

Superstar 1131

Chapter 1131: A strange opening that dumbfounds everyone!

During the live broadcast.

Central TV Sports Channel's host, Yu Yingyi, announced loudly, "The match has begun. Professor Zhang is going to play first as the black stones while Peter takes White. Now then, let me introduce our guest commentator for today, the currently highest ranked female Go player in the world, Chen Ying 7-dan. Let's welcome her."

Chen Ying said, "Hello, everyone."

Yu Yingyi said, "For today's game, do you, Teacher Chen, have any predictions on how it'll turn out?"

Chen Ying said, "It's hard to predict, but this is a do-or-die battle for Professor Zhang."

Yu Yingyi looked at the screen curiously. "We can see that even though Professor Zhang is playing as Black, he has not made his first move yet. No one knows what he's thinking about right now. Teacher Chen, does Professor Zhang have a strategy in place for today's game?"

Chen Ying said, "I don't know what Professor Zhang's strategy is, but according to our earlier analysis, he should mainly be adopting a careful and steady approach. After all, his opponent is a machine and its computational power is too strong. It doesn't allow us any room for mistakes. If we want to win the game, we'll first have to make sure that every one of our moves can stand up to scrutiny. Otherwise..."

At this moment, Zhang Ye took control of the mouse and clicked on the Go board on the computer screen with a smile.

Yu Yingyi said, "Professor Zhang has made his move!"

When Chen Ying saw it, she exclaimed, "What?!"

The Americans were stunned!

Those in the spectator room were also stunned!

Wu Changhe nearly cursed out loud. "What the heck is he doing!"

"This, this..." Li Yi 9-dan gasped!

Hu Liang was close to tears. "What kind of a blunder is that?"

Xu Han panicked. "Isn't Professor Zhang messing around this way! What in the world is this?"

A female pro player shrieked, "Is Professor Zhang not fully awake yet? How could he make a move like that?"

Even Xiang Rong 9-dan was stunned!

The home viewers who knew how to play Go were all scared out of their wits!

In the focus of the live broadcast camera, Yu Yingyi exclaimed in surprise, "Teacher Chen, w-why haven't I seen an opening like this before? What kind of playstyle is this? What kind of strategy does he have?"

Chen Ying nearly fell out of her chair. She was thinking to herself how it was not only Yu Yingyi who hadn't seen this before, even she herself had never fucking come across something like it either. "For this opening, we'll have to watch and see how it goes from here. From the looks of it, Professor Zhang did not make a mistake with that move. But as for what kind of opening 1 this is, I do not know. In the entire development of Go up until now, there shouldn't be anything left to talk about when it comes to openings. The conventional ways of playing and board shapes have been generalized. For anything that falls outside of those, we just call them unconventional openings. But I can confirm that there isn't this type of opening in the consolidated list of unconventional openings either. Professor Zhang's first move was played slightly above the board side star point at 11-5. Th-This is just too unexpected."

Yu Yingyi said, "Look, Peter is also clearly wondering about that move. It still hasn't responded with a move yet."

Zhang Ye's first move had shocked everyone!

However, he didn't seem like he was aware. Instead, he crossed his legs and wiggled his toes carefreely. He was even tapping his finger rhythmically without a care in the world against the mouse in his hand. It didn't feel like this was a critical match that would decide the life and death of the Go world. It was as though he was playing the game from home or something.

The Americans started laughing mockingly after the sense of shock faded!

What a layman!

He is totally such a layman!

Do you even know how to play Go? Making a move in that position for your opening?

What kind of playstyle is this? Are you trying out a suicidal opening? Ha!

Soon, Peter replied with a move!

Yu Yingyi quickly said, "Peter has made its move!"

Chen Ying 7-dan explained, "Peter has made a move at the bottom of the board. This is a very good response. If Professor Zhang does not take defensive action, he'll immediately fall very far behind right from the start of the game. I still don't understand why his first move was placed there. But what I know for sure is that Black's second move definitely won't repeat the same—"

Before she finished.

Zhang Ye lightly clicked the mouse and placed another stone!

Chen Ying was dumbstruck. "This...a 6-4 point? What kind of playstyle is this?"

Some of the Go players on the Internet were going crazy!

"Holy shit!"

"Is this even a coherent opening?"

"This has got to be a fucking suicidal opening!"

"What is Professor Zhang thinking?"

"He's making blunders right at the start?"

"This opening of his is just too goddamn unconventional! It's the fucking most unconventional opening of unconventional openings there are! What on earth is he trying to do?"

"I'm gonna cry!"

"This is just too unconventional!"

"He's going to lose this game as well! If Peter grabs hold of the position, it'll be over!"

If even the amateur Go players could see it, then the pro players understood even better!

Wu Changhe was ready to curse. "Did this kid forget to take his medicine?"

Li Qinqin said, "Who knows if Little Zhang might have a purpose?"

Liu Hong 9-dan said, "What purpose could he possibly have? He's walking on a knife's edge! Besides, there has never been such a way of playing ever before in the many centuries of Go!"

Hu Liang paled. "Peter has played its stone!"

"It's over!"

"It really played at that position as expected!"

"Professor Zhang has been forced into passive play!"

But when they looked at Zhang Ye, they noticed that he did not have an expression that looked like he had made the wrong moves. Instead, he was grinning. Almost without needing to think, he played his third stone.

The Americans were smirking and sneering, but those smirks quickly froze!

Wait!

This...

What is going on here?

Chen Ying didn't know how to react either. "Professor Zhang has played another 6-4 point move? This way of playing has really never been seen before. If that's what it is, then...Eh? Wait a second, why does this opening look a little familiar?" She suddenly froze, then cried out, "Isn't this the 'three star points in a row 2' opening? But he pushed the three star points up and in by two coordinate points?" She suddenly got excited. "Professor Zhang is not playing randomly! He is definitely not playing randomly for this game's opening! This...this...Peter has to stop him! If Professor Zhang can join up the 'three star points in a row,' the upper side of the board will be his to take!"

Xiang Rong's expression suddenly changed. He said, "He did that on purpose for his opening!"

Dan Donghe pointed at the screen. "Look at that, Little Zhang is..."

After just a few moves, everyone suddenly realized that this opening was much too fearsome. It could even be described as devious!

Peter also realized this and immediately went back to stop it!

But it was already too late!

Zhang Ye placed down his stone for Black's fourth move.

In order to wreck its opponent's plan, Peter's fourth move had to be placed at the 5-4 point in the upper right corner!

Meanwhile, Zhang Ye thought for a moment, then quickly placed his fifth move at the 6-4 point in the lower right corner of the board!

Peter's fifth move came in with a piercing attack!

Zhang Ye smiled and turned it aside!

Peter immediately ran out of steam!

The audience was shell-shocked!

Yu Yingyi was stunned. "This play!"

No one had expected it to be this way!

The present array of stones on the Go board dumbfounded them all!

Chen Ying became so excited that she could feel her blood coursing through her veins. "This is brilliant! Brilliant!" She explained to the viewers, "After White's knight's move on move four, if Black had continued to occupy and join up with the upper right corner's 6-4 point to form a fighting shape in response, White would've just had to make a large knight's move to cut him off for its fifth move, and the black stones in that area would have been snubbed. Instead, Professor Zhang turned his attention to taking the 6-4 point at the lower right side. He seems to be intending to construct another 'three stars in a row' at the bottom of the board. After White's fifth move attack, Black did not immediately take a position on the side of the board because he wanted to leave the opponent with a dilemma: If Peter chose to play on the sides of the board, which are not efficient for scoring, in order to break Professor Zhang's setup, then so be it. Professor Zhang could always continue to build up in the upper right corner and take all three corners under his control! If Peter is not willing to take this loss, then Professor Zhang would be able to form the shape that he desires! If Professor Zhang really manages to connect the desired shape that he wants, and which we still have no idea of what exactly it is, even if we haven't come to that part of the game yet, I would still imagine it to be absolutely terrifying!"

It went quiet!

The entire Qiyuan was silent!

Chen Ying stared fixedly at the screen and said, "How will Peter choose to proceed? What will Peter do now?"

One minute.

Three minutes.

Five minutes passed.

Peter made a compromise!

It could only compromise as it did not dare to take the risk!

Sunken expressions were on the faces of the Americans!

Many of the professional Go players in the spectator room cheered at this moment. It was as though they had finally released all of the pent-up stress from these recent days!

Xiang Rong 9-dan cheered, "Great play!"

Wu Changhe couldn't conceal his excitement either. "Good! Alright! Great!"

"This is so awesome!"

"Professor Zhang, that was a good one!"

"I've got the goosebumps!"

"My heavens!"

"Professor Zhang is so awesome!"

Chen Ying continued saying loudly inside the commentary booth, "Peter is now at a disadvantage! It has been taken advantage of by Professor Zhang greatly in less than a dozen moves at the start of the game! This is a really unconventional opening that has never been seen before! What an unconventional opening! What kind of playstyle is this? What on earth is it?"

...

Zhang Ye's mother said dumbfounded, "Little Ye is in the lead?"

His father shouted, "That computer program has been tricked by our son!"

Chen Guang said, "What the!"

Yao Jiancai laughed heartily, "Hahahaha! You're really something, kid!"

The same boisterous reactions were seen online!

"He's in the lead!"

"Teacher Zhang has gained the initiative!"

"Fuck, Peter has been tricked in less than a dozen moves!"

"What kind of playstyle is that?"

"Teacher Zhang really is a fucking goddamn genius!"

"Don't get happy too soon! The game isn't over yet!"

"Right! Let's continue to watch!"

"Don't fucking tell me that Teacher Zhang might really be able to win against that AI?"

...

A playstyle that no one had ever seen before!

An opening that no one had ever witnessed before!

There were also many others who were wondering what in the world they had seen!

Even Xiang Rong, Wu Changhe, Li Yi, and the others were confused by it!

If Zhang Ye could hear the commentary outside the game room, and if he could see all the heated discussions by the netizens, he would surely answer them with one line: This is what you call the "Apollo Opening 3"! It was a famous and old unconventional opening from his previous world! Naturally, the people of this world would never have come across it before!

Chapter 1132: An inconceivable way of playing: The Cosmic Style!

In Japan and Korea.

Some of the Go websites were holding a simulcast of the game.

"Nani?"

"Quick, come and see this!"

"This opening is super godly!"

"The Chinese have shown their might!"

"The AI is losing really badly now!"

"That's impossible. Didn't that guy called Zhang Ye suffer a miserable defeat yesterday?"

"Just watch and you'll understand!"

Shortly after the game started, and in less than a dozen moves, Peter had been forced into a compromise and had to give up several points just like that. What did this mean? Anyone who knew a bit of Go would most definitely be astonished!

In all the centuries of recorded Go history and even further back, in its development until the modern times, all the different types of strategies had already been analyzed and studied thoroughly. All the different playstyles had already been seen before as well. Unless it was a game between a pro Go player and an amateur one, there wasn't much likelihood that a large disparity would grow between the two

sides within just a dozen moves. Even if there was, it wouldn't be so clear-cut. It would only start showing itself gradually as the match progressed. If such a great disparity really showed up within just a dozen moves, it would go without saying that it was sure to be a game between an expert and a beginner.

But Peter was clearly not a beginner. Much to the contrary, it had defeated the top three Go players of the world, so that made it even more astonishing to everyone!

It didn't even take a dozen moves!

Zhang Ye had done it in less than ten moves!

This upset a lot of people's understanding of Go!

Some people even thought, If anyone could successfully learn this playstyle of Zhang Ye's, then wouldn't they become invincible in terms of the opening of a Go game?

But little did they know they had misjudged it.

The Apollo Opening 1 . Even in his previous world, this opening was not that popular. In fact, hardly anyone still used it. It was almost never played anymore because this type of opening had been researched and analyzed by many people. All of its variations and ways to fight it had been thoroughly explored. Moreover, the Apollo Opening had several fatal flaws. It was never seen as a mature or stable opening. But why did Zhang Ye dare to use it? Because this world has never seen it before. Therefore, they wouldn't know how to crack it!

Zhang Ye was harassing Peter like this specifically because it had no records of this opening!

Indeed, this strange opening had allowed him to gain an advantage right at the start of the game!

Zhang Ye followed up in hot pursuit as he immediately made an attack next!

Peter defended against the move.

Zhang Ye took the chance to occupy a position.

Peter could only bump in response.

However, he did not manage to complete the Apollo Opening. Because of Peter's compromise, he did not manage to get to the final killing move. But Peter's compromise had created an opportunity for Zhang Ye.

In the commentary booth.

Yu Yingyi said excitedly, "Professor Zhang still has an utter advantage!"

Chen Ying 7-dan had been feeling quite tired as she had not slept for the entire night. But with this game's opening, she was injected with energy, as if given an adrenaline shot. She yelled, "Yes! After another five moves from both sides, Professor Zhang is still pressing Peter with his play! Peter is in a very passive state. It has no way to deal with this for the time being!"

Yu Yingyi said, "So if they continue to play, will he win?"

Chen Ying replied, "Hmm, you can't put it that way. Peter's standard of play has already been witnessed by everyone. It once reversed a disadvantage on the board and emerged victorious. Also, we're only in the opening. What'll happen later is difficult to predict. There's also something that we ought to pay attention to. See, Peter might have lost quite a few points over here and here in the opening, but this opening by Professor Zhang is not that good either. We still have to see how it develops from here. Black's fifth move, there, is still very vulnerable to being attacked."

Then, less than two moves later, Zhang Ye suddenly hesitated.

He tapped the table as he considered his options for a while before playing.

In response, Peter made a good move by extending one of its frameworks. It helped Peter counterattack and was a very clever move. It was so clever that even many of the Go players watching TV could not help but praise it!

Chen Ying's expression shifted. "Good move! Peter's absolute strength can be seen in this move alone! It was no fluke that it could defeat so many of the world's top Go players. Now that Professor Zhang's attack has been defended against, Peter is unleashing a counterattack! It is Professor Zhang who will be finding it difficult from here on out!"

The American representative heaved a sigh of relief and smiled.

The atmosphere turned tense once again!

Zhang Ye clicked his tongue. It looked like he wouldn't be able to finish off PeterGo with just the opening. That would be too unrealistic.

Zhang Ye had to counter with a stand.

Then, Peter played its next move in the corner!

Chen Ying said with a sinking voice, "It's Peter's turn to play its opening! After this position here has been occupied, Professor Zhang's position over there is not going to be easy to expand. Although Professor Zhang is still ahead in the scoring, his opponent is catching up in the momentum. If he doesn't handle the situation well, he might just throw away that lead!"

Both sides played their stones.

It could be seen that Peter no longer needed the long thinking time that it took to consider its moves during the opening. It was playing fluidly now and had entered into the part of the game it was good at and most familiar with. Peter did not need much processing time as it rapidly made its moves. All of them were quite strong plays that caused a lot of trouble for Zhang Ye!

Wu Changhe said, "This is bad!"

Dan Donghe said anxiously, "The momentum has swung the wrong way!"

Xiang Rong 9-dan said, "Let's see how he's going to deal with this! We're now headed into the critical part of the game!"

Hu Liang yelled, "Come on!"

Yes, it had come to yet another critical juncture!

Zhang Ye's choice here was going to be very important. If he chose to fight Peter in the corner, he was bound to lose badly as his opponent had finished setting up its opening. But if he were to avoid fighting in this corner, it would be very difficult to play later on. Zhang Ye's opening was not exactly that good and its weaknesses were already starting to show.

Everyone at the venue was waiting in anticipation!

The home viewers were also waiting!

How would he play from here?

Where would Zhang Ye play his next move?

Zhang Ye narrowed his eyes. If he took Peter head on, things would not be any better than it was yesterday. In this case, considering that Peter's Go play was at the peak and how it could process far more variations than humans, he would inevitably lose to Peter's data if he played on like this. It might start playing some of those moves by Xiang Rong 9-dan or the like, then predict Zhang Ye's playstyle with big data analytics on his moves. Zhang Ye couldn't get dragged along by PeterGo anymore. This bro will not give in and play those moves you're familiar with!

OK!

Let's do this then!

I'll show you what I'm capable of!

Zhang Ye gripped the mouse, then chuckled as he played his move!

This stone was actually played on the upper side at a high position 2 !

Peter was probably stunned. It made a knight's move in return.

Zhang Ye calmly clicked the left mouse button and placed another stone on the Go board at a position that no one could understand!

For a moment, countless people were once again dumbfounded!

Wu Changhe cried out, "Dammit! What is he trying to do this time?"

Xu Han stared dumbstruck. "This...What kind of move is this?"

"What kind of playstyle is this?" Hu Liang asked as he looked to Xiang Rong 9-dan.

Xiang Rong looked at the screen as he shook his head while smiling wryly. "I've never come across a move like this either."

Chen Ying explained in surprise, "What is this? The choices that Professor Zhang made are beyond everyone's expectations. Those two stones seemed to be played with the intent of controlling the center of the board!"

Even Yu Yingyi could see that something was wrong. "Why didn't he fight for the corner?"

The fellow Go players watching TV were floored!

"Fuck!"

"What sort of a strategy is that?"

"What kind of a new fucking playstyle is that?"

"This has absolutely got to be a blunder!"

"You don't intend to fight for the corner?"

"What's the point of fighting for the center?"

"Seeking Death Style?"

"Incoherent Style?"

"Why do you keep playing moves that are so illogical!"

Zhang Ye's mother was also getting anxious, "What's going on with Little Ye? Are his moves no good?"

His father said, "Those couple of moves were impossible to understand!"

"Ah?" His mom was starting to get nervous about the board state.

No one could understand it!

The fellow Go players could not understand it!

And probably the rest of the professional Go players around the world could not understand it either!

In Go, practical benefits are largely focused upon in play. That is to say, the mainstream way of playing would be to start off on the third line for the opening so that territory could be built up at the sides of the board and the corners. Everyone usually played this way. Most victories were usually decided upon by the fight for territory at the sides and corners where the most hotly contested divisions on the Go board were. This was the most researched and studied area in Go!

As a result, these couple of moves by Zhang Ye had simply left everyone feeling incredulous!

An opening that focused on surrounding the center? Ignoring the corners? Aren't you an oddball for playing these moves!

What are you doing?

Do you mean to give up?

Then why don't you just resign? Why do you have to...

No one could sense the danger, not even Peter. There was no such playstyle in its dataset. This was something that no one had ever seen before!

Peter was still playing its moves according to the usual logical process!

Zhang Ye calmly placed a stone at another high position. This high position stone was actually not fighting for the corner territory. In fact, it had nothing to do with it at all. It was still surrounding the framework in the center of the board. Or perhaps, Zhang Ye was trying to surround the entire Go board!

This time, Peter hesitated for two minutes before playing its next move.

Zhang Ye smiled. Then he placed another stone at yet another high position without even thinking!

I know that you must have never come across such a playstyle!

Now that my opening is complete, let's have a good game!

Chen Ying was unable to give any further commentary. She could not at all understand what was going on!

To many of the top professional Go players in the spectator room, they could only look at the screen in confusion. Seeing the stones being played move after move, they were all puzzled!

Peter countered with an extension!

Zhang Ye played at yet another high position!

Peter bumped!

Zhang Ye pushed on with his high position!

A "three star points in a row" was joined up!

After several dozen more moves!

There was suddenly no reaction from Peter!

At this moment, a lot of people finally realized that something was wrong!

Yu Yingyi said in surprise, "This...What is going on?"

Chen Ying was so astonished that she had broken out into a sweat. "Why has Peter been pinned down? What is happening? Just, just what is happening in the center?"

She was dumbfounded and couldn't understand what had happened. Meanwhile, Peter seemed to have been relegated to a passive state!

Hu Liang exclaimed, "Heavens above!"

Xu Han stared with wide eyes. "How? How did it turn out this way?"

Many pro players were stunned!

The netizens also started crying out!

"Holy fuck!"

"My titanium dog eyes have been blinded!"

"What am I seeing here?"

"Is...is this some kind of sorcery?"

"What kind of spell did Zhang Ye cast?"

"He has regained the lead! Zhang Ye has PeterGo pinned down again!"

Before this, they had thought that those careless moves of Zhang Ye's would definitely have thrown his entire opening into disarray. They felt that he would definitely suffer a crushing defeat to Peter. Because in their opinion, as long as Peter firmly occupied the corner frameworks, there should have been no surprise to this game. In the dozens of moves played so far, they had seen for themselves just how messy Zhang Ye's opening had become and could not see a proper style to it. But at some point in time and after one of his moves, they discovered to their sudden horror that the one who was forced into a dead end turned out to be Peter! They didn't know how or when, but more than half of Peter's stones were suddenly surrounded by a "big net" that Zhang Ye had "cast" over the board. The other half of its stones were also blocked out by Zhang Ye. Peter's framework and territory in the corner were gradually surrounded by Zhang Ye instead!

This "big net" was simply terrifying!

It could encircle the inside!

And it could also defend the outside!

And if Peter tried to invade, Zhang Ye would be able to kill off its approaches immediately!

For the rest of the time, Zhang Ye wouldn't even need to fight against Peter. He could just spend his moves on weaving an even tighter net!

Two stars in a row!

Three stars in a row!

Four stars in a row!

This never before seen playing style had shocked everyone!

Chapter 1133: Peter gets dealt a blow!

Fellow Japanese and Korean Go players were going crazy!

"What have I witnessed?"

"Go can even be played like this?"

"How amazing! The Chinese are incredible!"

"Just what kind of genius would it take to be able to think of playing this way?"

"I've never seen it before! I've really never seen something like that before!"

"I have a hunch that this method is going to create a new style of playing!"

"How can there be someone so strong?"

"He, he's really not a pro Go player?"

On the live broadcast.

Chen Ying 7-dan exclaimed, "I've got it!"

Yu Yingyi quickly asked, "So how'd he do it?"

Chen Ying quickly turned to operate the computer in front of her. "Switch the view and have a look over here. Let's go back a few moves...a little further back...OK, right here. This was the critical juncture that we talked about earlier where everyone was waiting for Professor Zhang to make his move. If it were any other player, they would definitely have chosen to attack this corner here. Or if not, they would play at this position here. But Professor Zhang did not choose either of those moves. Look at this, everyone. He played his stone over here, and then another one over here!"

Yu Yingyi could not understand. "What does that mean?"

Chen Ying said, "Professor Zhang was setting up his frameworks! Ever since this move here, Peter stepped into the maze that is Professor Zhang's frameworks! All of us had been taken in by Professor Zhang as well! It wasn't until this move that we finally saw that Peter had seemingly realized something. But it was already too late! Professor Zhang had already completed his setup! All of the later moves were centered around the black stones from earlier! Every move he made seemed quite casual and not carefully considered, but they were actually all very well-thought-out moves. For example, Black's 23rd move could only be placed in this position. There's no room for deviation at all!"

Yu Yingyi asked, "But what's behind Professor Zhang's decisions to play those stones at those places?"

"Influence," Chen Ying said.

Yu Yingyi was taken aback. "Influence?"

Chen Ying was finding it hard to believe too, but it was right before her eyes. "To play high approach moves, using strong attacks that are supported by the balance of the board's situation—that's the essence of Professor Zhang's playstyle!"

Li Qinqin praised, "How did he think of that!"

Wu Changhe said excitedly, "Good! That was a good one, kid!"

Li Yi 9-dan said in shock, "This way of playing is amazing!"

Dan Donghe remarked, "He's really a genius! This is what a true genius is!"

When Tian Weiwei saw this, he kept quiet. He was once hailed as the genius who would succeed Xiang Rong in the Go world. The public had very high expectations of him and often extolled him as well, so much so that even Tian Weiwei himself felt that he was really a Go genius. But as Tian Weiwei witnessed today's game, he realized that he was probably nothing. In the face of Zhang Ye, no one could claim they were a genius!

So this was Zhang Ye?

This was who the smartest person in today's world was?

In the past, Tian Weiwei only had two idols. One of them was Wu Changhe, the other was Xiang Rong. But today, he added another person to that list of people he idolized!

Having seen this game, no one could not be moved!

Li Yi.

Liu Hong.

Xu Han.

Many pro Go players were asking themselves what they would do if they were sitting across from Zhang Ye. If this game had been between Zhang Ye and them, they would definitely have resigned by this point in the game!

...

Back to the game.

Peter's went deep in the tank!

Five minutes!

Ten minutes!

There was no sign of activity from it!

The Americans looked surly and sullen!

"Dammit!"

"How could this be happening!"

"Don't worry, believe in Peter!"

"Yeah, Peter will definitely have a way to deal with this!"

On the other hand, Zhang Ye looked carefree. He knew that his playstyle had stunned Peter!

This playstyle had a very cool name, the Cosmic Style, and was pioneered by Takemiya Masaki. Of course, Takemiya Masaki preferred to refer to it as the "Natural Style," but everyone was accustomed to calling it by the former name. The Cosmic Style was very famous in Zhang Ye's previous world and was different from the Apollo Opening. It was a more perfected style of play and had made great contributions to the Go world. This way of playing was highly popular at one time and was even used later by quite a few top players in key international tournaments. As for the people of this world, they naturally would not have seen it before

This style was extremely difficult to play and would require more than just a high approach in the opening to work. It was also very demanding of the player and could even be considered harsh on them, as it would require a player to have a very strong awareness of the overall board state and be skilled at setting up an opening!

Of course, due to the strong attacks made in the game's opening, Zhang Ye's Cosmic Style of play was not in perfect shape, and there were still some weaknesses in it. But this was how Go was. No one could play perfectly. As long as he could deal Peter a blow, Zhang Ye would accomplish his goal.

Yu Yingyi said, "Peter has still not made its move!"

Chen Ying said loudly, "That's because it's discovered just how fearsome this style is! It needs to fight back! Although it might not look like the much difference in their scores, Peter is losing to Professor Zhang by too much in terms of influence!"

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Beijing Television.

The Go commentator cried out, "The scale of victory has tipped toward us! This is amazing! Professor Zhang is incredible today!"

...

On the Online Go Server.

The commentator was howling, "PeterGo has been stunned! It has been sorely beaten by Professor Zhang! I can already see that the dawn of victory is upon us! This is the closest that humanity has come to victory in the war between humans and machines! I don't know how to describe what I'm feeling! Professor Zhang, you can do it!"

...

On a Korean webcast.

A Korean 8th dan Go player was explaining, "Peter has met with unprecedented trouble! This is the first time its getting pushed to such an extreme by humanity!"

...

The game timer was ticking.

Half an hour had gone by!

Since half an hour ago, Peter hadn't shown any signs of activity!

This time, it was Peter that was faced with an extremely important decision to make!

Zhang Ye yawned. Looking at how there was no response from the computer, he was starting to get impatient. He even forgot that he was currently on a national broadcast. He settled his hands onto the keyboard and sent a message.

Everyone was startled.

Yu Yingyi stared at him. "Eh, what is he doing?"

Chen Ying blinked and said, "Professor Zhang is typing something?"

Yu Yingyi quickly said, "Let's switch to the feed in the game room!"

Everyone who was watching the broadcast on TV saw what Zhang Ye typed!

Zhang Ye: "What are you doing? The flowers are wilting as I wait!"

Everyone was floored!

The host was floored!

The Americans looked angry!

The eyebrows of the American representative jumped!

The two international referees had an impulse to vomit blood. The two of them looked at one another and did not know if they should stop Zhang Ye. For good reason, there are rules in a Go tournament that prevent a player from affecting their opponents. But it was a different case here as the opponent was just a computer. It was impossible to affect it at all.

Zhang Ye typed another message. "Hurry up, did you fall asleep?"

"Bro, give up and resign if you can't do anything. Don't force yourself.

"We're all waiting!

"Did you crash? Why don't you try restarting!"

Everyone who saw didn't know how to react!

Resign?

Restart?

Why're you arguing with a computer!

Chapter 1134: Zhang Ye's Hand of God!

There was laughter all around Weibo.

"Pfft!"

"This is cracking me up!"

"Why is Zhang Ye always spouting nonsense like that!"

"Hahahaha, hasn't he always been this way?"

"His Go skills are really just like him! Full of rubbish and not adhering to convention!"

"Only he could have a mouth like that. Why are you arguing with a computer? This guy is really too annoying! But today, we must support him. We have no choice!"

"Go for it!"

"We can't afford to lose any more!"

"Yeah, if we lose this game, it's over for us!"

"It all rests on Zhang Ye!"

"As long as we win, I'll be his braindead fan forever!"

"I am already turning from just a passerby to a fan! He's playing amazingly!"

"Fuck, is Zhang Ye on steroids today? Why is he playing so well?"

"Yeah, he's like a completely different person from yesterday! It's like he gained a 'great empowerment' overnight? Just what kind of weird moves are these!"

In the game room.

The Americans finally blew up. Their representative lodged a stern protest to the international referees, accusing Zhang Ye of interfering with Peter's play.

The international referees considered it for a moment before deciding to give Zhang Ye a warning.

Zhang Ye put up his hands to express his innocence.

Peter was still "considering" its next move.

Those on humanity's side were getting excited and enthusiastic!

On the live broadcast.

Yu Yingyi said excitedly, "Today's Zhang Ye is totally different from yesterday's!"

Chen Ying 7-dan suddenly said, "Now, I can reveal a secret to everyone who is watching on our live broadcast. Just last night, Professor Zhang suddenly came to the Qiyuan to search for some information. Some of us helped him find all the game records of top players in recent years from both national and international matches. Professor Zhang ended up looking through all of them for the entire night!"

Yu Yingyi said in shock, "Teacher Chen, do you mean that Professor Zhang only used one night's of research to improve his Go skill to the point where he seems like a totally different person from yesterday?"

Chen Ying reflected, then said, "I don't know."

"That doesn't make sense!" Yu Yingyi was in disbelief.

When home viewers heard that, they were stunned speechless!

Chen Ying thought for a bit before giving a wry smile. "Perhaps that's the difference between a genius and a normal person. Peter has completely underestimated humanity. It probably never thought that there would be a person like Professor Zhang who exists amongst us humans!" Her tone changed as she remembered the lesson from yesterday. "But Peter has not lost yet. I think it might still have a chance. The next move it makes will be an extremely crucial one! Let's see how it's going to respond!"

The clock was ticking.

Zhang Ye still had plenty of time on the clock, while Peter had already used up much of its allocated time. In this "war between humans and machines," the game rules followed the Chinese rules 1 of Go, with a compensation of 7.5 points being used. Each player would be given two hours of game time, as well as three 60-second blocks, with any player automatically given a loss if they exceeded the time limit 2 . Zhang Ye had used just over 30 minutes in total for his thinking time, while Peter had already used up one hour and twenty minutes.

Zhang Ye astutely realized that Peter had yet another weakness. It had an advantage in data processing and analytical power as a computer, and it did those at a meticulous level that humans would never be able to achieve. But when it was faced with a complex board state, this became a burden on the artificial intelligence. The precision of the program seemingly did not allow it to commit any errors, so a slightly more complex board state would immediately cause it to enter into a long state of processing. This state had happened several times, and Peter would only make its move after having considered all possible scenarios. Of course, the American developer of Peter would have set some rules for Peter's time allocation function. But even so, between itself committing errors and the choice of time usage, the artificial intelligence would never be able to have the same determination and judgment as a human player!

Finally, Peter made its move!

On the computer screen, Peter's stone was played!

Chen Ying said loudly, "Oh, Peter has played its move! This is a very profound choice! The position that it played on is actually right within the 'net' that Professor Zhang has cast!"

Zhang Ye took a look and responded with a move of his own.

This time, Peter did not hesitate—horizontal stretch!

Zhang Ye forcefully attacked.

Peter bumped.

Zhang Ye smiled. That was a good one, that was a really good one!

It was well worth it to use that long period to think through all the variations, even though it paid for it with time. It looked like Peter has seen some of the mysteries behind Zhang Ye's Cosmic Style. As the opening sequence was not played in the Cosmic Style, this had become the weak point in Zhang Ye's "net". And it was precisely here that Peter came attacking, with the fight imminent the moment it made that move. Peter had successfully forced Zhang Ye into a direct confrontation. He could no longer peacefully build up his frameworks!

Zhang Ye responded with a move.

Peter played a pincer 3 move.

Zhang Ye played an approach.

Peter forced an atari.

Zhang Ye thought for a bit and decided to let go of the black stone.

Peter captured it.

With that, the board state immediately changed!

Yu Yingyi exclaimed, "This is bad! His stone has been captured!"

Chen Ying also said, "That's not good. The board state seems rather bad now. With that black stone captured, the entire framework has been messed up. If Peter wins the battle on this side, the entire corner will be surrounded. If it chooses to use that as a base to attack down the middle, even with the two sides that Professor Zhang has, it'll be very difficult to predict who wins. Professor Zhang was the first to move, so he has to deduct 7.5 points for the compensation. It's really difficult to say how the board state will swing!"

The board state developed tension yet again!

Peter used its powerful analytical functions to fight its way out!

The Americans were all applauding this internally. As expected, they knew that Peter would not lose!

Alright!

Well done!

Finish him!

Don't give him any more chances!

Attack him down the middle!

Zhang Ye blocked!

Peter continued pushing in!

Zhang Ye played a counter pincer 4 !

Peter approached on the right side!

The people in the spectator room felt discouraged and downhearted!

They felt like they were falling from Heaven to Hell!

Hu Liang cried out, "The corner has been taken by Peter!"

Xu Han said in disbelief, "The framework in the middle has been invaded too! It's over, this time it's really over!"

"Professor Zhang should never have allowed that black stone to be captured!" a professional 5-dan Go player shouted.

But Li Yi 9-dan said, "He had to allow it! He had no choice!"

Liu Hong 9-dan facepalmed and expressed in frustration, "Professor Zhang's structure has been broken through!"

On the two sides at the bottom of the board, Peter's stones were actually not dead yet. Zhang Ye's stones hadn't fully surrounded the white stones and only held a large influence over the area by spreading out across the board. But if play went on like this, once Zhang Ye lost to Peter at the top of the board, the center would be broken through as well! Then territory at the bottom would, as a result, have its influence stripped away. This was what was often called a "domino effect" in Go. Right now, Zhang Ye was faced with a very dangerous board state!

The netizens were getting anxious.

"Are we going to lose?"

"We were still unable to do it after all?"

"Dammit!"

"The structure has been broken!"

"Teacher Zhang, you must do something!"

"Hold on!"

"Keep holding on, Teacher Zhang! You must not cave in!"

Although it was only the middlegame, victory would be decided within these few moves!

Zhang Ye suddenly fell silent.

In the spectator room.

A lot of the pro players started giving advice even though Zhang Ye could not hear them!

A pro 7th dan player said, "Cut off White's 67th move!"

Hu Liang replied, "That won't work! He would be forced to his death over there!"

Xu Han shouted, "There's still the center left to play for!"

Li Yi said, "There's nothing there! The group's effectively dead!"

Liu Hong clenched his teeth and said, "Little Zhang has no other options left!"

Wu Changhe glared at the screen. He had no ideas left either!

"Little Xiang!" Dan Donghe said anxiously.

But Xiang Rong 9-dan did not say a word.

Dan Donghe knew from this nonresponse that it was bad!

Zhang Ye no longer had the initiative!

Peter had managed to make a desperate reversal!

What could they do?

Just what could they do?

Were they really unable to win?

Was humanity really going to fall to the artificial intelligence?

The Americans showed smiles. They knew they were going to win! They were going to win this game for sure! No matter where Zhang Ye played, the center would be broken through within ten moves. At that time, Zhang Ye would definitely not be able to turn things around!

Chen Ying was explaining the board state to the viewers. "If Professor Zhang attacks, this area will have to be given up. If..." After explaining eight or so different scenarios that Zhang Ye could take against the opponent, Chen Ying paled. She now realized that no matter where Zhang Ye played, there would be no way of turning things around!

There was no way!

Truly no way!

Watching TV.

His mother roared, "What are you doing, son! Weren't you about to win?"

His father said with a dark expression, "Things have reversed!"

Some Go players turned off their televisions.

"Dad, why did you switch it off?"

"I'm not watching anymore."

"But why! It's the critical moment!"

"Zhang Ye can't win."

With the board state as it was, no one believed that Zhang Ye could make a comeback!

Even the gods would be powerless in this situation!

The atmosphere was depressing!

Through their TVs, countless people were watching Zhang Ye, who had fallen silent!

But all of a sudden, everyone was baffled when they saw a smile break out on Zhang Ye's face!

Smiling?

What are you smiling about?

Chen Ying was taken aback!

The Americans were startled!

Wu Changhe, Dan Donghe, and the others were also dumbfounded!

No one knew why Zhang Ye could break into a smile at such a time!

Following, everyone saw Zhang Ye pick up a black stone from the Go bowl.

Chen Ying said, "Professor Zhang is going to place his stone!"

Everyone was staring fixedly at him!

Everyone was holding their breath!

Zhang Ye was still smiling. He felt that this was really too terrible of a coincidence. He almost could not contain his joy! The position in the corner looked exceedingly familiar. So while he looked like he had fallen silent just now, Zhang Ye had actually taken a Memory Search Capsule secretly to search through his memory for the Go game records that he had read in his previous world. There was almost no such thing as an identical Go game in the world. This was because there were too many possible games⁵ that could exist. But there could be similarities in parts of a formation in a game!

Like this losing position!

Even Zhang Ye could see that he was losing. He did not think that he could turn things around. PeterGo was really too strong!

But right at this moment, a game record suddenly surfaced in his mind. It was from a game Gu Li 6 played at the peak of his career. Zhang Ye felt that he had seen the formation in the corner of the Go board somewhere before. Now that he had a detailed look at the game record, it was not just familiar looking anymore!

It turned out to be almost the exact same thing!

At the time the game was played, Gu Li was playing as Black too!

Gu Li had been forced into this same unplayable corner as well!

It was the same board state!

It was the same choice!

Then, peak Gu Li placed a stone on the Go board. It was this stone that shocked countless people, and it was this stone that everyone hailed as the most magnificent move⁷!

Zhang Ye picked up a black stone and gently raised his hand before placing it at that position!

Chen Ying exclaimed, "He has played his stone! Professor Zhang has played his stone! Over here...eh, why did he play it there? If he played it here, then should Peter attack it, it would..."

After this move was played, everyone was puzzled!

No one had expected that Zhang Ye would play it there, that he would put it at such an improper position. In this short time, no one could see what Zhang Ye's intent was!

Chen Ying said in disappointment, "It's over. This move definitely cannot be called a good one. Professor Zhang has probably been forced into a corner and has no way to fight back..." But all of a sudden, Chen Ying was dumbfounded. She seemed to have realized something, so she took another look at the board.

With that examination, Chen Ying froze up!

She was so surprised she nearly leaped out of her seat. "This! This! Oh my God!"

Yu Yingyi said with a stunned voice, "What's going on?"

Chen Ying got so excited that she almost went crazy!

"A magnificent move!

"Professor Zhang has actually played a magnificent move!

"No! It's not a magnificent move!

"This is...this is the Hand of God!"

Chapter 1135: Victory!

It was too sudden!

Zhang Ye's move came like a bolt from the blue!

Just when everyone thought that Zhang Ye was at his wits' end and had lost the match, he suddenly placed his stone on the board. And then, countless people in front of their televisions saw Chen Ying jump to her feet and heard her scream!

Hand of God?

What Hand of God?

Everyone was shocked silly!

Did you get it wrong?

Hasn't it already ended?

Didn't Zhang Ye lose?

The viewers were confused, and even those who truly understood Go did not get what they were looking at immediately. They were nowhere near as skilled!

But the professional Go players were making an uproar!

Hu Liang said in a daze, "What?"

Xu Han said, "Is this a possible move?"

Everyone stared fixedly at the screen in utter disbelief at what they were seeing!

All of a sudden, Wu Changhe roared, "It's possible!"

Dan Donghe also cried out, "It's really possible! It's really possible!"

Heavens!

The Hand of God!

Fuck, this was truly the Hand of God!

After a moment's shock, screams suddenly sounded from the spectator room!

"Ahhh!"

"Heavens!"

"Holy shit!"

"Professor Zhang has..."

"Is he on steroids or something?!"

"Holy motherfucking hell!"

"Good! Alright! Alright! Alright! Great!"

"My God! What have I seen?"

"This is a fucking earthshakingly magnificent move!"

Everyone went crazy!

It really felt like they had gone crazy!

Afterwards, many of them looked to Xiang Rong!

"Master Xiang!"

"Master Xiang, this game..."

Xiang Rong 9-dan finally spoke. No one noticed that he had clenched his fists so tightly that his nails were cutting into the flesh. "Professor Zhang...is about to turn things around!"

A female player's eyes abruptly reddened!

A few other players were also brimming with tears. Faced with this magnificent move, they were no longer able to control their emotions!

Li Qinqin said in a stunned tone, "Changhe!"

Wu Changhe grabbed his wife's hand excitedly and said, "We are...going to win!"

The Americans were dumbfounded!

How could there be a move like this?

How could there still be a chance of survival for Zhang Ye?

...

Beijing Television.

The Go commentator shouted, "Unbelievable! This is simply unbelievable!"

...

The Online Go Server.

The commentator exclaimed, "It's the Hand of God! Professor Zhang has broken out! He could play the Hand of God in such a hopeless situation! It's such a beautiful move! It's so elegant! Friends! Please remember this moment! Please be sure to remember this moment! This game will enter the annals of Go! This will be the greatest game of Go this year! This will be the greatest game in the entire history of Go! Thousands of years later, people will probably have forgotten Xiang Rong's and Shinji 9-dan's name, but they will never forget about Zhang Ye's Hand of God that saved the Go world! History will remember it! This will be the greatest victory for humanity!"

...

In Korea.

The official commentator screamed until his voice cracked!

"It's possible!"

"It's been confirmed as a possible move!"

"The Chinese have played the Hand of God!"

"Incredible! Unbelievable!"

...

In Japan.

"The corner position has been brought back to life!"

"Even though it clearly looked like a deadlock, the Chinese have brought it back to life!"

"The corner territory has made a comeback! Even the center has been brought back to life!"

"That Chinese player is amazing!"

"Peter is done for!"

"He really is the smartest person in the world! How did he think of such a move!"

...

With some of the commentators' analysis and shocked expressions of the hosts, everyone gradually realized the beauty of Zhang Ye's play. It could even be called a stroke of genius! He had barged his way out of a deadlock! A lot of people got the goosebumps from watching!

Watching TV.

His parents stood up!

Chen Guang and Fan Wenli stood up!

Yao Jiancai and Yao Mi stood up!

A lot of people couldn't help themselves and stood up from their chairs and sofas!

Chen Ying 7-dan was giving rousing commentary. "Just how will it end! Just how will Peter handle this move! Faced with Professor Zhang's Hand of God that came out of the blue, what can Peter do? Can it turn things around like it did earlier? Can it maintain its unbeaten record?"

Everything went quiet!

Everyone fell silent!

It was all quiet online!

The people watching in front of their televisions also went quiet!

Everyone was waiting for the outcome!

The Americans still believed that Peter would not lose even though Zhang Ye's Hand of God had shocked them! The American representative was screaming loudly in his head, Go on! Finish him! You have to have something! You're a computer! You're the most advanced AI in the world!

However, they could not see the internal processing going on inside Peter right now!

Peter was stunned!

It was stunned yet again by Zhang Ye's move!

Knight's move: Win%, unknown.

Horizontal stretch: Win%, 2%.

Cut: Win%, 6%.

Five minutes!

Peter was silent for a full five minutes!

Zhang Ye was looking at the screen with a smile on his face.

Suddenly, a notification popped up on the screen!

" Peter has resigned from the game 1 . "

The Americans blanched!

Everyone else erupted when they saw this!

Yu Yingyi yelled, "He has won! Peter has resigned!"

Chen Ying 7-dan's tears were almost falling as she shouted, "Faced with Professor Zhang's Hand of God! Peter had no way to turn the tables! We've won! We've won!"

Hu Liang threw the things in his hands into the air and screamed, "We've won!"

Xu Han was so emotional that he could not say anything. He pointed at the screen with trembling lips!

It hadn't been easy!

It really hadn't been easy!

Shinji 9-dan had lost!

Park Yuhee had lost!

Xiang Rong had lost as well!

This was the final battle of the war between humans and machines and the final stand of humanity at the edge of a cliff. No one had expected that Professor Zhang would actually even the score after losing the first game, forcing Peter to resign in the middlegame! Professor Zhang had turned things around in a game that no one was optimistic about!

An unexpected opening!

An inconceivable way of playing!

Coupled with the final strike that was the Hand of God!

It was wonderful!

He had won beautifully!

The international referees were also shocked at the sight. The Hand of God that was just played made the two of them break out in a cold sweat. They came forward to confirm the results after assessing the board state.

The game had finished!

In the second game of the final battle between humans and machines: Zhang Ye won!

The score was 1-1!

Everyone dispersed from the venue.

Zhang Ye smiled as he stood up and left.

The American representative yelled with a dark look, "Change the flight date!"

His assistant softly replied, "OK."

They had booked their flight for tonight. But now it was obvious that they had to change their flight date!

Zhang Ye left the game room before he raised his arms and stretched. Then he discovered that a lot of people were rushing out from the spectator room across the way!

Wu Changhe!

Hu Liang!

Xu Han!

Dan Donghe!

Everyone came running out!

"Professor Zhang!"

"Professor Zhang, well done!"

"You're the best!"

"Beautifully done, Professor Zhang!"

"Thank you! Thank you!"

"We've won! We've really won!"

Some were laughing loudly!

Some were clapping with all their heart!

Some were shouting Zhang Ye's name!

Some were even laughing and crying at the same time!

Chapter 1136: The press conference!

At home.

His father shouted, "He won!"

His mother exclaimed, "Little Ye won the game!"

There was a knock at the door. When his mother went to answer it, over 20 neighbors came rushing into the house. Every one of them looked even more excited than Zhang Ye's parents!

"Congratulations!"

"Old Zhang, Old Cao, the two of you have brought up a good son!"

"Little Ye won so beautifully!"

"I don't even know what to say! I was sweating just watching it!"

"It was so thrilling! And wonderful!"

"Little Ye has done everyone proud!"

"I knew he could do it!"

"Who asked the Americans to look down on Little Ye! Who asked them to look down on humans! Hahaha! They have encountered a god this time! Those idiots!"

"How face smacking!"

"Ahahaha!"

"I can already feel the pain on those idiots' faces!"

...

At the Rao household.

Chenchen yelled, "Zhang Ye won! He's stolen the thunder again!"

Rao Aimin pursed her lips and said, "That kid has got some dogshit luck!"

"What do you mean by dogshit luck?" Yang Shu did not like hearing that at all. "My senior bro has really got Go skills!"

Rao Aimin grimaced. "He's always doing things unconventionally. Why won't he just stay at home and be good? Why did he have to go off to the Go world and steal their thunder? Do you know who has to handle the reporters when they come looking for him?"

...

At the SARFT.

In Old Wu's office.

Wu Zeqing smiled as she picked up the phone and called Secretary Bai. "Hello, it's me. Let the relevant offices know to give an additional push for the positive promotion of today's war between humans and machines."

Then, she called her mother.

The call connected.

It sounded very chaotic over there with all the screaming and shouting.

"Mom, how are things?"

"Little Zhang is wonderful! He's brilliant!"

"Has my dad's impression of him changed for the better?"

"Hur hur, your dad is so excited that he can't even say a thing. You just didn't see it. But when Peter lost, your dad was shouting the loudest...Hey, why are you grabbing at my phone?"

Wu Changhe's voice came through. "My daughter, don't listen to your mom's nonsense. It's just a draw with the score tied at one to one. That kid hasn't won yet!"

Wu Zeqing laughed and said: "Sure. After he wins tomorrow's game, I'll officially bring him back home as my boyfriend for a meal?"

Wu Changhe said: "We'll talk about it again if he really wins."

...

On TV.

The live broadcast was still going on!

Quite a few experts were analyzing the game that had just been played. "Professor Zhang played with the spirit of humanity today. From the first stone that he played in the opening, he was leading Peter by the nose. The brand new and highly creative playstyle at the end even stumped Peter greatly. This is the biggest difference between humans and computers, and also the biggest reason why Professor Zhang could defeat it. This is because humans can get extremely creative under pressure, while machines can only passively learn their craft! Today is a memorable day because Professor Zhang gave a valuable lesson to the Americans, as well as the AI that was claimed to be smarter than humans!"

At another television station.

The commentator said, "Let's take another look at the final move, by Professor Zhang. It was really the work of a genius and so beautiful that no words can describe it! We're all clueless as to how Professor Zhang could have thought of a move like that at that moment. But this stone that descended from the Heavens has saved the Go world! Without a doubt, this is clearly the most valuable of moves in the history of Go! This is truly deserving of being called the Hand of God!"

"Ah, the press conference has started, so let's switch to that. It looks like Professor Zhang has made an exception and accepted today's postgame interview!"

...

At China Qiyuan.

The venue of the press conference.

The American representative sat on stage as usual. Zhang Ye and several people from China Qiyuan were seated beside him.

The reporters lifted their cameras and microphones as they asked questions to the American representative.

"May we know the reason for Peter's loss today?"

"Didn't you all say that your company's AI wouldn't lose to humans?"

"Are you all still confident about tomorrow's game?"

The American representative answered all of their questions in a single breath. No one knew if he was putting on a front since he had looked very sullen in the game room. But right now, he had a very calm expression as he said, "We took an unexpected loss today. Perhaps it was because we did not tune the AI properly and that there were some bugs in the programming. As for the actual reason, we'll go back and check thoroughly. We'll definitely get it fixed before tomorrow's game. Peter will not lose to humans in Go, and I still stand by my word. About tomorrow's game, we're very confident that Peter will definitely win after it has been tuned and configured properly."

A female reporter from Beijing Television asked, "In your previous interview, you mentioned that your plane tickets were booked for tonight's flight. I wonder if—"

The American representative's assistant said with a dark look, "We've already changed our flight and will give our best for tomorrow's game."

A reporter from a newspaper firm asked, "May we know your evaluation of Professor Zhang?"

The American representative glanced at Zhang Ye and said, "We do admit that there are indeed some geniuses in this world, but I still think the same as before. It will be the era of artificial intelligence from now on!"

After dragging things out for a long time, they refused to admit to their defeat!

In the end, the reporters no longer wanted to ask him any more questions. They directed all their attention to Zhang Ye.

The reporter from Beijing Times smiled and asked, "Professor Zhang, didn't you say that you wouldn't accept any interviews after yesterday's game?"

Zhang Ye got closer to the microphone and said, "That's right."

"Then why are you here today?" asked the reporter from the Beijing Times.

Zhang Ye candidly replied, "Because I won today!"

The reporters burst out laughing!

Then, quite a few people started applauding!

Zhang Ye was indeed Zhang Ye. He would never beat around the bush whenever he spoke. If he lost, he would not accept any interviews. But since he had won, of course he would make an appearance and show off a little. Wasn't this normal?

Dan Donghe smiled and felt that Zhang Ye was becoming more and more pleasing to the eye!

A female reporter asked, "How do you feel after coming out on top in today's game?"

Zhang Ye chuckled, "I feel great!"

Everyone laughed again.

The Americans wore solemn looks.

Yu Yingyi came forward and asked, "Professor Zhang, do you have anything you would like to say?"

Zhang Ye smiled and answered, "I would like to say this: The most advanced AI in history? That was all it could do!"

These were the words that the American representative had said in yesterday's press conference. Zhang Ye returned the favor!

The reporters applauded!

"Nice!"

"Well said!"

As they were all humans, they would naturally take Zhang Ye's side. Moreover, the Americans were far too arrogant and disrespectful in recent days, disgusting everyone with their behavior. However, Peter had won every one of its games, even defeating Xiang Rong 9-dan, the number one in Go. So there was really nothing they could argue about. It wasn't until today when Zhang Ye evened the score that a lot of the reporters could finally release all their pent-up anger!

Sure enough, Face-smacking Zhang was the better player between the two of them!

Although this fellow was usually annoying, had a sharp tongue, and offended many people, he had never been soft or disappointed anyone when it mattered most!

Zhang Ye had many foes, and some people present had once been offended by him. A lot of people felt that he was too difficult to handle as he always stirred up trouble and often smacked people's faces. More importantly, no one had yet to teach him a lesson. This fellow was just too fearsome and notorious a troublemaker in the country. But today, as everyone united with Zhang Ye, they suddenly realized that Face-smacking Zhang was a very reliable guy. Seeing how he was face-smacking the Americans and the artificial intelligence, the satisfaction they got felt amazingly good!

Online.

Fan Wenli posted on Weibo: "Congratulations to Director Zhang for taking this game!"

Xiaodong: "How exhilarating! That was so exhilarating!"

Yao Jiancai: "Zhang'er, you're blasting out of the universe!"

Li Xiaoxian: "Wishing Teacher Zhang success in taking the next game as well!"

Zhang Xia: "By winning today's game, Little Zhang has finally saved face for humanity. I hope that everyone can criticize him less from now on. It hasn't been easy for Little Zhang either, hur hur."

The press conference ended.

Awhile later, Zhang Ye walked out of the Qiyuan.

However, there were huge crowds of people who had surrounded the entire main entrance!

Hundreds of people!

No, it was thousands of people!

A dense crowd of people were holding up banners and chanting Zhang Ye's name!

"Zhang Ye!"

"Zhang Ye!"

"Zhang Ye!"

"Zhang Ye!"

The crowd was very excited!

Everyone felt impassioned!

Chapter 1137: New tactics?

Noon.

Zhang Ye returned home for lunch.

Downstairs of his family's apartment, he saw his old neighbors lining the streets to welcome him. An old uncle in the neighborhood even brought out two strings of firecrackers that were meant to be used for his child's wedding tomorrow. The moment Zhang Ye arrived, the crackling of the firecrackers made him feel rather touched.

"Little Ye, well done!"

"Show the Americans how great you are!"

"Thrash that PeterGo!"

"We'll cheer you all the way!"

"You have to win tomorrow's game too!"

At home.

When he entered the house, the aroma of cooked food attacked his nose.

He looked at the dishes on the table and exclaimed, "This much food?"

His father said excitedly, "Son! Eat! Eat your fill, you still have a lot to do tomorrow!"

"Mom wants to reward you, so sit down quickly and have something to eat." His mother was grinning from ear to ear.

Zhang Ye said, "Thanks."

His mother turned on the television with a smile. The news reports were all about her son.

The news of Zhang Ye's victory over the artificial intelligence had spread throughout the country. Even in Asia, a lot of the Japanese and Korean Go players who paid attention to the developments of the event were shocked by what had happened. No one had expected that someone could still represent the Go world as its flag bearer and battle against Peter after the losses suffered by Shinji, Park Yuhee, and Xiang Rong. Most importantly, the person was not even a professional Go player or a member of the Go world, but a celebrity from the entertainment industry? In any case, this victory was so timely that it had given an invaluable boost to the Go world!

Everyone was looking forward to tomorrow's game with much anticipation!

Tomorrow would be the final game of the match between Zhang Ye and Peter, and someone had created a poll to vote for the winner on Weibo!

8%!

20%!

40%!

Those who voted that Zhang Ye would win kept increasing!

Of course, there were also quite a few people who felt that Peter would win!

"Zhang Ye will prevail!"

"Face-smacking Zhang is almighty!"

"That might not be the case."

"Why?"

"Zhang Ye got lucky winning today's game. If not for the Hand of God at the end that suddenly turned things around, he would've lost for sure. He can't possibly guarantee that he'll be in today's top shape for every game. Besides, Peter has already figured out a solution to deal with the playstyle that Zhang Ye calls the 'Cosmic Style.' After inputting it into the program, if Zhang Ye uses that style again tomorrow, he might not even be able to play his opening since they'll already be prepared for it!"

"Yeah, Zhang Ye only won today because he took Peter by surprise with his odd play. We don't know what could happen tomorrow, hai."

"Then what can be done about it?"

"Unless Zhang Ye can come up with another new playstyle tomorrow!"

"New playstyle?"

"How can it be that easy?!"

"That's right, the Cosmic Style and that entirely new opening are amazing enough. It probably took Zhang Ye quite a while to think of them, so how could he come up with so many new styles! And isn't everyone overestimating Teacher Zhang a little too much? Did you guys forget something? Teacher Zhang isn't a pro Go player!"

"Uh..."

"That's true!"

A lot of people started worrying. When they realized this, everyone lost some of their excitement. Although they had won today, the score was still tied at 1-1. If they lost again tomorrow, everything would have been in vain. No one knew if Zhang Ye had any plans left for tomorrow. If there were none, then wouldn't he lose miserably just like he had in the first game?

...

After lunch.

The phone rang. It was a call from the landline of Wu Zeqing's parents' home.

Zhang Ye answered: "Hello?"

Wu Changhe's voice came through. "Do you need any more game records and information? If you need them, I'll get someone to send them to your place."

Zhang Ye said with a laugh: "There's no need for that, Uncle. I saw enough yesterday."

Wu Changhe said in a lukewarm tone: "Do you need anything else then? Quickly bring it up to me if there's anything."

Zhang Ye said: "Thanks, Uncle. Uh, I don't need anything for the time being."

"Aren't you going to prepare for tomorrow's game?"

"I am."

"What do you think your chances of winning are?"

"No idea."

"Heh, are you sure you'll manage?"

"I really don't know, but I'll definitely give my best anyway."

"It wouldn't do if you did not give your best. Remember what I said regarding my daughter, understand? If you lose tomorrow, don't ever think about stepping into our house again! Hmph!"

"Damn, are you burning bridges already? Didn't you just put your arm around my shoulders and praise me this morning!"

"Did I?"

"Yes! You did!"

"Stop messing with me. In any case, I'm telling you that you better give your very best for tomorrow's game! Thrash that machine! Send it to its death!"

"Yes, sir."

After hanging up, Zhang Ye smiled. He no longer disliked Wu Changhe and felt that this old comrade was actually quite lovable. At least he cared a lot about Go and the Go world. Perhaps this was a passion that grew from deep down inside. Zhang Ye could sense that even though Wu Changhe and Dan Donghe's generation had retired, and their Go skills no longer compared to any of the active top pro players, who could easily defeat them, the sentiments they held for Go were still as strong as before. In fact, it had even become stronger. Zhang Ye could never understand this sort of feeling because he did not really like Go that much. But this did not stop Zhang Ye from stepping forward for them.

Uncle, don't worry!

I will help you to protect the dignity of the Go world that you want to safeguard!

I will help you to regain the honor that the Go world has lost!

Not for anything, but only because...if I lose, you won't let Old Wu to marry me!

...

After informing his parents, Zhang Ye went back to his room. He naturally would not waste any of the time he had today. In fact, he was already running out of time!

Zhang Ye made a hasty last-minute effort yesterday as he practically went through most of the games in this world and memorized them. He was not learning from them, but rather eliminating possibilities. All of that was just to find out what kind of data Peter was missing in its dataset. But today, Zhang Ye needed to organize from the beginning some of the best plays 1 , magnificent moves, Hand of God moves, and complex josekis that he had seen before from the games between the Go Masters of his previous world. Thankfully, even though Zhang Ye was not very interested in Go back then, he had been forced to go through a lot of game records by his teacher. He also watched quite a few games played in tournaments on television, so the information he had was still enormous!

Come, let's do this!

He bought a lot of Memory Search Capsules in one go!

Then Zhang Ye closed his eyes and fell into a long "sleep."

Zhang Ye already had a rough plan in place for the morrow's game. It was obvious that he could no longer use the Apollo Opening or the Cosmic Style. The Americans were not stupid and would obviously input that information into the AI. Furthermore, he heard that Peter also had the ability to learn and would reinforce its knowledge through the games that it played. Therefore, Zhang Ye needed to find some new entry points to play against Peter in the third game. Fortunately, he had discovered a few new weaknesses in Peter during today's game. For example, he could make something out of the error tolerance levels of the AI itself. But he wouldn't know how effective it would be, since this was something that he could only find out after he tested it against Peter tomorrow.

An hour.

Two hours.

Three hours.

The discussions in the public were reaching an intense level!

News of the game was also appearing all over the place!

But Zhang Ye was oblivious to all of it as he immersed himself in the sea of Go!

Chapter 1138: Zhang Ye plays the first of the three most complex josekis!

The next day.

In the morning.

The final game of the battle was looming. It was the third and deciding game of the match between Zhang Ye and Peter. There was still an hour to go before the game would begin. Countless Go players were watching TV, and even many of those who did not know how to play the game were also watching the live broadcast nervously.

However, everyone who was waiting received some bad news first.

In the pregame interview, the Americans suddenly made an announcement.

The American representative faced the camera and said with a smile, "After an entire night of tuning by our technical team, the related bug has been fixed. Furthermore, I have some news that I can reveal to everyone. Our AI has received another round of upgrades, or rather, Peter has always had this function built into it. But due to certain considerations that we had, we did not activate the 'complex operations' mode. After yesterday's game, we admit that we probably did underestimate Professor Zhang. But it won't happen again today as we have configured Peter with a brand-new approach to the game. That Hand of God move from yesterday also won't be unpredictable to Peter. To put it simply, Peter's calculations, analysis, and prediction functions have been raised by around 15% with this new mode activated!"

A reporter asked in surprise, "What are Peter's chances of winning today?"

The American representative said, "We have done some test comparisons of the current version of Peter with its previous one and found that the upgraded Peter has a winning rate of 99.99%!"

Everyone burst into an uproar!

"Upgrade?"

"What?"

"What the fuck, it can still be upgraded?"

"And its level was raised by this much?"

"All this just to deal with Zhang Ye?"

"That's so evil! Why didn't they make this announcement yesterday? They're only saying this just as the game is about to start? Are they trying to catch Professor Zhang off guard?"

"Is this for real?"

"Then won't we lose for sure?"

"Yeah, Zhang Ye only won that game yesterday with some luck!"

The Internet was abuzz!

The Qiyuan's people were panicking as well!

Immediately, the news reports on TV were filled with talk of Peter's upgrade!

At China Qiyuan.

Dan Donghe, Wu Changhe, and the others went looking for Zhang Ye!

Hu Liang said anxiously, "Professor Zhang, have you seen the news?"

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "I did."

Dan Donghe said with a sunken expression, "About the upgrade, what do they exactly mean by that?"

They were not in this field, so they did not understand how it worked.

"To put it plainly, they've just delimited a part of Peter's functionality." Zhang Ye explained to them, "It's just like a computer, where the performance of a processor is usually not pushed to the extreme. The designers will deliberately limit its functionality to ensure that it can last longer while maintaining a reasonable performance. To surpass that limit, they can choose to overclock it, which is what the Americans are doing right now. Although it is much more complicated for an AI to be 'overclocked,' the principle is essentially the same."

Wu Changhe asked in annoyance, "Would its performance really be raised by 15%?"

"Probably so, but who knows if it's the truth or not since it's the Americans talking." Zhang Ye shrugged and continued, "They might be trying to scare me, but it could easily be true."

Scare you?

How could that be possible!

No one believed this to be the reason as they understood things. Even if the Americans were not familiar with you, they would surely have researched you online, no? Did you think that they wouldn't go around to find out about you? They could've easily pulled anyone in the whole of China aside and still managed to find out that you, Teacher Zhang, have never been afraid of anything! Piloting a plane, beating up an executive, scolding the SARFT, which of those affairs did not involve you?

Li Yi 9-dan said loudly, "We have to treat it as a serious claim!"

"Yeah!" Chen Ying came over. "We can't underestimate our opponent, Professor Zhang!"

Wu Changhe tugged at him. "If it's really as the Americans claim, and that P-whatever thingy's performance was indeed raised by 15%, then how sure are you of beating it?"

Zhang Ye laughed. "I'll find out when I play it."

Xu Han didn't know how to react. "Aren't you being too carefree!"

Hu Liang said, "Yeah, Professor Zhang. You have to at least give me some assurance!"

Zhang Ye spread his hands up and said, "It's not that I don't want to commit to an answer. The issue is that I don't even which area of Peter's functionality has been 'overclocked.' Did they increase its analysis speed? Or did they increase the analysis power? Without playing against it, how am I supposed to answer you? So let me play against it first."

Liu Hong 9-dan said nervously, "You can do it!"

"Yeah, you can do it!"

"Professor Zhang, show us the elegance you displayed yesterday!"

"The honor of the Go world is in your hands!"

Everyone was shouting encouragement to him.

Only Wu Changhe knew what was really going on. What honor of the Go world? What dignity of humanity? All of that is just bullshit. This rascal is only doing this for my daughter. So Wu Changhe looked at Zhang Ye and said, "Kid, if you win this game, I'll organize a celebratory feast for you at my house tonight!"

At that, Zhang Ye became more spirited. "Alright."

Li Qinqin had a better way with words. "Even if you lose, you can come over."

Zhang Ye was just about to say OK.

But Wu Changhe grunted, "What's the point of coming over if he loses!"

Dan Donghe did not know of the deal between Zhang Ye and the Wu family, so he said in a speechless manner, "Brother Wu, why are you such a snob? You won't even treat him? If you're not treating, then I'll do it!" He turned to Zhang Ye and said, "Professor Zhang, no matter what the result is, I'll hold a feast for you tonight. Don't bother with going over to his place!"

Zhang Ye smiled but did not say anything.

Wu Changhe rolled his eyes. Don't go to my place and go to yours? You'd need to have a daughter as pretty as mine first!

It was almost time.

Chen Ying had already headed into the commentary booth.

Zhang Ye exhaled and stepped forward to graciously enter the battle. He had rejected the pregame interview today, so he only entered the game room after the media had left. He knew that there was no point in making any extravagant claims for this game. They'd have to decide things with their actions to determine who would win and lose!

The referees were standing by.

The Americans watched as Zhang Ye entered the room and showed a hint of fear at his arrival. Admittedly, they had been boasting a little about Peter in the interview. All they said about Peter's upgrade or his chances of victory were just empty talk for now. When faced with the only person that had won against Peter, they had to be very careful. He was the reason why they had made an exception and taken the risk to upgrade Peter. That was also their affirmation for the smartest person in the world! They no longer had that unshakable confidence from before and were afraid that Peter would lose again!

Zhang Ye sat down again today in front of the computer as he took control of the mouse.

The broadcast cut to the live commentary coverage.

Yu Yingyi was dressed fully in red today, with a very joyous and celebratory feel. It was as though she was openly making known her hopes of humanity winning today's game.

Yu Yingyi had become very popular recently due to this important event in the world of Go. The originally niche strategy board game TV show had started to gain a following from all over Asia. This

went on until China Qiyuan announced that Zhang Ye would be representing humanity to challenge the AI, which caused the show to blow up even more. Even Yu Yingyi, who was just a sports host, had her value rise along with the attention gained. A lot of people had only gotten to know her through this war between humans and machines. Then they also found out that she was an old classmate of Zhang Ye's from college. With Zhang Ye being so popular and famous these days, everyone in the entire country know him. Perhaps it was just a case of "love me, love my dog," but Zhang Ye's fans were very supportive of Yu Yingyi. With that, her career officially went on the rise as well!

Yu Yingyi smiled. "Hello, everyone."

Chen Ying looked perturbed as she forced a smile and said, "Hello, everyone."

Yu Yingyi said, "In another five minutes, the third game of the war between humans and machines will begin. Yesterday's game was wonderful to watch. That Hand of God is probably still replaying in many of our minds, and a lot of people are pinning their hopes on Professor Zhang's performance today. But before the game was scheduled to begin, we received news that Peter received an upgrade to its functionality. The Americans claim that Peter's functionality has been raised to the max that will allow its thought process to work in a more encompassing way?"

Chen Ying took over and said, "Yes, and that's one of the highlights of today's game. Earlier, in the waiting room, I asked Professor Zhang what this upgrade really meant. Professor Zhang used the term 'overclocking' to describe it to me." She made a simple explanation before going on to say, "As for how much Peter has improved as a result of its upgrade, we do not know yet. We can only analyze it slowly as the game progresses. Then, for the second highlight of this game, it'll be whether Professor Zhang is going to come up with yet another new playstyle. In yesterday's game, Professor Zhang surprised everyone by playing the self-named 'Apollo Opening' and the 'Cosmic Style' to achieve an effective result. It fired up those of us watching. I wonder if Professor Zhang can reproduce that blitzing form again today!"

Three.

Two.

One.

The international referee gestured.

Yu Yingyi said loudly, "We can see now that the game has started. Peter is playing Black today and will go first."

Chen Ying said in worry, "Professor Zhang is playing as White and going second. In the opening, there's a chance that he might be pulled into Peter's rhythm, so it will be very difficult to play in the manner he did yesterday."

Yu Yingyi stared at the screen and said, "Peter made a move very quickly."

Zhang Ye responded very quickly as well.

After four moves, an opening had formed on the board.

Chen Ying explained, "Peter is playing very steadily. This is one of the conventional openings for Black and also one that has the highest rate of winning. Its attacking game is very strong and belongs to one of the more aggressive openings. It looks like Peter is planning to end this quickly? How will Professor Zhang reply?"

Hearing this, the home viewers became even more worried!

Today's viewership rating on Central TV Sports Channel was heaven defying. After yesterday's victory, today's viewership rating nearly doubled. It wasn't only Zhang Ye's close friends and relatives, but also those who played Go who tuned in to watch. Even the crosstalk actor, Tang Dazhang, and Zhang Ye's other longtime foes could not help but watch the live broadcast!

All the Go clubs in the country were packed to the brim with people!

Millions and millions of people turned their attention to this remarkable battle!

At the venue.

Both sides had already played six moves each. Things were not too intense yet, nor did the board state become complex. It would be considered a very normal opening. However, that was where the normality stopped.

Zhang Ye looked at the board and thought for a time. Then he grinned.

Upgraded version?

Just what was being upgraded in you? I'll test you out!

He clicked the mouse and immediately created a "large knight's move enclosure 1" with his stone.

Chen Ying was slightly startled. "You don't see this move too often."

Yu Yingyi was taken aback. "Was that not a good move?"

Chen Ying stared at it for a very long time. "It's not that it's not good. But there doesn't seem to be a very clear intent to have a 'large knight's move enclosure' over there. I'm not sure what Professor Zhang is considering."

The board state in the bottom corner suddenly turned complex!

A white stone on the 5-3 point?

A black stone on 4-3 for a corner approach?

The white stones that created a large knight's move enclosure?

Although there were only three stones, there was something odd about it!

...

In the spectator room.

Everyone was watching in shock and surprise!

Hu Liang asked, "Why did he make that move?"

Xu Han blinked and said, "What is Professor Zhang planning now?"

"Who knows what he's thinking?" Wu Changhe was not happy with the move. "He clearly could've gone for a better joseki than that. Why didn't he choose to use the '3-1 joseki' or a 'knight's move approach'?"

Xiang Rong 9-dan suddenly said, "He seems to be testing the computer."

"Testing?"

"Professor Zhang, don't play with fire again!"

"Aiyo, why am I trembling so much just from watching this?"

"What is Professor Zhang trying to do?"

Many people could not understand Zhang Ye's move. It couldn't be called bad, but neither was it that good. Everyone felt that Zhang Ye's large knight's move enclosure was very strange!

However, Zhang Ye was still beaming.

At the next second, countless people watching the game on TV and those from the Qiyuan all froze. Peter had actually fallen silent. It did not respond even after a very long time!

Chen Ying 7-dan asked curiously, "Eh, what's with Peter?"

Dan Donghe said, "What's going on?"

A professional 5th dan player asked, "Why is it not playing?"

Li Qinqin did not quite understand either. "Is that move so difficult to handle?"

The Americans were also taken aback!

Zhang Ye looked at the computer screen as his eyes narrowed. Peter's silence had given Zhang Ye a sort of answer. It was indeed very strong. So it did sense that something was wrong, eh?

Hur hur.

You must not have seen this way of playing before, right?

Let me tell you what this is called then. It's called the "Great Slant Joseki 2

."

In my previous world, this was one of the three most complex josekis to play!

Chapter 1139: The astonishing variations of the Great Slant Joseki!

Ten minutes went by!

But Peter was still not making any moves!

With both parties allocated two hours of game time, Peter only had an hour and forty-five minutes left on its timer. A precious dozen minutes had been wasted on just this one move!

The two referees gave each other baffled looks.

The Americans were unable to sit still any longer. They kept looking in the direction of the machine, afraid that there was some bug with the code that led to Peter freezing up. But when they checked the machine's status lights, they found nothing wrong with it, nor was there an error. This showed that Peter was working normally and that it was just "thinking." Further, it was "deep in the tank."

Why?

What the hell was going on?

Why did it just stop making moves?

No one could understand what Peter's hesitation was!

Perhaps only Zhang Ye knew. This joseki was known as one of the three most complex josekis in his previous world because it was one of the hardest to play. That was because the Great Slant Joseki had too many variations. To say that it was infinite would be an exaggeration, but it was definitely not as easy to resolve as others would think. There were just too many ways to play it. Furthermore, with every new play made, there would be many more choices of play appearing. If one was not careful, the entire game would be lost!

It could be used to kill the opponent!

Or it could kill oneself!

This was what the Great Slant Joseki was, an extremely dangerous joseki to play. Even in Zhang Ye's previous world where most of this joseki's variations were studied in depth, the top players in the Go world would not freely resort to playing it during a critical tournament. If they were careless with just one move in the sequence, they might even end up hurting themselves rather than the opponent. This was not something that hadn't happened before!

And today, Zhang Ye had to take this risk. He had to test out this weakness of Peter's that he found out about yesterday!

Yu Yingyi said in a speechless manner, "Peter seems to have slowed down? Didn't they say that it was given an upgrade? Why does it seem like it was even better before the upgrade happened?"

Chen Ying was not willing to draw a quick conclusion. "Perhaps there's something more to the move?"

"Something more to it?" Yu Yingyi asked.

Chen Ying said, "I don't understand it either, but since Professor Zhang played that move, there should be some kind of deeper meaning to it. Besides, Peter taking so long to process this move and not play should also prove that this move is not that simple." She was a little dismayed and felt that her Go skill was still lacking by too much. It had been like this since yesterday's game. For this battle between these two grandmasters, she could barely understand any of the moves with her skill level.

So she said, "I'm not skilled enough, but it seems like this position is another crucial point. Is there a producer around? Can we check if we can invite Teacher Xiang Rong to join us?"

Soon after, Xiang Rong 9-dan actually came over.

Yu Yingyi said, "Hello, Teacher Xiang."

Xiang Rong nodded in greeting and sat down.

Chen Ying immediately asked, "Master Xiang, I really don't understand this move of Professor Zhang's. Can you please explain it to our viewers?"

Xiang Rong nodded.

Chen Ying sighed.

But Xiang Rong went on to say, "Then let me say this that I actually don't understand this move either."

Chen Ying was floored!

Yu Yingyi fainted!

The home viewers were also floored!

The atmosphere turned really awkward. But then, Peter stirred!

"It's made its move!" Yu Yingyi shouted.

Peter cut across 1 the large knight's move enclosure!

When Zhang Ye saw this, he smiled and responded instantly!

Afterwards, Peter went silent again!

It wasn't until five minutes later that Peter played another move.

But Zhang Ye did not even stop to think and replied with a bump!

Peter pondered and went deep in the tank a third time!

A cut across?

An open battle?

Alright then, I'll play along with you!

Zhang Ye looked utterly relaxed.

By now, if the pro Go players still could not tell what was going on, then they shouldn't be pros!

Xiang Rong was to first to look surprised. "What a large slant that is!"

Chen Ying was also dumbfounded. "How fearsome! This is too fearsome!"

Yu Yingyi could not understand. "Just what is happening?"

Chen Ying was so astonished she was sweating. "I had thought that Peter's cut across move was a very good one at first since it could advance or retreat from there. But from the looks of it, that move has dragged Peter down into the quagmire! Professor Zhang's follow up has forced Peter with no choice but to fight it out! What's more, the variations increase with every move. If Peter responds with a horizontal stretch, Professor Zhang can counter it. It's impossible to make any predictions after that as they are all variables. But if Peter gets into the corner and Professor Zhang chooses to forcefully attack, he would gain the ko threat 2 after another three moves. With so many variables, it's impossible to see who will gain the upper hand. Besides, even if one side gains the initiative, the variables over here will still exist. There will still be a chance for the other to counter that! Th-There is simply a myriad of variations!"

Yu Yingyi said dumbfounded, "Peter made a wrong move?"

Chen Ying said, "It shouldn't have cut across the large knight's move enclosure. If it had played a horizontal stretch—"

"Peter did not play wrong," Xiang Rong interrupted.

"Eh?" Chen Ying looked at him.

Xiang Rong laughed and said, "When the stone that led to Professor Zhang's large knight's move enclosure being formed was played, the setup was complete. I only understood just now why Peter had been thinking for so long. Come and look at this." He grabbed a laptop and replayed the moves on it. "If Peter plays a horizontal stretch here, the outcome will still be the same. Professor Zhang could've played over here and things would still be as dangerous as it is now."

Chen Ying said in surprise, "Then what about a diagonal move?"

Xiang Rong said, "It could do that. But Professor Zhang would follow up, and Peter would play over here with Professor Zhang fighting back in response. If we did an even more detailed analysis of the board state, it would get even more complex! Or an underneath attachment 3 over here would also be a way to cope with that move. If it were played this way, then followed by this move, Professor Zhang would probably end up playing over here before Peter counters it. The variation, in this case, would not be that great anymore and it would also be a simple way of avoiding the joseki. But if the setup gets broken, Peter would probably have to take a two or three point loss and be down in the score. I believe that with Peter's upgraded computational power, it would definitely not choose that outcome. Between an uncertain outcome and a bad outcome, it would definitely not choose the latter!" Taking a pause, he then added, "Perhaps there might also be a better way to avoid this problem? But as the board state is too complex, it would require a long time to analyze it before we can determine how to best play the moves. It would take much effort to work out all the different possible variations. I'm afraid that it would take more than a year to do that!"

A year?

Yu Yingyi was stunned on the spot!

Chen Ying gasped!

Xiang Rong said in admiration, "Professor Zhang is indeed a genius. This is definitely a new type of complex joseki. Every new step in the sequence brings along a frightening amount of variations!"

Chen Ying suddenly asked, "But why does Professor Zhang seem like he does not need to think through his moves? Look, every move in response is played after an instantaneous judgment. He does not hesitate at all!"

Xiang Rong gave a wry smile. "I don't know."

Yes, he really did not know why!

At the other side.

The Qiyuan's people were also astonished!

Hu Liang's mouth was agape as he said, "A new joseki?"

"This is too complex!"

"Damn, I'm going to go crazy watching! Th-This is way too messy!"

"There are too many ways to play this joseki! But most of them would lead to a dead group 4 forming. Once a wrong choice has been made, they will be doomed! How did Professor Zhang come up with this joseki?"

"Holy shit, Professor Zhang has played some miraculous moves again!"

"Why does he not need to think it through?"

"Oh, you're right! How does he do that?"

"With every branch of variations, there ought to be several hundred to thousands of moves possible. Even the goddamn computer has been confused by it! Even an upgraded AI was made to think for a long fucking time! So why does Professor Zhang not even need to think? Moreover, he can just play any move and it leaves Peter with several dozen choices of moves to make?"

"Could he be more computerized than the computer is?"

No one knew how Zhang Ye did it!

Logically, such a fearsome joseki that even managed to confuse Peter should also befuddle Zhang Ye a bit. He should also have a headache over how to play it!

If Peter could talk, he would probably be cursing right now!

Why?

There was no why actually.

If Peter's "brain" contained all the records of this world's Go games?

Then Zhang Ye's brain also contained many of the games from his previous world. No one in this world knew or researched the Great Slant Joseki, one of the three most complex josekis that had been studied extensively in his previous world. Some of the key variations of the joseki were already imprinted into Zhang Ye's mind, so why would he need any time to consider his moves!

You can depend on data?

Hur hur! So can I!

Chapter 1140: Zhang Ye plays the second of the three most complex josekis!

Things were in full swing online!

Zhang Ye's Great Slant Joseki had dumbfounded countless people!

"Beautiful!"

"That was so godly of Teacher Zhang!"

"This fellow has managed to pull something off again!"

"Hahaha, Peter can't react anymore!"

"This joseki probably has more than several thousand variations!"

"Peter is still thinking! Adding the time it took for its earlier moves, it has already used up half an hour of its clock. This strange joseki must not be in its database of game records!"

"Zhang Ye is amazing!"

"Take the game in one fell swoop, Teacher Zhang!"

"Who was it that said yesterday that Teacher Zhang would not be able to come up with another style?"

"Any casual move by Zhang Ye is an earth-shattering move!"

"In terms of face smacking, I have to give it to Zhang Ye!"

"Yeah, that guy's brain is totally more computerized than the computer!"

There was exhilaration all around!

Everyone could again see hope in winning a game!

Finally, Peter played. It was a very strong move!

Zhang Ye thought for two minutes before responding!

Peter slipped back into thinking mode again and played its stone after another four or so minutes!

Zhang Ye bumped on his turn!

Peter thought again for a minute before playing its stone!

A lot of people watching TV had been dazzled. It was wonderful!

Commentator Chen Ying said, "The corner of the board is seeing a heated confrontation between the two players. Neither of them can pull back now! It's just do or die from here! The number of possible variations is increasing as well. We can't figure out who has the upper hand. But if we judge by the time

left on each player's clock, it's clear that Professor Zhang has used up less time. Meanwhile, Peter has spent longer thinking and has already used up a quarter of its allocated time!"

Xiang Rong 9-dan said, "If Peter does not quickly break the structure apart, it will have an even harder fight waiting. It has been mired here for too long by Professor Zhang!"

Chen Ying said, "Peter has stopped again. Let's see what kind of reply it can come up with this time....Oh, Peter has played! This is a very beautiful move!"

Peter bumped!

Just this move alone caused Zhang Ye to be relegated into a passive state!

Zhang Ye replied!

Peter attacked again!

Zhang Ye played a cut!

Peter called an atari!

After another eight moves have been exchanged, the board state in the bottom left corner drastically changed!

Xiang Rong said stonily, "Peter has broken through the structure."

Chen Ying looked disgusted!

Yu Yingyi said in surprise, "Broke through?"

Chen Ying gasped and said, "Not only has it broken through, Peter has practically surrounded the territory in this corner of the board. Professor Zhang's stones are all dead!"

"What?" Yu Yingyi said in shock.

Xiang Rong said, "This is the worst possible scenario. In localized battle, Peter has already showcased its extraordinary computational power. Today's upgraded version of Peter is obviously far superior, with many of the localized territories being handled very well and reinforcing their attacks as well. Professor Zhang has clearly suffered a huge loss over here. He had actually been trying to drag Peter into a battle, but the outcome turned out for the worst. Not only did Peter manage to get away, it even gained an advantage of more than a dozen points! It won't be easy at all for the white stones! Professor Zhang's joseki play is very strong, but Peter's computational ability is even better!"

Over a dozen points?

Gaining an advantage of two or three points in the opening was already considered very advantageous and rare. But in just a short time, he was already behind by over a dozen points? All of the white stones in the corner were as good as dead?

The Qiyuan's people all looked as pale as sheets!

Hu Liang cried out, "We're done for!"

Xu Han said bitterly, "The gap has opened up!"

"How can he still play like this?" Li Yi 9-dan was sweating in worry for Zhang Ye.

Wu Changhe said angrily, "I said that we couldn't let the kid try out those tricks of his! But he still didn't pay heed to my advice!"

"What do we do now?"

"He's behind by too much. How can he catch up?"

"An upgraded Peter is really this strong? If it were before, even if it could manage to break through the structure, it would not be possible for it to grab an advantage of over a dozen points in such a complex board state!"

When the Americans saw that state of the board, they heaved a sigh of relief and looked relieved. Although it had taken some time, which was not to their expectations, the end result was something they were willing to accept. Peter had gained an absolute advantage, and it was still just the opening!

The American representative looked over to Zhang Ye, who was seated not too far away, and thought to himself, Now you know just how strong Peter is after getting an upgrade? No matter what moves you try today, no matter what kind of new playstyles you come up with, Peter can analyze all of them and not get led by the nose!

It would only get simpler from here!

All they had to do was not let up on the attack!

The Americans were confident that victory was in their hands!

The Qiyuan's people were all feeling extremely nervous!

The television viewers were also getting jittery!

Only Zhang Ye's expression was different from theirs. The camera at the venue suddenly zoomed in on Zhang Ye and discovered that he was actually smiling. It was as though he did not mind that he had fallen behind by more than a dozen points. He was simply indifferent to it all!

Chen Ying said, "We can see that Professor Zhang looks calm and composed!"

Xiang Rong narrowed his eyes. "He should still have other ideas!"

But the Americans did not think that Zhang Ye would be able to make a comeback. In their opinion, the remainder of the game would only serve to become Peter's killing field!

In the game room.

Zhang Ye was indeed calm and composed. This was something he expected. He knew that the Great Slant Joseki couldn't contain Peter and force it into committing any errors. On the contrary, playing this joseki was more disadvantageous for himself as he did not have the computational power that Peter had. He knew that he wasn't a match for Peter in any localized battles. Even if he had all that research information about the Great Slant Joseki from his previous world, it was only meant to aid him to a

certain extent. With Peter seeing all of the moves that were advantageous to him, there was hardly anything that Zhang Ye could do about it.

He was using the opportunity to test it out, and he found out what he wanted to!

The artificial intelligence had really been given an upgrade! So it had its computational depth increased and its analytical power fine-tuned to be more precise? The magnificent move and new opening that were played yesterday had really sent the Americans panicking then? So they had to increase Peter's computational depth in this area as they wanted it to crack any of Zhang Ye's new playstyles? They wanted to be able to predict every of Zhang Ye's moves? Like the Great Slant Joseki, it was probably cracked due to the increase in computational depth, wasn't it? Thinking of this, Zhang Ye smiled again. Hur hur, it looks like you people have done this in vain. This upgrade is probably going to be the biggest mistake on your part!

They wanted to predict all the possible solutions? It's possible that your machine might really be able to achieve that!

But have you forgotten that there's a price to pay for that? And that price is—time!

He looked at his own clock.

And then had a look at Peter's clock.

It had already used up 40 minutes? Very good! Then come and give this next one a try too!

Chen Ying said, "Oh, Professor Zhang has made his move!"

Xiang Rong was taken aback. "Upper left?"

Chen Ying added, "Professor Zhang has given up on the lower left and played his next move in the upper left. Peter did not take any time to think and immediately responded!"

But Zhang Ye placed his next stone down with a smile!

Then Peter went deep in the tank once again!

Xiang Rong was surprised at this. "This!"

Chen Ying was also stunned. "This..."

Five minutes!

Ten minutes!

Peter didn't "budge" an inch!

Meanwhile, Zhang Ye was beaming and crossed his legs. He looked as relaxed as could be.

The Americans were enraged!

The television viewers blew up!

The pro Go players of China Qiyuan were floored!

"Again?"

"This again?"

"What is it this time!"

"Holy shit!"

"How is it yet another goddamn complex joseki?"

"What the hell is this!"

"Goddammit! How did he come up with yet another one!"

"This is too complicated! I feel like vomiting blood just seeing it. Fuck!"

"If it were me going up against Professor Zhang, I would have flipped the table already! He's too sly. After that large slant, he has come up with yet another one?"

"What is this one called?"

"Who knows! I've never even seen it before!"

Dan Donghe looked at Wu Changhe in shock. "Have you seen this before?"

Wu Changhe gave a wry smile and shook his head. "I've never ever seen it before, but this is really too complex! At first glance, I can already see that there are over a dozen variations to play! This is..."

Li Yi said angrily, "Isn't Little Zhang asking for it? He suffered such a crushing defeat, so why doesn't he learn? Why is he still trying those tricks of his?"

Dan Donghe suddenly said, "That might not be it. Look, the one having trouble dealing with it is definitely Peter!"

Peter was still silent!

15 minutes had already passed!

The Americans glared at Zhang Ye. They really wished to go up to him at this moment and finish him off!

Are you done or what?

You're still not finished yet?

What the fuck is this kind of playstyle!

Are you doing this on purpose?

Yes, in fact. Zhang Ye was doing this on purpose!

The Magic Sword Joseki 1 —the second of the three most complex josekis from Zhang Ye's previous world!