

Superstar 1121

Chapter 1121: An uproar at the press conference!

Night had fallen.

His parents had just returned from their stroll. They opened the door and came back into the house.

"Why is there still no news?" his father complained.

His mother closed the door. "There are so many people in Asia, so there must definitely be someone who can step up to the challenge. Why are you so anxious about it?"

His father said angrily, "How can I not be anxious? They're bullying us to our doorsteps!"

"Eh? Where's Little Ye?" His mother went to look for him.

From his room, Zhang Ye's voice sounded out, "I'm in my room."

His mother asked, "Did someone come to our house? Why is it so messy?"

Zhang Ye said, "Yes, yes."

His father asked, "What are you doing?"

Zhang Ye said, "I'm busy with something. I'll talk about it later."

His father acknowledged, "Then go do whatever you need to do."

In Zhang Ye's room.

Zhang Ye faced his computer and studied the game records between Peter and Xiang Rong 9-dan, Shinji 9-dan, and the others. After China Qiyuan's people left his place, he had been reviewing the game records over and over again. As Sun Tzu said, if you know your enemy and yourself, you'll find naught in fear for a hundred battles 1. He would definitely have to do his research before stepping into battle. But the more he studied the games, the more he discovered just how powerful Peter was. Every move that Xiang Rong and the others made seemed to have been predicted by the artificial intelligence. Some players could think ahead by two or three moves, while others could plan ahead by four or five moves. But it felt like Peter went far beyond that, simply because it was a computer!

How could he play against it then?

How the fuck was he going to play against it?

Zhang Ye was already pessimistic about the Go world's battle against Peter in the first place. He still felt the same way about it now and did not have any confidence in winning. This fellow had never liked fighting an unsure battle, but he could not avoid it this time. For those words that Wu Changhe had said to him, for Wu Zeqing, he had to do it no matter how difficult it was!

What should he do then?

Perhaps there was only one way to it!

Zhang Ye lowered his head and looked at the ring on his left pinky finger. The look in his eyes hardened as he immediately brought up the virtual screen to play the lottery! The last lottery draw hadn't been too ideal after he had drawn five Xiangqi Skill Experience Books. Even though they came in handy later, they were not items Zhang Ye needed urgently. For his lottery draw this time, Zhang Ye was hoping the Lucky Halo would work more effectively as he did not need anything else other than the Go Skill Experience Books!

He activated the Lucky Halo (Upgraded)!

Then tapped on Lottery Draw (Two).

He placed the additional stakes!

The lottery draw began!

Together with the usage of the Lucky Halo, over 100 million Reputation Points were spent!

Two minutes later, a loud laugh came from Zhang Ye's bedroom!

"Hahahaha!"

Even the Heavens are helping me!

The Heavens are helping me!

The prize was drawn!

It was the higher level Go Skill Experience Book, a total of ten of them!

Zhang Ye immediately studied them all!

Come on, PeterGo!

Let's see how this bro is gonna demolish you!

For this lottery draw, Zhang Ye's luck had exploded forth!

...

Meanwhile.

Something big happened online!

"Other than Master Xiang, who else is there from the Qi Yuan?"

"Just Li Yi 9-dan!"

"Yeah, only Li Yi 9-dan is the next highest ranking player."

"But he's only the world number four! If even the top three ranking players in the world lost, then wouldn't it be more unlikely for the world number four to win?"

"What else can they do?"

"Yeah, who else can they send?"

"Surely they can't just admit defeat like that, right?"

"Of course not! They must not admit defeat no matter what!"

"I think Liu Hong 9-dan can do it!"

"No, they won't be able to. None of those people would be able to go against Peter!"

Just as everyone was crying with worry, China Qiyuan sent out a breaking news announcement. They unilaterally proposed to challenge Peter!

Everyone had been waiting for this news for a long time. When they saw that the Qiyuan had finally made a response, some people got extremely excited while others shook their heads pessimistically.

"They've responded!"

"The Qiyuan has responded!"

"They've finally said something!"

"Who is it?"

"Who's going to represent them and play?"

"Li Yi 9-dan?"

"Liu Hong 9-dan?"

"Why did they not say anything!"

"Quick, they're going to broadcast the press conference live!"

"Which channel is it on?"

"It's simultaneously broadcasting live on Central TV News Channel and Central TV Sports Channel!"

"Quickly turn on your TVs! Hurry, hurry, hurry!"

Many people went to turn their televisions on!

...

Back at home.

Zhang Ye's father slapped his thigh. "The Qiyuan has sent someone out as their representative!"

His mother took notice as well. "Turn on the TV!"

"It's on, it's on!" His father watched eagerly.

His mother said in anticipation, "Let's see who their so-called last line of defense is going to be."

...

At a villa.

Fan Wenli said with a laugh, "I heard that someone has accepted to the challenge."

"Is that so?" Chen Guang immediately said, "Let's have look!"

...

At the Heavenly Queen's house.

Ning Lan was visiting today. "Eh, Sister Zhang? Are you following that matter regarding the Go world as well?"

Zhang Yuanqi smiled. "Surely I have to pay attention to some news and current affairs, don't I?"

...

At a Go club somewhere in Beijing.

"Aiyo, they're holding a press conference now!"

"Are they going to challenge the AI?"

"The Qiyuan didn't chicken out! Nicely done!"

"Who will they be sending?"

"Li Yi 9-dan?"

...

In Japan.

"The Chinese have responded?"

"What's the point of that!"

"Yeah, there's no one left!"

"There's no one else from the Go world who can do it!"

...

In Korea.

"The Chinese are still going for a last-ditch attempt?"

"Let's wish them luck, but I don't have high hopes."

"They're definitely going to send Li Yi 9-dan to try their luck, right?"

"But then how would they win?"

...

At China Qiyuan.

The venue of the press conference.

The place was so packed to the brim that there weren't enough chairs to seat everyone. The staff added another dozen chairs for the members of the media. Outside the door were some reporters from the smaller newspaper agencies and tabloids that had not been officially invited to attend. They were all stopped outside as the venue was getting too overcrowded!

The entire country had its attention on this press conference!

Go enthusiasts from all over Asia were watching with wide eyes!

Central TV began the live broadcast of the press conference!

The live signal was synchronized to the actual event!

On the stage, the Americans and members of China Qiyuan had all arrived. A few of the key personnel got seated, and there was a microphone attached to the front of each of their tables.

The Qiyuan's president, Dan Donghe, lowered his head slightly to speak into the microphone, "Dear members of the media, regarding the furor surrounding the 'war between humans and machines,' I believe that everyone already knows about it. Right now, I would like to officially announce on behalf of the Qiyuan that we will be issuing a challenge to Peter!"

Immediately, applause sounded from the audience!

The American representative chuckled for a bit before saying, "Alright, we accept the challenge. We will be returning to our country in three days' time since Peter has other, more important research to handle, and we won't be able to stay here indefinitely either. As the results have already proven, Peter's intelligence is much greater than humanity's since it has already won against three of the top players in the Go world. We'll still accept the challenge, but this will be the last time that Peter will accept a challenge from the Go world!"

Dan Donghe looked at him. "Peter's intelligence is greater than that of humanity's? Isn't it too early to make such a statement?"

The American representative said with a laugh, "Alright then, I'll wait until after the match is over before repeating that."

"I'm just afraid that you all won't have the chance to say it." Dan Donghe was at war of words with him.

That American said, "Then let's just wait and see."

Everyone from the American side was amused. This was because they were extremely confident about Peter and knew that no humans would be able to win against it!

The time for the challenge match was set!

It would happen tomorrow!

The venue would be China Qiyuan!

But as for who would be representing the Qiyuan, no one knew. This was the last chance to make a stand, so they really could not afford to lose. So everyone was very concerned about who would be sent into the ring this time!

A female reporter asked, "Can we know who you will be sending out as the representative for the match?"

A Beijing Television reporter asked, "Xiang Rong 9-dan is the strongest player in the international Go world. Do we really have someone we can send out?"

Dan Donghe said, "Of course!"

"Who is it?"

"Yeah, who is it?"

"Which Go master are we talking about?"

All the reporters were staring with wide eyes!

The television viewers pricked up their ears!

Dan Donghe calmly said, "The Americans have developed an AI that they claim surpasses humanity's wisdom and intelligence. Therefore, they used this world's most complex game, Go, to challenge all humans. But as everyone knows, Xiang Rong 9-dan's Go skill might be very advanced, but he is not the smartest person in the world. Coincidentally, the current smartest person in the world who only comes along once every hundred years lives in China. He even lives in Beijing!"

The Americans did not understand!

But when those words were said, the reporters in the audience reacted like they had their tails stepped on. Many of them reacted there and then with stunned expressions and stood up immediately!

The smartest person who only comes along once every hundred years?

Could it...

Could it...

Damn! Surely not, right?

Don't tell us it's that fellow!

Please don't tell us it's that fellow!

Then they heard Dan Donghe loudly announce, "The person we've chosen to represent the Go world and challenge Peter is the world famous mathematician—Zhang Ye!"

Zhang Ye?

Who?

The Americans snorted as they did not know who this person was.

However, the reporters in the audience were all greatly shocked!

The entire venue fell silent!!

Chapter 1122: The final battle of the war between humans and the machines!

Zhang Ye?

Which Zhang Ye?

Was it that Zhang Ye?

After a full two seconds of silence, there was a sudden uproar at the press conference venue. Nobody could believe what they had just heard and was shocked by this news. The foreigners might not know who he was, but how could they not know about him. This person was simply too well-known to them. In their country, no one had not heard of Zhang Ye's name. But no one could have expected to hear it spoken from the mouth of China Qiyuan's president at such a venue and in such circumstances!

Zhang Ye would represent them and play?

Have you gone crazy?

Or have we gone crazy!?

...

In front of the television.

His parents were dumbfounded by what they heard!

His mother said in a daze, "Old Zhang, who did he say it was?"

His father said dumbfounded, "He said...Zhang Ye!"

"Holy shit!" His mother nearly jumped up from her seat. "It's our son? Little Ye is representing the Go world for the challenge? He was the last line of defense they were talking about?"

His father was floored. "With our son's lousy Go skills, how would he know how to play!"

...

At Old Yao's house.

Yao Mi's mouth was hanging wide open. "Did he read the wrong name?"

Yao Jiancai was so shocked that his jaw almost fell off. "He didn't read it wrong! He was really referring to Zhang Ye!"

Yao Jiancai's wife asked, "Is it someone else with the same name?"

"How many mathematicians are called Zhang Ye?" Yao Mi said, "Besides, to be publicly acknowledged as the smartest person to come along only once a hundred years, there's no other person than Teacher Zhang! Dammit! Goddammit!"

Yao Jiancai nearly vomited blood. "That guy even knows how to play Go?"

His wife was also shocked. "Could they have gotten it wrong?"

...

At the Heavenly Queen's house.

Zhang Yuanqi was stunned!

Ning Lan was stunned and scared out of her pants. "What? Zhang Ye? That fellow is even getting involved with the Go world now? Isn't he on a two-week break? Why did he appear again? Why does everything have something to do with him? Pfft! I really have to take my hat off to him! Teacher Zhang just can't stay idle for too long!"

Zhang Yuanqi asked, "He can play Go?"

"Who knows!" Ning Lan exclaimed.

...

At the Rao house.

Rao Aimin was watching the television when she got a surprise.

Yang Shu was also at her place today. She exclaimed, "It's Senior Bro!"

Chenchen said in a speechless manner, "Aunt, you are going to get busy again."

Rao Aimin said, "This Little Zhang, why is he always stirring up things for me!"

As Zhang Ye's agent, the media was sure to come looking for her.

...

All of the Chinese audience was shocked!

It also went crazy online!

"Did I hear it wrong or did he say it wrong?"

"You didn't hear wrong!"

"Zhang Ye?"

"Holy motherfucking shit!"

"Why is it him?"

"When did Teacher Zhang become a part of the Go world?"

"As a host and an entertainment celebrity, why would he go and play Go? Does he intend to become a Go celebrity too? The issue here is whether Teacher Zhang can do it or not, since even Xiang Rong 9-dan lost!"

"Has China Qiyuan gone crazy?"

"Who knows which of their fucking brain circuits got wired wrong!"

"They could have gotten anyone to step up for this challenge, but it never should have been Zhang Ye!"

"Teacher Zhang is simply too omnipresent!"

We've only gone a week without hearing about him, but Teacher Zhang is popping up again and catching our attention?"

"I admit that Teacher Zhang is smart and his ability to learn is strong. He always manages to get to the top of every field that he dabbles in. He's probably the smartest person in the world right now! But this is Go that we're talking about!"

"Does he even know how to play Go?"

"Who knows!"

The netizens found it totally unacceptable!

The citizens from Japan and Korea were also dumbfounded!

They basically did not know anything about Zhang Ye, nor did they recognize him at all. But with the Internet so advanced, they could easily do an online search and find out everything there was about him!

The Japanese:

"A Chinese superstar?"

"What? It's him?"

"Was he the guy who verbally abused our countrymen at Peking University?"

"Isn't he a celebrity from the entertainment industry?"

"It's that bastard? I've heard about him!"

"Damn, why did they get him to represent them?"

The Koreans:

"I know him!"

"He's the person who beat up Lee Anson!"

"Right, he's a hooligan of the showbiz industry in China!"

"Are China Qiyuan's people crazy? Why did they get a layman to represent them to play Go?"

"This is the last time that Peter will accept a challenge! It's the last chance for the Go world to turn things around! Yet they're treating such an important match like a child's game?"

"It's over. The Go world is doomed!"

"He definitely has no chance of winning against it! They're sending him to his death!"

...

The outside world was causing an uproar!

It was the same thing at the press conference venue!

During the live broadcast, a reporter immediately raised some doubts.

That female reporter raised her hand and asked, "President Dan, did you get it wrong? Why would you ask a layman to play in this important match?"

Dan Donghe said, "Believe me, we know very well what we're doing. It's precisely because this is an important match that directly affects the honor of the Go world that we're asking Professor Zhang for his help. We cannot afford to lose, nor can we lose again! We will do our best to take on the AI this time!"

A male reporter said, "But Zhang Ye is an outsider to Go!"

Dan Donghe retorted, "Who says that a layman would not know how to play Go? Professor Zhang is publicly acknowledged as the smartest person to come along only once in a century. As for his achievements in the other fields, I believe everyone already knows about them without needing me to explain further. If everyone doubts his Go skills, then I can assure all of you here that Professor Zhang knows how to play Go. And based on what I know, he learned when he was young."

The reporters didn't know how to react!

He learned Go when he was young?

I, too, fucking learned Go when I was young!

Would that be of any use? Would that help with anything? The opponent was an artificial intelligence program that defeated Xiang Rong 9-dan and Park Yuhee 9-dan!

Dan Donghe looked into the audience. "Are there any more questions?"

A reporter from Shanghai Television raised his hand. "Do we stand a chance of winning?"

Dan Donghe said, "That will depend on Professor Zhang! But no matter what the outcome is, we still want to thank him for stepping forward boldly for the Go world! That is because this matter has nothing to do with him. Professor Zhang is already famous and does not lack money or fame. He has no reason to get involved, but for Go and for the honor of humanity, Professor Zhang had chosen to step forward without any hesitation. Therefore, we definitely must be grateful to him!"

When the Americans heard this, they finally understood who this person was that China Qiyuan had gotten to represent them!

A layman?

He was not a professional Go player at all?

He was not even considered an amateur player?

The Americans were extremely tickled!

You Chinese are totally looking down on this artificial intelligence program of ours!

...

At Zhang Ye's parents' house.

His mother pulled her son out of his bedroom.

Zhang Ye cried out, "What's going on, Mom?"

His mother stared at him. "Are you representing the Go world and competing against the AI?"

"Yeah. Eh, didn't I tell you two already?" Zhang Ye blinked.

His father yelled, "When did you say anything about that!"

Zhang Ye said, "I must have been busy and forgot about it. Didn't I say that someone came to our house earlier? They were people from China Qiyuan who came over to ask me to accept the challenge and help the Go world."

His father exclaimed, "And you agreed just like that?"

Zhang Ye said, "Yeah, I did."

His mother was floored. "You accepted the challenge just because they asked you to? You sure are audacious! You only picked up some beginner Go when you were in elementary and middle school, and now you have the courage to compete against the AI?"

Zhang Ye laughed and said, "I'll just have to give it a try, I guess"

His father asked, "The match will take place tomorrow?"

Zhang Ye nodded.

Ring ring ring. His cell phone rang!

It was Chen Guang.

"Old Chen, what's the matter?"

"What do you think is the matter! What are you thinking, Director Zhang!"

"Ha, you heard about the news already?"

"Of course! Are you sure you can do it?"

"I have to. I'll try my best and fight them!"

Then Dong Shanshan called.

"Zhang'er! Was what was announced at the press conference really true?"

"It's true."

"You're really going to challenge it?"

"Yeah, that's right."

"When did you learn how to play Go?"

"During elementary school. I've always known how to play."

"I could never have expected that the Go world would invite you!"

"I did not expect this either."

The calls came one after another.

Zhang Ye's group of friends, including Yu Yingyi, Zhang Xia, Yao Jiancai, Xiaodong, Ning Lan, and Ha Qiqi, were all startled as they called him to confirm the news!

The press conference ended!

Rao Aimin's cell phone exploded with calls from the media!

It was the same thing over at China Qiyuan!

On Weibo, many experts were starting to openly question the announcement!

On the same night, news started spreading everywhere!

"Zhang Ye to represent Go world to fight the final battle!"

"The fourth Go player to represent humanity is Zhang Ye?"

"Zhang Ye vs. Peter!"

"The fourth battle in the war between humans and machines—Zhang Ye steps up!"

"China Qiyuan's shocking decision!"

"Zhang Ye has once again become the talk of the town!"

"Can humanity regain its honor?"

"Just how good is Zhang Ye at Go? "

"Humanity's strongest brain versus the most powerful AI: Who will be the winner?"

The outlook was very pessimistic!

Not even Zhang Ye's fans believed in him, much less the professionals and media!

"Teacher Zhang, can you stop fooling around?"

"Why don't you do something proper instead?"

"You're even getting involved with the Go world now?"

"Pfft, didn't you say you were on a break?"

"I can already picture how Teacher Zhang will look after suffering a miserable defeat!"

Even though there was doubt and pessimism, one thing was without a doubt:

The future of Go?

The honor of humans?

Now, all that fell onto Zhang Ye's shoulders!

Chapter 1123: The match begins!

The next day.

In the morning, a sea of people formed up outside China Qiyuan.

Several thousands of people had gathered around like they were out on a tour.

The entire street was blocked off and the traffic police department had to dispatch emergency manpower to carry out traffic control. Traffic on both sides of the road had to be rerouted to a different location.

"It's starting soon!"

"Damn, why are there so many people here?"

"This is crazy!"

"Of course, it's Zhang Ye who's going to battle against the machine!"

"It's the final battle of the war between humans and machines! Who wouldn't want to come and watch!"

"Even if we humans lose today, we still want to come and see it for ourselves!"

"Zhang Ye! You can do it!"

"Bring down that PeterGo!"

"I only ask that Teacher Zhang does not lose too badly!"

There were people all around, grouping into crowds and occupying the entire street!

Some of these people lived in the area and had come down to join in the bustle. There were also some people who traveled from afar with placards in their hands to show their support. There were all kinds of slogans written on them and some were especially funny.

—Cheering Face-smacking Zhang on!

—Teacher Zhang, don't mess this up!

—Teacher Zhang, don't get face smacked!

—Zhang Ye, are you sure you can do it?

There were also dozens of students from some school carrying a horizontal red satin banner that had the words "Warmly celebrating the arrival of Teacher Zhang Ye to the Go world!" written on it.

The reporters were also here!

Some of them had already headed into the building, while others were setting up their equipment outside.

A female reporter from the Beijing Television Sports Channel reported, "Hello, everyone, I'm currently at the main entrance of China Qiyuan. In front of us, we can see that the venue is filled with many of our citizens. In another hour at this place, we'll be bringing to everyone the war between humans and machines, where the world's most advanced artificial intelligence program will take on the world's smartest person in a century! Today will be coverage of the first game of Peter vs. Professor Zhang's match. As for who will emerge victorious, please stay tuned to the live broadcast brought to you by BTV-Sports Channel. Look forward to the coverage!"

The image onscreen cut back to the studio.

At the BTV-Sports Channel's live studio.

The male host said, "Alright, thanks for the report by our field reporter, Little He." He then turned to the person next to him and continued, "Teacher Li, what are your views on today's match?"

Li Nian, a famous Go commentator.

Li Nian said, "Today's game is going to be very difficult to play."

The male host said, "Yes, Peter has already displayed its extremely strong and advanced Go skills. After Xiang Rong 9-dan's defeat to it, no one else in the world dared to claim that they would be able to defeat it. However, much to our surprise, China Qiyuan has actually invited Professor Zhang to participate in this match under such circumstances."

Li Nian said, "Yes, I'm curious about that as well. Because up until now, no one has ever seen Zhang Ye play Go before. No one knows how good he is, so it's really impossible for me to estimate his chances of winning. We can only slowly analyze his play during the match itself. I believe that many of us, including me, would especially like to find out just how good Zhang Ye is as the smartest person in the world."

"Yes, how good Professor Zhang is is still a question mark."

...

At China Qiyuan.

In the spectator room.

Zhang Ye was meeting Xiang Rong 9-dan in person for the first time.

Zhang Ye shook hands with him. "Hello, Teacher Xiang."

Xiang Rong said, "Hello, Professor Zhang. Let me give you a simple talk about my understanding of Peter. First, it is really very intelligent, so don't see it as just a computer. I believe you know that better than me. I tried to test it out with a move when I played it and found that it does not respond like a normal AI would. Second, no matter how complex the board layout gets, it will not have much of an effect on it. So if you're going first, I wouldn't suggest that you pick a diagonal opening fight 1 against it. And then, you must also remember not to let the game drag out for too long. Finish it as quickly as you can, since playing for too long will affect your strength and stamina greatly. That would make you more error-

prone but would not affect Peter at all as it does not get limited by those factors. That is also its most terrifying advantage."

Zhang Ye nodded. "I will remember that."

Dan Donghe also came up to him. "Professor Zhang, you must keep calm. Start the game calmly and get the first advantage!"

Zhang Ye said, "Alright, I'll try my best."

Wu Changhe came over at this time as well. "Your advantage is that the AI does not have your game data. It doesn't know what your style and standard of play are, so you can use that to your advantage and surprise it. It's almost starting, and you better not mess this up!"

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "I understand, Uncle."

A female professional Go player brought over a cup of hot tea. "Professor Zhang, please have something to drink."

"Ah, thank you." Zhang Ye took it from her.

Li Qinqin asked him in concern, "Have you had breakfast yet?"

"I've eaten already, Auntie," Zhang Ye said.

Li Qinqin said, "Today's game will surely be long. Do pay attention to your energy level."

Hu Liang 7-dan cheered, "You can do it!"

Xu Han 8-dan encouraged, "Professor Zhang, you can do it!"

Chen Ying 7-dan said, "We're depending on you! You must win this!"

Everyone was shouting their encouragements to him!

Zhang Ye said loudly, "Alright, I'm going then."

Everyone anxiously sent Zhang Ye off with their gazes as he walked out.

Before he left the room, he walked past Wu Changhe, only to hear him whisper, "If you lose, don't even think about stepping into my house! Hear that?!"

Zhang Ye was floored!

Fuck!

Do you have to be so ruthless?

With that, he also became nervous!

In the game room.

Everything was set and ready.

The American representative was already here. They were just waiting for the reporters from Central TV Sports Channel to leave the room.

When Zhang Ye's old classmate, Yu Yingyi saw him, she came up to him and greeted, "Professor Zhang, hello."

The camera also pointed at him!

Zhang Ye said, "Hello, Yingyi."

Yu Yingyi said slightly perturbed, "How confident are you today?"

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "I don't know, but I will do my best."

Yu Yingyi checked her watch and said, "I actually still have many questions for you, but I don't think we have the time for that anymore. I'll be in the commentary room waiting for your good news."

The live broadcast signal was cut.

Yu Yingyi put down her microphone and said with a bitter smile, "You're really here, huh? Did you really have to come just because China Qiyuan invited you? Why didn't I know before that you knew how to play Go?"

Zhang Ye was amused. "There's still a lot that you don't know about me."

Yu Yingyi said, "No matter what, please do well. Don't let the machines have a chance to look down on humanity!"

"Don't worry," Zhang Ye replied.

Yu Yingyi went off. She still had to partner with Chen Ying for the commentary portion of the coverage.

Zhang Ye slowly made his way to the players' seats and sat down on his side of the table.

Beside him, three staff members of the American team were doing their last checks on Peter. Soon, everything was ready, and the American representative nodded at them before taking the seat across from Zhang Ye. He would be representing Peter to "replicate" his moves.

The countdown began at three minutes.

The two international Go referees each went to confirm with Zhang Ye and the American representative if they were ready.

The American representative nodded his head.

Zhang Ye gestured with his hands to indicate that he was ready.

Outside.

The live broadcast signal was being televised across the country!

Even some of Asia's broadcasters were simulcasting the coverage!

This match could really be hailed as one that gained worldwide attention!

The countdown timer:

Three.

Two.

One.

The game began!

Chapter 1124: Zhang Ye really knows how to play Go!

Watching TV.

At Zhang Ye's parents' house.

Almost all of Zhang Ye's uncles and aunts, his cousins, and the rest of his family were here today.

His third sister said, "Brother's coming on!"

His father gasped, "It's starting!"

His aunt said nervously, "Can Little Ye really do it?"

His mother said, "He better not get crushed by that computer the moment he starts playing. That would be so embarrassing for me!"

...

Chen Guang's home.

Old Chen and Fan Wenli had been waiting and watching the TV for a while.

Chen Guang was nursing a beer as he watched the coverage. "Do you think he can do it?"

Fan Wenli didn't what to say. "God only knows!"

...

At Ha Qiqi's house.

The old colleagues were gathered here today.

Zhang Zuo said, "The game is starting, it's starting!"

Little Wang yelled, "Director Zhang will prevail! Get that Peter!"

...

Zhang Ye's friends were all watching the live broadcast of the game!

The netizens were also making a big ruckus online. This battle between Zhang Ye and the artificial intelligence had been in the headlines for quite some time!

"Please don't lose too terribly!"

"Teacher Zhang, you can do it!"

...

At the venue.

They guessed the stones 1 to pick who would go first.

Zhang Ye was assigned White and would be playing second.

Very quickly, Peter played its first move.

When the American representative saw the move on the computer screen, he picked up a black stone and placed it at the corresponding position on the Go board with a clink.

Zhang Ye almost didn't hesitate as he smiled and picked up a white stone to place on the board.

Peter went again with its next move.

Zhang Ye thought for a moment and then responded.

It was very quiet in the room. Other than a few cameras, there were only the referees and some staff members around. No one made a peep. There was a very large room outside that was used as the spectator room. Many of the executives of China Qiyuan and the reporters, along with the professional Go players, were watching the game from there. It was equipped with a big screen that clearly displayed every move that was made on the Go board. After each move, they would all break into whispers of discussion with one another.

Hu Liang said, "Peter's opening looks very stable."

Xu Han said, "Professor Zhang too. It's a very conventional start."

Dan Donghe nodded and said, "Little Zhang used to like to open a game with unconventional moves, but it looks like he has taken our advice this time. He's adopted a different approach."

Wu Changhe was staring at the Go board, fully focused, and did not speak at all.

Li Qinqin was clenching her fists as she watched nervously.

This match could really be called one that concerned the life and death of Go. No one could not care about it!

Clink.

Zhang Ye placed a stone down, playing his seventh move.

A battle for the corner began!

In the commentary room.

Yu Yingyi said anxiously, "Teacher Chen, what's happening on the board?"

Chen Ying 7-dan explained, "During the opening, Peter went first. So it would certainly have an advantage. Both their opening moves follow a very traditional way of playing and is considered very conservative. But what we're seeing right now is a watershed moment and the next move they make will be very critical!"

Yu Yingyi looked at the screen and suddenly said, "Peter has made its move!"

Chen Ying's expression shifted. "It played a horizontal stretch? This move by Peter shows a very strong offensive desire. Does it intend to take down the corner for itself? Or was it just a feint?"

Zhang Ye made his move!

It was a knight's move!

Yu Yingyi was surprised. "Zhang Ye ignored Peter's move? But why?"

When Chen Ying saw it, she was astounded. "Great move! It truly is a great move! Professor Zhang has finally shown his hand! He did so without any hesitation too! He's going for the attack now! Peter has lost the initiative and will have to respond to that move first. Otherwise, Professor Zhang will gain control of the framework over there. Indeed, Peter has responded! Oh, that move was really too wonderful. Professor Zhang has caught up by at least three points with that move. If we include the compensation, Professor Zhang has actually gained a slight advantage!"

Yu Yingyi was stunned. "What?"

Zhang Ye?

Gained an advantage?

On BTV-Sports Channel.

The famous commentator, Li Nian, had also been stunned. "This move is really beautiful! This knight's move is very bold and creative. What we're seeing is Professor Zhang pushing Peter into making reactive moves only. It can only give up on completing that framework in the corner and contend for the territory with Professor Zhang!"

Zhang Ye made another move!

Peter fought back!

Zhang Ye made yet another move!

These few moves were a dazzling blur to everyone!

In the spectator room, everyone broke out into applause!

President Dan Donghe was leading the praise. "Great! Good one! Very good!"

Xu Han said excitedly, "That was great, Professor Zhang!"

"Get it! Pursue and attack!" Hu Liang was also getting excited!

"Awesome! This is so awesome!"

"Professor Zhang is indeed Professor Zhang! He doesn't stick to convention at all!"

"This time, it will be Peter having a 'headache'!"

"Impressive, Professor Zhang!"

Although the outcome was not decided yet, being able to put Peter on the back foot had given a lot of hope to everyone!

However, Xiang Rong continued watching the game indifferently. He did not say anything. He knew that it was still too early to be happy and that Peter's skills had yet to be truly demonstrated.

In the room.

Zhang Ye did not take his opponent lightly, although he was pretty confident about himself. If he played to a draw against Xiang Rong, and now that he had gained another 100 million Reputation Points' worth of Go skill experience, he should probably be able to win against him. However, Xiang Rong 9-dan had probably also not given his best when he played against Zhang Ye that day. As such, it was still an open question as to who would win between the two of them. Zhang Ye considered every one of his moves very carefully. When there was an opportunity to attack, he would not show any mercy. But if there was no chance to do so, he would not attack blindly either. This was because he knew that he mustn't make a mistake!

A blunder?

A miscalculation?

This was the greatest difference between a human and a machine, and also the greatest disadvantage for humans!

Clink.

Clink.

Another three moves went by.

Zhang Ye and Peter were making moves tit for tat, neither of them willing to give up on this territorial contention!

The expression on the American representative's face didn't look so good anymore. He was also feeling a little shocked inside. He couldn't have expected that there would still be such a good player around in the Go world. Other than Xiang Rong 9-dan, Shinji 9-dan, and some of the other professional players, there was someone who had such good Go skill? But why hadn't he appeared before? Why had he been an unknown all this time in the Go world? After a moment of shock, he forcibly calmed himself down. It would be alright. No matter who came along, it wouldn't matter. That was because he and his team believed in Peter! Peter would never lose!

The battle in the corner reached a deadlock!

When everyone thought that the fight would have to continue, Zhang Ye suddenly blinked and placed a stone in the middle of the board and very calmly opened up a path right there!

Come.

Let's see what you've got.

Zhang Ye narrowed his eyes and looked at the computer.

This time, there seemed to be no response from it. It went into the longest period of "thinking" since the start of the match.

In the commentary room.

Yu Yingyi said excitedly, "Peter still hasn't made its move yet. It's been 'thinking' for a very long time!"

Chen Ying smiled. "Peter is currently crunching the data. This is where it gets rather complicated. Professor Zhang did this on purpose by making a move that created a very open game. But as the middle part of the board is also very intertwined with the corner, if Peter does not consider its options carefully, it might just throw the entire game away!"

On BTV-Sports Channel.

Li Nian exclaimed, "Good one! Peter has to make a difficult decision now! That was really clever! I never expected that Professor Zhang would be able to play such a beautiful game of Go!" Looking into the camera, he said, "Dear viewers, if you are watching the live broadcast and were worried like me about whether Zhang Ye knows how to play Go, then I can confidently say this to everyone: He knows how to play Go. Not only does he know how to play, he's even at the level of a grandmaster!"

Watching on TV.

A lot of people were dumbfounded from watching!

Some of the audience who could play Go had already seen the level of Zhang Ye's play and were all very startled by it!

For those who did not understand Go, when they heard the explanation from the host and Go commentator, they were also very shocked!

The Internet exploded!

"Holy shit!"

"What have I seen!"

"Zhang Ye has the advantage?"

"He's at the level of a grandmaster?"

"God, this fellow really knows how to play Go! The fuck!?"

People from all over the country were stunned to the extreme!

Chapter 1125: Capturing race!

Everyone knew that Zhang Ye was smart!

Everyone knew that Zhang Ye was capable!

But in Go? No one had ever seen him play the game before!

That was why before this, no one had any idea at all about how good Zhang Ye was at Go. They only knew that he could probably play, but definitely did not know how well he could play. Thus, everyone had a pessimistic view of things after the press conference the other day. They didn't think that there was a chance of winning at all. But now, they knew. Through the words of the host and the commentator, they realized that Zhang Ye's skills were definitely able to match the artificial intelligence program for this war between humans and machines. Further, he had even gained a slight advantage at the start of the match!

His eldest younger sister exclaimed, "Our brother is so amazing!"

Zhang Ye's mother said with wide eyes, "Didn't Little Ye only attend a few Go classes during elementary and middle school?"

His father smacked his thigh in realization. "So this was why China Qiyuan got him to represent them!"

Elsewhere.

Fan Wenli was dumbfounded. "Director Zhang really can play!"

Chen Guang said, "Damn, and I was wondering why he dared to accept the challenge!"

At the Yao household.

Yao Jiancai said in a speechless manner, "That Little Zhang, how does he know everything!"

Yao Mi exclaimed excitedly, "Teacher Zhang, you can do it! Defeat that machine! Defeat it!"

This final battle between humans and machines was also broadcast live on the Online Go Server. The platform's commentator was shocked as he shouted, "Look, PeterGo is getting pressed back! It's been thinking for 20 minutes without making a move! This is incredible! Face-smacking Zhang is so incredible! He has once again shown his amazing talents to all of Asia. He has given humanity a glimmer of hope in beating an AI! Those moves on the Go board are indeed at the level of a professional! With this, Face-smacking Zhang has announced to the world that he truly lives up to the title of the smartest person to appear in a century! He is definitely the person with the highest IQ in the world! No one else even comes close!"

As a mathematician, his Go skill would undoubtedly not be bad. But at most, it should only be not bad. For him to be able to play the game to the highest level was practically impossible. This is because Go requires a large amount of time and practice to accumulate skill and experience, and requires a person to fully invest their heart and mind into the game. So what was happening right now was something that was not explainable by Zhang Ye's status as a renowned mathematician!

There was only one way to explain it:

Zhang Ye was just too smart!

It would have to be that innate talent and intelligence of his!

This match was definitely worthy of being known as the battle between humans and machines. The netizens who had doubted whether Zhang Ye could really represent humanity and play in this match were all keeping quiet now. He was absolutely qualified to do so!

...

In the room.

More than 20 minutes had passed.

Finally, Peter stirred and made a move in response!

Seeing this move it made, Zhang Ye frowned. For the first time today, he was set deep into thought.

Peter's reply was not actually very strong. It could even be said that it was just a normal move. But on second glance, one would discover that the position its black stone was played on was actually a very critical one and extremely difficult to deal with. If Zhang Ye were to apply pressure and go up against it, he might be opening himself up to getting exploited, and the corner of the board would then be put into danger. But if he were to leave it alone, he would definitely start getting restricted from his next move onwards. For now, the only better option available to Zhang Ye was a position on the first line from the right. It would be more secure to play his move here. But just as he was about to raise his hand to place the stone, he suddenly hesitated and felt that something was wrong.

A trap?

Yes, it was a trap!

After thinking four moves ahead, he could deduce it immediately!

What a good move!

This move has really left me in a dilemma!

Zhang Ye once again turned silent as he started thinking about it. This was truly to be expected from an artificial intelligence. He had witnessed the true strength of his opponent now. Moreover, as the game progressed and the situation on the board got even more complicated, the AI's ability to calculate its options to a greater degree of precision would give it a greater advantage. In the current situation, Zhang Ye had entered into attrition warfare against PeterGo!

In the commentary room.

Yu Yingyi asked curiously, "Has Professor Zhang encountered a difficult choice for his next move?"

Chen Ying 7-dan was also very puzzled. "If it were me, I would definitely play my move at right-5."

"Yeah, there's a possible point over there." Even a hobbyist like Yu Yingyi could see it.

Chen Ying 7-dan said, "So I don't know what Professor Zhang is considering....Eh, wait a second. There seems to be something more to that move by Peter!"

In the spectator room.

Many of the professional players were pointing at the screen and discussing. A lot of them could not understand why Zhang Ye had fallen silent, thinking that this should not be happening.

Only Wu Changhe spoke up. "Right-5 is not an option."

Xiang Rong 9-dan looked at the board and nodded in agreement.

"Why?"

"Even if right-5 is not a good position, he could play at right-6, right?"

Wu Changhe shook his head. "It's a trap." He picked up a laser pointer and pointed it at the screen to explain to everyone. "If he plays right-5, the machine will make its move over here. Then, that Zhang kid will only be able to play a horizontal stretch. When the machine makes its move here, he would have to follow up again. Once the machine extends here, he'll have no options left. He'll have lost the initiative at the territory in the corner immediately. So this is a trap."

A lot of people suddenly realized this as well!

Hu Liang 7-dan said in worry, "What if Professor Zhang falls for it?"

"Yeah," a professional 5th dan female player said anxiously, "what if he falls for it?"

Xiang Rong answered, "He wouldn't fall for it!"

Wu Changhe nodded in agreement to Xiang Rong's statement. Although he didn't think much of Zhang Ye and disliked him very much, he still recognized Zhang Ye's skill as a professional Go player. Otherwise, why would China Qiyuan approach an outsider like him and specially go to his house to persuade him rather than sending a professional player from within their own ranks! It was precisely because the people here could not even recognize this trap that they were sitting in this room while Zhang Ye was the one who represented them and played in the challenge match! Zhang Ye's Go skill was much better than theirs!

Suddenly, Zhang Ye played his stone on the board!

He made a "cut 1" that no one had expected was coming!

Wu Changhe nodded approvingly.

Xiang Rong 9-dan sighed. "He didn't fall for it, but he has lost his advantage."

Wu Changhe said, "There's nothing he can do. His opponent is being too difficult. This response is already very good."

Zhang Ye was playing very conservatively. Actually, he had several strategies that he could use, but he chose to go ahead with the safest style of playing, even though it would lead to him losing an advantage of two or three points. The main issue here was that his opponent had played a really clever move, and Zhang Ye did not have that good of a way to deal with it.

The machine was indeed very strong!

So strong that Zhang Ye could feel himself getting mentally drained!

Chen Ying frowned. "Why did he play that move? He could have...Oh, I know! The point at right-5 was a trap. It might have looked like a cake, but it must never be eaten!" She immediately brought up a virtual screen to demonstrate to the audience for their understanding. "Over here, the stones will lose their initiative if this happens. So Professor Zhang has no other options. Oh, Peter has made another move again. This move looks really familiar. It's a 'push through' at this position. This is a move that Xiang Rong 9-dan uses commonly and is his playstyle. With those two moves, Professor Zhang will find it difficult to continue from here. Peter has caught back up on its disadvantage in points!"

The television viewers and Go players watching experienced a sinking feeling in their hearts.

Things had been turned around too quickly!

But then again, that was exactly where the charm of Go lay!

It was all quiet in the game room. Even the international referees were nervously watching the game.

Zhang Ye's eyes narrowed as he played a "stretch 2"!

Peter made a "reach around 3" move!

Zhang Ye played a "stand"!

Peter went for a "horizontal stretch"!

In the following moves, neither party could get an advantage over each other!

A stone of Zhang Ye's was captured!

Very quickly, Peter also had a stone captured by Zhang Ye!

The situation on the board was stuck in a stalemate as both players played really wonderful moves. The exchange made many of the professional Go players and amateurs watch in shock and surprise!

Chapter 1126: Zhang Ye's Divine Move!

Both sides were out to kill!

It was a game that became a heated confrontation!

The game had entered into the middlegame and almost half of the board was filled with stones!

Hu Liang 7-dan shouted, "Come on, Professor Zhang!"

A 5th dan pro cheered, "Destroy Peter!"

"Go, go! Bring it down!" Xu Han 8-dan roared.

Even Wu Changhe could not help but yell, "Go on! Attack!"

Although they knew that Zhang Ye could not hear them, the spectator room was still filled with loud cheers of support. They all knew that at this point in time, the battle had entered into the most critical stage!

Zhang Ye made a "diagonal move"!

Peter played a "stand"!

Zhang Ye followed with a "bump"!

Peter made a "bamboo joint 1" with his stones!

Zhang Ye played an "approach"!

Chen Ying 7-dan remarked, "This is so intense! Both sides are locked in an intense struggle! Professor Zhang was the second to play and is at a slight disadvantage. But in terms of momentum, he's no worse than the AI. The flames of war have shifted back to the corner. I wonder who can grab the initiative this time. Who can surround the other and take the territory? Oh, Peter has made its move. It went in for a strong attack! If it grabs hold of the corner territory, there wouldn't be much hope left for Professor Zhang in this game. Will Professor Zhang allow it to succeed? Look at that, Professor Zhang is fighting back! What a good horizontal stretch! Professor Zhang's horizontal stretch has forced Peter into the most awkward of positions! Is he going to be able to seize the initiative?"

The television viewers could feel their blood boiling!

Zhang Ye's father stood up. "Come on, son!"

His mother shouted, "Little Ye! Attack! Attack! Attack!"

His third sister was also shouting Zhang Ye's name!

Countless people were feeling extremely pumped up!

Every one of them was shouting Zhang Ye's name!

"There's a chance of winning!"

"We really have a chance of winning!"

"Teacher Zhang!"

"Kill it! Don't be afraid!"

"Get that PeterGo!"

"Victory shall belong to humanity!"

"Face-smacking Zhang, bring out your true abilities!"

"Show them what you can do like how you've always done to your peers in the past!"

On the Go board.

Peter responded with its move.

Zhang Ye's expression did not change as he calmly placed his next stone down.

Peter attacked again!

The white stones were at a disadvantage, but Zhang Ye still remained indifferent. He gracefully picked up a white stone and tapped it down onto the board with a very nice and crisp clink.

Yu Yingyi said worriedly, "Has White's initiative been taken away?"

Chen Ying 7-dan explained, "Professor Zhang just lost a little bit of the advantage, but that's OK. There are still chances to regain it later on. In fact, Professor Zhang might have made this move on purpose!"

"On purpose?" Yu Yingyi said in surprise.

Chen Ying 7-dan nodded and said, "Yes, Professor Zhang might've laid a trap for Peter by deliberately opening up a weak point over there. We see this very often in matches between top pro Go players. It's a very advanced type of opening that only masters would dare attempt. I wonder if our viewers have noticed Professor Zhang's expression? He looks very relaxed and calm."

Yu Yingyi glanced at him and found that it was true!

The television viewers became more confident when they saw how he acted!

Indeed, Zhang Ye was serene. He did not look like someone who had just lost the advantage. On the contrary, he seemed to be exuding a feeling like he had everything under control!

Yu Yingyi said very excitedly, "So that's how it is!"

Chen Ying 7-dan said, Now, the situation on the board has entered into the final stage. I have a feeling that Professor Zhang is setting up for a very big move in this game. Look, the white stones have been forced into a corner again by Black. They've been surrounded all around. But similarly, the black stones' hold on the board is now very weak, so it has to relinquish its control. This could be the situation that Professor Zhang had been waiting for. That opening he set up earlier might just have been waiting for this moment to arrive!"

In the spectator room.

Li Yi 9-dan's fists were clenched. "Little Zhang is on the counterattack!"

Hu Liang said, "He's been waiting so long for this!"

Xu Han said in anticipation, "What kind of big move will Professor Zhang be coming up with next?"

"Is he going to turn defeat into victory?" someone said in disbelief.

A female Go player said, "Can that happen? Is there a chance for that?"

A male Go player pointed at the screen and said, "Look at Professor Zhang's expression. He looks like he still has a big move planned that he hasn't brought out yet. I know about the things that he has done in the past, and everyone should probably know about it too. He's the type of person who would never bring out his trump card until the very last moment. There have been so many of his peers that had their faces smacked swollen in this way in the past!"

"That's right!"

"Can he win?"

"Aiyo, my heart can't take this!"

Xiang Rong 9-dan, Wu Changhe, Dan Donghe and the others were all staring with wide eyes at the screen. The outcome of the game was almost decided. They were at the final showdown of the battle. None of them dared to blink as they were afraid they would miss the epic moment!

Do it!

Hurry up and do it!

What was the meaning of that opening strategy and the show of weakness just now for?

Let us witness it, let the machine witness it, and let the entire population of Asia witness it!

The viewers watching on TV were also staring wide-eyed!

Some of them stood up!

Some of them got excited!

Some of them were waiting in anticipation!

At this moment on their screens, Zhang Ye's hand reached into the Go bowl 2 !

The American representative looked at the terribly calm Zhang Ye across from him and suddenly felt a sense of panic as well. You're holding something back? What are you planning on doing? Where will you place this next stone? For a moment, he could feel himself sweating nervously. He kept looking all over the Go board for a position where Zhang Ye might still have a chance of survival!

Where was it?

Just where could it be?

Which position had Peter neglected to take into account?

Chen Ying 7-dan also stood up excitedly. She ignored the reminder from the earpiece that the director gave and said loudly, "It's coming! Professor Zhang has picked up his white stone! He's going to make a move now! Today, Professor Zhang has shown his standard and played to a very high level that showcased the grandeur of humanity! If he wins, he'll immediately become the hero of the Go world! He'll be the hero of all humanity! Watch this, Professor Zhang has raised his white stone and is ready to place it down. I believe that he has been waiting for this chance for a very long time. He wants to decide the outcome now and let the AI know who the true overlord of the world is. Where will Professor Zhang place this decisive stone? This stone is a matter regarding the honor of humanity. Which lethal point will it strike the AI?"

The people watching the live broadcast from Japan were buzzing with excitement!

The viewers from Korea were stirring as well!

At this moment, countless sets of eyes from all over Asia were staring fixedly at Zhang Ye's hand. It was as though it was the hand of God!

Chen Ying 7-dan said loudly, "We're going to witness a miracle at the next moment! Let us watch together as the moment arrives! He's making the move! Teacher Zhang is making his move! Where will this white stone land? Where will this white stone that deals a fatal blow to Peter land? Ah...he still not placing it down on anywhere yet. He's pulling his hand back!"

Instantly, it felt as though the entire world had gone quiet!

Everyone in the room fell silent!

Zhang Ye looked at the international referee and beckoned to him. He said in an embarrassed manner, "Um, I resign."

The American representative fainted!

Yu Yingyi fainted!

Chen Ying fainted!

Wu Changhe fainted!

Li Qinqin fainted!

The Japanese and Korean viewers fainted!

Everyone throughout Asia very nearly breathed their last breaths at that moment!

Goddammit, you motherfucking bastard!

Where was the motherfucking big move that you promised us?

Where was the agreed on Divine Move that you were talking about?

But as it turned out, he actually had nothing up his sleeves?!

Chapter 1127: Face-smacking Zhang gets serious!

At the competition venue.

The international referees came forward to verify the match.

Then, the thinner of the two referees announced, "The first game goes to Peter."

The competition was based on a best of three. If Peter won the next game, the challenge would end immediately.

The American representative smiled as he wiped the nervous sweat off his forehead and cursed himself for overthinking things. He did not shake hands with Zhang Ye and headed straight to the place the press conference would soon be held.

Zhang Ye did not pay attention to him. He gave a final look at that ugly computer before turning and leaving the room and headed for the spectator room.

In the spectator room.

When this fellow returned, he was immediately surrounded by a bunch of top Go players!

Wu Changhe stared at him and said, "Where was the big move?"

Zhang Ye said in surprise, "What big move?"

Wu Changhe impatiently said, "Didn't you have a big move up your sleeve?"

Zhang Ye wore a look of confusion. "What big move did I have up my sleeve?"

Xu Han 8-dan said in a dumbfounded manner, "Didn't you purposely set a trap for Peter?"

"Ah? What are you all talking about?" Zhang Ye could not understand a word they were saying.

A trap?

Big move?

Where am I supposed to pull that out from for you all!

This AI is too powerful. I already said that I wouldn't be able to win against it! But you all insisted on making me play against it. Hai, I'm so embarrassed now! Zhang Ye was also feeling very dejected. This fellow had always been called "Face-smacking Zhang" by others, and he had always been the one who slapped others' faces. But who could have expected that he would be the one getting smacked in the face this time! I knew it! I knew that even if I had drawn a few more skill experience books from the lottery draw, it would still be useless. As expected, this was totally not a matter of skill!

Chen Ying 7-dan returned from the commentary booth. When she stepped in, embarrassment was written all across her face. "Sorry, I, I went overboard during the live broadcast."

The group of pro players were beyond speechless. All of them had been impassioned by Chen Ying's commentary and thought that Zhang Ye really had some big move left to play!

But as it stood?

He could not even muster up a fart!

Li Qinqin sighed and said, "Little Zhang, you've worked hard."

Zhang Ye said with a sardonic chuckle, "Auntie, how have I worked hard? I didn't even win the game, so I feel pretty bad."

Xiang Rong 9-dan looked at him and said, "You've already done great. At the least, I think that you did much better than me. If we had gotten someone else to play, they could not have played as well as you. No matter what, whether you win or lose, we're very grateful to you for standing up for the Go world."

At this, everyone else came to realize it too.

Professor Zhang had accepted the challenge for their sake. Even if he lost, they shouldn't be blaming him. It was never his problem to begin with in the first place!

"Professor Zhang."

"You did a fine job."

"It's fine even though you lost."

"Right, it's not the first time that we've lost anyway, hai."

"Your opening was brilliant!"

"Yeah, no one's been able to make PeterGo so passive! You were the first one to manage it, and this was also the closest that we humans have come to achieving victory!"

"There's still another game tomorrow."

"Right, there's still a chance."

The professional players all spoke one after another.

Dan Donghe was silent all this while.

There's still a chance?

Even though they said that, which one of them really believed what they were saying!

They could all see that Professor Zhang had given his best but still lost to Peter. For tomorrow's game, would there be any difference whether they played or not? Based on today's performance, they knew that they would not be able to win tomorrow. They could see too many things in today's game. This was the limit of how well humanity could perform, but was there even a limit to how far PeterGo could go? They could not see! Yes, there were just no limits!

Li Qinqin consoled, "Don't be too pressured and just play as you would for tomorrow's game."

Zhang Ye gave a wry smile. He thought about how every one of them was placing their hopes on him, and how so many of the common folk were looking at him, so how could there be no pressure on him? The pressure was simply too great!

What if I don't win tomorrow? Then what?

Would I no longer be able to face everyone?

Would I not be able to marry Old Wu anymore?

Motherfucker, this goddamned PeterGo!

Who the fuck designed this bastard of a thing!

...

On Weibo.

The netizens were all wailing!

"That commentator is such a scammer!"

"Yeah, she said it so seriously that I took her word for it!"

"And in the end, when Teacher Zhang said 'I resign,' I nearly fell to my knees!"

"It's useless to say anything now! We've lost again!"

"Even Teacher Zhang could not win against it!"

"Zhang Ye was just a layman to begin with, so why would you guys expect him to win?"

"Ai, I'm really looking forward to tomorrow's game as well. It's going to just be a formality, though. I can see it already. This PeterGo is really too fucking pro!"

"Is there really no one who can beat it? Not even a single game?"

"Go is done for!"

"In a hundred years from now, this game probably won't exist!"

The atmosphere was getting extremely pessimistic. Or rather, it had already become extremely hopeless!

No one thought that humanity would stand a chance of making a comeback!

...

Later that afternoon.

Back at home.

The game had lasted for several hours and it was almost past lunchtime.

When Zhang Ye got home, all of his relatives rushed to him.

"Brother, you're amazing!" his third sister said, giving him a look of adoration.

Zhang Ye smiled bitterly. "I lost and you're saying I'm amazing?"

His eldest younger sister said, "But your opponent is an AI that even defeated Xiang Rong 9-dan. It's already heaven defying enough that you could fight it that well!"

"It's still a loss." Zhang Ye wasn't feeling great about it.

His father came over. "Prepare yourself for tomorrow's game!"

His mother said, "Yes, demolish it tomorrow!"

Demolish it? I would love to do that!

But how could I possibly achieve it?

His first aunt said, "Don't lose heart, you'll be fine!"

His third uncle said, "Right, you've only lost one game. There are still two games left!"

Zhang Ye forced a smile. "After playing Go for the entire morning, I'm feeling a little tired. I'm going to lie down for a bit."

His mother said, "Quickly get some rest then."

Zhang Ye went into his bedroom and laid down on the bed immediately after closing the door. Hearing the chatter of his relatives outside every now and then, he felt really helpless and depressed about the game.

It wasn't that this fellow could not stand to lose, nor was he someone who could not withstand a blow. Ever since he debuted in the entertainment industry, he had stumbled many times as he went through a lot of difficulties along the way. But he had never lost heart before. Besides, Zhang Ye still hasn't lost yet. They were only one game into the best of three. But what made Zhang Ye feel very helpless was that he had no idea how to deal with PeterGo. He knew that even if he were to play tomorrow, he would still not be able to win!

This was the most frustrating thing of all!

Which was why he could not raise his spirits!

Damn, why doesn't this bro use his hacking skills to bring it down? And let that bastard of a thing go up in smoke? Fuck, wouldn't that be a little too mean? Besides, the Americans would surely have the most secure and latest technologies to protect it against such attacks. He might not necessarily have a chance to hack into it! Should he try the lottery again? But it wouldn't work no matter how many times he played the lottery. PeterGo's dataset was just too large. During today's game against Zhang Ye, PeterGo had played moves in the styles of Xiang Rong 9-dan, Shinji 9-dan, Li Yi 9-dan, and anyone else who had played against it. The large dataset it had could also enable it to correctly predict Zhang Ye's every move. This was no longer a difference in skills but the difference between a human brain and a machine! On this aspect, the machine had a crushing advantage over humans. Combined with the two "brains" that gave PeterGo its analytical power, the Americans were actually correct in their claims. This artificial intelligence could really be said to be "thinking" from a different perspective.

The amount of information he had was not as much as the opponent had!

His speed of calculation was not as fast either!

And the precision of his calculations could not be compared either!

Then why the hell was he still competing? How could he compete?

In the public.

A lot of experts were analyzing this war between humans and machines!

A Go commentator: "Zhang Ye excels at the game but is still lacking by too much when compared to the machine."

A scientist: "Humanity is doomed to fail in this war!"

A former national master Go player from Japan: "Not optimistic about tomorrow's chances!"

Ring, ring, ring.

A call from Wu Zeqing came in.

When Zhang Ye saw the caller ID, he hesitated for a moment before rejecting it.

But his cell phone rang again the next second.

Zhang Ye bit the bullet and answered.

"Hello."

"Why didn't you take my call?"

"Hai, I can't face anyone right now."

"You only lost one game and you've become like this?"

"The issue is that I'm not confident for tomorrow either."

"You can win. I believe in you."

"Even I don't believe in me."

"But I do."

Zhang Ye was taken aback.

He heard Wu Zeqing say: "I watched today's game, and I feel that you had a problem while playing. At Go, I'm not anywhere close to as good as you all. But when we were at my place, I watched many of the games you played. I felt that you held back a lot today and were trying to play too carefully throughout the entire game. It was totally different from the carefree style you had while you were playing at my place."

Zhang Ye said helplessly: "My opponent was too strong. I had to play more conservatively against it. What's more, I was playing under pressure from my opponent for most of the game."

Old Wu said: "I always believe that playing Go should be approached as how one lives their lives. Whatever type of person you are, you should be that way and play according to your style. You can't change it. Play conservatively? Playing carefully and taking a steady approach? Building up your base with every step? That's not who you are at all! It's not in your nature to play that way. That's why you might have held yourself back by doing so. I still find you cooler when you played the way you did against my dad, China Qiyuan, and Xiang Rong 9-dan while we were at my place."

At your place?

I didn't even know that I was not facing your dad at that time!

If this bro knew that my opponents had all been 9-dan players and were among the top 20 players in the world, I would've pissed my pants. How could I have played as carefreely as I did!

Zhang Ye said: "Uh, will that really work?"

"Just give it a try," Old Wu replied.

Zhang Ye nodded. "Alright, I'll take your advice then."

Old Wu said: "As for the other factors, you can only depend on yourself to figure them out. I can't help with that."

After hanging up, Zhang Ye gave it some thought for quite a while. Old Wu had indeed made a very reasonable argument. He had been too nervous today and was only thinking about not making any mistakes and errors. He just did not want to lose. As a result, he couldn't open up a path on the board for himself. He would probably give a try during tomorrow's game.

But even that was still not enough. It was not enough to ensure a victory!

He still couldn't overcome the critical issue. He still hadn't found the key to deal with PeterGo!

There had to be a way!

There must be!

But what was it?

Where did PeterGo's weakness lie?

All of a sudden, he heard the sound of the television come in from the living room.

It was the earlier press conference at China Qiyuan. Zhang Ye had left the premises right after the match and did not take any interviews. He did not join the press conference either, but the American representative had taken part in it.

He could hear what the American was saying. "The smartest person to come along in a century? And that was all he could do? Then I shall look forward to the second game of the match between Peter and him."

All he could do?

That was all he could do?

Zhang Ye chuckled!

You want to posture with me, eh?

The thought of marrying Old Wu if he could win the match? The thought of fighting for the honor of humanity? The thought of fighting for the honor of the Go world? Zhang Ye shoved all those thoughts to the back of his mind!

Sure!

This bro will take it to the bitter end with you!

I'll show you bunch of foreigners just why they all call me "Face-smacking Zhang"!

Chapter 1128: Found its weakness!

At night.

"The Americans are too arrogant!"

"Damn, you even claimed that that was all Teacher Zhang could do?"

"That's because you people haven't witnessed how awesome he can be when he's in form!"

"When Teacher Zhang was out there slaughtering everyone, was he not better than you?"

"You only scored a victory over Teacher Zhang in Go! What's so great about that! Do you have to get this arrogant? If you're so great, why don't we compete in other categories! Teacher Zhang was not a pro Go player to begin with anyway!"

"That's right!"

"Do you dare compete in math?"

"Do you dare compete in calligraphy?"

"Do you dare compete in piloting a plane?"

"Face-smacking Zhang would be able to demolish you people in any other aspect! Fuck!"

There was a heated discussion about this topic and all kinds of noisy chatter in the news.

Some of the people who were angered by the foreigners gradually started cheering for Zhang Ye.

Others were still as pessimistic as before regarding the match. Whatever reason there was now, it could not erase the fact that Zhang Ye had indeed lost the first game.

...

At home.

Zhang Ye ate three bowls of rice in one sitting for dinner.

His father said, "Eat more to replenish your stamina!"

His mother said, "Right, you still have to fight it out with Peter tomorrow!"

His eldest younger sister scooped some food for him. "Brother, have more meat."

"Thanks." Zhang Ye did not refuse whatever they offered.

His fighting spirit had been reignited. Wasn't it just a lousy computer? He always believed that this was just something that was created by humans. No matter how good it was, it wouldn't possibly have the same wisdom as humans did. Even if it was better in many aspects and possessed a computational and analytical ability that humans could never reach, it would definitely still have a weakness somewhere. So all he had to do was find out what PeterGo's weakness was and score a victory in tomorrow's game. He could not afford to lose and had to at least even the score tomorrow so that he would stand a chance of winning!

Weakness?

What was it?

What was the weakness?

After dinner, he received a few calls from his friends.

Yao Jiancai: "Zhang'er, finish off that Peter!"

Zhang Ye: "I will."

Yao Jiancai: "You can do it, we're all standing behind you!"

There were also some friends who tried to persuade him to throw in the towel. They told him that since he was not a part of the world of Go, it was nothing disgraceful even if he had lost the game. It was already a very great result that he could play against PeterGo as well as he did!

But Zhang Ye did not say anything.

Throw in the towel? There was no such phrase as "throw in the towel" in his vocabulary!

Back in his bedroom, Zhang Ye turned on his computer and again studied the day's game against the artificial intelligence. He recreated the entire game three times over! From the looks of it, there were indeed some inaccuracies in his moves that ought to have much better alternatives to handle Peter's play. Of course, it was useless to say all this in retrospect since whatever mentioned wouldn't change anything. It was impossible for humans to have a foolproof plan while playing under such intense circumstances.

Besides, there was no such thing as a foolproof plan in Go since the game was just too complicated. There would be times when you think that a move would be great after taking everything into consideration. But a dozen moves later, it might turn out to be a bad one. Conversely, you might have played a bad move earlier which would turn out to be a good move by the middlegame when you suddenly realize that it had a decisive effect on the overall board state. All of it was possible due to the complexity of Go!

He studied the game for a full two hours.

The more he analyzed it, the more he could not find any weakness in Peter's game. It seemed like every move it made was done to restrict Zhang Ye's play. It always held a slight advantage over him across the whole board and was always a step ahead of Zhang Ye. With the exception of one move made early in the game, which was the only time that Zhang Ye had managed to restrict PeterGo's play. Hence, Zhang Ye focused on this move for a very long time.

Why did I go into the lead at this move?

Why couldn't Peter predict this move?

The more that Zhang Ye thought about it, the more he wondered why. Logically, it shouldn't have happened. The AI's computational power was so strong and could predict so many moves ahead, shouldn't it be able to predict that move of his as well?

Zhang Ye's keen sense of awareness told him that the breakthrough might lie right here!

After some thought, Zhang Ye called Wu Changhe's house.

It was Li Qinqin who answered the call. "Hello?"

"Auntie, it's Little Zhang." Zhang Ye said: "Is Uncle home?"

Li Qinqin said: "He's around, let me get him."

A moment later, Wu Changhe's voice sounded: "What do you want?"

Zhang Ye immediately said: "Uncle, there's something I need to discuss with you. I was analyzing the 'knight's move' I played against Peter in the corner during the opening. Do you remember it?"

When Wu Changhe heard that it was about proper business, he said with a rare showing of patience: "I remember that. It was your only move that allowed you to gain an advantage in the game. Even Peter could not predict that."

Zhang Ye asked: "Why wasn't Peter able to see it?"

"Why?" Wu Changhe was a little taken aback. "Actually, none of us could predict those moves of yours during the opening as they were all very unorthodox. It was only after you made that knight's move that we realized the intention of your opening sequence, but we've never seen anyone use that joseki 1 before. That was probably why Peter fell for it since it was unable to predict that you would make such a move. You could basically consider that a surprise move."

"No one has used it before?"

"Yeah, that's right."

"Are you sure?"

"Of course I'm sure. I've played Go for many years."

A nonstandard joseki?

How is that possible!

After hanging up, Zhang Ye immediately went through a lot of game records online. Indeed, he really could not find any similar josekis to the one he had played! As everyone knows, Go has many types of josekis and sayings 2. There are so many kinds of them that they had long been agreed on and analyzed thoroughly by everyone. When Wu Changhe told Zhang Ye that no one has seen that joseki before, it surprised him greatly. That was because this joseki was a very standard way of playing and was commonly seen in games played in Zhang Ye's previous world. If he did not remember wrong, it should have been first played by a Go master some time during the '90s. After many years of trial and error, as well as being played in many different matches, a fixed pattern of play had been formed.

But in this world, no one had seen it before?

Due to the lack of such data, PeterGo couldn't calculate and predict the moves?

After being stunned for a few seconds, Zhang Ye banged his desk and stood up!

I got it!

I know what Peter's weakness is!

Zhang Ye laughed, "Hahahahaha!"

His mother opened the bedroom door and went in. "What's the matter? Have you gone crazy?"

Zhang Ye immediately put on his clothes and said, "Mom, I can't talk now, I need to go out for a while!"

Zhang Ye went out to his car and drove straight to China Qiyuan.

Why did he head there? Why did he head there? Because this place kept the most complete information on Go!

...

At China Qiyuan.

It was past 9 PM.

Compared to the crowd during the day, it was a little quiet at the Qiyuan at night. Most of the lights were already off!

When Zhang Ye arrived, there were only a few employees working in the Qiyuan. Seeing that it was Zhang Ye, they opened the door and let him in. He quickly went to the Go association and pushed the door open!

There were still some people in there.

They were Chen Ying 7-dan, Xu Han 8-dan, and five other professional players. They were grouped together and looked like they were discussing the day's match between Zhang Ye and Peter.

Xu Han: "It's really too strong."

Chen Ying: "How can we beat it?"

When they heard the noise behind them, they turned around.

"Eh?"

"Professor Zhang?"

"What are you doing here?"

The several of them were stunned.

Zhang Ye immediately yelled out, "Quick, give me a hand! I need all the pro Go players' past game record information and josekis of this world!"

Xu Han was stunned. "All the matches? All the josekis?"

Chen Ying said in a daze, "Why do you need them?"

A 5th dan player said, "All the matches? That would be more than several hundred thousand or millions of games!"

"I need to learn them! Quick, give me a hand!" Zhang Ye looked around and asked, "Where is the library? Hurry up, bros! We don't have much time!"

The several of them got even more shocked!

Learn them?

Learn them right now?

Damn, it is already too late! The second game of the match will begin tomorrow! Even if anyone were to give a last-minute push, they would not do it as last minute as you are doing now!

Chapter 1129: The Go masters from a different world!

The library was bustling with activity immediately.

Some of the information in this place had been entered into the computer and those that had not been were available on paper.

Xu Han said, "Are you serious about this?"

Zhang Ye ordered, "As long as there's a possibility that Peter has the data, I want them all!"

Chen Ying gasped and said, "That would be over a million records!"

"Even if there are over ten million records, I want them!" Zhang Ye said.

Xu Han gave a bitter smile as he powered on a computer. "Part of the information you need is on here. Have a look at them."

Zhang Ye instantly sat down. Xu Han had opened up a document on the computer that was titled "1980-2000 International Go Tournaments (Classified Information)"!

Zhang Ye only said, "I want all the records from before 1980 and after 2000 too! Along with the international tournaments, I want records of all the games played in our country, Japan, and Korea!" He then whipped back to looking at the screen as he continued going through the game records page by page. The speed at which he went through them was astounding!

On each page, the games were recorded with details of the players' names, the exact date it was played, and the endgame state. The order of each move was notated by a number written at the grid location of the game record 1 .

One page!

Ten pages!

Twenty pages!

Within ten seconds, Zhang Ye had finished going through the game records.

Then he continued reading without a reduction in his browsing speed!

The professional players were dumbfounded at seeing this.

A 6th dan player said, "What can you learn by looking at the game records like this?"

"You won't be able to remember anything that way," Xu Han said, dabbing at his sweat.

None of them could understand what Zhang Ye was trying to do!

When she saw Zhang Ye keeping quiet, Chen Ying grit her teeth and said, "Let's get the information for Professor Zhang. He definitely has his reasons for doing so. We have to put up a last stand since we're at the point of no return. Do we have any other choice? We can only trust Professor Zhang's judgment! Try to look for as much info as you can!" She immediately headed off to search for more information!

"But..."

"Hai, fine!"

The several of them got down to business!

Soon after, stacks and stacks of documents were placed in front of Zhang Ye.

Zhang Ye said as he browsed through them, "This is not enough, bring me more!"

Zhang Ye then bought numerous Memory Search Capsules from the Merchant Shop through his game ring. Then he closed his eyes and used the Memory Search Capsules to imprint all of the information that he went through earlier into his memory. This was his fastest way of memorizing things and something that no one else in this world could do except him!

It was already 11 PM!

Quick!

Hurry up!

Zhang Ye was not willing to waste even a second of his time as he focused all his effort here. As he was in a race against time, he had to try to remember as much information as he could!

Xu Han's hands were getting tired as he carried a big stack of documents over. "There's still all of these, is it enough?"

"It's still not enough!" Zhang Ye said.

Xu Han said, "They're still not enough?"

Chen Ying stared into Zhang Ye's eyes and said, "Have you really thought of a plan?"

Zhang Ye looked at them and said in a serious tone, "Trust me, I found a way to defeat it!"

Everyone was stunned!

"What?"

"Really?"

"Are you serious, Professor Zhang?"

Zhang Ye said, "What I need now is information. The more the better!"

Chen Ying got excited. "Alright! Alright! Just focus on reading! Leave the rest to us!" She quickly picked up her cell phone and made a call. "Hello, Hu Liang! Quickly come down to the Qiyuan to help out! You're sleeping? Stop sleeping! Get up and inform the others as well! Hurry up!"

Xu Han hesitated for a long time before stomping his foot. "Damn! I won't be leaving today either! As long as you can beat PeterGo! I will do anything that you tell me to!"

The several of them started calling for reinforcements!

"Hello, Old He, quickly come to the Qiyuan!"

"Little Chen, stop sleeping! Come to the Qiyuan!"

"Come quickly, Professor Zhang has found a way!"

Before long, several cars drove into the Qiyuan's compound!

10 people...

20 people...

More and more people were arriving!

"What's the matter?"

"What exactly is going on?"

"It's this late. What are you all trying to do?"

"Don't ask! Help gather information!"

In the end, even President Dan Donghe and Wu Changhe were alarmed. They also hurriedly drove back to the Qiyuan in the middle of the night. When they heard that Zhang Ye had found a way to defeat Peter, the two of them were in disbelief!

He found a way to beat it?

And he's doing some last-minute studying?

W-Why did it sound so unreliable no matter how they heard it!

Wu Changhe said in a speechless manner, "Little Zhang, are you sure you can do it?"

Zhang Ye didn't open his shut eyes and ignored him.

Wu Changhe said angrily, "Hey this kid!"

Dan Donghe was silent for a moment, then he looked up and suddenly said, "Everyone, please put in some overtime and listen closely to Professor Zhang's instructions! Give him whatever he needs! Whatever he needs!"

A deputy chairman objected, "But by doing this—"

"I will take responsibility if anything happens!" interrupted Dan Donghe. He took out a key and passed it to an employee beside him. "There's still some information available in my office. Bring it out for Professor Zhang!"

"Yes!" That employee slowly turned around.

Dan Donghe shouted, "Get moving!"

"Ah, yes!" Then the employee sprinted away!

Dan Donghe glanced in Zhang Ye's direction as he muttered to himself, "I really hope that you have found a way."

The Qiyuan's lights were all switched on!

The atmosphere turned unknowingly tense!

Throughout the night, a lot of people were running about trying to fetch more information for Zhang Ye. After he finished reading some of it, they would take it away and bring over a fresh batch of documents! No one believed that Zhang Ye could really finish reading them all and learn everything within a night. What was Go? It was an extremely time-consuming sport. For most who wished to step out from under the wings of their teachers, they would require at least a few years of learning. Even for those several genius master Go players who existed in the history of Go, it was unheard of that they could become invincible after just a night of learning!

From experience, this was not something that would work out!

Logically, this was also impossible to achieve!

But everyone unconditionally carried out Zhang Ye's requests. Because they no longer had a place to retreat to. In this moment, they would rather believe in a miracle, that the smartest person of the century would be able to bring about a miracle in the Go world!

Time was ticking away.

Actually, they did not know that Zhang Ye was not actually learning, but eliminating. He was not trying to learn from all these game records and josekis. He just wanted to know which to avoid using!

PeterGo's analytical ability and "decision making" were actually based on the massive amount of accumulated information and dataset that it had. It kept a record of all the world's top Go players, professional Go players, games, and josekis, and could play any of Xiang Rong 9-dan's special moves at any time or easily resolve Shinji 9-dan's commonly used moves. It was only because of its massive trove of information that Peter obtained its superb Go skills. This was actually the strongest aspect of the artificial intelligence that humans could not hope to achieve. But at the same time, this was also the AI's Achilles' heel. Right now, Zhang Ye has discovered it!

The Go josekis of this world?

The Go techniques of this world?

I'll just not use any of them!

Xiang Rong?

Shinji?

Park Yuhee?

Li Yi?

Liu Hong?

Chen Ying?

I'll just not use any of their techniques!

I'll avoid all the josekis and playstyles that everyone has used before. This bro will use those moves and josekis that do not belong to this world to play against you!

Do you know Gu Li?

Do you know Nie Weiping?

Do you know Li Changgao?

Oh, that's right.

All of you definitely do not know Ke Jie!

Chapter 1130: The second game of the war between humans and machines!

The next morning.

It was getting closer and closer to the start of the game.

On the Central TV Sports Channel: "The focus on the war between humans and machines has reached an unprecedented level of attention after yesterday's game. This match has had the most attention, trendiness, and viewership rating in the history of Go. In another hour, our station will continue the live broadcast of the second game of the match between famous math professor Zhang Ye versus the artificial intelligence program Peter. Will Peter continue to be victorious and win the final game, or will Professor Zhang turn defeat into victory and even the score to bring us to a third game? We'll see you at 9 AM on Central TV Sports!"

On Weibo, a number of people were showing their support for Zhang Ye.

Famous A-list movie star Ning Lan posted on Weibo early in the morning: "Zhang'er, you can do it!"

Central TV Documentary Channel's Ha Qiqi: "Director Zhang, show them how awesome you are!"

Crosstalk actor Yao Jiancai: "Everyone, let's cheer for Zhang Ye!"

Singer Liao Yiqi (Spinach): "We must definitely show our support for Teacher Zhang's match!"

A lot of people were waiting and watching TV. Although the live broadcast had not started yet, some commentators and experts were analyzing yesterday's game in the live broadcast studio.

An expert: "We can see that Zhang Ye was always on the back foot."

The host: "Then does that mean it will be very difficult for him to win today as well?"

The expert: "It looks to be that way. But I'll still support Zhang Ye. He is the Go world's last line of defense! We can't lose!"

The host: "Then let's cheer for Professor Zhang, for Go, and for humanity!"

...

The public was heatedly discussing this as well!

Reporters had surrounded China Qiyuan!

Some of the citizens even organized a spontaneous cheerleading squad and were screaming loudly outside the Qiyuan!

However, it was pretty quiet within the Qiyuan, and the atmosphere inside could only be described as gloomy.

Dan Donghe asked, "What time is it?"

"It's 8 o'clock," Chen Ying said tiredly.

Hu Liang asked, "Should we wake Professor Zhang up?"

Li Qinqin, who had just arrived, said, "Let him sleep awhile longer. You guys too. I heard that you were busy all night. Go home and rest."

"We're not tired, ma'am," Xu Han said as he paced up and down.

Zhang Ye had studied the information until 6 in the morning before going off to get some rest. As the game was slated to begin at 9 AM, he had to reserve three hours of rest to recharge himself and replenish his stamina and mental fitness. As for the professional Go players and Qiyuan staff who had assisted Zhang Ye throughout the night, they did not yet leave to go home. All of them stayed behind and nervously stood around with wide eyes. Today's game was extremely important to them!

Awhile later.

Someone suddenly shouted, "Professor Zhang is up!"

Zhang Ye yawned as he walked in. "Good morning, everyone."

"How did you sleep?" Li Qinqin asked anxiously.

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "Quite well."

Dan Donghe said, "You only slept for two hours. You should sleep a bit longer."

"No need, two hours is enough for me." Zhang Ye's mental state was great. His constitution was different from most ordinary people as he could recover after resting for just a little.

Wu Changhe had also gone to catch some z's at one of the Qiyuan's rest areas. As the game was about to start, he fast walked over. "You in good shape? Think you can win?"

Zhang Ye laughed and said, "I'll give it a try."

He had done all that he needed to do. Although Zhang Ye did not have the time to memorize all the game records, a majority of the crucial games were photocopied into his mind.

He had said that he would give it a try yesterday as well, but still lost in the end.

When they asked him again today, he was still saying that he would give it a try?

Everyone looked at him with pessimism.

Dan Donghe patted his shoulder and said, "Just do your best!"

Li Qinqin added, "Don't be too pressured. It's alright even if you lose."

Zhang Ye said, "OK."

Dan Donghe looked at his watch, then turned around to the staff and said, "Let the reporters in."

The reporters were allowed in.

The Americans were already in the Qiyuan.

The American representative said to his assistant, "Have you booked the plane tickets?"

His assistant said, "They've been booked. The tickets are for tonight's flight, but the match is still—"

The American representative laughed and said, "We'll be done today. Do you guys think that Zhang Ye can take a game?"

At this, the Americans laughed and eased into a very relaxed mood. "Our product has become famous. If we can sweep the Go world with a perfect record, more people will be asking to cooperate with us. Quite a few companies have already contacted us, in fact."

The American representative nodded. "Very good. A perfect record? It will definitely be a perfect record! Peter will not lose even one game, nor will it be allowed to lose! We will create a legend!"

The pregame interview began.

Numerous reporters surrounded the American team.

The Xinhua News Agency: "I heard that your plane tickets have been booked for a flight for tonight?"

The American representative glanced at him and did not dodge the question. "Yes."

From the Beijing Times: "If Professor Zhang wins today, then the third game—"

"That won't happen," interrupted the American representative.

A female reporter said, "You sound very confident of that."

"That's right." The American representative said, "The match is as good as decided because Peter is the most advanced AI ever. Its analytical and thinking abilities are not things humans can possibly compete with. The entire world should have noticed Peter's strength by now. I can assuredly tell you that in the entire world of Go, nobody can win against Peter, whether it's today or in the future. The only thing that could beat Peter would be a similar kind of AI."

A male reporter probed, "What kind of projects will Peter take part in in the future?"

A young reporter asked, "Will Peter continue to challenge the intelligence of humans?"

A lot of the reporters were following the American representative closely and asking all sorts of questions.

Whereas not too many people went to interview Zhang Ye.

It could be seen that even though a lot of people were cheering for Zhang Ye, they were doing so because they stood on humanity's side. But with respect to the outcome of the match, not too many were optimistic about Zhang Ye's chances.

Zhang Ye and the Qiyuan's people overheard the Americans' conversation.

Yu Yingyi and some of the reporters from the Beijing Times were interviewing Zhang Ye.

Yu Yingyi raised her microphone and asked, "Is there anything you would like to say?"

Zhang Ye answered with a chuckle, "Yingyi, help me to pass a message to the Americans."

"What message?" Yu Yingyi said in surprise.

"Tell them to change their flight date." Then Zhang Ye slowly made his way to the game area and went up to the two international referees. He pointed at the computer and said, "I want to play directly against this thing."

The two referees were stunned. "What do you mean?"

Zhang Ye said, "I want to play directly against it. There's no need for a middleman to help place the stones."

There was no need for the stones and a Go board?

You want to play directly against the computer?

Zhang Ye's request immediately attracted a lot of astonished looks!

The international referees went to seek the Americans' consent.

The Americans could not understand what the opponent was thinking. Didn't you members of the Go world always like playing Go using real stones and a Go board? Weren't you all accustomed to the touch of the stones?

The American representative glanced at Zhang Ye. "We have no objections."

Wu Changhe stopped Zhang Ye. "What are you trying to do?"

Xiang Rong 9-dan also came over. "Why do that?"

Zhang Ye smiled. "I like to play against my opponents face to face."

The machine that Peter resided in was a very normal computer equipped with a mouse and keyboard. However, Zhang Ye did not know whether there was any more advanced technology inside of it. He went over to take a seat as he looked up and stared at Peter's screen for a long time.

A tense feeling descended upon the venue!

Somehow, the stakes had been raised!

An employee said, "Interviews will end now. Can we please have the reporters leave?"

The reporters looked back with every step as they departed.

The people from China Qiyuan also gave a final look to Zhang Ye before they headed out to the spectator room next door. From here, they watched the big screen with all kinds of expressions on their faces!

The live broadcast had already begun!

There were still two minutes to the start of the game!

The Qiyuan went quiet!

The netizens went quiet!

...

Zhang Ye's father clenched his fists and said, "Son!"

His mother stared at the television and said, "Come on, you can do it!"

Zhang Yuanqi was alone at home. She was drinking wine as she was caught the live broadcast on TV.

Dean Pan Yang of Peking University's School of Mathematical Sciences: "Little Zhang, it's all on you!"

Yao Jiancai: "It's all over if you lose again!"

Fan Wenli: "Will he win?"

Chen Guang: "I feel that Zhang Ye is a little different today."

Wu Zeqing reached her workplace. When she entered the office, she said to Secretary Bai, "I have work to do in the morning. If anyone looks for me, schedule them for the afternoon." Then she turned on the Online Go Server's live broadcast and waited quietly with arms folded.

Every citizen in the country was watching television at this moment!

Many Japanese and Korean citizens were also focused on this game!

Counting down:

Three...

Two...

One...

The international referees started the game timer.

The second game of the match began!

Zhang Ye was all smiles today. He was feeling completely different from yesterday's cautiousness and seriousness!

Come on.

I'll let you witness the fruits of this bro's overnight labor!

I'll let you witness the special techniques of the 9-dan Go players from this bro's previous world!