

Superstar 1481

Chapter 1481: Something major is going to happen again!

The next day.

In the morning.

The netizens were relishing the situation.

“Have you seen the popularity rankings?”

“It went up again.”

“I really have to take my hat off to Lord Zhang.”

“Yeah, you really have to give it to him!”

“I wonder if anything major will happen today.”

“If he keeps up the momentum, he might be able to max out his Asian popularity before his child is born.”

“That’s quite unlikely since he’s still behind by quite a bit.”

“If he continues being this unlucky, do you think he’ll be able to live to see himself reach the summit of Asia?”

“Pfft, that’s true.”

The God of Death—this was Zhang Ye’s new nickname.

This fellow could always come up with new ways to grow his popularity, and everyone had gotten used to it.

...

At a park.

Inside a tent.

Zhang Ye was lying down on the inside with crossed legs and was on his cell phone. Since yesterday night, he had been living in the park as he dared not go home or check into a hotel. He had bought a tent and come to the empty field in the park to set it up. Although two trees got blown down by strong winds and crashed into the tent during the night, although a vicious dog went into the tent in the middle of the night, and although he woke up to find a grass snake warmly sticking out its tongue at him, he still managed to get through the night without harm.

He checked the news.

He checked the popularity rankings.

His popularity had gone up again?

But Zhang Ye just could not feel happy. It had been such a difficult day to get through yesterday, but it was still not over. There was still a full day ahead!

How was he going to get through this?

Where should he take refuge today?

All of the Lotte Marts in Beijing had already been destroyed by him!

Maybe he should go have a look at the Lotte Marts in Tianjin?

[Increased Difficulty of 5×]

[Remaining time: 26 hours, 5 minutes, and 15 seconds.]

Seeing this countdown timer of the Difficulty Adjustment Die in his game ring, Zhang Ye felt very sad.

So he thought about whether he could turn the situation around. His mind came back to the game ring. Without any hesitation, he activated the Lucky Halo (Upgraded) with the hopes of trying out something and started playing Lottery Draw (Two). Without placing any additional stakes, he tried it out once to see if he could get any items that would defuse this situation he was in. He was hoping that there was an item that could end the Difficulty Adjustment Die's effects in advance. That would be perfect.

The lottery draw began.

The slot machine started moving.

Clink, clank.

"Empty"!

There was nothing at all!

Zhang Ye was not convinced and tried the lottery draw again.

Still "Empty"!

He finally decided not to try it any further. This led Zhang Ye to reach a conclusion. The upgraded Lucky Halo's effects could not match the increased difficulty of 5× as the latter's effects were strong than the former. So with the increased difficulty in effect, Zhang Ye could not get any items from the lottery draw.

Outside, footfalls sounded.

"Oh? Is someone in there?"

"Yes, there's someone in here."

"You're not allowed to set up a tent here!"

"Alright, I'll leave right away."

The tent's zipper was pulled open from the inside, and Zhang Ye emerged.

The person on the outside was a park cleaner, and when she saw Zhang Ye, the woman got such a fright that she stumbled back several steps. The tone of her voice also changed. “Zh-Zhang Ye!”

Zhang Ye took the tent apart and stowed it before leaving.

Throughout this, the park cleaner was standing as far as she could from Zhang Ye like he was a plague god.

The netizens exclaimed when this news was reported. All of the Asian people knew that Zhang Ye was down on his luck. In the past, whenever Zhang Ye went out in public, he would always have to disguise himself as he was afraid that he would attract the attention of fans. But now there wasn’t a need to worry about this. If he stood out on the streets today, no one would even dare to get within three meters of him.

On this day, Zhang Ye was out “wandering” the streets again.

Wherever he went, everyone would avoid him in terror!

“Ah!”

“Face-smacking Zhang has appeared!”

“Let’s get out of here!”

“Stand as far away from him as possible!”

“Run!”

There was always a feeling like a devil had entered their village.

Zhang Ye had been prepared for this. He was going to take on today with the same attitude and caution like yesterday. But bizarrely, today did not feel quite right. Ever since Zhang Ye left the park, an hour had passed. However, nothing happened so far. There weren’t any abandoned wells on the sidewalk, nor did any cars lose control and head towards him.

What is happening?

This isn’t normal!

Zhang Ye was a little stunned. The more it was like this, the more wary he became.

Fuck, this felt like the calm before the storm. Could it be that the increased difficulty effect was building up something so that it could deal him a big shot?

Half an hour.

An hour.

Two hours.

No incidents occurred. The day went by so normally that it felt scary.

If it were a normal day, this normality would be expected. But these were different circumstances. The Difficulty Adjustment Die’s 5× difficulty was still in effect and had not ended yet. With everything that

happened yesterday, how many accidents did he get involved in? Yet there were zero incidents so far today? It just wasn't logical no matter how you thought of it!

Slowly, day turned into night.

Zhang Ye was getting more and more uneasy.

At night, he started making calls.

...

First, he called home.

"Mom, it's me."

"Where are you?"

"I'm outside. Did anything happen at home?"

"No?"

"What about Dad?"

"He's watching television."

"And Old Wu?"

"I just spoke with her on the phone. She's at her parents' place."

"What about Grandma and Grandpa?"

"They're both fine."

"Hey, that's odd."

"Rascal, what are you talking about? Are you hoping that something will happen to us?"

"Ha, no, I didn't mean it that way. I was just asking out of concern."

...

Then he called the studio.

"Old Ha."

"Director Zhang, when are you coming back? Everyone's worried to death."

"I'm fine and doing well. What about you guys?"

"Us? We're all fine."

"What about the concert?"

"Everything is progressing well."

"Did the venue collapse?"

“Huh? Why would the venue collapse?”

“Did any of the equipment explode?”

“Huh? Nothing exploded!”

“Did any of the workers fall into a well?”

“Huh? No!”

“Oh, alright then.”

...

After making a series of calls and making sure that his family and friends were fine and doing well, Zhang Ye was very perturbed.

It can't be!

This is absolutely impossible!

Something major is going to happen!

Something major is definitely going to happen!

Zhang Ye was hoping anxiously for something to happen now. If it kept going on like this without anything happening, he would get even more anxious. The increased difficulty of 5× was surely not this simple and would definitely not turn ineffective after just a day. Zhang Ye knew that at this very moment, something unfavorable was definitely taking place somewhere out of sight without his knowledge. Zhang Ye was completely certain of this point, not because he was suspicious, but because these speculations were based on his understanding of the game ring. He understood well the rules that these mysterious items operated by.

An hour.

Two hours.

And into the night, it remained peaceful as ever.

There was no commotion to keep the media and people entertained.

“Aiya, why didn't anything happen?”

“Was there no news of Zhang Ye at all today?”

“I've been waiting all day.”

“Pfft, don't you guys have anything better to do!”

“Enough already, people! How can you keep hoping that something will happen to Face-smacking Zhang!”

“Wash up and go to bed.”

Zhang Ye started calming down. This bro isn't afraid of anything. Come at me! It was time to sleep. If anything happened, he would know about it tomorrow.

Chapter 1482: The legendary hacker's true identity!

In the morning.

The sun was up.

And the birds were chirping merrily.

Inside the tent, Zhang Ye was already awake. He pulled down the zipper from the inside and climbed out. Seeing a rare blue sky, he yawned and stretched. He felt refreshed. He checked his game ring and saw that there were only three hours left on the countdown timer. The 5× increased difficulty effect was almost over, which improved his mood.

Come on.

Let's see what major incident has taken place.

Zhang Ye took out his cell phone and went online.

Upon checking, Zhang Ye was stunned!

Not only him, but everyone in China, Japan, and Korea was stunned!

Just a moment ago, the Koreans had announced a piece of news that shocked the whole of Asia: After several years of relentless effort, their cybersecurity personnel had finally managed to track down a trail leading to the world's number one hacker, "2," and locked down a potential target!

Chinese hacker, 2?

The famous trojan horse, Panda Burning Incense?

The Sino-Korean Hacker War?

The calamity that happened to the Korean Internet?

All of these incidents would never be forgotten by the Asian people. Many people witnessed what had happened and would still express shock whenever they thought about it now. The identity of the hacker "2" still remained a mystery to many, and they thought that this case would never be solved. This was because after the Sino-Korean Hacker War, 2 had disappeared without a trace and never reappeared again. But now, the Korean authorities managed to track that hacker? How could the people not be shocked and curious? Compared to that, those unfortunate accidents involving Zhang Ye were nothing. At this moment, all eyes in Asia had turned to this matter!

...

China.

"Who is it?"

"Who on earth could it be?"

"God 2 is my idol!"

"Yeah, I still remember when 2 led the Chinese hackers to wipe out the Korean Internet. Just thinking about it gets my blood racing."

"Did they really manage to find out who it was?"

"I really want to know who it is, but at the same time, I don't really want to know either."

"Being exposed as a hacker often means disaster as well!"

"God 2 is our national hero. The country has got to protect him."

"Yeah, with 2's technical skills, the country will definitely have to recruit him and find a way to camouflage his identity. We can't just hand him over to the Korean authorities."

...

Japan.

"They've finally managed to catch him?"

"This hacker is indeed quite impressive."

"The Panda Burning Incense was such a frightening computer virus."

"At that time, the Korean Internet was really left for dead."

"After so long and with so many people looking for him, how did the Koreans manage to find him first?"

"Speaking of which, Hacker 2 was the one who inspired me as well. It was because of my admiration for him that I picked up networking technology. Of the Chinese people, he is the person that I admire the most."

"He's indeed a legendary hacker."

...

The reaction in Korea was the biggest.

"Arrest him!"

"That fucker!"

"I still shiver in fear whenever I see a panda these days!"

"Right, it's all his fault!"

"That person sent our country's networking and computer field into such a deep crisis, so we definitely must not let him off. He caused such great damage to us!"

"Hand over Hacker 2!"

“Right, hand him over to the International Court of Justice!”

“That guy is even more detestable than Zhang Ye!”

“Motherfucker, my computer was also infected with the Panda Burning Incense virus back then.”

“What’s the big deal with that? My computer was infected eight times by it! Fuck!”

The Koreans only had two public enemies.

One: Hacker 2.

Two: Zhang Ye.

There were only these two people!

These two people had caused great anguish to the people of Korea!

And Hacker 2 was clearly ahead of Zhang Ye in terms of being hated!

Of course, the Koreans didn’t know these two public enemies were the same person.

...

2?

This was a name that felt far away, so far away that Zhang Ye had nearly forgotten about it. He had guessed yesterday that something major would happen. As it turned out, it happened the moment he woke up. And it was even an old case from a long time ago. Zhang Ye was rather helpless at this moment. It looked like whatever had to come would still come.

They found me?

How did they find me?

His cell phone rang.

When Zhang Ye saw the caller ID, it turned out to be Director Dong of the Internet Surveillance Bureau.

After hesitating for a moment, Zhang Ye answered: “Hello, Old Dong.”

Director Dong sighed. “Did you see the news?”

Zhang Ye smiled. “I did.”

Director Dong said: “I know you must be worried, so I thought I’d tell you about it. I’m not sure how the Koreans got so lucky, but while investigating another case, they found a computer that 2 had hacked into. The computer was also used by a hacker before, and it was running in a ‘sandbox’ environment. 2 used this machine as part of a botnet. Although it seemed like the access records had been cleared, there were still some traces the Koreans discovered by coincidence. After a check, the IP address was matched with our Internet Surveillance Bureau’s IP. It was even specifically linked to our office’s network. This bunch of Koreans must have had such a stroke of good luck. There’s only a one-in-a-million chance of this happening. It really won’t be easy getting Little Fan out of it this time.”

Zhang Ye was stunned. "Who?"

Director Dong said: "Little Fan."

Zhang Ye said dumbfounded: "Fan Yingyun?"

Director Dong said: "Yeah, Hacker 2 is her."

Zhang Ye was speechless.

Director Dong said: "There are also many others who have great skills over here at the Internet Surveillance Bureau. But for someone as skilled as Hacker 2, there really isn't anyone other than Little Fan. She does have a past record of doing something like that too."

Zhang Ye asked: "Has Sister Fan admitted to it?"

Director Dong said: "She denied that it was her. The upper management has already sent people over to investigate this case, and the Korean authorities are also urging that this matter be handled quickly. However, we will definitely not hand over anyone to them."

Zhang Ye replied: "It's not Sister Fan."

Director Dong was taken aback. "Why do you say that?"

Zhang Ye said: "Don't you know what kind of temper she has? When she hacked into that American company, she did not even bother to mask her IP address. Otherwise, could the other party have caught her? With Sister Fan's temper, she would definitely admit to it if she did it. Trust me on this."

"About that, we can only investigate further."

Zhang Ye repeated: "It's definitely not her!"

More voices came from the other end of the line.

Fang Xiaoshui said: "Director Dong, I trust Sister Fan!"

Meng Yi also said: "It can't be her!"

The two of them had worked together with Zhang Ye in the past and were both employees of the Internet Surveillance Bureau.

Director Dong made a serious face and said: "Don't let your personal feelings get involved. We have to see what results turn up from the investigations."

Zhang Ye asked: "If they find out who actually did it, what will happen?"

Director Dong thought that he was asking about this on behalf of Fan Yingyun, so he answered: "The evidence points to us, so it's affected us badly. The upper management is also very concerned about this and insists that we hand over the person responsible no matter what. The fallout from the Panda Burning Incense was enormous and caused great losses as well. If it was really Little Fan who did it, she'll have to be prepared to squat in jail. After all, she's different from others. Not only does she have a previous record, but she's part of the Internet Surveillance Bureau. By committing a crime when you're

supposed to be preventing them, the punishment meted out will surely be heavier. But we'll think of a way to protect her!"

After hearing that, Zhang Ye acknowledged: "I understand."

Three.

Two.

One.

The effective duration of the 5× increased difficulty ended.

Chapter 1483: Zhang Ye's choice!

Later that morning.

At the studio.

"Director Zhang!"

"You're finally back!"

"Aiyo, where have you been for the past two days?"

"You gave us such a fright."

"Are you OK?"

"Are you hurt anywhere?"

When Zhang Ye came over, everyone went up and surrounded him

Zhang Ye forced a smile. "I'm fine. How's everything over here?"

Ha Qiqi said, "Everything's fine. Oh yes, did you see the news yet? Hacker 2's real identity seems to have been revealed. Everyone's discussing this matter now."

Zhang Ye nodded and said, "I saw it already."

"I wonder who it is," Little Wang said curiously.

Tong Fu said, "God 2 was really cool at that time."

Little Zhou said longingly, "Yeah, he single-handedly swept aside the entire Korean Internet and ended the Sino-Korean Hacker War with an overwhelming victory. There have been so many hacker wars between so many different countries, but there has never been one as awesome as that particular one. I'm really curious to know who this Hacker 2 is. He's my idol!"

They were also discussing this matter. This piece of news was being talked about in all of Asia at the moment.

Only Zhang Ye seemed like he was not too interested in discussing it. He went back upstairs to his office alone.

The incident had returned to haunt him.

The media outlets were fighting to report this news.

“Hacker 2’s identity locked on!”

“Suspect already taken into custody!”

“Korean authorities announce results of investigation!”

“Korean authorities appeal for suspect to be handed over!”

“Sino-Korean Hacker War saga from years ago comes to a conclusion!”

“Creator of Panda Burning Incense revealed?”

“Evidence points to an employee of the Internet Surveillance Bureau?”

The evidence was laid out one by one.

The list of possible suspects kept shrinking.

When the Chinese side kept delaying the announcement of the investigation’s results, at around noon, the Koreans could no longer sit still. They announced the identity of the suspect!

Fan Yingyun!

Previous hacker pseudonym: FAN.

Current office: Chinese Internet Surveillance Bureau’s First Department.

And so on. Korea listed the details of Fan Yingyun on their own. They were the first to suspect that Fan Yingyun was the hacker and was almost positive that it was her. In the field of hacking, the name of FAN could be said to be famous. She was also a legendary hacker from many years back who had an inglorious record. To say that she and Hacker 2 were the same person, this was a statement that many people were willing to believe.

...

In the hacker world.

“It’s FAN?”

“Is it her?”

“She and 2 are one and the same?”

“This—”

“Surely that can’t be true?”

“It doesn’t feel like their technical flairs are the same, right?”

"Has it already been confirmed?"

...

China.

"Fan Yingyun?"

"Hacker 2 is a female comrade?"

"Ah, I know her. FAN is a legendary hacker!"

"Damn, so FAN and 2 are both her?"

"Isn't she the leader of Zhang Ye's fan club?"

"Is that true?"

"It's true. She appeared at Zhang Ye's wedding too!"

"Right, she's from Zhang Ye's fan club. I think she's known as Big Saber Bro over there!"

"Damn, the person in charge of Zhang Ye's fan club is a world-legend hacker?"

"How cool! There's such a beautiful hacker?"

...

Korea.

"What?"

"It's a woman?"

"Wow, she's quite pretty."

"She was the one who created the Panda Burning Incense virus?"

"How wicked of her."

"Why does it have something to do with Zhang Ye again?"

"Zhang Ye's name keeps haunting us at every turn!"

"As it turns out, this fellow and his fan club's leader are the two biggest public enemies of Korea!"

...

Internet Surveillance Bureau.

"Why did they announce it?"

"The investigations have not even been fully completed yet!"

"The Koreans are afraid that we'll try to protect her, so they decided to spill the beans first!"

"Those gooks!"

"I really don't think it's Sister Fan!"

"Yeah, Sister Fan was with us at that time. Everyone saw it as well. How could Sister Fan have any time to go and write the code for a Trojan?"

"But who could it be if it wasn't her? Is it you, Little Fang?"

"Me? As if I'm that skilled."

"Then that confirms it. Of those in our department at that time, only Fan Yingyun has the skills to do something like that."

...

At the studio.

A lot of people were calling.

Zhang Ye looked at the caller ID on his phone whenever it rang but did not answer the calls. He knew what everyone was calling to ask.

From downstairs, Ha Qiqi, Zhang Zuo, and the others all ran up.

Ha Qiqi shouted, "Director Zhang, something big has happened!"

Zhang Zuo said in a panic, "Big Saber Bro is Hacker 2!"

Little Wang said, "Heavens! This is unbelievable!"

Wu Yi said in shock, "So God 2 has always been so close to our side all this while!"

"I saw her at the wedding too!" Little Zhou said, "She's my idol!"

Ha Qiqi looked at Little Zhou. "She's already been taken into custody, and all of Asia's attention is on her. What are you still so happy about? This could end up with her going to jail."

Little Zhou yelled, "Ah!"

Zhang Zuo asked, "Director Zhang, is there anything that we can do?"

Ha Qiqi sighed. "This might really be something that we can't help with. It's too big an issue."

All this while, Zhang Ye sat there and did not say a word.

With the matter developing to this point, a lot of things couldn't be helped. The effective duration of the Difficulty Adjustment Die's 5× increased difficulty had ended, but the mess that it left behind was too big. Of course, he knew that Hacker 2 was not Fan Yingyun and the entire matter had nothing to do with her. However, the Difficulty Adjustment Die had successfully let that one-in-a-million possibility come true, allowing the Korean authorities to follow the trail to the Internet Surveillance Bureau's First Department. Back then, there were only a dozen or so possible suspects in the office of the Internet Surveillance Bureau's First Department, and everyone knew that only one of them could be Hacker 2.

Director Dong.

Fan Yingyun.

Fang Xiaoshui.

Meng Yi. And so on.

And Zhang Ye as well.

There were only those few, and with Fan Yingyun among them, the first person to be suspected was her. Meanwhile, Zhang Ye was not even considered one of the suspects. A lot of people had already forgotten that Zhang Ye was even at the Internet Surveillance Bureau at that time.

Zhang Ye was definitely not going to let Sister Fan be the scapegoat. He kept thinking of different ways to deal with this situation and how he could help Fan Yingyun get out of this predicament. However, all he managed to come up with were two methods.

One: With Sister Fan in custody, if Zhang Ye were to show up again as Hacker 2, that would lead to two outcomes. They would either not be convinced and continue the investigations on Sister Fan, or they would be convinced and rule out Sister Fan while continuing to investigate the other people of the Internet Surveillance Bureau. By ruling them out one by one, Zhang Ye would still end up in the crosshairs of the investigations. With just over a dozen suspects, the range was too small. It wouldn't take long for everyone to be investigated. It was just that they did not expect that person to be Zhang Ye.

Two: Zhang Ye could turn himself in and take responsibility for the matter. This was the most clear-cut way of solving the issue.

These two methods required Zhang Ye to reveal himself. There wasn't a third option.

Zhang Ye wished there was a better way in which he could avoid getting caught and still leave everyone happy, but there really weren't any.

This was the most major incident that Zhang Ye had encountered since his debut, as well as the most important decision that he had to make in his entire life. This was a decision that was going to change many things.

His career?

His popularity?

His family?

He would have to abandon them all.

Could he do it?

Could he bear to leave them?

Zhang Ye fell silent.

Chapter 1484: No worries, I'll start over again!

He looked back at the journey that had brought him here.

It was four years since he started out in the entertainment industry, perhaps more?

During these past four years, he had gained a lot of fame and won a lot of awards. He was an unknown broadcast major graduate of Media College who had reached the top of the Chinese entertainment industry before slowly making his way toward the summit of Asia. Right now, he was just a step away from standing at the top of Asia. This was the pinnacle of his career thus far in his journey. In the process, he had gained love, a family, and also a baby that was going to be born in a few months. He was going to be a father. This was supposed to be the most prosperous, most exuberant, and most glorious time of his life.

But to have him throw everything away now?

His work?

His wife?

His child?

This was such a difficult choice.

Zhang Ye had never had it easy all these years. He had fought his way to where he was and made many difficult decisions along the way as well. But it was different this time. This decision was too difficult to rashly make. It was so urgent that Zhang Ye was not even mentally prepared for it.

But at heart, he already had an answer.

However, he felt that he could not make this decision alone. If he did that, it would be very unfair to a lot of people.

...

Later that afternoon.

At Old Wu's parents' courtyard house.

Zhang Ye had driven over here. As soon as he entered the courtyard, he heard his parents' chattering, and the house in the north wing filled with laughter. He didn't know when his parents had arrived.

He pushed the door open and entered the house.

His mother looked over. "You're here?"

Zhang Ye smiled. "When did you two arrive?"

His father smiled and said, "We just got here. We came to visit Zeqing."

"Little Ye, quickly have a seat. What tea would you like to drink?" Li Qinqin welcomed him warmly.

His mother harrumphed, "Don't bother. Let him get the drink himself. This brat doesn't care about his family anymore and hasn't been back for two days. How incorrigible!"

Li Qinqin said gently, "Little Ye must be busy with work, so let's be a little more understanding."

His mother said, "He doesn't look like he's busy to me, but I think those people working at Lotte Mart have been kept rather busy by him."

Wu Changhe smacked his lips and said, "Little Ye, why have you been so unlucky recently? You can even fall into a well twice. You have to watch where you're going. Oh yes, do you know that something has happened in your fan club? Why is the leader of your fan club a world-famous hacker? It shouldn't affect you, right?"

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "It won't."

Li Qinqin said, "That's good."

Everyone chatted.

Zhang Ye also sat down and conversed.

However, Wu Zeqing did not say a word. The moment she took a look at Zhang Ye when he came into the house, she remained silent all the way until now with only a smile on her face.

Not long after.

Li Qinqin stood up. "It's almost time for lunch. Everyone, stay and eat."

His mother said, "I'll help you out."

Finally, Wu Zeqing spoke up with a smile on her face. "I'll head back into the room for a talk with Little Ye then."

Wu Changhe said, "Go ahead."

Zhang Ye quickly went to help her up. "Be careful."

Wu Zeqing smiled. "I'm being very careful, don't worry."

Stepping over the threshold, the two of them returned to the room in the west wing.

When they went inside, Wu Zeqing stopped smiling and looked at Zhang Ye. "What happened?"

Zhang Ye was taken aback. He thought that he didn't look too different from usual since his parents and Old Wu's parents did not detect anything about him. But Old Wu was just too smart. Be it her IQ or EQ, not even a hundred Zhang Yes were a match for her. Zhang Ye did not even need to say a thing and she already knew that something had happened.

Zhang Ye smiled bitterly. "Indeed, something has happened."

Wu Zeqing asked, "Is it very serious?"

Zhang Ye acknowledged, "Yes."

He told Old Wu everything that had happened. From the time he beat up Lee Anson after the Spring Festival Gala to him being attached to the Internet Surveillance Bureau and then to the matters that came to light today. In fact, Zhang Ye knew that there was another choice he could take and that was to shut his mouth over the matter. Now that the Difficulty Adjustment Die's increased difficulty of 5× effect

was over, even if the evidence had pointed to a department in the Internet Surveillance Bureau, the main suspect that everyone had in mind was still Fan Yingyun. It was the same for the Korean side, as well as for the Chinese side. If Zhang Ye kept quiet, the person that would have to take the rap for this matter would definitely be Fan Yingyun.

This would have been the best choice for him.

But it was never an option for Zhang Ye right from the start.

However, Zhang Ye still mentioned it to Old Wu. He thought that Old Wu would have some hesitation at first, but she didn't.

The first thing she said after she heard everything was, "There's no reason for others to take responsibility for our affairs." After a moment of silence, she said, "I understand."

Zhang Ye wanted to speak. "But—"

Wu Zeqing said, "You've already come to a decision, so there's no need to ask me."

Zhang Ye said, "How can that do? This is an important matter."

Wu Zeqing said, "Will you still be around?"

Zhang Ye was taken aback. "It won't kill me."

Old Wu smiled. "As long as you can survive, it's no big deal. Do what you feel is right, I will support your decision."

"But for the next few years—" Zhang Ye did not know how to put it.

Old Wu placed her hand on his. "You don't have to worry about the rest. I'm at home."

Zhang Ye hesitated. "Old Wu, I'm sor—"

"Don't apologize," interrupted Wu Zeqing. "My husband has an indomitable spirit. He won't do anything shameful, nor will he bow down and apologize to others."

But the more she put it that way, the more Zhang Ye felt guilty. If Zhang Ye was alone without any commitments, he could do whatever he wanted and handle whatever major incidents that came his way. But it was different now. He was no longer by himself. He had a wife and a child, so he couldn't help but feel that he owed his family. As a husband, as a child, or as a parent, he felt that he was too incompetent.

Wu Zeqing asked, "When are you leaving?"

Zhang Ye said, "I want to finish up the concert first. I've promised so many people that I'll do this, so there has to be a proper conclusion."

Wu Zeqing nodded. "Alright."

"I won't be going anywhere in the following days and staying at home to accompany you." Zhang Ye said.

But Wu Zeqing smiled and said, "There's no need. You still have a lot of issues to deal with for the concert, and there's a lot of other preparations to make before you leave. Concentrate on doing that."

Zhang Ye said, "Should I tell our parents?"

Wu Zeqing gave it some thought before saying, "Don't tell them yet. I'll let them know when it's a suitable time."

Zhang Ye nodded but still had a hesitant look on his face.

"You can't bear to leave?" Old Wu asked.

Zhang Ye smiled bitterly and crouched down, lightly hugging Old Wu's belly. "I can bear to leave everything except for my parents and the two of you."

Wu Zeqing smiled and said, "It's not like we'll run off."

Zhang Ye said, "You're such a good wife. How can I not be afraid of losing you?"

Wu Zeqing consoled, "You were thinking of leaving the entertainment circle in two months to take a few years off anyway. The only difference is that you're bidding farewell in another way, that's all. You've been truly tired out over the years, so take the opportunity to rest for a few years. When you come back after that, it's only a matter of having to start from scratch again."

Zhang Ye said, "Alright."

The decision was made.

Although it was a very difficult decision for the couple.

All of a sudden, Wu Zeqing said, "Little Ye, how about a song?"

Zhang Ye said, "A song?"

Wu Zeqing smiled and said, "I just felt like hearing you sing."

Zhang Ye also smiled. "Sure."

There was a guitar on the bed.

Zhang Ye picked it up and quickly tuned it. Plucking the strings without playing, he closed his eyes and felt a complex swirl of emotions. Countless images flashed through his mind.

His career.

His awards.

His wife.

His child.

Today, he had to give up on all of the most important things in a man's life.

What sort of feeling was this?

Even Zhang Ye himself could probably not describe it.

He was tightly clasping a woman's hand.

Zhang Ye looked to the side and smiled. It was a smile that suddenly had a bit more charm.

He strummed the guitar.

In the kitchen.

His mother's and Li Qinqin's ears pricked up.

"Who's playing the guitar?"

"It's probably Little Ye."

"Why is he suddenly singing?"

"Hur hur, he's probably rehearsing for the concert."

In the west wing.

A song ¹ slowly played.

"All of yesterday's glory

"has turned into a distant mem'ry.

"I've toiled and labored for half of my life.

"Tonight, I again enter the struggle stormy.

"I cannot just go with the flow,

"for the sake of my loved ones.

"I must stand firm no matter how hard or tough it grows,

"all for the sake of those hopeful eyes aglow.

"As long as there's faith, the dream lasts!

"There's still love between Heaven and Earth.

"Look beyond the ups and downs in life!

"All it takes is to start over again!"

Chapter 1485: The Final Concert (First Half)

The next day.

In the morning.

When Old Wu's family woke up, they discovered that Zhang Ye had already left.

Li Qinqin asked, "Did Little Ye go back last night?"

Wu Zeqing said, "No, he stayed with me in the west wing room."

Wu Changhe said, "Where'd he go then? Breakfast is already prepared."

"What did you two talk about last night?" Li Qinqin asked, "I noticed that you two spoke deep into the night."

Wu Zeqing smiled. "Nothing, we were just discussing the child."

At this moment, a car parked outside.

Then Zhang Ye came in carrying big and small bags of items.

One bag.

Three bags.

Five bags.

And there were several large boxes as well.

Li Qinqin was startled to see so many things. "Aiyo, where did you go?"

Zhang Ye chuckled and said, "Mom, I went out to buy some diapers for the child, as well as some clothes. There are clothes for when it turns six months, a year old, and two years old. I thought they looked pretty nice, so I bought everything." He opened a package and said, "Look at how good these diapers are. Don't trust those foreign brands. I bought our homegrown brands because they are as good as any others. Oh yes, Mom, don't shop at Lotte Mart in the future. That place is run by Koreans, so there's no guarantee of quality."

Wu Changhe said, "All of the Lotte Marts in Beijing were shut down by you yesterday, so it's not like we can go even if we wanted to. Hey, why'd you buy so many things?"

Zhang Ye said excitedly, "You can never be too prepared, so I bought a lot."

Li Qinqin didn't know whether to laugh or cry. "It's still early. The baby hasn't even been born yet."

"It's not early anymore." Zhang Ye said, "Everything has to be prepared beforehand."

Wu Zeqing smiled and said, "Just let him buy what he wants. It's better to be ready in advance."

Li Qinqin hurriedly beckoned and said, "Alright then, quickly bring the items into this wing."

When he finally unloaded all of the things from the car, Zhang Ye suddenly facepalmed and exclaimed, "Heyo, look how me, I've forgotten all about the baby stroller and crib. How about I go to the shop to pick them out tonight. I'll bring it back here if I find a good one."

Li Qinqin gave a wry smile. "It's the same even if you buy it another time."

But Wu Zeqing said, "Get a lighter stroller. It'll be easier to carry up and down."

“Sure thing, understood.” Zhang Ye said, “Then I’ll be going to work. I’ve made an appointment with someone already.”

Li Qinqin pulled him back. “Don’t go yet. Eat breakfast before you leave.”

Wu Zeqing said, “Let him go. He still has a lot of work to see to.”

Zhang Ye smiled and said, “Right, I’ll come back for dinner tonight.”

Li Qinqin said, “Hai, then drive carefully.”

“I will, Mom.” Zhang Ye rushed off.

...

10:30 AM.

At the studio.

When Zhang Ye arrived at the office, the person he had an appointment with was already here.

It was Beijing Television’s Hu Fei, Zhang Ye’s old boss.

Zhang Ye smiled and said, “Brother Hu, you’re here?”

Hu Fei pointed at him. “You called me to schedule this appointment in the middle of the night, yet you made me wait here for you?”

“Hai, I went out to buy some things in the morning, so I got delayed.” Zhang Ye had Hu Fei take a seat. “With so many types of diapers and baby products to choose from, it was all a blur to me.”

Hu Fei smiled in delight as he looked at him. “Alright, you’ve really changed now that you’re becoming a father. Having known you for so long, I’ve never seen you go out to a shopping mall to buy things for yourself.” With a pause, he asked, “So what is it? You didn’t want to mention it over the phone either. What’s there to be so mysterious about?”

Zhang Ye smiled. “I have a contract here.”

Hu Fei was startled. “A contract?”

Zhang Ye looked into the distance. “Little Wang, where is it?”

“It’s all printed.” Little Wang hurried over with the copy of the contract.

Zhang Ye took it from her and pushed it to Hu Fei. “Have a look.”

Hu Fei put on his glasses and went through the contract with a suspicious look. Almost immediately, he was stunned and raised his head in surprise. “Zhang’er, what’s the meaning of this?”

Zhang Ye smiled and said, “It’s the authorization agreement. I won’t be heading King of Masked Singers or I Am a Singer in the future. Counting the days, it’s also about time that King of Masked Singers starts production on its second season. For the second and even the third season of I Am a Singer, I will be authorizing the show to Beijing Television from now on as well. After signing this contract, there won’t be a need to seek my agreement to go ahead with the production of the shows.”

Hu Fei immediately pushed the contract back to him. "There's no need for this."

But Zhang Ye said, "It's necessary. I want to arrange everything first."

Hu Fei said in a speechless manner, "It's not like you won't be around anymore. You're just temporarily leaving the entertainment circle to take care of your child, I can still find you whenever, can't I? Let's talk about it when the time comes."

Zhang Ye said, "Let's get this matter settled first. Only then will I feel at ease."

Hu Fei thought that it wasn't too appropriate. "But—"

"No more buts." Zhang Ye finished speaking and took out yet another thick stack of documents with at least 20 pages. "These are the show outlines and drafts for the next few seasons of King of Masked Singers and I Am a Singer. Read up and use them if they're suitable. Otherwise, it's fine even if they're not followed."

Hu Fei looked through everything page by page and said with a sigh, "Actually, you're more suited to be the executive director than anyone else."

Zhang Ye did not say anything, nor did he know how to say it.

He also wished that these shows could be properly produced, but he didn't have any time left to do it.

Zhang Ye said, "Brother Hu, I only have one request."

Hu Fei said, "Speak."

Zhang Ye said, "As long as Dong Shanshan agrees, you must keep her as the host of the shows."

Hu Fei looked at him and said in seriousness, "I'll promise you that. As long as I'm still around, be it for King of Masked Singers or I Am a Singer, the choice of host will always be Dong Shanshan and no one else. For the outlines that you've provided me with, I'll get the program team to follow them strictly. These two phenomenal variety shows will definitely not be ruined in our hands."

Zhang Ye smiled. "Great!"

...

Noon.

Another group of people arrived at the office.

It was a group personally led by a deputy station head of Central TV.

Zhang Ye was also very surprised by this. "Station Head Zhou, you came down personally?"

Deputy Station Head Zhou said with a serious expression, "Of course I did. I definitely have to handle such matters myself."

"Please, take a seat," Zhang Ye welcomed.

Deputy Station Head Zhou and the rest of the group were all very solemn.

Zhang Ye's relationship with Central TV was a very complex one. They had a honeymoon period once, and he had also worked with them before. Later on, they fought, which resulted in Zhang Ye being forced out of the station. Then when Central TV changed its leadership and invited Zhang Ye to head the Spring Festival Gala, the two parties' relationship took a turn for the better again. The complexities were not explainable in just a few sentences.

Zhang Ye called out to his people. "Old Ha."

Ha Qiqi came over. "I'm here."

"The contract," Zhang Ye said.

Ha Qiqi gave a bitter smile at this point but still handed out the contract to them.

Zhang Ye pushed it towards Deputy Station Head Zhou. "Please have a look at it first."

Deputy Station Head Zhou and his staff from the legal department started looking through the documents and found that the contract was written very clearly. The several of them gave each other a look and then lightly nodded.

The production authorization agreement for The Voice!

The production authorization agreement for A Bite of China!

The authorization agreements that Central TV had been hoping to get for such a long time were unexpectedly given to them by Zhang Ye just like that!

Deputy Station Head Zhou looked at him. "What do you want for them?"

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "I only have one request."

"Speak," Deputy Station Head Zhou said.

Zhang Ye said, "Don't screw it up."

Deputy Station Head Zhou pondered it for a moment. "Alright, I'll promise you that."

Zhang Ye put his hand out with a grin. "Then please sign it."

Both parties signed off.

And the contract was established.

Deputy Station Head Zhou felt very emotional and excited. He deeply understood how important the authorization agreements in his hands were. The authorizations to make those two shows were what they needed most right now. That copycat of a program, Sing! China, was just something that the team of the previous Central TV leader had created when they were left with no choice. Even a hundred Sing! China shows would not be as good as the trademarked name of The Voice! Right now, they could finally start producing the second season of The Voice officially!

Deputy Station Head Zhou held Zhang Ye's hand and said, "I won't say anything else, Teacher Zhang. But if you need anything from Central TV in the future, just say the word. On behalf of Central TV, I thank you for your magnanimity."

Was he being magnanimous?

Zhang Ye shook his head slightly. He really wasn't a magnanimous person.

These classic shows from Zhang Ye's previous world had not been brought to this world by him so that they could be destroyed in his hands. Whether it was the grudge from before or those disagreements they had between them, it was no longer important to Zhang Ye. Since he was going away, he could not possibly take the shows along with him. Surely he should leave a little something for the people of this world.

This was also one of the last things that Zhang Ye could do.

Chapter 1486: The Final Concert (Second Half)

The next day.

He made a call in the morning.

It was a call to Spring Garden.

Xiaodong answered the phone: "Teacher Zhang, have you decided on the songs you'll perform? Will it still be a heavy metal piece?"

But Zhang Ye said: "Sister Dong, there are some slight complications. I'm sorry, but I can't invite you all to the concert anymore."

"Ah?" Xiaodong was dumbfounded. "Then who are you getting?"

Zhang Ye gave a bitter laugh. "I'm not getting anyone else. I won't be inviting any guests."

Xiaodong asked: "What's going on? What happened?"

Zhang Ye said: "Stop asking."

Amy snatched the phone over. "Damn, we've already prepared for the concert, so how can you just tell us that we won't be singing anymore? Lord Zhang, can you be any more unreliable than this?"

Zhang Ye laughed dryly. "Blame it on me, blame it on me."

Amy said: "Aren't you standing us up like this?"

Zhang Ye said: "I'll make amends to you all another time."

Amy said: "That's not necessary!"

Du du.

The call was cut.

Zhang Ye sighed, knowing that they were really angry this time. I'm sorry, but you girls are different from me. You still have your careers to develop in Asia and move to a higher stage. I can't implicate you

three with my problems and pull all of you down together with me. That would be bringing harm to you instead.

...

In the morning.

Zhang Ye came to his eldest younger sister's house.

His aunt had already gone to work, but his uncle and Cao Dan were still at home.

His uncle said in surprise, "Eh, what are you doing here, Little Ye?"

Cao Dan came out happily to welcome him. "Brother? Come in quickly."

Zhang Ye smiled. "I happened to pass by, so I came over to have a look. Uncle, there's no need to pour me any tea. Hurry to work. I came to discuss some things with Dandan."

His uncle said, "Alright then, I'll leave you two to talk."

They went into Cao Dan's bedroom.

Zhang Ye asked, "How are the short videos coming along?"

Cao Dan gave a wry smile. "I've been practicing making them for the past few months. I've recorded a few clips, but I'm not satisfied with them at all. I think I still lack experience in making videos. I just can't seem to bring out that style you described."

Zhang Ye gave it some thought. "It doesn't have to be done in exactly the same way as I said it. You have your own character, so it should also portray your unique style. Come, let me have a look at the videos you've already made."

He watched a few of them.

Then Zhang Ye pointed out several problems.

Cao Dan quickly took out her notepad to write them down. She was very serious about this.

For the entire morning, Zhang Ye was helping his eldest younger sister to think up ideas on how to make the videos. Then he wrote out quite a number of Papi Jiang's funny video storylines for her again. He did it almost without stop for two hours straight, as though he were trying to give everything that he could remember to Cao Dan.

Cao Dan was a little surprised by this. "Brother, what's with you?"

Zhang Ye smiled. "Nothing?"

Cao Dan said, "There are still so many things to handle for your concert, and all Asia's attention is on it at the moment. This small matter of mine can always wait. I don't wish to waste your time like this."

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "There's nothing much for me to handle there. Let me finish writing out everything for you first. Make another video and try it out. I'll leave after I'm satisfied with what I see. Otherwise, I won't be able to put my mind at ease."

Cao Dan replied, "Alright."

...

Noon.

Zhang Ye returned to the studio. But when he reached the door, he paused for a moment before turning around to head downstairs to where Yang Shu was living.

He knocked on the door.

The door opened.

Yang Shu was dressed in her training gear and probably practicing her martial arts.

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "You sure are diligent."

Yang Shu said sourly, "Senior Bro, I'm not like you. I don't have your talent where I can be good at kung fu without practicing. I definitely have to do it the hard way."

Zhang Ye laughed dryly. "Our circumstances are different. Have you eaten?"

Yang Shu said respectfully, "I just ate."

Zhang Ye asked, "How's your training been going recently?"

Yang Shu's eyes lit up when the subject switched to this. "I've made some progress. Senior Bro, I'd like to spar with you."

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "Never mind that, maybe in the future. But I don't mind teaching you a few moves."

"Didn't you already teach me?" Yang Shu said in surprise.

Zhang Ye laughed and said, "There are still a few moves that I haven't taught you yet."

Yang Shu said dumbfoundedly, "You mean you've been keeping some secret moves to yourself?"

Zhang Ye coughed. "Don't put it that way. What do you mean by keeping secret moves to myself? You weren't at that level yet, so there was no point in teaching them to you. Don't bite off more than you can chew, understand?" He then took a thorough look at her. "Although you're still not there yet, I can teach it to you first. Take your time to slowly practice them in the future."

For the entire afternoon, Zhang Ye taught Taiji to Yang Shu.

Eventually, after Yang Shu cooled down with her ending stance, she asked excitedly, "Senior Bro, how was I?"

Zhang Ye laughed. "You've got quite a pretty decent stance, not bad."

Yang Shu got extremely excited. "Thanks, Senior Bro!"

Zhang Ye sighed emotionally. "You're much more talented and hardworking than I am. It's no wonder Old Rao wants to take you in under her Eight Trigrams Palm Sect. With you leading the Taiji branch of

martial arts, it will definitely be able to flourish. There's nothing for me to be worried about anymore." With a pause, he took a card out of his pocket. "Haven't you always wanted to start a martial arts training hall? You can be quite naïve and I was always very worried in the past. So I used to keep finding excuses to evade your requests, but it looks the time is ripe. Here's a card with 8 million yuan on it. It should be enough for you to open a training hall in Beijing. Go ahead and give it a try."

A training hall?

She could finally open a martial arts training hall?

Yang Shu got so excited that tears nearly fell from her eyes. "Senior Bro, I'm not used to you being like this."

Zhang Ye smiled. "You're too kind. If I'm not around in the future, go find Old Rao if you meet with any trouble. She would never leave you in a lurch. You should also learn to be more like her."

Yang Shu said, "...Alright."

...

Back upstairs.

At the studio.

When Zhang Ye came back, it had already turned dark.

Everyone still had not left work.

When Zhang Ye saw this, he rounded everyone up and announced, "Everyone, stop working for a bit. I have something I want to say. All of you have been with me as I waged battles everywhere over the years. I know how much you guys have suffered, and I know it hasn't been easy either. All of you had to put up with so much pressure and also offended so many people along with me. I will be bidding a temporary farewell to the entertainment circle very soon, so all of you can take a long break as well. Do whatever you wish to do. There won't be a need to come to work every day anymore."

Ha Qiqi laughed and said, "How can we do that? You're just leaving temporarily. It's not like you're retiring from the entertainment circle for good. Aren't you just staying home to take care of your child? You won't have the time to take on any variety shows, but there should still be time to write some novels or comics, take on philanthropy work, or pick fights with others. We will definitely still have to hold down the fort."

Zhang Zuo said in amusement, "That's right. You'll be away for at least half a year to a year's time, so we have to ensure that our popularity does not drop during this period. Then in a year or so, we'll start over again once you're less busy at home."

Zhang Ye said, "In any case, let me give out the bonuses."

"Wow!"

"There's still a bonus?"

"But it's not the new year yet."

Zhang Ye said, "It'll get really busy closer to the new year. I'm afraid that I won't have time then, so I've decided to give it out in advance."

But when they saw the amount for the bonuses, everyone was dumbfounded.

"Holy shit!"

"Director Zhang, isn't this a little too much?"

"Why is it so much?"

"Oh my god! Are we splitting the inheritance?"

"Hooray, Director Zhang!"

Everyone was cheering!

Ha Qiqi said in amazement, "This is way too much."

Even people with salaries, like Ha Qiqi and Zhang Zuo, were finding the bonuses to be a bit outrageous.

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "This is the first time I've encountered anyone resenting their bonuses for being too large. Actually, even though you're all officially my employees, I've long considered you to be my friends and business partners. Just consider the bonuses to be your dividends from the company until now. I just hope that you don't find it to be too little if that's the case."

Little Wang giggled and joked, "Why does this feel like we're disbanding the company."

Ha Qiqi shot her a look. "Silly girl, what nonsense are you spouting? We're at our most glorious peak, so why would we disband?"

Little Wang laughed and said, "I'm just kidding!"

Zhang Ye looked at everyone. He looked at all of their faces and suddenly said, "I said I wanted to call it 'A Night in Beijing,' right? I suddenly find it to be unsuitable as the title for the concert. When holding it at a venue as big as the Olympic Stadium, this name just doesn't sound that domineering no matter how you say it. Why don't we change it to something else?"

Ha Qiqi was taken aback. "What do you want to change it to?"

Zhang Ye looked out the window. "Why don't we call it 'The Final Concert'?"

Little Wang clapped. "That sounds good. The name sparks excitement!"

Wu Yi said, "Right, since you're going to bid farewell to the entertainment circle for a while, there's nothing wrong with calling it the 'final' concert. This name sounds attractive the moment you hear it."

Zhang Zuo said, "Alright, it's still not too late to change it."

However, they didn't know what the "final" in this name really meant.

Chapter 1487: The Great Hacker War!

On this very day.

On Weibo.

The people were all fervently discussing.

“How is God 2 doing?”

“I don’t know.”

“I think she’s been taken into custody, and the investigations are ongoing.”

“I feel that there should be amnesty given.”

“Yes. In the Sino-Korean Hacker War, it was clearly the Korean hackers who started the large-scale attack first, and God 2 was forced to retaliate. Why didn’t the Koreans investigate their hackers first before coming over to latch onto our people? They’re such bastards! If I were from the Internet Surveillance Bureau, I would pretend not to know anything nor arrest my own people.”

“Well said. When God 2 joined the war back then, all of the world’s hackers got so frightened by her. All sorts of evil spirits, demons, monsters, and thieving bastards were scared off by her. Just look, have there been any foreign hackers who dared to show up and flaunt themselves in China in the past few years? Not even a single one them dared to do so. If they arrest God 2 for bringing harm to cybersecurity, I’ll be the first to protest. God 2’s existence is a deterrent itself, and it alone is enough to improve cybersecurity.”

“Ah, this is bad!”

“What happened?”

“Our government’s website has been hacked!”

“What?”

“Look at this, the largest forum in China is no longer accessible!”

“Are those fellas at it again?”

“What the heck!”

One!

Five!

Ten!

Twenty!

The Chinese websites were gradually paralyzed by the attacks. It was happening at an alarming rate.

The attack this time was too sudden and had caught everyone off guard!

...

At a supermarket.

“Shit!”

“The cash registers have crashed!”

“We can’t handle transactions anymore.”

“It’s the hackers!”

...

At a school.

“Teacher, what’s wrong?”

“Everyone, do some self-studying for now. There’s something wrong with the computer.”

“Teacher, why has the screen gone dark?”

“The school’s network has been hacked!”

...

At a company.

“Ah, the computers are all down!”

“We’ve been infected with a trojan horse!”

“What is this?”

“A Korean flag?”

“It’s the Korean hackers!”

...

Overseas.

Korea. In a chat group.

“It’s started.”

“Alright, let’s execute the plan as previously discussed.”

“Don’t worry.”

“Haha, I’ve already taken down three sites.”

“I’ve taken down four sites. The Chinese network is too vulnerable!”

“We can finally take our revenge for what happened!”

“2 has been taken into custody. There isn’t anyone in China who can stop us anymore!”

“Everyone, attack!”

...

Overseas.

America.

"The Koreans have made their move."

"They finally couldn't sit idle."

"It looks like they've been enduring the shame for too long."

"With 2 as a deterrent, very few foreign hackers have targeted China in recent years. I myself haven't messed around in China for a long time as well. Why don't we go and have a look too?"

"Haha, alright!"

"I'm gonna join in for the fun of it too!"

...

Overseas.

Japan.

"China has been hit by hackers."

"It's such a major attack?"

"Is it the Koreans?"

"Why are the Americans getting involved as well?"

"With 2 in custody, it looks like a lot of people are itching to target the Chinese network again."

"Let's join in as well then."

"Alright, let's assemble with the others!"

...

At the Chinese Internet Surveillance Bureau.

"Director Dong, this is bad!"

"The number of hackers has increased again!"

"The Japanese have joined in as well!"

"And the Americans too!"

"Why is this happening?"

"We can't hold them off!"

...

Attacked by hackers from multiple countries!

Countless websites went dark!

Countless websites were crippled!

This was clearly an organized and premeditated hacker attack!

Korean, America, Japan, France, and many other countries' hacker groups had joined in this operation. The Korean hackers were taking revenge for the Panda Burning Incense virus that raged through their country, while the other countries' hackers were just here to be part of the action. Right now, the whole world's cybersecurity industry had its attention on the capture of Hacker 2, so it was a good opportunity for a lot of hackers to show what they could do. Fame was equally important to a hacker as well.

Thus, another grand hacker war began!

The Chinese hackers fought back but kept getting defeated and pushed back!

The opponent's faction was too large. They had too many people on their side, with people like America's John, Korea's Sun, and France's Joseph, who were all ranked among the top twenty hackers in the world. Meanwhile, the Chinese side could not even muster enough people. The highest-ranked hackers, FAN and 2, were now thought to be the same person and was being held in custody for investigations. Don't even mention getting on the Internet or touching a computer. All of her freedom was restricted at this moment. In the end, they still needed a big brother of the Chinese cybersecurity world to step out of retirement and get involved. The 41-year-old Li Weidong was given the responsibility of leading a team of Chinese hackers to face the attacks.

"We can't hold them off anymore!"

"Dammit!"

"Those bastards! Who do they think they are!"

"Charge!"

"We have to take them down even if we die!"

This war continued being fought for three days and three nights!

The multinational hacker army kept assaulting!

The Chinese hacker army was overstretched!

An American flag!

A Japanese flag!

A Korean flag!

All of them started appearing one after another on the Chinese Internet!

In the end, even the network of the Chinese Internet Surveillance Bureau's office was brought down for a while! The war was completely one-sided, and many of the citizens' daily lives were severely affected. They couldn't log on to the online forums they frequented, or encountered problems with paying for

items when trying to make purchases, or the companies' computers were collectively infected with viruses and became inoperable, etc.

No one thought that it would be this serious!

Very few hacker wars in history had been this large scale, and this one was caused by one particular incident—the exposure of legendary hacker 2's identity!

At this moment, the entire world's attention was on China!

...

On the other side.

At Old Wu's parents' courtyard house.

Wu Zeqing was sitting in the yard admiring the moon.

Zhang Ye walked over with his hands behind his back. "What else is there? What else do we need for the child?"

He always had the feeling that he hadn't done something!

He always had the feeling that he hadn't left instructions for something!

"Everything is in order," Wu Zeqing said.

Zhang Ye waved his hands. "No, there must be something that I forgot."

Wu Zeqing said, "That's enough. You've already bought all that needs to be bought."

Zhang Ye sighed and then sat down. "Is that right?"

Wu Zeqing reached out and adjusted his shirt collar. The collar was not actually crooked, but Old Wu always liked doing this. "It's good enough."

Zhang Ye gave a bitter smile. "Yeah, I guess it's good enough."

At this moment, Wu Changhe shouted from the house, "Little Ye, why can't I get into the Go server? Why is there also a Korean flag showing on it?"

Zhang Ye raised his head and shouted back, "It was probably attacked by hackers."

Wu Changhe said, "Those foreigners, they're all crazy! I can't even play Go now!"

Li Qinqin's voice also rang out, "Hai, what's with our country? Is there no one who can take them on?"

Zhang Ye said, "Hacking has a very secretive nature to it. Our country has limited strength in this area, and the hacker groups have free rein. With so many hackers from so many countries joining forces, it will definitely be very difficult to cope with in the short term."

Wu Changhe said angrily, "So many days have gone by. Are we just going to continue allowing them to be so arrogant?"

Zhang Ye looked at his wife. "Old Wu?"

Wu Zeqing smiled. "Like I've said, I'll support whatever you do."

Zhang Ye also smiled. He looked up at the moon.

It was very round.

It was very bright.

And it was very beautiful.

He had said all that he needed to say.

He had made clear everything that needed to be done.

Then before I go, let me again do a little something for everyone.

Chapter 1488: The CIH virus is created!

The next day.

The flames of war spread even further.

The entire Chinese Internet had been turned into a battlefield as more and more foreign hackers joined the war the Korean hackers had initiated as a revenge operation. They were profiting off another's misfortune!

500!

1,000!

2,000!

The number of hackers taking part reached a terrifying figure!

China's Xinhua News: "China faces its most serious cybersecurity threat!"

America's New York Times: "The largest-scale hacker attack in history!"

On a Korean television network: "Multinational hackers hack into the Chinese Internet on a massive scale!"

Japanese media: "China's Internet faces a devastating crisis!"

The industry, the people, the media, and the entire world were keeping up with the latest news surrounding the Great Hacker War!

...

In the morning.

At Old Wu's parents' courtyard house.

Wu Changhe was holding a newspaper with a very ugly expression on his face.

Li Qinqin served up two trays of steamed buns on the table. "Little Ye, it's time for breakfast."

Zhang Ye shouted from the west wing room, "I'll be right out, Mom."

Wu Zeqing came out first. "Let's start eating first."

"Wait for Little Ye," Li Qinqin said as she gave her the side-eye.

Wu Zeqing smiled. "He's busy with something. He'll come out to eat in a while."

Li Qinqin said, "He should still eat first even if he's busy. Little Ye, hurry up, we're waiting for you."

At this moment, Zhang Ye came out carrying a laptop with him. He placed it on the table and typed away furiously while saying with a smile, "I'm almost done."

Wu Changhe said, "Did you not sleep the entire night?"

Zhang Ye smiled and said, "I was busy with something."

"Oh, you! You work yourself to the bone," Li Qinqin grumbled.

A few minutes later.

When Zhang Ye finished typing the last line of code, he checked through it before happily hitting the enter key. Then he closed the lid of the laptop and said, "Alright, let's eat."

Wu Zeqing asked, "You're done?"

Zhang Ye said, "Yes, I'm done."

...

Overseas.

In a secret group chat online.

This was where the temporary command center set up by the multinational hackers was located.

"QC, hold them down."

"Alright."

"Joseph, we're depending on you over there."

"Understood."

"The website is about to get taken down."

"Haha, come on, everyone!"

"We've taken it down, we've taken down another one!"

"Great showing, QC! Let's move on to the next target!"

"QC?"

“QC, reply!”

“Where’s QC? Why did he go offline?”

“JIN, what happened to QC?”

“JIN?”

“Where are they?”

“What the hell are they trying to pull!”

“QC! JIN! Reply! Reply right now!”

“This is bad, something has happened!”

One!

Ten!

A hundred!

Gradually, the hackers started going offline!

Connection outage. Communications outage—this sort of outage was the most terrifying thing that a hacker could expect because it often meant a disaster. There were too many reasons why this could have happened, like having problems with their connection, or the hackers deliberately plugging out from the Internet, or their computers crashing, or having their controls taken over by the police. If it were the first reason, that wouldn’t have been too bad. But everyone knew that this was impossible. They could have disregarded it if only one person experienced problems with their connection. But for scores or hundreds of people to gradually experience connection issues, it couldn’t have been such a coincidence!

“Sun?”

“Say something, Sun!”

“We’ve lost contact with Sun too!”

“What happened?”

“Who’s doing this?”

“Dammit, what’s happening?”

“Withdraw! Run away!”

The multinational hacker army was panicking. They had wanted to make an emergency retreat but were too late!

...

Somewhere in Korea.

Sun watched helplessly as the data on his computer's hard drive was quickly destroyed. Moreover, it even caused permanent damage as the hard drive was overwritten with junk!

It was gone!

Everything was gone!

"Who is it?"

"Who did this?"

...

Somewhere in America.

John roared.

His BIOS had been destroyed!

His computer couldn't start up anymore. He could not get it up and running again, and there was no way to repair it!

"Who did this?"

"Goddammit!"

...

Somewhere in France.

Joseph was panicking!

"My data!"

"What happened?"

"Who did this?"

...

Somewhere in Japan.

Oda grabbed his hair in frustration!

"Why?"

"Why did this happen?"

"My BIOS is corrupted?"

"But that's hardware! How is it possible!"

...

At the Chinese hacker army contingent.

“Where are they?”

“Where have all the foreign hackers gone?”

“They’re not around anymore? Have they all retreated?”

“Why have they disappeared?”

...

Within an hour!

The alliance of foreign hackers was wiped out!

No one knew what had happened!

No one knew what in the world had happened!

In the blink of an eye, and with a single exchange, the entire multinational hacker army had disappeared. This baffled a lot of people!

Silence!

The previously spectacular Great Hacker War had gone quiet!

This type of silence was too terrifying. This type of unknown fear was the most torturous of all!

An hour.

Three hours.

Five hours.

Finally, on the afternoon of the same day, a piece of news shocked the world!

America issued an urgent notice!

The Korean authorities issued an urgent notice!

The Chinese Public Security Department made an emergency announcement!

The Japanese issued an urgent computer virus alert!

The network security centers of many countries all over the world made a joint announcement. They had discovered a new type of computer virus that overwrote the first 2,048 sectors of the system’s available non-removable writable disk drives. Starting from the hard drive’s master boot record, it began to fill it up with a junk sequence until the hard drive’s data became inaccessible. Furthermore, it could even cause damage to the BIOS on a majority of motherboards, resulting in irreversible and permanent damage. After studying it, this computer virus’s infection rate was found to be very high. But due to some limitations placed by the computer virus’s creator, it only spread to a specific target group. As for the specific rules of how it chose its targets to spread to, that remained unknown. This was the world’s most malignant computer virus discovered so far, and it was also the only computer virus that could cause damage to a computer’s hardware!

Although the virus was not spreading on a large scale yet, countless countries around the world still broke out in cold sweat the moment it was discovered, and they quickly issued the highest level of alert on the computer virus. This was because once it started spreading on a global scale, there would be an unprecedented disaster for the entire world!

All of the world's cybersecurity experts.

All of the world's media outlets.

All of the world's hacker groups.

Everyone was startled!

"Oh my God!"

"Destroy the hardware?"

"How is that possible!"

"Holy shit!"

"Who could have created something so dangerous?"

"What kind of a computer virus is this!"

Most people had come across common computer viruses or trojans before, and the most they could do was damage the computer's operating system and programs. Once there was an anti-virus tool made available, they could be removed, or the operating system could be reinstalled after a simple format of the hard drive. This was what everyone's understanding of a computer virus or trojan horse was.

But a virus that could destroy the hardware?

They had never ever heard of something like that before!

Even the world-famous hackers and security experts were dumbfounded!

...

In this world, no one knew what kind of computer virus this was.

Zhang Ye obviously knew about it. And the people of Zhang Ye's previous world also knew about it. This was one of the most malignant computer viruses in Zhang Ye's previous world, and also the first virus that could cause damage to a computer's hardware. In terms of its spread, harmfulness, and destructive powers, not even a hundred of the Panda Burning Incense viruses were a match for it!

That's right!

This was the infamous and notorious CIH virus!

And it was even an improved version after Zhang Ye's modifications!

Chapter 1489: The world's most dangerous hacker in a hundred years!

The global atmosphere was changing!

People were panicking!

On this day, the entire world was shrouded in the shadow of the CIH virus.

Subsequently, cybersecurity experts from around the world urgently formed a computer virus research group and began trying to crack the virus's code. However, they made extremely slow progress on it and were unable to come up with an ad hoc solution.

"It's not working!"

"Pete, how is it going?"

"Another machine has been scrapped!"

"Dammit!"

"This virus is too dangerous!"

"The creator must be a lunatic!"

"Has it started to spread?"

"Fortunately, not for the time being."

"Yeah, due to the virus creator's rules in the coding, there hasn't been any widespread transmission of the virus yet. But that doesn't mean that we can relax. We have to find out if the creator explicitly limited the spread of the virus, not that he couldn't achieve the effect. This virus is like a ticking time bomb!"

"Who could it be?"

"It definitely originated from China!"

...

Korea.

The citizens also broke down.

"Our hackers have been totally wiped out?"

"All of them got infected by a computer virus?"

"There's no one left at all?"

"How the hell did that happen!"

"Such a dangerous hacker still exists in China?"

...

Japan.

“Is it a Chinese person?”

“It has to be.”

“The many, multinational hackers attacking the Chinese Internet were inexplicably infected with a virus and wiped out while the Chinese hackers remained unaffected. It would be a wonder if it weren’t them!”

“China really is full of hidden talent.”

“There are too many dangerous people in China!”

“Yeah. There was 2 previously, and now, another one has popped out?”

...

China.

“Holy shit! Damn!”

“Is it really our people?”

“This is so cool!”

“Motherfucker, I’m getting so heated!”

“Good job! Well done getting them!”

“They’ve been hacking us for so many days, but they’ve finally been annihilated!”

“Wiped out in a single exchange? God! That’s so impressive!”

“We have an ace among us! A true talent among the people!”

“Don’t you guys find this to be very similar to the approach that the legendary hacker, 2, employed back then?”

“Ah? It does feel like that, it really does!”

“But 2 has already been taken into custody, no?”

“What do you guys mean by that? Are you saying—?”

...

Somewhere.

Chinese cybersecurity experts had gathered.

Li Weidong, who had led a team to fight back against the multinational hackers this time, was also present.

“Who was the person that helped us?”

“I don’t know!”

“He appeared so suddenly, we weren’t even expecting it.”

“Old Chen, is it one of your people?”

“No. How could the people under me have such advanced programming skills?”

“No one knows anything at all? If it were one of our own, how could there not be any news of who it is?”

“Old Li, what do you make of this?”

Li Weidong had not spoken yet. He kept quiet for a very long time before looking up and saying in a heavy tone, “This kind of programming technique, this style of doing things, this kind of efficiency, why do I keep thinking that it feels like someone?”

A cybersecurity expert who was in his 30s said in a startled manner, “Who?”

Li Weidong said, “—2.”

“But that’s impossible!”

“FAN has already been placed under the custody of the Internet Surveillance Bureau!”

“Yeah, 2’s identity has already been exposed.”

But at this moment, a youth came running in.

The youth pushed open the door and shouted, “Go and look at the Korean government’s website!”

Li Weidong asked, “What happened?”

The youth said, “Go and take a look, quick!”

...

Korea.

Online.

“Go and check the government’s website!”

“What?”

“Oh my God!”

“How could this be!”

...

Japan.

A hacker group.

“But that’s impossible!”

“This—this—”

...

America.

At the newly set up computer virus research group.

“Something has happened in Korea!”

“Quick, take a look!”

All of the cybersecurity experts were dumbfounded!

...

An official website of the Korean government had been hacked. If it were just a normal hack, it wouldn't have mattered much. But this attack was different. Not only did the hacker leave behind a bright red five-starred flag on the website, there was also a message below it. Anyone who experienced the frightening Sino-Korean Hacker War would shiver at the sight of this message. It was a message that they wish they didn't have to remember!

“Whoever offends the mighty nation of China, however distant, shall be destroyed!

—2.”

It was the same flag!

It was the same font!

It was the same style!

It was the same message!

It was 2!

He had once again appeared!

With 2's appearance, the entire world blew up again!

“It's 2!”

“Fuck! It's him!”

“He has appeared again! That fellow has appeared again!”

“Is it an imposter?”

“Imposter? Think about it. Other than 2, who else has the capability to create such a dangerous virus?”

“My God! He hasn't been exposed!”

“The Koreans have had their attention on the wrong person!”

“I knew it! How could such a legendary hacker be found so easily!”

“So FAN and 2 are actually two different people! Thinking about it, it does seem obvious now. FAN and 2 have two absolutely different technical flairs and styles of doing things. FAN’s networking skills are very good, but from the revealed intel they have on her, her programming skills seem like they’re just run of the mill!”

“It’s over!”

“2 has returned!”

“This godly being has been provoked out of hiding!”

The entire world’s network technology field collapsed into panic!

The Korean hackers were dumbfounded!

The Japanese hackers were frightened!

The American hackers were also shaking with fear!

They all knew who 2 was, they all knew just how terrifying and dangerous an enemy this was. If they had known that 2 was not actually exposed and taken into custody, they would never have dared to take on China so blatantly. Who wouldn’t think of the consequences before doing something like that? The scenes in Korea from the fallout of the Panda Burning Incense were still fresh in their minds!

Analyses!

Investigations!

Eventually, many research groups came to the conclusion that this person was undoubtedly 2!

There were many ways to identify a hacker: for example, through the unique styles in their programming or their technical flair.

When the confirmation of the news broke, an American hacker group immediately announced that they had no relation with the Korean hacker group that attacked China this time.

Following that, famous hacker group ONE announced that they would not “take a single step” into China in the next five years.

Gradually, the hacker groups that took part in the hacking of Chinese websites also issued statements. Some Korean hackers also expressed that they had not taken part in the operation and drew a clear line from those involved!

When the Chinese people saw this, they got extremely excited!

“Cool! This is so damn cool!”

“My idol!”

“2 is so awesome!”

“This is what you call godly!”

“Whoever offends the mighty nation of China, however distant, shall be destroyed! Good! Good! Very good!”

“One man can hold the pass against ten thousand!”

“This is what a hacker truly is!”

“With 2 around, who dares come to China and bark at us!”

“Motherfucker, how domineering!”

...

On the same night.

The world hacker rankings, which had not had any activity for a long time, was finally seeing some change!

The world’s most wanted hacker with the highest bounty: Still 2.

But the names on the hacker rankings¹ saw some changes. This was a ranking that took into consideration the overall technical skills of all known hackers around the world!

First: 2!

2 had reached the summit of the global hacker ranking list!

The most interesting part of this was the comment in the remarks.

2’s introduction on the global hackers ranking only consisted of one sentence:

“The world’s most dangerous hacker in a hundred years!”

Chapter 1490: Investigating the suspects!

The entire world’s netizens were in heated discussions.

“First place has a new master!”

“The world’s most dangerous hacker in a hundred years?”

“In a hundred years?”

“This assessment is—”

“How many years has it been since hacking existed? How old is the Internet even?”

“Yeah, computers have only gained mass adoption for how many years!”

“This person is too dangerous!”

A multinational hacker war!

Legendary hacker 2 reemerged!

A new computer virus had been discovered!

Hacker groups from many countries cowered in defeat!

The world hacker rankings witnessed a change!

For the past few days, the entire world was bombarded with this news. Perhaps, back when Panda Burning Incense first reared its head in this world, many people did not take notice of it, nor knew who 2 was. But now that the CIH virus was released and with every country in the world sounding the highest alert on it, almost everyone became conscious of 2's name. As the most dangerous hacker in the world nowadays, especially in Asia and Korea, even the normal person who did not understand computer networking technology was no longer unfamiliar with this legendary hacker who used a number as his strange pseudonym!

What a lot of people really wanted to know now was:

Who was 2?

Was it a male or a female?

Where was this person right now?

...

China.

The Internet Surveillance Bureau.

At this moment, the office was also in chaos.

The leaders kept holding meetings as they were also becoming anxious. Right now, the entire world's eyes were on them. Everyone knew that 2 was a Chinese citizen, and the target range had been minimized to within their Internet Surveillance Bureau. But even now, they were still confused about it all. The person in their crosshairs had been ruled out!

"It's not Fan Yingyun!"

"Can we be sure of that?"

"For sure! Their technical flairs are just too different!"

"What if it's someone who's trying to help Fan Yingyun elude suspicion?"

"And how would they do that? Who has the capability to do so?"

"The international cybersecurity experts have also analyzed it. The person who created this virus and got involved was definitely '2.' We can effectively rule out Fan Yingyun as a suspect."

"Then who can it be!"

"Do we have someone like that in our bureau?"

"The evidence points to one of those at the First Department, and the evidence is indisputable. Investigate them one by one and rule out whomever is not a suspect!"

“Alright!”

“I’ll get Director Dong to round them up, and we’ll place them all into custody!”

“Don’t let Old Dong take charge.”

“What do you mean?”

“In this situation, anyone can be a suspect.”

With the tone set, the investigations were restarted!

Director Dong.

Fang Xiaoshui.

Meng Yi.

The people of the First Department were all led to an office space serving as an isolation room. Two staff members who had been transferred last year were also transported back overnight in a police vehicle. All of them were put into a room of no more than 40 square meters. It was a room without any computers. Much less computers, there weren’t even any electronic equipment or a network signal. Outside, eight security officers were standing guard, likely armed. A lot of people from the Public Security Bureau, Information Technology Security Center, and other organizations were also present. It was such a strong showing that most people had never seen anything like it in their lifetimes. They were all made up of the highest-ranking officials—the most dangerous hacker in a hundred years was among them, so the security had to be tight.

Director Dong sat down helplessly in the center.

The employees around him were all flustered and bewildered.

“Director Dong.”

“Wh-What is happening?”

“Why did they place us in custody?”

“”Damn, this is gonna be bad!”

“My cell phone has been confiscated, and my family still doesn’t know that something has happened.”

Soon after, the door opened and Fan Yingyun also came into the room.

Fang Xiaoshui hurriedly went over. “Sister Fan, have you been let off?”

Fan Yingyun rolled her eyes. “How would I know?”

An employee gave a wry smile. “Are you really not 2?”

Fan Yingyun was blunt. “No, you!”

That employee choked and didn’t dare say another word.

Fan Yingyun grabbed hold of Fang Xiaoshui and asked, "What happened out there in recent days? Why did someone tell me that the suspicion on me has dropped?"

She had been held in custody recently, so she wasn't aware of the happenings in the outside world.

Director Dong spoke, "Hackers from many different countries started attacking our Chinese networks, leading to 2 showing up again online. He created a computer virus that could destroy the hardware of affected systems."

Fan Yingyun turned happy at the words. "Beautiful!"

Meng Yi didn't know whether to laugh or cry. He said, "What's so beautiful about that? We were all brought here because that happened. They suspect that one of us is 2!"

The door opened.

A high-ranking leader of the Internet Surveillance Bureau entered. "We don't suspect it, we know it."

Everyone stood up.

The leader asked his assistant next to him, "Is everyone here?"

The assistant replied, "Everyone is here."

The high-ranking leader said, "Alright, I don't have to explain things. Everyone should know exactly what has happened. All of you in the First Department back then are here. You are all civil servants and should know the extent of this matter. We're behind closed doors to talk about this, so there shouldn't be anything to worry about. I can clearly say that I'm also very impressed with 2. Stepping up and protecting the country at a critical time, even I have secretly praised him for it. But the fallout from the Panda Burning Incense incident was too extensive, and someone has to be held responsible, so we must find out who the person is." He looked at Director Dong. "Old Dong, although you're also one of the suspects, I believe that it's definitely not you. Please say a few words."

Director Dong nodded and looked at his subordinates. Then he said, "Who is it? Step forward on your own. At most, you'll be put away for several years. After you're released, you can still stand proud. What's the big deal about that? Besides, the leaders and I can guarantee that after this matter blows over, we will still keep 2 in our employment at the Internet Surveillance Bureau, or perhaps in an even higher office. This is because our country needs an individual as talented as that. The world's best hacker will not be made to stay in prison forever. You can rest assured of that."

No one uttered a word.

Director Dong singled someone out. "Little Fang."

Fang Xiaoshui was sweating profusely. She said in panic, "Director Dong, it wasn't me. It was definitely not me. You should know how I am. My technical skills are terrible. I've only done enough to get by all these years at the Internet Surveillance Bureau. All of the cases I handled were only finished after I begged Sister Fan for help. I even had to treat her to so many meals before she agreed to help me!"

Fan Yingyun smirked.

Director Dong was speechless.

Meng Yi also started speaking anxiously, "It's not me either, Director Dong. You should know that my technical skills are even worse. I play games all day in the office, so it's not like I really do much work at all. I dare not make a claim on other things, but I am definitely the worst in the First Department when it comes to technical skills!"

The high-ranking leader was speechless.

A female employee also started panicking. "I am the worst! I really am! Director Dong, you know me well. I was only recruited into the First Department after pulling some strings. I don't have any real skills. It's true! If anyone says that they're worse than me, I wouldn't accept it without going down in a fight!" She spoke as though she were very proud of it!

Director Dong and the high-ranking leader were still speechless.

"I'm bad!"

"I'm worse than you!"

"My programming skills are especially bad!"

"How can you compare to me in that regard! I don't know anything at all!"

"Sister Fang, didn't you create a really good program once?"

"Th-That was just a shot in the dark!"

In the end, the several of them nearly came to blows.

The high-ranking leader looked at Director Dong.

In this moment, Director Dong wished to crawl into a hole!

Their First Department was supposed to be the most elite team within the Internet Surveillance Bureau. They were the team that handled the most major of crimes, and every one of them was only recruited after a careful selection. Whenever an annual evaluation or competition was held, every one of them would compete to finish first. But now? Looking at this, these people were actually proudly comparing who was the worst! Why the hell are you all comparing that! So you all know how to show "humility" to one another now?

Looking at his subordinates, Director Dong was suffering a huge loss of face. He couldn't help but lecture them. "Look at you all, just look at your behavior! Is there any meaning in this? Huh? Is there? Do you know what situation we're in? What's the point in acting like a smartass? Will that let you escape your responsibilities?! Will you get away as a result of that?"

Fang Xiaoshui gave a bitter smile.

Meng Yi and the others did not dare say another word.

Director Dong said to the high-ranking leader, "Sir, don't listen to their nonsense. This group of young people are all more skilled than the last. However, it's true that my technical skills are terrible!"

Pfft!

Everyone was floored!