either go on vacation or go back home!"

Ma Wenhai hurriedly explained when he received a call from the investor Mr. Chen.

However, this explanation was unpersuasive, even for himself!

As a director, Ma Wenhai had a clear understanding of the pre-sales and attendance statistics of commercial movies.

Based on the current attendance rate across the country for the session that started at six, the situation was dire!

Cities like Yancheng, Haicheng, Guangcheng, and Shencheng had decent attendance rates, which were higher than 55%.

But in other cities, the attendance rate was somewhat bleak.

"Mr. Chen, trust me, we'll definitely be able to sell one hundred million yuan worth of tickets within the next few hours!"

Ma Wenhai humbled himself and went on explaining to the investors.

Initially, Ma Wenhai had had high hopes. He had planned to make three hundred million yuan at the box office on the premiere day, September 30, within only six hours!

However... reality hit hard!

Ma Wenhai was stunned.

This was not right!

A similar space science fiction movie released two years ago had performed really well at the box office on the premiere day!

To this day, Ma Wenhai still remembered vividly. It was his movie "Earth Crisis," starring a young male star. It had grossed 270 million yuan on its premiere day and 24.95 billion yuan in total!

"Director Ma, don't think I know nothing about the box office statistics. With so many sessions allocated, and the attendance rate being so low, do you think this movie can break even?"

Investor Mr. Chen sounded somewhat irritated.

After all, when Ma Wenhai first pitched the space sci-fi movie "Space Fortress", he had sworn passionately that they would make no less than two billion yuan at the box office.

Mr. Chen believed in Ma Wenhai and funded two hundred million yuan for "Space Fortress" because of the success of his last space sci-fi movie, "Earth Crisis".

While Ma Wenhai was being scolded by the investors,

Ding Yue was relishing "Super Combat Team".

As expected of the 3DIMAX effects! The viewing experience was so much better than when he had previewed the movie.

Since Ding Yue had already seen the sample film and knew the plot, he focused mainly on the 3DIMAX effects throughout the movie.

But the other audiences reacted differently.

"Wow!"

"Ha-ha-ha!"

"Big White is so cute!"

"Whimper, why did the brother die?"

"Who's the villain?"

"Wow, so cool!"

"Big White looks really cool when it transforms and flies!"

"I wish I had a Big White!"

The audience was exclaiming in surprise. Many scenes could make the audience gasp in wonder.

Is it possible to be like this?

Such a turn of events?

So it was him all along?

Big White can be upgraded?

One surprise after another! For those viewers watching "Super Combat Team" for the first time, this animated film completely upended their understanding of traditional animated films.

"Super Combat Team" depicted a loveable healthcare robot named Big White, filled with humorous skits. Besides, the movie also upgraded Big White, turning it into a superhero robot. To audiences, this was simply too cool.

By the end of the movie, Ding Yue had lost count of how many times the audience had exclaimed in surprise or burst into laughter.

After going out of the theater, Ding Yue and Wen Ruohan were the most calm.

As they both had seen the sample film of "Super Combat Team," Wen Ruohan felt that the 3DIMAX effect was much stronger than when watching the sample film.

However, the reactions of Ding Xiaoyou and Huang Youjie were quite different.

Huang Youjie was simply amazed by how good "Super Combat Team" was, and he was ready for a second viewing. He planned to ask a fellow female student from the Law School to watch it with him in a few days.

However, when Ding Xiaoyou came out of the theater after watching the movie, she brought up a topic that no one could have anticipated.

"Ding Yue, what kind of technology is involved in Big White's flight in the movie, even manned flight? First of all, for the energy source, I think ordinary energy can't support it."

Once Ding Xiaoyou started talking, it was evident that she was a straight-A student!

Huang Youjie and Wen Ruohan were taken aback by her comments, with only Ding Yue being somewhat able to keep up: "Then do you think the graphene battery you'll be developing can support Big White's flight as depicted in the movie?"

"Probably not."

Ding Xiaoyou shook her head: "For that level of energy propulsion, it's almost rocket-level. Even if it's rocket fuel, there can't be too little, so I think the best energy source for Big White's flight is nuclear power."

"Er... Nuclear power!" Upon hearing this, Ding Yue didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

A nuclear propulsion engine? That would require much advanced nuclear technology! Nuclear fission seems unlikely. It would have to be at least cold fusion, right?

Forget it, don't think about it!

Chapter 427: Investing Earned Money into Technological Research

Technology involving nuclear energy is practically the most advanced in this Parallel World, even surpassing the world's standards, it could be termed as radical technology.

After all, currently the best that humans are capable of is controlled nuclear fission.

While the nuclear energy from nuclear fission is powerful, its practicality isn't ideal. Only nuclear fusion could be the ideal source of energy for humanity.

Yet while nuclear fusion is not difficult, controlled nuclear fusion is a problem that humanity has been unable to solve.

Ding Yue had once seen the black technology [controlled nuclear fusion] in his system store, but the Prestigious School Level required was too high. Ding Yue didn't even dare to think about it for now.

Actually, what his sister was talking about, the idea of upgrading Big White to have the powerful energy source for flying like in the movie, could also be achieved by using fuel energy.

However, Ding Yue had never thought about upgrading Big White in that way because, frankly, what would be the point?

Once his sister Ding Xiao You's graphene battery technology was realized, it would actually be adequate for Big White's daily energy needs.

Otherwise, Big White's energy consumption with just a supercapacitor is very fast, like a mobile phone always needing to be recharged from time to time.

As his sister always had a very unique perspective, Ding Yue chatted about professional matters with her for a while, and then brought the topic back on track.

The box office!

Yes, Xiao You was particularly curious about how much box office revenue her brother's animated film "Super Combat Team" could bring in.

"What's the box office now?" Xiao You asked curiously.

By this point, Huang had already taken out his phone and looked up the box office data on the Cat Eye Movie.

[Box Office Rankings for 30th September]—

First place: "Chronicles of Demon Sealing", Total box office: 73.42 million, Seating rate: 61.49%

Second place: "Space Fortress", Total box office: 57.11 million, Seating rate: 37.52%

Third place: "Our Youth Time", Total box office: 55.83 million, Seating rate: 58.14%

Fourth place: "Super Combat Team", Total box office: 37.41 million, Seating rate: 93.94%

"The highest-grossing film is 'Chronicles of Demon Sealing'. It looks like it's doing well. Is it good?" Huang asked after reading the data, turning to Ding Yue and Xiao You.

"Is it 'Chronicles of Demon Sealing'? Isn't it 'Space Fortress'?" Wen Ruohan asked, looking puzzled.

After all, it's well known that the number of screenings for "Space Fortress" far exceeded the other films. With so many screenings, didn't it get the highest box office?

"'Chronicles of Demon Sealing' has 73.42 million, 'Space Fortress' only has 57.11 million, that's a difference of over 10 million! And the seating rate for 'Space Fortress' is really low, only 37.52%!"

Huang shook his head and smiled. "Looks like it flopped, huh?"

"Such a low seating rate, there's only one explanation." Whenever Ding Yue heard someone mention "Space Fortress", he couldn't help but chuckle a bit.

"What's that?" Asked Huang, looking serious.

"The film is bad."

Ding Yue replied, shrugging and smiling.

"How bad must a film be to get such a disappointing box office with so many screenings?" Wen Ruohan sighed, shaking her head.

By everyone's normal estimate, with such a high proportion of screenings, "Space Fortress" should have been in a league of its own. After the first batch of screenings at around six o'clock on the 30th of September, the box office should have at least hit 100 million!

Then there was another round at eight o'clock, and another after ten. Taking into account that the later round wouldn't have as many people, but collectively, many people estimated that "Space Fortress" could surpass at least 220 million in box office revenue!

Meaning, the first day box office would surpass 220 million!

From the looks of it, it seems like it could barely break 100 million!

As for the "Waterloo" of "Space Fortress", Ding Yue smugly smiled, but was genuinely curious: just how bad was this film?

How bad could it be to witness such a drastic drop in seating rate?

Ding Yue remembers to this day, tweeting his hopes for "Super Combat Team" to take the box office championship during the National Holiday Period, only to be mocked by "Space Fortress"'s director, Ma Wenhai.

Director Ma Wenhai was adamant that his "Space Fortress" was the best pick for the National Holiday Period box office champion!

And look at it now!

Who could've predicted this?

"Space Fortress", which was so hyped before its release, couldn't even surpass the slightly less popular "Chronicles of Demon Sealing" in terms of box office.

Keep in mind, the number of screenings for "Chronicles of Demon Sealing" was significantly lower than "Space Fortress", but its box office was still over 10 million higher.

Ding Yue had no trouble guessing the reason behind this. It was probably because "Chronicles of Demon Sealing" had some redeeming qualities and received some commendations, at least on a baseline level.

On the other hand, "Space Fortress" dropping the ball was undoubtedly because the film was dreadful.

Otherwise, how could a film, known for its stunning special effects, flop this badly?

In fact, Ding Yue was extremely curious, just how bad was the "Space Fortress" directed by Ma Wenhai?

It seems like he'll have to find the time to buy a ticket to find out.

After leaving the cinema, Ding Yue and Huang drove secretary Wen Ruohan and Xiao You back to Mist City Arts and Science University.

As the time was only a little past 8 o'clock, Xiao You didn't argue and let Ding Yue drop her off at the energy chemistry lab.

Chapter 428: Investing Earned Money into Technological Research

As her sister Ding Xiaoyou put it, she has found a promising direction in optimizing the chemical vapor deposition method for graphite stripping.

With a little more time, she believes she can optimize the chemical vapor deposition method to achieve efficient, high-purity graphene stripping.

Since her sister Ding Xiaoyou is working so hard, Ding Yue can't stop her.

Her brain is probably developed to a new height by now, isn't it?

After all, even before Ding Yue used the Personal Learning Buff on her, she was already a super overachiever at the level of the College Entrance Examination Champion.

With the Personal Learning Buff that Ding Yue has used on her, it is hard to estimate how intelligent Ding Xiaoyou is now.

"Research is important, but don't overwork yourself, okay? Your health is the real capital of the revolution!"

After Ding Xiaoyou got out of the car, Ding Yue took the time to remind her.

At the same time, Ding Yue was about to spend 50 reputation points in the system mall in front of him, to redeem a [Physical Fitness Scroll (Personal)] for his sister.

Ding!

"Congratulations to the host for successfully using 50 reputation points to redeem the [Physical Fitness Scroll (Personal)]."

With a prompt in his mind, Ding Yue looked at the item redeemed in the item bar, then selected the user—his sister, Ding Xiaoyou!

Ding!

"Congratulations to the host for successfully giving Ding Xiaoyou, a freshman student at Mist City Arts and Science University, the [Physical Fitness Scroll (Personal)], increasing her physical fitness health+1!"

This [Physical Fitness Scroll (Personal)] can improve the physical fitness of the user to a certain extent, allowing her to maintain a healthy physical level even if she doesn't exercise regularly.

However, this doesn't mean that physical fitness can be wasted recklessly. If she continues to stay up late, sleepless, and doesn't exercise, her body will collapse quickly.

"I know, when did you become as nagging as Mom, Ding Yue."

Ding Xiaoyou rolled her eyes and then headed to the energy chemistry lab.

After returning to Elegant Garden No.1 apartment building and parking the car, Ding Yue went upstairs back to his apartment room.

In the study of his apartment, Ding Yue reviewed the list prepared for the University Education Innovation Exchange Conference.

Two hours passed in a flash, Ding Yue stretched lazily and yawned as he headed to the bathroom.

After taking a shower, Ding Yue wrapped himself in a small blanket, picked up his phone and looked at the time.

Half past eleven in the evening.

It was time to go to bed.

But before going to bed, Ding Yue planned to check on the overall box office status of the day.

When he and Huang came out of the theater at around eight in the evening, Huang had checked on the box office. But that result only included the earnings after the batch of screenings that ended after six, there would be another burst of box office revenues from the screenings starting after eight.

And there was another one after ten.

Because a movie usually lasts one to two hours, to arrange screenings, cinemas often make full use of their halls.

Especially during the National Holiday Period such as this, typically after the screening that starts at six ends, the same hall will immediately schedule the next screening that starts after eight.

[Box Office Ranking on September 30] ——

First place: "Chronicles of Demon Sealing", total box office 170 million, occupancy rate 57.31%

Second place: "Space Fortress", total box office 104 million, occupancy rate 33.24%

Third place: "Our Youth Time", total box office 101 million, occupancy rate 55.47%

Fourth place: "Super Combat Team", total box office 94.23 million, occupancy rate 90.28%

The ranking of the box office did not change, but the gap both widened and narrowed.

The widening gap was mainly between the first and second places.

That is, "Chronicles of Demon Sealing" and "Space Fortress". When Huang Youjie had checked earlier, there was only just over 10 million difference in box office earnings between the two.

But now, "Chronicles of Demon Sealing" has continued to strive, although due to the showtime after ten, the occupancy rate has dropped a bit, there is still 170 million in box office.

Meanwhile, "Space Fortress", which had the highest screen share today, ended up with a box office of only 104 million yuan. It was utterly thrashed by "Chronicles of Demon Sealing" which had a lower screen share!

"Our Youth Time" in third place is relatively stable, with decent attendance and box office. Although it did not make a huge splash, nor did it flop. Even if its premier screening drained some of its potential, in the first few days of its official large-scale release, it should still rake in a good amount of box office revenue.

The gap has narrowed particularly in regards to Ding Yue's Mist City Arts and Science University's "Super Combat Team" and "Space Fortress".

Using "Space Fortress" as the median, "Chronicles of Demon Sealing" has clearly outperformed it.

"Super Combat Team" came within a gap of just ten million yuan to "Space Fortress" box office figures, despite its screen share being less than 10%.

Yes, you heard right!

"Space Fortress", which had a screen share almost four times that of "Super Combat Team", is only ten million yuan ahead in box office at this point.

This edition of "Space Fortress" directed by Ma Wenhai is indeed in total shambles.

This also shows that Mist City Arts and Science University's "Super Combat Team" has been successful, and popular to a degree that seems to surpass Ding Yue's initial expectations.

After all, from the outset, Ding Yue thought that given the relatively low screen share for "Super Combat Team", a first day box office of over fifty million yuan on the 30th of September would already be impressive.

Now it is an astonishing 94.23 million, far exceeding Ding Yue's initial projections.

This leaves Ding Yue quite thrilled.

After deducting about one third of the 94.23 million yuan box office for cinema revenue sharing, the rest goes to the production and distribution companies.

This is why it's said that in order for a film to be profitable, the box office needs to exceed three times its production cost.

If a movie's investment is one hundred million yuan, it would need a box office of over three hundred million yuan. Only then, after the revenue-sharing deductions, would the producer get back the initial hundred million, breaking even.

In this parallel world, movie box office revenue is mainly split into three parts - cinema revenue, distribution revenue, and production revenue. Of course, there is also a small portion taken by the Film Bureau.

Of the three parts, the cinemas portion might be on the larger side, but generally it hovers around thirty something percent.

Whatever is left over is split between the production and distribution companies.

But sorry to inform you!

For Mist City Arts and Science University's "Super Combat Team", both the production and distribution companies are Ding Yue's Feiyue Group.

Which means, out of the 94.23 million yuan box office, after deducting the 30 something percent of cinema's share, the bulk of the remainder goes straight to Ding Yue.

About sixty something million yuan in total!

Oh my!

He's essentially broken even already!

Only when Ding Yue calculated this did he realize that the production costs for "Super Combat Team", including production and promotional costs, were just around fifty million yuan.

He's even turning a small profit already.

A subtle smile appeared on Ding Yue's face upon realizing this.

In other words, every subsequent day's box office revenue, after the cinema's cut, will be pure profit for the Feiyue Group.

A large chunk of this box office revenue is set aside by Ding Yue to be allocated to the photolithography machine research project.

This is because the photolithography machine research project is really a costly venture.

If the box office revenue is strong, some of the profits can be used for educational expenses, student welfare and other necessary expenditure. Due to investing seven billion yuan in expanding the school campus, Ding Yue's cash flow actually become quite tight.

But now fate is playing a fair game.

It appears as if animation movies produced by the Mist City Arts and Science University are quite a lucrative venture!

Although Ding Yue cannot predict how much "Super Combat Team" could eventually gross at the box office, it should have no problems making one hundred million, even two to three hundred million, right?

Ding Yue is increasingly confident in his initial idea.

That is, to invest the money earned from film and television productions into school construction and the development of scientific research projects, thus enhancing the school's influence and achievement.

Huh?

Has Ding Yue discovered another sustainable and healthy cyclical development model?

Chapter 429: Large Shopping Entertainment Plaza

October 1st.

Early in the morning, the sun was just right, and the temperature was comfortable.

Today marks the first day of the long holiday, and tourist spots across the country should begin to fill up.

In previous years during the National Day holiday, Ding Yue, Huang Youjie, Xu Bin, and their buddies would go on trips, but since the establishment of Mist City Arts and Science University, Ding Yue hasn't traveled much.

First, it's a waste of time.

Second, there are still so many students staying on campus, so it's better for Principal Ding to stay at the university.

Although he doesn't go on trips, Mist City Arts and Science University has actually become a must-visit spot for tourists.

Because Mist City Arts and Science University has two popular attractions, the campus-themed hot pot restaurant and the Book Ship Library, plus Mist City is a highly popular city.

So, at the start of the National Day holiday, a lot of tourists from out of town come to the thematic hot pot restaurant and Book Ship Library at Mist City Arts and Science University.

Ding Yue went to the Book Ship Library in the morning and found it quite busy.

Therefore.

Ding Yue called over the head of the school security team, reminding him to maintain the order and safety of the tourists during the National Day holiday. The need to register when entering and exiting the campus, especially with over ten thousand students remaining at the school- without maintaining good order and safety, things could easily go wrong.

On the west side of Mist City Arts and Science University, Tianfu Construction Group had begun work, using up all 5000 acres of educational land for this expansion.

This round of expansion had been funded with 700 million by Ding Yue!

Because the construction site is on the west side, at a decent distance from the dormitory buildings, the teaching area, and the library, the construction wouldn't affect students' daily life and study.

Additionally, all construction vehicles were designated to follow a temporarily built road from the west to transport materials like cement and steel.

Since the teaching buildings and facilities such as the Central Sports Ground, Central Sports Stadium and hotel were all designed by the students of Mist City Arts and Science University, the Tianfu Construction Group began work on the dormitory building and an additional regular sports ground first.

Moreover, Zhao Chi's design for the Archive Library had been completed a while ago, and it would be constructed by a team from Tianfu Construction Group specializing in ancient architecture.

The fiery expansion of Mist City Arts and Science University officially began during the National Day holiday!

Completing the expansion of Mist City Arts and Science University would be impossible without two to three years.

However, Director Chen Ping from the Faculty of Architecture, who is also the frontline person responsible for the university's expansion, told Ding Yue that to expedite the project, Tianfu Construction Group had brought in more construction teams.

This would shorten the construction period, though it would lead to a slight increase in labor costs, but it wouldn't be too much.

Ding Yue expressed his complete acceptance of this.

Ding Yue had some other thoughts on expanding the campus.

After returning to the office in the administrative building, Ding Yue called Huang, leaving Bin alone as he was busy working on a project.

"Wen Ruohan, how long does it take to walk from our school to the commercial street of University Town?"

Ding Yue asked his secretary Wen Ruohan.

Wen Ruohan paused to think while busy at her computer before replying, "Maybe twenty minutes. It's actually quite far. Our school is on the outskirts of University Town and many students are too lazy to go out on weekends."

"So, do you think it would be better if we build a campus mall with movie theaters, food streets, entertainment places, and shops?"

Ding Yue asked with a smile.

Yes.

Ding Yue plans to make Mist City Arts and Science University more comprehensive.

The campus has an area of 7500 acres, which is quite large. Within the campus, would it be too boring if there were only educational facilities and laboratories?

It would be annoying for students who want to watch a movie or something in their spare time to have to spend twenty minutes walking to the commercial pedestrian street in University Town.

So Ding Yue wants to build a shopping mall in the school, integrating food, shopping, and entertainment.

Keep in mind that, when Mist City Arts and Science University has all four grades of university students plus graduate students in the future, the number of students is very likely to surpass 100,000!

With such a large student body, the potential for consumption is huge!

In addition, Mist City Arts and Science University is a private institution, and most students who come here come from affluent families.

If such a shopping plaza is built on campus, it would be very convenient for students and give them a better living and learning experience in the vast 7500-acre campus.

Taking this into consideration, Ding Yue was contemplating whether or not to build shopping plazas and a campus park!

"Wow, that seems like a great idea. When our school has a lot of students, and given the remote location of our school, having a shopping mall on campus would be super convenient."

Chapter 430: Large Shopping Entertainment Plaza

Wen Ruohan said excitedly.

But a moment later, the excitement on Wen Ruohan's face disappeared, "But building a commercial square would surely cost a lot of money, right?"

"Money?"

Ever since Ding Yue obtained the Famous School System, money felt like just a string of numbers to him.

Although at this stage, the funds of Mist City Arts and Science University have indeed reached a usage limit: campus expansion, photolithography experiment projects, annual education funds, all these have put a strain on the University's billions of funds.

But that's okay!

Ding Yue is confident that the animated movie "Super Combat Team" produced by Mist City Arts and Science University could make money.

And he estimated it could be quite a substantial amount!

The animation film produced by the University's animation studio, once distributed by Ding Yue's company, Feiyue Group, the profits could be channeled back to the University's construction.

This perfectly fits Ding Yue's original vision and the purpose of establishing the Feiyue Group.

Mist City Arts and Science University provides excellent university talent to Feiyue Group, then Feiyue Group transforms the products of Mist City Arts and Science University into profit.

This profit is then invested back into Mist City Arts and Science University, forming a healthy cycle of development.

That's also why the system's school funding rewards for Ding Yue have been decreasing!

Because the system can't provide infinite schooling funds for Ding Yue. With the continuous construction and development of Mist City Arts and Science University, funds will eventually need to be generated by themselves!

Another reason why Ding Yue plans to continue to invest funds into improving the school's facilities is that this morning, Ding Yue saw the box office performance of "Super Combat Team" and had a premonition that its final box office would be higher than his estimates, giving him confidence.

This animation film based on Big White might become the most profitable work of Mist City Arts and Science University to date.

Even selling the medical health robot, Big White itself, to hospitals all over the country, does not earn as much as a single film.

After all, the selling price of the medical health robot Big White is a hundred thousand yuan per unit, with a profit of about fifty thousand yuan!

Right now, the production volume is still very low, so the daily profit is not that much.

"Yue, did you call for me?"

Huang casually entered Ding Yue's office and asked curiously after walking over.

"Aren't you the head of logistic department in this school? I thought about something; during this expansion, we should take this chance to improve the fundamental teaching facilities. I think we can optimize the functions of the school even more."

Ding Yue said earnestly.

"Optimizing functions? Teaching blocks, dormitory blocks, experimental blocks, hotels, canteens, sports facilities, and even research bases have all been planned out, haven't they?"

Huang Youjie couldn't think of any other facilities that need improving in the school.

In terms of teaching, there are teaching buildings and experimental buildings. In terms of life, there are dormitory buildings, hotels, canteens, etc. In terms of sports, there are Central Sports Grounds and Central Sports Stadiums, with three stadiums and two gymnasiums in total.

Moreover, a park has been planned between the newly built student dormitory in the north of the campus (Elegant Garden Apartment + Dormitory Building) and the Book Ship Library in the south.

The administration building is just next to Xingzhi Road, which borders the east of the park. According to the plan, the west of the park should also be part of the teaching area.

Isn't that enough?

"I plan to invest in the construction of a campus shopping mall to meet the students' daily shopping and entertainment needs."

Ding Yue shared his idea with Huang.

"Huh?"

Huang Youjie mumbled, then his eyes lit up and exclaimed, "Yue, this is a great idea!"

"Isn't it!"

Ding Yue chuckled, seeing that Huang understood his idea. It seemed that Huang wasn't that slow after all.

"No wonder our campus seems so empty. The commercial pedestrian street in University Town is too far away. Building a campus shopping mall to stimulate the students' consumption potential is brilliant!"

Huang Youjie couldn't help but give Ding Yue a thumbs up.

"However..."

Ding Yue pondered for a moment, then added, "We can't blindly finalize this project. We need to survey student opinions to see if they want a shopping plaza on campus."

"Let's do a survey then!" Huang Youjie agreed.

So, Ding Yue asked the school's propaganda department to launch a topic vote through the public account of Mist City Arts and Science University.

[Vote] After discussions with the school leadership, we now seek the opinions of all staff and students. The school is planning to build a shopping plaza on campus that integrates daily leisure, food, movies, entertainment, shopping, and more, to enrich the daily lives and entertainment of the students. Would you like to see such a mall on campus?

Options 1, Support!

Option 2, Unnecessary!

Note: Please vote according to your true feelings. The school will decide whether to initiate the project based on the student votes!

When this topic vote was posted on the Public Account of Mist City Arts and Science University, many students who followed the school's public account saw it.

Then, a similar vote for all staff and students of Mist City Arts and Science University appeared on the University's official website!

[Student Communication Group of Mist City Arts and Science University]——

"Holy Smokes! The school is preparing to build a mall, that's so cool!"