

F. University 551

Chapter 551: Chapter 332 Campus Map Drawn by the School of Architecture

Director Chen Ping answered thoughtfully.

As for the current land arrangement and corresponding campus map of Mist City Arts and Science University, Director Chen Ping is extremely familiar.

"Are you sure it would work? The research base's center would take up about two hundred to three hundred acres," asked Ding Yue with a furrowed brow.

"Hmm... Principal Ding, right now at our architecture college, we have a campus planning map drawn at this stage, should I get it for you to look at?"

Chen Ping said seriously.

"There's a map?"

Upon hearing this, Ding Yue immediately responded, "Alright, hurry up and let me take a look."

Ding Yue always enjoyed looking at maps and the like. Although he habitually strolled around Mist City Arts and Science University, due to the construction work happening in the western part of the campus, Ding Yue could hardly remember the situation there.

The campus planning map was clearly the most straightforward.

"Alright Principal Ding, I will have student Liu Chuanjie bring the map over." After saying this, Chen Ping took out his phone and called Liu Chuanjie.

Liu Chuanjie was one of the best students at the Architecture College, and he was also the president of the Mist City Arts and Science University's Architecture Design Club.

"Speaking of the campus planning map, does your architecture college draw one at each stage of construction?"

Ding Yue couldn't help but glance at Chen Ping, asking curiously.

"Yes Principal Ding, having the campus planning map drawn by our department will help analyze any changes needed in the planning." Director Chen Ping nodded.

Since the expansion project of Mist City Arts and Science University was planned by the Architecture College and built by Tianfu Construction Group, it was normal for Ding Yue to not know about the campus planning map since he had rarely been involved in this aspect.

About fifteen minutes later, Liu Chuanjie from the Architecture College came over with a map.

"Principal Ding, Director Chen."

In Liu Chuanjie's hand was a cylinder about a meter long, specifically used for storing maps.

Although such a map could be seen on a computer, it was more intuitive to have an enlarged printed version laid out in front of you.

Chen Ping took the map from Liu Chuanjie, removed it from the cylinder, and laid it out on Principal Ding's desk.

The campus planning map was quite straightforward. At a glance, you could tell which part of the map was the currently used campus and which part was the under-construction campus.

Ding Yue even saw the Book Ship Library on the map at a glance. After all, it was a landmark of Mist City Arts and Science University.

"Principal Ding, look, this is the Energy Chemistry Research Base."

Chen Ping reached out his hand and pointed at a location on the map.

Ding Yue looked over and saw the Energy Chemistry Research Base on the map. The base was a rectangular building, simple in structure. Indeed, there was a large plot of vacant land around it, with substantial space available on the north and south sides.

"So you mean to say that if we use this plot as the center to build the research base, there will be no problem, right?"

After looking at the map, Ding Yue roughly figured out that it should be feasible to use that plot to build the research base.

"Mm-hmm."

Chen Ping nodded and then asked Principal Ding, "Is there any specific design requirement for the research base?"

"No need for special design, it just needs to be practical." Ding Yue thought that a research base needed no creative design unlike the Book Ship Library. The most important part was that it should be functional, and fully support technological research.

"Alright Principal Ding, after I go back, I will call a meeting to have our Architecture College re-plan this area. But..." Director Chen paused halfway through his sentence.

"What's wrong?"

Ding Yue asked in confusion.

"Principal Ding, the construction of the research base will certainly impact the Energy Chemistry Research Base to a certain extent. Would your sister..."

Chen Ping stuttered.

He knew that the Energy Chemistry Research Base was established by Principal Ding specifically for his sister, Ding Xiaoyou, and was undoubtedly for important research. However, once the research base construction starts, it would certainly have an impact on the Energy Chemistry Research Base.

"Oh, right, that's a problem."

After hearing Chen Ping, Ding Yue thought for a moment and muttered, "Let me ask her..."

Ding Yue then took out his phone and called his sister, Ding Xiaoyou.

"Hey, Xiao You, what are you up to?"

"Discussing the theory of photoetching precision machinery technology with them and Professor Liu. I find this quite interesting."

The voice of Ding Xiaoyou came through from the other end.

Ever since her last meeting with Mist City Arts and Science University's mechanical department team and Professor Liu's Qinghua University mechanical department inspection team, she had been working daily with them to solve the challenges Luo Peng had been facing with photoetching precision machinery manufacturing technology theory.

"Oh, OK. I have something to tell you."

"What's up?"

"I'm planning to build a research base near your Energy Chemistry Research Lab. After that, our Mist City Arts and Science University's science and technology experimental research will have its own base. Once the base is planned and during the construction phase, it may impact your Energy Chemistry Research Lab to some extent."

Ding Yue gave his sister a brief rundown.

"Mmm... How long will the impact last?" Ding Xiaoyou asked curiously.

"Not sure exactly, let me ask." Ding Yue turned to Chen Ping and asked, "Director Chen, if we plan as quickly as possible and start construction immediately, how long will it take in total?"

"We will start planning as soon as we go back. Since there's no need for designing, we can finish planning within this month, and start construction in December. It should be finished around the time we celebrate the Spring Festival."

"Xiao You, it'll be done by the time we celebrate the Spring Festival next year. Do you think it's feasible? Will it affect your research progress?"

Ding Yue immediately asked his sister Ding Xiaoyou.

"Three months huh, that should be fine. During the three months of construction, I can study with Yihang and Luo Peng on the mechanical exfoliation method for the preparation of graphene. If the machine for preparing graphene through the mechanical exfoliation method is developed before the construction is finished, I can also start working on the photoetching machine project. So, it shouldn't have a big impact."

Ding Xiaoyou answered.

Ding Yue knew that Ding Xiaoyou's graphene battery was certainly not something that could be researched overnight. It was like the photoetching machine project, which also needed a long time to research.

Therefore, in these three months, she could focus on participating in the mechanical exfoliation production method for graphene and the photoetching machine project, to make sure she doesn't waste those three months.

"Glad to hear it, you can carry on with your work."

After getting her reply, Ding Yue ended the call, then said to Chen Ping, "Director Chen, my sister doesn't have any issue, so please contact Tianfu Construction Group to start planning for the research base center as soon as possible!"

"Understood!"

Chapter 552: Adding a New Major

"Professor Xie, I've greatly benefited from our exchanges over the past few days in the field of artificial intelligence. I hope we will have the opportunity to collaborate in the future,"

In the computer science building, within Xu Bin's laboratory, he expressed his sentiments about the inspection and exchange after shaking hands with Professor Xie Changhe.

"Young people have much more room to grow. We old ones are getting on in years, so the development of artificial intelligence in the future is up to your younger generation,"

Xie Changhe praised Xu Bin.

Xu Bin was one of the most talented and clever young people he had encountered in the fields of computer technology and artificial intelligence.

Even though Xie Changhe had been teaching artificial intelligence at Yancheng University for many years and had seen many excellent students, some of them now held senior positions at companies like Alibaba and TikTok, which used intelligent big data.

Yet compared with Xu Bin, Xie Changhe still considered Xu Bin superior.

"Are you planning on leaving today, Professor Xie? Aren't you going to stay for a few more days?" Xu Bin asked seriously.

Today, Professor Xie Changhe came to tell Xu Bin that their Yancheng University research team was basically finished with their inspection and was planning to return to Yancheng University.

"Yes, we have nearly finished our investigation. We bought tickets for today, so we are leaving. Personally, I am very satisfied with this inspection at Mist City Arts and Science University. I believe our inspection team has gained a lot as well. After we return, I will suggest to Principal Zhu that our two universities establish a cooperative relationship in the field of artificial intelligence,"

Professor Xie Changhe nodded and said with a smile.

"Thank you, Professor Xie, once our two universities have established a cooperative relationship, there will be more opportunities for mutual exchanges. Moreover, I will also seek to implement your proposal for our computer science department at Mist City Arts and Science University to add a major in AI,"

Xu Bin thanked Professor Xie Changhe.

Xu Bin knew clearly that Yue was aiming to establish a cooperative relationship with Yancheng University in the field of artificial intelligence.

Since Professor Xie Changhe had said so, it indicated that the establishment of such cooperative relations was likely.

However, Mist City Arts and Science University currently does not have a major in "Artificial Intelligence Science." Therefore, Professor Xie Changhe suggested the implementation of such a major because the future demand for technological talents in "Artificial Intelligence" is highly promising.

After pondering, Xu Bin figured that Professor Xie Changhe's words made sense.

"Well then, we are about to go to the airport. If we leave later, we might be delayed due to traffic congestion. If Principal Ding is busy, would you mind conveying our goodbyes to him on our behalf?"

Xie Changhe spoke somewhat apologetically.

Because of the timing of their flight, Professor Xie Changhe and the Yancheng University inspection team were soon heading for the airport.

"Ah? Isn't Professor Xie going to say goodbye to our Principal Ding?" Xu Bin asked curiously.

Professor Xie Changhe glanced at his watch and then frowned, "I don't know if there will be enough time."

"It should be fine. Just go and bid farewell to Principal Ding, then our university will arrange a vehicle to send you to the airport. Since it's not holiday season, there won't be any traffic jams if we take the highway."

"Well, okay then."

With this, Xu Bin took Professor Xie Changhe towards the Administration Building.

At this point, in the Principal's office in the Administration Building, An Yujia and Lin Zhirou had just arrived.

With the entrance of two gorgeous women, Ding Yue felt as if he were surrounded by flowers.

After all, his secretary Wen Ruohan was also quite attractive. Fortunately, he had not only Wen Ruohan but also Big White, the robot beside him.

"Principal Ding, did you call us here to ask about Zhirou?" As soon as she arrived, An Yujia asked curiously.

"That's right."

Ding Yue nodded, preparing to say something, when Xu Bin walked into the office from outside: "Yue, Professor Xie is here to say goodbye."

"Professor Xie? Time to depart?"

Upon hearing this, Ding Yue immediately stood up from his seat.

At this moment, Professor Xie Changhe also walked into the office: "Principal Ding."

"Professor Xie, are you ready to depart? When are you leaving?" Ding Yue rushed forward to ask.

Professor Xie Changhe said somewhat apologetically: "We're about to leave for the airport. We specifically came to bid farewell to you, Principal Ding. We're concluding our inspection and will return first. Thank you for your hospitality over the past few days."

Xie Changhe still expressed his gratitude to Ding Yue. After all, throughout their visit at Mist City Arts and Science University, all their lodgings and meals have been taken care of by Principal Ding.

"Principal Ding, Professor Xie is in a hurry. I've already arranged for a car from the school. It will take them to the airport shortly."

Xu Bin added from the side.

At this point, Professor Xie Changhe checked the time again.

Seeing this, Ding Yue understood that they were probably in quite a rush due to the timing of their flight.

"Professor Xie, have a safe journey!" Ding Yue didn't delay them any further.

"OK then, goodbye, Principal Ding."

"Secretary Wen, could you see off Professor Xie for me?" Ding Yue immediately turned his head and said to Wen Ruohan.

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"Sure, Principal Ding."

Wen Ruohan nodded immediately and came forward to bid farewell to Professor Xie Changhe.

"Then, goodbye Principal Ding." After bidding farewell to Ding Yue for the last time, Professor Xie Changhe left.

After Professor Xie Changhe left, Ding Yue turned to Xu Bin and quickly asked, "How did it go?"

"What do you mean, how did it go?"

Xu Bin asked with a puzzled look.

"Tsk! I meant the inspection, the investigation team led by Professor Xie, how did the inspection go, did they say anything to you?" Ding Yue glared at Xu Bin and asked again.

"Ahem, my throat is a bit dry." Xu Bin intentionally coughed and muttered.

"Big White, pour some tea!"

Ding Yue immediately ordered the robot assistant Big White to pour a cup of tea for Xu Bin. He noticed An Yujia and Lin Zhirou in his office and immediately said to them, "You two sit first, I will talk to you later."

Now Ding Yue wanted to know how the inspection went with the team from Yancheng University led by Professor Xie Changhe.

Just now he didn't have time to ask because Professor Xie Changhe was in a hurry to catch a flight. Now he had to ask Xu Bin.

In recent days, it had always been Xu Bin who led the students of the computer science department to conduct the inspection and exchange with Professor Xie Changhe and his team. Xu Bin must have known.

And from his cough just now, it was clear he was keeping him in suspense again. Such a tease.

Seeing that Principal Ding seemed more interested in Xu Bin's affairs, An Yujia and Lin Zhirou obediently sat on the sofa.

"Alright, hurry up and speak, I still have a lot of things to do here." Ding Yue came to Xu Bin's side and kicked his leg casually.

Xu Bin shrugged his shoulders, then said seriously: "The investigation team from Yancheng University was quite satisfied with the entire inspection, especially Professor Xie, who has a high opinion of the research on artificial intelligence from our Computer Department at Mist City Arts and Science University. The credit for this mainly goes to, well, you know whom."

"Of course, who else but you!" Ding Yue understood and smiled slightly while nodding.

"Professor Xie Changhe said that after he goes back, he will recommend to Principal Zhu of Yancheng University, that we should establish a long-term cooperative relationship in the field of artificial intelligence with Mist City Arts and Science University!"

As Xu Bin's words fell, a big smile automatically appeared on Ding Yue's face.

At this moment, Ding Yue also pulled out his system panel and found that his Mist City Arts and Science University was about to establish a professional cooperation and exchange relationship in the computer sector with Yancheng University, so the task progress had improved slightly.

Last time it was 91%, this time it was 95%!

The remaining five percent would probably be achieved after the establishment of a cooperative relationship, right?

It now seemed that out of the five provincial key specialties, the computer science department was the first to succeed. The entire process had been quite smooth, without any obstacles.

"By the way, Yue, Professor Xie Changhe suggested to me that if we want to study the field of artificial intelligence, we need a relevant major. At present, our computer science department does not have such a major, so Professor Xie suggested that we should set up a new major in [Artificial Intelligence Science] in the computer science department. This way, it would match the major at Yancheng University."

Xu Bin immediately told Ding Yue about this important matter.

"Set up a new major? What do you think, Bin?"

Upon hearing this, Ding Yue looked at Xu Bin and asked.

After all, Xu Bin was the "leader" of the computer science department, and for this matter concerning the computer science department, he should at least consult him.

"Of course I agree. Our computer science department at Mist City Arts and Science University really lacks a systematic study in the field of artificial intelligence, and I think what Professor Xie Changhe said is right. We should set up a major, there will definitely be a big market for artificial intelligence technology in the future."

Xu Bin answered seriously.

"Hmm, it seems that you think the same as me. Well, you should tell Liu Wei, the dean of your computer science department when you go back, and then start preparing. I will announce and confirm this matter at the monthly or quarterly meeting."

Ding Yue nodded with a smile.

Since Professor Xie Changhe had already suggested setting up a new specialty in Artificial Intelligence Science at Mist City Arts and Science University, Ding Yue was certainly going to adopt this suggestion. In this way, his Mist City Arts and Science University could have a more precise cooperation and exchange with Yancheng University in the related specialties of artificial intelligence.

By then, he could also more smoothly complete the task progress of the specialty of artificial intelligence science and reach the provincial-level key as determined by the system.

"Okay, oh, by the way, there is one more thing, Yue."

Xu Bin suddenly thought of something and prepared to tell Ding Yue about it.

"What's the matter?" Ding Yue could not help but frown and ask.

"Professor Xie Changhe said, after we graduate from Mist City Arts and Science University, we might consider going to Yancheng University for postgraduate or even doctoral studies, what do you think about this..."

Xu Bin said seriously.

"Oh?"

Ding Yue sensed something wasn't right.

Such a computer genius like Bin wouldn't really go to Yancheng University for his postgraduate studies after graduation for the sake of his future, would he?

Ding Yue had a special identity and could go to Qinghua University's Physics Department for postgraduate studies without losing his learning BUFF effects.

But it was different for Bin and other students of the computer science department.

"Who else did Professor Xie take a liking to?" Ding couldn't help but ask.

"Err, it was the team of Chen Jun and the others in our computer science department that does programming." Xu Bin replied.

"What do you think, Bin?" Ding Yue took a deep breath and asked Xu Bin.

"As for me, it doesn't matter. Having a postgraduate diploma in computer science from Yancheng University is just for better job hunting, but I'm not short of employment opportunities." Xu Bin replied casually: "However, having a postgraduate or doctoral diploma is definitely better. Chen Jun and the others also think the same."

Upon hearing this, Ding Yue roughly understood what he meant.

Studying for a postgraduate or doctoral degree indeed is an important process for excellent talents trained by Mist City Arts and Science University.

Especially a postgraduate or doctoral degree from a top domestic university like Yancheng University, which must have a strong attraction.

Even Ding Yue himself had chosen to study for a postgraduate degree at Qinghua University, but the reason Ding Yue chose to do so was just to add luster to his credentials.

"What if our Mist City Arts and Science University can obtain the authorization for a master's or doctoral degree?"

After thinking about it for a moment, Ding Yue looked at Xu Bin and asked.

Chapter 554: 5 Million Advertising Order

At present, Mist City Arts and Science University only has a Master's Degree Authorization Point for physics. This means that only physics students can study for a postgraduate degree at Mist City Arts and Science University.

Of course, physics students can also apply for postgraduate degrees at other universities.

However.

When a university student has studied at a school for four years and views the school as a second home, they would usually prefer to choose their current university when it comes to postgraduate studies. After all, they know their university very well.

Moreover, typically students will study for two more years after their fourth year to get a postgraduate degree.

In these two years, Ding Yue was confident in applying for Master's Degree Authorization Points for the key majors that need to be developed at Mist City Arts and Science University.

After all, Ding Yue could acquire the [Master's Degree Authorization Card] tool, which can increase the probability of applying for the Master's Degree Authorization Point qualification.

The system task called [Key Major Level] rewards [Master's Degree Authorization Cards], and more than one at that.

If Ding Yue remembered correctly, weren't there five?

Whoosh!

Ding Yue smoothly pulled out the System Task Panel and looked at the task reward column.

Task Reward: [Advanced Laboratory Room+1], [Level 3 University Treasure Chest +1], [Master's Degree Authorization Card +5], 500 Reputation Points.

That's right!

Indeed, there were five [Master's Degree Authorization Cards].

Therefore, Ding Yue was confident he could retain the outstanding students from the various departments of Mist City Arts and Science University.

"Bin, if our Computer Science department at Mist City Arts and Science University could obtain master's qualification, would you stay and continue your postgraduate studies here?"

Ding Yue looked at Xu Bin, asking solemnly and seriously.

"Of course!"

Xu Bin quickly answered without even thinking twice.

Hearing the affirmative response from his good friend Bin, Ding Yue felt relieved. Xu Bin certainly had developed feelings for Mist City Arts and Science University over the past year, and considering their relationship, Xu Bin was willing to stay.

"Yancheng University's Computer Science department is very impressive, among the top in the country and also globally ranked."

Ding Yue sighed and spoke to Xu Bin.

"So what? Yue, didn't you say you want to make our Mist City Arts and Science University the most amazing private university globally? By then, whether it's school strength or global influence, won't we be more impressive than Yancheng University?"

Xu Bin confidently said, a smile on his face.

Seeing Xu Bin this confident, Ding Yue nearly forgot the great ambition he initially set.

Right!

Mist City Arts and Science University truly will become the greatest top comprehensive university in the world under his leadership. Probably taking several decades, but eventually surpassing Yancheng University, which would indeed be - our little brother!

However, this ambitious goal is a long way away. Even with the system's assistance, Ding Yue understood that he must steadily build up Mist City Arts and Science University. There is no such thing as instant success.

"Besides, Yancheng University is so expensive, plus we have so much sentiment for Mist City Arts and Science University, can't bear to leave."

Xu Bin shrugged, gave a light smile, and said.

Moved by Xu Bin's words, Ding Yue felt a tinge of it deep in his heart.

Indeed his best mate, Ding Yue gave Xu Bin a thumbs up: "Good, we agree to stay at Mist City Arts and Science University and together lead it to a brighter and more brilliant future."

"Alright, but I think I heard that Yue, you're planning to do post-grad at Qinghua University?" After Xu Bin agreed, he raised his eyebrows and looked at Ding Yue as he inquired.

"Ahem, indeed there is such a thing, but I'm just a name placeholder really. Principal Sun agreed, I can stay in Mist City Arts and Science University without going to Yancheng University, I am after all the principal, suppose I need to cake myself with a layer of Qinghua University gold, so it's easier for future endeavors, right?"

Ding Yue explained to Xu Bin.

"Yue, I get you." Xu Bin nodded understandingly.

Having a mate who understood, trusted, and supported him made Ding Yue feel extremely gratified.

As Xu Bin is, so is Huang Youjie, no need to elaborate, he would definitely do the same as Xu Bin.

As for other outstanding students from various departments, Ding Yue had known a few, such as Tong Yihang and their peers.

Since they have already found a job at his Feiyue Group, they are likely to continue their postgraduate and doctoral studies at Mist City Arts and Science University to upgrade their academic qualifications.

Once we do have graduating seniors, it's quite likely that even ordinary students who are thinking about postgraduate studies, due to their affection and attachment to the school, will opt to take their postgraduate studies here.

Of course, all these are predicated on Mist City Arts and Science University having enough Master's Degree Authorization Points!

The "[Key Major Level]" task is the first step in Ding Yue's large-scale acquisition of Master's Degree Authorization Points for every major. After all, five Master's Degree Authorization Cards can basically authorize Master's qualifications for five key majors in Mist City Arts and Science University.

Moreover, the Master's Authorization for some majors can actually be attached to the Master's Authorization Points of the "same type" of major.

"That's great, let's join hands and create the glory of Mist City Arts and Science University!"

Ding Yue couldn't resist a moment of middle-school sentimentalism, gazing into the great future of Mist City Arts and Science University.

However.

The next second, Ding Yue noticed that Bin had reached out his hand, creating a rather awkward scene.

"Err, why are you holding my hand?"

"Didn't you say join hands?"

"Get lost!"

Ding Yue shrugged off Bin's hand, knowing that he was just joking, then shrugged and said, "Alright, enough fooling around. Do you have something else? If not, I have to discuss serious business with Miss An and Miss Lin Zhirou."

"Nothing else, I'll go check with Director Liu then."

After Xu Bin had spoken, he turned and left the Principal's office.

"Principal Ding, your relationship with Director Xu is really good." An Yujia teased after Xu Bin left.

"Of course, we grew up together." Ding Yue laughed, then returned to his office chair, turning to An Yujia and Lin Zhirou: "I called you two over mainly to discuss something about Miss Lin Zhirou. We have already released 'Confession Balloon' and 'Fragrance of Rice', and we still haven't released 'Blue and White Porcelain'. It's almost the end of the year, and we should choose a good time to officially release it."

Upon hearing this, Lin Zhirou gently said, "Principal Ding, Miss An has already told me about the release of 'Blue and White Porcelain'."

"Oh?"

Ding Yue couldn't help but glance at An Yujia, not bad for a manager he had chosen, very forward-looking indeed.

"Oh, Principal Ding, I didn't get a chance to report this to you yet, a phone manufacturer wants to use 'Blue and White Porcelain' as their ad theme song."

An Yujia sat up straight and earnestly told Principal Ding.

"An advertisement?"

Ding Yue slightly frowned, then asked after a moment, "Which phone manufacturer? How much is the advertising fee?"

"The phone manufacturer is opvo, their PR30 wants to follow the music ad route, so they approached Feiyue Media to sign 'Blue and White Porcelain' as the ad theme song. The ad period is two months, with an advertising fee of five million."

An Yujia answered.

In this parallel world's Xia Country, opvo can be considered a well-known phone brand, and it is a brand that primarily targets female users, focusing on photography and music as ad lines. Hence, it is quite reasonable for them wanting to get 'Blue and White Porcelain' as their ad theme song, a song that many netizens are eagerly awaiting.

"Having ad business collaborations is a good thing, what do you think, Miss An?" Ding Yue queried after An Yujia's opinion.

"Yes, it's indeed a good thing, and I have been in touch with opvo. Their PR30 is targeted towards an antiquity style in appearance and theme song, and it matches well with our 'Blue and White Porcelain,' it's not a forced fit of a theme song."

An Yujia explained, nodding: "The only thing is, the advertising fee is not too much."

Five million is not a large sum for Ding Yue, it's like pocket money for him, but he believes that no matter how small a mosquito's leg, it's meat. The purpose of this advertising collaboration is not the five million, but to demonstrate that Lin Zhirou's song can not only sell well on music platforms, but also generate commercial value when combined with brand products.

This is a good prospect for Feiyue Media's singers and their works.

"Alright then, have you discussed the specifics with opvo?" Ding Yue agreed to this advertising collaboration.

An Yujia immediately replied, "Yes, we are in discussions. Probably, they are planning to launch their PR30 cell phone on the Double Eleven. I guess they want to take advantage of the Double Eleven craze. This means that Lin Zhirou's 'Blue and White Porcelain' cannot be released on the music platform before November 11, and it's highly likely to coincide with the ad release."

"Hmm, that's not an issue, we can wait a few more days." Ding Yue considered for a moment, all these were not problems.

He had called over An Yujia and Lin Zhirou today to confirm the official release date of 'Blue and White Porcelain'.

Since we have opvo's advertising collaboration, 'Blue and White Porcelain' will be launched on November 11.

"I had the same thought too. So, Principal Ding, I'll reply to opvo today and sign the advertising contract as soon as possible. Then arrange for 'Blue and White Porcelain' to be officially launched on NetEase Cloud Music Platform at midnight on November 11."

"Alright!" Ding Yue nodded.

Feiyue Media's songs have always been in partnership with NetEase Cloud Music Platform. An Yujia led the Feiyue Media team, so they definitely had a good sense of how things work here.

"Principal Ding, besides this, there is another matter that I want to..."

Chapter 555: Stop Luring Me, I Have No Money

Seeing that An Yujia had something else to say, Ding Yue immediately asked, "What's the matter, Miss An? Is there anything else?"

"Yes, Principal Ding, at the moment our Feiyue Group already has departments such as Feiyue Media, Feiyue Technology, Feiyue Animation, Feiyue Logistics, and Feiyue eSports and we will soon be setting up Feiyue Games. I have been gradually recruiting staff for each field and therefore, the number of employees is thincreasing. Don't you think we need to plan our office space?"

An Yujia suggested.

"How many full-time employees do we have in Feiyue Group now?"

Upon hearing this, Ding Yue asked in confusion.

"More than five hundred," An Yujia replied, "Including the faculty and staff of Mist City Arts and Science University, it's over two thousand."

Whoosh!

Ding Yue had never imagined that he already had over two thousand employees under him.

If we skip the teachers and staff at Mist City Arts and Science University, because the school provides their accommodation and various facilities, and their workplaces are in classrooms or any corner of the campus.

But the various departments under Feiyue Group are a different matter.

Take Feiyue Technology and Feiyue Media for example, they indeed necessitate a proper office space.

For now, Feiyue eSports and Feiyue Animation have temporary bases and studios, but due to their continuous expansion, it's estimated that they'll need to relocate in the future.

Feiyue Group, with over five hundred employees, is already of a certain scale.

Moreover, once the factory of Feiyue Group is established, the number of employees will inevitably surge.

Ding Yue is well aware that as his Mist City Arts and Science University gradually expands, his Feiyue Group will also continuously grow, and the company's operating areas as well as the number of staff will keep on increasing.

Even now, the office of Feiyue Group's CEO, An Yujia, is still in this University's Administration Building.

Looking at it this way, it indeed seems a bit unreasonable.

"Miss An, as of now, our Feiyue Group isn't yet large enough and funds need to be prioritized. Originally, I planned to build a Feiyue commercial tower, but that would require quite a large sum of money. For now, I'll free up a building within the campus as an office for Feiyue Group's different departments. Later, in the second phase of campus extension, I'll ask the Architecture Department to plan for another site that we can use to build Feiyue Building when we have the funds. How does that sound?"

Ding Yue indeed has an idea of building a corporate headquarters skyscraper for Feiyue Group.

However, funds are an issue!

The construction of a corporate headquarters could cost several billions or even more.

Even if Ding Yue considered the box office income from "Super Combat Team", he would still only have more than a billion, and these funds still need to be properly utilized.

Ding Yue knows how to prioritize the usage of funds.

His Mist City Arts and Science University has just started developing — once it becomes famous and attracts more talented students, it won't be too late to build the headquarters for Feiyue Group.

"Principal Ding has considered building Feiyue Building? That would be a significant investment." An Yujia hadn't thought about this at all. After all, the investment required to construct a commercial building is considerable.

As of now, An Yujia thinks that the office locations of various departments under the Feiyue Group are far too scattered. If they could be consolidated, she, as the CEO, would be able to manage them more effectively.

Hence, what An Yujia meant was for Principal Ding to find her a centralized office space within Mist City Arts and Science University.

"Indeed, but for now, the group's funds need to be invested in the development of Mist City Arts and Science University." Ding Yue sighed and said, "So for now, you all will have to bear with it."

"It's nothing on that level, Principal Ding. In fact, we just need a slightly more consolidated office. The current office locations of the various departments are far too scattered. As the CEO, it feels a little bit disorganized to manage and operate."

An Yujia immediately said so with a smile.

"That can be arranged!"

Ding Yue pondered for a bit. Currently, it would not be too convenient to free up spaces from Mist City Arts and Science University's already in-use classrooms and labs.

It seems that currently, only this Administration Building has plenty of space.

"But Principal Ding, we have over 30,000 students in our university at the moment, and all the teaching buildings are nearly fully occupied. We probably can't free up a building that easy."

Wen Ruohan, the secretary, stepped forward to speak to Principal Ding.

"Who says so?"

Ding Yue shrugged with a smile, "Isn't this building up for the task?"

This Administration Building has a total of six floors. While the offices of different departments - cultural activities, finance, publicity, etc. - of the school are in this building. Still, in reality, many offices and even more than half of the floors are idle.

Otherwise, Ding Yue wouldn't have arranged the CEO's office for An Yujia in the Administration Building initially.

"Yes, Principal Ding. I was just thinking that we could locate all the offices for the Feiyue Group in this Administration Building then separate it with the school's administrative offices. For instance, one could be on the first, second and third floors while the other could be on the fourth, fifth and sixth floors. Or alternatively, one could be on the left side, and the other on the right. This way, we could utilize the space in the Administration Building efficiently," An Yujia quickly suggested, nodding her head.

"That's a good idea."

Ding Yue agreed with An Yujia's suggestion.

The space of the Administration Building certainly shouldn't be wasted. More than half of the area is unused, so why not use it as the office building for the Feiyue Group in the interim?

It's not too late to move to a new office building after a new one is built for the Mist City Arts and Science University.

"Wen Ruohan," Ding Yue glanced at Wen Ruohan and ordered, "You will handle the detailed arrangements for the Administration Building. Arrange the offices for the different school departments on the fourth, fifth and sixth floors. Meanwhile, arrange Feiyue Group's offices on the first, second and third floors."

Ding Yue prefers to work on the higher floors of the building. Standing near the window, you can see much of the university.

The view from up high provides a sense of perspective.

When Ding Yue builds the Feiyue Building in the future, he definitely wants his chief's office to be on the top floor of the Feiyue Building. He dreams of having a large, open-floor-plan office. If his university, the Mist City Arts and Science University, achieves some success in scientific research at that time, he may even turn it into an integrated smart home — an open-plan office residence!

From there, he could see the entire Mist City Arts and Science University just by looking out of the window.

That would be awesome!

Of course, while it seems exciting, it could take many years and lots of money to achieve.

Ding Yue sighed, thinking, "Stop teasing me, Principal Ding. I have no money!"

After discussing the arrangement of the Feiyue Group's offices with An Yujia, Ding Yue instructed her to notify the necessary people. All departments, except for Feiyue Animation and Feiyue eSports, which already have temporary office spaces and training bases, will move their office spaces to the Administration Building.

In the afternoon, Wen Ruohan was busy informing all departments in the Administration Building that their office spaces would be rearranged.

The main goal was to move the offices located on the first, second, and third floors to the fourth, fifth, and sixth ones.

Wen Ruohan first asked the logistics department staff to clean up the vacant offices on the fourth, fifth, and sixth floors. Afterward, the offices on the first, second, and third floors were dealt with as necessary, their space either tidied up or refurbished; the logistics procurement department was also responsible for purchasing a series of office supplies for the Feiyue Group.

It's estimated that within a week to a month, the departments under the Feiyue Group would have moved their offices to the Administration Building.

An Yujia was even busier.

In addition to managing the relocation of Feiyue Group's offices to the Administration Building, she was also responsible for Feiyue Media's and Netease Cloud Music's advertising business cooperation talks with OPVO mobile phones, and the subsequent signing of the agreements.

Ding Yue was also busy. The next day, he left Mist City Arts and Science University, bringing a few people from the Film and Television Academy to Yancheng.

Because on the evening of November 5, the grand annual NTS Awards Gala was to be held at the NTS TV station in Yancheng...

Chapter 556: Attending the NTS Awards Gala

November 5, around 5:30 in the afternoon.

Yancheng, Shangri-La Hotel.

In the lounge area of the hotel's first floor, Director Zhu Youzhao of the Film and Television Academy at Mist City Arts and Science University is waiting with two students, Tang Yuanhua and Shen Ling. They are waiting for Principal Ding and Secretary Wen Ruohan to join them, before proceeding to the NTS Television Station building.

"Do you think our Film and Television Academy's 'A Bite of Xia Country' could win an award?"

In the lounge area, Tang Yuanhua, sounding rather excited, asked his classmate Shen Ling.

Both Tang Yuanhua and Shen Ling are among the finest students in the Film and Television Academy. They each led a team to produce two episodes of 'A Bite of Xia Country'.

"Don't they notify us in advance about the award?"

Shen Ling curiously asked.

"Not really, the winners of the NTS Awards are announced during the NTS Gala tonight," Tang Yuanhua, who had slightly more knowledge, shook his head and answered.

'A Bite of Xia Country' produced by Mist City Arts and Science University has been nominated for the NTS Golden Award for Documentaries. Whether it can win the award or not will have to wait until the NTS Gala tonight.

As the Principal of Mist City Arts and Science University and the Chief Planner of 'A Bite of Xia Country', Ding Yue was invited by NTS to attend the Gala.

The people Ding Yue brought with him from Mist City can all attend the Gala. However, there are only two seats in the first row of the nominated area. The rest will have to sit in the back row of the audience area.

"Looking at the past winners of the NTS Documentary Golden Award, each year it's a different theme. There hasn't been one about food yet, so I believe we have a good chance,"

Director Zhu Youzhao from the Film and Television Academy confidently said to the two students.

In order to create 'A Bite of Xia Country', Director Zhu has invested immense effort. When one of the filming teams was trapped in a small mountain town due to a natural disaster, Zhu was on the frontline leading the Blue Sky Rescue Team to find them.

"Since Director Zhu said so, I guess I should start preparing to receive the award,"

Tang Yuanhua rubbed his hands, speaking excitedly.

But Shen Ling gave Tang Yuanhua a glance, saying, "Dream on, if there's an award ceremony, it will be Principal Ding who goes up."

"Yes, yes, yes, it should indeed be Principal Ding who receives the award," Tang Yuanhua scratched his head, speaking awkwardly.

All teachers and students that took part in creating 'A Bite of Xia Country' know that Principal Ding played a decisive role in the production, even the idea was proposed by him. Furthermore, the whole project was funded by Principal Ding. Therefore, everyone affectionately referred to him as the Chief Planner of 'A Bite of Xia Country'. Even Director Zhu would not dare to take credit from Principal Ding.

"According to the plan, Principal Ding and I will sit at the front, and you guys will sit at the back. If our 'A Bite of Xia Country' does indeed win, make sure to clap vigorously, understood?"

Although Director Zhu's words were formulaic, they were still logical.

"Absolutely!" Tang Yuanhua exclaimed excitedly.

At this point, Ding Yue and Wen Ruohan got out of the elevator and arrived in the hotel lobby.

"Principal Ding, where are Director Zhu and the others," Wen Ruohan looked around and quickly spotted Director Zhu Youzhao, Tang Yuanhua, and Shen Ling.

"Call them over, we need to head to the NTS Television Station building," Ding Yue gave a slight nod to Wen Ruohan and responded.

Ding Yue had just received a call from Director Liu Mei from NTS, informing him that they could head over to the station now. Although the live broadcast would not start until 8 PM, all participants need to arrive in advance.

Because of this, Ding Yue led his team from Mist City Arts and Science University to dine earlier at about 5 o'clock in the restaurant of the Shangri-La Hotel. They would leave the hotel right after to head towards the NTS Television Station building.

"Director Zhu."

Wen Ruohan shouted in Director Zhu's direction after arriving at the lounge area.

"Eh, they've arrived," Director Zhu saw Wen Ruohan coming over and said to Tang Yuanhua and Shen Ling, "Let's go."

Everyone boarded the hotel's car at the entrance of the Shangri-La Hotel and headed for the NTS Television Station building.

This was Tang Yuanhua's first visit to Yancheng, a metropolis. As a first-time visitor, they stayed at the five-star Shangri-La Hotel and even had a car pick them up to take them to the NTS Television Station building.

The experience was extraordinary, but it must have been expensive.

Fortunately, Tang Yuanhua came with Principal Ding to Yancheng and all expenses were covered by the university. He couldn't help but admire Principal Ding's wealth.

To ordinary people, Principal Ding is undoubtedly a wealthy man.

But Ding Yue was very clear about his financial status, he wasn't wealthy. He was so "poor" that he couldn't even afford to build a commercial building for his Feiyue Group.

Of course, being too "poor" to build a skyscraper worth several billion didn't stop Ding Yue from staying in a luxury hotel costing several thousand yuan per night when on a business trip.

The NTS Television Station building was particularly lively tonight.

Other than the Golden Award for Documentaries, the NTS Gala also announced awards for various categories such as best TV drama, best actor/actress, and best supporting actor/actress, making it a hotly anticipated event.

Television dramas that win NTS Awards are usually phenomenal hits over the past year that have also complied with the NTS Awards regulations.

NTS Gala Awards are typically granted to series, meaning films have little relevance to tonight's NTS Gala.

Because major film awards in Xia Country are recognized separately at an annual gala.

However, the animated film "Super Combat Team" by Mist City Arts and Science University, whether nominated for film or animation awards, will not be possible this year and will have to wait for the event to be held in 2022.

"Director Jiang, it seems your TV drama this year has a high chance of winning the NTS Gold Award!"

"Director Wang, you're too kind, the series you scripted is the real front-runner."

"Isn't that Director Liu?"

"Hello, Director Zhang."

Outside the awards ceremony at NTS Television Station, well-known domestic TV drama directors greeted each other and began to exchange compliments.

These powerful TV drama directors and renowned screenwriters are experts in often reciprocating praises.

However, their shared purpose of coming to the NTS Television Station is the same – they all hope their work will win the "NTS Gold Award"!

The so-called "NTS Gold Award" is the Best TV Drama Gold Award at the annual NTS Gala. There is only one, but several have been nominated.

Directors like Jiang and Liu are among the directors and producers nominated for the NTS Gold Award.

Besides, many famous actors are all gathered here, ready to unveil the winner of this year's best actress or supporting actress at the NTS Gala.

Only Ding Yue, who came to the NTS Television Station, felt somewhat out of place.

Because "A Bite of Xia Country" by Mist City Arts and Science University, nominated by Ding Yue, is up for the Documentary Gold Award. The documentary category is evidently less touted than the best drama series at the NTS Gala.

Inside the lounge, Director Liu Mei of NTS's Channel One came over to give Ding Yue a few hurried instructions before heading off to attend to other matters.

The reason "A Bite of Xia Country" from Mist City Arts and Science University can be nominated for the NTS Documentary Gold Award is due to Director Liu Mei's help.

However, Director Liu Mei holds a certain status at NTS and since this NTS Gala is hosted by their Channel One, she will be very busy tonight.

Ding Yue understood this.

It's now seven in the evening, one hour away from the official live broadcast of the NTS Gala starting at eight.

NTS staff members are bustling inside and outside the event area as it's a live broadcast, and all units need to be prepared.

The guest team, program team, production team, and judging team all need to be coordinated. But after all, this is NTS Television Station; they should have this well in hand.

"Principal Ding, look, isn't that actor Liu Yujin?" Tang Yuanhua, seeing some famous actors in the lounge, excitedly said to Principal Ding.

"Tang Yuanhua, you really don't need to get this excited. Once you graduate from our Mist City Arts and Science University, you might be able to invite Liu Yujin to act in your series."

Ding Yue faintly smiled and said to an overly excited Tang Yuanhua.

"Huh?"

Tang Yuanhua was slightly taken aback.

Principal Ding made it sound so easy, but Tang Yuanhua felt it was tougher than an uphill task. Being a director and inviting a young talented actor like Liu Yujin to act in my drama?

Wow!

Only Principal Ding could have such ideas, I wouldn't dare to even dream of it.

To think that actors like Liu Yujin only act in serious plays and are only invited by renowned directors.

"So, don't plan to be a director after graduation?" smile, Ding Yue asked again.

"I do!"

Tang Yuanhua nodded his head firmly. At the film and television academy of Mist City Arts and Science University, Tang Yuanhua was learning about directing.

"A Bite of Xia Country" was the first time Tang Yuanhua led a school team to produce a work on his own.

However, in the future, Tang Yuanhua hopes to produce top-rated series or even excellent films.

If a director can progress from a documentary director to a TV series director, and then further to a film director, that would be a great success.

"Since you want it, then you need to strive for it. You should set an ambitious goal. Today we said maybe in the future you can invite Liu Yujin to star in your directed TV series, so in the future, we should strive towards this goal, right?"

Ding Yue gave Tang Yuanhua a simple pep talk.

To his surprise, Tang Yuanhua was greatly motivated by Principal Ding. He felt an intense heat in his heart, and sensed that he needed to work even harder in the future.

To live up to Principal Ding's high expectations!

Chapter 557: Director of Sci-fi Drama, Su Yangfan

Ding Yue learned from Zhu Youzhao, the director of his film and television college at Mist City Arts and Science University, that among the students with strong directing skills in the Film and Television College, Tang Yuanhua was one.

Besides him, there was also Shen Ling, the student who came along today.

In addition, two students who did not come, Meng Hao and Sun Kaiding, have also participated in the main leading team responsible for directing and producing "A Bite of Xia Country".

In particular, Meng Hao, stood out among the students for his unique and non-conformist approach to work!

While Tang Yuanhua represented those with a solid foundation and a good knack for putting his learning into practice.

In students from his film and television college like Tang Yuanhua, Ding Yue believed their directing capabilities would only grow stronger with continuous learning and practical operation.

In the future, as long as there were good scripts, they should have enough capability to take control and direct.

That's why Ding Yue had just encouraged Tang Yuanhua, asking him to keep learning and striving. Perhaps there may come a day when Ding Yue could invest in a TV drama for him, giving him a chance to showcase his talents.

Most of the scripts for domestic dramas on Earth were adapted from novels, something with which Ding Yue was intimately familiar.

Now that he has Big White, the smart robot, if its features were perfected, Ding Yue might be able to directly provide the core elements of the storyline, character creation, and other aspects of the novel, letting Big White write out the novel according to his ideas.

Of course, this was just a thought in Ding Yue's mind.

If he ever needed it, he might write a novel, similar to how he composed those three songs like Director Zhou, that could successfully be adapted into a drama.

While Ding Yue may be busy most of the time, he occasionally did have some leisure time.

About half an hour later, no one came over to greet Ding Yue and his group from Mist City Arts and Science University sitting there. After all, many of the guests attending the NTS Gala were not acquainted with Ding Yue.

The directors, actors, celebrities, and scriptwriters were all engaged in lively conversations.

During this time, only one staff member came over and informed Ding Yue of a few things.

As the live broadcast of the NTS Gala was drawing nearer, many of the directors, screenwriters, and actors who were nominated for the NTS Gold Award were instructed to head to the broadcasting hall.

Many audiences across the nation were sitting in front of their televisions or on video websites, ready to watch the NTS Gala tonight.

Back at Mist City Arts and Science University.

Knowing that Principal Ding led Director Zhu and two students from the Film and Television College to Yancheng to attend the NTS Gala, most of the teachers and students of the university stayed in front of their computers and TVs tonight, ready to watch the live broadcast of the NTS Gala.

Of course, many students hoped that the hugely popular food documentary "A Bite of Xia Country", produced by the Film and Television College of Mist City Arts and Science University, would win the NTS Documentary Gold Award!

On Twitter's trending list tonight, the preparations had already started.

As soon as the NTS Gala began its live broadcast and awards were given out one after another, it would quickly become trending.

After all, the number of netizens in Xia Country who paid attention to the NTS Gala was far from small. Moreover, this year the NTS Gala had so many big-name directors and celebrities.

On the official forum of Mist City Arts and Science University, a student initiated a guessing game, wagering whether their school's "A Bite of Xia Country" could win the NTS Documentary Gold Award.

Clearly, for such a guess, the majority of students cast a vote for "yes".

"I'm so excited! If 'A Bite of Xia Country' wins the NTS Documentary Gold Award later, and Principal Ding stands on the award stage to accept the award, it would really boost our reputation at the Mist City Arts and Science University, right?"

"Don't get too excited too early, we're not sure whether it can win the award yet."

"Right, several documentaries are nominated after all, and those are works by NTS and well-known documentary directors."

"We should have confidence in our school's work!"

"I'm looking forward to the moment when Principal Ding stands on the award stage."

Only the students of Mist City Arts and Science University talked a little more about their school's documentary "A Bite of Xia Country".

Online, most netizens were more concerned about which TV drama would win this year's NTS Gold Award for best TV drama, who would be the best male and female actors of the NTS Gold Awards, and who would win the best supporting actor or actress in the NTS Gold Awards.

And who would be the recipients of the NTS Best Director Gold Award and Best Screenwriter Gold Award this year?

In fact, Ding Yue wanted to know the winners of these awards tonight as well and then assess the caliber of these NTS Gold Award-winning TV dramas or director and screenwriters in this parallel universe of Xia Country.

In the lounge, Ding Yue took out his phone and looked at the nominations for this year's NTS Gala TV drama.

1. "Western Era"
2. "Entrepreneurial Tide"
3. "Transdimensional Contact"
4. "Gorgeous"
5. "1939"

There were a total of five dramas. The first one told the story of Xia Country's western development era, and the second one was an entrepreneurial drama set in the past.

The third one caught Ding Yue's attention because he recognized the title.

"Transdimensional Contact", if Ding Yue's memory served him right, was the name of a pretty decent sci-fi film from his original Earth.

To his surprise, there was also a drama of the same name in this parallel universe of Xia Country, except that this was a "TV drama".

"It's actually a sci-fi TV drama?"

Ding Yue casually looked up "Transdimensional Contact" and was taken aback to find that it was indeed a sci-fi TV drama.

TV Drama: "Transdimensional Contact"

Director: Su Yangfan

Genre: Science Fiction

Date: April 2020

Number of Episodes: 18

Rating: 8.8

Overall, this TV show seems to be quite good, with only 18 episodes meaning it's pretty compact.

With a rating of 8.8, Ding Yue knew from his prior understanding of domestic sci-fi series in the Parallel World, good ones usually have over 8 points, outstanding ones over 8.5 and ones over 9 points are particularly rare.

In fact, most domestic TV shows generally rank around the five or six point level.

This TV series, "Transdimensional Contact", was released in April last year, over a year ago. Bear in mind, the time when Ding Yue traveled to this Parallel World was during the summer vacation of 2020.

In other words, "Transdimensional Contact" had already been online before Ding Yue's arrival.

The current date is November 5, 2021.

Ding Yue looked at the other two nominated TV series, "Gorgeous" and "1939". The former is about traditional culture and the latter is of the patriotic genre.

Frankly, if Ding Yue had to choose one out of these five series to win the NTS Gold Award, he would likely opt for Director Su Yangfan's "Transdimensional Contact".

After all, having a sci-fi TV series produced with such a high rating in Xia Country is impressive in itself.

In the field of sci-fi, even many famous directors dare not delve into it and at most, would undertake sci-fi films.

However, at this year's National Holiday Period, Director Ma Wenhai's sci-fi film "Space Fortress", was indeed a flop.

Thinking of Director Ma Wenhai, out of curiosity, Ding Yue asked his secretary Wen Ruohan, "Ruohan, can you check if Director Ma is attending the NTS Gala tonight?"

A renowned director like Ma Wenhai might be attending such an event.

"Director Ma? Which Director Ma?"

Upon hearing this, Wen Ruohan was visibly puzzled.

"Which other Director Ma could there possibly be? I mean Ma Wenhai, the director of 'Space Fortress', which was released during the National Holiday Period alongside us."

"Oh, sure, let me check."

Wen Ruohan took out her phone to look for the guest list of tonight's NTS Gala. It should be available online.

As expected.

Wen Ruohan found the guest list on NTS's official Twitter feed.

Wen Ruohan carefully looked through the list but didn't spot Director Ma Wenhai's name.

She checked again to make sure she hadn't missed it but still, didn't find it.

"Principal Ding, Director Ma Wenhai is not on the guest list for the NTS Gala." Wen Ruohan turned her head and reported to Principal Ding.

"I see."

Ding Yue was hoping to meet Director Ma Wenhai at NTS.

While Ding Yue and Wen Ruohan were talking, a man in his thirties or forties approached them from the lounge door.

"Is that...Director Su? Is he coming over?" Tang Yuanhua looked at the man walking towards them and murmured in astonishment.

Zhu Youzhao took a glance at the man and nodded lightly.

It was, indeed, Su Yangfan!

Correct!

The director of "Transdimensional Contact", Su Yangfan, was considered one of the more renowned directors in Xia Country due to his sci-fi series gaining immense popularity last year.

"Hello, you must be Principal Ding from Mist City Arts and Science University, right?" Su Yangfan greeted Ding Yue as he approached them.

Only then did Ding Yue raise his head and realize that Su Yangfan was standing in front of him.

Had he not just finished reading about "Transdimensional Contact", he probably wouldn't recognize the middle-aged man standing before him.

But now, of course, Ding Yue did recognize him. He was the director of "Transdimensional Contact", Su Yangfan.

"Director Su?"

Ding Yue knitted his brows, then smiled and replied, "Hello."

"Principal Ding, I admire the animated film 'Super Combat Team' produced by your school. It incorporates elements of sci-fi and I've watched it several times in the cinema."

Su Yangfan enthusiastically chatted with Ding Yue.

Ding Yue didn't expect that after coming to NTS, except for Director Liu Mei of NTS or the staff, nobody had paid any attention to him. Most likely because his documentary nomination wasn't impressive enough for the big shots. Plus, a lot of people probably didn't recognize him.

However, Su Yangfan recognized Ding Yue instantly.

"Thank you."

Ding Yue replied with a smile, "Director Su, considering the nomination of 'Transdimensional Contact' for the NTS Gold Award, I reckon there's a strong chance at winning it!"

Commercial reciprocal complements are what Ding Yue does best.

Chapter 558: Not meeting without being enemies

Director Su Yangfan took the initiative to greet him, there must be something afoot, right?

However, Ding Yue didn't ask directly.

Instead, he started a mutual praise conversation with Su Yangfan. He praised my "Super Combat Team" as a good watch, and I said his sci-fi TV shows deserve awards.

After some conversation, Ding Yue could tell from Su Yangfan's tone that he seemed to genuinely like the animated film from Mist City Arts and Science University, "Super Combat Team".

Because "Super Combat Team" indeed contained many sci-fi elements, and Director Su Yangfan is a director who produces sci-fi TV shows.

"Principal Ding, I imagine your attendance at the NTS Gala is due to your university's documentary 'A Bite of Xia Country' being nominated, right? I have also seen this piece, it was well done. It is said to have been filmed by your students?"

Su Yangfan then steered the conversation from "Super Combat Team" to "A Bite of Xia Country".

Ding Yue nodded, shifted his gaze to Tang Yuanhua and Shen Ling at his side, and said with a smile, "Yes, 'A Bite of Xia Country' is shot and directed by the combined effort of our students from the Mist City Arts and Science University Department of Film and Television, these two students, are amongst the directors."

"Amazing."

Su Yangfan glanced at Tang Yuanhua and Shen Ling, who were both young, and couldn't help but praise them.

To be able to produce such an exceptional piece during their college years, although merely a documentary, not a regular TV show or short film, but the quality of this documentary is unquestionably excellent.

Even more, it has been nominated for the NTS Gold Award for Documentaries, which is a significant achievement.

Su Yangfan remembered that when he was in college in Yancheng, he only worked on some small or minor projects and could only get opportunities to produce these right before graduation.

If Su Yangfan's memory is correct, Mist City Arts and Science University only has second-year students at most, right?

After all, Mist City Arts and Science University has only admitted students twice.

However, the fact that a private university has achieved such reputation and success in only two years is quite amazing, it shows that Principal Ding has put his heart and soul into the development process of Mist City Arts and Science University.

"Principal Ding, your school is indeed full of talents."

Seeing Su Yangfan's praise, Ding Yue smiled and said, "As film students, they should be given more practical opportunities. That's what I thought at the time, and our students produced quite a remarkable report card for the school."

"A Bite of Xia Country", in terms of the buzz created after going live, the views on Bilibili, and the ratings after being broadcast on the NTS, was undoubtedly excellent.

The success of "A Bite of Xia Country" is in large part due to the bona fide efforts of the students and faculty of the Mist City Arts and Science Department of Film and Television, even though Ding Yue did contribute some good "ideas".

Tang Yuanhua and Shen Ling, who were standing nearby, felt a little embarrassed hearing both Principal Ding and Director Su Yangfan heaping praise upon them.

"Young guys, your Principal Ding is really remarkable. Cherish this opportunity and work hard. Now that you can produce a documentary of such high quality, you will surely be able to create excellent films and TV series in the future. Keep up the good work!"

Director Su Yangfan encouraged the two students, Tang Yuanhua and Shen Ling.

"Yes, we surely will!" Tang Yuanhua and Shen Ling responded in unison.

"Director Chen, Director Ma, shall you take a rest here while we await further arrangements from our staff?"

A figure appeared at the door of the lounge, immediately catching Ding Yue's attention.

Ding Yue was in the midst of a conversation with Director Su Yangfan when he noticed this figure and couldn't help but exclaim, "Huh?"

"Huh? Why is he here?" Ding Yue murmured.

"Who?"

Upon hearing this, Su Yangfan asked, furrowing his brows in confusion.

"Principal Ding, who is it?" Wen Ruohan, the secretary standing nearby, couldn't help being curious and asked.

"Wen Ruohan, didn't you say that Director Ma Wenhai wasn't on the list of invitees for the NTS Gala this time?"

Ding Yue turned his head and looked at Wen Ruohan.

"Yes, indeed. I didn't see Director Ma Wenhai's name in the invitation list. I checked it several times. It is absolutely impossible to miss." Wen Ruohan replied.

"Here."

Ding Yue looked up and indicated towards the entrance of the lounge. Director Ma Wenhai was coming over, accompanied by another well-known Director, Chen Dachun.

"Director Chen? Director Ma?"

Su Yangfan muttered a little surprised.

Ding Yue and his Mist City Film and Science University did have some connection with Ma Wenhai. Both Ma Wenhai's "Space Fortress" and Ding Yue's "Super Combat Team" were released during the National Day Golden Time, but while "Super Combat Team" was a box office hit, "Space Fortress" flopped!

"Ah, Principal Ding, I really have no idea how this happened." Upon seeing Director Ma Wenhai, Wen Ruohan immediately explained.

Wen Ruohan was sure that Director Ma Wenhai's name was not on the original NTS guest list that she had seen.

Thus, she also was unclear as to why Director Ma Wenhai was now appearing in the lounge.

"Yo, yo, yo, isn't this Principal Ding?" Director Ma Wenhai suddenly spotted Ding Yue and his face expression changed, he came up smiling and said: "Principal Ding, what brings you here?"

Ma Wenhai's words were quite normal, but his tone was oddly sarcastic. This Ma Wenhai, always sneaky, don't you think?

Ding Yue gave a faint smile and replied: "I was invited to the NTS Gala."

The Director Chen Dachun next to Ma Wenhai turned out to be more friendly and said with a smile: "I guess Principal Ding is here because of your university's food documentary, 'A Bite of Xia Country'? I heard it's nominated for the Best Documentary Gold Award."

"Correct."

Ding Yue responded truthfully.

The middle-aged man speaking in a gentle tone is Chen Dachun, Ding Yue knew this. Chen Dachun is one of the famous directors in the country, almost as well-known as Ma Wenhai.

Chen Dachun is known for directing thriller or cop movies and no need to mention his social status. He not only makes movies but also TV shows. Last year he made a movie in cooperation with the official side.

If Ding Yue wasn't mistaken, Chen Dachun showed up here probably because one of his movies was nominated for an award, right?

It's safe to say it's not the Best TV drama Gold Award!

"Just a plain documentary."

Ma Wenhai shrugged and said in that sarcastic tone of his.

Ding Yue could tell that Ma Wenhai was somewhat unfriendly to him. Could it be because his "Space Fortress" flopped and he blamed it on his Mist City Arts and Science University's "Super Combat Team"?

Or was it because he countered him on Twitter last time, and he's still holding a grudge?

No way, no way, could someone really be that narrow-minded?

Ding Yue didn't even keep it in mind.

"Director Ma, what brings you here?" Ding Yue couldn't help but ask curiously.

"It's like this- the lead actor of my movie was nominated for the Best Actor Gold Award for this year, so I was invited to the NTS Gala. Director Chen is here too, so we came together."

Director Chen Dachun quickly explained.

As Ding Yue had guessed, Ma Wenhai was merely tagging along with Chen Dachun, just like how he himself brought Director Zhu Youzhao from their Film and Television Institute. They will only be able to sit in the audience seats at the back, not in the guest area.

"Isn't this Director Su? You're here too?"

Ma Wenhai spotted Su Yangfan and couldn't help but ask with a smile.

"Hello, Director Ma!"

Su Yangfan politely greeted Ma Wenhai.

"I heard Director Su's film is nominated for the NTS Gold Award this year, congratulations. But the competition is quite tough for the NTS Gold Award this year."

Ma Wenhai always had a somewhat contemptuous tone when speaking to Su Yangfan.

Ding Yue could tell that Ma Wenhai seemed to look down on Su Yangfan a bit. Could it be because movie directors who make sci-fi movies look down on TV directors who make sci-fi series?

After all, there's a sort of hierarchy in film: movie directors look down on TV directors, TV directors look down on those who make web movies, and web movie directors look down on those who make web series.

In short, Ma Wenhai is a film director while Su Yangfan is a TV series director, that's why he was disdainful when speaking to Su Yangfan.

Ding Yue always felt that there was something odd about Ma Wenhai. He seemed to have this sense of superiority, and it was quite apparent.

On the other hand, Director Chen Dachun, who was a friend of Ma Wenhai, was much friendlier.

"Director Su, it's impressive that your work was nominated for the NTS Gold Award this year. I'm looking forward to seeing the moment it wins."

Chen Dachun said to Su Yangfan with a smile.

"Thank you, Director Chen." Su Yangfan expressed his gratitude for Chen Dachun's words.

After all, for all those who wished good fortune on his "Transdimensional Contact" and hoped it would win the NTS Gold Award, Su Yangfan responded with a heart full of gratitude.

"Director Su, sci-fi is not an easy genre. If I remember correctly, no sci-fi TV series has ever won the NTS Gold Award, right? However, sci-fi movies have indeed won quite a few awards in previous years."

Ma Wenhai once again spoke in a haughty tone to Su Yangfan.

"That's not necessarily the case, as long as it's a good sci-fi, it's a success." Ding Yue couldn't stand it any longer and defended Director Su Yangfan.

"Principal Ding, what do you know? Do you understand sci-fi? Do you get how long of a journey sci-fi has to make in our country? Do you know who kicked the door open for domestic sci-fi? Ha!"

Upon hearing this, Ma Wenhai became a bit agitated and his voice raised a few decibels as he said to Ding Yue.

"I'm sorry, but I do know, just a little."

Ding Yue smiled faintly and replied.

Chapter 559: Thank Director Ma for the Reverse Jinx!

Ever since he "connected" with Director Ma Wenhai during the National Holiday Period, Ding Yue had watched all the sci-fi films directed by Ma Wenhai.

Well, how to put it.

The special effects were decent, the plot simple, sticking to the tried-and-true theme of aliens invading Earth. The acting in his previous film was passable.

But "Space Fortress", which premiered over the National Holiday Period, really wasn't up to snuff.

And this is the standard of sci-fi films in Xia Country in the parallel world?

Ding Yue laughed.

"You? You say you know a little? If you know so much, why don't you make a sci-fi film yourself?"
Ma Wenhai sneered.

"Director Ma, I'm not a director. However, I do have an idea for a sci-fi story. Are you interested?"

Ding Yue replied calmly with a smile.

"Heh."

Ma Wenhai shook his head, not believing that Ding Yue could come up with any sort of refreshing sci-fi plot twist.

Seeing that Ding Yue was speaking thus, Su Yangfan on the side became somewhat interested, quietly looking at Ding Yue and asking, "Principal Ding, what kind of sci-fi plot twist is it?"

"Director Su is interested?"

Seeing Su Yangfan's curiosity, Ding Yue asked.

"Although I'm somewhat interested, I am just a TV director, as for movies, I'm afraid..."

After some thought, Su Yangfan shook his head.

Hearing Su Yangfan's response, Ding Yue couldn't help but think. This Director Su seemed quite friendly towards him and Mist City Arts and Science University. Wouldn't it be great if he could invite him to join the Film and Television Academy of his university as a faculty member?

At present, there wasn't any well-known director or screenwriter teaching in the Film and Television Academy of his university, unlike Yancheng Film School or Haicheng Drama University, which boasted well-known figures of the related industries.

As the directors and Ding Yue were chatting, the staff came and asked all the guests to get ready to enter.

Ding Yue glanced at the time. The NTS Gala was about to start at eight o'clock in the evening. He immediately led Zhu Youzhao, the head of the Film and Television Academy, and Director Su Yangfan towards the exit of the lounge.

"Principal Ding, I noticed just now that the other documentaries nominated for the Best Documentary award are all by renowned directors. Your 'A Bite of Xia Country' from Mist City Arts and Science University, it seems, stands no chance of winning. Don't be too disappointed then, Principal Ding," said Ma Wenhai, directly addressing Ding Yue.

"Hahaha, is that so?"

Ding Yue laughed heartily. He totally brushed aside Ma Wenhai's words. It seemed like this guy had some prejudices against him.

That being said, Ding Yue didn't bother arguing with Ma Wenhai. Perhaps, Director Ma was trying to jinx it in his favor, and 'A Bite of Xia Country' might just end up winning the Best Documentary award.

Under the guidance of the staff, Ding Yue and Zhu Youzhao, as well as Director Su Yangfan and Director Chen Dachun and others, arrived at the front row VIP area of the NTS Gala venue and found their seats.

Interestingly, the seat next to Ding Yue was Director Su Yangfan's. He wondered how the work team arranged it so conveniently.

Consequently, Ding Yue had Zhu Youzhao on his right and Director Su Yangfan on his left.

Their seats were located in the second row of the VIP section, slightly to the right.

Gradually, more and more renowned directors, screenwriters, producers, actors, and stars arrived at the venue of the NTS Gala, successively finding their seats while the staff bustled about.

The hosts of the NTS Gala Programme, the backstage staff, and the cameramen were all ready.

There were less than ten minutes until the start of the gala.

In fact, the live broadcast on NTS had already begun, with the pre-show introductions underway. However, the live feed was still from the studio and hadn't yet switched to the gala venue.

The NTS Gala held annually in Xia Country always garnered very high ratings, as the Best Actor and other awards given out at the NTS Gala went to truly accomplished individuals. Among the various awards in the country, these held quite significant value.

Of course, the award of highest prestige was the Annual Best TV Drama Gold Award.

As for the Annual Best Documentary Gold Award, because documentary lovers are a minority, it certainly doesn't match the prestige of the Best TV Drama Gold Award.

Following that, the NTS Gala's Annual Best Actor Gold Award and Annual Best Actress Gold Award held the most prominence.

"Principal Ding, the Best Documentary award will be announced towards the end of the event," Zhu Youzhao explained to Principal Ding.

"Yes, I know."

Ding Yue nodded.

After all, the Best Documentary award is not as prestigious as the Best TV Drama award, so its announcement takes place later in the event.

Soon enough, the opening performances began on stage.

After the opening performances ended, two popular hosts from NTS, a man and a woman, took the stage and began hosting the NTS Gala.

At this time, countless viewers across the country were tuning into the NTS Gala.

At Mist City Arts and Science University, at least thirty thousand students were either snuggling up in their dorm rooms, watching the NTS Gala on their phones, or gathering in groups of threes or fours to watch the NTS Gala together.

"Have you seen Principal Ding yet?"

"Principal Ding should be sitting in the VIP seats, right?"

"I didn't see him. He isn't in the first row."

"It's likely hard to snag the first row seats. After all, those are reserved for big-name directors, scriptwriters, and top stars."

"Ah! So frustrating! They wouldn't even give our Principal Ding a close-up."

In the dorms, many students were trying to find Principal Ding in the live broadcast, but it was rather difficult.

Ding Yue was sitting in the third row after all, and since the studio was huge, many people were seated in each row.

"Director Su, you're a nominee for the Gold Award for TV Drama, how did you end up sitting in the third row too?"

Ding Yue surveyed the seating arrangement, whether it was directors, scriptwriters, producers, stars, or actors, it basically seemed that the further back you sat, the less influential you were.

For his film from Mist City Arts and Science University, "A Bite of Xia Country," being a documentary, he could justify its placement in the third row.

But, it was a different story for Director Su Yangfan.

Look at Director Chen Dachun, even though he was nominated for the Annual Best TV Drama Male Actor Gold Award, not the Best TV Drama Gold Award, he still had a spot in the first row.

"Principal Ding, actually for this seat, I specifically requested it from the TV station, hehe." Su Yangfan explained with a sudden laugh.

No wonder!

Ding Yue thought there seemed something off about the coincidence.

"You specifically requested this seat, Director Su?" Ding Yue furrowed his brows slightly, "Could it be that you sought to sit with me, Director Su?"

"Initially, that was indeed the case. Given the success of 'Super Combat Team' from your esteemed university, a Sci-Fi animated film, I wanted to discuss potential collaborations with you in the field of animated drama," Su Yangfan candidly confessed his original thoughts, "But I held back from mentioning it earlier in the break room as there were other directors present."

"Oh, I see!"

Upon hearing this, Ding Yue found it intriguing.

"Given that Director Su was capable of producing a fantastic Sci-Fi drama like 'Transdimensional Contact,' your talent is undisputed. Why not consider becoming a professor at our Film and Television Institute at Mist City Arts and Science University?"

Ding Yue seized this valuable opportunity to extend his olive branch.

If the Film and Television Institute at Mist City Arts and Science University was to grow, it needed the participation of experienced directors like Su Yangfan.

Merely relying on students to do so would inevitably slow the growth process. Currently, students were competent in producing documentaries, short films, and internet dramas. But when it came to creating films or TV dramas, Ding Yue was less eager to invest in them.

What if they failed, right?

"Huh?"

Upon hearing this, Su Yangfan was taken aback.

He didn't expect that Principal Ding would invite him into the Film and Television Institute at Mist City Arts and Science University.

"Our Film and Television Institute at Mist City Arts and Science University is certainly going to be a key focus of development in the future, the only thing we're lacking right now is someone with both vision and strength like you, Director Su. Once you join us, who knows, you may be able to cultivate a collection of outstanding talents from amongst our students?" Ding Yue explained.

"I... I will need to consider it?" Su Yangfan genuinely couldn't agree instantly with Principal Ding.

This was something he needed to consider carefully. After all, if he accepted Principal Ding's invitation to Mist City Arts and Science University's Film and Television Institute, it might seem like he was lowering his standards.

Mist City Arts and Science University was a private university after all. Their reputation in the film and television industry solely depended on the box office success of "Super Combat Team."

But "Super Combat Team" was produced by Feiyue Animation studio, which should have nothing to do with the Film and Television Institute, right?

While Ding Yue and Su Yangfan were discussing this matter, the host on stage was reading out the nominee list for the NTS Gala Best TV Drama Gold Award.

"The nominees for the Best TV Drama Gold Award at NTS Gala are—

1. 'Western Era'
2. 'Entrepreneurial Tide'
3. 'Transdimensional Contact'
4. 'Gorgeous'
5. '1939.'

Following that, the big screen on stage began to detail each of the TV dramas' nomination reasons and distinctive features.

Each of the five dramas had its own unique qualities, just as Ding Yue had observed.

Since Ding Yue had not watched any of these five dramas, he wasn't able to guess who would win the most prestigious award of the evening - the Best TV Drama Gold Award!

This award was the highest honor of the night. To win meant that the TV drama would without a doubt become another classic in film and television history.

From a personal standpoint, Ding Yue, of course, hoped that "Transdimensional Contact" directed by Su Yangfan, would win.

Among the five dramas, Ding Yue only knew Su Yangfan, the director of "Transdimensional Contact."

At this moment, Ding Yue could feel the tension coming from Director Su Yangfan.

There was a strong desire in his eyes.

Yes, a desire for the Best TV Drama Gold Award!

"We would now like to invite our special guest to announce the winner of the 2021 NTS Gala Best TV Drama is..."

Chapter 560: Winning the Documentary Gold Award

The atmosphere at the venue was incredibly tense for a moment.

The directors of the five TV dramas that had been nominated were almost holding their breath.

This moment was extremely important for them.

Ding Yue carefully observed Director Su Yangfan sitting next to him, his gaze fixed on the stage where the winning TV drama was about to be announced, his breathing had slightly hastened.

Ding Yue didn't care whether Su Yangfan's TV drama "Transdimensional Contact" would win the NTS Gold Award.

Ding Yue was only concerned with whether Director Su Yangfan would consider joining his Mist City Arts and Science University Film and Television College.

If he joins, the teaching strength and influence of the Film and Television College would evidently increase significantly.

If Director Su Yangfan's work won the NTS Gold Award and at the same time came to his Mist City Arts and Science University Film and Television College, that would be even better.

"Congratulations to Director Lin Jing's '1939' for winning the Annual Best TV Drama Gold Award!"

On stage, the guest formally announced the winning work.

The moment Su Yangfan heard the result, his initially hopeful eyes dulled in an instant.

The four other directors felt the same as Su Yangfan, only Director Lin Jing wore a joyful smile on his face.

Seen rising from his seat, Director Lin Jing waved to the guest seating area and the audience area before he proceeded towards the stage.

He was going to receive his award, to accept his glory.

"Alas, it's a pity."

Ding Yue exhaled a heavy breath, speaking to Director Su Yangfan beside him.

Director Su Yangfan quickly adjusted his mood. It was indeed disappointing that he did not win the NTS Gold Award on his first nomination, but it was inevitable. Five excellent TV dramas were selected, choosing one out of the five means he only had a twenty percent chance.

Moreover, indeed, a drama like "1939" with its dominant melody, was more to the taste of the NTS Gold Award juries.

The road for science fiction film and television is still long and difficult.

"Alas."

Su Yangfan couldn't help but sigh, then turned his head and said to Ding Yue, "I didn't make it, I hope Principal Ding's 'A Bite of Xia Country' can win."

"Thank you."

Ding Yue thanked Director Su Yangfan for his blessings.

At this moment, everyone's gaze was focused on Director Lin Jing, standing on the stage holding the NTS Gold Cup. The young director Su Yangfan was ignored.

"Director Su, have you considered what we discussed earlier?" Seeing that the NTS Gold Award had been announced, Ding Yue proceeded to discuss business with Su Yangfan.

"Hmm."

To his surprise, Su Yangfan suddenly nodded his head firmly and then remarked quite seriously, "If I want to make better science fiction works, Principal Ding, would you support me?"

"Of course!"

Ding Yue shrugged his shoulders, smiling as he said, "Investing in good works, I can reap higher returns, why not?"

If Su Yangfan could say this, it means that he is "wavering" and considering joining Ding Yue's Mist City Arts and Science University Film and Television College.

Maybe.

Not being able to win the NTS Gold Award could be a important reason why Director Su Yangfan is having second thoughts.

Ding Yue speculated that if Director Su Yangfan's "Transdimensional Contact" had won the NTS Gold Award, he probably would not have considered joining Ding Yue's Mist City Arts and Science University Film and Television College.

People tend to consider benefits when they make choices!

"Okay, Principal Ding, I agree to what you proposed earlier," Su Yangfan readily agreed. "I am very happy to be able to cooperate with your school."

"Hahaha!"

Upon hearing this, Ding Yue couldn't help but laugh. "Welcome to the team, Director Su."

Although it was Su Yangfan who took the initiative to approach him, gaining such a talented young director was indeed a good thing for his Mist City Arts and Science University Film and Television College.

"Director Su, do you have any filming plans in the future?"

Since Ding Yue had promised to support Director Su Yangfan's future works, he asked out of curiosity.

"Uh... No."

Su Yangfan unexpectedly shook his head in reply, very honestly.

"No?"

Ding Yue couldn't help but frown, looking at Su Yangfan with confusion.

How could a director capable of producing a popular science fiction drama like "Transdimensional Contact" run out of ideas?

"Principal Ding, I'm a director, not a scriptwriter. After the shooting of 'Transdimensional Contact', due to some issues with the contracts of the investors, I'm short on resources now. Some science fiction scriptwriters are avoiding me, and my finances..."

Su Yangfan said helplessly.

Winning an NTS Gold Award could have been a turning point for Su Yangfan. Unfortunately, he didn't win.

This means Su Yangfan will not have an easy time finding a talented science fiction writer who can provide a good script.

"I see."

Upon hearing this, Ding Yue seemed to understand why Su Yangfan was so quick to accept his offer.

His heart ached from his current circumstance. No wonder he was so enthusiastic to approach him, while the other directors and scriptwriters at the NTS Gala completely ignored him.

"Principal Ding, the science fiction idea you just mentioned to Director Ma ... I..." Su Yangfan said in a rather low voice.