

## F. University 981

Chapter 981: Emergency! A Sudden Fire Breaks Out at the School

Because Ding Yue had worked on quality education as well, and the learning BUFF he provided to the students also somewhat influenced their quality and civility.

"Fine, fine, fine, I'll quit after two drags, I really just can't hold it in," he said.

Wang Mingyi nodded in agreement.

"The match has started."

Another roommate in dorm 325 promptly announced.

The fourth match of the LPL regional summer postseason finals had begun, and everyone's attention was fixed on the live broadcast on the computer screen.

And then.

Wang Ming and Zhao Qiang, while puffing on their cigarettes, stood behind the four dorm mates of room 325, watching the match intently.

The battle in the fourth game was fierce from the get-go, with the two teams going head-to-head from the start.

In no time at all, the first team fight broke out in the bottom lane.

It must be said.

Both FY team and Dragon City LC team placed great emphasis on this match, especially on the bottom lane from the start.

Dragon City LC's mid-laner and jungler both came to gank the bottom lane in a classic four on two, and with the top laner having Teleport ready, there was the possibility of a five on two to try to break the situation open.

Seeing such an exciting scene, Wang Ming and Zhao Qiang from Mist City University of Technology were completely focused on the computer screen.

"FY's top laner has to come down this wave!"

"Right, right, right, he has to Teleport, otherwise the bottom lane is done for."

"Mid lane has Teleport too, so could this potentially turn into a five versus five?"

The group watched the game with bated breath.

As expected, FY team provided timely support; their jungler was already near the bottom lane, ready to join the fray, and as Dragon City LC team began to encircle and the top lane pushed through with Teleport, with mid also closing in, the five on two face-off was about to come to fruition.

But at that moment, FY team's top laner Wang Shilin and mid-laner Yao Jing, each used their Teleport to rush to support, directly to their tower, and suddenly Dragon City LC's tower dive came under pressure.

At the same time, FY team's jungler Qian Yu also quickly provided backup, causing chaos on the scene.

"Damn! That's exhilarating!"

"Awesome, they're not even level six and they've already kicked off a huge ten-person team fight!"

"666, chase them down!"

The people in the dormitory shouted "666", as FY team managed to successfully fend off the crisis, and even seemed intent on counter-engaging Dragon City LC, with the audience on tenterhooks, wondering which side would take the first blood.

Because during Dragon City LC's tower dive, seeing that FY team's mid and top laners came down in time with Teleport, they pulled back promptly.

But still, the battle had already begun.

"Awesome! FY is awesome!"

Suddenly, a cheer erupted inside the dorm room.

It was because FY team's ADC, Xiong Jiahao, boldly pursued the enemy with the support of his teammates who had already arrived; his jungler also came from the side. The enemy was retreating, but in the end, the support was taken down by Xiong Jiahao's ADC, resulting in the first blood.

Not only that, Dragon City LC, having failed in their push, were chased by FY team and were forced to use two additional Flash spells.

This bottom lane team fight was a clear victory for FY team; they got the first blood and forced two Flashes from the opposition, all without suffering much loss themselves. Even the lane minion wave wasn't a disadvantage, since Dragon City LC's top and mid had both come down as well.

If anything was lost, then it was only the mid lane's Flash that was missing.

Since Dragon City LC team had premeditated the four or even five on two, their mid laner had prepared by directly heading down, but FY team's mid-laner Yao Jing was different. Distracted by the minion wave, she had used her Teleport to come down to the bottom lane for support.

Still, overall, FY team had greatly profited from the pre-level six ten-person team fight.

"That's frickin' amazing!"

As Zhao Qiang cheered, his cigarette had also run out, and so he pinched off the butt and casually tossed it toward the distant trash bin.

However!

No one could have anticipated that Zhao Qiang's cigarette butt still had a little bit of ember left.

And in the trash bin, there were paper tissues that several people in the dorm had used.

The embers from the cigarette met the paper and quickly ignited.

So absorbed were they by the intensity of the match that everyone's attention was completely captured by the thrilling battle being broadcasted on the computer screen.

After the battle at the bottom lane concluded, a fight for the dragon soon ensued, and once again, all eyes in the dorm were glued to the ongoing confrontation live on the screen.

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Over at the Mist City esports venue.

After watching the recent team fight in the bottom lane, Ding Yue was brimming with excitement.

Indeed, it was incredibly thrilling.

His own FY team had just secured a significant advantage with that move, and as long as Xiong Jiahao and the rest of the team didn't do anything too reckless, there should be no problems at all.

"That was a good fight, keep it up, and we've definitely got this game in the bag!"

Huang Youjie was also exclaiming with excitement by his side.

After all, it was their school's team playing, and they were already at a crucial match point. Winning would certainly call for a grand celebration.

Ding-a-ling!

Just then, Huang Youjie's phone started ringing.

"Hmm?"

Huang Youjie was puzzled. Who would be calling him at this time?

He checked his phone and saw it was a call from the head of the dormitory management department.

At the same time, Ding Yue's phone also rang.

"Huh?"

Ding Yue muttered to himself, took out his phone, and saw that it was Director Qi Chunsheng from the Academic Affairs Office calling him.

Today was the weekend, right?

Why would Director Qi call him? Ordinarily, if Director Qi Chunsheng had any work-related matters, he would contact him during weekdays, unless it was an extremely urgent situation.

Without much thought, Ding Yue immediately answered the call, "Hello, Director Qi, what's the matter?"

"Principal Ding, it's terrible, something has happened. Where are you right now?"

On the phone, Director Qi Chunsheng spoke in a frantic tone.

"Ah? Director Qi, don't panic, I'm here at the Mist City esports venue. Isn't the FY team of Mist City Arts and Science University playing in the finals of the playoffs today? I'm here to support our students," Ding Yue replied and then asked, "Director Qi, you just said something happened. What's going on?"

"Principal Ding, there's been a fire in dormitory 325 of block 6 in Peach Garden at our school!"

Director Qi Chunsheng immediately responded.

"What!"

As soon as Ding Yue heard the word "fire," his pupils dilated rapidly, and his mind tensed up instantly.

Fire!

This word could potentially be associated with "casualties," and it had occurred in the male dormitory of his own Mist City Arts and Science University. If this turned out to be a major incident, he, the principal, would undoubtedly have to take responsibility.

"When did it happen, what's the situation now? Have the firefighters arrived?"

Ding Yue immediately asked, his nerves on edge.

At that moment, Huang Youjie also exclaimed, "What are you saying? There's been a fire in one of the school's dormitories?"

Hearing Huang's voice, Ding Yue immediately turned to look at him, their eyes meeting.

It seemed that Huang had also received a call; the school's dormitory buildings were under the management of the logistics department, and Huang Youjie was the head of that department.

"Director Qi, make sure to ensure the safety of the students. Put out the fire, save people, and evacuate students as soon as possible. I'm coming back right away!"

After speaking, Ding Yue immediately hung up the phone.

"Yue, there's been a fire in one of the dormitories at the school."

Huang Youjie also hung up and promptly informed Ding Yue.

Xu Bin, Wen Ruohan, along with Xu Bin's secretary Xiaoqing and others close by, were all shocked upon hearing the news.

"Let's rush back immediately!"

Ding Yue didn't say much. At this point, as the principal, he had to rush back to the university at once. The importance of watching the match paled in comparison to the urgency of the situation.

Principal Ding knew how to weigh his priorities.

Chapter 982: The Frightening Rumor That Snowballed

In the garage.

Ding Yue took his secretary Wen Ruohan and his AI robot Big White, immediately got into the car, and left Mist City Esports Stadium.

At the same time, Huang Youjie and Xu Bin also followed in their cars.

The school had reported a fire in the student dormitory.

This was no small matter; if any students were trapped inside the dormitory building, it would be terrible.

Ding Yue did not want such an incident to occur at his Mist City Arts and Science University, especially he did not want to see any student casualties due to a fire at his university.

After all, a fire was already distressing enough.

"Xiao Wen, call Director Qi Chunsheng, I need to know the current situation,"

While driving seriously, Ding Yue told his secretary Wen Ruohan to call Director Qi Chunsheng on his behalf since he was too agitated to make the call himself while driving.

"Understood, Principal Ding,"

Upon hearing his instruction, Wen Ruohan immediately took out her mobile phone, found Director Qi Chunsheng's number in the address book, and called him.

"Hello, Director Qi, this is Wen Ruohan,"

After connecting the call, Wen Ruohan immediately asked, "Principal Ding asked me to check on how the situation is at the fire scene?"

"Turn on the speakerphone,"

Ding Yue instructed.

Wen Ruohan immediately switched to speakerphone.

"Principal Ding, the fire department is already here, the fire has been brought under control, and all the students from the entire dormitory building have been evacuated,"

Director Qi Chunsheng responded over the phone.

"Director Qi, are there any student casualties?"



Ding Yue hurriedly asked.

This was the question Ding Yue was most concerned about; the best-case scenario would be no student casualties, otherwise, the matter would not be so simple. Moreover, as the principal, he had already prayed countless times in his heart for the safety of his students.

"Principal Ding, after several students in dormitory 325 realized the fire couldn't be extinguished, they immediately evacuated and alerted the other students to leave the building as well, and reported it to the school at the first opportunity, and we organized the evacuation. There were no injuries among any students,"

Director Qi Chunsheng answered.

"Phew."

When Ding Yue heard from Director Qi Chunsheng that no students were injured, a weight lifted from his heart.

"Director Qi, get a handle on the specifics at the scene first, I'll be right back,"

After finishing, Ding Yue continued to drive seriously.

"Alright, Principal Ding, I'll immediately get a clear understanding of the specifics of the fire and report to you when you return,"

After saying this, Director Qi Chunsheng hung up the phone.

"Principal Ding, you don't need to worry so much now. Since the fire is under control and the students are safe, you don't have to be in such a rush,"

Seeing Principal Ding's nerves had been strained ever since he learned of the fire in the dormitory building, Wen Ruohan hurriedly urged him to relax.

"How can I not worry?"

Ding Yue sighed and said, "Thankfully no students were injured. We must take this as a warning!"

In Ding Yue's mind, a plan for safety education was already forming, and the fire in the dormitory building definitely did not happen without cause.

Once the cause of the fire was clear, it had to be dealt with seriously.

This time they were lucky that no students were injured, but if they did not take this seriously and learn from it, what if there was a next time?

"Indeed, we should take this as a warning. Could it be that some students were using high-power electrical appliances in the dormitory?"

Wen Ruohan agreed with Principal Ding's statement and speculated about the cause of the fire.

"That possibility cannot be excluded,"

Ding Yue nodded slightly and said, "The electrical wiring in our newly constructed dormitory buildings and apartments adhere to residential standards, but it's different for the old campus dormitories."

Initially, Ding Yue thought that a fire caused by high-power electrical appliances was unlikely because the wiring at Mist City Arts and Science University's dormitory buildings, apartments, and other constructions were all built to the highest standards.

However, it was an older dormitory building in the old campus where the fire occurred.

The old campus belonged to the former Mist City Siyuan University and had been around for many years, and indeed, the electrical wiring in aging university buildings can be relatively more hazardous.

So Ding Yue did not dismiss Wen Ruohan's speculation about a fire triggered by the use of high-power electrical appliances.

On the Mist City Arts and Science University side.

After the firefighters arrived on the scene, they immediately began putting out the fire.

Fortunately, the fire was detected early enough, and by the time firefighters arrived, it had not yet spread, and all the students within the dormitory building were evacuated by the school personnel in a timely manner.

"Director Qi, can you confirm once more that there are no students left in the building?"

The fire captain asked Director Qi Chunsheng for confirmation again.

After all, as firefighters, they had to ensure rescue operations while fighting the fire.

"Yes, our school has already confirmed multiple times; when the fire broke out it wasn't too severe, we evacuated all the students from the entire building,"

Director Qi Chunsheng nodded and answered.

By now, an increasing number of students had gathered below the building. Initially, when the thick smoke billowed from the Peach Garden dormitory building, the students were quite panicked, and many others came to observe the situation.

Chapter 983: The Frightening Rumor That Snowballed

But when the firefighters arrived, the fire was quickly brought under control and "extinguished."

"That's good, the fire wasn't too severe. The wooden materials such as wardrobes and desks in that dormitory, as well as other clothing and books, were all burned. As for valuables, it is said that they were moved in time before the fire grew too large,"

said the captain of the firefighters.

"You really went through a lot."

Director Qi Chunsheng quickly grasped the hand of the firefighter captain, speaking with great emotion.

"No problem, no problem, it's our duty after all."

the firefighter captain replied, before adding a reminder, "Director Qi, places like our university's dormitories and laboratories really must have good fire prevention measures. According to what the students from dormitory 325 said, they were watching a match and didn't notice the fire. By the time they went for the fire extinguisher, it was already too late."

"Yes, yes, we at Mist City Arts and Science University will certainly take strict measures on this."

Director Qi Chunsheng nodded and said.

"So Captain Zhang, what caused this fire outbreak? Was it high-wattage electrical equipment?"

Director Qi Chunsheng immediately remembered the task assigned by Principal Ding to find out the cause of the fire, so he asked Captain Zhang.

"That was not the case."

Captain Zhang shook his head and said, "We actually didn't find any high-wattage electrical appliances at the scene. Based on the analysis of the fire, the source originated from inside a trash can. In such cases, there's a high probability it was caused by smoking. Director Qi, please call the students back, so we can ask in detail about the specific circumstances."

"Okay!"

Upon hearing this, Qi Chunsheng immediately nodded and then had the counselor call over the students from dormitory 325.

At the time, there were also two university students from another school, who were summoned as well.

"Director Qi, these four are the students from dormitory 325. These other two are their friends, students from Mist City University of Technology,"

said the counselor as he brought the people over and introduced them.

"You guys, do you realize how much trouble you've caused?"

Qi Chunsheng looked at the four students in front of him with a feeling of frustrated concern.

Since its establishment, Mist City Arts and Science University had never experienced a fire before. The school actually had strict regulations and good management practices. High-wattage electrical appliances were basically not permitted, and inspections were conducted regularly.

Yet, a fire still occurred today.

However, Captain Zhang from the fire department had also said that this fire did not seem to be related to high-wattage electrical appliances.

"Director Qi, we didn't use any high-wattage electrical appliances. We also don't know how the fire started,"

said one of the students from dormitory 325, visibly upset.

The occurrence of the fire was not something they wanted to witness. They were enjoying the match and didn't know what happened when the fire broke out.

The news of the fire at Mist City Arts and Science University quickly spread throughout the entire campus.

After all, there were so many students on the scene as spectators, and now, in the information age, the incident was being talked about in various chat groups and on forums.

"Guys, have you heard? There was a fire at the Peach Garden male dormitory building."

"The fire trucks drove over there."

"I've heard those big fire trucks' noise for a while now."

"What happened?"

"I don't know, maybe they were using high-wattage electrical appliances?"

"Isn't our school against the use of high-wattage electrical appliances?"

"I heard it's allowed in the apartment buildings."

"They say it wasn't a high-wattage appliance that caused the fire."

"Then what caused the fire?"

"Dude, after this incident, will our Mist City Arts and Science University end up on the news and trending again?"

"Let's go, let's go. Is anyone going over to check it out?"

"There are already so many people there, I want to go see as well."

"What's there to see about a fire? We must all be careful in the future, properly use electrical appliances, and pay attention to campus safety!"

"Sigh, I really don't know what those guys in the dormitory were thinking."

"Luckily, nothing serious happened, the fire is out now, and no students are said to be injured."

Students at Mist City Arts and Science University were still very concerned about the fire incident.

Some students worried about the situation at the scene of the fire.

Some summarized the lessons learned.

Some were curious and wanted to go to the scene to have a look.

However, the fire incident at Mist City Arts and Science University quickly spread to other nearby colleges and online.

Upon learning of the fire incident at Mist City Arts and Science University that day, students from nearby universities began discussing it fervently.

"Did you hear, there was a fire at Mist City Arts and Science University, an entire building was burned down."

"I heard too, it seems like a lot of people were burned to death."

"Holy shit! For real?"

"The fire was huge, with billowing smoke!"

"It's not that exaggerated, there's no way an entire building was burned down, there's a video, didn't you guys watch the video?"

"Here comes the video [Fire Incident Video.mp4]."

"Holy shit this looks really serious."

"Ambulances have arrived too, I heard that several people were burned to death."

In the beginning, students from nearby universities were full of doubts and speculations that someone at Mist City Arts and Science University got 'iced' in the fire.

Soon enough,

the story got increasingly outrageous as it was passed on.

"The dormitory building at Mist City Arts and Science University caught fire, there's been a serious incident, did you know?"

"A lot of people were burned to death!"

"Holy shit, Mist City Arts and Science University is in for it now."

"With such a serious accident, Principal Ding from Mist City Arts and Science University is in deep trouble now."

Gradually,

more and more students from surrounding universities began to spread rumors with their Twitter posts.

Some shared pictures and videos of the fire incident at Mist City Arts and Science University, while others even used videos or images from fires that occurred years ago, posting them on Twitter and Twitter.

Because Mist City Arts and Science University was well-known,

it quickly caught the attention of many netizens. When the netizens learned of the fire at Mist City Arts and Science University, the story had already become — severe fire, a building burned down, a great many people died, and many couldn't escape in time. It was a true reflection of the current state of the internet.



Some students from Mist City Arts and Science University saw the rumors about the fire at their school starting to circulate online and were really itching with frustration.

The people spreading these rumors without verification are too hateful, aren't they?

Don't they ever bother to verify before recklessly posting stuff online?

The fire only burned one dormitory room, and all students were safely evacuated right away without any injuries, yet after it was spread online, it turned into this version?

However,

netizens, at this point, didn't care about the explanations from the students of Mist City Arts and Science University. After seeing all the various versions of exaggerated rumors, they believed that the fire at Mist City Arts and Science University was extremely serious, that a dormitory building had burned down, and that many people didn't manage to get out, their fates unknown.

As a result,

many netizens began to pray, hoping that no one was harmed.

There were also many who started to blame Mist City Arts and Science University, criticising why the residence management didn't evacuate the students in time, to put it mildly, the criticism was brutal.

Most importantly,

the topic #MistCityArtsandScienceUniversityFire# quickly became trending, fueled by the rumors and gaining rising heat.

At this moment, at the Mist City Department of Education,

Director Xiao Wenxing had just finished a meeting, and then a staff member from the Department of Education rushed over: "Director Xiao, Director Xiao, there's been an incident at Mist City Arts and Science University."

Upon hearing that it was about Mist City Arts and Science University, and that there had been an incident, Director Xiao Wenxing immediately turned around, frowning deeply and asking, "What happened? What's the incident at Mist City Arts and Science University?"

"It's said that there was a fire at Mist City Arts and Science University, and it seems quite severe, online they say that students..."

"What!"

Director Xiao Wenxing was startled upon hearing this, and then immediately took out his phone to call Ding Yue, the principal of Mist City Arts and Science University.

Chapter 984: Critical Moment, Emergency Authorization

"Principal Ding, your phone is ringing."

On the road.

Ding Yue was driving seriously when his phone beside him began to ring with an incoming call. Secretary Wen Ruohan noticed that Principal Ding was unable to answer, so she reminded him.

"Xiao Wen, could you answer that for me and put it on speaker?"

Ding Yue instructed.

At the moment, Ding Yue's full attention was on driving, and he wasn't wearing a Bluetooth headset or anything of the sort.

"Of course, Principal Ding."

Upon hearing this, Wen Ruohan immediately reached out to pick up Principal Ding's phone and answered the call for him, pressing the speaker button: "Principal Ding, it's Director Xiao."

"Hello, Director Xiao."

Hearing from Secretary Wen Ruohan that it was a call from Director Xiao Wenxing, Ding Yue immediately understood what it was about.

For Director Xiao to call at this time, he must have already learned about the fire incident at Mist City Arts and Science University.

"Principal Ding, what's going on at your Mist City Arts and Science University? When did the fire happen, what's the casualty situation now? Have the injured been taken to the hospital? Has the cause of the accident been ascertained?"

Over the phone, Director Xiao Wenxing's tone was very stern.

He asked many questions that seemed closely connected to the fire incident. As the Director of Education, Director Xiao Wenxing seemed to have a good grasp or perhaps more experience in dealing with safety accidents.

But the issue was.

Goodness, the fire at our Mist City Arts and Science University had already been extinguished, and there were no casualties at all.

The only problem at the moment was that the cause of the fire hadn't been determined yet, which Ding Yue had already instructed Director Qi Chunsheng to investigate immediately with the firefighters.

"Ah, Director Xiao, injured? What injured?"

Upon hearing Director Xiao Wenxing's series of questions, Ding Yue could only show a baffled expression.

"It's all over the news, it has spread all over the internet. What exactly happened at your Mist City Arts and Science University, how many are injured? Were there student casualties in the fire accident?"

Director Xiao Wenxing asked again, with seriousness.

"Director Xiao, I think there must be some misunderstanding. Where did you get your information?" Ding Yue, feeling helpless, immediately explained, "Director Xiao, there were no casualties in the fire at our Mist City Arts and Science University. The school timely evacuated all students, and the fire wasn't very serious."

"Oh?"

Over the phone, Director Xiao Wenxing's voice suddenly became puzzled: "What exactly happened?"

"We are still ascertaining the specific cause, but the fire had already been extinguished by the firefighters as soon as they arrived, and we also evacuated all the students from the entire dorm building."

Ding Yue explained.

"Wasn't there a report that the entire building was on fire, and all students were safely evacuated before the whole building caught fire?"

Director Xiao Wenxing continued to inquire.

For the Education Department, the most critical issue at present was the safety of the students. If really all the students were evacuated from the dormitory on time, that would indeed be quite good.

Only if there were no student casualties then the incident wouldn't be so grave.

"What?"

Upon hearing Director Xiao Wenxing say that the entire building was burned down, Ding Yue felt it was utterly preposterous: "Director Xiao, are you saying the entire building burned down? How could that be possible? Where did you get your report from? The fire only burned one dorm room before it was contained. How could the entire building have been burned down?"

Without guessing, it was clear that it was probably a case of misinformation leading to further exaggeration until Director Xiao Wenxing heard an embellished version of the events at the first instance.

Upon hearing such a serious issue, Director Xiao immediately called Ding Yue, as they had quite a good relationship.

"Not an entire building burned down?"

Hearing this, Director Xiao Wenxing suddenly paused, stunned.

This is bad!

Maybe he was too hasty and negligent, failing to verify the details of the event. The staff member at the Education Department who had informed him might also have gotten the news from the internet or a chat group.

In this day and age, any news that spreads through the internet can easily lead to exaggeration, causing the facts to become grossly distorted.

"No, Director Xiao, burning down an entire dormitory building, that would be too exaggerated. Is that what they're saying online?"

Ding Yue responded with a mix of laughter and helplessness.

"It seems so. I learned about this from someone in the Education Department, who probably saw it online. Such news generally spreads faster on the internet than we get to know here at the Education Department, but with internet spread, it's quite easy for such situations to arise. Principal Ding, are you at the scene right now?"

Director Xiao Wenxing analyzed briefly then asked.

"When the fire broke out, I was at the Mist City Esports Arena. Our school's FY team is in the finals, and I was there to support them. Upon hearing the news, I started heading back, and now I'm on my way back to the university."

Ding Yue replied.

"That's good to hear. I'll head to Mist City Arts and Science University right away too. Let's meet at the school. Although the incident wasn't as exaggerated as reported online, your Mist City Arts and Science University did experience a fire and it needs to be properly addressed."

After realizing that the situation wasn't as exaggerated, and it was merely a relatively minor fire incident, Director Xiao Wenxing finally felt a weight lifted off his shoulders.

Chapter 985: Critical Moment, Emergency Authorization

However, this matter also needs to be dealt with.

And people like Ding Yue, as well as the Director of the Education Bureau, should also go to the scene to take a look at the situation.

After all, in the past two years, Mist City Arts and Science University had become a privately run institution of higher education that the Mist City government was placing great emphasis on.

"Understood, Director Xiao."

Ding Yue responded accordingly.

This issue indeed needed to wait until he returned to school before he could deal with it properly, but before dealing with it, he had to investigate the specific circumstances.

For instance, what exactly caused this fire incident?

At this point at Mist City Arts and Science University.

Director Qi Chunsheng and Captain Zhang had called over the people from dorm room 325 and inquired about the specifics of the situation.

"Director Qi, it looks like our inspection findings are similar; the source of the fire came from an unextinguished cigarette butt found in the dormitory's trash can."

Captain Zhang approached Director Qi Chunsheng and explained.

"So you're saying it wasn't a high-power electrical appliance that caused the fire, but an unextinguished cigarette butt?"

Upon hearing this, Director Qi Chunsheng pondered and nodded thoughtfully before he turned his gaze to the students from dorm room 325, asking, "What's the matter with you guys, aren't you aware that, according to the school regulations, smoking is not allowed inside the dorm rooms?"

In university campuses, students are allowed to smoke.

However, according to the rules of many universities, there are generally some areas where smoking is prohibited, such as classrooms, cafeterias, laboratories, dormitories, supermarkets, and similar places.

If Captain Zhang said that the fire was caused by an unextinguished cigarette butt in the trash can, it would mean for sure that a student had smoked in the dorm room and didn't extinguish the cigarette butt before throwing it into the trash can, thereby igniting flammable materials in the trash which led to the fire.

"Director Qi, I, I, I didn't smoke,"

the student from dorm room 325 responded timidly when Director Qi Chunsheng questioned him.

"You didn't smoke? Then how did this fire happen?"

Director Qi Chunsheng looked very serious as he said, "Captain Zhang of the fire department has already pointed out that the fire originated from the unextinguished cigarette butt in the trash can."

"Director Qi, nobody in our dorm room smokes,"

Liu Yuanping quickly explained.

Upon hearing this, Qi Chunsheng's eyebrows slightly furrowed.

At this time, it's highly unlikely that students from Mist City Arts and Science University would lie.

If there were only a few students in dorm room 325, Qi Chunsheng might have suspected Liu Yuanping of lying, but since he had said so, Qi Chunsheng reluctantly shifted his gaze to the other two students.

These two were not students from Mist City Arts and Science University, but rather students from the neighboring Mist City University of Science and Technology, friends of Liu Yuanping and others from dorm room 325.

Mist City Arts and Science University did not stipulate that students from other schools were not allowed to enter; after all, the campus was vast, and with many popular check-in spots, even visitors could come in, so long as they registered, therefore it was entirely normal for students from neighboring institutions to enter.

But today's incident.

Could it really be that the fire was started because these two students from Mist City University of Science and Technology were smoking in dorm room 325 while watching a game and, because they were too engrossed in the match, they failed to extinguish their cigarette butts, thus causing the fire?

If this were indeed the case, then this matter just got interesting.



"What exactly happened?"

Since Wang Ming and Zhao Qiang were not students of Mist City Arts and Science University, as the Director of the Academic Affairs Office, Qi Chunsheng naturally didn't have jurisdiction over them, but he still asked in a roundabout way.

It was time to see how these two students from another school would respond.

At this moment, Wang Ming and Zhao Qiang were both feeling very anxious. Although the fire had occurred in Mist City Arts and Science University, they were both well aware that, indeed, the four people in dorm room 325 did not smoke.

Since Captain Zhang had stated that the fire's origin was an unextinguished cigarette butt in the trash can, it was almost certain that the fire was caused by either Wang Ming or Zhao Qiang smoking.

But at this time, if they admitted it, would they have to bear a great deal of responsibility?

After all, their smoking had led to someone else's dorm room catching fire; while the matter may not be huge, because it was an accidental fire, it was not trivial either, given that it set someone else's quarters ablaze.

Wang Ming and Zhao Qiang exchanged a glance.

"Direc, Director, I'm, I'm sorry,"

Wang Ming timidly apologized with his head lowered, "I smoked."

At this point, Zhao Qiang also stepped forward conscientiously and said, "I smoked too, although I don't know if it was my cigarette or Wang Ming's that ignited the trash can, but the fault lies with us, we..."

Upon hearing this, Director Qi Chunsheng couldn't help but let out a sigh.

Indeed, it was the two university students from another school who had caused the fire by smoking.

"That basically makes sense, then. After smoking, these two students failed to extinguish their cigarette butts, which then caused the fire,"

Captain Zhang of the fire department turned to Director Qi Chunsheng and said.

"Hmm, got it."

Director Qi Chunsheng nodded and muttered, "I need to report the cause of the fire to Principal Ding and then determine the follow-up action plan."

After speaking, Director Qi Chunsheng picked up his phone and dialed Principal Ding's number again.

Ding Yue was driving at the time, crossing a large bridge.

In Mist City, there are many rivers, so there are also many bridges.

Between Mist City eSports Hall and Mist City University, there is a big river, so no matter what, one has to cross a bridge.

"Principal Ding, there's another call."

His secretary, Wen Ruohan, heard Principal Ding's phone ring again and reminded him.

"Answer it."

Ding Yue turned his head to Wen Ruohan and said.

He was still planning to have Wen Ruohan answer the call for him.

However, just as Wen Ruohan reached to pick up the phone, she suddenly saw the situation ahead on the bridge, "Ah! Principal Ding! Watch out!"

Ding Yue immediately looked forward, only to see a public bus ahead suddenly veering towards the central barrier, heading into the opposite lane, and was about to collide with the vehicles on his side of the road.

"What's happening here?"

Ding Yue was completely bewildered, with no idea what had happened to the bus on the bridge.

Upon seeing this,

Ding Yue immediately slammed on the brakes, and the two cars following him, one driven by Huang and the other by Bin, also came to a timely stop.

"Principal Ding, look!"

Wen Ruohan pointed, dumbfounded, at the bus that had crossed over the lanes.

The bus, for some reason, after colliding with a sedan, hadn't stopped but was still speeding, and what was more critical was that the bus was now heading off course, veering towards the barrier of the bridge.

Although Ding Yue didn't know what was happening on the bus,

this situation was extremely critical. If the bus were to break through the bridge's barrier and plunge into the river below, it was an unfathomably deep river.

As the tragedy seemed about to unfold before their eyes,

Ding Yue, in desperation, immediately shouted, "Big White!"

"Principal!"

"Is there any way to stop that bus?"

Ding Yue turned around and asked Big White, who was sitting in the back seat of the car.

"Big White requests principal's authorization for emergency safety intervention!"

"Authorization confirmed!"

Ding Yue said at once.

Bang!

In just an instant,

Big White pushed open the car door, got out, and sprinted at an extremely fast pace towards the out-of-control bus.

Actually,

when the bus lost control and swerved into their lane, Big White had already scanned the danger.

However, the analysis by Big White indicated that the situation was not yet the most urgent of safety incidents.

In dealing with dangers to others besides its owner, Big White needed the owner's authorization.

And just now, Ding Yue had successfully granted Big White the authorization for emergency safety intervention.

After several upgrades, Big White's strength had significantly improved. As the bus was about to plunge off the bridge, there might be a chance to prevent the tragedy if Big White could provide support in time.

That's what Ding Yue thought.

Chapter 986: Saved by a Robot?

"Huh?"

Director Qi Chunsheng called Principal Ding to report on the investigation of the fire's cause but, even though the call went through, no one answered.

"What's the matter, Director Qi?"

Captain Zhang of the fire department asked.

"Principal Ding didn't answer my call. Without Principal Ding's instructions, I'm not in a position to handle the subsequent matters."

Director Qi Chunsheng was well aware that in this private institution, Mist City Arts and Science University, Principal Ding had the final say.

He was just an employee.

"Alright then, your school will handle the students. We have put out the fire and are about to withdraw our team,"

Captain Zhang said.

"Thank you so much, Captain Zhang. We're truly grateful for the timely rescue by the fire department. Who knows what would have happened to this place if the fire had kept spreading,"

Director Qi Chunsheng said as he grabbed Captain Zhang's hand, expressing his thanks with great emotion.

"Sigh, if those students had noticed the fire earlier and used the fire extinguishers, it wouldn't have gotten this bad,"

Captain Zhang said with a sigh.

Of course.

When Captain Zhang mentioned "this bad," he was speaking relatively. The fire had only burned through most of a dormitory, mainly destroying wooden wardrobes, desks, clothes, books, and the like.

The metal bed frames were just blackened by the fire and would definitely all have to be replaced.

"Indeed,"

Director Qi nodded and said, "Captain Zhang, what do you think of our firefighting measures?"

"When we finished putting out the fire and checked, the fire hydrants, extinguishers, and the green emergency exit signs and such, were all in good order. If the students had reacted sooner, we could have avoided today's fire,"

Captain Zhang said seriously.

It must be said that Mist City Arts and Science University did have proper fire safety measures in place. However, an accident occurred today because a few students from dormitory 325 were so engrossed in watching a match of the Mist City Arts and Science University FY team that they overlooked the trash can that had caught fire. By the time they realized it and tried using the fire extinguisher, it was too hard to put out the flames, leading to the fire that burned down their dorm room.

"Sigh."

Upon hearing this, Director Qi couldn't help but let out a resigned sigh.

Today's fire at Mist City Arts and Science University would inevitably affect the university's "reputation" to some extent.

As the Director of Academic Affairs at Mist City Arts and Science University, Director Qi Chunsheng was naturally accountable for this matter, since the fire had broken out in student dormitories.

"Director Li, immediately take someone to inspect the entire dormitory building. Once it's confirmed to be safe, start organizing students to return to their rooms,"

Director Qi Chunsheng called over Director Li from the dormitory management department and gave his instructions.

At this time, both Principal Ding and Director Huang from the logistics department were absent, leaving Director Qi Chunsheng to shoulder the responsibility of restoring normal operations at the school.

The dormitory management department had already begun organizing staff to clear the aftermath of the fire in dormitory 325.

Along with checking the dormitory building's electrical system and fire inspections, students would not be allowed to return to their dorm rooms until all checks were complete and safety was confirmed.

As for the four students from dormitory 325, their room was burned in the fire, and they needed temporary accommodations. They could only move back after the dorm was refurbished and repaired.

Of course, there would be punishments for the fire incident in dormitory 325; however, Director Qi thought that there was no rush to decide on the penalties now and that it would be better to wait for Principal Ding to return.

Moreover, the fire wasn't a simple accident caused by the dormitory students; rather, it involved two students from an external institution, which complicated the matter. The issue required communication with Mist City University of Technology to resolve.

Unfortunately, Director Qi Chunsheng had just tried to call Principal Ding.

The call went through, but no one answered.

Over at Ding Yue's end,

he was too busy to answer the phone, as all his attention was captured by a bus.

Of course, there was also his artificial intelligence robot, Big White.

Big White sprang into action just as the bus was about to hit the bridge's railings, darting forward right before the bus could break through and fall into the river.

The massive force exerted by Big White slowed down the bus considerably, leaving even the bus driver bewildered. What should have been a split second away from dropping off the bridge into the river was somehow halted by something in front.

Using the resistance from the bridge's railings and its own significant arm strength, Big White tried to stop the bus from falling off the bridge.

*Zzzt zzzt zzzt!*

Sizzling sounds!

Soon, Big White's arms and various mechanical joints inside its body started to produce abnormal noises.

Even though Big White could lift a thousand pounds, the sheer size of the bus, along with the passengers it carried, presented a massive impact force.

Nevertheless, Big White did its utmost, firmly blocking the bus head-on.

"Big White!"



Watching this scene from inside the vehicle, Ding Yue's heart skipped a beat. He was genuinely concerned that if Big White couldn't hold back the bus, a tragedy would occur.

Chapter 987: Saved by a Robot?

The tense Ding Yue hurriedly got off the bus to get a clearer view.

At this time, the vehicles on the bridge had basically all stopped, and the drivers got out of their cars, staring at the scene in front of them.

A large white robot that appeared from nowhere was actually preventing a bus from plunging off the bridge, which was simply incredible; how did it manage to save people at such a critical moment?

Could this Big White robot be an artificial intelligence robot?

In the eyes of the general public, Big White is just a medical health robot that can diagnose people's health conditions and provide treatment suggestions, but this one seemed not so simple.

"Yue, Big White seems to be struggling to hold on, look at its body."

Huang and Xu Bin had already arrived beside Ding Yue and expressed their concern after seeing Big White's condition.

Ding Yue saw it too.

Big White's body seemed almost deformed, and the guardrail on the bridge behind it had already shattered. Under the immense pressure, Big White's polyvinyl alcohol fiber was starting to break apart. Even the temperature at the robot's mechanical joints had risen sharply due to the high-intensity damage. The white and chubby polyvinyl alcohol fiber body of Big White was about to catch fire.

Big White's polyvinyl alcohol fiber body was indeed quite flammable.

The bus continued to inch forward due to inertia, with Big White's feet braced against the ground and its hands against the front of the bus, its body slowly moving backwards.

"This is bad!"

Seeing this, Ding Yue immediately felt that things were not looking good.

As expected.

The next second, the powerful impact force of the bus pushed Big White off the bridge, and before falling, it had used all its strength trying to stop the bus.

Eventually, Big White fell from the bridge while the bus's front end was hanging over the edge of the bridge. Fortunately, most of the vehicle remained on the bridge, teetering but not falling off.

"Big White!"

The moment Ding Yue saw Big White falling from the bridge, his heart ached unbearably.

He had just installed a safety system on Big White, and then such a safety emergency occurred. Big White, in an attempt to save the passengers on the bus, ultimately got pushed off the bridge by it.

Fortunately, the bus did not fall into the river.

Otherwise, the passengers on the entire bus were likely doomed.

Ding Yue immediately ran over, stood on the edge of the bridge, and looked down, only to see the water under the bridge rippling with Big White floating on the surface.

Because Big White's body wasn't actually very heavy. Made of polyvinyl alcohol fiber, carbon fiber skeletons, and a few other material components, although there was metal material in Big White's body, it wasn't much, so it didn't sink quickly after falling into the water.

"Yue, Big White... it saved a bus full of people. If it weren't for Big White, the bus would definitely have fallen."

Xu Bin also came to the edge of the bridge, watched Big White's body on the water surface, and couldn't help but exclaim.

"But it seems like Big White is severely damaged."

Huang Youjie said.

"Quick, make a call, someone come and get Big White out of the water!" Ding Yue turned around and immediately said.

"Yes, yes, call the fireboat over quickly." After Xu Bin snapped to, he immediately took out his phone and began to dial.

At this time, the passengers on the bus were still shaken.

The driver, seeing that the bus had stabilized, quickly opened the rear door. Then people began to help, evacuating all the passengers from the bus.

"Principal Ding, Big White saved all these people in the bus, but couldn't it be broken?"

Wen Ruohan rested her hands on the bridge railing, leaning over to look down, and saw Big White's body motionless on the surface of the water, looking like it had malfunctioned.

Indeed, after withstanding such a huge collision and holding up the bus, the mechanical joint parts were sure to be damaged, and the key issue was that Big White had also fallen from the bridge into the river.

Even though Big White was somewhat waterproof, it had already suffered various kinds of damage by that time. For example, if the broken polyvinyl alcohol fiber exposed the mechanical skeleton to water, it would definitely cause some issues.

Normally, if Big White's entire body was wrapped in polyvinyl alcohol fiber, the chubby robot wouldn't be afraid of water, as the fiber body was waterproof.

But the current situation was special.

Ding Yue was also very worried that his artificial intelligence robot, Big White, might be damaged.

After all, Big White had been with me for so many years, starting as a medical health robot, later dubbed "artificial dimwit," and then gradually nurtured and getting along, it became a rather decent artificial intelligence robot—Xu Bin's capable assistant and partner.

Today, at the critical moment, Big White had, to save the passengers on this bus, sacrificed itself, hadn't it?

Even though this sacrifice was authorized by Ding Yue, he still felt quite upset about it.

At this moment, Mist City's traffic, police, and fire departments had all received reports of the emergency on the bridge, and they dispatched personnel quickly, and boats were also sent to the river to prepare for the rescue.

Above the bridge, there was already a certain amount of traffic congestion.

But that was no longer important.

What mattered was that the bus, which seemed destined to fall off the bridge and result in tragedy, was now safe.

All passengers, including the driver, had evacuated the bus, with its front still dangling dangerously over the edge of the bridge.

As more and more people got off, they checked out the situation here.

The scene of Big White preventing the bus from falling off the bridge had also been witnessed by many drivers, with quite a few recording the harrowing moment on their phones.

"What's happening up ahead, why is there a traffic jam?"

"I don't know, holy shit, why is there a bus about to fall off over there?"

"Could be an accident."

"Let's go, let's see what happened."

"A bus from the opposite side suddenly smashed over to our lane and then nearly fell off the bridge into the river."

"WTF, that's way too dangerous."

"Is everyone okay?"

"All the people on the bus have been evacuated."

"How did it suddenly smash over?"

"Don't know, but it was really close just now. If it hadn't been for that robot Big White, the bus would probably have gone over."

"Yeah, yeah, that's Big White, right? I've seen the movie, it looks like him."

"Big White, the robot?"

"How could a robot possibly save a bus?"

"Don't know, I have no idea what happened."

People were abuzz with various discussions, and many citizens who had seen Big White stop the bus from falling couldn't believe it. Those who had not seen but heard others talking about it found it even more inconceivable!

Could something this miraculous really happen?

A robot had actually stopped a bus from plummeting off a bridge?

If that was true, then this robot was truly incredible—a bona fide hero of a machine!

Over at Mist City Police Department.

Captain Chen immediately led his people to respond after receiving the call since a bus falling into the great river was no small matter.

Captain Chen had been told that someone on the bus had interfered with the driver, causing the bus to break through the bridge's median barrier and nearly crash off the bridge.

Later, another call reported that the bus was about to drop into the great river.

In the urgency, Captain Chen had immediately departed with his team, and while on the road, he also contacted the fire, river police, and traffic departments to ensure they were ready and en route to the scene.

After hanging up, Captain Chen asked Xiao Fang, who was driving, to speed up so that they could reach the scene as soon as possible to understand the situation.

It was at this time that Captain Chen received another call from the police department.

"Hello, Zhou, how's the surveillance coming along, what's the exact situation over there?" Captain Chen answered the phone and asked.

"Good news, Chen, citizens at the scene are saying a robot saved that bus, it nearly fell into the river."

Captain Chen: Huh?????

Chapter 988: Isn't there any good news today?

Captain Chen said he was a bit bewildered.

What on earth was going on?

A robot saved that bus from almost falling off the bridge?

It sounded incredibly unbelievable.

"Zhou, are you sure what you just said is that a robot saved the bus?"

Captain Chen asked doubtfully.

"Yes."

Zhou affirmed with certainty: "We saw it clearly in the surveillance video. It was a white and chubby robot, the one that's quite popular on the internet. What's it called again? There was an animated movie about it that made a lot of money at the box office. My son really loves watching it."

"Are you talking about Big White?"

Captain Chen asked incredulously.

"Right, right, right, it's that Big White. It's that robot, which came out of a car and then rushed over quickly to stop the bus from falling into the river. It's simply amazing,"

Zhou quickly answered.

"This is unbelievable. Zhou, copy that section of the surveillance video and send it to me. I want to see what exactly happened."

Captain Chen was very curious and wanted to see for himself what the situation had been like.

How did this robot named Big White manage to save a bus that was about to break through the bridge railing?

"Sure, no problem. But the surveillance video shows that Big White seemed to have fallen down, knocked down by the bus's impact force, but the bus didn't fall off,"

Zhou said.

"Then let's hurry up and ask the river police department to deploy boats to get Big White out of the water," Captain Chen said anxiously.

"The river police department has already dispatched rescue boats, and the owner of the robot Big White called for help right away,"

Zhou replied.

"Oh? Who's the owner of this robot, Big White?"

Captain Chen asked, curious again.

Such a heroic robot that saved so many people on a bus naturally made its owner a behind-the-scenes "hero."

"The President of Mist City Arts and Science University. It's said that this robot was personally customized by Principal Ding. It cost quite a bit of money," Zhou replied.

"Oh, oh, it's that Principal Ding."



Captain Chen had heard of Principal Ding from Mist City Arts and Science University, as the university had become quite famous in the past couple of years.

Even though it was a private institution, its academic performance and educational philosophy were quite impressive.

Captain Chen remembered that his older brother's son seemed to be quite fond of this private university and was even considering attending Mist City Arts and Science University after the College Entrance Examination next year.

But Captain Chen wasn't very supportive.

Because his nephew's academic performance was quite good and he should be able to score around six hundred points without any issues.

And with a score of six hundred, he could easily attend one of the Double First Class Universities. Why settle for a private university?

At that moment, on the bridge.

Ding Yue looked at his AI robot Big White, motionless in the river, and felt heartbroken.

But there was no other way.

They could only wait for the boat to come before they could retrieve Big White.

If only Big White had a thruster like in the animated movie "Super Combat Team"; upon falling, it could have used the thruster to fly right back up.

However, that kind of gizmo seemed a bit too sci-fi and might not be allowed by conditions and reality.

But still.

Ding Yue considered getting Big White a new body.

Although its current polyvinyl alcohol fiber body was soft and chubby, which made it very cute, it was also easily damaged.

For instance, it was vulnerable to sharp objects and fire, among other dangers.

Of course.

Usually, Big White wouldn't encounter such situations.

But Ding Yue still wanted to give Big White a better body, like one that's heat-resistant and relatively harder, though such materials were hard to find.

Maybe after getting back, he could consult with the faculty and students of the materials science department at Mist City Arts and Science University to see if they had any better materials for this purpose?

"Yue, Big White was quite powerful today. If it hadn't been for Big White, this bus would have definitely fallen down. If that had happened, the consequences would have been unimaginable,"

Huang Youjie came over to Ding Yue, put his hand on his shoulder, and said comfortingly.

Huang knew Ding Yue well.

Big White being damaged and falling into the river would be somewhat upsetting for him.

"I never thought that right after installing a safety system on Big White, this would happen," Ding Yue sighed and murmured.

"Yue, it's not a big problem. Big White's core chip slot has water and heat resistance. Looking at this situation, it's probably just the body and skeleton that got damaged. We can just rebuild a body and skeleton for Big White. As long as the core chip is intact, there won't be any major issues,"

Xu Bin also said, offering consolation.

"That's at least some good news."

Ding Yue knew too that although Big White's body and skeleton seemed to be damaged from stopping the bus, just as Bin said,

as long as the core chip was undamaged, there wouldn't be any major issues.

Since a chip is the heart of any robot, especially an AI robot.

This gallium nitride semiconductor chip had cost Ding Yue a million to custom order, and then Bin had programmed many routines and the most critical analog-brain logic program into it. Not to mention the extensive "training" it had undergone—if those costs were accounted for, that was no small sum.

Chapter 989: Isn't there any good news today?

"Principal Ding, look, the boats are coming."

At that moment, he heard the excited voice of his secretary, Wen Ruohan.

Wen Ruohan pointed towards the surface of the great river in the not-too-distant, where several rescue boats were approaching. The first two boats were moving quite fast, clearly rescue boats designed for such emergencies.

"Target spotted."

"Approaching the target."

"The target is at risk of sinking; the difficulty of salvage operations will increase after it goes down."

"I heard it was that thing that saved the bus?"

"Its name is Big White, haven't you seen its movie?"

The river police department personnel aboard the rescue boats were discussing the rescue plan, and at the same time, they were talking about the heroic robot Big White floating on the river, which had saved a bus.

When Ding Yue saw the arrival of the rescue boats, he immediately grasped the bridge railing with both hands and looked down below.

The rescue boats quickly reached the vicinity of Big White.

Then the members of the river police rescue team on the boats began using salvage tools to retrieve Big White, which was floating on the river.

If not for the robot Big White today, the members of the river police rescue team would probably not be retrieving a robot but the passengers on the bus instead.

And once the bus had fallen into the river, it would have quickly sunk. At that point, all twenty or thirty passengers aboard would have been in grave danger.

No one would want to see such a tragedy occur.

Luckily, because the robot Big White intervened to stop the bus, the tragedy did not happen.

As the river police rescue team was salvaging Big White on the river, personnel from Mist City's police department, traffic department, and other agencies had also arrived on the bridge.

And hospital ambulances had arrived as well.

It was said that there were passengers injured on the bus.

Indeed, after all, the bus had been lurching out of control, swerving from the opposite lane to this side. It was a common occurrence for passengers to get knocked around and injured from being unable to sit securely.

Not only that.

When the police department personnel arrived, Captain Chen, after conversing with the driver and passengers, took a woman in her thirties into custody.

It seemed that the bus lost control during its normal operation because this woman had interfered with the driver, even posing a grave threat to his driving safety.

Faced with such a situation, although passengers on the bus tried to stop the woman, it was too late. The driver was affected, causing the entire bus to swerve, and he was unable to brake in time, almost causing the bus to crash into the bridge railing and fall.

At that critical moment, the robot Big White appeared.

"Get her handcuffed!"

Captain Chen was irate while looking at the woman.

There had been tragic lessons in the past from similar incidents. Now someone dared to do this again. If not for the robot Big White stopping the bus from falling off the bridge, wouldn't there be a repeat of the tragedy?

The traffic department personnel began to quickly disperse the traffic on the bridge.

Hospital ambulances transported the injured passengers to the hospital, and a few doctors stayed behind to check on some of the passengers with minor injuries.

The incident on the bridge was swiftly reported to the City Government building.

Upon learning of the incident, Governor Li of Mist City immediately demanded a serious response from the relevant departments. Governor Li was also relieved that the incident had

not caused a major disaster. Otherwise, how many more innocent citizens would have suffered?

When Ding Yue saw the river police team had salvaged Big White onto the boat, he felt as if a weight had been lifted from his heart.

Soon after, Ding Yue received a call from the person in charge of the river police rescue team.

"Hello, Principal Ding. We've already pulled up the robot. Unfortunately, it seems to have been damaged. Where would you like us to transport the robot now?" asked the person in charge of the river police rescue team.

"Thank you for retrieving Big White. Please send it to Mist City Arts and Science University later. Someone will meet you to take over," replied Ding Yue with gratitude.

If not for them, Big White would have been left in the water a bit longer, which likely would have caused even more damage or it might have sunk to the bottom of the river, making it much harder to retrieve later.

"Alright, Principal Ding. I must say, your university's robot is really impressive," complimented the person in charge of the river police rescue team.

In the eyes of all the people involved in today's operation, Big White was a hero.

"Thank you."

After hanging up the phone, Ding Yue turned to leave with Huang and the others, ready to drive back to school. The transport of Big White to Mist City Arts and Science University would be handled by the Jiang Police Rescue Team, so there was no need for Ding Yue to worry about it.

As for the situation with the bus at the scene, it could be left to the relevant departments, sparing Ding Yue any concern.

Ding Yue reflected that he still needed to rush back to the university to deal with the fire incident.

He didn't know what was going on today.

It seemed like there were many issues, and none of them were good.

A fire at the university, Big White damaged while saving the bus—these were undoubtedly bad news for Ding Yue.

Wasn't there any good news at all?

No, that wasn't right.

Ding Yue had come to the Mist City E-Sport Pavilion today to watch his Mist City Arts and Science University FY team's spring finals, and he had left during the fourth game.

He wondered how the fourth game had turned out.

Had they won?

If they had won, then the FY team would be the spring champions, but if they had lost, they would need to play a fifth game.

Ding Yue hoped that good news would come from the Mist City E-Sport Pavilion later.

Otherwise, it would be too much of a downer for today.

After Ding Yue drove away from the bridge, he headed towards the Mist City Arts and Science University.

On the way,

Ding Yue first called Director Qi Chunsheng from his university's Academic Affairs Office to inquire about the investigation into the school's fire.

"Hello, Principal Ding, I called you but you didn't answer. Have you returned to the university?"

Director Qi Chunsheng asked after the call connected.

"I'm on my way. There were some unexpected events on the road. Director Qi, have we figured out what caused the dormitory fire at the university?"

Ding Yue immediately asked.

The fire incident at the university was not to be taken lightly.

Upon returning to the university, he had to convene a meeting to re-emphasize campus safety.

And it wasn't just about reinforcing it in a meeting, but also ensuring that the relevant university departments and staff fully implemented campus safety measures.

Ding Yue didn't want to see another campus safety issue at his Mist City Arts and Science University.

"Principal Ding, we have investigated the cause of the fire with the fire department. It was caused by cigarette butts that were not properly extinguished in a trashcan. The most critical thing, however, is that the cigarettes weren't smoked by our students, but by two students from the neighboring Mist City University of Technology. They had come to our university to watch the match in a friend's dorm room. It was today's 'League of Legends' spring final, and those two students accidentally started the fire while smoking,"

Director Qi Chunsheng detailed the cause of the fire to Principal Ding.

"What?"



Ding Yue was taken aback when he heard this.

Well, that's something.

It turned out the fire at his university wasn't started by its own students but rather by two students from another institution.

In that case, the matter might be a bit complicated.

Ding Yue had planned to address the cause of the fire and then take appropriate action against Dormitory 325. However, he hadn't expected the students in Dormitory 325 to be almost unrelated to the incident.

It was not entirely unrelated—after all, the two smoking students were friends from another school, so there was some connection.

But clearly, Ding Yue could not administer severe punishment to the four students in Dormitory 325 for this reason, as that would make them scapegoats.

As principal, Ding Yue could not be so unreasonable.

"Principal Ding, if we are to deal with this situation, we need to communicate with the Mist City University of Technology, considering the fire was caused by their students smoking,"

Director Qi Chunsheng suggested.

Chapter 990: Giving Them a Chance to Apologize

Ding Yue felt that what Director Qi Chunsheng said made sense.

The fire incident was caused by two students from Mist City University of Technology who were smoking in their dormitory and carelessly started a fire, so he couldn't severely punish the students from Room 325, could he?

It was even less likely to punish students from another university.

This matter required communication with the Mist City University of Technology.

"Alright, Director Qi, you go ahead and contact Mist City University of Technology, explain the situation to them, and then ask for their opinion on the matter."

After thinking for a bit, Ding Yue said to Director Qi Chunsheng.

"Sure thing, Principal Ding."

Director Qi Chunsheng responded, and after a moment, he asked, "Principal Ding, what about the punishment for the four students from Room 325?"

Even though the four students from Room 325 did not cause the fire, they were somewhat responsible.

If no punishment were meted out, it would be difficult to set an example!

"Well... The four students from Room 325 also bear some responsibility for the oversight. As for the punishment, let's discuss it after I get back. I'm almost there, have those four students from Room 325 come to my office first."

Ding Yue was almost at University Town while driving and didn't want to discuss the matter with Director Qi Chunsheng while on the road.

Once he arrived at the school, back in his own office, he would deal with the matter properly.

"Okay, Principal Ding. Oh, and by the way, Principal Ding, Director Xiao Wenxing from the Education Authority has arrived," Director Qi Chunsheng said.

"I know."

Ding Yue had already known about Director Xiao Wenxing's visit to his Mist City Arts and Science University; Director Xiao had even called him earlier. Even though the fire had

been dealt with promptly and wasn't too serious, Director Xiao was still not completely reassured, hence his visit.

Ding Yue could understand this.

After all, Director Xiao Wenxing oversaw the education of Mist City's universities, and he certainly had to make an appearance regarding a safety incident on campus.

Approximately five or six minutes later.

Ding Yue finally returned to his Mist City Arts and Science University.

Upon returning to Mist City Arts and Science University, Ding Yue first went to the Peach Garden dormitory building where the fire had occurred.

Order at the Peach Garden dormitory building was quite good at the moment. Although there were still quite a few students downstairs, it was evident that the school's logistical staff had already begun to manage the aftermath methodically.

"Yue, I've already had the logistics department staff come over, and after confirming that the dormitory building's water, electricity, and network were mostly unaffected, I arranged for the students to return to their dorms bit by bit," Huang Youjie said to Ding Yue in a steady voice.

Logistics had always been Huang's responsibility. Although Huang was no longer involved in handling the specifics, his oversight and direction to his subordinates were quite effective.

"Good, what's the situation with the burnt dormitory and the adjacent rooms?"

Ding Yue, after arriving on the scene, saw Director Qi Chunsheng and asked.

"Principal Ding, the burnt dormitory's walls will need to be redecorated, and the wardrobe, desk, and beds will have to be replaced. The neighboring rooms are mostly unaffected," Director Qi Chunsheng replied.

"Then that's settled. The school will take on all costs for redecorating the walls and replacing wardrobes, desks, and beds. As for the compensation discussion with Mist City University of Technology, we'll address that when it comes up," Ding Yue said solemnly.

Normally, if it were students from his own university who had caused the fire, the damages to Room 325 would be the responsibility of the four students residing there to compensate.

But the problem was.

The fire was not caused by the four students from Room 325 but by students from the neighboring Mist City University of Technology.

So the issue of compensation could only be discussed with Mist City University of Technology later on.

There was unlikely to be any problem.

The immediate priority was to refurbish Room 325 to its original state as quickly as possible since the fire was not severe; the dormitory building should not be abandoned because of it.

"Right, I'm still in contact with Mist City University of Technology. I called their principal's office just now but got no answer," said Director Qi Chunsheng, nodding his head.

"Let me know as soon as you get in touch with them. Thanks for your help, Qi," Ding Yue said.

Ding Yue still had quite a few matters to address today.

Since the school was already beginning to handle the aftermath of the fire, he would temporarily stop focusing on this issue.

"Principal Ding."

At that moment, a familiar voice reached Ding Yue from not far away.

It was Director Xiao Wenxing from the Education Authority.

"Director Xiao, you've arrived," Ding Yue greeted with a smile as he saw Director Xiao.

As the official superior in charge of his Mist City Arts and Science University, and with a good relationship with Ding Yue, the greeting was naturally warm and friendly.

"I've heard that the fire wasn't caused by your students at Mist City Arts and Science University, but by students from the neighboring Mist City University of Technology. What exactly happened?" Xiao Wenxing, after arriving, asked out of curiosity.

Director Xiao had just happened to meet with Captain Zhang from the fire department when he arrived and had only heard a brief account.

"Isn't it because two students from Mist City University of Technology came over to Room 325 to watch a game with friends, and then those two students from the University of Technology smoked cigarettes? After smoking, they threw the cigarette butts into the trash without extinguishing them properly. Tell me, isn't this an unjust misfortune for our Mist City Arts and Science University?"