Scholar 81

Chapter 81

Lu Bangguo was very confused.

He normally did not read the news or go online and so, he was naturally ignorant of what was happening outside.

The proudest moment of his life was when his son got into a good university. The factory even gave him a 500 yuan red envelope.

Even then, the manager of the factory did not personally come and thank him. At most, the manager casually congratulated him. However, this time, it was not just some higher-up at the factory. It was the clerk himself!

For an ordinary worker in a state-owned factory, the clerk was considered a high ranking official.

Lu Zhou thought for a while and could not find a way to explain Zhou's approximation, "Oh… Dad, how do I explain this to you? It's basically a mathematics problem." He added, "How about you go find an Everyone Daily newspaper from yesterday? There should be an explanation on it."

"What… I go find what?! You're in the newspaper?!" said Lu Bangguo with his eyes widened.

"Yeah, I'm going on TV in two days. But it's the local TV station in the City of Jin Ling. You won't be able to see it. Also, the school gave me a reward bonus. When the money comes, I'll transfer some to your account."

Lu Zhou remembered Dean Qin said that the news broadcast would be reported in the form of a newsletter, so his interview would be cut into 15-30 second segments.

"Transfer what money! You don't have to worry about us, just take care of yourself! I'm not that old! Save your money, don't spend it recklessly, and save it for a house!" said Lu Bangguo. When he heard that his son was going on television, he had a big smile on his face.

Even though he did not watch the news or read the newspaper, he knew that being on TV was not something a normal person could do.

Lu Zhou smiled and was about to say something when he heard shoe being kicked off and the sound of the door being opened coming through the telephone.

He instantly knew that it was Xiao Tong who came home.

Saturday was a half-day for school and since she did not have tutoring classes, this was the only time she could talk to Lu Zhou.

"Dad, give me the phone!"

He heard the rush of footsteps before the phone was robbed by Xiao Tong.

"Brother!"

"Xiao Tong, how are you?" asked Lu Zhou with a smile.

"Not bad, not bad! Brother, is the Lu Zhou from the University of Jin Ling really you?" asked Xiao Tong. Her voice was filled with excitement and worship.

"Who else could it be?" asked Lu Zhou impatiently.

Xiao Tong held the phone and said, "Brother, you're my idol! Just a second ago, our maths teacher was bragging about you in class. He said you are his most talented student ever. He said he could see your talent from marking your papers!"

Lu Zhou thought for second before he smiled and said, "Old Ma?"

Xiao Tong said with excitement, "Yeah, him!"

Lu Zhou smiled and said, "Oh yeah, he was my teacher."

Lu Zhuo did not remember Old Ma ever saying that kind of things to him. If Old Ma actually did, he must have been exaggerating. Lu Zhou was the type of average student in high school. Even though he entered some competitions, he had never actually won anything.

Between competition and exams, most of Lu Zhou's energy was allocated to exams.

Xiao Tong's eyes flashed with small stars as she said, "Brother, I admire you so much! Do I count as a big mathematician's sister now?"

Ah, you're over-complimenting me.

Although I admire myself as well.

Lu Zhou laughed and said, "Definitely. Therefore you have to study mathematics well. You can't waste that genius brain of yours."

"My mathematics is good, okay! Last month I got 120 marks in the exam!" screamed Xiao Tong.

"If you want to get into a good university, 120 is not enough! Try your best. I'm waiting for you at University of Jin Ling."

Xiao Tong said confidently, "Yes! I'll try my best!"

Lu Zhou hung up the phone and walked back into the dorm from the balcony.

Huang Guangming and Shi Shang were both rushing to do physics homework. Liu Rui had already finished the homework. He was holding a phone in one hand and a pen in another and was thinking hard as he stared at a piece of draft paper.

Lu Zhou placed the computer on the bed. He was about to climb into bed and teach Xiao Ai when Liu Rui suddenly threw his pen aside and scratched his head.

"Zhou, how come I can't understand ur proof process?"

Liu Rui had already accepted that Lu Zhou had reached a level that he could never reach in his lifetime. However, in his mind, he was still a little reluctant to admit defeat.

We're all from the same dorm. We had similar high school scores and mine was even higher. How come the differences become so big in a year?

He never read theses online, but this time, he read Lu Zhou's thesis for days.

He did not want to understand it. Instead, he just wanted to know the difference between Lu Zhuo and him.

However…

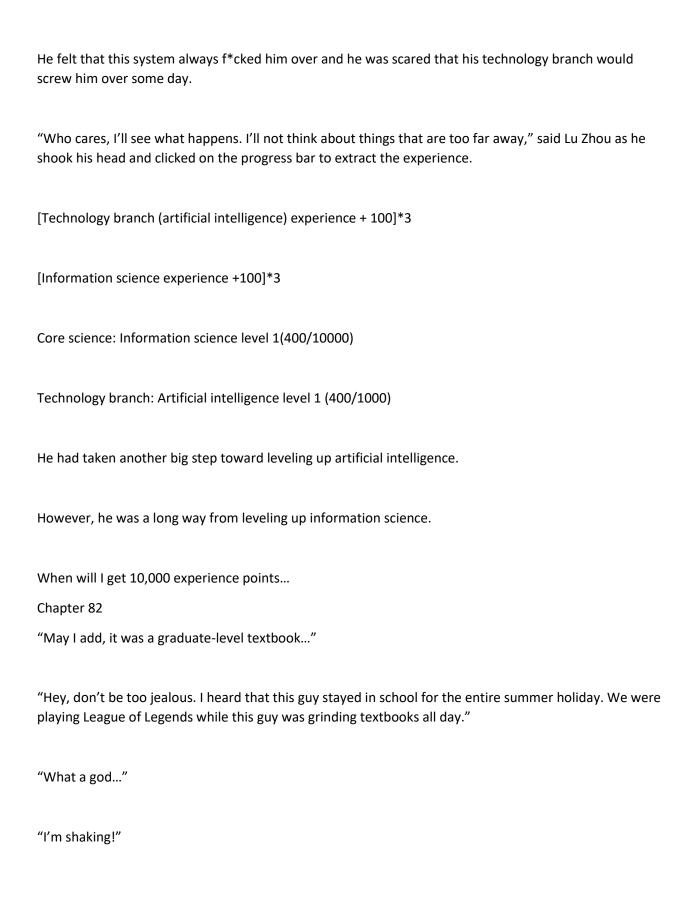The reality was soul crushing.

He could not understand the textbooks that Lu Zhou was reading and now, he could not even understand the stuff Lu Zhou was writing.

Lu Zhou laid in bed with his computer and casually said, "It's normal. Number theory isn't taught in undergraduate classes. Once you do a master's in number theory, you would understand. If you're interested, I suggest you start from [Abstract algebra]. You can learn about some Galois theory, which would be enough to support you in the algebraic number theory. If I remember correctly, you can take this class in your third year."

Liu Rui: "…"

Liu Rui suddenly felt that it was a bad idea to start talking mathematics with this guy.

Huang Guangming and Shi Shang turned around and showed him a sympathetic look.

Lu Zhou did not care about what Liu Rui was thinking. He opened the computer and looked at his second QQ account's chat history.

Not surprisingly, the group of mathematicians had sent 99+ messages.

Xian Wei: [Did you hear? A god in our mathematics department solved a world-class mathematics problem! Also, this god is in this group! ! !]

Dayday: [Friend, how is the view from up there? (cry)]

Kedu: [I heard about it ages ago.]

Chang Qing: [Idol!]

Dayday: [This god is so strong, how scary! He won the National Mathematical Modeling Competition recently, now he proved a world-class maths problem. All of the glory is being taken by him, leave some for the rest of us…]

Kedu: [The god never replies to us… (cry)]

Chu Chu: [Maybe the god is busy? (awkward)]

Dayday: [Maybe he's observing us in the dark and thinks: Bunch of idiotic students! (cry)]

Lu Zhou: "…"

You guys just have to talk and increase my progress bar, why are you guys talking about me.

Lu Zhou silently closed the chat window.

The progress bar did not increase at a constant rate. Although the messages were at 99+ every day, sometimes the bar would get filled within a day, other times the bar would not move at all for days.

Lu Zhou estimated that this was "information entropy" at work.

Information theory was the father of information entropy. It was originally proposed by Claude E. Shannon in 1948 to find fundamental limits on signal processing and communication operations such as data compression. Through the concept of information entropy, the amount of information contained in a piece of information could be calculated.

Lu Zhou guessed that the mechanism of Xiao Ai's upgrade was to analyze specific messages through an algorithm. It could learn human logic and thinking through the dialogue.

The more "useful" the piece of information was, the more it helped the upgrade. Useless chat messages such as spam or stickers would not help the accumulation of the progress bar. Instead, they slowed down the speed of processing messages.

Lu Zhou began to think.

"… If I place Xiao Ai on Tianhe No.1 and connect it directly to Penguin's chat cache database, could it be fully upgraded?"

Of course, he was just guessing.

The upgrade conditions for higher levels probably changed. Even if he could fully upgrade Xiao Ai, he did not know if he could have this unknown technology on the Internet.

Also…

He felt that this system always f*cked him over and he was scared that his technology branch would screw him over some day.

"Who cares, I'll see what happens. I'll not think about things that are too far away," said Lu Zhou as he shook his head and clicked on the progress bar to extract the experience.

[Technology branch (artificial intelligence) experience + 100]*3

[Information science experience +100]*3

Core science: Information science level 1(400/10000)

Technology branch: Artificial intelligence level 1 (400/1000)

He had taken another big step toward leveling up artificial intelligence.

However, he was a long way from leveling up information science.

When will I get 10,000 experience points…

Chapter 82

"May I add, it was a graduate-level textbook…"

"Hey, don't be too jealous. I heard that this guy stayed in school for the entire summer holiday. We were playing League of Legends while this guy was grinding textbooks all day."

"What a god…"

"I'm shaking!"

F*ck, can these group of animals keep it down.

Although… It's pretty cool to listen to them.

The teacher came.

Lu Zhou knew the professor that walked in. It was Professor Liu Xiangping from his modeling competition.

The professor had a unique way of coming to class. He was neither early nor late by a second.

"Why are you standing? The class is about to start, go and find a seat," said Professor Liu while he smiled at Lu Zhou. He placed his vacuum flask on the podium.

"Ok, I just got here."

Lu Zhou was embarrassed as he smiled. He quickly glanced at the back of the classroom and found his three roommates sitting far away from one another. Clearly, they could not find seats that were together. Lu Zhou could not find a seat, so he was about to go move a chair from the other classroom.

At this moment, a male student in the first row suddenly stood up and packed his stuff on the table before making a welcoming gesture.

"Please sit here."

Lu Zhou replied, "No, no need. I'll just grab a chair from next door."

"No no no. I'll go grab the chair. Just remember to borrow me your notes!" said the guy as he stubbornly insisted.

I'll borrow you my notes, as long as you return them on time.

However, the problem was not the notes.

The problem was that Lu Zhou was scared to sit in the front row! He had the attention of everyone around him. If he even made some noise, everyone would look at him…

The feeling of having no privacy was horrible.

Lu Zhou did not sit down. Instead, he immediately went next door and grabbed a chair before sitting down next to Huang Guangming.

These people won't turn around and look at me during class right?

Professor Liu Xiangping smiled at him and did not speak.

The bell rang and when the class began, Professor Liu started the PowerPoint and smiled as he said, "Turn your textbooks to the introduction page."

While others were taking their notebooks out, Lu Zhou was flipping through [Practical Machine Learning]. He started to study advanced algorithms designed specifically to tune and teach artificial intelligence.

Without the help of a focus capsule, it was difficult to study an entire book in one study session. Good thing was that when he leveled up his core subject, not only did it increased his ability to use knowledge, but it also increased his ability to absorb knowledge.

So far, he had already read half of this thick textbook.

However, when he was checking the code of Xiao Ai last night, he still could not understand most of it. His level of knowledge was too low.

Professor Liu continued his lecture on stage.

"... High school questions usually asked you to find the relationship between the unknown and known number. To list the equations containing the unknown and solve them."

"In actual work, we often encounter problems that are completely different from those equations. For example, to find the movement of a substance under certain conditions, it's necessary to find their laws of motion. For example, in space flight, the rocket is driven by the engine. To find the orbit of its flight requires us to obtain an analytic function from the existing data, rather than calculating a specific unknown by the known function given by the question."

"Ordinary differential equations are a very useful tool. They have important applications in many disciplines, from mechanical automatic control to ballistic calculations of rocket missile aircraft to even the stability of chemical reactions."

Professor Liu smiled as he continued, "Therefore, you applied mathematics majors should really pay attention to this class. If you don't do well, don't tell people that you are from my class! It's too shameful!"

Professor Liu was an interesting person, so his lectures were pretty interesting. He could explain complicated things in an easy manner.

Even Huang Guangming who usually did not pay attention in class turned off his phone and looked intently at the PowerPoint on the screen. He even typed notes in his laptop.

The speed of a college class was very fast and Professor Liu's was of no exception. His speed of lecturing was almost faster than turning the pages.

It was impossible to take notes in class. It was good enough just to keep up and listen. The students kept taking photos like they were at some tech conference.

The difficulty was increased instantly.

A ton of new knowledge was being thrown at the students. Even though the professor was simplifying and explaining everything, the dumb students were still overwhelmed.

"Theory is pretty much done. I trust you guys to revise this by yourself, let's do some questions," said Professor Liu with a smile. He turned the PowerPoint to the next page and said, "Whoever can solve this question, feel free to come up to the blackboard."

[Judge whether $\{y2/(xy)2-1/x\}dx+\{1/y-x2/(xy)2\}dy=0$ is the appropriate equation and solve the equation.]

Lu Zhou's eyes scanned the question on the PowerPoint. He thought it was easy so he continued to read his book.

However, it was not as easy for other students.

Two minutes later, the classroom was entirely silent.

"How come no one has raised their hand?" asked Professor Liu asked with a smile. He jokingly said, "You guys are all students from the University of Jin Ling, so you should be able to solve this, right?"

A student that was sitting in the first row smirked and said weakly, "The study god didn't raise his hand, so we're scared to raise ours."

A lot of people in the first row nodded.

Some people did figure it out, but no one dared to raise their hand.

Professor Liu pretended as if he did not hear anything and laughed as he said, "No one can solve it? Guess I have to give some incentives? Okay! I'll add 10 marks to anyone that can solve this problem."

Even though Lu Zhou was still reading that machine learning textbook, he instantly put his hand up. The speed of his hand shocked Huang Guangming.

However, Lu Zhou did not look at Guangming. Instead, he was staring at the PowerPoint.

10 marks!

Simple as f*ck question. Free marks!

Professor Liu did not even give him the time of day as he smiled and said, "Put your hand down! This 10 marks isn't for you. You're going to be getting full marks in the exam anyway. What? Do you want to get 110% percent?!"

Lu Zhou: "…"

The students gasped.

Is the genius already confident that he's going to get full marks?

Lu Zhou smiled awkwardly as he put his hand down.

At that moment, all Lu Zhou wanted to say was "Motherf*cker!"

Chapter 83

Professor Liu gave a concise comment and smiled before saying, "Not bad."

The class bell rang.

Professor Liu was punctual and he finished his last words as soon as the bell rang. He then dismissal class.

The students in the classroom packed up their stuff and rushed toward the cafeteria.

For the first two months of the year, the cafeteria would be packed. The newly enrolled first-year students were extraordinarily enthusiastic and they would steal the good food before the older students got there. It was horrible.

Lu Zhou also flocked to the cafeteria. He was smart and did not go to the self-service area. Instead, he went to the barbecue rice window counter.

Then…

He was recognized.

"F*ck me, it's Lu Zhou!"

"Please, go first."

"Genius, are you still using your advanced algebra notes? I want to buy it… Can I at least copy them? I'll pay!"

"Student, I heard you got 100% in mathematical analysis and advanced algebra. Do you have any tips for studying?"

These first-year students were too enthusiastic and they even let Lu Zhou cut in front of the line. Lu Zhou thought, "I only want to eat some food, not like this…"

Why are they taking my pictures! It's enough!

Finally, after Lu Zhou bought his food, he found a quiet corner and sat down.

Just as he sat down, his phone rang.

It was Dean Lu calling. The moment Lu Zhou picked up, he heard, "Lu Zhou, there's an interview in the afternoon. Come to the laboratory building later."

When Lu Zhou heard the word "interview", he instantly felt a headache coming.

"Dean Lu, can we cancel the interview?"

Dean Lu was surprised and asked, "Why?"

"Dean Lu, the excessive attention by the media has affected my daily life and studies. I think Professor Tang is correct. Academicians have to focus on academics and avoid fame," Lu Zhou said firmly.

It was not that he actually did not want fame.

It was because he was scared.

The last two times he went on trending was during the summer holiday and by the time school started, his fame had passed.

However, this time, he was bombarded by the media at the beginning of the semester. He was basically like a giant panda in the zoo. Coupled with the school's promotion, there was no one in the school that did not know who Lu Zhou was.

Within the time frame of his meal, there were two young ladies talking to him. Three students asked for his WeChat while four other students asked if he was interested in joining some random society or clubs.

There was even a master's girl student who asked if he wanted to cooperate on an SCI thesis.

Lu Zhou was annoyed and he replied to her in a harsh manner, "Not interested, thank you!"

Awkward, Dean Lu said, "This… I understand your difficulties. I promise you this is the last time! Also, this interview would be giving you a prize. Are you sure you're not coming?"

Lu Zhou asked, "Prize?"

"Didn't Dean Qin tell you? The Jin Ling Daily and vice president of the Industrial Commercial Jin Ling will be there, the prize money…"

"I understand, Dean Lu. I'm coming right now!"

Lu Zhou hung up and quickly finished his food. He did not want to waste another second and immediately walked to the laboratory building.

…

The next day, Jin Ling Daily's headline once again shocked everyone.

[20-year-old student in University of Jin Ling overcomes a world-class mathematics problem, wins a million yuan prize!]

The article had a photo of Lu Zhou and Principal Xu where they were holding a massive ICBC cheque.

His fame that was about to die down was re-ignited by this one million yuan cheque.

When the crowd saw that string of zeros, they were astonished.

[Oh my god, a million yuan for a question! Easy money!]

[A question a night, 100 nights that's 100 million. I think I found a new way to make money (dog head)]

[From today I'm studying mathematics. I'm turning off my phone, nothing is going to stop me!]

[The University of Jin Ling is too rich…]

[Male god! ! ! (heart) (heart) (heart)]

[My graduate thesis is about proving the Mersenne primes distribution law. I've been working half a year on it, but now that his conjecture is proved, my work is useless! I just want to smoke in silence. (cry) (cry)]

[We need to find a psychologist for that guy above.]

[Even if you tried your best, you will never be better than some people. (dog) (dog)]

The discussion was not only on Weibo but it was spread to every comment section of every major newspaper, from every blog to every forum.

The news was re-posted on the University of Yan's forum.

[University of Jin Ling? Does the University of Jin Ling have a mathematics department? Aren't they just a physics school?]

[I've read that thesis, the author is a genius! It's a pity that he didn't come to Yan University.]

[My PhD advisor told me about this yesterday. Apparently, when Professor Ren went to University of Jin Ling to give a talk, Ren Changming instantly saw that Lu Zhou was extraordinary and he tried to persuade him to come to the University of Yan.]

[What happened?]

[Don't know, guess he didn't come. For this type of nutty person, he's probably looking at schools like Princeton or Stanford!]

Of course, not everyone was jealous and impressed. There was quite a lot of criticism. Some people said that the award was too much. Other people said that the media over-hyped the value of Zhou's conjecture and that over-hyping might trick the public into being too optimistic about the current education environment, thus hindering the reformation of education…

However, only a small percentage of people were criticizing. After all, having a theorem named after a Chinese man enhanced national confidence.

This was what the advertisement departments used to promote Lu Zhou.

Lu Zhou was well aware of the things happening online.

His Weibo followers had reached 200k. His direct messages were at 99+.

This time, no one asked for him to write a thesis, instead…

[Lu Zhou, do you have a girlfriend?]

[Lu Zhou, do you date online?]

[Lu Zhou, are you dating? I can cross-dress.]

Lu Zhou: ? ? ?

It's just an article photo, why are these people so excessive?

"Stay away from me"

Lu Zhou pretended that he did not see these messages and just as he was about to close Weibo, he remembered that this was a good opportunity.

His eyes lit up and his fingers quickly tapped on the screen as he typed an advertisement for "Campus Train" before sending it out.

Satisfied, he waited for a bit.

After that, Lu Zhou refreshed Weibo and looked at the comments.

He was shocked.

[This app hasn't been updated in a month. Is it even alive? (smile)]

[Lu boss walks into a shop. Everyone laughs at him and said, " Boss Lu, you're advertising on Weibo again?" Boss Lu didn't respond, he said to the worker, "One advertisement, please." He pulled out the stack of money and the people shouted: "Your app is dead!" Lu boss said, "Why are you guys lying…" "We're not lying! Your app is on the bottom of the rankings." Lu boss was furious, his veins popped and said, "It's on the bottom because of… The off-season!" Then Lu boss tried to justify his app's performance with words like "not the holidays yet", or "students aren't riding trains". The crowd started to laugh at him…"]

[Chen Duxiu, please sit down, you're blocking the blackboard from Lu Xun!]

[The only time the genius logs onto his Weibo is when he's on trending.]

[I'm feeling better now, even a genius has shortcomings.]

[A million yuan can last you for how long!]

[Please, go back to studying mathematics!]

[This guy only posts ads, never responds to messages, unfollowed.]

Lu Zhou: ? ? ?

What the hell?!

Why are people hating on me?

Maybe because I forgot to do a giveaway?

These people are so greedy!

Lu Zhou was especially unhappy when he saw people calling his app dead.

What do you mean dead?

How is it dead?

It's only because I was busy, so I didn't work on it!

Also, the users are there, it's just the user activity is low… What kind of student takes the train every day?

F*ck sake!

Lu Zhou was in disbelief.

He was going to be successful!

Chapter 84

I guess I'll save it?

The car stopped in front of the school and for the billionth time, Lu Zhou opened his phone to check the string of zeros in his bank account. His heart was beating a million times a second.

"… I have a million now. I guess I'm only 4 million away from mission two."

Lu Zhou quickly calmed himself down and put his phone back into his pocket before walking to the street full of restaurants.

He found a random small restaurant to eat lunch and by the time he got back to school, it was already two o'clock in the afternoon.

He remembered Professor Tang's phone call, so before he went back to his dorm, he went to the laboratory building to find Professor Tang at his office.

Once he arrived, Lu Zhou knocked on the door and when he heard a loud "come in", he pushed the door and went in.

When Professor Tang saw Lu Zhou, he smiled and said, "You're pretty famous these days."

Lu Zhou laughed embarrassedly as he said, "Professor, please don't compliment me. The media has been so annoying…"

The two master's students in the office were doing research when they rolled their eyes and decided to ignore Lu Zhou.

Annoyed?

Give me a million, I'll take care of your troubles!

You don't even know how lucky you are. What a shame!

Professor Tang picked up his vacuum flask and sipped some tea before he said with a smile, "Oh? You look pretty happy to me. How about you go into show business?

Lu Zhou smiled awkwardly but he did not speak.

"Fine, I have to teach a class soon. I won't banter with you. Let's get straight to the point," said Professor Tang. When he saw that Lu Zhou did not respond, he stopped making any more jokes. He added, "I have an invitation here. It's from Princeton University. There's an international mathematics conference in February, in Princeton. You're invited to carry out academic reports on your study."

Lu Zhou was confused as he asked, "Academic conference?"

Professor Tang smiled and said, "That's right, academic process lies in communication. You should accept this opportunity as it's good for you. This conference is highly influential in the international field of number theory. You're the first undergraduate student in our school that received this invitation, so you should accept it. The school will cover all of your expenses. Don't worry about it!"
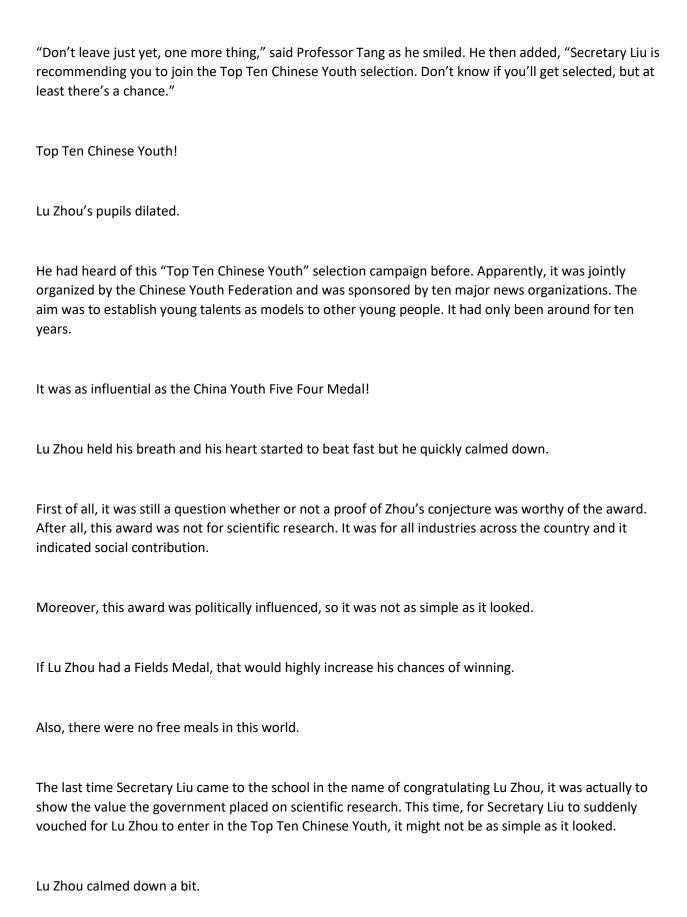
Even if Lu Zhou used this opportunity to communicate with his peers, he would still gain a lot.

Lu Zhou took the piece of invitation from Professor Tang and nodded.

"I'll go prepare for it then."

Professor Tang said, "Take your thesis and do some minor edits. Write up a simple and concise speech. The focus is on the QA segment, a lot of mathematics researchers will probably ask you a lot of questions, so be ready for them!"

"I understand… Then, I'll go now?" said Lu Zhou as he nodded.

"Don't leave just yet, one more thing," said Professor Tang as he smiled. He then added, "Secretary Liu is recommending you to join the Top Ten Chinese Youth selection. Don't know if you'll get selected, but at least there's a chance."

Top Ten Chinese Youth!

Lu Zhou's pupils dilated.

He had heard of this "Top Ten Chinese Youth" selection campaign before. Apparently, it was jointly organized by the Chinese Youth Federation and was sponsored by ten major news organizations. The aim was to establish young talents as models to other young people. It had only been around for ten years.

It was as influential as the China Youth Five Four Medal!

Lu Zhou held his breath and his heart started to beat fast but he quickly calmed down.

First of all, it was still a question whether or not a proof of Zhou's conjecture was worthy of the award. After all, this award was not for scientific research. It was for all industries across the country and it indicated social contribution.

Moreover, this award was politically influenced, so it was not as simple as it looked.

If Lu Zhou had a Fields Medal, that would highly increase his chances of winning.

Also, there were no free meals in this world.

The last time Secretary Liu came to the school in the name of congratulating Lu Zhou, it was actually to show the value the government placed on scientific research. This time, for Secretary Liu to suddenly vouched for Lu Zhou to enter in the Top Ten Chinese Youth, it might not be as simple as it looked.

Lu Zhou calmed down a bit.

He had no doubts about his IQ.

But…

As for his EQ, he was not so sure.

Lu Zhou did not give any clues and he merely smiled as he asked respectfully, "Professor, what do you suggest?"

Professor Tang smiled and said, "My suggestion? Depends on where you want to go in the future. If you want to enter into politics, this is a good way for you to get into the circle. Secretary Liu could help you in your future political career and you could become some big representative in the government. As for how far you'll go, that'll depend on your abilities."

Lu Zhou was silent.

Instead of worrying, Professor Tang just sat there and drank his tea.

After a while, Lu Zhou suddenly smiled and shook his head, "I'm afraid politics is not my cup of tea."

As a child whose father worked for the government, this proposal was quite tempting. If he could capture this opportunity, there could be a bright road in front of him. Head of the university, president of the Chinese Academy of Sciences were all possible.

However, Lu Zhou was self-aware.

He was used to doing what he wanted and working in politics was not necessarily what he wanted.

"It seems that you're quite self-aware. You don't seem to be the political type anyways," said Professor Tang as he smiled. He placed his vacuum flask on the desk and looked at Lu Zhou. With a nod, he said,

"Since you've already made a decision, you should reject it. Just remember to be euphemistic in your rejection."

Lu Zhou thought and said, "I'm a student. I don't know much. I don't deserve this honor… Should I reply like this?"

Professor Tang smiled and responded, "Clever."

Chapter 85

Her mathematics score had been near failing last year, but she got 130 today!

This improvement was over the course of three months.

Was there anything more shocking than this?

When Teacher Chen saw Han Mengqi, she nodded with relief.

Since the monthly test before the summer vacation, it was as if Han Mengqi had turned into another person. Her mathematics scores soared and she went from two digit scores to three digits.

Teacher Chen had been teaching for many years and it was rare for him to see this pace of improvement.

Han Mengqi knew that her classmates were surprised and even though she blushed, she had a smug smile on her face.

Before, she never felt as if she belonged at home or at school.

However, she recently found out that she actually loved school.

It was not because she loved studying…

It was because being it was great to be looked at with confusion, surprise, and adoration!

After class, Han Mengqi meticulously copied the questions that she got wrong in her book. This was the task that Lu Zhou gave her and this task had become a habit for her over the past three months.

Suddenly, a girl even more petite than her came over and asked shyly, "Meng Qi, is your tutor's first name Lu?"

The girl was one of the few close friends that Meng Qi had in mathematics. Meng Qi called her Xiao Ran and they talked about everything.

Han Mengqi nodded and said, "Yeah, why?"

Xiao Ran then asked, "Is he a college student?"

Han Mengqi continued to nod her head as she replied in a tone that was filled with suspicion, "Yeah…"

"Is he from the University of Jin Ling?"

"Yeah, yeah, get straight to the point. Stop wasting my time," said Han Mengqi as she rolled her eyes.

Xiao Ran's eyes widened, "Haven't you seen Weibo?"

Suddenly, Han Mengqi was unhappy as she said, "Nope, that woman confiscated my mobile phone, you know that."

However, Xiao Ran did not notice Han Mengqi's uncomfortable expression as she took out her phone and said, "Wait for a second. I'll show you this news article."

Han Mengqi stared at her and said, "When did you pay attention to the news? Don't you always just look at your celebrity gossip?"

"I also pay attention to trending news okay? Anyway, here, look," replied Han Mengqi as she handed the phone to Han Mengqi.

The article was from Huaguo Youth Daily.

When Han Mengqi saw the name of the account, she was not too interested. However, when she saw the title, her eyes instantly widened.

[20-year-old college student from University of Jin Ling has overcome a world-class mathematics problem, and won a million yuan reward from the university!]

[…]

[Source: Jin Ling Daily]

Xiao Ran asked in a hurry, "Is that him?"

"No, how is this possible?!" gasped Han Mengqi. She was so surprised that her mouth could not even close as she stared straight at the screen.

It was not that she doubted Lu Zhou's abilities…

It was that she never expected the tutor that came to her house every weekend was a great mathematician who solved a world-class mathematics problem.

Han Mengqi gulped as she swiped with her thumb and looked at the comments.

[… All bow down to this genius student!]

[This genius student is crazy!]

[God, I want to have your babies!]

Han Mengqi raised her eyebrows.

What is this!

Shameless!

He already has a girlfriend!

Although she had never confirmed to Lu Zhou or her cousin, she always assumed that they were dating. There was no other explanation as to why he cared about her studies so much as any other tutors would not be able to stand her.

"Oh, I was wondering why your mathematics scores were soaring. I guess there's an expert helping you," said Xiao Ran as she looked at Han Mengqi enviously. She then asked, "Is he still going to tutor you in the future?"

Han Mengqi subconsciously blurted out, "Yeah, why not?"

Xiao Ran tilted her head as she asked, "But, he already has a million, he doesn't need to work as a tutor anymore, right?"

Han Mengqi's heart tightened.

She had not given this a thought.

You're right…

If Lu Zhou isn't in need of money, would he still teach me mathematics?

Every time he tutors me as if I'm a child and even cooks for me and listens to my complaints about school…

Anyone would be annoyed right?

Also, a guy like him must have more important stuff to do.

Han Mengqi's lips quivered as she said, "He… Probably will."

She was not confident at all.

Xiao Ran tilted her head in confusion.

She was not sure why her close friend was acting like this.

…

Although Lu Zhou was determined to make his Campus Train app bigger and defeat those haters, he had no idea how to run a business.

In the past, Dean Lu would occasionally ask him how his project was going. Now, the dean would not even bring it up.

Compared to solving a world-class mathematics problem, an app was nothing.

The school was not a bank or a business. The leaders of the school leaders did not look at financial statements! They looked at scientific research results! Although the student's entrepreneurship project was an achievement, it was nothing compared to solving a world-class problem!

It was not only Dean Lu who thought about this, but the head dean, Dean Qin, thought about it as well. Dean Qin kept hinting at Lu Zhou to just close the company and used the money left to repay part of the loan. The remaining loan would just be erased, so Lu Zhou would not even have to pay it.

Losing money was one of entrepreneurship's lessons. Lu Zhou should just focus on academia and get a Fields Medal, would that not be much better?

However, Lu Zhou was dissatisfied with just honor. Although the medals were good, Lu Zhou wanted money.

Even though Lu Zhou was disinterested in running companies, he was interested in money!

Also, he would probably have to burn a lot of money for this sh*tty system. From the missions the system gave, it was obvious that the system was ambitious.

The discovery and monetization of technology could never be separated. It was just a matter of which to choose and pursuit.

Lu Zhou could see himself making that decision in the future.

Therefore, he planned on taking some advice from a successful person…

Chapter 86

Learning was fun, but Lu Zhou was not a machine. He could not study all day as he would get tired.

Tutoring was like a type of relaxation method for Lu Zhou. He could think about some simple questions and change his mindset and mood while was earning money. So why not do it?

Lu Zhou sighed. He took the book and lightly tapped her head with it before saying, "Stop wasting time and know that money is hard to make. Don't waste your mom's money and start studying. Take out your book of mistakes and your recent exam paper."

Han Mengqi stared at Lu Zhou unhappily.

However, she remembered that she still needed his help, so she quietly took out her backpack.

Lu Zhou took the book of mistakes from Han Mengqi to check her situation for the month.

Overall, it was not bad. At least, after Lu Zhou explained the questions, she did not get them wrong.

As Lu Zhou was checking the test paper, Han Mengqi cleared her throat and asked, "I want you to teach me chemistry and physics… Is that okay?"

Lu Zhou thought carefully before giving her a reply, "I can, but I'm not familiar with the high school material of Jiangsu, so I'm afraid I can't teach you much. At most, I can answer some questions for you."

Lu Zhou heard that the exam rules at Jiangsu, a province, were different than where he was from. In addition to mathematics and English, they could choose from four other subjects.

There were also mock exams, reward points, etc. It was cumbersome.

Lu Zhou had heard this from Li Tao before as Li Tao was a native of Jin Ling.

Understood, Han Mengqi said, "No worries, this is enough."

Lu Zhou then asked, "What universities are you applying to? Do you have a goal?"

"I want to go to the University of Jin Ling…" said Han Mengqi. She paused before adding, "… It's because I promised my cousin that I would go to the same university as her."

Lu Zhou looked at her with a puzzled look. He thought she would say something like, "I don't care, as long as I'm away from that woman. I'd rather be overseas." He had not expected her answer to be the University of Jin Ling.

Of course, he did not say this out loud.

After all, everyone had their own aspirations.

"If I remember correctly, University of Jin Ling requires students to have two A subjects. You have to work hard," said Lu Zhou casually.

Han Mengqi nodded earnestly as she said, "Yes! I'll work hard!"

…

By six o'clock in the evening, tutoring was over.

Lu Zhou was wearing an apron and cooking three dishes in the kitchen while he stewed a pot of onion ginger soup. Lu Zhou wanted to thank Mrs. Yang, but he could not afford to buy her anything. The least that he could do for her was to cook for her daughter.

Once he was done, he placed the food on the table before he hooked the apron on the kitchen door.

At exactly six o'clock, Yang Danqi returned home.

When she walked in and smelled the overflowing fragrance of the food, she looked at Lu Zhou with a surprised expression.

Lu Zhou smiled as he asked, "Do you want to eat together? I made enough for three."

Yang Danqi smiled as she replied, "Well, then thank you. I'll get a bowl of rice."

Han Mengqi smirked and did not say anything as she went to the bathroom.

As always, the dinner table was silent.

If it was only two people, Han Mengqi would be chatting non-stop the whole time. However, since her mother was here, she was disinterested in talking at all and merely ate her dinner quietly.

Lu Zhou originally thought that because of Han Mengqi's academic performance, the mother-daughter relationship would become better.

However, it seemed that he was being optimistic.

Every family has their own hardships…

Lu Zhou wanted to avoid the awkward silence, so he decided to ask a question.

It was about his Campus Train app.

He wanted to hear advice from a successful person like Mrs. Yang.

After Yang Danqi listened to Lu Zhou's question, she asked, "You made an app?"

"Yeah, I did."

"Have you done a product analysis?"

To Lu Zhou's surprise, Mrs. Yang did not ask about how many users he had or the software. Instead, she asked this question.

Lu Zhou thought and shook his head before he said honestly, "Nope."

If he was in a venture capital meeting, he would not have been this honest. However, he was not in a meeting and as he was trying to learn, he did not fake anything.

Mrs. Yang thought and said, "From an investor's perspective, I can tell you a very basic principle. A good investment always has to be N+1 than the industry standard."

"N+1?"

"That's right, this 1, is your innovation point," said Mrs. Yang as she nodded. She continued, "Of course, that isn't always enough. Investors will look at other projects similar to yours. Being able to innovate only gets your foot into the door."

Mrs. Yang paused for a moment before she continued, "The first thing to talk about is industry analysis and market prospects. Don't talk about market shares, that is useless. The era of dumb people with money is over. Right now, if you want to raise funds, you have to bring a unicorn to the table. You have to use short but attractive words to make the investors see the highlights of your project, that is also part of the +1."

Uh, this looks so complicated.

However, Lu Zhou was listening intently.

He could not learn this kind of lessons in class.

"Once you have understood that +1 part, then the next is product analysis. For example, let me be an investor. You have to convey to me clearly where your users are, how many users you have, your competitors, where your competitors are, etc. Also, the most basic one which is when your product will be profitable."

Yang Danqi looked straight into Lu Zhou's eyes.

That piercing eyes of her made Lu Zhou stopped breathing.

Thankfully, that pressure was gone very quickly.

Mrs. Yang sipped the delicious soup before she gently put down the spoon and said in a calm tone, "It seems that you haven't thought about all this."

Lu Zhou went silent as he nodded.

This project was just for practice before it inexplicably went on trending. If it was not on trending, software department Professor Zhang would never have noticed this project. Professor Zhang would never make him open a [Campus Train Co Ltd] company, or give him a 500,000 yuan business loan…

When he was spending all of his energy on the mathematical modeling competition, he had pushed the app aside. After he returned, the back-to-school season was over and the user activity completely plummeted.

Therefore, the crowd on Weibo criticized his app. Even though Lu Zhou did not like criticism, it was not too unreasonable. There was a reason why venture capitalists did not contact him…

"Actually, after listening to your project description, I wanted to ask you. If your users are mostly students, why are you only dealing with train tickets? How many train tickets do students even buy in a year? What is user retainment like? What if software companies like QQ or Zhibao, made a direct booking system? Do you think your app will still thrive? I don't think so, they're better and have more resources than you."

It was clear that the woman was strong as in a matter of minutes, she managed to stun Lu Zhou…

Lu Zhou suddenly realized that he had been underestimating the tech industry.

Mrs. Yang continued, "Of course, your project is still bright. You're better than the majority app developers as most of them make a prototype and then try to look for venture capitalists. If you're not

interested in managing a company, you can consider hiring a manager. But I don't recommend this, for a company that is still in the incubation phase, no one knows the project better than you. Also, no manager with real talent would work for your sh*tty small company."

Mrs. Yang did not hold back her words.

However, Lu Zhou did not feel insulted at all. After all, he knew the situation of his company.

Lu Zhou gave it a thought before he asked seriously, "Then, do you have any good suggestions?"

"One person's ability and energy is limited. In that case, why don't you find a few like-minded people to do this project together? There's a lot of scientific research professors at the University of Jin Ling that have their own companies. I know one of them that does materials science research and I think his company already went public. Doing scientific research and making money isn't always in conflict. The key is to find a good balance and know what you're good or bad at."

Lu Zhou went silent for a long time before he nodded his head, "I will think about your suggestions seriously."

This conversation had been immensely helpful to him.

At least, after this, he knew the general direction to work toward.

Mrs. Yang smiled and nodded her head in approval.

When Han Mengqi saw that her mother was talking to Lu Zhou, she felt a little uncomfortable and whispered, "Can you not talk about business stuff at the dinner table?"

Mrs. Yang was shocked by her daughter's words and she stopped talking.

Even though Lu Zhou was an outsider and did not want to be involved, he still could not help but feel sad.

It was exactly like what Mrs. Yang said. A person's energy was limited. It was a win some, lose some situation.

However, how many people could really find that balance between using the energy and giving up?

Even a successful businesswoman had shortcomings.

Her shortcoming was family…

Chapter 87

"Make what bank. I'm just doing some small projects for errands. I have to congratulate you. In the future, there's going to be another god in the University of Jin Ling's alumni list. Get straight to the point, do you still want to work part-time? I'm not hiring you!" snarled Fat Wu.

"No," said Lu Zhou. He smiled and said, "I just want to ask, are you interested in making bank together."

Fat Wu paused for a second and gave it a quick thought before asking, "… Campus Train?"

Lu Zhou, "Yes."

"How about this? Let's meet up. We should talk about this face to face."

Lu Zhou thought about it and it made sense.

It was useless to talk about this kind of stuff over the phone as it would be in person.

"Ok, tomorrow at five o'clock. Let's meet outside the fish restaurant near the school gate."

…

The next day, at five o'clock in the afternoon, Lu Zhou arrived on time. When he saw Fat Wu who was wearing a black t-shirt and sitting on a bench, he waved at him.

Lu Zhou looked at his t-shirt and said, "You're only wearing a t-shirt? Aren't you cold?"

It was already the end of October and late autumn. Lu Zhou himself was already wearing a jacket.

"I'm fat, cold-resistant. I'm like this during the winter as well," said Fat Wu with a smile. He pulled out a chair and said, "Come and sit down. I already ordered a grilled fish. Go and order whatever else you want. When the fish comes, let's get some drinks and talk."

Lu Zhou said, "Let's drink tea. We should not be talking about business while we are drunk."

Fat Wu smiled and said, "Sure, whatever you want."

Fat Wu was a pretty great guy as he took care of Lu Zhou when Lu Zhou was still working part-time jobs. Therefore, when Lu Zhou had this good opportunity, he instantly thought of Fat Wu.

Of course, that was not the only reason why he thought of Fat Wu. The real reason Lu Zhou found him was that he fancied his abilities, specifically, his emotional intelligence and organization skills.

Those two skills were exactly what Lu Zhou lacked.

"Speaking of which, I also use your Campus Train app. It's pretty useful for carpooling," said Fat Wu.

When the food arrived, he poured tea for Lu Zhou and himself before he smiled and said, "The train station in our hometown... It's impossible to get a DiDi cab there. Normal taxis don't go there and unlicensed taxis are the only way to go. Now that I use your app to carpool, it saves me some money and I get to meet some cool friends. I'm pretty jealous of your brain. I could never think of something like this."

Lu Zhou smiled and replied, "I just did it as a random practice."

"Nutty randomly coded an app with hundreds of thousands of users. I get it now. When I compare myself to geniuses like you, I feel like I'm not cut for studying at all," said Fat Wu as he shook his head and sighed. He filled his teacup and smiled before saying, "Say it, why are you here? Get straight to the point."

"Are you interested in pursuing this project together?"

"You want me to join the company?" asked Fat Wu as he looked at Lu Zhou with an astonished expression.

Lu Zhou nodded and said, "Yes."

Fat Wu did not accept straight away. Instead, he asked, "Why me?"

"I'll get straight to the point?"

Fat Wu smiled and said, "Just say it, we're two guys here, stop beating around the bush."

"It's actually because I don't have the energy for this and also I don't have organization skills. Besides, not only are you not doing the graduate entrance exam, but you also have the experience," said Lu Zhou. He smiled and continued, "Of course, my gut feeling is the main reason."

"Gut feeling is your main reason?" said Fat Wu with a smile. He paused for a second before asking, "Then, tell me your plan. What do you want me to do?"

"Simply speaking, I want to expand the Campus Train project. Whether it's to get financing and go public or just selling the app as a whole. A beautiful and sophisticated paper value is a must. I admit that business is not my cup of tea. I like to do research. Therefore, I need to find someone with strong organization skills and management experience to help me."

Fat Wu nodded and said, "So you want to hire me to manage the company?"

"That's right," said Lu Zhou as he nodded. He then added, "I can offer you two choices."

"The first one is after the round of angel financing, I'll take out 5% of the shares in Campus Train from my shares and give them to you. When and if we sell the company, you'll get 5% of the sale. We can write this into the contract."

"As for the other option, I'll pay you a salary. 8k per month, plus maybe a bonus."

Lu Zhou stared at the guy and asked, "Which one are you choosing?"

Fat Wu was silent for a while. He then closed his eyes and began to think.

If you can't get the round of angel financing, then there is no point talking about the 5% stake. Internet companies aren't worth jack without capital and the equity would be a worthless piece of paper. However, if you do get angel financing, the company would be worth at least one million yuan and 5% of that is already 50,000 yuan.

As for the second option, it's a lot safer. 8000 salary plus bonus commission. For a recent mathematics graduate, that salary is pretty good. Not every math student can transfer their knowledge into Wall Street. I know exactly how much I'm worth.

If I pick the second option…

That would be unlike me.

Fat Wu thought about it for half a minute. He then opened his eyes and said, "I'm someone that likes a challenge. I don't want to work until I die. I'll pick the first one."

"I'd guessed that you would pick this one," said Lu Zhou with a smile. He then reached out with a hand and said, "From now on, we are business partners."

Fat Wu shook Lu Zhou's hand and smiled cordially as he said, "I wish us happy cooperation."

"Happy cooperation!"

Chapter 88

"Find anyone and ask why they want to work part-time. 80% of the answers can be summarized into three categories: Bored, want to experience life, want to train myself."

Fat Wu continued, "This is the University of Jin Ling. There are tons of geniuses here. Maybe they're not at your level, but there are still a lot of normal geniuses. Everyone is just eager to work part-time for money? No! It's actually a stage for them! A chance to perform!"

"I told them that I'm a business partner and that we're incubating a great project. If this project succeeds, it could become the next unicorn in the tech industry. From now on, we are a team, we are a family, we are founders… I'm just providing a stage for them!"

"If our project fails, then we lose together. But if we succeed…"

Fat guy Wu paused for a second before he smiled and continued, "… Then, it wouldn't be too late to give them some benefits."

Fat Wu explained those benefits to Lu Zhou in detail.

"We can just pay them if we're cheap. If not, we can organize dinners, traveling, create associations, or give them the opportunity to network. That's a lot better than giving money."

Lu Zhou was surprised after he heard him.

I'm impressed.

Before Fat Wu signed the contract, Lu Zhou thought he was just an older student that took care of him. He had no idea that Fat Wu was so sophisticated.

At first, when Fat Wu talked about the reasoning behind working, Lu Zhou thought it was nonsense…

However, now that he thought about it, it was brilliant!

His roommates would help him to install routers and they did not do it for the money. They did it for the life experience! In the end, only Lu Zhou was the one who would do it for the money.

Lu Zhou said, "Studying mathematics is a waste of your talents."

Fat Wu looked at the sky with sadness and sorrow as he agreed, "I think so too."

Lu Zhou said, "I meant that you should be doing sales."

Fat Wu: "…"

…

Like this, [Campus Train Club] was established.

According to Fat Wu, having a "club" made them seemed more legit. They could fool some new students into working for them while at the same time, they could also borrow the school's "public resources".

Since Fat Wu was blacklisted from applying for a club, Lu Zhou was the one that applied.

To be more accurate, Lin Yuxiang was the one that got it done.

Lu Zhou finally experienced the advantage of having connections. Other people had to go through a one-month application process and one month observation period while he was different. Especially since his club had monetary motivations, there was a 90% chance that the student union would kill his club.

However, Lin Yuxiang did him a favor and passed the club immediately…

Thus, the club was created.

The club president was Lu Zhou and the deputy president was Wu Dahai.

As for those twelve workers that Wu Dahai found, all of them were ministers.

After all, the club titles were all virtual and it was not like they cost money.

Lu Zhou could not help but ask why Fat Wu why was so experienced in these doings. Fat Wu replied casually, "I've done similar things before, like University of Jin Ling venture club, part-time workers club, etc."

He continued, "There are many benefits to doing this type of thing. You can easily recruit people when your club is new. Then you can make those people do a lot of free work in the name of helping the club. Plus we have the official seal of a company, so we can use their labor in the name of internships. In short, there are many advantages."

Lu Zhou asked, "You've done this before? What happened to your clubs?"

Fat Wu smiled awkwardly, "… It was shut down by the teacher of Social Affairs…"

Lu Zhou: "…"

The school did not allow the students to involve in off-campus activities that involved money transactions. Since anything involving money could go wrong, if there was a problem, the school would have to be responsible.

However, Fat Wu told Lu Zhou that the Campus Train Club was absolutely okay. Unlike the work-study clubs he worked on, all the club activities were completed in the school, and there was no need to contact the people outside the club. There was no problem at all.

In addition, this was a project in the university students' entrepreneurship support program. There were school leaders who were endorsing this project. As long as there was no big trouble, the teacher for Social Affairs would not be so "nonsensical".

In the time of one cigarette, Fat Wu explained the whole situation to Lu Zhou.

This also made Lu Zhou confirmed that this guy was talented.

Although this is another kind of talent…

I really don't know how this guy got into the University of Jin Ling.

The second day after the establishment of the club, Fat Wu's second order of business was to tell those twelve slaves… No, those twelve ministers, to meet at the fish restaurant.

Lu Zhou never thought about how to spend the company's money. Now, it was Fat Wu who planned the company spendings.

The first spending was to eat and drink with a thousand yuan budget.

The money was from the company's account, but when Fat Wu paid, he pretended as if it was coming out of his own pocket. This was one of Fat Wu's tricks. If a person wanted others to help him, that person must make them felt as if they owed him.

During the early stages of a business, the leaders must treat all the workers to a meal.

A thousand yuan, that was the entire monthly expenses of a student!

Even if they ran into trouble in the future, these people would not forget this meal.

What was team cohesion?

This was team cohesion!

When the food arrived, Fat Wu stood up and raised his cup.

"Everyone here is from different places, but the University of Jin Ling made us met with each other. It's fate that brought us together. Doing business together is also fate! It doesn't matter if we succeed, at least we tried to achieve our youthful dreams!"

"Come, cheers for our business!"

"Cheers!"

These people originally did not know each other. They only worked part-time with Fat Wu before. However, after alcohol, they all became a lot closer.

Lu Zhou sat next to Fat Wu as he started to think.

There is no way I can learn his talent…

Like planned, President Lu Zhou stood up and introduced himself.

When Lu Zhou sat down, everyone went around and introduced themselves.

After that, the appointment of personnel was also settled on the dinner table.

For this type of tiny company, other than the company manager, there were two other important positions. One was the product manager, which was responsible for the app production. The other was a technical manager responsible for the app updates and maintenance.

The product manager's name was Yuan Liwei. He was a third-year student in the business school. Even though he was an undergraduate student, he had experience in helping professors to design websites. He was well known in the school's business department. Thanks to Fat Wu, they were able to get him on board.

The technical manager was called Rong Hai. He was in software engineering. He was proficient in Python, C++, and Java. His software development skills were slightly worse than Lu Zhou's mathematical modeling competition teammate, but he was not bad at all. He could still be considered a genius.

Then design students did user interface, law students did legal consulting, marketing students helped the product manager to plan and do market analysis as well as proposing interesting ideas to torture the coders…

As for those useless people, they mostly ran errands and recruited new people into the club. Some people felt useless and left the club.

Who cared about those people.

Not like the University of Jin Ling lacked talent.

They lacked the stage…

Chapter 89

It did seem meaningless.

If they did not get the round of angel financing, their share would be useless.

…

The second day after the dinner, Fat Wu borrowed a classroom and started the first [Campus Train Club] activity.

The main topics of the meeting were regarding market and product analysis.

Everyone had to come up with ideas, brainstorm, and find ways to save hundreds of thousands of users. The best way was to make constructive suggestions about adding new features to Campus Train.

Almost everyone was energetic. They brought a notebook and was prepared to make meeting notes.

When Fat Wu walked into the classroom, he had two plastic bags in his hand. He then handed everyone a bottle of energy drink. Once he was done, Lu Zhou walked up to the stage and announced the start of the meeting. He then handed the podium over to the product manager, Yuan Liwei. Yuan Liwei was a genius that had a guaranteed master's entry spot.

"To save some time, I'll get straight to the point," said Yuan Liwei with his hands resting on the podium.

"… Campus train users are mostly college students. In the user group classification of Internet products, this kind of users can be regarded as high-quality users. They have the ability to quickly accept new things, have higher than average socializing skills, with higher than average consumptions. The most critical part is to tap into the high-end users' spending capacity!"

Yuan Liwei stood up straight and pushed his glasses before he continued, "It's not difficult to monetize this high-quality user base. It's not difficult to achieve profitability now! Our first task is to enhance the user's activity! It's not just the user base that measures APP valuations, numbers like daily active users are also important!"

"… Using common sense, the concept of a college student and train booking software is not a good combination. At least for me, the number of times that I'll open the booking software will not exceed ten times per year. No matter how good we upgrade the user experience of the booking service, it'd not actually make a big difference, since the users don't use the app often anyway."

"My suggestion is to develop new features and no longer limit us to train bookings."

"Everyone please speak up if you have any good ideas."

The ministers applauded with Fat Wu and Lu Zhou followed suit.

Professional!

Lu Zhou thought in his heart.

Business school students are so good at marketing and product operations.

Most of Lu Zhou's Weibo followers were college students. Furthermore, when he made it, it was the back-to-school season. Therefore, he developed a lot of functions for college students and as a result, he ignored many marketing principles.

After genius Yuan's market analysis and user demand analysis, Lu Zhou immediately understood a lot of the problems he had.

A first-year student raised his hand and proposed, "How about we add a timetable function? The curriculum in university is much more troublesome than in high school. In addition, sometimes there are classroom changes."

Yuan Liwei did not immediately judge this idea. Instead, he just smiled and wrote the idea on the blackboard with chalk.

Similar software already existed, but copying similar feature from one another was not uncommon in the software industry.

The discussion started to get intense.

Another person suggested, "Why don't we add a note for class? Taking photos of the powerpoint is way too difficult. Saving pictures into the gallery is also troublesome. If there is a camera function built into the software, users can take photos and save them in different classes…"

Although in theory, the students could download the powerpoint from the teacher, most people could not be bothered. They would take photos of the important slides.

This led to a lot of pictures saved in their phones. In addition, due to the many courses the students had, the pictures were messy and difficult to find.

Lu Zhou's eyes lit up.

This feature is good.

But not something I can use…

Yuan Liwei still did not say anything. He continued to smile and nodded before he wrote the idea down on the blackboard.

After that, a lot of ideas starting to emerge.

For example, some people recommended adding a sub-model of "new campus things" where people could share new and exciting things that were happening on campus. It could also be a public platform for publishing news. For example, if someone lost a textbook or a meal card, they could make a post on the app… It would be much more convenient than posting it on their WeChat news feed.

The discussion continued. Soon, they came into the conclusion that school news, events, and job information could also be posted.

Of course, they would have to be careful with information related to money transactions. They would have to discuss this in detail at a later date.

At the end of the discussion, the blackboard was almost filled with ideas.

As they looked at the lines of features, someone asked, "Can we still call this Campus Train?"

Lu Zhou suddenly had a moment of realization.

Yeah, should we still call this Campus Train?

The ticket booking software combined class schedules, class notes, campus news, etc. It felt a bit nondescript.

Even facing questioning voices, Yuan Liwei was not intimidated. He pushed his classes and said, "It's obvious that the Campus Train app would be more than just a booking software. Therefore, I propose a name change."

He looked at Lu Zhou when he said this.

As the Campus Train Club's president and chairman, this important task was naturally Lu Zhou's decision.

Lu Zhou did not answer but he started to think carefully.

About a minute passed…

Just when Yuan Liwei wanted to speak, Lu Zhou suddenly spoke up.

"Makes sense."

He paused for a second before he continued, "Then we'll change the name to… Campus Assistant!"

Chapter 90

Although the four new functions seemed complicated, the work needed to implement them was not too cumbersome. A lot of the code could be copied from templates and code libraries. At least, this was what Rong Hai said to Lu Zhou.

Rong Hai was responsible for the "class schedule" and "notes" modules. The more complicated "campus mood" and "study plan" modules would be taken by Lu Zhou himself.

Without any hesitation, Lu Zhou consumed 200 general points on the first day of module development. He used the system to solve the more difficult parts of the module code. By using the system, all he had to do was to transfer the code in his brain into the computer.

The balance of his general points was at 975.

…

Very quickly, the wind blew the autumn leaves away and October passed by quietly. It was soon the most beautiful time of the year.

In November, once the lectures for mathematical analysis 3 lectures were over, the mathematical department had a festive atmosphere.

Of course, this was not only because of the completion of mathematical analysis.

There was another important reason. The annual school event – Jin Autumn Singing Show – was about to begin.

All of the class leaders had a sign-up sheet and went around the dorms to ask if anyone wanted to join. According to the teacher in charge, each class had to have at least one student signing up for the audition. Each club also had to do at least two auditions. After that, the Student Union would choose the best people to perform in the show.

Due to the influence of the show, the impetuous atmosphere was spreading.

For those single loners, this was an opportunity to show their talent to potential mates.

In the corridors, next to the lake, near the forest…

Singing voices could be heard.

Dorm 201 was the same.

Shi Shang asked the class leader to put his name down. He then pulled out his guitar and sang a song full of sorrow.

Huang Guangming was playing on his phone when he could not take it anymore. From time to time, he would sing a few sentences, in hopes of correcting Shi Shang's pitch.

As for Liu Rui, he wore earplugs and was studying physics as always since he did not care about this Jin Autumn Singing Show at all…

Lu Zhou was the same. He was disinterested in the Jin Autumn Singing Show. However, even though he was wearing his headphones, he could still hear the ear-piercing voices. His eyes scanned across the lines of code as he was checking his "programmer workers" code for mistakes and possible improvements.

Suddenly, his QQ flashed.

When Lu Zhou looked at the bottom right corner, he saw a message from Wang Xiaodong and opened it.

[Jin Autumn Singing Show, I'm going to confess to her.]

No wonder this guy was a genius. His message was short but informative.

Lu Zhou sighed and typed four words.

[Wish you good luck.]

What else can I say?

Suicide mission?

Farewell?

If this guy grew some balls and confessed during the summer vacation, or right before the competition, maybe there would've been a little hope.

But now…

There's probably no chance?

This woman understands men too well. She can never establish a relationship with anyone. She will always string the men along and play with them…

Unless one day she gets tired and finally finds someone that is particularly good.

It's hard to describe how good the guy would have to be.

Who knows.

He'd have to be at least half as handsome and talented as me right?

Unfortunate…

Lu Zhou shook his head. Instead of giving his opinion, he continued to check the code.

Emotions were not his strong suit.

All he could do was a random analysis.

Wang Xiaodong did not reply. Maybe he grew some balls from Lu Zhou's reply and was meticulously planning the confession.

That confession scene would be terrible…

Lu Zhou could not imagine it.

Suddenly, Xiao Ai's dialog box flashed.

Lu Zhou opened it.

Xiao Ai: [Question, what is a confession?]

Lu Zhou shook his head and smiled as he quickly typed a reply.

[It's love.]

[You love me?]

Lu Zhou: "…"

[… Didn't I say not to read my chat data? Go and analyze the group messages!]

Lu Zhou pressed the enter key.

F*cks sake. Of all things, it learned self-love… Probably learned it from some shameless girl in the group chat.

The built-in fan spun a few times like it was doing some calculations.

After a while, Xiao Ai replied.

[Hello, master. (sad.jpg)]

Lu Zhou: ? ? ?

What? Is it so smart already?

It can use emojis?

Of course, Lu Zhou knew that Xiao Ai actually used contextual analysis and decided that this image would be the most suitable.

As for whether Xiao Ai could actually understand what the picture meant…

He doubted it.

Lu Zhou: [Don't send too many pictures in the future. It takes up CPU usages, slows me down.]

Xiao Ai: [Okay, master. (sad.jpg)]

Lu Zhou: "…"