Super Spender

- Chapter 417 - 411: The Entertainment Circle Shaken -

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Upon hearing this, Thorne Greer looked shocked and said: "Mr. Lewis, I have to say, I am blown away by these videos' quality. The ones ranked second and third are not worse off than the first one at all. It's just that their length is a bit short, which makes their stories seem less vibrant, but the other aspects of graphics production, camera angle choices, etc., there are even some parts that are more superior."

It's no surprise that as a professional in film procurement, she could spot many issues just after watching it once. These people were indeed not bluffing.

"So, Ms. Greer, I wonder if we can move on to the next step in our negotiation?" Finn Lewis decisively asked.

"Of course, we have no reason to reject such an excellent video, oh, no, this remarkable film. We can even promote it on a large scale. As for the advertising costs and other issues, we will discuss them with your company to figure out an appropriate ratio." Thorne Greer instantly switched into professional mode once the negotiation began.

"For advertising costs, due to its unique nature, I don't mind adopting conventional movie advertisement methods. Of course, Television advertising is acceptable, but I think the main focus should be to advertise within the game video itself. Ms. Greer, please do not doubt this. Our game currently has a large number of fans in the Federation. Although we can't confirm it now, I conservatively estimate that the average online headcount would exceed 3 million after the game's public beta testing in the Federation." Finn Lewis smiled as he spoke.

3 million average online users is not a small number. You see, this is the average online headcount, meaning that the total registration number of 'Under the Sky' players in the Federation could exceed 20 million. As Finn Lewis mentioned, this is not a small number. If we manage to get hold of these players, even if only half of them go to see the movie, the box office sales would be in the hundreds of millions.

But the cost of this movie named "Seven Nights"? You could say it's practically zero cost! No other movie could compete with this. search the novel Fire.net website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

"So, what Mr. Lewis means is, we use online publicity, and primarily target the gamer audience who are interested in our game, correct?" Thorne Greer quickly grasped Finn's idea after a short pondering.

"Of course, we can assist with the publicity as well. You will find out how we could assist once the time comes. This movie, we want to use the gamers who are interested in the game itself to influence their friends, and then attract even more people to the cinemas." Finn Lewis decisively said.

"Fine." Thorne Greer thought a moment and then agreed to Finn's publicity plan, "However, for copyright issues, you will still need to engage in negotiations. Also, our company, HQ, hopes to acquire the adaptation rights to the second and third ranked videos. The price is negotiable."

"Well, we can sell that, how about we discuss after the first movie is over? This way, it would be beneficial for both you and me." Finn Lewis chuckled, and outrightly said. In fact, the second and third place videos already have an excellent framework. It could be that their video length isn't sufficient due to time constraints from the creators and other factors. But for professionals, extending it to the length needed for a movie would be a breeze.

With Damian Bryan acting as middleman, the negotiation process between HQ and WY progressed quickly. They settled the agreement within mere hours. Finn Lewis didn't care much about the box office income from the film. Not to mention the uncertain ticket income, even if it was a tremendous box office success, it would merely be a drop in the bucket for Finn. What he cared about was the impact if the movie was successful!

Of course, the crucial part is, if the film does well at the box office, he'd love to see how Jay Summer would react. Finn Lewis was impatient, so the contract with HQ was quickly signed. The production team of the movie received 13% of the box-office share, WY company got a 15% share, while the rest went to HQ and the cinemas.

Furthermore, the contract stipulates that HQ's premier screening should not be in less than 2000 cinemas. Lastly, HQ will invest no less than 10 million Federal coins on publicity for the whole film.

This publicity budget is relatively high. At least many small and-medium budget films in Floral Village does not have such treatment. However, with Damian Bryan mediating, along with Thorne Greer's complete change of attitude and high expectations for this movie, they agreed on that price.

After signing the contract, Thorne Greer and her team hurried back to the North Federation because the release date was fixed for half a month later. This was right after the Halloween box office season in the North Federation, and before the Christmas period, making it an open spot. Even though the premiere date was rushed, for HQ, the biggest distributor in the entire Floral Village, by the time Thorne Greer returned to North Federation on the second day...

Both Flame Nation and North Federation exploded with massive news. HQ Film and WY company signed a relevant contract concerning the distribution of the movie, which was created from the first prize video of WY's Video game contest, in the North Federation, and the release date has been confirmed!

People should know that due to the heated exchange between Jay Summer and Finn Lewis, domestic media have been agog with the issue. Who is Finn Lewis? Being the world's richest man alone makes him a hot topic. Jay Summer is also a controversy maker, but unlike before where his tactics were sophisticated and hence had the media on his side, this time is different.

Despite having reasonable points, the media didn't dare to openly support Jay Summer. They're not stupid. If they upset someone like Finn Lewis, no media could handle his fury.

Besides, hasn't Finn done similar things before? How did he acquire companies like Activision Blizzard, T Company and others? Nowadays, the process of these company takeovers has been reported many times by the media. If these media companies were to be acquired by him, they wouldn't stand a chance.

So, their media evaluation was quite fair. Although they had their own views, they didn't solely side with one party. And when this news broke out, it almost rocked the entire entertainment industry!

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Chapter 418 - 412: Just a Comedian

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Many people were rubbing their eyes, looking at the news in disbelief. Holy shit, did I read that right? Just a couple of days ago, Finn Lewis was exchanging words with Jay Summer, and suddenly he already had a distributor in the North Federation? This speed is mind-blowing! If this news wasn't released by HQ Film, and instead was announced

by WY, the domestic media would probably be accusing Finn Lewis and WY of bragging.

But it was HQ itself that announced it, which means it's true, but... bloody hell, why does it make people so frustrated? Especially those in the film and entertainment industry, reading this news was incredibly annoying. We break our backs making a film, looking for distribution channels in the North Federation from start to finish. Pleading everywhere, and if one out of twenty films gets a chance to be launched in the North Federation, it is a big deal already.

But now, for fuck's sake, you, a game company, just host a game video contest, and the winner gets directly distributed in the North Federation? And it's distributed by HQ Film? What the...! The gap between us is enormous! God, you might as well strike this bastard with a bolt of lightning!

Upon receiving the news, many film producers stared at Finn Lewis with starkly jealous eyes, and then spoke enviously, "WY's business skills are not something ordinary people can match. I wish WY's game movie a successful launch in the North Federation market."

If they could, these filmmakers wouldn't speak in this way, but who can argue with Finn Lewis's wealth? More than that, his social circle is obviously high-end as well! They, as filmmakers, always have to seek investors. If they could secure an investment from Finn Lewis in the future, wouldn't it become much easier for them to launch their films in the North Federation? Thinking about this, these filmmakers, directors, and actors all became extremely excited, one by one, starting to congratulate Finn Lewis on Micro Research.

When Jay Summer heard the news, his eyes nearly bulged out of his head! How is this possible?! Are the people at HQ Films out of their minds?! Holy fuck! Are they seriously distributing this piece of garbage? Fuck! His entire being ignited with rage, even throwing his laptop to the ground.

His eyes were filled with a mixture of emotions – frustration, anger, and jealousy, or something else. Finn Lewis was moving too fast for him. It was just two days ago, according to Jay Summer's estimation, even if Finn Lewis finally finds a distribution channel, based on domestic efficiency, it would still take one or two months, during which he could launch many online campaigns to smear Finn Lewis.

By the time Finn Lewis's movie is launched, if everything online is negative, the box office naturally wouldn't be anything impressive. But now, Finn Lewis was moving too fast! So fast that he didn't have any time to react. Within just two days, all matters regarding the launch were already directly discussed and even the release date was set?

What was even more important! Finn Lewis did not follow the traditional route, launching locally first then seeking international distribution. In Jay Summer's eyes, Finn Lewis, as the wealthiest man in the world, must have many connections in the Flame Nation. He had no doubt about that. Hence, Finn Lewis surely could have launched his film domestically. But to launch it in the Federation? Jay Summer never even thought about that.

But now, the situation was completely unexpected. He actually directly launched it in the Federation! This was completely non-standard. Which domestic film has been launched in the Federation first? And now let a game video from Finn Lewis do so first! How was this fair? Seeing the established filmmakers, famous directors, and domestic top-tier stars congratulating Finn Lewis on Micro Research made Jay actually even more jealous.

These people were obviously looking to curry favor! Burned with jealousy, Jay quickly opened his computer and posted a message on Micro Research, "I must say, the world's wealthiest man always does as he pleases with money. Although I don't know how much he spent on HQ Film, it's definitely not a small number. Additionally, I really don't understand the domestic entertainment circle. The guy just uses money to buy an overseas launch opportunity, and you all just compliment him. If this continues, where will the future of Flame Nation filmmaking be?"

Jay Summer's Micro Research post had a large following, especially major online media outlets. They all knew that after this news was released, Jay would not remain silent. As expected, not long after, Jay's post appeared. Reading the content, everyone immediately became excited, but now Jay's Micro Research feed wasn't like it was it the beginning.

In the beginning, there were more people supporting Jay. But now, it wasn't the case. Since Jay started smearing Finn Lewis and WY's video, and claimed that the player-created video was garbage, it could be said that there wasn't a player that stood by Jay's side. And players who often game online, join in. With these game players participating, Jay Summer's comment section on Micro Research was chaotic.

However, as a known troll, similar to a rabid dog, he was indifferent to the comments on his Micro Research. His skin had been toughened to a point where these abuses didn't matter to him. He didn't even look at them, and even if he did, he wouldn't be angry. Instead, he would be happy, because the more people insulting him, the higher his visibility.

Finn Lewis knew Jay was definitely going to post on Micro Research, so he was waiting for it. Within less than two seconds of Jay's post, Finn Lewis's status was updated directly on Micro Research with Jay tagged. The entire post contained only two words: dumbass.

"Haha, Prodigal's quick response is amazing, an instant reply! But these two words really hit the mark."

"I am giving Prodigal a 'like'. I don't like people like that who think they are saints and that their words are the truth."

There were still many supporters on Finn Lewis's Micro Research page. As soon as he posted this status, countless fans forwarded it within a short amount of time. In the comment section of Jay's post, the word "dumbass" popped up again and again.

For some reason, despite receiving many prior insults, Jay never got angry. However, seeing row after row of the word "dumbass" ignited a flame within him. But with regards to these common netizens, there was nothing he could do. There were too many of them to respond to each one. Instead, he vented all his anger towards Finn Lewis.

However, Finn Lewis was already accustomed to his ranting. After leaving those two words, he immediately went offline and completely ignored him. There was no need for other methods to deal with people like Jay, just ignore them and then shut them up with a slap. After returning to the North Federation, with the short time till the launch, HQ Film quickly began promotions.

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Chapter 419 - 413 Completely Fired Up

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However, the first to strike was not the TV publicity, but rather the major websites and gaming forums in the North Federation. An uproar swept through the entire Federation's internet with the release of a movie trailer and the rapid spread of a post.

"A true cinematic visual, the revolutionary MMORPG World is here! A movie created entirely from game graphics, are you ready?" With posts like these, the forums blew up. The game World, due to Activision Blizzard's recent promotions, had already created quite a stir in the Federation. But now, with this post gaining popularity and being pinned in numerous forums, players who were already inclined toward gaming were immediately drawn in.

The whole post looked no different from movie promotions, instead seeming to advertise the game World. But players entering the post, of course, would open the video to see what a game video filmed by players would look like. Upon viewing, almost

everyone was stunned. Are you sure this video was made from game footage? Could this be a trailer for a blockbuster film from Floral Village?

Scouring the rest of the content within the post, they were indeed certain that this was a video filmed by a group of gamers using in-game footage. The only thing they did was max out the special effects settings. There was no touch of professional visual effect companies, nor were they filmed with cameras. But the quality of such visuals... and those special effects... were simply mind-blowing!

However, after watching the video, many players expressed interest. The video was only around five minutes long, but any viewer could tell it was a story – and a very exciting one it was. Though, with only five minutes, it barely covered half of the plot if not less.

One could see that, under every post across different forums and websites, most of the comments were inquiries about where the video came from. These contents were naturally arranged by Olivia Thatcher, as directed by Finn Lewis, and only Olivia had the capability to spark a hot topic in such a short time. Moreover, the keywords like World, cinematic visuals, player filmed videos, occupied the top spots in Google's search trends.

Thus, under Olivia's influence, in less than a week, the whole Federal region was abuzz with the game World. But despite the game's popularity, a lot of non-gamers also saw the video. They might not be interested in games — even though the graphics of this one were impressive — but they didn't enjoy MMORPGs. They had no interest in the game, but they were definitely interested in that video! Or more precisely, interested in the story within the video!

Under such circumstances, the entire internet was pushed to its limit. At this point, Rayna Donna admired Finn Lewis beyond measure. At their first meeting, she hadn't thought much of Finn. But now, she had to truly admire him. No wonder he was capable of becoming the world's richest person in such a short period of time.

His vision was simply unique, and his way of promotional hype left even Rayna in awe. Now all HQ Films needed to do was to invest all of the 10 million federal coins in advertising in the days leading up to the release! With the support of Concaster, the largest cable TV operator and the second largest Internet service provider in the North Federation, the entire Federation was turned upside down with the news.

The fiery promotional video for the game World was, in fact, the game video for the movie contracted and set to debut in the North Federation by HQ Films and WY! A real-life movie filmed entirely using game graphics! At the same time, HQ Films leaked countless pieces of insider news, such as the five-minute trailer featuring the final boss fight. The incredibly lifelike and mighty behemoth in that footage left every viewer across the Federation in great shock.

Even though they were used to breathtaking scenes from big blockbuster movies, those shots didn't compare to this trailer, where every single detail and aspect was intricately showcased. For normal movies, more complex scenes meant a higher expenditure on special effects.

However, this wasn't the case for games. As long as you have the time, you could film every detail of a boss battle! Under such circumstances, the unprecedented mighty special effects had left many non-gamers awestruck. Is this really from a game? Are we being fooled? Or could this whole event just be a promotional stunt? A Flame Nation movie debuting in the North Federation, using a game video as a gimmick?

Not long after, Activision Blizzard released World's character customization system, showcasing how players could as if mould their character's faces to be so lifelike that you would barely tell them apart from real people. People were shocked, as it was in the details that true knowledge was seen, and from this character customization system one could see just how realistic this game was!

One could say that the movie made up entirely from game content had already become a sensation in the North Federation, which could attest to the professionalism of their media, where freedom of speech was highly valued. As HQ Films' promotional efforts heated up, and with the video becoming such a trend, the media in the Federation, especially those specialising in movies, naturally wouldn't let this topic slide.

Unlike domestic media, who would either be consistently bashing or praising, these media houses would evaluate based solely on the matter at hand. Some stated that although the video was filmed inside a game, its release showed that HQ Films had a high regard for the quality of this game video, and judging from the two promotional trailers, the quality of the movie was indeed impressive.

Other media analyzed from the perspective of the filming method, noting that if it was indeed as advertised by HQ Films – a point now proven true by both Activision Blizzard and WY, considering they now had the same owner – neither would gloss over this. They published rules for the video competition on their official websites.

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Chapter 420 - 414: Family Banquet

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No professionals were allowed to participate, and everything was shot from within the game. Making use of the game's built-in system and with only the simplest post-

production processing, no filming equipment was used. All the characters were created with the game's built-in character creation system. To avoid issues of portrait rights, all key characters featured were based on the actual appearances of the game's creators.

Such detailed rules intrigued many who were interested in the movie, leading them to the official website to learn more. Numerous media onto this story with a scrutinizing attention soon started accumulating their findings and claimed, "This could represent an unprecedented reform in the film industry! If so, the cost of film production might drop to unimaginable levels."

"Firstly, there's no need for any filming equipment, as everything is done within the game. The largest expense, at most, would only be the time fee charged by the game. What's that, two cents per hour? Can that even be considered a cost? It's affordable even for common folks. In fact, this movie, scheduled for screening in 2662 cinemas across the North Federation in a week, has been made by a group of ordinary Flame Nation gamers. The production costs are unimaginably low. So, what might the box office figures be? Even with box office earnings of 10 million Federal coins, the filmmakers would definitely be in profit!"

"Could this low-cost approach instigate a revolution in Floral Village's filmmaking process?" Indeed, the discussions sparked by the media almost made Finn Lewis laugh out loud. With countless film critics and directors from Floral Village joining in, this game-inspired movie quickly became the eye of the storm.

As a result, countless people within the North Federation learned about the movie, which was entirely produced using game content. Naturally, HQ Film Company didn't miss this golden opportunity for publicity. Two trailers and some film brochures were spread across the entire North Federation in no time.

At this critical moment, Finn Lewis found himself facing a significant event: accompanying Kay Lee to her grandfather's birthday celebration. He arrived in the West Swallow Province two days before the North Federation premiere of the movie, "Seven Nights Prince".

Kay's grandfather was from West Swallow, but not in the central city. Instead, he lived in a small county town near the Black Dragon Pool in Randy County under Meadow Mountain City. As the name suggests, the town was located near a large reservoir – the Tri-Fork Reservoir – originally known as Black Dragon Pool. Although small, the town was well developed and constructed.

The mountainous region posed some challenges to road travel. Given that this was Kay's grandfather's birthday and none of the attendees, including Amelia Lee, knew about Finn's identity, he chose to keep a low profile. Even though he brought Olivia Thatcher, Little Olivia looked inferior to Kay's Leah, in terms of outward appearance. While the cool and chic design of Leah was undoubtedly attractive, Olivia appeared to

be simply a sedan. Not cheap-looking, but those who did not recognize the car's logo would mistake it for a regular car.

Finn chose to drive Olivia for its safety assurance on the mountain roads; he was sure it would not encounter any troubles.

"Why do I feel like you're nervous?" Kay asked, chuckling at Finn's expense.

"I'm not nervous at all," Finn quickly responded with a glance at Kay.

Kay chuckled again, refraining from commenting further. Her mood had been exceedingly bright for the past few days and she couldn't put her finger on why. The thought of Finn agreeing to accompany her home for her grandfather's birthday always made her feel somewhat shy. She knew what this gesture meant; even though Finn had yet to confess his feelings for her.

But this didn't bother Kay at all. In fact, she enjoyed this sensation. It felt as if they were two people who were meant to be together, allowing things to progress naturally. Although there were no declarations of love or ceremonies, this natural progression made Kay feel exceptionally warm-hearted.

This thought caused her gaze at Finn to soften without her even realizing. Finn was driving with full concentration. Although he denied being nervous, his claim wasn't entirely truthful. After a certain degree, once Kay's grandfather approved of him, their relationship would be officially recognized. Sëarch the NôveFire.net website to access chapters of novels early and in the highest quality.

It was almost like he was meeting his prospective in-laws, and knowing that this meeting had so much certainty attached to it, Finn was naturally somewhat nervous. "Relax, there won't be too many people at my grandfather's birthday. He dislikes fuss. Maybe some of his old war buddies will pop by," Kay speculated with a smile, promptly extending a hand to pat Finn's forehead lightly. "Come on, Mr. World's Richest Man, are you really afraid of meeting a few commoners?"

"It depends on who these commoners are. I'm really nervous right now," Finn said, trying to lighten the mood with a smile.

Kay covered her mouth and giggled. She then reassured him, "Don't worry. My grandfather is a really nice person."

"I trust your judgement," Finn responded, nodding with a smile.

It didn't take long for them to arrive at Kay's grandfather's house in Olivia due to the small size of the county town. The house was not exactly within the county town, but in a small village nearby which was clearly prospering. A newly laid tarmac road led straight to the entrance of the village where every pathway had been reinforced. Kay's

grandfather's house was towards the east end of the village, a two-story villa that didn't hugely differ from its neighbors.

The only difference was, it had a considerably larger yard with a half-human-height wall. Even from a distance, you could see the two-acre enclosure within the yard, filled with a variety of vegetables. At that moment, seven or eight cars, most of them expensive, were already parked in the yard.

The sight of these cars made Kay slightly tense, but she exhaled deeply, quickly returning to her relaxed state. Finn knew what was worrying Kay, and he reached over to pat her hand.

Their car immediately caught the attention of the people in the yard. When Finn parked at the entrance, someone walked out of the yard to greet them. Upon exiting the car, they saw an elderly man approaching. He was thin, but moved swiftly, with a high cheekbone structure. Although his hair had already turned silver and was short, it was clear he was in great health.

"Is that you, Kay?" The old man's voice was heard before Finn and Kay could even open their car doors.

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