

## All R. Artist 281

Chapter 281: 80% Winning Rate

It's not that I can't do it.

With the System, there's hope.

But if you want to take first place, you have to constantly create the best songs, which costs a lot of money. Especially considering the nature of the System, it's sure to calculate the additional value of the Maestro into the cost of song customization—

Lin Yuan has seen through this System.

So even though Lin Yuan does have some thoughts on the Maestro, after hearing Gu Dong's explanation, he can only put them aside for now.

He has a lot on his plate at the moment.

No need to rush, he can take his time.

In less than a week, Lin Yuan began entering the recording studio to record "The Red Sun" for Lan Yan.

The melody of this song is not complex.

Lan Yan had been rehearsing for several days and has reached an optimal state, very familiar with this song—to the point where he knew every lyric and note by heart.

When he started recording, it can be said that he got twice the result with half the effort.

And one major reason for this smooth process is that Lan Yan's pronunciation in the Qi language is extremely accurate!

It was said that this was the reason why Lan Yan was chosen to represent the Qin land in the anniversary celebration!

Lan Yan's explanation was that his wife was from Qi Province, and they often communicate in the Qi language, so that's why he's so proficient at it.

This was Lin Yuan's first time experiencing the power of the King of Singing first-hand.

Efficiency.

Such efficiency.

Sun Yaohuo can't compare with Lan Yan, even Chen Zhiyu was inferior to Lan Yan's professional capability. No wonder Lan Yan could become the King of Singing.

Lin Yuan is sure of this.

It's not just about finding a good songwriter, getting a good song, and then becoming famous. It's not that simple.

Rather, it's that these Kings of Singing like Lan Yan, their own singing skills, their understanding of music, have all reached a certain level, allowing them to perfectly realize the songwriter's creative intentions.

Speaking of Sun Yaohuo, Lin Yuan suddenly remembered that he had planned to collaborate with senior Sun Yaohuo on a new song when he was recording for Chen Zhiyu last time.

Unexpectedly, through a series of misfortunes and coincidences, he ended up collaborating with the King of Singing.

It's a special case.

There's definitely no time this year.

He'll have to make it up to senior Yao Huo next year.

Lin Yuan can tell that senior Yao Huo truly loves his singing career, but he's just lacking good songs to perform—something Lin Yuan can provide.

After the recording.

As soon as Lin Yuan returned to his office, 01' Zhou hurried over, surprised: "Is Lan Yan going to sing your song at the anniversary celebration?"

"Yes."

Lin Yuan rarely explained: "I didn't intentionally try to grab this three million. I've already talked to Teacher Zheng Jing."

01' Zhou:

Is this just about money? Teacher Zheng Jing doesn't seem to care too much about this three million!

The real issue is...

You took down the Maestro with a song you wrote?

Although 01' Zhou now dedicated half of his effort to the film department, he was still very dedicated to the Songwriting Department. So when he heard the news, he was utterly bewildered.

Maestro Junior took down the real Maestro?

01' Zhou knew Zheng Jing very well and knew that she was a very open-minded person. Besides being a musician who liked painting very much, Zheng Jing was the one with the best temper among all the Maestros in the company!

But the problem is...

While it's true that Zheng Jing has a good temper, she is also very strict about music.

She wouldn't get angry because someone took her job, but only if the person who took it earned her approval!

Zheng Jing's willingness to step back only indicates one thing:

Lin Yuan's new song has gained Zheng Jing's approval!

That's right.

When thinking about "The Red Sun", 01' Zhou had listened to it before and it really was an extraordinary piece. It's not surprising that Zheng Jing would approve of it.

But remembering Lin Yuan's age and looking at his achievements in music, 01' Zhou always felt a sense of surrealism.

Lin Yuan asked: "Is there a problem?"

01' Zhou shook his head: "No problem, absolutely no problem. You're doing great. Try to write more songs next year and make a splash."

When Lin Yuan first joined the company, 01' Zhou's expectation of Lin Yuan was that of a golden badge.

Now, 01' Zhou's expectation for Lin Yuan is at the Maestro level.

Having gained Zheng Jing's approval shows that Lin Yuan has the qualifications for this.

"Oh."

“Besides, the promotion for the December new song will start in a few days. Let’s hope for a good ranking.”

01’ Zhou said.

As December came to an end, this month officially became the most competitive time of the year for the season, it was the final sprint to the year’s end.

It’s not just the insiders.

The fans are also eagerly looking forward to December, after all, these are high-quality songs, the King and Queen of Singing are worth more than first-tier!

In fact.

As November arrived, the Kings and Queens of Singing who are going to participate in the duel of the gods in December have already begun their official promotional campaign for the December production!

Including Fei Yang from Dazzling Entertainment.

As well as the music companies in Sand Sea and the Qi land.

For example, Thunderbolt Entertainment, they have a Queen involved as well.

In total, three Kings of Singing and three Queens of Singing announced one after another, that they would participate in the competition of the December season!

This would be the most glamorous competition in terms of singer lineup for the entire year!

Not only is the singer lineup gorgeous.

The lineup of songwriters is also quite spectacular!

The song for Fei Yang is written by Maestro Yin Dong with the arrangement also done by a top-tier industry professional!

In addition.

The song for the King of Singing from Thunderbolt Entertainment was also created by a Maestro, a big shot called Ye Zhi Qiu.

This Ye Zhi Qiu was originally a composer from Sand Sea, but with the merger of Qin and Qi, he switched over to Thunderbolt Entertainment.

At this time.

Lan Yan also announced the news on Tribe, becoming the seventh Queen or King level person to announce their participation in the December season competition:

“New song ‘The Red Sun’ will be released in December. This song will also be performed at this year’s Spring Festival as part of the anniversary celebrations. Thanks to Teacher Admirable Fish for providing the lyrical and musical creations (©Admirable Fish.”

Whoosh!

The competition in December seems to have the aura of a dragon and tiger fight, and Lin Yuan, as a composer rising in the music scene in recent years, naturally attracted a lot of attention.

Fei Yang from Dazzling Entertainment was one of them.

Don’t forget, Fei Yang has stumbled against Lin Yuan before.

Although Fei Yang didn’t pay much attention to this matter, outsiders often talked about it, which made Fei Yang start to care.

“What a coincidence, I lost to Lin Yuan before.”

He turned to Yin Dong next to him: “And unexpectedly, I ran into him again, and it’s December, and it’s even the time when Lan Yan and I are participating in the anniversary celebration.”

“Your chances of taking the championship song are eighty percent.”

Yin Dong spoke with a straight face, his words filled with strong confidence.

Fei Yang laughed: “What about the remaining twenty percent?”

Yin Dong said: “The remaining twenty percent belongs to Ye Zhi Qiu.”

Ye Zhi Qiu is the second Maestro to take part in the year-end competition, besides Yin Dong.

Chapter 282: Anticipated by Thousands

Fei Yang was not the only one keeping an eye on Xian Yu.

After all, Xian Yu is currently a renowned composer in the industry, his appearance in December was both unexpectedly anticipated for many.

The surprise lies in:

The impression that Xian Yu gave to the industry insiders was a composer who extremely enjoyed collaborating with newcomer singers or second-tier and third-tier singers.

But surprisingly, Xian Yu had apparently changed his approach and began touching base with big names?

Last time it was top-tier singer Chen Zhiyu, but now he’s simply chosen the King of Singing, Lan Yan!

And as for what was within expectations:

As a successful composer, Xian Yu certainly had the qualification to appear on the battlefield of December.

Of course.

It was merely a qualification.

Xian Yu was not the most eye-catching figure this December.

Not because Xian Yu was not famous; in the music circle, Xian Yu was already a name worth paying much attention to.

The reason he didn't draw the public's attention was that the lineup this December was just too extravagant.

Two Maestros!

Seven Kings and Queens of Singing!

Not to mention the several top-tier singers.

Even when considering only the lineup of composers, Xian Yu dare not say that he would be securely listed right after the two maestros.

Because among the composers involved this time, there were also those who had challenged the position of the Maestro!

Though their rush had failed, or they were still in the process of rushing, it was enough to set them apart from ordinary golden composers—

This was why they were chosen to work with other Kings and Queens of Singing.

Thus, though Xian Yu wasn't washed out by these people on the battlefield of December, he unavoidably seemed ordinary.



This was the music world's final season carnival at the end of this year! "Considered this lineup, wow, it really is the music world's War of Gods!" "The first two places will most likely be taken by the two Maestros, right?" "Fei Yang is most likely to be the champion of the War of Gods. After all, the Great Maestro Yin hasn't done anything noteworthy in almost a year, so won't his moves be earth-shattering this time?"

"Are you underestimating Ye Zhi Qiu a bit? Rock n' Roll Grandpa is invincible." Maestro Ye Zhi Qiu liked to call himself "Old Ye," but the young generations in the music world wouldn't dare to call him that, so they preferred calling him "Grandpa".

"The singer collaborating with Grandpa is Queen Haitang, who happens to be the most formidable rock female singer in Qi Province!"

"Although the two maestros are indeed very fierce, the composers of other Kings and Queens of Singing should not be underestimated. For example, the composer for King Tang Zhen is Lonely. Although Lonely failed his rush for Maestro before, he had achieved a winning streak of eight seasons and even beaten a Maestro once. Who would dare say that Lonely has no chance for a win this time?"

"Similar to Lonely's circumstance, there's also Momo."

"Typical. December is not a place for nobodies."

"With dragons and tigers fighting for supremacy, it's going to be exciting!" "Don't forget about Xian Yu. Don't his colleagues at Starlight call him 'Junior Maestro'? I think Xian Yu has the potential to rise to the top. Among the new composers who have sprung up in the music scene in recent years, this guy is the most eccentric."

"Right, when Xian Yu collaborates with top-level performers, he can knock down Kings. So this time, since he has teamed up with a King, he can only target Maestros, right?"

While the outside world is in heated discussion, official announcement about the Qin-Qi anniversary event was suddenly made by the Spring Festival Gala:

King of Singing Fei Yang and King of Singing Lan Yan, the two of them, will serve as representative singers of Qin Province and perform Qi language songs at the Gala, expressing the Qin-Qi music exchange

The songs they will perform would be those released in December. Meanwhile.

Two Queen of Singing from Qi Province will represent Qi Province and perform Mandarin songs on the Gala stage.

This piece of news had been unknown to the industry beforehand.

Only the parties involved and their relevant companies had received a notification.

With the announcement of this news, the industry's discussion finally centered on the anniversary event, especially the composers and representative singers of Qin Province.

After all, Qin Province is the recognized Land of Music.

“Qi language songs?”

“No wonder there are two Maestros coming into play this year.”

“As more and more regions merge in, will this become a permanent program at the Gala in the future?”

“Now it seems, it's expected that Lan Yan and Fei Yang were chosen not only because they are both the King of Singing, but also because they are among the few singers proficient in Qi language.”

“Wait, on the Starlight side, why didn't the Maestro compose for Lan Yan, instead choosing Xian Yu?”

“That's what's puzzling to me too, why Xian Yu?”

“For such an important song, shouldn't it be a surefire success if the King of Singing and the Maestro collaborated?”

“Could it be that Xian Yu's song this time is explosive?”

“There can only be this reason. Otherwise, there’s no reason to choose Xian Yu over the Maestro.”

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There weren’t any objections, really.

The exposure of this news, on the contrary, heightened many people’s anticipation for the new song composed by Xian Yu and Lan Yan.

Generally speaking, everyone was more curious about the outcome of the Battle of the Gods in December.

Insiders excitedly discussed it.

The fans of the King and Queen of Singing, the Maestro, and the Golden

Composers were, of course, brimming with anticipation.

Because so many people were paying attention to this Battle of the Gods, someone even opened a gambling market for the end-of-year singing scene. Some websites even secretly opened betting channels.

This type of betting is a grey area in Blue Star, as no one usually cares much about it, nor can anyone control it, after all, gamblers are everywhere.

Where there’s a market, people will take risks.

In the past, this type of betting was mostly seen in sports events.

Like football, basketball, etc.

It’s rare to see betting in the music scene for the end-of-season competition. It shows just how much attention this Battle of the Gods is getting.

Of course, Lin Yuan didn't know about this.

It was his manager, Jin Mu, who told him.

Although Jin Mu doesn't handle the financial affairs under Xian Yu's identity, he still pays attention to the situation regarding the Xian Yu persona.

After all, he is Lin Yuan's manager, not the manager for Lin Yuan's aliases.

"So, there's such a thing."

Lin Yuan was somewhat surprised when he heard Jin Mu talk about betting, and he also felt somewhat helpless: "Can this sort of thing be predicted?" Not to mention ordinary people.

Even Lin Yuan, the person involved, didn't dare to say he could definitely secure a certain position.

After all, he can only control the quality of his own songs, he can't control the quality of others' songs. While "Red Sun" is definitely very powerful, who can assure that there won't be more powerful works in December?

"Gamblers don't argue with reason."

Compared to gamblers, even sycophants are more adorable.

Jin Mu said: "Your predicted ranking is currently fifth, and the most people bet on you getting the fifth place."

Lin Yuan asked curiously: "Did you place a bet?"

Jin Mu looked at Lin Yuan and implied heavily: "I don't have the money."

After being silent for a few seconds, Lin Yuan said: "I'll double your salary next month."

Jin Mu's been a great manager and has perfectly passed the trial period, so Lin Yuan didn't feign ignorance and directly agreed to give him a raise.

"Thank you, boss."

Being successful in his hints, Jin Mu smiled and said: "Now the most people are betting on the combination of Yin Dong and Fei Yang, their odds for the championship are very low. Next is the combination of Ye Zhi Qiu and Haitang, their odds aren't high either."

Lin Yuan asked: "Did nobody bet on me being the champion?"

Jin Mu was taken aback, then he opened his phone, logged onto a website, and took a look: "Actually, there are people who support the combination of Boss and Lan Yan winning the championship. However, the current rate is up to 3.5!"

Lin Yuan:

After all, he was the one predicted to rank fifth.

The amount of people betting him to win must be an extreme minority.

Perhaps those who bet on him winning didn't have confidence in him but just wanted to try their luck. If they hit the jackpot, it would be a big win.

There will always be people who take extreme risks.

It even made Lin Yuan a little tempted.

But in the end, Lin Yuan managed to resist the impulse.

Gambling is wrong. He couldn't set a bad example for children..

Chapter 283: You're So Sassy

In fact, it wasn't just Admirable Fish with the exaggerated odds.

For instance, the increasing odds for songwriters such as Lonely and Momo, who once challenged Maestro, were also the subject of heated discussions among netizens.

The lowest odds were still above 2.0.

In fact, in the gamble dog's analysis, besides the two maestros, only Lonely and Momo were considered more promising than Admirable Fish.

However, while they all admitted that no composer in this group was inferior, they were helpless.

The influence of these two maestros were just too big!

This was reflected by historical records and available data.

Even from a professional judgement perspective, the first two spots had an 80% chance of being dominated by these two maestros.

After all, singers were all kings and queens of singing, and none of them were overshadowed in terms of popularity.

Given that there was no discernable difference in popularity among the singers, it all came down to whose composer behind them could make a bigger impact.

"I'm too lazy to bet on myself winning the championship."

Due to the low odds, Fei Yang said to Yin Dong with a bitter smile in his words, but his pride and confidence were palpable in his tone!

Coming first in ordinary times was no big deal.

For a king of singing to get into the competition, how could he not aim for first place?

Securing the first place in December when kings and queens of songs were battling each other was the true honour!

The more powerful the opponent, the more it highlighted one's own strength!

Well...

The last time didn't count, it just couldn't.

It was clear that last time, Admirable Fish's "Change Myself" was endorsed by the officials.

That was an irresistible factor that only appears once in several years, so it was just his bad luck.

"Oh, I did place a bet."

Yin Dong had no particular emotion, and his words were clear and direct.

Fei Yang laughed, "How much did you bet?"

He didn't ask who Yin Dong bet on, because Yin Dong would only bet on himself, asking him would be superfluous.

Yin Dong replied, "One yuan."

Fei Yang was speechless.

He knew that Yin Dong was not joking when he bet one yuan on himself.

The money wasn't the point.

This one yuan represented Yin Dong's confidence in their duo winning the championship!

In a similar vein.

In fact, apart from Lin Yuan, who didn't place a bet, several other parties did to some extent. For instance, another maestro, Ye Zhiqiu.

Ye Zhiqiu was much more generous than Yin Dong. He also bet on his own side for a hundred yuan.

Upon hearing the news, Haitang, the queen of singing who collaborated with Ye Zhiqiu, was dumbfounded, "Why is His Lordship also joining in the fun?"

"If Yin Dong can bet, why can't I?"

Ye Zhiqiu was forty-five years old, but he looked to be over fifty, with quite some white hairs that matched his title of 'His Lordship' well.

However, when he spoke, he sounded more like a naughty old boy.

It was Yin Dong himself who told Ye Zhiqiu about his bet.

The maestros knew each other quite well.

After all they were all the top talents in their field, if they didn't maintain close contact, it would be rather lonely.

So after hearing that Yin Dong had placed a bet of one yuan, Ye Zhiqiu also placed a bet on himself, for a hundred yuan.

"That's a hundred times more confidence!"

These were the exact words that Ye Zhiqiu said to Yin Dong.

Yin Dong then let out a cold laugh, his mechanical "haha" was quite unnatural.



Upon hearing that, Ye Zhiqiu sympathised with him.

Yin Dong always seemed to be indifferent.

However, little did people know, Yin Dong was not gloomy, but born with an illness, that he had been suffering from facial paralysis since he was a child.

Outsiders would only see Yin Dong as aloof and hard to talk to, and Yin Dong would not explain.

As a maestro, there was indeed no discomfort.

“You talk so much that I almost want to bet myself.” Haitang said.

Of course, she was only joking, everyone had their own musical philosophy, and she felt that not participating was her way of showing respect to music.

However, if others placed a bet, she would not stand on a moral high ground to judge them.

Like His Lordship’s style, or Yin Dong’s, they were just expressing a must-win attitude.

“If you want to bet, I can recommend one to you, insider news!”

Ye Zhiqiu said with a mysterious smile, “You bet on Admirable Fish and Lan Yan’s duo, bet on them coming third, it’s a sure win!”

“Why?”

Haitang was startled.

So, there were inside stories about this?

Ye Zhiqiu shrugged, “I had a chat with an old friend from Starlight last night, a song that could make her back down once shouldn’t be a bad one, and, in my personal judgement alone, Admirable Fish is underestimated. He is not worse than Momo and Lonely.”

Haitang had an undergoing shift in her complexion.

She wouldn’t place a bet because of this, but she was just caught by surprise by Ye Zhiqiu’s appraisal. It seemed that in this maestro’s eyes, Admirable Fish was receiving undue attention?

“You don’t believe it?”

Ye Zhiqiu continued, “If you don’t, you can listen to all of Admirable Fish’s work. Then you will discover an interesting fact.”

“Like what?”

“Admirable Fish’s works are fancifully free in style. I’m not saying his composition is superb. It surely is superb, but Momo and Lonely aren’t any worse, and they even do better in many ways. However, what’s strange about Admirable Fish is that he seems to always be trying different styles and types of composition.”

This was a characteristic that only a few people would notice.

Normally, there is a commonality in a composer’s works with a distinct personal label.

But Admirable Fish’s songs seemed to be from different authors, yet oddly, they were indeed all from Admirable Fish!

This was what surprised Ye Zhiqiu.

This genius composer, who rose to fame in the past two years, seemed to wield wisdom from various schools of thought.

So, even Ye Zhiqiu was somewhat curious as to what kind of style and route Admirable Fish would take for his new song.

Haitang seemed thoughtful.

Perhaps because everyone was overly concerned about December, it influenced Lin Yuan.

Lin Yuan surprisingly announced several times on the Tribeapp that he was releasing a new song, even using Chu Kuang's account to repost it.

In addition, he asked Luo Wei to repost it using Shadow's account.

Three pseudonyms in action at the same time.

“...Understood.”

Luo Wei didn't seem to be pleased. She thought Lin Yuan was “aiding the enemy”.

She was a little unsure whether Shadow and Admirable Fish were love rivals or frenemies, but she dutifully did as he asked anyway.

Of course, the fans were buying it.

The comments were all uniformly filled with a “supportive” attitude.

Not just fans.

Many singers who had collaborated with Lin Yuan also reposted the news.

For instance, Chen Zhiyu, Sun Yaohuo, Jiang Kui, and Zhao Ying Ge...

Chen Zhiyu and others were relatively conservative. The texts accompanying their reposts were mainly “Aiming for Top Three,” “Good Luck Teacher Admirable Fish,” “Wishing a Big Hit for Teacher Admirable Fish's New Song,” etc. Clearly, they didn't think that Lin Yuan could win the championship.

Only Sun Yaohuo's accompanying text was the most domineering and confident:

"I hereby wish 'Red Sun' to become the championship song of December! On the day the song is downloadable, you can enjoy a 30% discount at Flame Hot Pot Restaurant. On the day when junior brother wins the championship, all consumption at Flame Hot Pot Restaurant will be 70% off for a full 24 hours!"

Jiang Kui: "..."

Chen Zhiyu: "..."

Zhao Ying Ge: "..."

You are so ostentatious.

Is there such a play?

Even Lin Yuan was moved when he saw Sun Yaohuo's repost, although most of the comments in Sun Yaohuo's comment section were asking for the exact address of his hot pot restaurant...

Chapter 284: Being Human is Interesting

In the days that followed.

Lin Yuan could feel the storm of December brewing even on the film set. Surprisingly, many people in the crew were discussing the grand event of the music world in December. When Lin Yuan was having lunch, he even heard someone mentioning that they had bought tickets to someone's concert...

Gambler dogs were everywhere.

However, no matter how people placed their bets and spoke assertively about the sure winners, they could not change the course of the future. As the discussions heated up, the end of November was inevitably approaching.

November 30th.

This night was a rare sleepless one for all in the music industry following the merger of Qin and Qi, with many sitting in front of their computers well in advance, waiting for the midnight chimes, especially the participants involved in the December competition.

For example, the King of Singing, Fei Yang!

As the frontrunner for the crown, Fei Yang was looking forward to this moment more than anyone. His eyes kept glancing at the time in the bottom right corner of his computer screen, which was ticking close to 11:59pm.

“It’s about to start.”

Fei Yang’s spirit lifted.

As his alarm set for midnight rang, Fei Yang quickly opened his usual music player – amongst the best when it came to sound source and quality. The main page of the player did not simply recommend a single song but showcased a special feature:

“Battle of the Gods!”

Although the name might seem overly fantastic, one cannot deny it resonates with the anticipation for the new songs released in December. Anyone could click onto the banner to see the newly released songs from the Kings and Queens of Singing. The first to pop up was the collaboration between Fei Yang and Yin Dong, “New World”.

New World!

The theme of this song, set against the future of the Blue Star merger, was truly grand. Married with Fei Yang’s voice, the whole song was beyond reproach, be it the melody or momentum.

This was the order of songs on the player.

Notably, even the player itself showed utmost confidence in the collaboration between Fei Yang and Yin Dong, placing their song at the forefront within the special feature. In a sense, the order in this feature was a true reflection of the public betting phenomenon.

Click play.

Fei Yang put on his headphones and listened to his own song first, like a sacred ritual. After listening, he nodded in satisfaction and then clicked on the second song in the line-up, which was a collaboration between Haitang and Ye Zhiqiu.

Song title: “Blossom”.

The title seemed pretty inspirational.

In Fei Yang’s mind, this was a tough competitor in the Battle of the Gods this season. Afterall, they also had the backing of Maestro. While the gap between different Maestros did exist, it wasn’t significant. Hence, while listening to this song, Fei Yang wore a grave expression.

“The melody is standard...”

“A combination of strings and violin...”

“The processing of the percussion section is stunning with a strong bounce and graininess. As expected of Haitang, the handling of the high notes seemed effortless, and even elements of bel canto were integrated. Despite the minimal soundtracks, it didn’t lose the essence of grandeur...”

Ordinary people listen to the melody when they listen to a song.

Normally, Fei Yang does the same, but this time he couldn’t resist analyzing as he listened. After all, Teacher Ye Zhiqiu was a Maestro, and music composition by artists at this level should never be belittled. Fei Yang didn’t relax a bit during his analysis until he finished listening.

“Seems like mine is better.”

Fei Yang was slightly uncertain.

Songs can't be judged completely subjectively. Otherwise, many singers wouldn't remain obscure. Choosing the right song is as important for a singer as selecting a script is for an actor. It is a crucial part of determining the accomplishment of a singer. When there isn't a stark difference between two songs, Fei Yang could only form a rough judgment.

But there were things he could be sure about.

Fei Yang opened the comment sections of the two songs to see how the public felt about them. No one could complain that the songs were only released minutes ago. For an ordinary season, songs released a few minutes prior might not receive many comments. However, this was December!

There were so many people online listening to music!

The comment section under Fei Yang's song had easily surpassed five thousand comments. At the same time, "Blossom" had received over four thousand comments. After observing for ten minutes, Fei Yang finally broke into a relatively relaxed smile.

It seemed like "New World" had a better response!

This conclusion was deduced based on the comment data and specific feedback from netizens. Although it's still not entirely certain, it was hardly inaccurate. At this point, Fei Yang could finally lean back in his chair and take a deep breath.

"Let's listen to the rest of them."

The third and fourth tracks were pieces by Lonely and Momo. Although Fei Yang felt that the chances of him messing up were slim, he still needed to confirm it. After listening to these two songs, Fei Yang's expression became even more relaxed.

"I'm going to win!"

Fei Yang slightly danced his body, then leaned back fully into the chair, lifted his right foot onto his left thigh, and casually played the fifth track. This song, "The Red Sun," was released by the King of Singing, Lan Yan, this season.

“Ahhh~”

From the headphones, a string of singing accompanied by bass interwoven with guitar and a not-so-intense drumbeat came out, making Fei Yang, who was completely relaxed, startled inexplicably. Before he could react, the preamble was over.

Then,

Lan Yan’s singing resonated with exceptional stability and a clear underlying tone: “If fate makes you wander, if fate plays extraordinary tricks, if fate frightens you and makes life boring, don’t shed tears in sadness and don’t ever give up, I’m willing to accompany you forever!”

Fei Yang subconsciously straightened his back.

But because his right leg was on top of his left, or rather, because he was sitting in a cross-legged position, he failed to stand up at the first attempt. By this time, the song had already entered the second section of the chorus, with the same lyrics, the same vehemence, the same fullness.

His eyebrows itched a bit.

Fei Yang’s little finger touched his eyebrow, his hand trembling slightly. It was a barely noticeable tremor, but a certain emotion within him was suddenly amplified countless times—

He finally uncrossed his legs.

His body also left the chair.

At this time, “The Red Sun” had moved to the main part. The drumbeat sounded like a bullet being loaded. For some bizarre reason, Fei Yang associated it with the feeling of a handgun being placed against his forehead, which made him feel extremely uncomfortable.

Countless “♪” surrounded him.

Lan Yan’s voice, aided by these musical notes, kept penetrating Fei Yang’s mind. For a moment, Fei Yang looked somewhat dazed, as if he had lost focus all at once.



Meanwhile,

Fei Yang also faintly felt that as the song played, it seemed as if he was gradually losing something, something that was moving further and further away from him. His expression changed from relaxed to serious, and then gradually turned into astonishment.

If fate makes you wander...

If fate plays extraordinary tricks...

If fate frightens you...

During the chorus that repeated countless times, Fei Yang unexpectedly felt a sense of empathy towards the lyrics. This sense of empathy came from the ending of the first section of the chorus in the Qi language singing style, a simple phrase of five words:

“Living ain’t fun.”

Fei Yang found this very reasonable, feeling the so-called Battle of Gods to be dull. Even though the subsequent lyrics sang “Don’t shed tears in sadness, and don’t ever give up,” it still couldn’t comfort the abrupt wound in Fei Yang’s heart.

“I’m...screwed.”

Fei Yang’s face began to falter, his eyes glued to the two words behind the creation of the lyrics and music of “The Red Sun”:

Xian Yu.

Meanwhile, as Fei Yang’s mentality slightly collapsed,

Inside a room of a certain community, Chen Zhiyu casually took off his headphones, whistling while feeding his pet fish in the fish tank.

He was feeding it live food.

Several unidentified insects dropped into the fish tank. Chen Zhiyu's fish swiftly ate the nearest mealworm, as though it had tasted something delicious. Watching the tiny insect attempting to escape upstream in the tank, he flashed a smile, seemingly satisfied with his fish's appetite for the day:

“Eat.”

“Eat everything.”

Chen Zhiyu quietly cheered on his gluttonous fish: “They’re all doomed!”

Chapter 285: The End of the Gambling Dog

The same world, the same night.

As one of the recognized Maestros in the music world, the competitive Ye Zhi Qiu was also sitting in front of his computer, giving the freshly baked new season's songs he was interested in a listen—

Same as Fei Yang.

Ye Zhi Qiu first listened to Fei Yang's “New World.”

This was a song composed by Yin Dong.

The other was a Maestro like himself this season, and despite having the same title, Yin Dong always had a slightly higher reputation in the industry.

It took a few minutes.

After finishing listening to the other's song, Ye Zhi Qiu fell silent for a moment, then opened “Red Sun”.

The song that made Zheng Jing give in, it surely wouldn't disappoint me. What style would Xian Yu adopt this time?

He pondered inwardly.

The playback had already begun.

At the start, Ye Zhi Qiu's expression was clearly curious, but about ten seconds in, his eyebrows gradually furrowed, revealing deep forehead lines, and underneath his gaze seemed to carry a touch of surprise—

As the song progressed.

The surprise increased.

When he finished listening to the entire song, Ye Zhi Qiu's expression was slightly heavy, with a complex meaning. Then, thinking of something, he suddenly chuckled, took out his phone, and dialed a number.

"Hello."

A somewhat tired and clearly dissatisfied voice came from the other end.

It was none other than his old rival, Yin Dong: "What's the meaning of bothering me so late at night?"

"Have you listened to the song?"

Ye Zhi Qiu ignored his discontent.

Yin Dong's voice regained composure: "Isn't it just the same if I listen tomorrow? Or is the song you wrote better than mine this time? If that's the case, there's no need for you to show off so urgently. The score between us is twelve to five, I've beaten you twelve times."

“Now it’s thirteen to five.”

Ye Zhi Qiu said laughingly, without getting angry: “You win again, but you also lose. To be exact, we both lost.”

After saying this, Ye Zhi Qiu hung up.

He believed, the other would soon call back.

Just as Ye Zhi Qiu had anticipated.

About five minutes later, Yin Dong called back, and the first thing he said was: “I might have lost a buck.”

Ye Zhi Qiu replied unhappily: “I lost a hundred.”

Yin Dongdao: “The song is well written... Xian Yu, not bad.”

Ye Zhi Qiu took a deep breath: “Do you know how old ‘Fish’ is this year?”

“How old?”

“She hasn’t even graduated from college yet!”

“Impossible!”

Yin Dong almost subconsciously replied.

Ye Zhi Qiu shook his head: “I couldn’t believe it either, but Zheng Jing told me personally.”

As Ye Zhi Qiu finished his sentence, the line was silent, seemingly digesting this news.

After a long pause, Yin Dongdao lowered his voice, “Another Lu Sheng, eh...”

Lu Sheng, one of Blue Star’s Maestros.

Famed at a young age, became a gold medal composer at twenty-two, took twelve consecutive victories in the seasonal charts at thirty-two, becoming a Maestro and setting the record for the youngest Maestro in Blue Star. He’s recognised as a genius in the Blue Star composing world!

And now.

It seems like someone is moving in the same direction.

Ye Zhi Qiu sighed: “It’s too early to say, but he has the potential. That’s why I’m calling you so late, the younger generation is getting stronger and stronger, we old-timers have to stick together.”

“Interesting.”

Ignoring Ye Zhi Qiu’s joke, Yin Dongdao spoke with a somewhat low voice, no one knowing what he was actually thinking.

...

Maestros and Singing Kings can judge the situation of the new season from the first impression of the songs.

Perhaps some strong industry insiders can come to a similar conclusion.

But this group of people is indeed a minority.

Most people judge the situation from the leaderboard of the season.

Or maybe the attention to this season is truly too great, Qin Qi Music’s official leaderboard was released the next morning, effectively changing the leaderboard rules.

And in front of this leaderboard.

It was bound to shock countless people!

Nothing else.

Only because the current number one song on this list was the “Red Sun” written by Xian Yu and performed by Lan Yan!

Second place: “New World”

Third place: “Bloom”

Fourth place is Lonely...

Fifth place is Momo...

The rest wasn't important anymore!

Because the most unexpected situation had occurred, unexpected enough to make countless industry insiders cry out in disbelief in front of their computers:

“First place is actually ‘Red Sun’!??”

Before seeing the leaderboard, everyone instinctively assumed that the first place would be claimed by either the duo Yin Dong and Fei Yang, or the duo Ye Zhi Qiu and Haitang.

No other reasons needed.

Simply because Yin Dong and Ye Zhi Qiu were the bigshot Maestros in the circle!

So these guys' works, no matter who got the first place, wouldn't shock the industry too much.

But the result...

The one who snagged first place wasn't any of the two Maestros, but the rather under-the-radar duo Xian Yu and Lan Yan!

"Damn, a major event has occurred!"

"Are my eyes deceiving me?"

"Did Xian Yu actually beat the two Maestros?"

"I can't believe I'm witnessing the downfall of the two Maestros. Who on earth can stop 'Fish' now!?"

"The last time a Maestro failed so miserably dates back years, right...?"

"Isn't this 'Fish' overly terrifying!"

"You call this a 'fish'? This is a damn great white shark! What did I say before? Is Xian Yu one of the Maestros in disguise!"

"Pretend to be a sheep, but is actually a wolf?"

"I'm going to cry, I bet twenty grand, twenty grand, ten grand on Yin Dong-Fei Yang duo for first place, another ten grand on Ye Zhi Qiu-Haitang duo for second place, but neither of the bets won!?"

"What do you have to complain about, I bet thirty grand!"

"Thank goodness I didn't bet, but as far as I know, our manager bet over hundred grand. I don't know who he bet on, but I'm sure he didn't bet on Xian Yu..."

"What were the people who bet on Xian Yu thinking!"

“I don’t know why they bet on Xian Yu, I just know that it’s gonna be crowded on the rooftop today, gotta go, it’s almost my turn.”

“...”

This was the first time everyone in Qin Qi collectively felt the shock brought by Xian Yu since the merger.

And amidst the shock, there were countless cries of anguish, because there were so many circles involved in the December betting pool!

The industry insiders thought they knew it all,

And since they did, why not bet?

As a result of this assumed understanding and betting, things went south.

Although these guys do know a thing or two—

We can look at it this way. If you remove the song “Red Sun”, every song ranked afterwards would move up one spot on the list, with results identical to the professional predictions previously made by the industry!

Precise!

Spot-on predictions!

But with the unexpected rise of “Red Sun”, all these predictions have shifted a spot creating the “the difference of a hair’s breadth is the distance of a thousand miles” situation!

Just because they misread a single song!

So, countless punters cried to the heavens and wailed on earth!



Through one tiny misstep, they muddled through!

The first of December was not only the day when the initial results of the Battle of the Gods were revealed, but also the last day for countless betting dogs...

Chapter 286: The Will of 2

After Lin Yuan got up, he also saw the situation on the new song chart.

Seeing “Red Sun” ranked first, Lin Yuan dared not say that this was expected, but he had a pretty strong feeling this might happen.

Because Lin Yuan was previously thinking that this song should at least rank in the top three, no matter what.

But he had to admit, seeing “Red Sun” rank in first place, Lin Yuan was still a little bit heartbroken.

“If I had pushed myself harder...”

Shaking his head, Lin Yuan dismissed this thought.

Who hasn’t suffered setbacks when navigating uncharted waters?

One must be steady!

I am the steadiest!

Only after that did Lin Yuan look at “Red Sun’s” data.

He realized that the best benefit of releasing a song in December is that there’s enough attention, and as long as the quality of the work is good enough, there will be a high download volume!

Having this song rank first, only the first day started, the download volume had already exceeded three million!

In many music apps, the comment section of the song was booming:

“I generally don’t like Qi language songs, but I fell in love with ‘Red Sun’ the first time I heard it!”

“Admirable Fish is amazing! (Cracking voice——)”

“The guy above who shouted until his voice cracked, did you buy Admirable Fish at number one? I didn’t think anyone would bet on Admirable Fish in advance.”

“I regret it, I bet Admirable Fish would come second, my friends thought I was crazy, but now I think, I wasn’t crazy enough!”

“Those who lost the bet, come and listen to this song. Stay strong in your future life!”

“Damn, if not for this song, would I lose!? But... it’s indeed very nice.”

“Betting is more dangerous than brown-nosing. I’d better quietly listen to the song.”

“This song is really good, it consoled me after losing two thousand bucks. The scary thing about this song is, even though I lost half a month’s salary because of it, but in the end, I’m using this song to heal the wound...”

Seeing this comment, Lin Yuan was speechless.

Because of “Red Sun”, you lost the bet, but in the end you have to use this song to encourage yourself, preventing from going into depression?

Are you sure you don’t feel more upset every time you listen to the song?

Anyway, just thinking about it makes Lin Yuan feel a bit heartbroken.

A song that only costs a buck to download has caused many people to lose big.

However, “Red Sun” is indeed a very inspirational song, with a power that inspires people’s hearts. The original Japanese version of the song has won countless awards upon its debut, proving the strength of the song.

Not bad.

There are also formal comments in the comment section, talking about the song itself.

“I was crying while listening to this song. I failed my postgraduate entrance exam, my family and friends did not support my entrepreneurship, and at this critical moment, I just had an argument with my best friend about my job. I know that everyone who cares about me just wants me to do better, but I wish so much that they would support everything I want to do. Thank you for this song, which gave me the strength to carry on.”

“This is the first time I fell in love with a Qi language song.”

“Today looking at the chart, I realized that this song by Admirable Fish prevailed over the songs of two Maestros. It’s a miraculous double kill, but after listening to this song, I feel it thoroughly deserves this honor. Additionally, Teacher Lan Yan is worthy of being the King of Singing, I hope he can continue to collaborate with Teacher Admirable Fish.”

“Collection, download, like, triple combo.”

“I’m from the old Qi continent, and I didn’t expect much from the people of Qin Continent singing Qi language songs. However, after listening to this song, I realized that it truly carried the charm of the old Qi. Thanks to Teacher Admirable Fish for creating this song, and thanks to Lan Yan for the performance!”

“...”

Most of the comments were positive, which was worthy of the success “Red Sun” had achieved on Earth.

The power of music is very powerful. It was said that many pyramid scheme fraudsters liked to use this song to motivate their employees, just like many fraudsters love to use “A Thankful Heart” to stir up emotions.

Of course, this is not a point of criticism.

Because the song is not at fault, it's certain people. If a knife is used to commit murder, surely the knife is not to blame, right?

...

The impact after the chart announcement certainly doesn't end here.

Sand Sea Entertainment.

The company's music group.

Today seemed to be especially lively.

The source of all the excitement was Ye Zhi Qiu's third place.

Ye Zhi Qiu was originally a composer of Sand Sea, but then he switched jobs. However, the composition department of Sand Sea still had a soft spot for Ye Zhi Qiu.

“Boss is actually third!”

“We originally thought that Boss could at least get second.”

“That Fish's killing spree is really severe! He led a rookie to take on the first-tier artists, and then he took a first-tier artist to beat the King of Singing, and now he has simply taken the King of Singing to charge towards the Maestro!”

“That's just outrageous!”

“Our Boss was shoved hard from second straight to third, even though December is a battle of the gods, this result really doesn’t match Boss’s status!”

“...”

At this time, someone in the group suddenly said, “Actually, this result was destined. Boss would either be first or third, but he would never be second.”

“Why?”

Group members were all stunned.

The guy explained, “Because our King Fei, has picked up the mantle of that man!”

Group member: “...”

Who was that man?

Of course, it was the Perennial Runner-up, Chen Zhiyu!

That’s right, the words “Chen Zhiyu” were like a switch to the composition group of Sand Sea, as it revived the group countless times when it was on the brink of death.

Just by playing with Chen Zhiyu’s gags, the group chat could easily hit 99+.

Today.

Seeing this sentence, many people in the group gradually reacted and the new gag was set:

“You mean, Fei Yang has inherited the spirit of being second?”

“Hahaha, oh crap! If you hadn’t mentioned it, I wouldn’t have realized it, Fei Yang is second again?”

“Should say, because of Admirable Fish, Fei Yang got second twice.”

“Last time Admirable Fish defeated Fei Yang with Chen Zhiyu, that day many people didn’t notice that Fei Yang had become the new victim!”

“Fei Yang: The spirit of being second, I will guard!”

“Is the Perennial Runner-up contagious?”

“Puff, don’t tell me, it truly does seem like witchcraft. Its like a relay baton, Chen Zhiyu passed the second place to Fei Yang, then Fei Yang got cursed? He got second in the spotlight of December?”

“Go and check the comments in Fei Yang’s record label, I’m dying of laughter!”

“Already arranged?”

“Well done, the netizens of this age really know how to discover things.”

“I’ve seen this plotline, next comes the memes, right?”

“...”

Yes.

Because Fei Yang, having encountered Admirable Fish twice, got second both times.

And the first time Fei Yang got second, the one who defeated him was Chen Zhiyu.

The famous Perennial Runner-up!

So, when the netizens found out about this, they all went wild!

This is the power of witchcraft!

The number of comments in Fei Yang's label discussion section had exploded!

In addition.

Because Fei Yang was the King of Singing, in both fame and influence, he was far above Chen Zhiyu. Therefore, his comment section was even more bustling than when Chen Zhiyu got second!

The first comment in the hot list, had a deep meaning.

It was a series of mysterious numbers:

Chapter 287: Do You Have Wine for My Story

The top trending topic in the tribe at this moment is #FeiYangtheDualRunnerup#.

Thanks to the trending topic, my account has gained quite a few followers today and the comments are extraordinarily plentiful, except....

Fei Yang went through the comments on his tribe account with an annoyed look, a slight twitch apparent on the corner of his mouth:

"Hail to Mr. Second!"

"In the dark, there's a will of number two."

"Chen Zhiyu: Brother, I entrust my career to you."

"Admirable Fish: Don't rush, this is only the second time."

"Is King Fei about to become the new Perennial Runner-up?"

“My God, Chen Zhiyu is toxic! Last time, after winning the first place, he secretly passed the baton to King Fei, who was in second place!”

“A certain fishing rod manufacturing company: King Fei, as Chen Zhiyu’s endorsement is about to expire, after conducting a study, we believe you are the most suitable spokesperson to endorse our fishing rod!”

“...”

Fei Yang really wanted to say that this hot search was unnecessary.

At this moment.

Hidden at home, Chen Zhiyu also glanced at the comments on Fei Yang’s post and felt a surge of sympathy.

If he didn’t hold back his laughter, he might seem more sympathetic.

However, some feelings were genuinely sincere because in this world, only Chen Zhiyu could truly understand how Fei Yang was feeling at this moment.

He shook his head.

Chen Zhiyu sighed: “Cyberbullying is terrifying... luckily, I am on the delivering end of the blows.”

Oh...

He made a secondary account and painted a “2” on Fei Yang’s post.

Agent Liu Mou looked at Chen Zhiyu: “Is there really such a thing?”

“What?”



“The will of number two.”

Chen Zhiyu rolled his eyes: “Oh, come on! I’m no longer the Perennial Runner-up, so this has nothing to do with me!”

Liu Mou grinned, then reminded him: “Don’t accidentally like the post.”

“Although I really want to…”

Chen Zhiyu responded: “Aren’t there these things they say about getting their account hacked?”

Does liking from a secondary account count as a real like?

Liu Mou rolled his eyes.

Humming a tune, Chen Zhiyu continued feeding his fish.

Liu Mou asked, out of curiosity: “Tell me in secret, did you really buy it?”

Chen Zhiyu looked around and then mysteriously raised one finger.

Liu Mou got confused: “Only one thousand yuan? That’s even less than me. I bought eight thousand!”

Chen Zhiyu shook his head: “No, it’s thirty-four thousand and fifty-eight yuan. I put all my remaining balance from that card into it.”

Liu Mou looked at Chen Zhiyu as if he was an idiot: “Then why are you holding up one finger?”

He sighed.

Liu Mou once again spoke up, sounding quite upset: “Then you have lost even more than me. Hey, from now on, let’s not touch this betting thing anymore. It’s too risky; we all lost a lot.”

“Huh?”

Chen Zhiyu corrected him: “Can you leave the ‘we’ out? When I held up one finger, I meant to tell you that I bet on Admirable Fish being number one.”

Liu Mou: “...”

Chen Zhiyu, who was still playing with the fish, continued: “I wanted to buy Fei Yang’s at first, but suddenly I remembered the previous events. I felt a mysterious chill run down my spine, so I chose to bet on Teacher Admirable Fish.”

Liu Mou did not want to talk with Chen Zhiyu anymore.

After a while, agent Liu Mou looked at the fish in the tank and finally asked again: “These fish are actually well-cared for by you. I plan to raise fish too, anything I should take note of?”

“There are loads.”

Chen Zhiyu skillfully responded: “First and foremost is maintaining the water quality. If the water quality is poor, the fish will get sick, so it’s essential to learn how to change the water regularly. Ideally, water should be changed once a week, each time replacing a quarter of the water. The best water to use is aged water. If you’re unable to age the water, make sure to oxygenate the water for two hours, or use a water purifier. As for my dragon fish here, it’s important to learn how to enhance their color, which is related to feeding. Also, the water temperature in the tank should be maintained between twenty-four to twenty-eight degrees for the optimal growth of the dragon fish...”

Liu Mou looked at Chen Zhiyu, who was speaking confidently, with a strange expression.

If it wasn’t known otherwise, anyone would think that Chen Zhiyu was an expert in fish farming, not a top-tier singer.

All of a sudden, he asked, “Zhiyu, why do you know so much about fish?”

“...”

Chen Zhiyu suddenly fell silent.

I have a story. Do you have wine?

...

Partly to celebrate “Red Sun” topping the season chart, Lin Yuan invited his agent, Jin Mu, to a hot pot dinner at Sun Yaohuo’s restaurant.

The Flame Hot Pot Restaurant.

Early on, Sun Yaohuo was waiting at the door. As soon as he saw Lin Yuan get out of the car, he ran over, “Junior, the private room is ready. Also, I brought in some fresh ingredients for you to try!”

“Thank you, senior.”

Lin Yuan then introduced Jin Mu to Sun Yaohuo, “Uncle Jin is my agent. You guys should get to know each other.”

“Nice to meet you, Uncle Jin!”

Sun Yaohuo greeted him with a smile, “Since you’re junior’s guy, I’ll get you a membership in return. You can come here at a 50% discount.”

“Thank you!”

Jin Mu felt flattered.

Soon, they all walked into the hotpot restaurant. Once inside, Jin Mu was a bit surprised, “The business at Mr. Sun’s hotpot restaurant is doing really well!”

That’s no exaggeration.

The Flame Hot Pot Restaurant was full. The staff was busy shuttling back and forth, clearly overwhelmed. The business was booming!

Moreover.

At the entrance of the restaurant, there was a long queue of people waiting, each holding a number for their turn to be seated.

Jin Mu has been to many hot pot places.

It's the first time he has seen such a lively hot pot restaurant. A hot pot restaurant like this is definitely making a fortune every day.

"It's because we have a 70% discount today!"

Sun Yaohuo smiled, "Although business is usually good, I announced on my Weibo that if junior's song got first place, my hotpot restaurant would offer a 70% discount, which led to countless people asking me for the restaurant's location. I'm too overwhelmed with customers and we'll definitely have to remain open overnight, until tomorrow."

Speaking of which.

Sun Yaohuo's business acumen wasn't something intentional. He just wanted to give Lin Yuan a lucky charm. Even though Lin Yuan's song wasn't sung by Sun Yaohuo himself, but because he has a strong affection towards him, his support is genuine.

But what Sun Yaohuo didn't expect was...

Because of the charm, his hotpot restaurant gained immense popularity. Even people from other cities drove to Su City to eat hot pot!

In addition.

Several businessmen came to collaborate and invested in his restaurant to expand Flame Hot Pot as a brand. However, Sun Yaohuo turned them down.

The hot pot restaurant belonged to his junior.

If people invested in the restaurant and Lin Yuan wasn't happy with it, or if the shareholders didn't treat Lin Yuan well that would be really unseemly.

He mustn't forget his original intentions!

Though, seeing the business getting better and better, and many people liking the taste, Sun Yaohuo already has a follow-up plan.

He opened his mouth and said,

"I plan to acquire the hot pot restaurant near our company and change it to the Flame Hot Pot flavor. There are a few more shops there, I plan to buy them as well and offer something different. Always eating hotpot gets boring, right? This also has to do with me making some money recently. Haha, no one dares to play as ruthlessly as I do! What does the Maestro know about it!"

Jin Mu: "..."

Seeing Sun Yaohuo's crazed face, Jin Mu suddenly felt a chill, realizing that this man was not ordinary!

How much must he have staked on this?

But indeed, the hot pot restaurant is well-managed, which leads Jin Mu to admire it. He then couldn't resist asking, "Mr. Sun, how many years have you been in the catering business? You indeed are a natural-born catering king!"

"Huh?"

Upon hearing this, Sun Yaohuo looked at Jin Mu, then at the smiling Lin Yuan. He suddenly felt misunderstood. "Actually, I'm a singer."

## Chapter 288: Xian Yu's Identity First Revealed

In the following days, “Red Sun” continued to hold the number one spot on the December new song chart. There was no sign of it being overtaken, it was actually the songs of the second and third place maestros that were stuck in a rotation for a period of time—

Both maestros were giving it their all.

However, by the middle of December, the situation on the new song chart had become completely clear.

The final second place was secured by Fei Yang.

This led people both inside and outside the industry to exclaim the same phrase, “That man truly carries on the will of the number two spot.”

Of course, this was all in jest.

Despite the jokes, the significance of Xian Yu's championship song ruling over this year's God of Music competition is impossible to overlook.

Some believe that this first place finish indicates that Xian Yu is ready to challenge the maestro's position...

Others feel this number one title signifies that Xian Yu is capable of taking on the title of “Junior Maestro”.

The so-called “Junior Maestro” was initially just an internal nickname within Starlight.

After all, Xian Yu's position and treatment within the company was the same as that of other leading composers.

Not many industry figures would agree with this label, only referring to it occasionally in jest.

But now, with Xian Yu's double victory over the two maestros, the title "Junior Maestro" is truly fitting!

There's a unanimous agreement within the industry!

Of course, no one truly regards Xian Yu as the new maestro yet, even though he defeated Yin Dong and Ye Zhi Qiu in this season.

After all, the Maestro represents the pinnacle of the pyramid.

Though these leading composers rarely fail, they are not invincible, they can occasionally be beaten by top-tier composers. Such instances have happened before, but they are infrequent...

It's just like the top talents in various fields.

These top talents in various fields are not undefeated, but their overall win rate is unmatched, and even a rare defeat does not diminish their caliber and strength.

Take the prime Faker as an example.

Faker in his prime was unquestionably the world's number one midfielder, a god in the hearts of many. But he also occasionally lost to opponents, such instances occurring a few times did not affect his status at the time, nobody dared claim that by defeating Faker once they were superior...

The same goes for composing.

This is a unique field that tests a composer's relevant abilities and inspiration.

A capable top-tier composer, when graced with a wonderful inspiration, does have a chance to defeat the maestro.

Just like a rookie composer, under the influence of inspiration, can occasionally cause a top-tier composer to stumble.

It is just a matter of difficulty level and probability.

So Xian Yu is still a “Junior Maestro”.

As for the significance of the “junior” title, it’s actually related to some rumours within the industry.

“I heard that Xian Yu is very young, and he’s still a college student.”

“That’s ridiculous, it’s impossible for a college student.”

“I once saw Xian Yu from a distance, he didn’t look older than twenty.”

“I’ve heard from my friend too, that he is really young. My friend used to work on the ‘Flirting Scholar’ crew, Xian Yu was the screenplay writer for that film.”

“Really? Does he have a baby face? I thought Xian Yu would be at least thirty years old.”

“My friend dined with Xian Yu, and Xian Yu once said at the dinner table: He will become a maestro within five years!”

“My uncle’s aunt’s neighbor’s nephew said that Xian Yu always ponders about music composition when walking, so he frequently bumps into telegraph poles. That’s why he, despite his young age, became the Junior Maestro.”

“...”

Various rumours, some true, some not, were difficult to distinguish, but under the aggregation of various rumours, one consistent thread emerged:

Xian Yu is a young man.

As to how young, the public doesn’t have a direct concept.



Although Lin Yuan used Xian Yu as a public identity, he never made it official. It was just that he inevitably interacted with various people on set or within the company, and thus rumors started flying.

In the absence of strict prohibitions, these rumors were uncontrollable.

Nevertheless, many people still harbored doubts.

At this moment,

A curious person collated all the different clues and dug deeper into Xian Yu's profile, eventually landing on the account of Sun Yaohuo's Tribe.

Before December,

When Xian Yu's "Red Sun" was about to be released, many singers who had collaborated with Xian Yu showed their support for him on the Tribe.

One of them was Sun Yaohuo.

Sun Yaohuo himself was nothing special, not many people paid attention to him, of real interest was Sun Yaohuo's address for Xian Yu:

"Junior!"

It is known that Sun Yaohuo, an ordinary singer, is a graduate of the Qin Continent Art Academy. His personal data are very transparent due to low fire of his songs, although Sun's songs were quite popular.

Xian Yu is his junior...

Does that mean Xian Yu is a Qin Art's student?

Considering which year Sun Yaohuo graduated, Xian Yu's identity was suddenly narrowed down to a smaller range, then an astonishing fact was about to come out:

Xian Yu might have just graduated!

He may even have not officially graduated from Qin Art as a student!

After all, Sun Yaohuo is not someone who graduated many years ago.

This is somewhat horrifying!

Could it be that the gold-tier composer who has gained prominence in recent years, debuted spectacularly, and at the same time defeated two maestros, achieving a double victory, is this young?

Amidst the plethora of rumors,

The industry insiders, who had always been skeptical of the news that Xian Yu was very young, were taken aback by this revelation causing a wave of astonishment to ripple out:

“Is this for real?”

“Are you sure there's no mistake?”

“So-called ‘junior’, could it just be some sort of nickname?”

“So Xian Yu is someone who's just graduated, or perhaps hasn't even graduated from university?”

“Xian Yu is too much of a monster then!?”

“Even though Qin Province is universally recognised by Blue Star as the ‘Land of Music’, I've never heard of a genius reaching such a level of composition during university!”

“...”

It's not just the industry insiders.

Even netizens who know a bit about Xian Yu are kicking up a fuss.

Even if they don't have as clear a concept as industry insiders, they also know if Xian Yu is a university student, that's a big deal!

It's simple.

Just compare Xian Yu's current achievements with what they remember doing in university...

Chaotic!

The scale of the discussion is getting lively, with countless netizens asking those who have interacted with Xian Yu for verification.

Of course, the comments section of Xian Yu and the likes of Chu Kuang couldn't escape either.

The related singers and some of those affected quickly contacted Lin Yuan personally, asking how to handle the situation.

Sun Yaohuo was of course one of the first to contact Lin Yuan, apologising for his oversight in addressing him.

He was one of the sources of the clues, so he was somewhat panicked, fearing that this would upset Lin Yuan. After all, his junior did mention before that his identity had to be kept secret.

“Don't worry.”

Instead, Lin Yuan reassured Senior Yao Huo: “Anyway, many people already know. This identity will be revealed sooner or later.”

Lin Yuan wasn't really angry.

Chu Kuang and Shadow could remain anonymous because they didn't need to interact with others.

As for the identity of Xian Yu, as a composer, he would interact with singers and some related staff.

As a screenwriter, he would need to be present on set with a crew of hundreds.

How could this be kept secret?

It was just a matter of time before he was found out.

It wasn't the whole truth anyway.

Outsiders had only roughly confirmed Xian Yu's age.

If there was anything unexpected, it was probably that the professor from the composition department contacted Lin Yuan to inquire if he could provide a response.

Only then did Lin Yuan know that the university already knew of his identity.

He wasn't too surprised.

Lin Yuan agreed to the university's decision.

The decision wouldn't fully expose Lin Yuan.

Because the university's response was simple:

"The rumors on the internet are true, Xian Yu is indeed from our institution. However, as an institution, we have the responsibility to protect the privacy of our students. We can't reveal more details, and we hope that outside parties can give the people behind the scenes some space and distance. Please respect Xian Yu's wishes and refrain from prying."

The response was rather official.

While acknowledging the fact that Xian Yu is a student of Qin Arts on the one hand, the school did not publicly disclose Xian Yu's information.

But this was enough to satisfy the curiosity of the public and give answers to many industry insiders, even though the answer was quite shocking:

“So... Xian Yu is really a university student?”

“Before the official statement from Qin Arts, even though the evidence was solid, I still had some doubts... Isn't he too young?”

“I thought of someone...”

“I know, you're talking about Wonder Lu, right? He also demonstrated amazing composition talent at a young age. He became Maestro in his thirties! But even Lu Sheng's performance during university couldn't compare to Xian Yu's...”

Lu Sheng, the Maestro of Blue Star.

But inside the circle, people prefer to call him “Wonder Lu.”

Just like Ye Zhi Qiu is also called “Old Master”.

Before Xian Yu, Lu Sheng was considered the number one genius in composition!

But after Xian Yu came along, it seems like the title of number one genius may need to be passed on.

“Could Xian Yu become a Maestro earlier than Wonder Lu?”

“You know what, it could actually happen!”

“Wonder Lu was considered a Maestro only after he published the song ‘Deep Blue’ at the age of thirty. I wonder when Xian Yu will release a truly universally recognised masterpiece...”

“I always thought that Xian Yu was at least in his thirties!”

“He really is a junior Maestro! I can’t believe Xian Yu is so young!”

“...”

This is yet another shock Xian Yu has given to the industry after winning the championship title in December with “Red Sun”.

However, the university’s statement did achieve a certain effect of drawing back in order to advance.

Appeals for protecting Xian Yu’s personal information truly emerged on the internet. With the first exposure of his university student status, there were fewer who continued to dig deeper into Xian Yu’s information.

After all...

The mere news that Xian Yu is a university student was enough for both the industry and the public to digest.

In addition.

Lin Yuan also responded using Xian Yu’s account, providing a summary to this semi-exposure of identity incident. He quoted a line from Mr. Qian Zhongshu:

“If you’ve tasted an egg and found it good, you don’t necessarily need to meet the hen that laid it, do you?”

Chapter 289: Cultivating a Top Singer

When the person in question responded, it attracted the attention of everyone following this matter, and the comments on this post exploded right away:

“Nonsense, you’re clearly a rooster!”

Compared to the university student identity revealed today, the clue that Xian Yu is male was already disclosed by “Shadow”.

“Damn, I’m also a student from the composition department of Qin Art, just graduated this year, I didn’t expect Xian Yu to be my junior, and probably even younger than me! So when I’m out there looking for a job, Xian Yu has already battled with Maestro for 300 rounds? I’ve let the alma mater down!”

“I’m willing to call Brother Xian Yu the most terrifying composition prodigy in Blue Star history! He is even on par with Wonder Lu!”

“Teacher Admirable Fish is so low-key!”

“It seems even if you truly become a Maestro, you could only be Maestro Junior, none could be younger than you...”

“Oh, are you implying that Teacher Admirable Fish is short and small?”

“You’re clearly a fish, why pretend to be an old hen?”

“In an era where the words ‘genius’ are overused to the point of being cheap, we never expected to actually encounter a real genius!”

“I had imagined Teacher Admirable Fish as a mature uncle in his thirties or forties, surprisingly turned out to be a college student... But come to think of it, it’s quite refreshing?”

“Pfft, Xian Yu’s statement is rich with wisdom!”

“This statement is quite clever indeed!”

“...”

Because of Lin Yuan's classic phrase, many netizens started imitating it.

For instance, a netizen with the name “Jun v Chen” said:

“I got a girlfriend who smells nice, why should I know her boyfriend?”

And another netizen named “Big Boss” said:

“If you grab a red envelope and feel good about it, why do you need to know the person who sent it?”

All sorts of trendy jokes appeared one after another.

But the discussion on Tribe is just the tip of the iceberg.

After the official statement from Qin Art, the most bustling place wasn't Tribe, but the internal forum of Qin Art Academy!

“Turns out Xian Yu is our alumni!?”

“Could it be that the Maestro Junior we've been bragging about all this time is actually among us?!”

“Quickly, go check out who the excellent students in the composition department are. Teacher Admirable Fish must be hiding among them!”

“I'm finished, I'm in the composition department and now I feel everyone looks like Xian Yu...”

“Haven't you noticed? Now the entire school is discussing who Xian Yu is!”



“Just now someone asked if the sophomore who is first in the composition department is Xian Yu, the guy was so ecstatic he jumped onto his chair. Handled it carelessly and almost broke a bone when he fell down...”

“How thrilled one must be if mistaken as Xian Yu.”

“...”

It is indeed so.

Following the university’s official statement, a lot of students wandered all over the school, looking for Fish, as if they would recognize Fish at sight.

Some students, while having their meals in the canteen, were looking around, wondering if Xian Yu was also eating in the same canteen.

What’s even funnier...

The fish in the school canteen seemed to be selling better than before, for no visible reason, as it was rumored in the composition department that eating fish could enhance the talent and ability of a composer?

Unfortunately, these people wouldn’t be able to find out.

In such a large campus, who knows where the Fish is hiding?

Moreover, this Fish barely attends school...

At that moment, Lin Yuan was busy filming with the drama crew.

...

As the in-trend Teacher Admirable Fish, Lin Yuan's daily life on set remained as it had been, which was nothing more than checking the filming status and making time to teach composition to Feng Shuo, who came daily for lessons.

At this moment.

The filming for "The Tuner", which had been going on for nearly three months, was about to wrap up.

It wasn't a deliberate rush to finish before the New Year. A film with low cost and not a large scale could be filmed in a shorter time.

If things go smoothly, there's no problem with wrapping up the entire film in around three months.

After hanging around the set for a few more days, Lin Yuan felt like he wasn't really needed, so he made another trip to the company.

"Mr. Lin..."

"Mr. Lin..."

In the ninth floor composition department.

Seeing Lin Yuan, people below greeted him one after another, their eyes filled with reverence, and their attitudes seemed to have changed compared to before.

This was related to Lin Yuan defeating two Maestros in December.

The composition department of Starlight consisted of several floors, with each floor having a representative who was a resident composer in the industry, except for the ninth-floor representative Lin Yuan, who wasn't a Maestro.

This was quite special.

Furthermore, given Lin Yuan's age, as the youngest among the representatives, made the composers working on the ninth floor feel somewhat awkward.

Sometimes, composers from other departments would spread unpleasant rumors, which vexed and irritated the ninth-floor composers.

But it was different now.

Following Lin Yuan's victory over two Maestros, even if the representatives of other floors were Maestros, they wouldn't dare gossip about the ninth floor.

What's a Maestro anyway?

Admirable Fish has defeated two Maestros, proved his genius, showing that Mr. Lin deserves this position!

Moreover, company rumors have it that originally, it should have been Teacher Zheng Jing from the Tenth Floor, who was supposed to write songs for Lan Yan, however, as the songs from Teacher Admirable Fish were more excellent this time, that's why his songs were used...

This gave the other floors even less room to talk.

However, Lin Yuan didn't care about this. Not long after he entered the office, Wu Yong came over.

"Mr. Lin!"

With a full smile on his face, Wu Yong walked in: "It's confirmed that this year's Spring Festival Gala, Teacher Lan Yan will be performing 'Red Sun'. He's already rehearsing now."

"Hmm."

"Additionally, I need to report some situation to you. The year is anyhow ending, so the company has already made some arrangements regarding next year's plans. Minor alterations have been made in our work style. The idea from above is that each composing floor should choose two singers for concentrated training. These singers should be non-top tier talents, as the market has changed a lot

after the merger with Qin Art. A lot of singers have lost their initial dominance in the music industry. We need to launch some fresh faces. They're specifically requiring....."

Wu Yong explained the situation to Lin Yuan.

In essence, the company's five composing floors should each select two representative singers for cultivation, with the aim of nurturing them into top-tier talents!

It must be one male and one female.

The choices between departments should not overlap.

The timeframe runs until the end of next year.

By that time, the higher-ups will summarize the department's training results for each singer.

This is linked to department performance.

If the results of the singer training are poor, the performance standards won't be met.

And for each floor, performance is directly related to resource allocation, so every department is cautious about their singer selection.

He confirmed Lin Yuan's understanding.

Only then did Wu Yong continue, "So, I wanted to ask Mr. Lin if there are any preferred candidates. We need to make our move soon, or else all the suitable individuals will be monopolized by the other floors. For instance, several floors are eyeing Zhao Yin Ge among the female singers because her fame is high. The feedback for all the songs that she has released so far has been good, and hence, promoting her would be relatively simple. There are also two singers similar to Zhao Yin Ge, and I have marked them out on this list."

Lin Yuan asked, "List?"

Wu Yong laughed and answered, “The so-called list refers to the range of singers we can choose from. I have already sent it to you. You can take a look. The ones I have marked in red are all high-quality candidates, while the yellow color is the second choice. Only if there are no other options, we may need to fall back on the black color.”

“Hmm, let me take a look.”

Lin Yuan opened his computer and looked at the list Wu Yong sent. As expected, it contained non-top-tier singers, and there were no Kings of Singing. Among the names, Zhao Yin Ge and a few other names were marked in red, indicating that they had the best foundational skills and were the easiest to train.

There were many more options in yellow, a total of seven to eight names.

The rest were all marked in black, being the most numerous ones.

Wu Yong reminded him, “Among female singers, Zhao Yin Ge is the top choice. For male singers, I recommend Shang Boyue as my first choice. Having debuted for three years already, Shang Boyue already has considerable influence in the industry. However, Shang Boyue is highly competitive. It’s also acceptable to choose Huang Xuanyuan, and if worse comes to worst...”

“Hmm.”

Lin Yuan responded casually while looking at the list and specifically searching for a name. He had his own target in mind.

Soon enough, Lin Yuan found the name “Sun Yaohuo” among the black entries.

The name was not highlighted, making it a bit hard to find, but all Lin Yuan needed was to confirm that his name was on the list.

“It’s definite that I have to partner with Senior Yao Huo...”

Without any hesitation, Lin Yuan promptly wrote down Sun Yaohuo’s name.

Once he confirmed the male singer's choice, he then looked at the name Zhao Yin Ge, with a little hesitation.

He began writing down but paused midway.

“Is Zhao Yin Ge considered a small singer?”

He looked up at Wu Yong.

According to Lin Yuan's contract, if he teams up with a small singer, he gets a higher share. It could be directly settled by himself.

“Not at all!”

Wu Yong, oblivious to Lin Yuan's intentions, made a vigorous effort to upraise Zhao Yin Ge's status: “The names in red are not small singers. Zhao Yin Ge is the most promising one in the company to become a top-tier singer. She is a budding star that every department wants on their team. Moreover, she already has a collaborative foundation with you. Her debut song ‘Easy to Ignite and Explode’ was composed by you...”

“I understand.”

Lin Yuan spoke out, crossing off Zhao Ying Ge's name.

Wu Yong was delighted. From his position, he was unable to see Lin Yuan's choice. However, from his guess, once he made the statement, Mr. Lin would surely start taking Zhao Ying Ge more seriously!

Lin Yuan didn't speak, as he was in the middle of a thought process.

If he wasn't choosing Zhao Ying Ge, then who should he pick as the female singer?

Lin Yuan was inclined to select a female singer with whom he was more familiar and also competent enough.

Right then.

He noticed “Jiang Kui” among the yellow names.

Jiang Kui was highlighted in yellow.

Jiang Kui’s interpretation of ‘Balloon’ was quite good.

More importantly, Jiang Kui could tackle ‘Big Fish’ very well.

The most important point is...

Uh huh, there was no hesitation this time.

Lin Yuan directly wrote down Jiang Kui’s name.

“I have made my choice.”

He voiced out.

Wu Yong displayed an expectant smile, “Mr. Lin, who are the two you have chosen? I will go and talk to them.”

Lin Yuan replied, “Sun Yaohuo, Jiang Kui.”

Wu Yong: “...”

His smile instantly froze on his face.

Chapter 290: Standard of a Tool Man

“Any issues?”

Lin Yuan looked at Wu Yong.

“What the hell with Sun Yaohuo and Jiang Kui! Especially Sun Yaohuo!”

This was Wu Yong’s internal outcry.

But he dared not say it.

He simply tried to maintain a rigid smile, looking at Lin Yuan and said:

“Mr. Lin, let me analyze the situation for you. The company’s task is to push out two A-list singers. If we choose singers like Zhao Ying Ge, whose momentum has been very good in recent years and are well-known to the public, we can easily push them into the A-list category. However, if you choose to cooperate with singers who are not as popular, we will have to work much harder. If we don’t meet the quota, we’ll bear the consequences, which will affect our department’s performance next year...”

He didn’t understand.

Wu Yong really didn’t understand.

If Jiang Kui was a surprise, then picking Sun Yaohuo was downright shocking!

Wu Yong had to spend a few seconds in deep thought before he could recall the image of the singer in his mind!

Such a big surprise!!

Even compared to Jiang Kui, Sun Yaohuo is still a long way off from becoming a top-tier artist!

Raising Sun Yaohuo to the A-list?

Was this adding difficulty to the game?



This singer doesn't particularly stand out.

He's not particularly handsome nor ugly, tall nor short. In short, he's very ordinary with no distinguishing features.

His voice is nice enough, not repulsive to the ears.

But when did "not being repulsive" become a standard for a good singer?

Even though he worked with Lin Yuan twice and both performances were good, the songs were more popular than the singer –

This was a strange situation, hard to explain.

Some singers just find themselves in this situation.

The song might be well-known, and everyone likes it, but the public just don't really care who the singer is.

Just like the "old hen theory" Lin Yuan mentioned on his Tribe, which proved to be quite popular.

Sun Yaohuo was the type of "old hen" that could lay eggs – eggs that tasted fine – yet the public didn't really care to know him.

Promoting such a singer would be much more difficult and costly than choosing singers like Zhao Ying Ge.

Every floor of the composition department had their preferred choices, but Zhao Ying Ge was essentially the main choice.

Wu Yong was sure of it!

No floor would have Sun Yaohuo on their list of candidates.

Moreover, there was another problem with Sun Yaohuo...

Only the songs Sun Yaohuo collaborated with Mr. Lin on became popular!

And only the songs were popular, not the singer!

His collaboration with other composers was average and reaction was mediocre.

Seeing that Lin Yuan had no reaction, Wu Yong boldly said, "Could we reconsider Sun Yaohuo? We can work with him, but is it a bit... for us to focus on cultivating him?"

"It's him."

Lin Yuan insisted.

He had always wanted to collaborate with senior Sun Yao Huo again, but due to a series of unfortunate events, it didn't happen.

Senior Yao Huo had a dream of being a musician.

When he heard Senior Yao Huo refer to himself as a singer at the hot pot restaurant last time, Lin Yuan felt a pang in his heart.

He didn't know what moved him, but he made a decision to again work with senior Yao Huo.

"Alright."

After all, Mr. Lin had the final say in each of the composition floors, and Wu Yong naturally would not argue with him over this.

"What about Jiang Kui?"

Wu Yong sighed, "Why not choose Zhao Ying Ge?"

Lin Yuan said, “Both of them are good.”

Wu Yong helplessly said, “Since both are good, I still think we should focus on training the most promising one. Zhao Ying Ge has an inherent advantage as she came from a talent show. ‘Bloom’ has a good viewer base, and Zhao Ying Ge has worked with you before, so she should prefer working with our department...”

Seeing that Lin Yuan still remained silent...

Wu Yong could only say, “Actually, Jiang Kui was also within my considerations, but she was only my third choice.”

“Who’s the second choice?”

“Xia Fan.”

Lin Yuan paused for a moment, then shook his head.

Of course he saw Xia Fan on the list. Her name was in yellow.

But it wasn’t that he didn’t want to choose Xia Fan, it’s just that she had told him a while ago that she wanted to venture out on her own.

Lin Yuan didn’t understand Xia Fan’s rationale, but he supported her.

Therefore, he chose Jiang Kui.

Seeing Wu Yong’s confused face, Lin Yuan explained, “Jiang Kui has a better cost-effectiveness.”

The basis for Lin Yuan’s judgment was:

Jiang Kui took less commission than Zhao Ying Ge, but her singing skills were not weaker than Zhao Ying Ge’s. If that was the case, why not choose Jiang Kui?

Regarding the basis:

Lin Yuan believed that as long as the song is good, they could promote the singer with one song or two. With an entire year ahead, they would be able to push someone forward.

Others might have reservations about writing, but Lin Yuan didn't.

Upon hearing this, Wu Yong's eyes widened.

Cost-effectiveness!?

This was certainly not a new term.

Many composers would mention "cost-effectiveness" when discussing singers privately.

But mentioning "cost-effectiveness" typically implied that the singer is a tool!

Only when choosing a tool would a composer consider cost-effectiveness.

When cooperating with top-notch singers, this idea of 'tools' didn't apply.

But this time, the company's task was to cultivate A-list talent!

Who would use the criteria for choosing tools to select the key talents to cultivate?

This isn't a beginner's game!

Wu Yong looked distressed and said, "The selection is for improving our performance. Can choosing these two people, especially Sun Yaohuo, help us reach our performance goal?"

"I'll do it."

Lin Yuan interrupted.

Wu Yong seemed much more at ease, and asked unsurely, “Will Mr. Lin get personally involved?”

He subconsciously dismissed the fact:

Mr. Lin is a highly productive composer!

While other departments band together to write songs, in the ninth floor composition department, Mr. Lin enjoyed getting personally involved!

If Mr. Lin agrees to compose, the lack of a good foundation doesn’t really matter...

And besides, the company’s requirements are quite high.

Wu Yong was confident that although other departments also have two choices, it will be enough if they can develop one A-list singer.

Becoming an A-list isn’t easy after all.

If Mr. Lin puts in more effort to support Jiang Kui, they should meet their target performance. Whether Sun Yaohuo qualifies isn’t the main issue.

Finally realizing this,

Wu Yong felt completely reassured. He nodded seriously and said,

“That’s all then.”