

## Scholar 251

### Chapter 251

After all, CTV was a reputable media outlet.

Lu Zhou looked at the young female reporter and said, "Of course."

The reporter smiled and asked, "As the first Chinese scholar to receive the reward, how do you feel right now? Any thoughts?"

"Excited, pleased, thankful..."

Lu Zhou paused for a second. He then listed the names of people that had helped him.

The female reporter asked, "We all know that the Goldbach's conjecture is one of the crowns in the field of number theory. The story of Chin Jungrun's " $1+2$ " has also inspired a young generation of mathematicians in China. Many people are still confused about the problem of " $1+1$ ". So, what is the meaning of mathematics for you?"

Lu Zhou did not answer this question directly. Instead, he pondered over it for a moment before he suddenly asked, "What do you think the meaning of science is?"

The reporter had not expected a question, but she smiled and replied smoothly, "I think it should change the world. All of the modern wealth has built on the foundation of science and technology."

Lu Zhou nodded in approval.

Not bad, this reporter was smart.

At least smarter than the previous ones he dealt with.

Therefore, Lu Zhou was happy to converse with her.

What was the meaning of mathematics?

Was it to pretend to be smart?

Of course not.

Even though bragging and showing off knowledge was part of mathematics, Lu Zhou felt like it was the byproduct of a chemical reaction. It was necessary.

Just like how mathematicians were usually handsome, but being handsome did not mean that one would be good at mathematics.

The meaning of mathematics...

Lu Zhou looked at the cameras and smiled before he said, "You're right, the meaning of science is to change the world."

"... And the meaning of mathematics is to change science."

...

Like the Nobel Prize, after the Crafoord Prize award ceremony, there was a grand celebration banquet in the Blue Hall on the first floor of Stockholm City Hall.

The King and Queen of Sweden as well as many great scientists of the Academy of Sciences were there. They were all gathered there to share the beauty of science.

In a sense, the Crafoord Prize was like a preview of the Nobel Prize. It allowed mathematicians to experience what it would feel like to actually win a Nobel Prize.

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences organized this banquet with the rules of Nobel Prize in mind.

For example, the food would not be revealed before the banquet began.

The areas of party and dances were strictly separated. Eating was in the blue hall while dancing was in the gold hall. Everyone had their own assigned seat... This was the difference between European and American conferences.

Before the start of the banquet, Lu Zhou saw a lot of acquaintances and greeted them one by one.

Like Schultz, Helfgott...

The people that were too far away could not come, but most European mathematicians, especially those in the field of prime numbers, attended the banquet.

After attending many conferences, Lu Zhou actually noticed that the mathematics circle was actually quite small. One could almost count the number of big names on one's hand.

However, the appearance of one big name surprised Lu Zhou.

This person was Faltings, the godfather of algebraic geometry.

His name left a mark in Princeton.

In 1994, he left Princeton after teaching as Professor for more than 10 years and returned to his hometown in Germany.

As of now, he was the director of the Max Planck Institute for Mathematics and the editor of one of the top mathematics journals, Inventiones.

Although Max Planck Institute was not as famous as Princeton, it ranked quite high in the world of research institutions, especially in the field of physics and engineering. Max Planck Institute was undergoing a very nutty project.

Compared to Charles Fefferman, Faltings' mathematics at Princeton was in no way inferior.

Legend said that he played chess with Peter Sarnak once, and lost. However, the old man was not worried. In fact, he said, "You're better at chess, but I'm a better mathematician."

In short, this German old man was very difficult to get along with. Nonetheless, he had the right to be cocky. After the death of Grothendieck, the throne of algebraic geometry would either be his or Deligne.

He dealt with Lu Zhou in the Goldbach's conjecture proof thesis. He was one of the six reviewers. In fact, Mr. Faltings gave two impressive revision ideas.

This mathematics ability of this old man was really admirable. Although Lu Zhou made the two revisions smoothly, it was a lot of work.

Coincidentally, this old man sat right next to Lu Zhou.

What surprised Lu Zhou was that just when he was thinking if he should disturb Faltings, Faltings was the one to pick up a glass of champagne and said, "Congratulations on your Crafoord Prize, Professor Lu Zhou."

"Thank you!"

Lu Zhou was deeply surprised as he toasted the old man gently.

Lu Zhou tasted the champagne and watched the old German man talked.

"A month ago, only three mathematicians had the potential to surpass me. That number just became four."

When Lu Zhou heard this, he nearly choked on his champagne.

The f\*ck?

Is this guy humble bragging?

I think I met my opponent...

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Lu Zhou who was sitting next to him was dumbfounded.

It was obvious that this big name mathematician gave him a lot of pressure.

After dinner in the blue hall, there was a dance party in the gold hall.

The swaying candlelight sparkled from the copper candlesticks that were on either side of the hall. It shined brightly on the clear floor tiles. Goddess Lake Malaren sat on the mural in the middle of the hall while the crowd watched her dance elegantly.

As for Lu Zhou, he stood on the edge of the dance floor with a glass of champagne in his hand. He started to talk to Wang Yuping.

He did not get a chance to say hello back at the dinner, but he had the opportunity now.

Wang Yuping stood next to Lu Zhou and said with an emotional voice, "I can't believe that your growth this year is so fast! You even won the Crafoord Prize. You're really giving us Yan University a hard time."

Lu Zhou smiled and said, "Yan University has some talents. Zhang Hao, Yun Zhijun, Xu Chenyang, and etc. I often heard about their research."

“You don’t have to act humble. You’re still young, and you still have a long road of achievements to accomplish,” said Wang Yuping as he shook his head. He then asked, “Oh yeah, how long are you staying in Princeton? Are you coming back?”

“A year or two at least, five at most,” said Lu Zhou. With a smile, he added, “I’m definitely coming back.”

Wang Yuping smiled and said, “It’s good to come back. Are you interested in becoming a professor at Yan University?”

Lu Zhou smiled and said, “I’ve already discussed this matter with Academician Wang Shicheng. I think University of Jin Ling’s environment is more suitable for me.”

“Okay then, I guess you have your own ideas,” sighed Professor Wang Yuping. He then joked, “Yan University can’t get you to become a professor there, but occasionally, you can still give a report there, right?”

Lu Zhou smiled and said, “I’d be honored.”

The dance party was almost halfway finished, but Lu Zhou did not have plans to join in.

It was not because he was not interested, but it was purely because he was alone. The two other winners brought their relatives, but Lu Zhou did not even have a date.

Fortunately, he was not the only one that did not know how to dance. It was not awkward for him to chat with his peers while drinking champagne by the side.

If only no one invited him to dance...

Which was impossible.

While Lu Zhou and Wang Yuping were chatting about the dinner party, a lady in a long dress came over and smiled at him.

“Hello, Mr. Lu Zhou, can I borrow some of your time?”

Lu Zhou glanced at her and said, “Of course... You are?”

“Maria Viazovska,” said Maria with a smile. She reached out her right hand and said, “If you think my last name is too long, you can call me Maria.”

Lu Zhou heard her name and had a moment of realization.

Maria Viazovska was the winner of the 2016 Salem Prize. Like Molina’s supervisor, she was also a popular candidate for the 2018 Fields Medal.

This year, she solved a well-known mathematics problem that was nearly 200 years old. It was the high dimensional sphere filling in the 8D and 24D problem.

This problem was closely related to theoretical physics and string theory. It was not well known, but it had a large applicable range.

“Thanks for your invitation, but I don’t know how to dance.”

Lu Zhou shook hands with this legendary female mathematician. He tried to let go, but Maria held on.

“But you can learn, right?” said Maria. She smiled and said, “I can teach you. It shouldn’t be hard for someone who just won a Crafoord Prize.”

Since Lu Zhou did not expect her to respond like this, he was stunned.

Are all Slavs so enthusiastic?

I really don't know how to dance...

Lu Zhou could not help but look toward Professor Wang for help.

In the end, the old man misinterpreted and thought that Lu Zhou wanted him to leave. He smiled and said, "Then I won't third wheel you two. I'll go say hi to my old friends."

The old man left with his hands behind his back.

...

Dancing was a normal form of communication. It had no special meaning. Legend said that a Nobel Prize winner once danced his shoe off, and everyone just laughed.

In fact, Maria Viazovska did not do anything to him. The two only danced and talked about mathematics problems while dancing.

As for why they suddenly brought up mathematics, it was because Lu Zhou tried to conceal his horrible dance skills, so he gave Maria a mathematics problem to distract her.

After all, he was new to dancing. He only learned from watching TV.

Maybe, he should take the time to learn these things.

Lu Zhou felt like maybe one day he would come back to this place.

Maybe for another reason...

After the dance party ended, the guest started to leave.

The scholars had to present their reports tomorrow, so they did not want to waste too much time on the dance floor.

Lu Zhou dragged his tired body back to the hotel. He threw his suit on the chair and laid in bed.

Today was the most tiring day of the year.

Even solving Goldbach's conjecture was not as tired as today.

However, he also felt a sense of happiness.

It was not just because of the honor of winning a Crafoord Prize, but also because of the \$500,000 USD prize money...

Lu Zhou was about to put the medal aside when he suddenly remembered something important.

He had not shared his joy with his fans.

How could he forget...

Lu Zhou smiled and got up from his bed. He walked to the window casually.

He then took a photo of the night scene. However, there was a gold medal that appeared inside the photo.

This time, Lu Zhou added a caption, revealing the mystery of his previous Weibo post.

[Fascinating night scene. Hopefully, I'll come back. 26/5/2016, Stockholm.]

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Lu Zhou looked at his fans' comments and smiled.

As expected, sharing the joy with other people was a wonderful thing.

Lu Zhou was satisfied. He placed his phone on the bedside table and buried his head in the pillow.

The next morning, flags of Sweden, China, the United States, and New Zealand were fluttering on the doorsteps of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences.

A long queue had already formed two hours before the report began. The moment the door to the venue was opened, the auditorium was packed with thousands of people in less than ten minutes.

Lu Zhou, who was in a suit, was the first to get on the stage. He started a one-hour report of his Goldbach's conjecture proof.

The content of the report was similar to what he did in Princeton. The only difference was that the number of viewers was on another level.

After all, Lecture Hall 1 of the Princeton Institute for Advanced Study was no comparison to the auditorium that could be filled by thousands of people.

Lu Zhou scanned the venue. Not only were there thousands of people sitting here, but many were standing in the first row.

He cleared his throat and grabbed the microphone before he said, "I will try to keep this short and leave more time for the Q&A session."

"With regards to Goldbach's conjecture, I have to start from the Group Structure Method..."

...

After the reports and academic exchanges, the third day of the report came to an end. The final part of the Crafoord Prize celebration ceremony came to an end.

However, Lu Zhou's participation in this report was not high.

Other than his own presentation and two mathematics reports, he listened to two astronomy and astrophysics reports.

Lu Zhou was not knowledgeable in astronomy at all. He could only understand the theoretical physics parts.

However, Professor Roger Branford, the winner of the astronomy award, also knew that his research field was esoteric. He elaborated his ideas in a plain and simple language for the audience to understand.

Lu Zhou spent the rest of the time visiting various tourist attractions in Stockholm.

He had hardly rested over the past six months. Now that he finally had a vacation, it would be a waste not to use it.

Not to mention, with the free five-star hotel to stay in, his trip to Stockholm was almost perfect.

Three days after the report conference, the organizer would choose the Best Report Award and Best Thesis Award.

Without a question, the report on Goldbach's conjecture was the most eye-catching and most prominent.

However, this type of award would not be given to Lu Zhou and nor would it be given to other invited scholars.

After all, other people should be given a chance.

Therefore, when Lu Zhou stood on stage, it was not to receive a prize.

Lu Zhou held a certificate and a \$100,000 krona (around \$10,000 USD) check. He then handed them over to a mathematician from Brazil in recognition of his outstanding report on the Shevale Single.

Although Lu Zhou felt like this scholar was not much older than him, Lu Zhou felt weird giving him this honor. He then remembered that all mathematicians under the age of 40 were classified as young mathematicians, so he ignored this weird situation.

Not to mention that the award winner did not care about this at all.

The young Brazilian was not dissatisfied to receive an award from a guy younger than him. He shook Lu Zhou's hands with excitement and only released it after a long time.

...

Time of joy was always short.

The report conference ended on the fourth day of Lu Zhou's trip, and it was time to say goodbye to this beautiful city.

At night, Academician Staffan personally drove him to Stockholm Airport.

"You still have your room for two more days. Don't you want to stay for a bit longer?"

Lu Zhou smiled and said, "Maybe next time. I still have people waiting for me in my home country."

Staffan smiled and said, "If you come back next time, make sure to give me a call."

Lu Zhou: "..."

Lu Zhou carried his luggage into the airport and looked at his flight information. There was still another hour until the plane takes off, so he found a place to sit down.

Sitting across from him was a Chinese woman in her thirties, and she was holding a squealing child.

The little kid in her arms looked around and suddenly made eye contact with Lu Zhou.

“Mom, this guy looks like the guy on the book!”

This child is cute.

Lu Zhou smiled and reached into his backpack. He then pulled out a piece of gold coin made from chocolate.

The chocolate gold coins at the Nobel Prize dinner were used by the physicists as “chips” for bets.

The Crafoord Prize was similar to the Nobel Prize, and there were also gold coins available. The packaging was different but Lu Zhou could not tell a difference in taste.

He did not immediately give the chocolate away.

The mother patted the back of the little girl and said, “He’s a lot older, so call him uncle!”

The little girl tilted her head, “Uncle?”

“Nice, good girl!”

Lu Zhou’s smile gradually faded, and he stuffed the chocolate back into his bag.

F\*ck sake!

I'm not giving it anymore!

However, the child's unintentional words caught his attention.

After the mother left, Lu Zhou walked up and picked up a magazine from the shop nearby.

He did not expect to see his photo on the cover. It was a good photo.

The photo seemed to be taken at the report... However, he did not remember when he took the photo.

"[Figure]?"

Lu Zhou was interested. He then flipped through the magazine.

Wiles was also in mathematics before. Although this magazine had little to do with mathematics, he was curious about how the public saw him.

When Lu Zhou read the lines of words, he suddenly smiled.

This is too...

[25 most attractive people of 2016]

Among the 25 people, there were athletes, singers, doctors, policemen, and even princesses... There was only one professor, which was him.

He knew that the public thought he was handsome!

Otherwise, why would he be on the cover and not someone else!

Without a doubt, this was logical!

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The emergence of a distinguished young scholar was enormous for the nation's self-confidence and driving force. Even though the effect could not be seen on paper, it was subtly affecting the entire field.

In the small town of Guangneung, Lu Zhou's family sat around the table while they ate.

The news was playing on TV.

Moreover, it happened to be an interview between Lu Zhou and CTV.

When Xiao Tong heard the familiar voice, she looked up. The moment she saw her brother's face on TV, her eyes suddenly widened.

"F\*ck... Bro?!"

"Stop swearing! You're about to go to University. Be more elegant."

Fang Mei criticized Xiao Tong, but she was not very angry because her attention was focused on the TV as well.

As for Lu Bangguo, he was completely stunned. He had even stopped eating.

"This kid... Did he win the Nobel Prize?"

Xiao Tong said, "Dad, are you blind? He won the Crafoord Prize."

“Hey, don’t call your dad blind...” Lu Bangguo chided. However, he could not contain the smile on his face.

He stopped eating and went to look for his phone to call his son.

No answer the first time.

The second time, Lu Zhou picked up.

“Hey, you’re doing pretty well for yourself. How come you didn’t tell us?”

When Lu Zhou heard the familiar voice, he had just got off the plane. He smiled and said, “I wanted to give you guys a surprise.”

Lu Zhou felt that it was boring to tell the news over the phone. His dad probably did not even know the difference between the Crafoord Prize and the Nobel Prize. The TV would show his interview anyway, so he wanted to surprise his family.

“I just got off the plane... Someone is calling me, I have to go. I’m going back home in two days anyway.”

Lu Bangguo smiled and said, “You’re pretty busy, aren’t you? Who’s calling?”

Lu Zhou, “I think the school, bye.”

Lu Zhou was actually right, the phone call was from the University of Jin Ling.

However, it did not matter if he picked up or not. The second he picked up, he saw Dean Qin on the phone as well as several students who were holding a banner at the airport entrance.

[Congratulations to Lu Zhou, a mathematics professor at Princeton Institute for Advanced Study, who conquered the Goldbach’s conjecture and won the Crafoord Prize.]

The banner was so huge that Lu Zhou could not even pretend to not see it.

Also, it was not just Principal Xu and Dean Qin. Lu Zhou even saw Secretary Liu and some people in suits that he had never met.

It did not matter whether they were strangers. As a famous scholar, he had to spend some time dealing with politicians.

Due to Lu Zhou's status as a Crafoord Prize winner, he was heavily promoted by government propaganda. 2 years ago, he was only a potential Fields Medal winner.

As an internationally renowned scholar, many rules did not apply to him.

When Principal Xu saw Lu Zhou, he shook his hand tightly.

"Professor Lu Zhou, you have brought such great glory to the University of Jin Ling and our country. On behalf of all the teachers and students at the University of Jin Ling, thank you!"

Lu Zhou smiled humbly and said, "Principal, you're too kind. I'm just doing what I'm supposed to do as a scholar."

Principal Xu was a scholar. Even though he was not in the field of mathematics, he studied information security. As a scholar himself, he knew that Lu Zhou did not want to waste time on the celebration, so he did not linger around the airport for too long.

The principal said a few kind words and introduced Lu Zhou to Secretary Liu and the other city politicians.

There were also two politicians from the province. They were representing his importance to the country.

Not only that, the provincial leaders even leaked a message; that even the central government valued Lu Zhou greatly.

The provincial politicians only smiled and did not give any specifics.

Lu Zhou did not stay at the airport for too long. He quickly got on his personal ride sent by the school.

Dean Qin and Principal Xu were riding along in Lu Zhou's car.

After some small talk, Dean Qin cleared his throat and changed the topic.

"... Here's the deal, after some discussion with our school and department, we want to give you an honorary professor title. Are you interested?"

Honorary professors were different than visiting professors or special professors. The former was only a title, while the latter two had actual work contracts and faculty positions.

With University of Jin Ling's reputation and historical heritage, having a title of honorary professor would definitely be beneficial to Lu Zhou. However, University of Jin Ling's mathematics department was quite weak, which was a bit unfortunate for Lu Zhou.

However, Lu Zhou did not care. After all, University of Jin Ling had taught him so much. He was proud to be a University of Jin Ling alumnus.

Lu Zhou smiled and said, "Of course, but the process wouldn't take too long, right? I'm going back to Jiangling in a few days."

Xiao Tong was about to take the college entrance examination, so Lu Zhou had to visit her. He would rather sort out the formalities after he got back to America.

He took a month long vacation from Princeton, so he had tons of time.

Dean Qin smiled and said, "It won't take too long. Most of the documents have already been prepared. We can give you the honorary professor certificate after your report!"

Lu Zhou nodded and smiled as he said, "Then, thank you so much."

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Even though until this day it was still a mystery why Lu Zhou had to published nine computer science theses, there were still computer science majors who were worshiping him.

Therefore, although Lu Zhou had not sat in his chair for a long time, it never collected dust.

Most of his "worshippers" wiped the chair clean.

Since there were so many people coming, Huang Guangming and Shi Shang joked about turning it into a church and taking donations.

Of course, they were only joking.

Suddenly, the dorm room door was pushed open.

A familiar voice came from the door.

"201, your god is back..."

The atmosphere was inexplicably quiet.

Pairs of eyes stared at Lu Zhou and he was almost embarrassed by it.

"Uhh... Is there something on my face?"

He thought that his friends would start bantering with him, but the brothers of Dorm 201 responded weirdly.

Liu Rui, "Liu Rui..."

Huang Guangming, "Zhou."

Shi Shang took a deep breath. He then stood up and with a voice that trembled with excitement, he said, "You came back..."

Lu Zhou coughed and said, "Don't be so sentimental, I'm almost embarrassed to come in."

The school arranged a five-star hotel for Lu Zhou to stay at. Although he was personally against wasting money on extravagant things, since the school had already booked it, he could not do anything.

However, before going to the hotel, he wanted to get together with his brothers.

After all, he had not seen them in a while.

...

The fish restaurant outside the school.

The waiter brought the grilled fish on the table and looked at Lu Zhou.

Maybe he wondered why Lu Zhou looked familiar to the guy on TV, or maybe he wondered why Lu Zhou came back.

However, he did not say anything. Even though he did not know Lu Zhou's name, but he had grown familiar with him over the past three years.

The food and beer arrived.

Everyone had not seen each other for a long time, so everyone wanted to chat.

Shi Shang asked Lu Zhou about life in Princeton.

After all, Princeton was the holy place in mathematics. Everyone listened intently.

Especially Liu Rui, he had plans for studying abroad for his PhD.

Once Liu Rui finished a bottle of beer, he said emotionally, "Once I graduated, I plan to continue to study."

Lu Zhou, "Applied mathematics?"

"Yes, but not really," said Liu Rui as he shook his head. He paused for a second before saying, "I want to study functional analysis at Yan University."

Lu Zhou, "Functional analysis is a widely used subject. It's applicable both in the real world and laboratories. I also wanted to do research in this area, but I changed to number theory instead. I wish you the best!"

Lu Zhou and Liu Rui toasted.

It was obvious that Liu Rui matured a lot.

Maybe Lu Zhou influenced him subconsciously, or Liu Rui made an effort to change. In short, Liu Rui no longer thought of himself a genius anymore, but he still had a passion for study.

Huang Guangming loved to talk about his life plans.

“I want to do research as well, but I can’t do mathematics anymore. I plan on switching majors.”

Lu Zhou, “Switching majors?”

“Yeah,” said Huang Guangming. He scratched his head and smiled, “I’m pretty good at calculations, but I can’t deal with the harder theories. I plan on doing a master’s in accounting or something. My family recommended this as well, and they said that this major is popular.”

Shi Shang sighed and said, “You’re all going into further studies. It seems that I’m the only one graduating.”

Lu Zhou asked, “You’re not studying?”

Logically, Shi Shang’s family had the most money.

“Not studying anymore,” said Shi Shang as he shook his head. He smiled, “I’m sick of it. It’s time for me to go into the real world. As a man, I have to give Ya Jing a good future.”

Ya Jing was Shi Shang’s girlfriend. Lu Zhou met her a few times. She was a good girl.

It was obvious that Shi Shang matured emotionally.

Lu Zhou, “You guys plan to get married?”

“Yeah,” said Shi Shang as he nodded. He then said in a relaxed tone, “I’ll marry after three years. In these three years, I’ll put in my best effort to buy a house.”

For fresh graduates, it was insanely difficult to buy a house in three years without any help from their parents.

However, Lu Zhou admired Shi Shang's confidence.

Lu Zhou raised his glass and said, "Well I wish you success in your career. Don't forget to send me a wedding invite."

The two toasted and Shi Shang said with a smile, "For sure!"

...

The four friends were up drinking late. Lu Zhou took a taxi to the hotel before he passed out in his room. The next morning, a phone call from Dean Qin woke him up.

He suddenly remembered that he had a report to do in the afternoon.

Lu Zhou took a shower and ate some food at the hotel buffet. He returned to his room and put on his suit. The car that came to pick him up arrived.

A long time ago, the system reward item enhanced his metabolic capacity. Therefore, he was less prone to hangovers.

He wore his suit and walked out of the hotel looking fresh. No one could tell he was out drinking all night yesterday.

Lu Zhou sat in the school's car and arrived at the University of Jin Ling campus. He adjusted his tie and walked into the large auditorium.

The report was naturally on Goldbach's conjecture.

Like Sweden, this auditorium was filled with thousands of people. Lu Zhou had already experienced this before, so he was very calm.

Not only were people from University of Jin Ling present, but there were professors from the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Aurora University, Yan University, Shuimu University, and a couple of other universities.

Especially Shuimu University, they almost sent their entire mathematics department.

The report was halfway through and many people from Shuimu were almost in tears.

They could see signs of the large sieve method in the Group Structure Method. They could see their predecessors efforts living in a new theory.

Large sieve method never came to a conclusion or end, like how people thought the ancient Greece method created by Ertosto could not be changed.

The old theories were never outdated. It just needed to make some changes to accommodate new problems.

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“Next up is the “Group Structure Method” ...”

Actually, Lu Zhou was not the first person to try to integrate the circle method and the large sieve method. Just like he was not the first person to use topology in a number theory problem.

Helfgott had tried similar methods, which were seen in his 2013 thesis.

Although he mainly used the circle method, there were some conclusions that used large sieve method.

In an interview, Helfgott said that the two methods were like two sides of a coin. How one used the methods depended on how one threw the coin.

Since it was the essence of the whole thesis, Lu Zhou carefully explained the core theory of Group Structure Method.

The analytic number theory field in China had made outstanding contributions to the world of number theory. However, since the death of Mr. Hua Luogeng, the entire industry died down. It was like an army without a general.

Although they said academia could be done with no money and status, there was just no fresh blood coming into the field.

Of course, there were other reasons as well. After Old Hua's death, the later generations could not innovate based on Old Hua's theories, and the knowledge output thus stagnated.

If someone wanted to make China's analytical number theory field return to its glory, they would have to add something new.

Lu Zhou hoped that the professors who listened to his report would bring his theory back to the classrooms of Shuimu University, Yan University, and Aurora University.

Reviving an academic field, or building one, could not be done with just one person.

If someone solved a mathematics problem through his theory, he would feel honored.

Lu Zhou believed that the Group Structure Method had more applications than Goldbach's conjecture. Many problems revolving around the prime numbers could be solved with this method.

"... Then we use Bombieri theorem, on page 29 of the powerpoint. Then through this crucial step, we get the last expression.]

$$[P_x(1,1) \geq P(x, x^{\{1/16\}}) - (1/2) \sum P_x(x, p, x) - Q/2 - x^{\log 4} \dots (30)]$$

From here, the formula was no different than Mr. Chen's thesis.

The Group Structure Method was derived from the large sieve method.

At last, it came full circle.

“... From the equation (30), Lemma 8, Lemma 9, Lemma 10, we can finally prove the theorem 1, that is, the Goldbach’s theorem.”

The moment Lu Zhou finished speaking, applause filled the auditorium.

Lu Zhou bowed toward the professor and scholars. He then turned around and quietly walked off stage.

Backstage...

In the lounge, Lu Zhou saw Professor Feng Kebin from Shuimu university. He was one of Hua Luogeng’s closest disciple.

The old man’s eyes were a little red. He took a deep breath and spoke in a steady tone, “Your speech and thesis were shocking... Thank you!”

Lu Zhou smiled and said humbly, “You’re too kind. I have read your introduction to algebraic number theory textbook at the library of the University of Jin Ling. It greatly inspired me.”

“I wrote that book a long time ago, but I can’t keep up with the times anymore,” said Professor Feng with a smile. He then looked at Lu Zhou as he said sincerely, “Actually, I’m writing a textbook on number theory. Your speech has inspired me, and I want to write the contents of your speech into the textbook... Is that okay?”

Writing a textbook was a very time-consuming thing. It required a large consumption of documents and research.

Most people would not write textbooks until they were very old, and could not do research anymore. Lu Zhou would never want to write a textbook.

However, someone had to write the textbooks.

Lu Zhou agreed immediately.

“Of course you can.”

...

The next day in the same auditorium, Lu Zhou received a PhD from the University of Jin Ling and the title of honorary professor.

As a result, his journey at the University of Jin Ling had finally come to an end.

However, before Lu Zhou departed on his new journey, he had one more important thing to do.

Before he went to Stockholm, he received a call from his patent agent. The patent agent, Han Tianyu, told him that the patent documents had been processed, and asked Lu Zhou when he could collect them.

Lu Zhou made an appointment and found the patent agent called Han Tianyu. From Han Tianyu, Lu Zhou obtained the international patent authorization documents.

Therefore, he had obtained patents from most major countries.

His patents basically covered 80% of the global market. If someone used his technology, he would benefit from the product.

As for some of the smaller countries, Lu Zhou was not interested in applying for a patent there.

Since most of them were developing third world countries, Lu Zhou could always apply later.

Maybe by then, he would have come up with another better and more improved technology.

"The next step is to write a thesis and promote this technology," said Lu Zhou as he looked at the patent documents. He then said, "Chemistry... I'll have to depend on you to make money."

He made up his mind.

Once he was done with his vacation, he would start writing the thesis back at Princeton.

It was not only for money. It was because a fat mission reward was waiting for him.

After I finish writing the thesis, should I post it in Science or Nature?

This is a question worth considering.

Chapter 257

"We're here, get off."

Xiao Tong was under the raincoat. She stepped off the bicycle and carefully avoided the puddles.

"Brother..."

"Do your best," said Lu Zhou as he looked at his poor sister. He patted her head and said, "I'll wait here for you."

Xiao Tong nodded and strengthened herself mentally.

"Okay! I'll try my best!"

She opened up the umbrella and walked toward her school in the rain.

“Remember to double check!”

Xiao Tong disappeared in the pouring rain. Lu Zhou could not help but smirk.

When he was in high school, Xiao Tong was in middle school.

There were only two bicycles in the house. One was for his father and the other one was for him.

Every day, Lu Zhou would send Xiao Tong to school. That was until he left for college, and Xiao Tong started to ride by herself.

Lu Zhou did not notice that his sister was growing up so fast.

Maybe it was a good thing that he left for college.

Xiao Tong could not always depend on her brother. She would not have matured so quickly if Lu Zhou was always by her side.

“Do your best.”

Lu Zhou stood under the bicycle tent and took out his phone.

He agreed that he would wait under this tent until Xiao Tong was done with her exams.

He looked at the time. There was still half an hour before the exam began.

Lu Zhou was yawning when he suddenly received a WeChat message.

Meng Qi: [Teacher! Please, I'm about to go inside, I'm so nervous. Can you wish me good luck? .\_.]

When Lu Zhou saw this message, he smiled and typed a reply.

[Do your best! I hope your dreams come true!]

He then sent it.

Meng Qi did not respond.

Just when Lu Zhou thought she had gone into the exam room, he suddenly received a reply.

It was only one sentence.

[Thank you!!!]

...

The college entrance examination ended smoothly.

Xiao Tong was confident to get 590, maybe even a 600 if she got lucky. It all depended on the exam marker. After all, the liberal arts were very subjective.

After the exam, Lu Zhou and Xiao Tong did some research.

According to the 2015 University of Jin Ling entrance scores, 600 was not enough for quantitative majors, but it was enough for liberal arts majors.

Regardless, Xiao Tong first major life event was finally over.

After her exam, she completely changed her lifestyle. She would lay on the sofa playing Mobile Legends all day. She was even too lazy to hang out with her friends.

Sometimes, Lu Zhou would look at his sister and reminisce.

Being young is nice...

After she goes to university, she will find out that these two months are the happiest months in her life.

Xiao Tong turned over and saw her brother looking intently at the computer screen.

“Brother, if only I had a big brain like you...”

Lu Zhou could tell that she just lost a game.

“I’m not all brains. Many things are practiced through hard work.”

He remembered that his score was only 640 something. Although it did not rank high in the state, for a small school like Jiangling High, it was pretty nutty.

After Xiao Tong lost again, she tossed her phone and sat up from the sofa. She stood next to Lu Zhou and looked at the computer, “Brother, what are you playing?”

Lu Zhou glanced at her, “Organizing interview materials.”

Xiao Tong tilted her head and asked, “Interview?”

“Yeah,” said Lu Zhou as he nodded. He then added, “The new semester in Princeton is about to begin. I’m already a professor now, so I have to take at least one student.”

Strictly speaking, most of Princeton’s offers were sent out in March and April. It was already June, so most of the students that received an offer were already planning to move in.

However, there were exceptions. Some professors who had not found any students would post their information on the website of the Admissions Office. Therefore, there were still some students that enrolled at a different time.

When Lu Zhou posted his information on the Princeton admissions website, his email was filled with letters.

Most of the letters were from students.

They were trying to make connections with Lu Zhou.

Most of the letters had horrible CVs, and there were almost no academic achievements.

However, judging from these letters, a lot of students were interested in Lu Zhou’s research. Especially after he proved Goldbach’s conjecture and won the Crafoord Prize, the interest toward him exploded.

Some people even tried to make connections a year in advance.

Thankfully, Xiao Ai helped him. As his assistant, it identified letters that were not related to enrollment and threw them in the trash can.

Honestly speaking, Lu Zhou did not want to get the leftover students. He would rather wait until August and interview people for the spring semester.

However, his office was too empty. It was too shabby.

Lu Zhou decided that he had to find at least two students, and familiarize himself with the work of professors.

Xiao Tong tilted her head and asked, "Can you interview at home?"

Lu Zhou said, "Of course you can. Many supervisors use Skype for interviews. The busy supervisors would even interview on the phone. Unless the supervisor was stubborn, most of them didn't need to interview face to face."

The interview was mainly a way for supervisors to get a deeper understanding of the student. After all, many qualities could not be reflected on paper.

Xiao Tong looked the resumes with Lu Zhou. Her eyes suddenly lit up.

"Oh, the girl with long hair is so pretty. I think she's good, just pick her!"

Lu Zhou nearly spat his water out.

"You think this is Tinder?!"

Xiao Tong was confused, "Then how are you going to choose?"

"Set a lower limit for academic grades, then look at resumes. The good ones get an interview, the bad ones get deleted, simple as that. Go go go. Go and play. Don't bother my work," said Lu Zhou as he waved his hand.

"Oh, selfish!"

Xiao Tong made a funny face and left.

Chapter 258

Finally, after some consideration, he picked out ten resumes. All of the candidates were well rounded.

He liked Vera Pulyuy from Berkeley the most.

An IMO gold medalist was worthy of any university. He briefly talked with this girl at Berkeley before and had a good impression of her.

However, Lu Zhou had not expected her to finish her undergrad at such a young age.

Maybe she was the next Tao Zhexuan?

Interestingly, one of her three recommendation letters were from Tao Zhexuan, who taught as a professor at the University of California.

In short, Lu Zhou kept this resume.

Since it was Lu Zhou's first time, he planned to recruit three master's students. Then each semester he would decide if he wanted to recruit more. It was a nuisance to have students at different stages of research.

One of the spots were given to IMO gold medalist Vera, so there were two more remaining spots for the nine resumes.

In order to prevent Xiao Tong from annoying him, Lu Zhou arranged all of his interviews in the morning.

Xiao Tong never woke up early.

Before noon?

Impossible.

The first round of interviews was mainly for Chinese students. He would definitely recruit at least one Chinese student. If he could, he would have given this spot to his schoolmates from the University of Jin Ling, but the timing did not work out.

Lu Zhou opened Skype and began the first interview.

The first interviewee called him at the pre-arranged time.

A young lady with bangs and round glasses appeared on the computer screen. She looked beautiful and elegant, but that was not the main point.

Lu Zhou looked at her resume and cleared his throat.

“Liang Shuyu, right?”

Liang Shuyu smiled. She was not intimidated by Lu Zhou. She nodded and said, “Yes!”

Lu Zhou, “What do you plan on doing after graduation.”

Liang Shuyu said, “I plan on doing a PhD. After that, I want to do scientific research. I want to contribute to the world of science...”

Lu Zhou looked at the bottom right corner of his computer. He noticed that she spoke for exactly three minutes.

Lu Zhou looked at her strangely and asked, “Then, why did you choose number theory?”

With no surprise, he received a standard answer.

“I read Mr. Hua Luogeng’s “Theory of Prime numbers”, and Joseph H. Silverman’s “Introduction to Number Theory”. Since college, I have been interested in number theory. After I saw that you solved

Goldbach's conjecture on TV, and received the Crafoord Prize, I felt very excited. From that moment onwards, I made up my mind to follow you and to explore the mystery of prime numbers."

Lu Zhou was embarrassed at this ass kissing. He then said, "Then briefly explain the Group Structure Method..."

If you worship me this much, this should be easy.

However, something awkward happened.

The lady was stunned at this question.

However, she responded quickly. She muttered some stuff but did not hit the major points.

Clearly, she came well prepared and acted like she was very interested in Lu Zhou. However, she did not really get into Lu Zhou's work.

This was not a big deal. If she knew all of Lu Zhou's theories, Lu Zhou would not have anything to teach her.

However, one of Lu Zhou's requirements in students was honesty.

He wanted students that were genuine and sincere.

Lu Zhou sighed in his heart. He then smiled warmly and said, "It's fine if you don't know. Some things are esoteric. It might be difficult for you. Let's end this here. I'll tell you the result in a week."

Liang Shuyu's eyes lit up. She thought she had a chance, so she smiled and said, "Thank you, professor."

The video call ended.

Lu Zhou drew a cross on her resume and placed it aside.

There was no chance.

The interviewee reminded him of President Lin from the Student Union.

Although he did not hate President Lin, he did not want to have someone like her in his laboratory.

As for her master's degree motive, Lu Zhou guessed that she wanted to come to Princeton and pad her qualifications. After that, she would return to China and join the Thousand People Initiative.

Honestly, Lu Zhou wanted to say, "If you're going to play the political route, then go and become a politician. Don't come to me."

There were very few Chinese professors at Princeton, so this spot was valuable!

Lu Zhou took a few minutes to rest before he started the second interview.

This interviewee was a guy.

Unfortunately, Lu Zhou did not receive a single application from a student of the University of Jin Ling.

Lu Zhou cleared his throat and said, "Qin Yue, right?"

Qin Yue quickly nodded and nervously said, "Yes!"

Lu Zhou looked at Qin Yue's nervous face and knew why he was leftover.

Honesty was the first element in an interview. However, just being honest was not enough. Interviewing also required the ability to express one's talents.

Otherwise, they could not even do a presentation report on stage. It would be a waste of time to train them.

However, Lu Zhou decided to give him a chance, mainly because his academic grades were pretty good.

What was rare was that this guy published a thesis as an undergraduate student. Although it was an average thesis, for an undergraduate student, it was pretty impressive.

Lu Zhou said, "Introduce yourself."

Qin Yue sat up straight as he said nervously, "I'm Qin Yue, 23 years old..."

Although he stuttered at first, he got better by the end. Lu Zhou then asked a few technical questions to test knowledge in the number theory.

In general, this guy was a very talented student and a good character. Even though Lu Zhou thought that he was a little shy, that confidence could be built.

When Lu Zhou saw that the time was nearly up, he said, "Let's end the interview here. I'll email you the result in a week."

When Qin Yue heard Lu Zhou, he felt relieved. He then nodded and thanked Lu Zhou.

Lu Zhou looked at Qin Yue's bitter smile and thought that Qin Yue did not even have hope in himself.

After Lu Zhou ended the video call, his pen hovered on Qin Yue's resume.

Should I keep him?

In the end, he did not draw a cross. He simply wrote a line of comment and placed the resume aside.

There were still so many candidates. He wanted to choose after interviewing everyone.

Chapter 259

“What...”

Xiao Tong hesitated for a bit. She then took a deep breath and entered her candidate number.

The score appeared on the screen.

Xiao Tong froze immediately.

It was not because it was lower than her expectations.

But because...

620!

Xiao Tong screamed out loud in excitement.

“Brother! I got a 620!”

“Nicely done, sis.”

When Lu Zhou saw this score, he nodded with approval as he sincerely felt happy for his sister.

The 2016 liberal arts minimum entrance score was 520, and she was 100 points above the minimum.

Although it was not high enough for Yan University, it was definitely enough for the University of Jin Ling.

“Haha, good job daughter,” said Lu Bangguo as he patted Xiao Tong’s head. He then laughed and said, “I’m going to buy alcohol.”

Fang Mei looked at him and said, “Drinking in the morning... Are you still going into the office?”

Lu Bangguo said, “I’m not going, I took today off!”

Both of his children were admitted to the university. He felt like he was at the top of the world. How could he not drink on this happy day?

The only thing was that Lu Zhou had been overseas for so long, but still did not bring a partner back.

Old Lu wanted to have a grandson!

It was like an early Christmas in the family.

Lu Bangguo was still ecstatic the next day, and he proposed to have a celebration feast with his friends and family.

However, Xiao Tong did not want to waste money, so he had to give up on the idea.

At night, Lu Zhou organized the interview schedule for tomorrow. As he looked at his sister who was laying on the couch, he asked, “Did you think about what major you want to apply to?”

Xiao Tong put down her phone and seriously thought about his questions before she answered.

“I know!”

Lu Zhou, "Yeah?"

Xiao Tong nodded and said firmly, "I'm going to major in finance!"

Finance was part of the liberal arts department at the University of Jin Ling. Although it needed a certain mathematical foundation, as long as one did not go into financial research, it would not require too much mathematics.

The most valuable thing was that Xiao Tong made up her own mind without help from her brother.

Lu Zhou was proud of her.

Lu Zhou nodded with approval and said, "It's good to have a direction. Can you explain what finance is?"

Xiao Tong's eyes lit up and she said, "Finance sounds like it has to do with money!"

Lu Zhou: "..."

What are you talking about...

Did you do any research at all?

Finance obviously has something to do with money!

Lu Zhou said, "Actually alchemy is a good major as well. It has to do with gold."

Xiao Tong was confused and she asked, "Really?"

Lu Zhou said, "Kidding."

Xiao Tong: "..."

...

Some people were happy, some people were sad. That was the reality of the college entrance examination.

Students gathered in the computer room of Jinling High School.

Back then, you had to fill in the college application form, then the school would enter it online for you. However, the students could enter the college application form themselves now.

Han Mengqi looked at the computer screen and bit her lips. She did not move the mouse for a long time.

Fortunately, she got an A for both of her two science subjects. She got above the minimum requirements for the University of Jin Ling.

Normally, her score would be good enough, but it would depend on how many people applied for it.

Mathematics...

University of Jin Ling's mathematics department isn't very strong...

Not a lot of people will apply right...

Han Mengqi gulped. She made up her mind and applied to University of Jin Ling mathematics department.

As for the option to accept other majors, she did not want to accept, but in the end, she checked the box.

“I hope I get in...”

The girl closed her eyes and clenched her fists as she prayed silently.

...

Lu Zhou stayed in China until July. It was about time his vacation ended.

Although he wanted to wait until Xiao Tong's college acceptance letter, it was very troublesome to extend his vacation. Plus he had some stuff to take care of in America, so he did not want to stay for long.

After a 12-hour flight, Lu Zhou finally arrived back at the small town of Princeton.

For most American students, it was still summer vacation. Their vacation would last until the end of August.

However, for master's students, their summer vacation time depended on their supervisors.

In some sense, American supervisors had much more power than Chinese supervisors. American supervisors could expel the master's students. In China, only the university had the right to expel students.

There was a different power dynamic.

Lu Zhou obviously was not going to be like those heartless supervisors, but he would not be chill either.

His requirements for his three master's students was for them to arrive at school before 15th July. If there were visa issues, he could extend the time to August.

Before Lu Zhou could assign them jobs, he had to meet with them face to face.

Lu Zhou placed his luggage in his apartment and went to the Institute for Advanced Study.

As he walked upstairs, he bumped into Edward Witten. Edward was surprised to see Lu Zhou.

"My friend, you are finally back."

Lu Zhou was confused by Witten's welcome and he asked, "What happened?"

Edward Witten smiled and only said two words.

"Gravitational waves."

When Lu Zhou heard the words, he finally realized what Witten said.

In February 2016, the researchers of the LIGO project team announced that they had successfully detected gravitational wave signals from the merger of two black holes using LIGO's two detectors.

The related thesis was recently published on arXiv, and it was being reviewed by theoretical physicists around the world.

Although Lu Zhou was on vacation for the past month, he was not completely out of touch with the academic community. He had always paid attention to new theses on arXiv.

Even though not every thesis on arXiv was useful, if the number of thesis in a certain field suddenly increased, that meant something had happened.

It was like the 750 GeV last year, the trending topic this year was gravitational waves.

Lu Zhou was somewhat envious as he said, "It's an amazing discovery..."

Compared to his "insignificant" 750 GeV discovery, gravitational waves was undoubtedly more shocking.

"Yeah, it's enviable," said Witten emotionally.

The detection of gravitational waves filled in the last piece of the puzzle in Einstein's general theory of relativity.

If Einstein was still alive, he would definitely earn another Nobel Prize in physics for this discovery.

After all, he won the Nobel Prize because he explained the photoelectric effect and not because of the general theory of relativity.

However, this was obviously not possible anymore. Since 1974, the Nobel Prize Committee ruled that Nobel Prizes were only for living people.

Witten had the most emotion toward gravitational waves.

The experiment was done 100 years after the theory was invented. If the same happened with string theory, he would never see a string theory experiment in his lifetime.

There was no doubt that the next Nobel Prize in Physics was going to MIT's Rainer Weiss and his collaborators.

After all, the discovery of gravitational waves would be engraved in human history.

Witten cleared his throat and said, "LIGO invited me to help them do data analysis on the gravitational waves experiment. I'm guessing that since you don't have a research project right now, are you interested in joining my research project? If you're interested, I can get my students to book flights for you right now."

Lu Zhou thought about it for a second. He then rejected this tempting proposal and said, "Gravitational waves aren't within the scope of my research. Unfortunately, I can't help you. I'm going to get pretty busy over the next few days."

The reward mission from the system gave him a lot of freedom, but it would be more efficient if he allocated his time toward materials science.

The reward mission was more valuable than the gravitational waves research project.

Even though the gravitational waves sounded significant, the number of experience points might be less than 10,000.

Witten said, "Materials science?"

Lu Zhou nodded, "Yes."

Witten sighed and said, "Okay then, it seems that you already have plans. I wish you good luck."

## Chapter 260

Professor Chirik, in his 2015 Science thesis, proposed a new way to solve this problem. He proposed using iron catalysts to convert simple olefins to cyclobutane structures under mild heating conditions.

Apparently, the industry was extremely interested in this technology. This professor's patents brought him millions of dollars in dividends.

When Professor Chirik learned that Lu Zhou was interested in computational materials science, he immediately showed a strong interest in Lu Zhou and invited him to visit his laboratory.

In a magical place of Princeton, many professors from other disciplines were attracted to mathematics and physics. However, not many top mathematics professors were willing to research other things, even though mathematics did not make much money.

“The discipline of computing materials is emerging. Many people in this area have gone to Silicon Valley to do chip processing. Speaking of which, why are you interested in this area?” asked Professor Chirik as he gave Lu Zhou a cup of coffee and invited him to sit down.

Lu Zhou smiled and replied, “Because mathematics is an interesting thing. I intend to shine the light of mathematics onto other fields, not just on the tower of number theory.”

Professor Chirik leaned back in his chair. He smiled and said, “Your viewpoint is very unique. Whenever I would argue with professors from the Institute of Advanced Studies, they would tell me that mathematics should be pure.”

“And they’re right, mathematics is pure. But in my opinion, tools derived from pure research can be used to solve other problems,” said Lu Zhou with a smile. He paused for a second before he then said, “Actually, before I came to America, I participated in a similar research project. However, I was too busy so I couldn’t continue. So in order to complete my research, I would like to borrow some equipment.”

It was actually mainly for thesis writing. He had already registered the patent for the design method of the product. He even completed numerous experiments in the University of Jin Ling laboratory.

However, he was not a Princeton professor. He had to do the experiments again to gain credibility for his thesis. Materials science was different than mathematics, and experiments must be referenced in the thesis.

If he used a year-old data, from the other side of the Pacific, it could look like he was fabricating data and he would fail the peer review. This was because the peer reviewers did not do experiments themselves, so they had rigorous checks on the results of the experiment.

After all, it was not like Lu Zhou could ask the reviewers to do experiments for him.

All of the reviews were based on the preface that the thesis writer was honest, and was backed by his or her academic reputation. Sometimes, a thesis would pass submission but would be noticed by peers, then finally retracted by the journal.

This type of situation was most common in biology because many biology experiments were subjective and biased.

When Professor Chirik saw the list of equipment that Lu Zhou had in mind, he generously opened his drawer.

He knew that none of the equipment that Lu Zhou listed were anything dangerous, so he was confident to hand Lu Zhou the keys.

“It’s fine! Take it. Just be careful when doing experiments.”

Lu Zhou put the key in his pocket. He then smiled and said, “I promise you that I’ll leave your laboratory looking the same.”

“No, I’m telling you not to hurt yourself,” said Chirik. He smiled and said, “I’d rather you break the equipment than yourself. Otherwise, the people from the Institute of Advanced Studies would fire me.”

Lu Zhou laughed and said, “I definitely won’t.”

He then said goodbye.

...

Lu Zhou had already done the experiment before, so repeating it again was easy.

He just had to get used to the design test process, collecting data, labeling material, and even the time and location of the experiment.

Strictly speaking, this was Lu Zhou’s first time writing a materials science thesis.

Although strictly speaking, he had submitted an SCI materials design thesis, but that thesis was nothing more than an applied mathematics thesis. It was about mathematical modeling and calculation of the ratio of cement materials and carbon nanotube materials. It did not actually involve an experiment.

However, many things were connected.

As long as Lu Zhou learned the format, writing the thesis was not anything difficult.

He was up for two days doing the experiment. On the third day, he slept until the afternoon. Once he woke up, he sat at his desk and began writing his thesis on his computer.

[Title: A Polydimethylsilane Stabilized Interface Film for High-Performance Lithium Battery Anodes]

[Abstract: This paper uses polydimethylsilane raw material, through the etching of hydrofluoric acid, to obtain an improved polydimethylsiloxane nanoporous film, which is coated on the surface of the negative electrode material by spin coating. Through SEM electron microscopy, it was found that the PDMS film has a nanopore structure, which can provide an effective transmission channel for lithium ions and effectively inhibit the growth of lithium dendrites...]

Lu Zhou looked at the beginning of his thesis and nodded with satisfaction.

For this sensational invention, he could write more exaggerated points. However, it was not good to appear cocky toward the reviewers.

Not to mention, since he was new in the field of materials science, he did not know if the people in materials science would acknowledge him.

After Lu Zhou wrote the title and abstract, he began to write the body.

This was different than writing mathematics theses. Whenever Lu Zhou entered his mathematics formulas into LaTeX, he would often reconsider if the “trivial” parts were actually “trivial”.

However, for materials science theses, as long as one understood the experiment data, the thesis writing would go smoothly.

Lu Zhou spent three days finishing the thesis. He double checked the whole thing and did not find any major problems.

As for the choice of journal submission, after careful consideration, he chose Nature's Nature Chemistry journal as his target. It had an impact factor of 25.87.

For this kind of professional thesis, it was better to submit to a mainstream journal, rather than a science-focused journal.

Apparently, the Nature journal had a submission fail rate of 90%. This meant that only one in ten people passed submission.

Even with this fail rate, Lu Zhou decided to challenge himself.

He logged onto the submission website, filled in his personal details, and clicked upload.

Lu Zhou thought about that 20 plus impact factor, and could not help but smile.

Without a doubt, this was the highest impact factor journal he has ever submitted to.

However, Lu Zhou could not help but frown.

He did not know why, but he felt...

Did he take a loss somehow?