

## **Imitator 21**

### Chapter 21: Bluffing

Accumulated quite a bit of character?

Luck turning around?

Lu Xinyi felt somewhat amused and further confirmed her suspicions.

Unlike the other three conservative players in Community 17, Lin Sizhi should be a gambler who likes to go all-in.

Most likely, he had just gotten a taste of success in gambling against the chip exchange machine, got carried away, and then lost many consecutive rounds.

Many gamblers always have strange obsessions with luck, such as believing that after losing a lot, they're bound to win big next.

But real-world probability doesn't have a pity system like gacha games.

However, Lu Xinyi wasn't so easily convinced.

Whether he was a real gambler or pretending to be one would ultimately be judged through his betting behaviors of raising, calling, and folding in the gambling rounds.

A gambler's actions can only reveal their true intentions when paired with chip values.

The game began.

Everyone put out 1000 chips, throwing them into the betting area on the gambling table.

The mechanical arm, just like before, took out a new deck of cards, shuffled them randomly, then dealt them in order.

Lu Xinyi was the dealer, with Lü Mingxuan still to her right.

"Fold."

Lü Mingxuan directly threw down his cards.

The four people from Community 3 had developed good coordination. Lü Mingxuan's action indicated his hand wasn't very strong, leaving it to his two other teammates to raise.

Lin Sizhi's turn.

He carefully spread apart his overlapping cards and took a quick glance.

Then, he silently threw four 1000-point chips onto the table.

"Raise."

After speaking, Lin Sizhi stared at Lu Xinyi with a calm expression, the corners of his mouth slightly upturned.

Lu Xinyi's eyebrows raised slightly.

Starting with a direct raise to 4000 points meant that Lin Sizhi and Jiang He were definitely not the same type of player.

He really did seem more like a gambler who enjoyed going all-in.

But the question was, did Lin Sizhi actually have a very strong hand, or was he bluffing?

Many experienced gamblers were skilled at this: having a weak hand but using excellent acting and manipulation to make opponents think their hand was strong, forcing them to fold.

It had to be said that Lin Sizhi's acting was much better than Jiang He's. Lu Xinyi couldn't see through him for a moment.

But Lu Xinyi noticed that Lin Sizhi's hands were clasped together, seemingly trembling slightly in an almost imperceptible way.

Was this also part of his act?

Lu Xinyi's mind raced.

Qin Yao chose to fold, which was normal since calling at this point would require adding 4000 chips at once.

Lu Xinyi knew that even if Qin Yao had exchanged blood for chips, she probably wouldn't have exchanged too much. At most, she'd have around 30,000 chips on hand. With bad cards, there was no need to force a call.

Lu Xinyi's gaze swept across the faces of the other three from Community 3.

Obviously, all three of their hands weren't very strong, their expressions showing hesitation.

"You should all fold."

Lu Xinyi picked up four 1000 chips from her chip pile one by one, "I have to admit, your skill level is indeed much higher than that foolish girl before, and you're much bolder too.

"I really can't tell whether you actually have a strong hand or are bluffing.

"But unfortunately, you should have come for the previous game.

"Because now my chip pool is much larger than yours, and I can call you many times without any psychological burden.

"I bet that you don't have a strong hand.

"Call."

Lin Sizhi's expression stiffened, and his fingers unconsciously tightened.

One person raised, one person called, cards were automatically revealed.

Lin Sizhi silently flipped over his cards.

Three of Hearts, Seven of Clubs, Five of Hearts.

Lu Xinyi's mouth curled up slightly as she revealed her hand, "I have Ace-high with mixed suits here. Thanks."

Watching the mechanical arm sweep all the chips on the table to Lu Xinyi, Qin Yao also seemed to become nervous.

Obviously, having the first round's bluff exposed was very disadvantageous for the next few rounds.

The psychological pressure both sides faced wasn't on the same level at all.

Lin Sizhi seemed to quickly adjust, forcing a smile, "It's just one game. Winning and losing are common at the gambling table. Let's continue."

Second round, Lu Xinyi was the dealer.

Lü Mingxuan raised 1000, it looked like his hand was good this time.

Lin Sizhi carefully looked at his cards. This time his thinking time was obviously longer than the previous round.

After a moment, he pulled out four 1000 chips from his pocket again.

"Raise."

Lu Xinyi was somewhat surprised, because it was rare to see someone continue bluffing in the round immediately after being caught bluffing in the previous round.

Perhaps Lin Sizhi's cards were really good this time?

But it was also possible he was using this "hiding in plain sight" psychology in reverse.

Lu Xinyi looked at her own hand. Unfortunately, this time her hand was very poor, just Seven-high with mixed suits.

In this situation, even if Lin Sizhi was really bluffing, she would have difficulty catching him.

Not only that, but Qin Yao on Lin Sizhi's right also took out a handful of chips from her pocket, counted out 5000, and gently placed them in the betting area.

"I'm raising too."

The large pile of chips in the betting area instantly made the atmosphere tense.

Lu Xinyi stared at Qin Yao, trying to find some clues from her micro-expressions, but found nothing.

From Qin Yao's expression, she was indeed very nervous, but the problem was that this time she wasn't playing with Jiang He, but with Lin Sizhi.

Lu Xinyi knew that before coming, Lin Sizhi must have taught Qin Yao some basic coordination tactics.

So Lu Xinyi couldn't distinguish whether Qin Yao's current nervous expression stemmed from bluffing or from inner anxiety about some special plan.

"Double bluff?"

"But from the chip amount, it looks more like Qin Yao really got a strong hand..."

Lu Xinyi knew Qin Yao wouldn't have too many chips on hand. Even if she exchanged blood for chips, it would be at most just over 30,000.

Betting 5000 chips at once was definitely not a small amount.

It seemed Qin Yao's hand should be pretty good.

But Lu Xinyi also couldn't rule out the possibility that both were bluffing. This round had to be played to the showdown, otherwise this mystery would never be solved.

But to reach a showdown, just calling wasn't enough.

Because Lin Sizhi and Qin Yao raising together was meant to push the chips infinitely higher.

If Lu Xinyi called this round, then Lin Sizhi and Qin Yao would keep raising the chips to eight thousand or even ten thousand.

Just like Lu Xinyi and Lü Mingxuan's previous strategy.

Spending such a high cost to see the cards wouldn't be worth it.

However, Lu Xinyi wasn't panicked because she had other methods.

The young man to Qin Yao's right had already chosen to fold. With a weak hand, 5000 chips exceeded his tolerance.

After thinking for a moment, Lu Xinyi gave instructions to the next player, the lady sitting to her left.

"Sister Liu, you follow this hand to the end."

Sister Liu was stunned, wanting to explain again that her hand was really very weak.

But Lu Xinyi shook her head slightly, signaling her not to say more.

Sister Liu could only look down at her meager chips, "Alright then."

She had the worst luck among the four from Community 3. In the previous game with Jiang He, she had lost more than won, now only having 7000 chips left.

Of course, most of her chips had been won by Lu Xinyi and Lü Mingxuan.

All four from Community 3 had poor hands, but at least one person had to call to see the cards.

The person with more chips faced greater risk following to the end. On the contrary, someone like Sister Liu with fewer chips, following to the end and going all-in would at most lose 7000 chips.

From a chip quantity perspective, it was the optimal solution.

Sister Liu put out 5000 chips to call.

When it came to Lu Xinyi and Lü Mingxuan's turn, both chose to fold.

Lü Mingxuan's hand was decent, but this round's chip amount somewhat exceeded his tolerance.

Their backbone was Lu Xinyi. Since Lu Xinyi needed to observe more before giving clear instructions, for safety's sake, Lü Mingxuan still chose to fold.

"So many people folding?"

"That's a bit unfortunate. I'll continue raising."

Lin Sizhi took out another 2000 chip and threw it in the betting area.

"I'm raising too." Qin Yao also took out a 2000 chip.

Sister Liu looked at Lu Xinyi, and after receiving an affirmative look, threw all her remaining 2000 chips into the betting area.