

Superstar 1111

Chapter 1111: Just who could this godly person be?

At Zhang Ye's parents' house.

He snorted!

What are you doing? You said that we would play again some other time after agreeing to end the last match yesterday as a draw. Oh, you're already going back on your word? You won't play me anymore? You even kicked me out of the room? What have I said? Why did you have to kick me?

Don't make me mad!

You're pushing your luck!

You want to challenge my computer skills?

Do you think this bro's world-class hacker skills are meant for messing around with you?

On the other end.

Old Wu's parents' courtyard house.

Wu Changhe could be heard shouting nonstop!

"Who wants to play against you! I'm going to kick you out!"

"Whoa, you can still come back? I'll just have to kick you again!"

"Hahaha, keep being cocky! Go on, keep at it!"

"Damn, why am I not the administrator anymore?"

"Damn! You little bastard, how dare you kick me?"

"Are you trying to play dirty with me! I'll fight it out with you!"

Li Qinqin pushed open the door in a speechless manner. "What's with you?"

Wu Changhe said furiously, "That rascal Zhang is playing dirty with me! How dare he come looking for trouble! I'll show him what he gets for disrespecting me!"

Li Qinqin said in amusement, "He's looking for you again to play Go? Then just play him for a little while."

Wu Changhe rolled his eyes. "Why would I play him? Who wants to play him! He's not worth my time, understand?"

Li Qinqin smiled but did not say anything.

Not worth your time?

You're clearly just saying that because you can't beat him!

...

The netizens also learned about this!

They all came over to watch when they heard what was going on, and all bent over laughing!

"YE and Wu Changhe are fighting again!"

"Do they have to be this funny?"

"What's with this YE? Why did he come here again today?"

"Why is he so insistent on targeting Changhe 9-dan?"

"How did he manage to steal the administrator's role?"

"Who knows? Pfft, this person is so funny!"

Wherever Wu Changhe went, YE followed. These two started an epic chase!

...

At the SARFT.

Wu Zeqing was in her office.

Secretary Bai fast walked in. "Chief Wu."

"Yes?" Wu Zeqing looked up.

Secretary Bai hesitated a little before saying, "It seems like your father has met with some trouble. There's someone on the Internet who's arguing with him. It's been going on for two days."

Wu Zeqing asked a few probing questions before powering on her computer to take a look at the Go server. She then had a laugh and said, "OK, I see."

Secretary Bai blinked and said, "Why don't I get someone to check out who that YE—"

Wu Zeqing waved it off and said with a smile, "Don't worry about them."

"Uh, alright then," Secretary Bai said.

...

At China Qiyuan.

A lot of people could not help but laugh at the happenings.

But the disciples of Wu Changhe who were gnashing their teeth in hate.

Hu Liang remarked angrily, "Teacher, get him! Fight it out with him!"

Chen Ying, Xu Han, and the others all looked at him but did not say a word.

Fight it out with him? Even Xiang Rong 9-dan could not beat him! Fight? What fight! This person's Go skill was just too crazy. Other than Xiang Rong 9-dan, who else would be a match for him?

The Qiyuan's president, Dan Donghe came over. He was also at a loss for words when he saw what was going on. "Why are they at it again? Didn't they play all of yesterday? Which jinx has Brother Wu offended!"

Suddenly, a professional 8th dan player pointed at the computer screen and said, "Teacher Changhe went offline!"

Beside him, a professional 5th dan female player clicked with her mouse and said, "No, he's not offline. Teacher Changhe switched over to the Xiangqi server!"

"Xiangqi?"

"Pfft! Teacher Changhe has been forced to the Xiangqi server?"

Dan Donghe shook his head and laughed.

The Go server and the Xiangqi server were both operated by the same company and were accessible using the same account. The only difference was that their login pages were different. But the account status of those on the friends list could still be seen, like which server they were currently playing on, which room they were in, and even if they were in an active match at the moment.

The next moment, everyone discovered that YE had actually followed him over!

When those at China Qiyuan and many of the netizens realized this, they all headed into that room to watch the fun!

Now, even the Xiangqi players were alarmed. This was because Wu Changhe was also known to be a good player in the Xiangqi world. Although his achievements here could not be compared to that of the world of Go, Wu Changhe was one of the very few who could play both Go and Xiangqi at the master level. This was a rare phenomenon in the history of both games. Even now, Wu Changhe's Xiangqi skill was maintained at a very high level. His skill might not be at the same level as that of a grandmaster, but it was still comparable to a master. In the past, he had even dabbled in many of the Xiangqi world's tournaments. This was why Wu Changhe was also very well-known within the Xiangqi world. Some of the professional Xiangqi players who had just debuted would not even be a match for him!

...

Inside the room.

Wu Changhe and YE were coming face to face for the umpteenth time!

Wu Changhe was almost going crazy. "Rascal, why do you keep following me around? Ah?"

Zhang Ye typed: "To play Go."

Wu Changhe harrumphed. "You're not worth my time!"

Zhang Ye said: "Then take back what you said the other day."

Wu Changhe said: "Why would I do that? I'm not taking back any words!"

Zhang Ye said: "Then let's decide things on the board of Go."

"I'm not playing you!"

"Then take back what you said!"

"I'm not taking them back! Let me tell you this: you definitely have a questionable character!"

"Then lay the terms."

A moment of silence ensued.

Suddenly, Wu Changhe laughed loudly and said: "If you want me to take back what I said, fine! Why don't we play a game of Xiangqi? Do you dare?"

Xiangqi?

Zhang Ye was taken aback. But at the same time, he was very happy about it. "Sure!"

...

Li Qinqin could no longer watch on. "You couldn't beat him at Go. And now, you're challenging him to Xiangqi? Is there any meaning to that?"

"Of course there is!" Wu Changhe laughed heartily. "I think this is going to be particularly interesting! If I don't show this kid something, he's going to get all arrogant!"

Li Qinqin rolled her eyes and said, "Your Xiangqi skills are at the pro level. How do you expect him to be able to play against you?"

"I don't care about that!" Wu Changhe said, "He wants to win over my daughter? He'll have to get past me first!"

Li Qinqin shook her head and said, "You're really intent on bullying others!"

Wu Changhe harrumphed, "What do you know! This is my way of testing him!"

Li Qinqin pursed her lips and said, "How's this a test? You're only doing this because you lost to him at Go and have nowhere to hang your head."

Wu Changhe pretended not to have heard her. He immediately hunt and pecked at the keyboard and sent a message to Zhang Ye: "Hurry up already. We're starting. Faster! Faster!" He was finally feeling spirited again!

If I can't beat you at Go!

Then I will make sure to thrash you at Xiangqi!

Hahaha!

On the other end, YE clicked the "ready" button!

The game commenced!

...

The netizens exclaimed.

"Wow!"

"Yesterday was Go. And today it's Xiangqi?"

"Pfft, what fun this is!"

"Teacher Changhe can finally vindicate himself today!"

"Yeah, Teacher Changhe's Xiangqi is very advanced too!"

"YE has been tricked. He probably does not know that Teacher Changhe's Xiangqi skill is at the level of a pro as well!"

"Hur hur, Wu Changhe is even going to move first."

...

Indeed, Zhang Ye really did not know that Wu Changhe's Xiangqi skill was at the professional level.

Moving the horse. 1

Shifting the cannon.

Advancing the soldier.

But after playing for a while, he suddenly let out an exclamation when he realized something was up.

Hey! This standard of play is pretty good! Only then did Zhang Ye realize that Wu Changhe could actually play so professionally. He realized that Comrade Changhe was actually trying to trick him, so he immediately focused and continued playing on!

Trying to trick me?

You're overrating yourself!

If you had played me yesterday, I might really not be able to beat you!

But today? Hur hur! You're as good as walking into my direct line of fire!

Zhang Ye didn't expect that the five skill experience books from Lottery Draw (Two) could actually be put to use so quickly!

"Come on!"

"Whoa, you're sending out your chariot already? Watch this!"

"Haha. I've got your horse's leg hobbled 2, haven't I? Jump! Why aren't you jumping!? 3 "

...

At China Qiyuan.

At the beginning, no one really gave much thought to the game since everyone knew that Wu Changhe was an expert in Xiangqi. But when they got to the middlegame 4 , everyone was dumbfounded!

Chen Ying was taken aback. "This..."

Xu Han was wiping away his sweat. "Damn!"

Hu Liang could also see it. "Teacher Wu is at a disadvantage? How's that possible!"

Beside them, there were quite a few Xiangqi pros who also came to watch the game. At first, they thought it was a game of Go being played. But when they came over, they saw it turned out to be a Xiangqi battle. Further, it was an extremely high level game!

At this point, those people from the Xiangqi world were also stunned!

"Fuck!"

"Who could he be?"

"Why is he so good?"

"He can even play Xiangqi?"

"This is bad! That was a bad move by Teacher Changhe!"

"Aiyo, this horse is done for!"

Indeed. With the next move, Wu Changhe's horse was captured and taken by YE!

"This formation was really well-planned!"

"Yeah, Teacher Changhe has been tricked by YE again!"

"That move earlier by YE was actually just a diversion!"

...

At the courtyard house.

Wu Changhe had started off the game with a big smile on his face. It later turned into a slight smile before he turned completely expressionless, and then finally looked like he was about to vomit a mouthful of blood!

The game lasted only half an hour!

Check!

When YE moved his cannon, Wu Changhe was checkmated!

Li Qinqin was also dumbfounded from watching. "This Little Zhang, he's..."

Wu Changhe was so angry that he was trembling. He typed: "Again! I dare you to play again!"

"You're up for another game?"

"Best of three!"

"Sure."

The second game was won by YE. It took one hour.

"Again!"

"Isn't it supposed to be a best of three?"

"Do you even know how to play Xiangqi? Any proper official tournament states that a match is decided in a best of five!"

"Oh, OK."

In the third game, YE won. It took 45 minutes.

"Again!"

"But I've already won three times."

"A pro match requires a best of seven!"

"Oh, so it's like that."

"Come on!"

"OK."

In the fourth game, YE won in 50 minutes.

For the entirety of the daytime, Wu Changhe played ten games against Zhang Ye, not believing that this was happening. In all ten games, Wu Changhe lost. He even lost all of them very quickly and easily!

Wu Changhe was dumbfounded!

China Qiyuan's people were dumbfounded!

The observing players were also dumbfounded!

Yesterday, Wu Changhe had been utterly demolished in Go!

But who could have thought that today in Xiangqi, Wu Changhe would get utterly demolished once again by YE!

Just what sort of person was he!

Which fucking godly person was this!?

They were all so shocked that they didn't know what to say!

...

At the courtyard house.

Wu Zeqing came back to her parent's place after work.

The moment she entered the house, she saw Wu Changhe with a dark look on his face and not saying a word. Every now and then, he would even bang on the table out of anger.

Wu Zeqing smiled and said, "Dad, what's going on?"

"You dare to ask? You have the cheek to ask me that?" With her question, Wu Changhe got even angrier!

Li Qinqin laughed and said, "Your dad lost again."

Wu Zeqing said, "Isn't that very normal?"

Li Qinqin shook her head and said, "This time, he lost to Little Zhang in Xiangqi. Out of ten games, he did not even win once. Just look at how he's throwing a tantrum now, hur hur."

Wu Zeqing was taken aback. "Little Ye knows how to play Xiangqi as well?"

"He more than knows how to play it," Li Qinqin said with a giggle. "This boyfriend of yours is really no ordinary guy."

Chapter 1112: An artificial intelligence issues a challenge to humanity!

The next day.

It was another morning.

An entertainment circle without Zhang Ye was always going to be missing that bit of liveliness. Although there were still countless celebrities involved in all kinds of news and scandals, those were mainly either hyped up by their companies to promote a new film or show, or the headlines themselves being hyped up when in fact the news was nothing that interesting. It was always lacking that realism and impact that Zhang Ye brought when he was active. He would so often start some trouble that was so shocking that it would send everyone into panic. Everything was definitely more exciting when he was around.

On Weibo.

"Is Zhang Ye still on break?"

"It's only been three days."

"Ai, I'm starting to miss him already!"

"Me too! I wish that Teacher Zhang would return soon and create yet another masterpiece!"

"I wonder what Zhang Ye is doing right now."

"Could that fellow be sleeping every day?"

"What about that girl who is like the lilac? How's it going with her?"

"@ZhangYe! Wake up!"

"@ZhangYe! Wake up!"

"@ZhangYe! Don't sleep anymore!"

In the end, someone kicked off a mass mention of Zhang Ye, with a lot of people gleefully joining in. In an instant, several hundred people on Weibo started to @ZhangYe to make this fellow get up from bed.

But unknown to them, Zhang Ye had awakened long ago.

...

Back at home.

7 AM.

After breakfast, Zhang Ye eagerly went back to his room and logged on to the Online Go Server again.

Then a call from Wu Zeqing came in.

"Old Wu?"

"You're awake?"

"Yes, I am. I'm getting ready to play Go."

"You still want to play?"

"Yeah, I have nothing to do anyway."

"Don't play anymore. My dad is starting to get frustrated. If you keep beating him, I think he might really get into a fight with you. Don't overdo it."

"Ah? Surely not, right?"

"Why not? When I got back yesterday, I heard my dad cursing you for the entire night, hur hur. Oh yes, my mom wants me to ask you something. She wonders if you'd be interested in joining a pro Go tournament. A Go celebrity is also a celebrity; they get a lot of attention too. My mom asks if you will consider it for a moment?"

"No thanks."

"Why is that?"

"With my level, I can only occasionally come up against someone like your dad, who's a retired pro."

"Have some faith in yourself. You're very good."

"Forget it. I'll just stick to the entertainment industry and make an honest living there instead."

"True. Alright then."

"Old Wu, what about the two of us?"

"It won't be an issue with my mom. But as for my dad..."

"I've won so many games against your dad. Is he still not going to recognize and accept me? Then wouldn't I have done all that for nothing?"

"It's not for nothing. This time, you've really changed the way that my parents perceive you. My dad may be cursing you very fiercely, but I can see that he has been moved. As for my mom, she rather likes you too. How about this: I'll bring you to my parents' place again in a few days' time."

"Sure."

"Then you rest well today. I need to get to work."

The call ended.

He has been moved?

Zhang Ye smile slightly, thinking about how there was finally some progress, at last.

He wasn't at all thinking of becoming some Go celebrity. Although it was good to have another title, and would contribute to the course of his career as well as add some shine to his résumé, the intensity of the tournaments was too high with too much competition and spanned too long a duration. Every day for the entire year, they would be required to train and compete against one another. All those professional and world rankings were actually earned by sacrificing one's time. Zhang Ye did not have such time to do something like that. If it were not for the matter with Wu Zeqing, and his differences with Wu Changhe, he would probably not have touched Go and Xiangqi at all in his lifetime. These sports celebrities might look very glorious and positive, and also gain the respect of many, but it was simply too high of a price to pay. Besides, Zhang Ye had always thought that his Go skill was mediocre. He couldn't even beat a retired pro who couldn't play in professional games and had even nearly lost to him too, so why would he want to join any pro tournaments? Wouldn't he be looking to get abused then? Even if he got matched against a pro 5th or 6th dan Go player, he probably still couldn't win!

Suddenly, the door opened.

His mother came into the room. "Oh, you're not playing Go today?"

Zhang Ye laughed and said, "No, I'm not playing anymore. I won so much that I got bored."

"Keep bragging, kid!" His mother naturally did not take his words seriously. She said, "If you have nothing to do, get changed quickly. Come with me and your dad and do some grocery shopping. Your three sisters will be coming over this afternoon to have fun."

"Bring me to the market with you?"

"Yeah, that's right."

"What if I get surrounded by people at the market?"

"If you get surrounded, then so be it."

"Whoa, you're really throwing me out there huh?"

"It wasn't easy for me to have such a famous son. Why aren't you allowing me to flaunt you?"

"Alright then!"

"Hurry up, we're leaving!"

...

Meanwhile.

At China Qiyuan.

Exceptionally more people came here today.

President Dan Donghe, Xiang Rong 9-dan, Li Yi 9-dan. It was especially crowded here at the Go association. Basically, all those who were called celebrity professional Go players were here. The remaining professional players who were not that highly ranked also gathered around. Everyone had looks of incredulity on their faces!

Chen Ying said in shock, "Is the news true?"

"Yeah, th-that can't be impossible!" Xu Han said in a stunned manner.

Dan Donghe said sternly, "I've just received the news. It's true, the news is indeed true. This will be reported on the news very soon!"

No one cared about YE anymore!

They also stopped caring about the dispute between YE and Changhe 9-dan!

That was because at this moment, the world of Go was facing a battle of life and death. Everyone was unable to react to the news. They were even completely unprepared for it because this news had come about too suddenly!

"Chen Chi 9-dan lost?"

"How could he have lost!"

"That's impossible!"

"How could that thing possibly win against Chen Chi 9-dan?"

"Could it have been a one-off?"

"It definitely did not get lucky. It won two games in a best of three. Chen Chi lost two games in a row."

"Heavens...this..."

"I just called Chen Chi and asked him what was going on. He didn't say much except to warn us to be careful! I could hear that he sounded very defeated!"

Wu Changhe just arrived, walking rapidly. "Is it true?"

Li Yi 9-dan sighed and said, "Yes."

Wu Changhe's expression darkened. "Old Dan, I want to look at that game."

Xiang Rong 9-dan spoke, "I would like to see it too."

Dan Donghe nodded. "I've already requested for it. They'll be sending it over soon."

Soon after, the game record was sent.

Chen Ying volunteered, "I'll recreate the match."

She operated the computer and recreated the match from the first move on the big screen.

Everyone's face turned sullen the longer they watched. The atmosphere in the entire Qiyuan fell into a very oppressive tension!

...

At home.

His three sisters arrived.

Zhang Ye was unaware of these developments in the outside world.

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "What made you girls want to come over today?"

His eldest younger sister smiled. "We came to look for you to play of course."

"Brother, aren't you on break now? The three of us are on our summer break, and we're bored to tears," his second sister said with a giggle. "How boring!"

Zhang Ye was amused by them. He pointed at the cabinet behind him and said, "You all came at the right time. I have nothing to do today either. That's right! After the show's recording ended a few days ago, Beijing TV handed out a lot of freebies to us. I also received some gifts from other people. Things like VR headsets and perfumes, just take whatever you like. Since you're here today, there's no need to be a stranger. Just tell me whatever you want. As long as it's something that I have, you can take it if you like it. There's no need to be polite—" Before he finished speaking, Zhang Ye looked back and was stunned.

His third sister was already holding a pile of boxes in her arms. "These are all mine!"

His second sister was panicking. "Damn, leave some for me! And leave some for Big Sis as well."

His eldest younger sister said, "I want the perfume. Don't take it from me!"

Zhang Ye said, "Can you guys be a little more polite? Can you?"

In the end, his three sisters stared at him in confusion. "Didn't you insist for us to not hold back?"

"But you should still have listened to me and let me finish. Oh, look at this. Even before I finish speaking, everything is already gone?" Zhang Ye didn't know how to react. "Are you bandits raiding a village?"

His parents laughed at that.

His mother said, "Take as much as you want. Little Ye doesn't have any use for them anyway."

"Yes, ma'am! Thank you, Auntie!" His third sister playfully gave a military salute to her.

Zhang Ye couldn't do anything about them and just shook his head. He turned on the television with the remote control as he wanted to watch the news. Although he was taking a break from work, he still saw the need to keep up with the entertainment industry and society's news and affairs.

However, when the television turned on, the news that was currently being reported on TV stunned Zhang Ye!

On Central TV News Channel.

The anchor: "An artificial intelligence named Peter that was developed by an American company has shockingly made its debut by defeating the American-born Chinese Go player, Chen Chi 9-dan, two to zero in a match that ended at 5:10 AM Beijing Time. At the same time, the artificial intelligence Peter officially issued a challenge to humanity. According to information our reporters gathered from China Qiyuan, Peter's development company has already sent out official letters of challenge to the Chinese, Japanese, and Korean professional Go players. The reason they chose Go was that it was acknowledged as the most difficult and complicated board game. It is also a game that represents humanity's wisdom. Could a machine's intelligence soon surpass the wisdom of humans? This is destined to be an unprecedented battle!"

Zhang Ye was stunned!

Peter?

An AI?

A challenge to all humanity?

Go?

Damn!

Wasn't this that famous AlphaGo 1 from his previous world?

Chapter 1113: Xiang Rong? I think I've heard of him before!

When the news was released!

It created quite the stir throughout Asia!

On Weibo.

"Challenging all of humanity?"

"Holy shit!"

"The Americans are way too arrogant!"

"Didn't they only beat one person? What's that to brag about!"

"The issue here is that the AI defeated Chen Chi 9-dan. Old Chen is an American-born Chinese, and although he has never represented China as a participant in international tournaments, he has caused many problems for our national team at that level. He is one of the best Go players in the world and is ranked in the top 10 of the world rankings. Do you understand what this means? Don't tell me you guys don't know. It would be fine if it was just an ordinary amateur or pro Go player who lost to the artificial

intelligence. But here, it's Chen Chi 9-dan who lost and got crushed by a score of zero to two! This news is really hard to believe!"

"It's only a machine. How can it be that strong?"

"Yeah, Go is too complicated. How can an AI possibly handle it?"

"The Americans claim that the machine can consider its moves."

"No way, right? Wouldn't that be really troublesome?"

"Yeah, the entire world of Go is faced with a huge crisis!"

"No, it's not only the world of Go. This is a calamity for all humanity!"

"Intelligence is humanity's most powerful and last line of defense. If humanity were to lose to a machine in the domain of intelligence, then...the consequences would be disastrous! This would subvert all that we have previously known!"

"Humans will become inferior to machines? Damn!"

"Fuck! What bullshit is this Peter!"

"Right, show them how powerful we humans are!"

...

Japan.

These netizens were also making a netizen!

"Nani? 1 "

"A letter of challenge?"

"Don't they know that we have Shinji 9-dan?"

"They're really overestimating what that AI can do!"

"Yeah, let's show them what we're capable of!"

"They wish to compete with humans on intelligence? What a joke! A machine is still not good enough to do that!"

How can an intelligence designed by humans possibly surpass the wisdom of humanity?

"But Chen Chi 9-dan already lost!"

"He must have been too careless!"

...

Korea.

"Peter?"

"It only won against one person and it's already issuing a challenge to all humanity?"

"How arrogant!"

"This is an insult aimed at Go!"

"It's taking Go to be too simple!"

"I don't believe that it can win. There are still so many outstanding Go players who are better than Chen Chi 9-dan. For example, Elder Park Yuhee, Shinji 9-dan, and Korea's great warrior—Xiang Rong 9-dan! I strongly believe that humanity's last line of defense will not be defeated by just a machine!"

"Ah? Isn't Xiang Rong 9-dan Chinese?"

"No, he's Korean, but that's another story..."

...

The news blew up!

News of this was overwhelming!

"Machine issues challenge to humanity!"

"Will humanity be able to preserve its last shred of dignity?"

"Peter—The strongest AI in history!"

"A machine that can think out its moves!"

"The greatest threat to humanity in history!"

"The International Go Federation 2 holds an emergency meeting to discuss strategic countermeasures!"

"The match between the AI and Chen Chi 9-dan revealed!"

Go is a very popular game in Asia, and everyone was no stranger to games played against machines. They could basically play against the computer with any of the Go software available on the market. Publishers refer to them as artificial intelligence. Although they were referred to as intelligence, those who understood the subject knew that it was not intelligent at all. These softwares would often commit a lot of mistakes that a normal Go expert would not make. They were also prone to making many bizarre moves. Some Go beginners would probably lose to it very frequently, but to any of the stronger amateur players, they would basically be able to thrash the computer opponent every time. Moreover, everyone disliked playing against a computer opponent as there were too many bugs in the program and the moves were too predictable.

But now, Peter had appeared out of nowhere!

This "artificial intelligence" program seemed to be completely different from the usual computer AI that they had come across and had completely defeated Chen Chi 9-dan. Although a lot of people were insulting and looking down on it, they were actually feeling quite afraid of it. That was because they couldn't understand what this thing was and if it could really consider its moves before making them!

...

At home.

His sisters were dumbfounded by the news!

His parents were also surprised and scooted over.

His second sister blinked and said, "Is it that strong?"

His mother said puzzled, "An artificial intelligence?"

His eldest younger sister's face paled a little. "If this Peter actually manages to defeat all the top Go players in the world, does it mean that machines could replace human intelligence in the future?"

His third sister exclaimed, "This is terrible!"

Zhang Ye just stared at the television and remained silent.

His eldest younger sister wanted to hear Zhang Ye's opinion. "Brother, what do you think?"

A lot of people were caught completely off guard by this news, including China Qiyuan, which was also plunged into a chaos. Many people were still in a state of shock. Perhaps only Zhang Ye remained the calmest among them. Other than the parent company that developed Peter, he was probably the only person who had an in-depth understanding of the program in this world!

Zhang Ye said, "To say that it can consider its moves, that's impossible."

His eldest younger sister asked puzzled, "Really?"

Zhang Ye nodded and said, "But if it is the thing that I know it is, it'll be very difficult for humans to win against it." In his previous world, not only was AlphaGo famous, it also captured the attention of all of Asia. Even Lee Sedol, number one in the world at the time, had lost to it. If this Peter was really the same thing as AlphaGo, then...it would cause a headache for the Go players of this world.

This program was really very strong!

It was definitely not the usual type of computer AI that people were used to!

At this moment, another astonishing event occurred that would capture the attention of all of Asia!

Someone had finally responded to the letter of challenge by Peter the AI!

All over Asia, televisions, newspapers, and the Internet suddenly released a piece of news simultaneously!

Shinji 9-dan, Japan's best Go player and ranked in the top 5 in the Go world, had announced in a press conference held in Japan that he would accept Peter's challenge!

The American company gave a response very quickly!

They didn't say more than what was needed!

There weren't any pleasantries exchanged either!

The reply only consisted of eight words: "In two days' time, let's battle in Tokyo!"

The battle was going to begin soon!

The Japanese had accepted the challenge!

Some people were feeling worried!

Some people were feeling excited!

The "war between humans and machines" was immediately hyped up!

...

His father said, "Shinji 9-dan? With him playing, we should be able to win, right?"

Zhang Ye shook his head and said with a smile, "That could be difficult."

His third sister asked in surprise, "He can't win?"

Zhang Ye said, "I wouldn't know about that. But in any case, it would be very difficult."

His eldest younger sister clenched her teeth and said, "But humanity still has Xiang Rong 9-dan. If there's really no way out, Xiang Rong 9-dan will be able to hold the last line of defense!"

"Right, Xiang Rong is very strong!" His father also knew about him.

Zhang Ye wondered out loud, "Who?"

"Xiang Rong 9-dan!" His eldest younger sister said, "He's currently the number one player in the Go world. Brother, don't you also know how to play Go? You don't even know him?"

Zhang Ye blinked and said, "This name sounds a little familiar. I think I've seen it somewhere before."

His father said, "Of course it would sound familiar. There's no one in this world who can play Go as well as him. If you play against him, you couldn't win even if he gave you a handicap of 20 stones."

His eldest young sister laughed as she corrected, "He would have to give him a handicap of 30 stones."

Zhang Ye wondered if there was really such a strong Go player in China.

Xiang Rong?

Xiang Rong?

Eh, where did I see this name?

Zhang Ye had forgotten.

Chapter 1114: Zhang Ye's contribution!

Noon.

At China Qiyuan.

Reporters were swarming the outside!

They came from all over the place, from the television stations to the newspaper firms to the online media outlets. Right now, China Qiyuan was the focus of discussions all over the country. Even the equivalent organizations in Japan and Korea were watching China Qiyuan's actions very closely. After all, China led Go in Asia. In the top ten of the world rankings, half of them were taken by Chinese citizens. The remaining places were then made up of those players from Japan and Korea!

"Is President Dan around?"

"Is Xiang Rong 9-dan here?"

"I'm from Central TV. Could you grant us an interview?"

"I'm from Beijing TV. Could you let us have an interview with Changhe 9-dan!"

"If Shinji 9-dan loses, will we also send a representative?"

"Is Xiang Rong 9-dan confident in winning?"

China Qiyuan was bursting with people!

"Please wait!"

"The players are holding a meeting right now!"

"Don't squeeze! Please be patient!"

The staff were all busy attending to the media reporters.

Inside.

Dozens of professional Go players gathered around in a gloomy atmosphere. After Chen Ying had recreated the match, and with the analysis given by Xiang Rong 9-dan and Li Yi 9-dan, everyone finally finished studying the game between Peter and Chen Chi 9-dan. As a result, they were all shocked by the "intelligence" of Peter!

Xu Han 8-dan exclaimed, "This is so ridiculous!"

"He really knows how to consider his moves!" Tian Weiwei paled!

Hu Liang 7-dan could not believe it. "This is impossible!"

Li Yi 9-dan gasped and said, "But these moves should only be possible if a human played. A machine would never be able to make them, so how could this AI manage to do it? This simply cannot be done through big data analytics!"

"Will Shinji 9-dan be able to win?"

"I don't know!"

"Everyone is still in a state of confusion!"

"Yeah, no one knows anything about Peter!"

"We don't have enough understanding of the program. But using all the game data from the Internet and television broadcasts, it has all the information it needs about the other world-class Go players!"

"How does it work exactly?"

"How can they say that it has intelligence?"

Everyone was in disbelief!

In those two games of Go, they saw many frightful insights that convinced many of them that this AI could really think like a human. Further, the thought process was even more detailed than a human could muster, with the considerations of every move much more comprehensive! This was too scary!

...

Back at home.

After lunch.

Zhang Ye called Wu Zeqing.

Zhang Ye asked, "Has the Go community met with some trouble?"

Old Wu confirmed, "My dad has gone to China Qiyuan for an emergency meeting to discuss the strategic countermeasures to take. If Shinji 9-dan wins, it'll be fine. But if even he loses, then that will be problematic. Right now, the Qiyuan is also quite in the dark about the developments. Without any technical data and a blueprint of how Peter operates, no one has any idea of what kind of machine it is. The enemy is in the shadows while everything about my dad and the other Go players is known, so that makes it a very tricky situation.

Zhang Ye replied, "If it's about that, I might know a little."

"Oh?" Old Wu said.

Zhang Ye thought about it for a moment and said, "How about this? I'll send you some information about what I know of AI. It might not necessarily be correct, but it should be good enough for reference."

Old Wu said, "Alright, I'll forward that to my dad."

After hanging up, Zhang Ye went online and found the match between Chen Chi 9-dan and Peter. After studying it for a long time, he managed to get an idea of the inner workings of the program.

His third sister pushed open the door and came in. "Eh, Brother, what are you doing?"

Zhang Ye smiled, typing and saying, "I'm writing a document."

"Aren't you on leave from work for half a month?" His eldest younger sister also came into the room.

Zhang Ye said, "Hai, I'm helping someone with something."

...

At China Qiyuan.

Dan Donghe was getting interviewed.

Meanwhile, Xiang Rong 9-dan declined to get interviewed. He sat there and continued to analyze the game between Peter and Chen Chi 9-dan, at times shaking his head, at times frowning.

A distance away.

Wu Changhe received a call.

"Daughter, I'm busy right now."

"Dad, I sent you some information. Take a look at it."

"What information?"

"Little Ye sorted out the working principles of Peter."

"Him? What could he possibly know!"

"Take a look at it first, alright?"

"Is the information reliable?"

"Have you forgotten what Little Ye does? He's a world-class mathematician and all computer programs are based on binary, so don't you think it's reliable? In this area, he's the real professional. Depending on a world-class mathematician's research information is better than listening to a group of Go players analysis of a program, isn't that right?"

"Alright, I'll take a look then."

After hanging up, Wu Changhe downloaded the document onto his cell phone.

Soon after, Dan Donghe came back. He was exhausted from handling the interview with the several dozen reporters. This was because he was unable to give them a proper conclusion about the meat of the matter.

Everyone gathered again.

Wu Changhe suddenly said, "Come, everyone! Take a look at this!"

"Ah?"

"What is it?"

"Teacher, what's the matter?"

Everyone looked to him.

Wu Changhe said, "Someone sent me a document regarding that P-whatever thing's working principles." He handed it to his disciple Tian Weiwei. "Put it up on the big screen for everyone to see."

Tian Weiwei immediately said, "Yes!"

Everyone was skeptical.

"Working principles?"

"Did someone manage to analyze them?"

"Is it real?"

"How can it be so fast?"

Dan Donghe's eyes lit up. He hurriedly strode over and said, "Brother Wu, who sent it to you?"

Wu Changhe scowled and said, "Don't ask about that. It's just someone who works with math."

The document was quickly shown on the display!

Everyone looked up!

Xiang Rong also looked up at the screen!

Peter.

This is an AI program written for Go.

It mainly consists of four parts:

1. Policy Network: Picks likely moves to play at every step.
2. Fast Rollout: Has the same goal as 1. A rollout policy that is 1,000 times faster but less precise under certain conditions.
3. Value Network: Learns to look at a board state, and predicts who is likely to win.
4. Monte Carlo Tree Search (MCTS): Combining the three parts above, it forms a complete program.

The main theory behind it is deep learning. Deep learning refers to multilayer neural networks and its training. A layer of neural networks can take in a large number of inputs, and through a nonlinear method to obtain appropriate weights, finally obtain a final output score. It works just like biological brains. Using an appropriate matrix, multiple layers are connected together, forming a neural network "brain," allowing for complicated manipulation, just like how humans process image recognition. It has two "brains." It uses these two neural network "brains" to play Go. These brains' neural networks are similar to how image search engines search for images. They begin with the multiple layers to handle the Go board's positions and deal with it like a picture classification website. Through a filter, a 13-layer policy neural network will analyze the setup presented. These layers are able to classify and reason logically.

The first brain: Move picker.

The second brain: Position evaluator.

And so on and so on!

It was a 2,000-word report. It looked like a research paper and was written highly professionally.

Many of the professional Go players were dumbfounded. There was many professional jargon they did not understand at all. They could only guess, but they gained a rough idea of what Peter was!

Xiang Rong 9-dan asked in shock, "Who wrote this?"

President Dan Donghe quipped, "Brother Wu, you even know an expert like this? Which mathematician is he?"

"Why do you care who he is?" Wu Changhe did not understand a thing anyway. "So is it of any use?"

"Of course it's of use!" Chen Ying was the most excited of them all. Not only was she a top female Go player, she was also an academic. She was a Tsinghua math student. "This analysis and information is incredibly important! This has exposed how Peter works! If it's true, then this AI can't think like how the Americans bragged. It can't think at all. It just makes people believe that it can think. Its core is still based on data processing!"

Two "brains"?

Deep learning?

They finally knew!

They could finally see Peter's true face!

Chapter 1115: Humanity vs. Artificial Intelligence (Start)

The next day.

The AI, Peter, was once again dominating the news throughout Asia!

The cause of this was China Qiyuan's revelation of Peter's operating principle, a magnificent analysis report over a 1,000 words that was written in great detail. At the end, the author of the report was also indicated. It was signed as: An anonymous mathematician who does not wish to reveal his name.

The netizens were stunned!

"So that's what it is!"

"It actually plays Go in this way!"

"Thinking? Bullshit! Who are the Americans trying to bluff!"

"Those Americans really love bragging too much!"

"Who wrote this report?"

"This is so awesome!"

"It's only been a day?"

"An anonymous mathematician who does not wish to reveal his name?"

"Thank you for contributing to the cause of humanity!"

"An unsung hero!"

Both domestic and international experts were very surprised. After going through a lot of reverse verifications, they discovered that 90% of this analysis report was true and reliable! In just a short span of a day, and after just two games of Go, Peter's operating principle had been analyzed? Who could have done it?

At Old Wu's parents' house.

Li Qinqin was very shocked. "Changhe, was this analysis conducted by the Qiyuan?"

Wu Changhe mumbled, "Ah, er..."

"The only person who studied math at the Qiyuan should be Chen Ying, right?" Li Qinqin was doubtful.

Wu Changhe said, "Why do you care who analyzed it?"

Li Qinqin said, "I just want to know. So who was it?"

Wu Changhe scowled and muttered, "That Zhang kid!"

"Little Zhang wrote it?" Li Qinqin laughed. "I knew it. How could the people at the Qiyuan possibly come up with something this impressive. With one glance, I knew that this report was written by some career academic. What do you think now? I told you Little Zhang wasn't bad, right? And you're still displeased with him. Look at how concerned he is with your problem. He immediately got to work and researched the problem when he knew that you all met with trouble. He's even this thorough when the task was supposed to have been done by others!"

Wu Changhe stared at her and said, "Has that kid cast a spell on you or something? Why do you keep speaking up for him!"

Li Qinqin laughed and said, "Hur hur, I wonder that too. I like him no matter which side of him I see."

...

The Japanese were watching the developments very closely.

"It's finally been figured out!"

"So that's how it is!"

"Shinji 9-dan's chances of victory has increased by another percentage point!"

"Thanks to the Chinese!"

...

The Korean Go community was the same.

"This report has proven very valuable!"

"So that's what it really is!"

"The Chinese mathematicians are really awesome!"

...

Over in America.

The company that developed Peter was thrown into disarray at the same time!

The management flew into a rage and gathered up the program's core developers!

"Who was it? Who leaked the information?"

"Goddammit!"

"How did the Chinese get their hands on the information!"

"It's alright. Even if they know how Peter works, they can't win all the same!"

"But what I want to know is, how the hell did they find out? How?"

Everyone looked at one another in silence.

But what the American company would never be able to figure out was that other than them, there was actually someone else who had seen a similar AI program that could play Go. And that someone was Zhang Ye—a person who couldn't truly be considered someone from this world.

...

A day later.

Noon.

Zhang Ye had a room booked in a restaurant for a lunch date with some people.

Dong Shanshan, Yao Jiancai, Chen Guang, Fan Wenli, Xiaodong, Amy, Li Xiaoxian, Zhang Xia, and most of the other guests and contestants from King of Masked Singers had been invited. There were also a few others that Zhang Ye had informed but were unable to make it as they were busy with work.

"Come. I said that it would be my treat today!" Zhang Ye said as he arranged for the guests to get seated.

Dong Shanshan sat down and crossed her legs. "Don't worry. No one is going to fight you over the bill today."

Yao Jiancai laughed heartily. "Yeah, we'll be helping ourselves."

Chen Guang flipped open the menu and remarked, "Let's see, what's the most expensive item in here."

"There's no need to scrimp for Director Zhang," Fan Wenli chorused after her husband.

Zhang Ye didn't know whether to laugh or cry. "Can we hold back a little? I'm just a salaried employee, and it's not easy to earn money, so please don't overdo it. Just order enough to eat, please."

Dong Shanshan glanced at him. "You're a domestic superstar. Why are you still so stingy?"

Xiaodong giggled and said, "Yeah, amongst all of us here, you're the one who's the most popular. Since everyone took time out of their schedules to celebrate for you, you better not be thinking of trying to save money today!"

Li Xiaoxian was relatively quiet. She did not speak much and just laughed.

Everyone was talking and laughing, and the atmosphere was great.

Suddenly, Dong Shanshan called a waiter over to get him to turn on the television.

Amy asked, "What's going on?"

Dong Shanshan said, "Don't you all know? Today is the first time that an AI challenged a human. The battle's about to begin."

Yao Jiancai slapped the table. "That's right, I nearly forgot!"

Zhang Xia smiled widely and said, "I'm rather looking forward to it as well."

Xiaodong said, "Haha, I dare not speak about other areas. But when it comes to intelligence, a machine would never win against a human. We don't even need to watch!"

Li Xiaoxian said, "That's not necessarily true."

Chen Guang agreed. "Yeah, the Americans came bearing down so menacingly this time. If they weren't confident about it, they wouldn't have dared to issue a challenge to all humanity."

The television was turned on.

Central TV Sports Channel.

The image was one of the live broadcast of the match from the competition venue in Tokyo. The competition had not started yet, but Shinji 9-dan had already made his appearance. The international referee was speaking to him, and there were no spectators around them. This was to ensure absolute silence during the game, so there would only be the referee 1 and players present.

From the Central TV commentary box, Yu Yingyi's voice rang out. "We can see that the match will begin soon."

Zhang Ye said, "Yingyi went too?"

Dong Shanshan said, "Yeah, she's the host."

Yao Jiancai asked, "Who's she?"

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "She's mine and Shanshan's uni classmate. We were in the same class, and she's currently a host with Central TV Sports Channel. I never expected that Yingyi could play Go as well."

Yu Yingyi was actually just the host. Her main duty today had nothing to do with commentary.

The person in charge of that was Chen Ying 7-dan, who was sitting beside her. She was a pretty female Go player.

10 minutes later.

The match began!

As the best Japanese Go player, Shinji 9-dan was very composed today. He picked the black stones and started the game calmly. As his opponent was an AI, it could only display its moves onscreen. Since traditional Go players were still used to playing physically at a proper Go board, Peter required a representative to be the middleman to input Shinji 9-dan's moves after he made them. Then, when Peter responded with its move onscreen, the middleman would place a stone on the physical Go board at the corresponding position—the middleman was a Caucasian person who was a representative from Peter's development company.

Dong Shanshan and the others ate as they watched the game.

Some of them could understand what was happening, while those who didn't could only rely on the commentary.

Zhang Ye was actually quite concerned about this match too, even if he felt that this matter had nothing to do with him.

Five stones.

Ten stones.

Twenty stones.

As the game progressed faster and faster, Zhang Ye's frown became more and more obvious.

Li Xiaoxian put her chopsticks down. She exclaimed, "How amazing!"

Amy blinked and asked, "Who's amazing?"

Xiaodong knew that Li Xiaoxian knew how to play Go. "Who has the advantage?"

"PETER!" Li Xiaoxian said.

On TV.

Yu Yingyi said, "Teacher Chen Ying, what do you make of this move?"

Chen Ying 7-dan said in shock, "Shinji 9-dan has miscalculated his move. It seems like this game will end early!"

Yu Yingyi said in surprise, "It's going to end this soon?"

Sure enough, a short while later, Shinji 9-dan finally resigned from the game after spending a long time thinking and becoming frustrated and annoyed.

The referee immediately came over to confirm his decision.

Yu Yingyi exclaimed, "My goodness! We see that Shinji 9-dan has resigned from the game!"

Chen Ying 7-dan said, "If Peter can even beat Shinji 9-dan, then this would be really too frightful!"

Yu Yingyi said, "We'll be showing the second game between Peter and Shinji 9-dan tomorrow at the same time. Let's hope Shinji 9-dan catches up in the next game!"

The competition was based on a best of three!

If he were to lose again tomorrow, Shinji 9-dan would officially lose!

Later, during the post-match conference, Shinji 9-dan answered some of the reporters' questions looking rather dejected. He was clearly distracted!

When it was time for the American representative to say a few words, he was clearly very excited and spoke loftily.

Xiaodong could no longer watch. "This American is too arrogant!"

Yao Jiancai said, "Even Shinji 9-dan could not win?"

Chen Guang said, "Could there really be no one who can defeat them?"

"There's still another game tomorrow. Let's not speak too early," Li Xiaoxian said.

Zhang Xia said, "If it still doesn't work out, we still have Xiang Rong 9-dan around."

...

At this moment, all the attention throughout Asia was focused on this battle of the century in Tokyo!

"Did we lose?"

"Shinji 9-dan lost?"

"How could that be!"

"This...we couldn't even win?"

"Could it be that Shinji 9-dan was unable to play to his potential?"

"That shouldn't be the case!"

"Damn, we'll have to wait for tomorrow!"

"Right, we'll definitely win tomorrow!"

"If not, there's still Park Yuhee 9-dan, and also Xiang Rong 9-dan!"

"That's right, Peter cannot possibly win every time!"

"Humans can't possibly lose to an AI!"

"Intelligence is the last bit of dignity that we humans have!"

"Humanity will prevail!"

"Humanity will prevail!"

This game of Go had ignited the fears of many people. On this day, countless people started panicking. They suddenly felt a chill in the depths of their hearts and were feeling a little afraid. If humans were to lose to AI in a test of intelligence, then...that was something that was totally unimaginable to them!

Chapter 1116: Humanity vs. Artificial Intelligence (Middle)

In China. On the Internet.

Things were blowing up.

On this day, countless people were posting proclamations of "Humanity Will Prevail!" across the Internet. Everywhere, in workplaces, hotels and bars, from the streets to the alleys, discussions were being had about this war between humans and machines. If it was chaotic before, now nearly everyone knew about it! The reason for this was because a lot of people did not believe it at first. They felt that it was just a gimmick arranged by the Americans, spending money to arrange for a showcase match between Peter and Chen Chi 9-dan as a fancy way of hyping up the promotion for their artificial intelligence program. But now, even Shinji 9-dan had lost in unexpected fashion!

He couldn't lose again!

If he lost the next game, then everyone would lose!

Shinji 9-dan could not afford to lose any more!

Humanity could not afford to lose either!

...

With the public's attention.

The second game showdown commenced!

Many countries across Asia were broadcasting the game live!

In Tokyo, countless foreign and domestic reporters had gathered outside the competition venue. They were all waiting for the final moment!

A diagonal move!

A knight's move!

A horizontal stretch!

A push through 1 !

The game lasted for a full five hours!

Back at home.

Zhang Ye's father had been watching the game the entire afternoon.

His mother was forced to watch alongside her husband without any knowledge.

"Aiyo, this move isn't good!

"Push through!

"Don't retreat 2 !

"Make a knight's move over there!"

His father was watching excitedly while commenting on the game like a layman would to a professional. He was actually not good at all. He was just watching for the fun of it.

However, the only person who really knew about Go at home did not even bother watching the game.

Zhang Ye was listening to music in his room. After watching the match between Shinji 9-dan and Peter yesterday, he did not pay any further attention to the match. This was because he felt that Shinji 9-dan's level was just average. Even the seemingly on steroids "WuChanghe" from the other day was better than him. And what exactly was Wu Changhe's level? He was a professional player retired for over 20 years who probably had not even retained half his skill from back then. Since Shinji 9-dan was not any better than him, it would have been a wonder if he could actually win against the AI. This program was definitely not as simple as everyone thought it to be. It would be very difficult for any Go player to win against it. Or at least to Zhang Ye, a computer program that had compiled all the data of the Go players and the millions and millions of games played would already make it unfair for any human players to play against.

Indeed, a cry from his father rang out from the living room!

"He lost!"

Shinji 9-dan had lost!

He suffered a terrible defeat, 2-0!

On TV, Commentator Chen Ying looked horrified!

Host Yu Yingyi said in pity, "It was only a difference of five points! Only five points!"

Chen Ying gave Yu Yingyi a look but did not say anything else.

Only five points?

Isn't a difference of five points already a lot?

And throughout the game, PETER had been constricting Shinji 9-dan's play! If it weren't for Shinji 9-dan taking a defensive strategy right from the start, would he have lost by just a five point difference? In this game, the machine had taken the advantage almost from the start. Up until the end, Shinji 9-dan did not even get a chance to turn things around!

The Japanese netizens blew up!

"No!"

"That's impossible!"

"He lost?"

"How could this be?"

The netizens in China were also gripped by the developments!

"Humanity has lost?"

"That was a really bad loss!"

"What's with Shinji 9-dan! Did he even get serious?"

"That goddamned AI!"

"This is as good as giving the Go world a slap to its face!"

The reason why Go was so highly praised by so many people was that it was the most complex and most challenging board game around that only humans could play. But now, a machine had suddenly appeared from nowhere and issued a challenge to all of humanity. Then, it won twice in a row against Chen Chi 9-dan and Shinji 9-dan, which subverted the mindsets of a lot of people. It also crumbled the firm beliefs of many professional Go players and amateurs. The appearance of Peter had struck a heavy blow to the international Go world!

There was news all around!

"Shinji 9-dan swept!"

"Will machines rule over humans in the near future?"

"Will intelligence no longer be just a privilege of humans?"

Some experts also claimed that this development would be a good thing. The reason they gave was that the appearance of Peter would raise the entire standard of play in the world of Go. This was because if they popularized the game through the program, every Go enthusiast would be able to play against a world-class Go "player" anytime they wanted. Xiang Rong 9-dan could not possibly be there to play with the netizens every day. Shinji 9-dan could not possibly be there to play with every Go enthusiast either. But Peter could. An AI could. This would undoubtedly train many professional Go players and raise the overall standard of play of the game.

However, the opinions of these experts were very quickly refuted by Wu Changhe, Dan Donghe, Chen Ying, and many other professional Go players!

Raise the standard of play in the world of Go?

Bullshit! This was obviously a disaster for the Go world!

If you were matched against a human player like yourself in a game, even if you lost, you would probably not mind it. You would think that you still stood a chance of winning in the next game. Even if you lost countless games, you could accept that it might be because your opponent had performed too well. However, that was a kind of performance that you could imagine and know to be within the limits of a human being. You would be able to admit that you were not better than this person, but that would not be enough to affect your love for this game. That was where the charm of games laid.

On the contrary, if your opponent was just a cold and emotionless computer playing the same game, you might lose once, twice, a thousand times, or even ten thousand times. But when you finally realize that even after you have put in every effort that you could in your entire lifetime and still not beat this

opponent, that all humans would not have a chance of winning against it, then at that time, who would still want to play such a game?

If they were to really allow the machines to dominate the Go world's highest powers, it would definitely lead to a terrible ending. In the future, there would be fewer and fewer people playing this game called Go, leading to its inevitable extinction!

That was too frightening an outcome!

It was also the reason why so many of the Go world's professional players were stepping forward!

Because there was no longer a path of retreat, they had to step into battle!

...

On the same night.

The Koreans came forward!

The best player of the Korean Go world, Park Yuhee 9-dan, called for a press conference. He announced that he had accepted Peter's challenge and would battle against it in Seoul the day after tomorrow!

Park Yuhee!

Ranked second in the world of Go!

Park Yuhee's appearance once again lifted the hopes of many people!

"Go for it!"

"You must definitely win!"

"Humanity will prevail!"

"Park Yuhee will prevail!"

"Show that machine what we can do!"

"We can't lose anymore!"

"If you win, you'll become the hero of the Go world!"

"Please save the Go world!"

The Koreans were extremely confident and were all showing their support for Park Yuhee!

Park Yuhee had even pushed away two upcoming professional tournaments to focus on his preparations for the match. It could be seen just how much importance he placed on the artificial intelligence program!

The Korean media and television stations' promotions for the match that would be held two days later went into full swing. The media labeled this match as "The Battle for the Salvation of Humanity"!

But as it goes, the greater the expectations, the greater the disappointment!

On the day of the first game, no one expected that it would turn out this way.

With the full attention of all of Asia, Park Yuhee committed a mistake during the middlegame in the first round of the match. As long as one was human, there would always be mistakes. Even Xiang Rong 9-dan was not an exception to that. However, Peter did not have that problem. The machine made no mistakes. Not long after moving into the middlegame, Park Yuhee was forced to resign!

The next day.

The second game.

Park Yuhee started the game in full pursuit. He dominated with a three-point advantage right from the beginning. But when they got to the middlegame, a beautiful "push through" move by Peter disrupted the opening setup of Park Yuhee's stones. Park Yuhee was left struggling and unable to turn things around from there. In the end, after adding the compensation, he actually lost by ten points!

Two to zero!

Peter was victorious again!

It was awful!

It was just too awful!

At the post-match press conference.

The American representative raised the microphone and said happily, "Peter is the most perfect and advanced version of an artificial intelligence program that we have developed. We're confident that it can defeat every human Go player around!"

When it was Park Yuhee's turn to speak, he held the microphone for a very long time while hesitating. Finally, he just said, "I'm sorry that I disappointed everyone." He then left the stage dejectedly and offered no other comments!

Everyone fell silent!

Immediately, Asia turned its attention to China.

Chapter 1117: Humanity vs. Artificial Intelligence (End)

In China.

In the morning, Zhang Ye went outside to exercise.

In the end, all he could hear on the streets and alleys were sounds of discussion.

"The whole Go world is going to get destroyed!"

"This will really look bad on them!"

"Do you think that it will only be the Go world that gets affected? Peter is challenging the intelligence of all of humanity!"

"Yeah, it wouldn't look good on any of us!"

"Will Xiang Rong 9-dan accept the challenge?"

"I don't know. There's been no news from China Qiyuan at all."

"Xiang Rong might not necessarily win either. This AI is too strong!"

"The key issue was that it won so easily. Both the world number two and three suffered terrible losses. If they had been only marginal losses, there would still be some hope!"

The situation was starting to get worse!

The discussions were also becoming more and more pessimistic!

All this was because of humanity suffering a terrible defeat. Admittedly, Xiang Rong 9-dan had still not stepped forward yet. But even though he was at a higher level than Shinji 9-dan and Park Yuhee 9-dan, it wasn't that great of a difference. In the regular international tournaments, even he would not be able to win ten out of ten games when he came up against either of those two, and he would still suffer one or two losses occasionally. The outcome of a Go match was too uncertain, and no one could be guaranteed to always win. If the situation was analyzed from this angle, Xiang Rong 9-dan would probably not be Peter's equal either! Of course, this was just an analysis.

On the way back, Zhang Ye bought two copies of the newspapers.

Flipping one of them open, the headlines were all about the "war between humans and machines." Seeing how the representatives of each country were getting defeated one by one, Zhang Ye did not have anything to say and could only sigh. Then he took a slow jog home to eat breakfast.

As expected, Peter and AlphaGo were the same thing!

In fact, this AI might be even stronger than AlphaGo!

The Go world was in danger!

...

Online.

The call for battle was getting louder and louder!

"Fuck! Fuck it!"

"The Americans are too arrogant!"

"How can you compare the intelligence of humans to a machine?"

"If you think it's so good, why don't you compete with humans on complex reasoning? Compete in art? Compete in creative works? Do you people dare to do that? Using Go to compete with humanity on the intelligence of humans! They were basically targeting us right from the start!"

"The Americans are too abhorrent!"

"Let's win against them! Fuck!"

"Xiang Rong 9-dan, fight it out with them!"

For the past two days, the Americans had constantly been making their stance known. They were very arrogant and were aggressively provoking the Go world. They posted a statement or a challenge almost every few hours. Their eyes were already turning to China. This was because everyone knew that when it came to Go, if China claimed that they were second, no one would dare to proclaim themselves first. In the end, the Americans even called out Xiang Rong 9-dan!

A lot of people to become angry over this!

"Fuck!"

"They're being so arrogant!"

"You people gathered all the Go players' data and analyzed it, then copied all of the matches and game record data into the machine as well. That in itself is already unfair! That in itself is the crystallization of humanity's intelligence. It is the collective acquired wisdom of the Go players throughout history. By using that to fight against us, how can you people still be so arrogant?"

"I'm so pissed off!"

"I don't believe that no one can win against it!"

"Right, I don't fucking believe that either!"

...

At China Qiyuan.

In the Go association.

The courtyard area was overwhelmed with reporters. Many of them had been here since two days ago. Some of them even decided to set up tents and spent entire days there. In the surrounding area, many foreign reporters were also present!

This place had become the center of attention through Asia!

Everyone was watching and waiting for them!

Outside, there were also quite a few Go enthusiasts and common folk holding up signs and protesting!

"Vanquish Peter!"

"Vanquish Peter!"

"Vanquish Peter!"

Their shouts were deafening!

It could even be heard clearly from inside the Qiyuan.

In here, almost all of the professional Go players were present. Some of them had not been home for two days. They stayed up, bags under their bloodshot eyes, to research the games in the Qiyuan, analyzing every move Peter made. This was a catastrophe for the Go world, so who could possibly rest?

Li Yi 9-dan said with a dark look, "It's too difficult!"

Another 9th dan player shook his head. "Peter's data is too complete. Every move it makes takes into account all kinds of considerations. There isn't much hope if we want to win against it!"

Xiang Rong said calmly, "Go and inform the media outlets."

"Old Xiang!" Li Yi 9-dan exclaimed.

Dan Donghe added anxiously, "You must think this over carefully!"

Xiang Rong said, "I've already considered it very carefully."

Chen Ying came up to him. "Brother Xiang, if you accept the challenge and lose, the entire Go world will no longer have a place to stand!"

"Yeah!" Xu Han also said in disagreement, "You're the last line of defense and the last card that our Go world has. If you lose, what will we do?"

"Right, just ignore them!"

"Let the Americans continue being arrogant. We can just pretend to have not seen or heard them!"

"You cannot accept the challenge!"

"Master Xiang!"

"Master Xiang!"

Wu Changhe looked at him. "What do you think your chances are?"

Xiang Rong thought about it and said truthfully, "At most 20%."

20%?

This was as good as a certain loss!

If even Master Xiang himself could say this, then what was the point of accepting the challenge!

Wu Changhe said, "Have you thought over this carefully?"

Xiang Rong acknowledged, "Yes. No matter how it goes, I still have to give it a try. We're at this juncture, so if I retreat from here, that would be even more embarrassing than losing. I cannot retreat!"

Wu Changhe grit his teeth and said firmly, "OK, gather the reporters!"

President Dan Donghe said angrily, "Brother Wu, I am the President of the Qiyuan!"

But Wu Changhe said, "Stand aside! They've come knocking on our doors to seek a fight and you're still thinking of hiding? Where can you hide? Even if we fucking lose, our China Qiyuan will still lose with pride!" Wu Changhe's temperament had always been this way. He was always the aggressive type!

Immediately, some people responded!

"Right!"

"Teacher Changhe is right!"

"We cannot be frightened by them!"

"I don't believe that the machine is really going to be so difficult to overcome!"

"Master Xiang will prevail!"

...

Half an hour later.

China Qiyuan made its announcement!

—Xiang Rong 9-dan has accepted the challenge!

The venue: China Qiyuan.

Time: Tomorrow morning.

Weibo instantly exploded!

"Xiang Rong has stepped forward!"

"Oh God, he's really come forward!"

"This is going to be big!"

"Whoever wins this match will surely send a shockwave across Asia!"

"Master Xiang, you can do it!"

"You're the trump card of the Go world!"

"Good showing, Master Xiang! I was afraid that you wouldn't step up to the challenge!"

"Fight against it!"

"Fight! Fight! Fight!"

Unexpectedly, many of the Go enthusiasts from Japan and Korea also sent their full support to him!

From Japan.

"Let's go Chinese players!"

"Thrash that Peter!"

"You can do it!"

From Korea.

"Don't lose!"

"Xiang Rong, avenge us!"

"Show that machine the conviction of us humans!"

A lot of the well-known international professional Go players also voiced their support for Xiang Rong 9-dan. There was an unprecedented show of unity throughout the Go world!

Almost everyone in Asia was on Xiang Rong's side!

...

The next day.

This news had spread everywhere!

The newspapers sold like crazy!

The entrance of China Qiyuan was filled with people from very early in the morning.

"Xiang Rong will prevail!"

"Humanity will prevail!"

There were a lot of people shouting this catchphrase to show their support!

Central TV Sports Channel, Beijing Television, and many other foreign television stations also received the rights to broadcast the event live. They gradually entered the building and waited for the game to begin after setting up their equipment.

No, perhaps this shouldn't be called a game!

This was a war!

A war between humanity and artificial intelligence!

Before the game began, only Central TV managed to secure the rights to a pre-game interview. The person interviewing Xiang Rong was Yu Yingyi.

The live broadcast began.

All cameras focused on Xiang Rong.

Yu Yingyi gripped her microphone and said, "Teacher Xiang Rong, as everyone should already know, you're the number one player in the international Go community. Faced with the AI's challenge, everyone would like to know what your chances of winning are."

Xiang Rong looked at her and said, "The odds are not great."

With that said, everyone burst into an uproar.

Yu Yingyi was also stunned. "If you lose as well, the Go world will have lost its last line of defense. So why did you agree to the challenge?"

Xiang Rong said calmly, "First, I have no reason not to accept. Second, I would also like to play against the computer program. Third, what you said just now was wrong. I could never be the last line of defense for the Go world. Even if I lose, I believe that someone else will step forward to battle against the machine!"

There was still someone else?

There was still someone other than you?

Yu Yingyi said astounded, "Is there really someone who can stand shoulder-to-shoulder with you in the Go world?"

Xiang Rong smiled. No one knew if his words were directed at Yu Yingyi or to the camera, or perhaps even to the artificial intelligence program. "Never, ever look down on humans!"

The interview ended.

Xiang Rong strode up into the room holding the game and sat down.

A lot of people could not understand what he had just said!

...

Back at home.

All of Zhang Ye's family was watching the live broadcast.

His father said in surprise, "What does Xiang Rong 9-dan mean by that?"

His mother said, "Isn't he the best player in the world of Go? There's still someone else other than him who can play against the machine?"

"Who could it be?" Zhang Ye wondered.

His father said, "Who knows?"

Zhang Ye looked at the TV showing Xiang Rong 9-dan. He suddenly had a feeling that he would not win. He probably knew this himself as well, but still chose to sit down there.

Zhang Ye suddenly gained a bit more respect for this man!

This type of person who would still enter into a battle knowing that he would not be able to win truly deserved respect!

But he wondered who that person he was referring to could be.

If he really lost this match, would there really still be someone else who could take on this AI?

The game began.

However, Zhang Ye quietly walked away. He did not want to watch this, nor could he bear to watch it.

His father asked, "Where are you off to?"

"I'm going for a stroll." Zhang Ye went out. He wasn't a member of the Go world, but he did not wish to witness for himself this darkest day that was going to descend upon the Go world. He did not wish to see all the defeated expressions of everyone. He knew that in this world, there should not be anyone who could win against that machine called Peter.

He strolled about.

He turned in and out of the alleyways.

And had a meal outside.

The television was on, and many of those who were eating were also watching the live broadcast at the same time. Amazingly, no one recognized Zhang Ye.

"Dammit!"

"He still lost!"

"How could that be!"

"Even Master Xiang has lost? Then who can win?"

"Ah, Xiang Rong is requesting for the second game to begin immediately!"

"But why? Why doesn't he want to take a break first?"

"Yeah, why isn't he spreading it out over the day?"

"Continue?"

Zhang Ye looked up at the television.

The first game of the match ended after only three hours. He did not watch how it progressed and only saw the final layout of the board. Xiang Rong had lost by a mere two points!

The second game began immediately!

Everyone was feeling regretful about the result.

"He nearly won!"

"Yeah, it's only two points!"

"What a shame!"

"He's indeed the best player of the international Go world. He's so strong!"

"What's the use of that! He still lost!"

"Let's watch the second game. There's definitely still some hope!"

However, after another hard-fought five hours, Xiang Rong lost the second game. He lost by a mere one point this time. Peter had managed to turn things around at the critical juncture right in the endgame!

Xiang Rong was defeated!

Humanity was defeated!

Chapter 1118: Approaching YE for help?

At Zhang Ye's parents' house.

Zhang Ye opened the door with his keys when he came back. "Dad, Mom, what's the matter?"

His mother pouted. "Your dad is upset."

"About Xiang Rong 9-dan's loss?" Zhang Ye asked.

"Yeah." His mother said.

He saw his dad looking annoyed as he had a sip of tea and said, "Just what in the world is that stupid machine? Why hasn't anyone been able to teach it a lesson yet?"

His mother said, "It was such a pity. He only lost by a little bit!"

His father said angrily, "If they played again, Xiang Rong 9-dan would definitely be able to win!"

Able to win?

That might not be the case.

Zhang Ye could see very clearly that this AI called Peter was very rigorous in its decision making. Anyone would commit a mistake as long as they were human, but Peter was not human and almost wouldn't make any mistakes. For every move it made, it could meticulously predict the most beneficial position to take through big data analytics and the use of its two special "brains." Just this alone was already an advantage that was too great and beyond comparison for humans. Furthermore, it even had a massive set of game data to support it. The Americans had probably reconfigured Peter's settings before the match against Xiang Rong 9-dan to cope with his playing style and come up with the best strategy to ensure the highest chance of victory. So, even if Xiang Rong 9-dan were to play another game against Peter, he still might not be able to win against it. Although on the surface, the difference did not seem that bad.

The television was still on.

A post-match press conference was being held.

Xiang Rong was seated up on stage. His first words were, "I'm sorry."

Xiang Rong had lost, and a lot of the reporters looked discouraged.

"Teacher Xiang, could it be that you were unable to play to your potential today?"

"Why didn't you rest for a day before continuing with the second game?"

"Could it be that there is really no one who can win against the AI?"

"Master Xiang, what did you really mean when you said those words in the pre-match interview?"

All the reporters immediately raised their equipment in anticipation.

Afterwards, it was time for the representative of the Americans to be interviewed.

This man was called Smith. The moment he went up, he spoke arrogantly in Mandarin, "Today is a memorable day because an artificial intelligence has triumphed over the wisdom of humanity!"

Quite a few reporters in the audience booed him.

"Get over it!"

"Aren't you pontificating a little too early!"

"There are still plenty of smart people around!"

"You dare call that Peter thing intelligent?"

Nobody acknowledged this, and neither did they want to acknowledge it!

Smith waved them off in response and announced, "Our claims remain the same as before. Peter will accept a challenge from anyone. In the field of Go, no one will be a match for Peter! This latest AI that our company has developed is way beyond what any human player in existence can achieve. We're not afraid of any challengers. The current world number one who is also the publicly acknowledged best Go player has suffered a defeat at the hands of Peter. It is now our turn to be challenged. If there is anyone who thinks that they can defeat Peter, let them issue us a challenge. We will not turn anyone down!"

After saying that, Smith left the stage.

Countless people raised objections in condemning voices on Weibo!

"What is he acting all high and mighty for!"

"Damn, this is infuriating!"

"This American has a death wish!"

"There are so many top Go players in China! Why should we be afraid of him?"

"Let's get him! Fuck him!"

"What about Li Yi 9-dan?"

"What about Liu Hong 9-dan?"

"Isn't he totally holding us in contempt!"

"Right, all of them should go for it and have a simul match 1 against it!"

"The opponent is a machine and does not have any limitations of stamina or mental fatigue. So it will always be in the best form to play. What's the use of having a simul match against it? Even Xiang Rong 9-dan has lost!"

"Is there really no one else left?"

"There are so many people with great intelligence in Asia. Don't tell me there's no one who can win against it?"

In Japan.

"Even Xiang Rong 9-dan couldn't beat the AI?"

"Humanity has lost!"

"Go is done for!"

"Yeah, Go is done for!"

In Korea.

"There must still be someone else!"

"Right, didn't Xiang Rong say it himself? That he's not the last line of defense!"

"Who else can step forward?"

"We can only look to the Chinese now!"

"But I don't think there's anyone else left in the Chinese Go world that stands a chance of winning?"

Citizens from all over Asia burst into an uproar!

This was especially true for the Go enthusiasts and professional players in Asia, as they were all unable to accept this result and the prospects of the Go world heading towards destruction from here on out. If a computer became the strongest player in the Go world, it would really be the end of Go. No one could accept such a setback as it felt like one part of humanity's culture was getting slaughtered. Today, it was Go. But tomorrow, it might be Xiangqi. Then the day after, it could be mathematics. Someday, they might just set their sights on the arts. When all the industries had been dominated by artificial intelligence, how would humans be able to survive?

There was no retreating any further!

Someone had to step forward!

Many celebrities gradually appeared and gave a show of support as well!

The famous singer, Chen Guang: "Come on, people, don't let the machines get so arrogant!"

The A-list movie star, Huo Dongfang: "I don't believe there's no one left!"

A Heavenly King said: "Xiang Rong 9-dan is right! Don't look down on humans!"

Famous girl group leader, Xiaodong: "Are there any Go experts left?"

The famous A-list celebrity, Ning Lan: "We can't let the dignity of humanity get tarnished in this generation of ours! I refuse to believe that there's no one left who can do it!"

Although Xiang Rong 9-dan lost, it stirred the fighting spirit in a lot of people!

Humanity had not lost yet!

Humanity must not lose either!

...

On the same night.

The public was in chaos!

There were news reports everywhere!

"Has humanity lost?"

"An era of AI dominance upon us?"

"The Go world's No. 1 loses!"

"Where is humanity's last line of defense?"

"Japanese citizens hold a demonstration to protest AI!"

"Three Korean pro Go players announce retirement!"

"The impending decline of Go!"

"Challenging the dignity of humanity!"

"Who shall be the 'savior'?"

At China Qiyuan, newspapers were scattered all over the table.

When Dan Donghe saw this, he screamed, "Clear away all the newspapers!"

The interview had ended, and the reporters had also left, leaving China Qiyuan's people standing there looking beaten and terrible. Everyone was in a very bad mood and did not know what to say.

Chen Ying 7-dan asked anxiously, "What can we do now?"

"We'll issue a challenge to it!" Hu Liang said.

Xu Han 8-dan said, "But who's going to challenge it? Who can we send?"

"Let's request a simul match!"

"Right, we'll all take turns to play!"

"No, we've already lost too many matches! We can't lose again this time!"

"We can't have a simul match! That would make us humans look even more powerless!"

"We have to snatch victory in one fell swoop! We must win the next time we play!"

"How can we win?"

"The opponent could even defeat Master Xiang!"

It was a messy spectacle as everyone was getting confused and flustered by the events!

Wu Changhe gave Li Yi 9-dan a glance and said, "Little Li!"

Everyone looked at him immediately.

Next to Xiang Rong, Li Yi 9-dan was the strongest player in the Qiyuan.

However, Li Yi 9-dan just gave him a look and said immediately, "I can't do it. Even Old Xiang lost to it. I definitely couldn't win against it!"

President Dan Donghe turned his attention to yet another active 9-dan player. "Liu Hong!"

Liu Hong 9-dan also said immediately, "I also can't win against it!"

Dan Donghe said, "Even if you have a 10% chance of winning, you still have to step up to the challenge!"

Liu Hong gave a wry smile. "I don't even feel like I have 10% chance of winning!"

They were all professional Go players and had witnessed Peter's strength for themselves. As such, they had an idea of its capabilities and knew that it was impossible for them to win against it. If there was anyone capable of winning against Peter, it would have been Xiang Rong 9-dan. But since Master Xiang had lost...

"You're too afraid to even step up to the challenge?" Wu Changhe was furious.

Dan Donghe said loudly, "Whoever is confident of restricting Peter's playstyle, step forward now!"

No one came forward!

Nobody moved!

"There's no way to restrict it!"

"It's a computer and its playstyle is not fixed!"

"Right, it does not even have its own style!"

"Even Master Xiang could not win. There is no one in the entire Go world who can equal Peter!"

Dan Donghe was also panicking now. He was not the kind of person to take an offensive stance and initially did not want Xiang Rong to accept the challenge. That was because he knew that their chances were really slim. If Xiang Rong had not played against Peter, even if it would be a loss of face, they would at least still be able to preserve the dignity of humanity. But now that even Xiang Rong had lost, they did not have any other choice and could only step up to the challenge. They had to win!

Was there no one else left?

Was there really no one else left?

Suddenly, Chen Ying thought of something. She froze for a moment before shouting, "We still have a champion! There is someone! There is at least one more person who has the chance of defeating Peter!"

Everyone looked at her!

"Who?"

"Who is it?"

"Little Chen, tell us quickly!"

Chen Ying said something shocking. "Did you guys forget about him? That guy called YE!"

Suddenly, everyone realized who it was and thought of him!

YE!

Yes!

That YE!

Li Yi 9-dan slapped his thigh and said, "Right, he's an amazing player. When I played against him, I had to resign in the middlegame!"

Xu Han also said excitedly, "That's right, that's right. Even Master Xiang could only manage a draw with him!"

Chen Ying said, "If there is anyone other than Master Xiang who can go against that Peter, then it can only be that YE!"

Everyone nodded in full agreement as they had witnessed YE's skill!

Dan Donghe banged the table and said, "It's him then! How could I forget him! How could I have forgotten about him!"

Liu Hong 9-dan said, "But we don't even know who he is!" He then turned to look at Wu Changhe.

Instantly, everyone at the Qiyuan stared at Wu Changhe. In here, only he knew who YE was. From the words that YE had said to him, everyone could see that the two of them had a conflict. They couldn't be blamed if they thought that there was a huge grudge between them!

Chapter 1119: The Go world's last line of defense!

At China Qiyuan.

Everyone's hopes were kindled!

YE!

This was the last straw that they could clutch at!

Wu Changhe grunted, "Why are you all looking at me?"

Chen Ying asked anxiously, "Teacher, who is YE, really?"

A 6-dan player said, "Teacher Changhe, he's the only one who can step up to the plate!"

Wu Changhe scowled and said, "But he's just an amateur!"

"A person who can play to a draw against Little Xiang, so what if he's an amateur?" Dan Donghe said, "Brother Wu, hurry up and tell us. Don't hide it from us anymore! There's no one else besides him!"

Li Yi 9-dan asked, "Who is he?"

Wu Changhe sighed and shook his head. "Believe me, you all definitely won't want to know who he is."

Dan Donghe said, "But what choice do we have now?"

Wu Changhe was silent.

Dan Donghe said, "Brother Wu!"

"Teacher!"

"Teacher Changhe!"

"Please tell us!"

"We can only send him!"

"Just because there's a grudge between the two of you, you can't..."

"Right, if you can't convince him to join, we'll do it!"

"That's right. If the two of you have a conflict, there's no need for you to ask him. Let us do it instead!"

Wu Changhe did not like hearing that. He was always concerned with his honor, so he stared at them with wide eyes and said, "He has a grudge against me? He would have to dare to hold a grudge against me first! I can't convince him to join? Are you all kidding or something?! If I point east, that kid would never walk west. Do you believe that? Ah?"

Dan Donghe smacked his lips. "Is there any point in boasting about something like that?"

"Me? Boasting?" Wu Changhe said angrily, "That kid would be more than willing to get into my good books. Do you think I'm bullshitting you? That kid was the one who supplied us with the research information related to that P-thingy!"

Everyone was shocked!

"Eh?"

"It was him who gave us the information?"

"No wonder!"

"He's a mathematician?"

"No wonder he's so good at Go!"

When Dan Donghe heard that, he got even more excited. "So it's like that? That's great! That's really great! He knows that AI program so well and even has the skill to draw with Little Xiang. Based on all that, our chances of winning will be even greater if we can convince him to represent us. Brother Wu, please tell us quickly who this mathematics expert is?"

Chen Ying asked, "Is he from Peking University or Tsinghua?"

Wu Changhe was forced to reply, "Peking."

"Peking University?"

"Could it be Old Pan?"

"It can't be him!"

Then, Wu Changhe reluctantly uttered a name.

When this name was spoken, everyone was dumbfounded!

All of them knew who he was!

There was no one who didn't know this person!

"What?"

"Holy fuck!"

"It's him?"

"How could it be him?"

"Oh my God!"

Curses and expletives flew through the air!

Nobody, none of them, wanted to believe it!

The man who had swept aside the entire China Qiyuan several days ago turned out to be him?

...

At home.

Zhang Ye's father was asking him to check for news updates on the Internet.

His father asked, "Has anyone offered to challenge the AI yet?"

"Not yet."

"Why hasn't anyone stepped forward yet!"

Zhang Ye smiled wryly. "If even the top Go player could not win against it, who else would stand a chance?"

"Xiang Rong 9-dan said that he was not the last line of defense!"

Zhang Ye threw his hands up. "In any case, there's no one offering to challenge it yet."

Regarding this war between humans and machines, Zhang Ye was pessimistic. He thought the entire time that no one would win against Peter as it was a completely different artificial intelligence system from its predecessors.

His mother said, "Since Xiang Rong 9-dan said that there was someone else, there must be someone else."

"That's right!" His father also deeply believed that there would be someone who could win against the AI.

When they still found nothing after checking for a long time, his father got even angrier. "Don't check anymore. I'm going to go out for a stroll. This is so infuriating!"

So his parents went out for a stroll together. Before they left, they were still rambling on about this matter.

The whole of Asia was now watching with their eyes wide as they waited for a hero to step forward and trample on the AI named Peter!

Meanwhile, Zhang Ye shook his head.

There was still someone?

Who else could there be!

It would be useless no matter who came forward!

He returned to his room to listen to music. He never felt that this issue had anything to do with him.

Awhile later, there was a sudden knocking at the door.

Zhang Ye was startled. Did his parents forget to bring their keys? Why were they back so soon when they had just stepped out a moment ago? He opened his bedroom door and walked out to the living room. "Who is it?" Then he opened the front door.

When he saw what was outside the door, he got a scare!

There were over a dozen people squeezed outside in the corridor. The two who were standing right at the front of the group were Wu Changhe and Li Qinqin. As for the others, Zhang Ye did not know a single one of them. Getting a sense of the situation, Zhang Ye decided not to open up security gate. How could this fellow open it up for them!

Damn!

They've even found their way to my doorstep now?

Zhang Ye said warily, "Uncle, why did you come to my place? We played Go together, but I didn't cheat or play dirty against you. For heaven's sake, I won our games fair and square, OK! Are you trying to pick a fight? You even brought along this many people to back you up? You can't do this! Are you being a sore loser?"

Wu Changhe was made speechless.

As was Li Qinqin.

The same went for Dan Donghe and the others.

Without waiting for them to explain, Zhang Ye pointed at them and said, "Don't do anything foolish. Let me warn you, I know kung fu. Not even eighty or a hundred people can get near me. Hurry up and turn back. If you try to get close, I will really injure you! When that happens, it won't look good on anyone! Don't blame me for not warning you!"

Wu Changhe said angrily, "Open the door!"

Zhang Ye grunted, "I'm not opening it!"

Wu Changhe was starting to get anxious. "Open up!"

"Do you think I'm that stupid to open the door?" Zhang Ye rolled his eyes at him.

Dan Donghe came forward and said, "Professor Zhang, we came here today for a reason."

"Of course I know you all are here for a reason!" Zhang Ye sized him up as he smirked and said, "It's not that I want to criticize you, old comrade, but why are you so lacking in your common sense and awareness? I'd let it pass for those young people standing behind for coming here to start a gang fight. But you are already in your fifties or sixties, what are you joining in the fun for! With that physique of yours, who can you beat up? I'm afraid that your high blood pressure will shoot up if I just cough out loudly! Hurry up and turn back. Otherwise, I'm going to call the police!"

Dan Donghe nearly fainted!

Xu Han said anxiously, "We are not here to start a gang fight!"

Zhang Ye stared at him and said, "What do you want then? A one on one?"

One on one?

One on one your sister!

What kind of math professor are you! Why are you always only thinking about fighting!

Li Qinqin quickly said, "Little Zhang, don't get it wrong. They're here to discuss something with you. Why would you think that they are here to start a fight? Open the door first. With Auntie here, they wouldn't dare to lay a finger on you. I will hit whoever dares to pick on you!"

"I'm just afraid that I will injure them instead." Zhang Ye's tone started loosening up a little as he still gave face to Old Wu's mother. Then, he could only open up the door for them. "Auntie, please come in."

Li Qinqin entered first.

The others behind her also gradually entered with Zhang Ye's unfriendly gaze on them.

After closing the doors.

Zhang Ye wondered and asked, "Auntie, why did so many of you come to my place for?"

Li Qinqin nudged at Wu Changhe and said, "You speak."

Wu Changhe was so angry that he turned his head away. "I'm not talking to him!" He was still upset over what happened earlier.

Zhang Ye was really getting confused.

What is going on here?

What is this turnout all about?

Then when he looked closer, he recognized another person amongst the crowd. He pointed at Chen Ying and said, "Eh, weren't you the person on television for the past few days..."

Chen Ying's eyes lit up. "You know me?"

Zhang Ye said, "Yeah, you were the one beside Yu Yingyi!"

The one beside...

Chen Ying was left speechless for a long time.

Dan Donghe said, "Let me say it. Professor Zhang, I'm the current President of the China Qiyuan and my name is Dan Donghe. Since you can play Go so well, you probably should know me."

Zhang Ye blinked and was in a daze as he looked at him.

Everyone could tell from this expression that Zhang Ye had clearly never heard of him before.

Dan Donghe felt a little embarrassed. He had forgotten that he was facing a complete layperson who even took Xiang Rong 9-dan for a newbie. "Alright, it's fine even if you don't know me. Anyway, I still represent the entire China Qiyuan." Then he pointed at the people around him and said, "These are all the current top professional players of the Go world in our country. I don't think that you would know them, so I won't bother with introducing them to you one by one."

Zhang Ye was baffled. "What you are looking for me for?"

Dan Donghe asked, "Do you know about the challenge by the artificial intelligence to the Go world?"

"Of course." Zhang Ye said, "I've watched it on television."

Dan Donghe said, "Even Xiang Rong 9-dan has lost."

Zhang Ye nodded and said, "Yeah, and then?"

"We are here for that matter." Dan Donghe spoke seriously.

It suddenly dawned on Zhang Ye. "Are you all looking for me to help with the advertising? To propagate the message out to the masses over Weibo? To see if there are any Go experts who are willing to stand up to PETER? You all are expecting too much. Even the Go world's top player has lost, so who else can still win against that artificial intelligence? There's no use even if ask me for help with the promotion of that matter. Oh yes, didn't that Xiang Rong 9-dan already say it? That he was not humanity's last line of defense and how there was someone else other than him. Why don't you all get him to look for that person instead?"

"Advertise?" Wu Changhe was totally exasperated by that reply!

Chen Ying opened her mouth and said, "Yes, Master Xiang is not humanity's last line of defense."

Zhang Ye threw his hands up and said, "Yeah, then you guys should go and look for that person. Why did you all come to my place for? I'm not well-liked by people. Even if I advertise, there won't be many people responding to it. Of course, if you insist on me helping with the advertising, I could still give face to auntie and do it for you all. I can also not charge any advertising fees since we are all friends."

"Little Zhang, are you pretending not to understand or do you really not understand?" Li Qinqin was at a loss whether to laugh or cry.

Zhang Ye blinked several times. "Understand what?" He really did not understand.

Li Qinqin looked at Zhang Ye and said, "That last line of defense that Little Xiang was referring to was you!"

Chapter 1120: For humanity's sake, I am willing to accept the challenge!

In the house.

Zhang Ye was dumbfounded by what he heard!

The Go world's last line of defense?

What?

Me?

He was tickled at once. "Auntie, are you joking?"

Li Qinqin gave a wry smile and said, "I'm not."

Zhang Ye pointed to himself and said with a smile, "I'm just a layperson to Go and a hick amongst hicks. When did I ever become the last line of defense for the Go world? You are so funny."

Chen Ying directly said, "Professor Zhang, we need your help!"

Even though Hu Liang 7-dan got crushed by Zhang Ye a few days ago, he knew that he had lost convincingly. He spoke up, "Professor Zhang, you are the only person who can help us now!"

Xu Han said, "Please, help the Go world!"

"Professor Zhang!"

"Please come forward and play against the AI!"

"Only you are good enough to beat it!"

"Professor Zhang!"

"We're earnestly asking for your help!"

"The survival of the Go world lies in your hands now!"

Immediately, all the professional Go players in the house gave him pleading looks!

Zhang Ye quickly waved it off. "Whoa, can you guys not scare me like that? What is all this about me saving the Go world? Aren't you thinking too highly of me?" He found it both a little funny and ridiculous. "Don't you all know the level of my play? Why would you come looking for me? My Go skills might be quite alright, but they're only average at best. Aiyo, you people are really funny." He immediately looked at Wu Changhe and pointed at him. "If you don't believe me, just ask Uncle. I nearly even lost to him even though he's just a has-been who retired from the game 20 years ago. I just barely managed to play him to a draw!"

What?

A has-been?

Who the hell is a has-been! You better get it straight!

Wu Changhe became annoyed on the spot. "You rascal..."

"Changhe, stick to the topic!" He got pulled back by Li Qinqin.

"This is so infuriating!" Wu Changhe could only sit down and sulk.

Many of the professional players were feeling very helpless. They were thinking in their minds that Zhang Ye was indeed just like what the rumors said about him. The way he spoke was really too sarcastic. It was little wonder then that this fellow offended so many people in the industry!

Zhang Ye pointed at Wu Changhe. "See, Uncle agrees to it as well, doesn't he? I really don't have such a high level of accomplishment in Go. You're all professional Go players, right? Any one of you here would be able to thrash me in a game!"

Thrash you?

Any one of us?

Chen Ying said bitterly, "But the problem now is that everyone who is present here has already been thrashed by you!"

Zhang Ye was stunned. "Ah?"

Xu Han sighed. "Almost all of us here have already played against you."

Hu Liang said rather embarrassed, "That time, it was us playing against you on our teacher's account."

Zhang Ye said in a startled manner, "What?"

"It means," Chen Ying said, "that our teacher only played you in the first two games. We were the ones who played against you for the remainder of the games. All of China Qiyuan's top Go players were defeated by you that day!"

Wu Changhe was not the one playing?

It wasn't him?

Zhang Ye immediately recalled the games from that day. It felt like the skill of "WuChanghe" had improved with every game that he played, and he had found it rather strange at the time but did not give much thought to it. He thought that the has-been Go player was experiencing a revival of sorts and had managed to regain part of his past skill. But when he heard what they had to say, Zhang Ye's face turned green with anger!

He immediately pointed at Wu Changhe and said angrily, "Uncle, you played dirty against me!"

Wu Changhe's face reddened from embarrassment.

Zhang Ye said angrily, "So you found helpers to play on your behalf! Aren't you being too evil! That's basically cheating! Cheating!"

Wu Changhe rolled his eyes. "What helpers! I was just testing your skill, understand?"

Zhang Ye was infuriated. "And there I was thinking that something felt amiss. I was wondering why you were getting stronger and stronger with every game. It was like you on steroids or something! So you had been scamming me all the while! So it wasn't you who played against me! Uncle, how can you behave this way! And you even insisted that I had a questionable character? Aiyo, what the heck!"

Wu Changhe felt somewhat guilty but pretended not to have heard him.

And so, Zhang Ye looked at the group. "But you guys still should not be approaching me for this. That last person I played against was rather good too and I didn't manage to win that game. Since I couldn't win, how could I be qualified to challenge Peter?"

Dan Donghe said with a bitter smile, "Do you know who you were playing against in that last game that day?"

Zhang Ye said in a daze, "Who?"

Dan Donghe said, "Xiang Rong 9-dan!"

Zhang Ye said in surprise, "What?"

"So now you understand why we came looking for you?" Dan Donghe said.

Xiang Rong 9-dan?

The world's number one Go player?

I played against him that day?

And we even drew?

Zhang Ye could not process this sudden revelation and his mind went blank. That was because this fellow had always thought that his Go skills were just average. However, now that there was suddenly a group of people who came to inform him that he was actually an expert at Go, who would be able to accept something like that?

Holy shit!

Am I really that awesome?

Is this how good I really am?

Chen Ying said sincerely, "Professor Zhang, you were the first person who managed to accurately research how the AI's data processing and operating principles worked. This shows that you have a greater understanding of the AI than any of us. You also have the Go skills to rival Xiang Rong 9-dan, so your chances of winning are definitely higher than ours! Now that Master Xiang has lost, we can only approach you for your help. We can't look for anyone else, nor is there anyone who can challenge Peter! You are the only one left!"

Zhang Ye took a deep breath and said, "You guys think too highly of me. Actually, it's useless even if I have a deeper understanding of that AI. What's the use of that? We still won't be able to defeat it. This machine is clearly not as simple as you think. You guys don't understand this, but that machine is not something that can be defeated by humanity!"

Li Qinqin said, "Little Zhang, just give it a try!"

Zhang Ye wiped his sweat away and said, "Auntie, there's no need for that. If even Xiang Rong 9-dan could not win against it, I wouldn't be able to either!"

Li Qinqin said, "You are different from Little Xiang. You're a world-class mathematician who also has an understanding of AI. Your Go skills are not any weaker than Little Xiang's, and you're also hailed as the smartest person in the world who only comes along once in a hundred years. You are at the top in literature, hosting, crosstalk, mathematics, calligraphy, and music. There's no other person in the entire world who is smarter than you! This is publicly acknowledged by all the professionals and industry insiders!"

Zhang Ye was overwhelmed. "Auntie, you really think too highly of me. If we are on the matter of other subjects, I might still be able to handle it. But I'm really no match for that PeterGo!" He knew that it would be very difficult for him to win. No, it should be said that it was basically impossible for him to win. From the beginning, he had not intended to get involved at all!

Hu Liang said loudly, "Please help the Go world!"

Xu Han said, "No matter how it turns out, we will still owe you a favor, alright?"

"If you don't accept the challenge, the Go world is really done for!"

"We can only depend on you!"

"Professor Zhang!"

"For the sake of humanity, please accept the challenge!"

"Please accept the challenge!"

"We don't have anywhere else to retreat to!"

"Humanity does not have a place to retreat to either!"

For humanity's sake?

Bullshit!

Then what about me?!

I would only be asking for a thrashing if I step forward!

Zhang Ye kept waving them off. "I really can't do it. Please find someone else. It's not that I don't have a sense of responsibility, but this is really beyond my abilities."

Dan Donghe cried out with a long face, "Professor Zhang!"

Chen Ying fretted, "You're the only one left that the Go world and humanity can depend on. If you don't accept the challenge, there won't be anyone left to stop Peter!"

Zhang Ye waved it off firmly. "I really can't do it!"

Seeing this, everyone started sighing.

"We're done for!"

"This is the end for the Go world!"

"What can we do then?"

"There's nothing else that we can do!"

Wu Changhe suddenly stood up and said, "Kid, come with me!"

"Ah?" Zhang Ye said.

Wu Changhe pushed open the first door he came upon. It was Zhang Ye's bedroom. Zhang Ye followed him in. Wu Changhe closed the door behind them.

There were only the two of them in here.

Zhang Ye quickly said, "Uncle, don't try to persuade me. I really can't do anything about that AI—"

"Kid, if you can defeat that machine, I will allow you to get together with my daughter!" interrupted Wu Changhe as he looked Zhang Ye straight in the eye.

Zhang Ye was stunned. Then he turned around, opened the door, and walked out of the room.

Wu Changhe was dumbfounded. What was the meaning of that? Why did he just walk off like that?

But the next second, he nearly fainted on the spot!

He heard Zhang Ye saying loudly, "For the sake of the honor of humanity! I will fight it out with that fucking PeterGo bastard!"

Everyone outside was stunned!

Chen Ying exclaimed, "You're willing to help us then?"

Hu Liang said excitedly, "That's great! That's really great!"

Dan Donghe could not hide his excitement either. "Professor Zhang, you will forever be remembered by all of humanity! The Go world will remember you! On behalf of the Go world, we owe you this favor!"

Zhang Ye waved it off in a serious manner and said righteously, "There's no need for that, President Dan. Aren't you looking down on me a little too much? This is a matter of our honor as humans and concerns our national cause as well, so how can I just stand by and do nothing? How can I possibly not even have the conscientiousness to take up this responsibility? Hur hur, I just wanted to test everyone. I wanted to know how determined the Go world was. Indeed, I wasn't disappointed at all. Everyone has not given up yet! Alright then, I'll accept this challenge and play against that PETER!"

When everyone heard this, they were in awe of him!

The way that Chen Ying, Xu Han, and the others were looking at Zhang Ye had done a 180!

What a good "matter of our honor as humans"!

What a good "concerns our national cause"!

"Thank you!"

"Professor Zhang, thank you so much!"

"Your grace and kindness will not be forgotten!"

"No matter how it turns out, the Go world shall owe you a huge favor!"

"Professor Zhang is the greatest!"

"Kill off that goddamn PeterGo!"

Everyone responded loudly!

Hearing Zhang Ye's barrage of rhetoric, only Wu Changhe was left nearly vomiting a mouthful of blood!

Our national cause?

A matter of our honor as humans?

Your sister!

You're obviously doing this just to woo my daughter!

Shameless!

This kid is way too shameless!