

Two Trillion 21

Chapter 21 Additional Surprise_1

Wang Ye's words sent a chill through the atmosphere on site.

The managers, who had been exclaiming in surprise, quickly shut their mouths, not daring to make a sound.

"Putting all the documents in one file, is this how you handle things?"

What if the file gets damaged?

I don't see any professionalism or meticulousness from you!" Wang Ye scolded angrily.

"And I've said this before, all this material is just a compilation.

I'm asking you, with less than three months left until opening, have you not made any further plans?"

What are you all even doing!"

Wang Ye questioned angrily, wave after wave.

The heads of the various departments fell silent as if chilled to the bone.

The promotion department had worked to such an extent and still got a scolding that made their blood boil?!

While they were shaken, they also felt a profound sense of relief.

Fortunately, the two top executives had not attended their meeting.

“Mrs.

Wang, you’ve gone too far with your remarks!”

Shang Wenshu, who had not spoken until now, finally broke his silence; he could no longer remain quiet.

“I think the promotion department has done quite well to reach this level.

You shouldn’t be overly critical!”

Wang Ye raised an eyebrow and exchanged a glance with Shang Wenshu.

Shang Wenshu was someone who could keep his composure.

Had he really taken up the gauntlet over such a minor project promotion department?

The heads of the departments were immediately on tenterhooks.

So, were they going to witness an open confrontation?

Chen Daya and Li Mingtong remained silent, but both were already on the edge of their seats, fully tensed up.

“Mrs.

Wang, I haven’t finished my report yet.”

In the tense and oppressive atmosphere, Bai Xiaosheng suddenly spoke up.

Instantly, everyone’s gaze converged on him once more.

Bai Xiaosheng appeared calm as ever.

“We certainly wouldn’t put all the data into one document; that was only for my report.”

Bai Xiaosheng calmly closed the document and opened a folder containing rows of subfolders with different names.

Five main categories, thirteen subcategories!

The documents were sorted clearly and neatly!

“There’s a backup in the company network share under my name.

Everyone can download it freely if needed.

Of course, some parts are only available from me.” Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile, “Besides the data, I have also formulated a preliminary promotion plan.”

To everyone’s surprise, there was even a promotion plan ready!

The department heads' eyes widened, and even Wu Qiuyan was somewhat startled.

Such thorough preparation!

It must be the work of a dozen people helping him!

Other than that, Wu Qiuyan couldn't think of any other possibility.

Bai Xiaosheng opened a PowerPoint presentation.

Yezi, who was sitting below, brightened up.

She had seen this document before and hadn't expected it to be the promotion plan!

Wang Ye's eyes narrowed, a trace of darkness flickering through.

The two issues he had questioned were like two arrows meant to hit Chen Daya, but before they could hit the target, they were effortlessly deflected by an unknown junior employee!

Wang Ye began to give Bai Xiaosheng serious consideration.

A slight smile played at the corners of Shang Wenshu's mouth.

"I'll give a brief introduction now.

I hope everyone will communicate with me if there are questions so I can improve further." Bai Xiaosheng looked around.

The heads of the departments immediately firmed their gazes.

Another round of questions?

Their failure to come up with questions in the last round had been both embarrassing and nerve-racking.

As project heads, to have no questions was simply inexcusable!

Not knowing who led the way, all of the department heads took out pens and notebooks in an instant, preparing themselves like a group of studious students eager to learn, their demeanors impeccable.

Old Wang, Song, and Yezi couldn't help but smile at the sight.

In addition to their admiration for Bai Xiaosheng, they also felt a sense of pride as members of the promotion department.

"This promotion plan revolves around activities on the opening day, with preliminary hype starting simultaneously on online and traditional print media, involving video advertisements, focus graphic ads, full-screen ads, and advertorials.

Based on the characteristics of our project, I have drafted the promotional theme..." Bai Xiaosheng explained with a laser pointer in front of the projector.

Chen Daya, Li Mingtong, and the department heads were all attentively poised, scribbling furiously in their notebooks with great care.

Shang Wenshu nodded approvingly.

He was quite satisfied with this promotion plan, considering it a benchmark!

If Bai Xiaosheng were not part of the group's inspection team but just a planner, Shang Wenshu would be willing to pay any amount to keep him!

“After this meeting, I must get a copy of this plan from Chen Daya.

From now on, other projects must follow this template!” Shang Wenshu resolved.

Even Wang Ye revealed a look of admiration—the plan caught his eye as something of quality.

This young man named Bai Xiaosheng, although he had foiled his own plans, had indeed produced exceptional work!

Wang Ye also wanted to take advantage of this plan to make a point, but sadly, he couldn’t find any fault with it, even he had none.

How great it would have been if this young man were part of his team!

Wang Ye’s gaze shifted from the documents to the person, his eyes heating with fervor.

He must get Li Mingtong to poach him!

Any amount would do!

"I've finished my introduction.

Does anyone have any questions?" Bai Xiaosheng looked around.

The department heads looked at each other hesitantly, not sure if the questions they had noted would come off as childish.

In front of the two top executives, it was unacceptable for their insights to be inferior to those of an employee!

Of course, this was also an opportunity to stand out!

Finally, the administrative head gritted his teeth and, in a flurry, raised his hand.

"Please."

Bai Xiaosheng gestured with his hand, and the administrative head took a deep breath, speaking up under everyone's expectant gaze.

"How can our administrative department better support your promotion department throughout the publicity period?"

That wasn't a question from the administrative head but rather an offer of service.

"Shameless!" The other department heads scorned in unison.

They were offering to help an employee!

However, moments later, they were excited again.

After all, that was the administrative head for you—insightful and thoughtful, showing the executives a proactive attitude to work.

"What about us?"

"Yes, what about our department?"

"And ours!"

Suddenly, the heads of the departments became noisy and spirited.

Chen Daya and Li Mingtong watched in amazement.

How come they never saw them this eager in their day-to-day work!

Shang Wenshu smirked.

Wang Ye's expression changed, and he sighed silently.

Obviously, it was now impossible to target Chen Daya today.

"As for how to collaborate, we'll need to discuss separately with everyone afterward."

With so many questions, Bai Xiaosheng could only say that.

The department heads were quite disappointed.

"A bonus hint!" Red Lotus's voice suddenly rang out.

A bonus?

Bai Xiaosheng was startled.

“Engaging subsidiary companies in the group, promoting the enthusiasm for significant projects of middle management, enhancing the work efficiency of the management layer,” Red Lotus’s voice was light and pleasant, “Six extra points awarded!”

“Fifty-five points in total!”

“In addition, an extra bonus of 200,000!”

The successive rewards left Bai Xiaosheng stunned.

He hadn’t expected such an unexpected surprise!

Chapter 22: Awesome, Promotion Department_1

The meeting in the large conference room lasted until very late.

In terms of the project, employees from other departments hardly left.

It wasn’t that they didn’t want to, it was that they didn’t dare to!

After round after round of meetings, each department issued a demand: everyone must work at least two extra hours a day!

Not only that, until the project’s opening, all departments could only take one day off on weekends!

It could be said that the entire project team was wailing.

In such an atmosphere, the promotion department had already been in the large conference room for a whole half day, longer than any other department.

They had become the focus.

“I heard that Mr.

Shang and Mrs.

Wang also attended the meeting through video conference.”

“Really?

Does the promotion department have such a high status?”

“Status?

I think it’s bad luck.

I can’t clearly explain what’s going on here, but the promotion department will be very miserable if they perform even slightly poorly!

They are going to have a worse time than us!”

“Really?

That's great, as long as someone is worse off than us!"

From administration to logistics, everyone was excitedly discussing, many gloating over the misfortune.

It wasn't that the promotion department was unpopular, but rather, for these unfortunate people, they felt comforted only when others were more unfortunate.

Finally, the meeting ended.

The employees of each department, full of anticipation, waited to see the promotion department's joke.

However, this time, to the employees' surprise, the expressions on the faces of the leaders emerging from the meeting were not somber, gloomy, or cautious, but rather, somewhat excited?!

Was the promotion department treated that badly?

The crowd became more and more expectant.

Especially when they saw Li Mingtong and Wu Qiuyan with their gloomy expressions like still water.

Li Mingtong, with a dark face, headed back to his office, not responding to anyone who greeted him along the way.

On the contrary, Chen Daya was beaming, actively greeting everyone with a smile on his face, and he never once closed his wide grin.

This contrast puzzled people.

At that moment, Chen Daya was in an exceedingly good mood.

When the meeting ended, Shang Wenshu greatly affirmed his work, highly praising the team's efforts, and Wang Ye also offered a few mild words of encouragement.

With this outcome, Chen Daya could not be more satisfied, and his admiration for Bai Xiaosheng deepened!

This young man was truly talented!

Chen Daya, unable to express his feelings, picked up a sheet of paper and wrote swiftly, then stamped it with a thud.

At the moment, Bai Xiaosheng was being surrounded by a group of people, including several managers, as he headed back to his department.

Like stars around the moon, accompanying a leader.

The head of the administration department was among them, who first accompanied him back to the promotion department before returning to his own.

"A real talent, indeed a real talent.

Why can't my department have someone like that!" The administrative head still couldn't stop praising as he returned to his department, glancing at this one and that one, growing more dissatisfied with his own subordinates.

"Mrs.

Wang, who's the talent, someone from the promotion department?" The project receptionist asked curiously, having witnessed the scene.

The administrative head nodded casually and told the receptionist, "Go issue a notice right away, write that the promotion department has done outstanding work, they don't need to work overtime after hours, and they will have their weekends off as usual!"

No overtime and weekends off?!

Several employees in the administration department looked at their manager in disbelief.

"Why them!" The receptionist couldn't help but blurt out.

"Why?"

Because their work has made both of the seniors extremely satisfied, and the new person's presentation has earned the seniors' respect," the administrator glared, expressing his frustration, "Tell me, when will you also bring some honor to our department, then I'll thank you..."

"Mrs.

Wang." Before the administrator could finish speaking, the office door was pushed open, and a head poked in, handing over a sheet of paper.

"Mr.

Chen has issued a notice, asking you to allocate two thousand yuan from finance to send to the Promotion Department, so they don't have to come to work tomorrow and can take a day off,"

The person relaying the message also wore a face full of envy.

"What!" The Administration Department erupted into commotion.

Not having to work overtime or having weekends off was one thing, but to actually get a day off and even receive money from the company to spend!

“Oh my God, I want to go to the Promotion Department!” The receptionist envied to death.

At this moment, inside the Promotion Department, Wu Qiuyan had not yet returned.

Wang, Song, and Yezi, after seeing off the managers of the other departments, gathered around Bai Xiaosheng.

“Bai, you’re amazing!” Yezi’s eyes shone with admiration.

“Yeah, did you do all that by yourself?”

“I’m convinced!” Song said with a sincerely convinced look on his face.

“Thank you for sharing the credit with us, and also, thank you for speaking up for us in front of Mr.

Wu earlier!” Wang looked deeply at Bai Xiaosheng.

This young man had truly caught his attention.

In front of the two bosses, Bai Xiaosheng had managed to share his achievements as everyone’s, not self-aggrandizing, a true hero!

He also cleverly diverted the topic when Wu Qiuyan got angry, showing great wisdom!

Now, Wang genuinely wanted to make friends with Bai Xiaosheng.

"If you say that, I'll get arrogant," Bai Xiaosheng laughed, "We are a team, a whole, we share glory and loss together."

"What a phrase, 'share glory and loss together.'"

Yezi and Song nodded again and again, and Wang applauded in approval.

The door to the Promotion Department was pushed open.

Wu Qiuyan walked in, silently going to her workstation.

Following behind her was another person, the administration's receptionist.

"Promotion Department, here is the notice from Mr.

Chen!" The receptionist could not help but exclaim with envy and excitement, "You guys won't have to work overtime from now on, and you can have weekends off!"

Bai Xiaosheng and the others just silently smiled.

They knew about these, as Chen Daya had announced them at the meeting.

"And there's more!

You have a day off tomorrow, and here's two thousand yuan from finance, for you to enjoy eating, drinking, and playing!" The receptionist was dying of envy.

"What!" Even Bai Xiaosheng was taken aback, and Wu Qiuyan was so shocked she lifted her head.

The receptionist, still full of envy, put down the notice and the money, and left reluctantly.

“Let’s go out and celebrate tonight, shall we!” Yezi cheered.

Wang gave her a meaningful look.

Quick to catch on, Yezi subdued her excitement, holding the notice and the money out to Wu Qiuyan, “Mr.

Wu, look at this...”

“You guys go ahead, have fun.

I still have some things to work on,” Wu Qiuyan said with a smile.

Wu Qiuyan was not happy at the moment, but she could not show it.

Furthermore, she had to seem very happy because, after all, this was an honor for the entire Promotion Department.

Everyone insisted once more, but Wu Qiuyan still gracefully declined.

This time, no one persisted any longer.

They quickly packed their things, greeted Wu Qiuyan, and left work.

Under Yezi’s leadership, they first headed straight for a restaurant with unique offerings.

Once they found a table in the lobby and as they waited for dishes and drinks, Yezi suddenly called out eagerly, suggesting they go for a whole night of karaoke after dinner.

No going home until drunk!

They chatted and laughed joyously.

Suddenly, Bai Xiaosheng felt someone pat his shoulder.

He turned around and saw a dark, plump figure.

This chubby man looked uncannily familiar...

“Bai Xiaosheng!”

“Zhengdong Province!”

Bai Xiaosheng’s eyes lit up, realizing it was him!

Chapter 23 Zhengdong Province_1

Bai Xiaosheng stood up, eyes brimming with surprise.

He had attended university in Tiannan, and the stout fellow with bushy eyebrows and large eyes in front of him was called Zhengdong Province, his college classmate, who lived in the dormitory next door.

Seeing Zhengdong Province, Bai Xiaosheng was truly filled with memories.

Back then, the boys all loved playing a game, but gaming talent varied, and their skills were ranked at different levels.

Zhengdong Province had self-proclaimed the “Invincible Hand of Southern University,” boasting without shame, until he met Bai Xiaosheng and suffered five consecutive losses that made him question life.

After that, Zheng Pangzi proclaimed that he had a new life goal: to team up with Bai Xiaosheng and enter the professional eSports scene.

Zhengdong Province, the chubby chap from the advertising major, came from a family of traditional medicine practitioners and was well-off, having the capital to be adventurous.

Bai Xiaosheng, less fortunate financially, focused more on academics, hoping to find a promising formal job, and naturally did not share Zheng Pangzi's wild dreams of making gaming a career.

After becoming friends, Zhengdong Province had a lot of admiration for Bai Xiaosheng's character and ambitions, and he often helped Bai Xiaosheng in life, just as Bai Xiaosheng also did many things for the chubby guy.

Their heartfelt friendship through the years had not been diluted by time, but rather had grown stronger.

Even after graduating, they stayed in close contact.

That is, until half a year ago, when Zheng Pangzi got so busy he didn't even have time to chat online.

Unexpectedly, the two of them had this chance encounter.

"You dead fatty, haven't seen you for half a year and you're still so fat, looking like a lump of coal!" Bai Xiaosheng threw a punch at Zhengdong Province's chest.

Bai Xiaosheng was delighted, truly delighted from the bottom of his heart.

"Bai, goddamn, you don't know how tired I've been the last six months, fall asleep as soon as my head hits the pillow, not even enough time to chat online, I've been missing you," Zhengdong Province chuckled, "Do I look thinner to you?"

"As if you could lose weight!" Bai Xiaosheng pulled over a chair, "Come on, sit and let's talk!"

“Are these all your friends?” Zhengdong Province sat down, nodding and greeting Wang and his two companions.

Wang, Song, and Yezi greeted him back with smiles.

“They’re my colleagues,” Bai Xiaosheng smiled as he glanced at everyone, “and also my friends!”

“Then they are my friends too!” Zhengdong Province grinned at the three with a natural ease.

Wang and the others were also happy to befriend such a forthright, genial chubby man.

“What have you been so busy with over the past six months?” Bai Xiaosheng couldn’t help asking.

“Starting a school, running training classes!

You have no idea how tough it is starting a business, but now that it’s on track, I can finally take a breather.” Zheng Pangzi gestured with his chin toward the corner of the hall, where two tables had been pushed together and were surrounded by over a dozen people, men and women ranging from their twenties to fifty-something.

“Who are they?”

“They’re all trainers; I’m the headmaster,” Zhengdong Province said proudly, “Pretty impressive, huh?

From children’s interest classes to adult education, we offer it all!”

“You, a headmaster?” Bai Xiaosheng looked at him oddly.

Somehow he felt that this dead fatty was not about educating others, but more likely to corrupt them.

"I thought you might've really become a professional eSports player, or else been dragged back by your family's patriarch to carry on the family legacy and study traditional medicine," Bai Xiaosheng remarked nostalgically.

In the old days, Zhengdong Province was quite the angry youth, vociferously critical of traditional medicine, a national treasure.

Calling it unscientific, out of touch with the times, a fraud – he criticized it as utterly worthless.

Bai Xiaosheng, on the other hand, held a great interest in traditional medicine, regretfully circumstances did not permit him to pursue it.

But now, with Red Lotus at his disposal, able to gather all knowledge of traditional medicine and clinical cases from major hospitals, perhaps... Bai Xiaosheng was somewhat excited at the thought of traditional medicine again.

"Hey, hey, what are you thinking about?"

"I'm talking to you!" Zhengdong Province's fat hand waved in front of Bai Xiaosheng's eyes, snapping him out of his reverie.

"Oh, what did you say?" Bai Xiaosheng came back to his senses.

"I asked where you work, and how you got such a gorgeous beauty as a colleague," Zhengdong Province smiled at Yezi, causing her cheeks to turn red instantly.

"I'm working on project planning."

"That must make good money, your monthly salary must be over ten thousand at least," Zhengdong Province asked bluntly.

Asking about someone's income isn't really a good topic, but Zhengdong Province had no reservations with Bai Xiaosheng, and Bai Xiaosheng didn't mind either.

"I really don't care about the money," Bai Xiaosheng laughed.

As for his salary, he truly had no idea.

He never asked Chen Daya about it, and Chen Daya had never brought it up.

"My goodness, what kind of state of mind is that, not caring about how much money you make?" Zhengdong Province looked at Bai Xiaosheng strangely, his eyes suddenly alight with excitement.

He leaned in, lowering his voice, "Hey, I'm saying, Bai, why not just quit and help me out?

With your eloquence and intelligence, you'd absolutely be a top-notch trainer!"

A trainer?

Bai Xiaosheng laughed.

He was currently working in planning and had just been thinking about learning traditional Chinese medicine, and now he had another option as a trainer.

The choices really were diverse.

"Sure, when I can't make it anymore, I'll come find you," Bai Xiaosheng teased.

"I thank you for offering me a position as a trainer and not pressuring me into becoming an esports player."

Bai Xiaosheng's initially flippant comment made Zheng Pangzi's eyes suddenly brighten.

"Gaming, I haven't given that up either.

I'm in the Gold Tier Two in the hottest game King's League!

Do you play?"

"Not so much anymore," Bai Xiaosheng nodded.

"Oh my, that's perfect!

Let me tell you, I know a professional player.

We're going to team up for a match soon.

Join us!" Zheng Pangzi was excited.

A professional player?

Bai Xiaosheng squinted at Zheng Pangzi, who suddenly felt guilty under his gaze.

"Well, not exactly professional, he's a substitute on a team."

Bai Xiaosheng continued to stare at him...

"Alright, I'll come clean.

It's not really a match; we've just arranged to play a game," Zheng Pangzi said sheepishly.

“You fat liar, always boasting, ‘Invincible Hand of Southern University’!” Bai Xiaosheng laughed heartily.

Zheng Pangzi’s face turned red.

“Don’t expose me like that, in front of your friends!

I’m still a principal, after all.”

Wang, Song, and Yezi struggled to contain their laughter, trying hard not to burst out as their faces turned red.

Meanwhile, Zheng Pangzi’s people kept glancing over, as if waiting for him.

“Ah, I need to get back there, a whole table of people waiting,” Zheng Pangzi stood up.

“We’re playing in a couple of days; you have to help me out!”

“Sure, I’ll help you,” Bai Xiaosheng smiled.

“I’ll reach out to you later!” Zheng Pangzi greeted Wang and the others, waved at Bai Xiaosheng, and went back to his own table.

But after walking a dozen steps, Zheng Pangzi suddenly turned back.

“Seeing you and getting all excited, I almost forgot the real reason I was looking for you.

If we hadn’t run into each other today, I’d still have to seek you out.

Next weekend, the Tiannan alumni gathering!”

A school reunion?

Bai Xiaosheng was taken aback, then shook his head.

He didn’t want to go.

True friends could just gather in a small group of three or five.

Drinking with a bunch of people was rather boring for him.

“Come on, Bai, you should go!” Zheng Pangzi said with a hint of significance, patting Bai Xiaosheng.

“He Yanbing is one of the organizers.”

He Yanbing!

The moment he heard that name, Bai Xiaosheng’s smile faded, a trace of coldness flashing in his eyes.

“I’ve been uncomfortable for all these years!” Zheng Pangzi said gravely.

“Alright!” Bai Xiaosheng nodded grimly, “We’ll go!”

Chapter 24 Moving_1

After notifying Bai Xiaosheng, Zhengdong Province returned to his own table and, within no time at all, had scurried back over.

Under his direction, the waiter kept bringing drinks and dishes to Bai Xiaosheng’s table, and no one could persuade them to stop.

Eventually, Zhengdong Province decided not to go back and just started downing bottles of beer with Bai Xiaosheng.

In the end, Zhengdong Province got really drunk, and the grown man began to cry like a baby as he reminisced about their college days.

Bai Xiaosheng was also deeply moved and a bit drunk.

Wang, Song, and Yezi quietly watched, not wanting to disturb the two old friends; everyone admired their genuine brotherly bond.

Zhengdong Province, alternating between tears and laughter, spilled all of Bai Xiaosheng's college escapades like they were beans pouring out of a bamboo tube.

Bai Xiaosheng's college life was rich indeed; he won oratory competitions and dominated his rivals, led the basketball team against other departments, and organized protests for impoverished students against the unfair student council.

In the eyes of Wang and the others, Bai Xiaosheng had the image of a man full of loyalty and wit, unafraid of power, and smart and astute.

However, there were also some rather embarrassing topics.

Like when Bai Xiaosheng was ardently pursued by a plump girl in college and ended up fleeing in panic.

Or like when he went job hunting at a KTV during summer break, and upon learning it required "special service talents," he again fled in panic.

Stories like these made Yezi and the others laugh so hard they could barely breathe and left Bai Xiaosheng with a beet-red face of embarrassment.

They continued drinking and chatting.

Eventually, Zheng Pangzi got drunk.

Bai Xiaosheng declined help from others, asked for Zheng Pangzi's current address, hoisted him over his shoulder, and, just like in their college days, began to walk out step by step.

Both tables watched their staggering figures disappear into the distance.

Bai Xiaosheng called a taxi to take Zheng Pangzi home, then hazily caught another cab back to his own place, and without even bothering to undress, fell atop the bed and immediately into a deep sleep.

The night passed without incident.

"Bang, bang, bang!"

The next morning, a relentless knocking on the door was making it impossible for Bai Xiaosheng to sleep.

He covered his head with a pillow, but the noise stubbornly kept drumming into his ears.

Shouts could be heard as well.

"Bai Xiaosheng, I know you're home—open the door!"

The sharp, piercing voice of a woman carried through the air.

Groggy and disoriented, Bai Xiaosheng listened with half an ear for a while before realizing someone was calling him.

He shook his head to clear it and washed his face before going to open the door.

Standing at the doorway was an angry woman in her forties with fierce eyes.

It was the landlord.

“Took you long enough to open the door.

Oh my, how much did you drink?” the landlord said, waving her hand in the air as if ridding it of the smell of alcohol.

Bai Xiaosheng offered an apologetic smile, only then noticing that behind the landlord, there were two people: a young couple.

“Here, this is the house.

You guys go in and have a look,” the landlord said, pushing past Bai Xiaosheng and smilingly addressing the couple.

The two of them stepped around Bai Xiaosheng and entered the house.

What the hell?

Bai Xiaosheng sobered up instantly.

The landlord was showing the house?!

“Auntie, what is this about?” Bai Xiaosheng frowned.

“It’s simple.

I don't want to rent this place to you anymore.

Just look at what you've done to my property; it used to be in great condition!" the landlord complained.

Bai Xiaosheng's brow furrowed deeper.

The dump of a house required a three-month deposit.

The appliances were old and worn, and those that had broken down just half a month into Bai Xiaosheng's tenancy had been summarily dismissed by the landlord as his fault.

With no other choice, Bai Xiaosheng had to scour the second-hand markets for replacements.

In order to make his living space more comfortable, Bai Xiaosheng had even paid out of pocket to paint the walls and made various repairs here and there.

Now, how had it become his fault that the house was damaged?

"I've calculated it, and tomorrow is the day to pay the rent.

I no longer want to rent this house to you, so you better leave quickly," the landlord said.

"See those two over there?

They look sharp and like they can take good care of my place.

Honest people, unlike you, who always pay the rent so reluctantly!"

Reluctant himself?

Bai Xiaosheng only remembered one time when he truly, truly couldn't manage it, and had pleaded to postpone it by just two days.

"Auntie, I swear I haven't!" Bai Xiaosheng insisted earnestly.

"Enough, don't say anything more.

To tell you the truth, they are offering two hundred more," the landlord whispered to Bai Xiaosheng.

"If you add another two hundred, I'll still rent it to you!"

Bai Xiaosheng looked at the landlord with an indifferent gaze.

This wasn't about one or two hundred yuan!

He had one million and two hundred thousand in his account right now; even staying in star-rated hotels every day wasn't an issue.

The key was that the landlord's actions were too much!

He could even understand the landlord wanting to change tenants, but at the very least, he should have given him a heads-up!

Bringing people over directly, what was this supposed to mean?

Was this really my former life?

Bai Xiaosheng reminisced about the past, about his own humiliation and helplessness.

He took one last look around the room he had lived in for several years.

It was time to say a complete goodbye to the past.

"I'll move!" Bai Xiaosheng stated.

There wasn't much worth taking with him, and it might not be so bad to let go of those bad memories.

"That's right, it's best for both of us," the landlord sneered.

Bai Xiaosheng stretched out his hand.

"What?" the landlord asked in surprise.

"Return my deposit."

"Wow, you still have the nerve to ask for your deposit back!" the landlord sneered and signaled to the couple looking at the room, "You two go outside and wait a bit.

I need to settle some things with this guy."

The couple nodded and stepped out, with the landlord closing the door behind them.

"Look here, there are cracks in the floor tiles.

And there, see how dirty that spot is; I will have to pay to clean that.

And what about this, the piping in the bathroom that you changed?

Who knows if it can even last, if it's going to break, I'll have to replace it.

And look at the kitchen; these cabinets were meddled with by you, right?

They might be broken too; I have to change those as well.

Renting to a country person like you, really...

I'm telling you, the deposit, I won't refund a cent!"

The landlord was in no mood for discussion.

Bai Xiaosheng's gaze turned icy.

In this house, every little thing he had repaired was now being condemned by the landlord as damage, and even turned into an excuse to withhold his money.

Bai Xiaosheng remained silent.

That past version of himself, the one in college who liked to reason with people, the one who was often bullied by those who were unreasonable.

Turns out, it was so detestable!

Bai Xiaosheng laughed, a laugh that unsettled the landlord, who stepped back two paces, "What are you laughing at?"

"Auntie, you're right about everything!" Bai Xiaosheng said sincerely.

He walked up to the bathroom to the pipe he had changed, suddenly raised his foot, and kicked it until it broke, "You said it's bad, so it must be bad!"

"And here." Bai Xiaosheng walked into the kitchen and kicked the cabinet he had carefully repaired to pieces, "This is bad too."

"And here, here, here..." Bai Xiaosheng strolled around casually.

Smashing, kicking to pieces, tearing apart.

The sound of breaking things echoed through the room.

The landlord's face turned pale, "What are you doing!"

Stop it!"

"You said they were all broken, right?"

Then isn't the deposit used to fix them?" Bai Xiaosheng said with a slight smile and turned to gather his belongings.

From now on, I, Bai Xiaosheng, will have my revenge at all costs!

Chapter 25 Neighbor_1

Bai Xiaosheng moved.

The new place was a high-end apartment with a monthly rent of four thousand.

But it was worth it; Bai Xiaosheng was very satisfied with his new home.

On the first day of moving in, there were so many things to buy and so much to do that it was clearly tough for one person to handle.

Bai Xiaosheng picked up his phone, thinking of finding someone to help, only to remember it was a regular workday; he was on leave thanks to a special dispensation from Chen Daya.

All of a sudden, he was at a loss.

The friends he knew who weren't working probably only included Wang, Song, and Yezi.

Those he could ask weren't available, and those who were available, he was too embarrassed to ask.

Clinging to one last hope, Bai Xiaosheng called Zhengdong Province; once connected, he could almost feel the drunken haze through the phone.

Zheng Pangzi had drunk too much and was unlikely to get up at all that day.

In the end, Bai Xiaosheng had no choice but to make several trips to the market by himself.

By the afternoon, Bai Xiaosheng's eyes were blurry, his footsteps unsteady, as he shuffled towards his new home with a quilt in his arms.

Counting down the elevator's descending numbers, Bai Xiaosheng buried his face in the quilt, swearing to himself in the dark.

Once home, he would collapse and sleep straight through to the morning, without waking up once!

When the elevator doors opened, someone stepped aside to let Bai Xiaosheng by, and he thanked them, clutching the quilt as they brushed past each other.

He didn't get a clear look at the person's face, just caught a whiff of a faint, pleasant scent—a very comfortable smell.

Bai Xiaosheng lifted his head and saw a graceful figure.

A high bun, a white and slender neck, a slim waist, and straight thighs.

Bai Xiaosheng's gaze followed her until it was blocked by the closing elevator doors.

"Too bad I couldn't see her face," Bai Xiaosheng sighed with disappointment; then, recalling the figure, he muttered in puzzlement, "Why does that silhouette look so familiar?"

The beautiful woman who exited the elevator hadn't noticed Bai Xiaosheng either.

And Bai Xiaosheng truly knew this woman.

Wei Xuelian.

After getting out of the elevator and taking a dozen steps, Wei Xuelian's phone rang.

"Wenqian." Wei Xuelian answered the call.

"A-Lian, how could you move out!" Lu Wenqian accused angrily, "Is my place not good enough for you?"

How am I supposed to explain to Uncle Wei that I kicked you out to rent a place?

Where does this leave my dignity..."

As Lu Wenqian ranted over the phone, Wei Xuelian had to hold the phone away from her ear.

When Lu Wenqian's anger eased a bit, Wei Xuelian responded with a chuckle, "I'll talk to my dad about it, don't worry.

He wouldn't dare blame you; you're the Lu family's most treasured daughter after all.

Living outside is more convenient for finding a job and working.

Plus, now you'll have another place to come and hang out, my place is really nice."

"I give up on you.

Is all this hassle fun for you?" Lu Wenqian sighed resignedly.

"You'll see, once you step out on your own, the world seems different," Wei Xuelian laughed.

"Oh, and Mo Ran is coming to Tiannan for a concert.

I'll get you the best tickets—extra ones, okay?"

"Hmph, that's more like it," Lu Wenqian grumbled.

After hanging up, Wei Xuelian stood at the entrance of the apartment building, glancing back at her new place she'd moved into just yesterday.

Here, she would start a brand-new life!

The next day.

Bai Xiaosheng arrived early at the project site; people from other departments who saw him whispered among themselves, all aware of the formidable planner who had joined the marketing department, earning praise from both bosses.

Bai Xiaosheng had become quite the celebrity!

Wu Qiuyan, who rarely ever did so, arrived early that day.

Once everyone had arrived, she immediately greeted everyone and organized an internal department meeting to discuss the opening event.

Actually, there wasn't much to discuss about the opening event.

The content had already been determined by the senior executives, Shang Wenshu and Wang Ye, which included some opening performances, leader speeches, and ribbon-cutting—following the usual routine, nothing remarkable.

The key was to invite more media to make a big fuss.

What was unusual was Wu Qiuyan's attitude towards Bai Xiaosheng.

It could be described as gentle as a soft breeze and light rain.

Not only did she proactively ask for Bai Xiaosheng's opinion, but she also spoke highly of some of his suggestions.

That was not in Wu Qiuyan's character!

Wang, Song, and Yezi felt uneasy and couldn't help but quietly warn Bai Xiaosheng while Wu Qiuyan was fetching water.

In response, Bai Xiaosheng just smiled.

If others treated him kindly, he naturally wouldn't turn hostile.

If someone wanted to deal with him, he wouldn't be courteous either!

In the pantry, Wu Qiuyan and Li Mingtong encountered each other by chance.

Taking advantage of the moment when no one was around, they chatted in whispers.

"Mrs.

Wang had someone inquire.

This Bai Xiaosheng went to the company to look for Shang Wenshu a few days ago, and Shang Wenshu personally went downstairs to meet him," Li Mingtong frowned.

Shang Wenshu, with so many eyes in the company, personally went downstairs to meet a young man?

What background does this person have?!

The receptionist at the front desk at the time was Chen Ke, a sister of Chen Daya.

Asking her was equivalent to not asking at all.

The security guards couldn't offer any valuable information either.

"He personally went downstairs to meet him?!" Wu Qiuyan's face was full of disbelief.

“Mrs.

Wang’s intention is that we need to keep a close eye on this person,” Li Mingtong recalled Mrs.

Wang’s expression seemed to hold some guess, serious and strange, confusing him.

“Don’t make a move on him before we figure out his identity.

Also, you need to establish a good relationship with him.

It’ll be best if you can find out what’s behind him,” Li Mingtong cautioned.

Wu Qiuyan nodded her head.

Afterward, she gazed at Li Mingtong, her look softening, and she reached out to touch Li Mingtong’s cheek.

“You’ve lost weight recently, take more care of yourself.”

“This is the office, be mindful!” Li Mingtong brushed away Wu Qiuyan’s hand.

Wu Qiuyan’s expression instantly dimmed.

“In any case, at all costs, you have to handle this well.

As long as you help me secure the project manager position, I won’t let you down!” Li Mingtong extended his hand and patted Wu Qiuyan’s shoulder gently.

With someone passing by the pantry, Li Mingtong swiftly retracted his hand, gave Wu Qiuyan a deep look, and left through the door.

Wu Qiuyan stood still, only after a long while did she reach out to touch the place where Li Mingtong had touched.

“After all these years, what am I to you?” Wu Qiuyan murmured with profound melancholy, “You want me, at all costs...”

There was a mirror in the pantry for fixing makeup.

Wu Qiuyan looked at herself seriously in the mirror.

On her mature and charming cheek, there was a hint of solitude and an unsightly smile, filled with bitterness and self-mockery.

The petals have their desires while the stream has no affection.

Wu Qiuyan touched her own cheek in the mirror, time spares no one.

Wu Qiuyan returned to the department, her expression as usual.

“I’ve communicated with Mr.

Li, and our promotional department is now setting up a special task force for the opening event.

Bai Xiaosheng will be in charge, supported by Yezi and Song, with Wang too,” Wu Qiuyan looked at Bai Xiaosheng, her smile revealing the charm of a mature woman, “Bai Xiaosheng, remember to report to me at all times, whether I’m in the company or...

at home!”

“At all times,” Wu Qiuyan emphasized the phrase heavily.

Bai Xiaosheng, as a man, didn’t think much of it, but Yezi caught a fleeting look in her eyes.

Wu Qiuyan was still single.

Did that mean, if necessary, Bai Xiaosheng also had to visit late at night?

A lone man and a single woman, how could this be appropriate!

Chapter 26 Professional God_1

After a whole day at work, I finally made it to the end of the shift.

Today was Friday, and for the Marketing Department, they could enjoy their regular weekend off tomorrow, which was awesome.

Bai Xiaosheng packed his things, ready to head home.

In the midst of this, his phone rang—it was from Zhengdong Province.

“Bai, come to my place right now!” came the frantic call from Zhengdong Province over the phone, “Hurry up!”

“What’s the matter?” Bai Xiaosheng was startled.

“It’s a gaming emergency, King’s League, we’re one player short!”

Bai Xiaosheng couldn’t help but laugh and cry at the same time.

Turns out, Zheng Pangzi was calling him to play a game.

The King's League mentioned by Zhengdong Province was an extremely popular online game at the moment, with peak competitions both domestically and internationally.

The game featured a red and blue side; each team had five people, and the first to destroy the opponent's main building would win.

There were a total of two hundred and forty heroes in the game to choose from, each with five unique skills.

As it was a team game requiring the coordination of five players, the strategies were highly variable, and with dozens of popular tactics, it was known as the "e-sports Go."

Under the unrelenting urging from Zhengdong Province, Bai Xiaosheng had no choice but to take a taxi there.

At the bottom of the apartment where Zhengdong Province lived, Bai Xiaosheng saw him.

And three other people.

Zhengdong Province was talking to a pair of twins around a tall and skinny young man who looked proud and was about the same age as Bai Xiaosheng.

This person must be the substitute professional player that Zheng Pangzi had mentioned, Bai Xiaosheng thought to himself.

After getting out of the car, Bai Xiaosheng walked towards them.

Zheng Pangzi noticed him and excitedly waved his hand.

"Come here, let me introduce you—this is my best buddy, Bai Xiaosheng, a gifted natural at gaming!" As Bai Xiaosheng approached, Zhengdong Province couldn't wait to introduce him to the three.

Even now, Zhengdong Province still held Bai Xiaosheng's past valiant performances in high regard.

"A gifted natural?" The tall, skinny young man sneered, "In our professional circle, we only look at actual strength!

Just don't feed the enemy, that'll be enough.

My name is Chen Baiyu, from the professional circle."

The young man's words seemed casual, yet they were full of arrogance, constantly mentioning the professional circle.

This tone displeased Bai Xiaosheng, but out of respect for Pangzi, he didn't say anything and merely smiled faintly.

Zhengdong Province wasn't pleased.

"What do you mean by that, Chen Baiyu?

Bai Xiaosheng is my best friend, and I could even forgo this match for him.

If you're going to speak like that, I'm not going to be happy!"

Zhengdong Province's face darkened.

"Hey, Old Zheng, look, Chen Baiyu, the great god, was just speaking casually, no need to get worked up!" one of the twins quickly tried to soothe.

"Yeah, we're all friends here, haha, it was just a joke!" the other twin also chimed in.

The two of them were quite anxious, seemingly afraid that a fallout would mean they wouldn't be able to play the match.

Chen Baiyu glanced at Zhengdong Province, "My bad, I spoke out of turn.

You hired me, so you call the shots."

Zhengdong Province nodded expressionlessly, then pointed to the twins, introducing them to Bai Xiaosheng.

"This is Wu, and Little Wu!"

Bai Xiaosheng greeted the twins.

The twins were quite polite.

Actually, Bai Xiaosheng could understand why Chen Baiyu was unhappy.

Even as substitutes in the professional circle, they held pride and wouldn't enjoy playing games with a bunch of ordinary people, let alone wait for someone.

"Let's get moving, the time's almost upon us," Wu couldn't help but urge.

"With the great god Chen Baiyu on our side this time, victory is assured!

Gold Tier Three, sweeping everything before us!" Little Wu couldn't contain his excitement.

Gold Tier Three?

Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but glance at Chen Baiyu.

Pride was brimming on Chen Baiyu's face.

In King's League, the ranks were divided into Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platinum, Diamond, and King, with each tier consisting of six stages.

Zheng Pangzi was only at Gold Tier Two, while this Chen Baiyu was at King Tier Three, a godlike figure in the eyes of ordinary players!

But Bai Xiaosheng had read an article once.

True professional players who have entered the pro circuit don't care about ranks, except for some clubs requiring pros to be fully leveled up, that is, at King's League Tier Six.

"Let's go!" Zhengdong Province waved grandly.

There was a high-end internet club nearby, and Zhengdong Province had reserved a room there in advance; the group headed straight for the reserved private room.

Upon entering the private room, Bai Xiaosheng saw five professional gaming computers lined up in a row.

Several people found their spots; Chen Baiyu unapologetically took the central main seat.

Bai Xiaosheng sat next to Zhengdong Province, on the very end.

The hardware here was good, and the keyboards were entry-level, but Bai Xiaosheng noticed that Chen Baiyu took off the club's keyboard and threw it to the side, taking out his own from a bag—a professional mechanical keyboard worth thousands.

“Pros are just different!” Wu looked at that keyboard, his face filled with envy, unable to resist praising it.

Chen Baiyu smiled, evidently enjoying the compliments.

Do you really need to change keyboards when you’re playing against a bunch of ordinary gamers?

Bai Xiaosheng shook his head with a smile.

“I’ll chat with the ‘enemy’; you guys get ready,” Zhengdong Province said as he entered the game and opened the chat window, typing away rapidly.

After a while.

“So arrogant, way too arrogant!”

“And they want to live stream the match, do you want to embarrass yourselves online?”

“It’s driving me mad, this son of a bitch!

Can I open my mic and cuss him out?”

Zhengdong Province yelled furiously, one person disturbing the peace of the entire room.

Bai Xiaosheng was both annoyed and amused.

“Let’s form a team first, add each other as friends, right, what’s your in-game name?” Wu asked Bai Xiaosheng.

“My game name is ‘I am Little White’,” Bai Xiaosheng said.

It was an old account he had set up a year ago, just played casually without much thought in picking the name, currently at Silver Tier One.

“I am Little White?”

Quite self-aware!” Chen Baiyu glanced at Bai Xiaosheng’s level and sneered, “Hope you don’t drag us down, got it?”

Listen to commands, okay?”

Because of Zhengdong Province’s attitude, Chen Baiyu was growing increasingly displeased with Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng ignored him.

He hadn’t gotten angry before because he thought Chen Baiyu had a point.

But now, Bai Xiaosheng felt this person was really clueless!

Zheng Pangzi was completely engrossed in chatting with the other side, paying no attention to the conversation between the two beside him.

After a long while, Zheng Pangzi pushed the keyboard away and glanced at the team, “Yo, Bai, you’re ‘I am Little White’?”

Pretty unique!”

In another private room of the same club, five people had already taken their places.

Sitting in the central main seat was a woman in her twenties, with skin as delicate as porcelain, hair flowing like waves, and a white shirt with two buttons undone, revealing a shockingly deep cleavage.

Different from Wei Xuelian's aura, she fit more the popular image of a mature beauty.

Except this mature beauty had a look of boredom as she sucked on a lollipop.

The other people looked at her with awe.

"Just a bunch of nobodies, and you call me over for this, you think I have that much free time?" The beauty glanced at the slightly chubby guy beside her.

"Sis, it's different this time.

I heard they've got a substitute pro player coming over," a slightly chubby guy said seriously.

The beauty looked at him expressionlessly.

The chubby guy's forehead began to sweat.

"Of course, that's nothing!

You're the third boss of Krait Battle Team, a genuine pro!"

Chapter 27 Live Match_1

The live competition is a mode of competition in King's League that came into being alongside various events.

Audiences can watch the entire game from God's perspective in separate viewing rooms, highlighting the match's thrilling moments in an independent chat window and cheering enthusiastically.

The competitors cannot see these interactions, at most they can only see audience number statistics, and this is to avoid affecting the competitors' state of mind.

This time, the other side didn't just choose a live competition, it was—Hell Mode!

In Hell Mode, there's no such thing as revival; a team wipe means the end!

Zhengdong Province didn't expect the other side to actually play this mode, but, it didn't really have a big impact.

However, would anyone come to watch?

Even with Chen Baiyu participating, he used an alt, and no one knew which one he was.

The live competition's venue room was already set up by the other side.

Zhengdong and his team got the password and directly entered.

As both teams entered the competition, the audience room was also opened simultaneously.

"How come there are so many people?!"

Zhengdong took one look at the number of people in the viewing room and was immediately startled.

In just a short while, there were thousands of people in the viewing room, and the numbers were still rolling continuously, showing no signs of stopping!

"Ten thousand people!" Wu exclaimed, losing his composure.

Ten thousand people—what did that mean?

Some star players in the game would have about this many viewers for a match.

And now, there were ten thousand people waiting to watch their match?

Unbelievable!

“Chen Baiyu, is this, could it be that someone knows you’re here, could these be your fans?” This was the only reason Zhengdong could think of.

“I didn’t tell anyone though?” Chen Baiyu was also puzzled.

Actually, even if he used his main account, it wouldn’t be possible to have so many people because his popularity wasn’t as high as that of the star players in the game.

“Twenty thousand, it’s over twenty thousand now!” Wu’s voice was shrill.

Twenty thousand people!

The digits indicating the number of spectators were still rolling as before, with no decrease in speed.

“Isn’t the server broken?” several people wondered in amazement.

“Could it be that the other side also has professional players?” Bai Xiaosheng suddenly spoke up.

Since they could invite substitutes, then perhaps the other side might have been able to invite even stronger experts.

Zhengdong really had no idea who they were up against in this match, as both sides had gone all out!

“Professional players?”

Impossible!” Chen Baiyu flatly rejected the idea, “Do you think professional players have nothing better to do than to play these kinds of matches?”

Just as he finished speaking, Chen Baiyu immediately realized his slip of the tongue; he had inadvertently belittled himself and promptly gave Bai Xiaosheng a fierce glare.

Bai Xiaosheng frowned.

Once or twice was tolerable, but not a third time.

Chen Baiyu’s consistent attitude towards him was too much!

Zhengdong, Great Shield King, and Wu were all stunned by Bai Xiaosheng’s words, each almost wanting to press their faces against the screen to check the IDs of the opponents.

The names of the opposing characters looked very domineering and adolescent, nothing unusual, except one named “Stunning Enchantress” seemed a bit different.

“Thirty thousand people!” Great Shield King’s face turned red, mumbling as though he was intoxicated.

Thirty thousand people, that’s the audience size some small competitions would have!

“Is there a way to go to the viewing room and see what these people are saying?” Bai Xiaosheng asked.

It was his first time being the center of attention in his life, and it was while playing a game!

Bai Xiaosheng didn’t know whether to laugh or to give a wry smile.

“We’re all in the competition room; we can’t back out now, and it starts in thirty seconds!” Zhengdong couldn’t help but swallow hard.

They had been in this competition room for only a minute, and in that minute thirty thousand people had come to watch!

Compared to the shock and bafflement of others, Chen Baiyu’s cheeks flushed with excitement—this was a match watched by tens of thousands of people, and if he could showcase his strength...

Internet fame isn’t an impossibility!

When that happens, everything will fall into place!

Chen Baiyu will be a star – what’s a substitute in a gaming team compared to that?

It will be a breeze for me to choose any team I want, and it won’t even be about skill.

Just for the advertising impact alone, those professional managers will flock to me.

This is an opportunity given to me by the heavens.

I’m going to go viral, I’m going viral!

Chen Baiyu’s fingers couldn’t help but tremble.

Just as excited as he was, was Zhengdong Province.

“Bai!” Zhengdong Province couldn’t help but say to Bai Xiaosheng, “If I win, wouldn’t I be incredibly awesome?”

But if I lose, wouldn't that be humiliating on the whole internet!"

Bai Xiaosheng was both annoyed and amused.

"Who knows your old face?"

Even if it's lost, no one would pick it up.

Don't worry."

After being silent for a while, Bai Xiaosheng suddenly asked, "I have a question, do you really want to win this match?"

"More than really want, I'm desperate!" Zhengdong Province said earnestly.

"Good!" Bai Xiaosheng nodded.

"Then let's give it our all!"

"Right, win the damn thing!" Zhengdong Province clenched his fist and shouted.

"Fifteen seconds countdown!"

"It's already broken forty thousand!" Wu and Wu shouted at the same time.

The crowd started to become numb to the numbers.

Bai Xiaosheng stared at the screen, but his mind was communicating with Red Lotus.

“Red Lotus, find me all the professional operation skills for King’s League, and all tactical applications!”

“Okay.” With Red Lotus’s ethereal voice, Bai Xiaosheng’s mind was suddenly filled with many things, to the point where he felt slightly dazzled.

“Retrieved two hundred and forty heroes’ operation skills...”

“Retrieved forty-two popular tactics of King’s League...”

“Retrieved eighteen unconventional tactics of King’s League...”

As Bai Xiaosheng absorbed the information, the rolling number of viewers came to a sudden halt, not because it stopped moving, but because it had reached its limit.

Fifty thousand viewers!

Even a small-scale competition with real heat wouldn’t be much different!

Excitement flushed Chen Baiyu’s face, and his fingers turned white as he clenched them.

“Wu, you pick the defensive warrior; Little Wu, you pick Great Shield King; Zhengdong Province, you pick Radiant Divine Shepherd; and what’s-his-name Bai, you pick Ice Control Mage!”

The page jumped to hero selection.

Chen Baiyu commanded in an indisputable tone.

He himself picked Ghostly Assassin.

Assassin strategy!

Bai Xiaosheng instantly understood.

Chen Baiyu was going to use one of the hottest strategies, the assassin strategy, utilizing the high mobility of an assassin to support other heroes, coordinating stealth and high burst to instantly kill.

This is the assassin playstyle in King's League.

It was the kind of strategy that could highlight an individual's tactics, requiring the whole team to cooperate unconditionally, even at the cost of sacrifices.

It seemed that Chen Baiyu was treating this match as his personal stage, Bai Xiaosheng thought to himself.

However, these chosen heroes were not the best lineup for the assassin strategy, but the most rudimentary combination!

Bai Xiaosheng hesitated for a moment but still chose the Ice Control Mage according to Chen Baiyu's demand.

The others had already made their choices, so he had no other option.

One could only hope that the opponents didn't know we had chosen this strategy.

Bai Xiaosheng still harbored a sliver of hope.

"Hmph, they have a backup professional player, huh."

In another room, the female team leader scoffed coldly.

“Those eternally benched players are all fools bursting with desire to show off.

The moment they get a chance to lead, especially in front of so many people, I bet, nine times out of ten, they will choose the assassin strategy!”

Chapter 28 One Ice Double Control_1

Under the command of that beautiful woman, the people on the other side also quickly chose their heroes.

During this time, the beauty glanced at the number of viewers and her delicate eyebrows knitted slightly.

“Han Yuhao, explain to me what’s with the number of viewers!” the beauty pursed her lips and asked the chubby guy beside her.

“Sis, this is because...

I borrowed your name to drum up some hype for us,” Han Yuhao stuttered a bit.

“Hype, do I need to create hype?

Do you think I, Han Shuying, a professional player, need to show off in this kind of competition?

And you even promoted it, promoted it!” Han Shuying lashed out in a rage, smacking Han Yuhao on the head and then feeling it wasn’t enough, wanted to grab the keyboard.

“Dear sis, calm down, it’s all like this now!”

Han Yuhao shuddered with fright and hastily told the person next to him, “Quick, turn off the live stream!”

The people beside Han Yuhao hurriedly put away the phone they had been sneakily using to film.

Great, you even live-streamed my sneak photos!

Han Shuying was trembling with anger.

No wonder it attracted so many viewers all at once, and no one even suspected whether it was really her.

It turned out to be live-streaming all along!

Han Shuying was a top professional player, a beauty, and also had a special identity—a web celebrity with tens of millions of fans!

The fifty thousand viewers in the viewing room really wasn't much!

If it were known earlier that Han Shuying was competing, not only her fans but also people from the professional community would have snatched up a spot to watch the moment they could.

Not just because of anything else, but because the Krait Battle Team Han Shuying played for was one of the top ten national teams, also the champions of last year's national league!

She herself was ranked third in Krait, recognized as a tactical expert by the professional circle!

In fact, at this time, several teams had received the news and were trying by all means to watch through various channels.

Right now, across the entire network, the popularity of this match was soaring like crazy, even the officials of King's League had begun to pay attention!

At this moment.

In the Krait Battle Team's headquarters, in the tactical room, the captain Fan Feiyang, vice-captain Shi Xuan, and their manager were staring at a screen almost the size of a wall.

They were also watching this match.

It was one of their players who had unintentionally snagged a seat in the viewing room.

"Shuying, who are you going to play against?"

The three of them were equally puzzled.

"Let's watch and see," Fan Feiyang said as he pulled up a chair and sat down.

The match officially began!

The game map—Wilderness Canyon, one of the medium-sized maps in King's League, with three lanes on top, middle, and bottom; the center area was neutral territory.

One characteristic of this map was that there were few wild monsters, but the experience and dropped gold were extremely high, to the extent that killing three monsters would be enough to purchase a piece of basic equipment.

"You go top lane, you go bottom lane, and hold off the opponents if you encounter them!

You two head to the center!" Chen Baiyu gave direct orders to the people around him, his tone leaving no room for questions.

Great Shield King, played by Wu, was a defensive hero with low output but great resilience, putting pressure on the enemy from both the top and bottom lanes, while Bai Xiaosheng's Ice Control Mage and Zhengdong Province's Radiant Divine Shepherd attacked from the middle lane, ostensibly on offense but actually covering for the invisibly following Ghostly Assassin.

In the Krait tactical room, Fan Feiyang suddenly stood up, looking somewhat disappointed as he walked out.

“Opening with an assassin strat, these hero picks are the most primitive lineup, obviously the tactics of a rookie in the professional circle, not worth watching anymore.

Old Shi, just get the substitutes to come and learn from it,” Fan Feiyang muttered as he walked away, “What is Shuying doing, fighting such weak opponents and causing such a fuss.

I think she needs to copy the team rules a couple of times, this is embarrassing for our Krait.”

Krait vice-captain Shi Xuan was also surprised, but he was patient and would watch a match seriously even if it was uninteresting.

Inside the game.

Bai Xiaosheng and Zhengdong Province’s heroes moved cautiously through the middle lane.

However, when they reached the central area, they encountered no enemy heroes.

“You continue forward, take down their middle defensive tower, I’ll go kill the wild monsters!” Chen Baiyu couldn’t help but get excited.

Killing three monsters to buy a piece of equipment, his Ghostly Assassin could soar across the field with a weapon right from the start, and four or five kills were nothing to him!

This would be his, Chen Baiyu’s, moment to shine!

Fifty thousand people would watch me rampage!

Chen Baiyu’s cheeks flushed with excitement.

For a substitute who had been benched for years, this chance for instant stardom was too tempting!

The Ghostly Assassin furiously unleashed skills, killing two monsters in the shortest time!

Just one more, just one more to kill, and he could buy a weapon, and he would be the strongest in output!

Chen Baiyu's eyes were practically glowing.

"I'm under attack, two DPS and one control from the enemy!" Wu, who was on the top lane, suddenly shouted.

Even defensive heroes couldn't hold on for long against such a lineup.

Two damage dealers, one controller, still moving as a team!

Bai Xiaosheng furrowed his brows.

Five tactics immediately sprang to mind, mainstream and unorthodox alike, with even three tailored to counter assassin strategies!

Bai Xiaosheng instantly went on alert.

Unlike him, Chen Baiyu didn't care about the team's fate at all, as the Ghostly Assassin dashed straight for a distant minor monster.

"I've reached the bottom lane's defense tower and haven't encountered any enemies," Wu called out from the bottom lane.

Bai Xiaosheng and his team likewise hadn't met any enemies and smoothly arrived at the middle lane's defense tower.

"No one at the bottom lane, no one at mid either?"

This isn't good, it must be that tactic!"

Bai Xiaosheng's eyes shifted.

One tactic became clear.

"Chen Baiyu, stop fighting and move closer to us!"

Fatty, let's head back!"

Bai Xiaosheng shouted urgently.

In the game, the Ice Control Mage used a flash spell and ran desperately back.

Zhengdong Province was flabbergasted, but without asking any questions, the Radiant Divine Shepherd immediately followed.

"What are you doing!" Chen Baiyu was startled by Bai Xiaosheng, exploding in rage, "Go back, you idiot, what a trap!"

I'm about to..."

He hadn't finished speaking when the Ghostly Assassin suddenly became visible.

The ground lit up with a shining patch of light.

Light traps!

Shadow Hunter!

Chen Baiyu's heart skipped a beat.

In the game, a tree that stood perfectly still suddenly moved.

It revealed itself to be the Shadow Hunter.

The Ghostly Assassin's arch-nemesis!

The Shadow Hunter drew his longbow to full, releasing a burst of three rapid-fire shots, blowing away a third of the Ghostly Assassin's health!

A professional counter, and it had seized the initiative, too!

Chen Baiyu felt as if he was thrown into an ice cave.

He gritted his teeth, the Ghostly Assassin rushed forward regardless of everything else.

It wasn't that he didn't want to retreat, but retreating meant certain death!

Rather than that, why not fight it out!

"What a fool!"

Han Shuying uttered with lips slightly parted, lazy like a cat, yawning slightly.

This match was terribly boring.

The Ghostly Assassin, halfway through his charge, was suddenly rooted in place as a huge half-spider burst from the ground, spitting webs to entangle the assassin's feet.

Spider Queen!

The Ghostly Assassin's worst nemesis!

Chen Baiyu's mind roared, frantically tapping the mechanical keyboard.

Unfortunately, it was futile!

Done for, completely... done for.

The Ghostly Assassin was critically wounded.

"First blood, that's quite a blow to the pride of the benchwarmers!" Shuying said with a bored smile.

First blood referred to the first person to be taken out.

For Chen Baiyu, it was a great humiliation.

He felt dizzy.

Suddenly, an ice arrow flew through the air.

Skimming the Spider Queen, it struck the Shadow Hunter dead center, freezing both heroes in an instant!

Soon after, a ray of light fell on the Ghostly Assassin, pulling it back from the brink of death!

The Ice Control Mage and the Radiant Divine Shepherd had arrived!

Shuying's smile stiffened, a hint of surprise on her face.

That twin freeze ice arrow...

"Ice Control Mage, One Ice Double Control!"

Shuying enunciated each word, her eyes gleaming with liveliness.

That was the trademark divine skill of Krait's vice captain Shi Xuan!

Chapter 29 Who is this person!_1

The chat area in the viewing room exploded!

The barrage of messages was torrential!

For the first time, the focus wasn't on Han Shuying but on that Ice Control Mage and the topic of "One Ice Double Control," overwhelmingly dominating the screen.

"Has this person hacked the game?"

"It's impossible!"

"The Ice Arrow guarantees a freeze, but how can it freeze two?!"

“How did he do that!”

“There’s definitely a catch here!”

A massive wave of comments flooded the chat, causing the stream to stutter at times.

Then, someone started spamming the chat with the reveal—the technique was Shi Xuan of Krait Battle Team’s specialty, One Ice Double Control!

This revelation sent the excitement surging to new heights!

Shi Xuan?!

Was the goddess Han Shuying actually competing against her own team’s vice-captain?!

This speculation instantly went viral online, evolving into dozens of versions within minutes.

Some confidently claimed that Han Shuying and Shi Xuan of Krait Battle Team were leading teams of novices to prove their strength and compete for the position of vice-captain...

Others swore that although the skills of the gamers in these matches were rough, their potential was high, suggesting that Krait was openly selecting reserves and sending a signal by extending an olive branch to grassroots gamers...

In short, endless speculations.

Major gaming websites and forums started to buzz, with numerous self-media outlets claiming to have exclusive insider information.

This match quickly became a trending search, and the gaming's official website even put up an advertisement on its homepage right away.

"Was this pulled out of nowhere, or was it skillfully executed..."

Han Shuying had no idea what was happening outside, but she watched with interest the Ice Control Mage's character ID name—

I Am Bai!

In Bai Xiaosheng's private room at this moment.

"Assassin, retreat now!" Bai Xiaosheng barked, "Pangzi, Light of Chaos!"

Zheng Pangzi immediately sprang into action.

Just as the 1.5 seconds of freeze on the Spider Queen and Shadow Hunter lifted, they were engulfed in a red light and started moving erratically.

Light of Chaos was the Radiant Divine Shepherd's only strong control method, a life-saving skill.

The 3.5 seconds were enough for Chen Baiyu's Ghostly Assassin to make it back, and with the Ghostly Assassin, Ice Control Mage, and Radiant Divine Shepherd joined together, they were stronger than their opponents!

Chen Baiyu's eyes were bloodshot as he gasped for air, his heart reignited with hope.

Instead of falling back to heal, the Ghostly Assassin charged at a wild creature!

Just one, only one, give me a few seconds, and I can ascend to godhood!

Chen Baiyu lost all reason.

“Idiot!” Bai Xiaosheng saw this and glanced coldly at Chen Baiyu.

Chen Baiyu would never make it in the professional circuit in his life, because he didn’t know what to prioritize!

To gain something, you first need to learn to let go!

A ring of light burst from the Ice Control Mage, and Bai Xiaosheng activated the cooldown skill “Time Reversal.”

“Ice Arrow” cooldown reset to zero!

In the midst of chaos, as the Spider Queen and Shadow Hunter broke free, an ice arrow immobilized them both again.

Another One Ice Double Control!

The viewing room went wild!

Back-to-back controls!

The Ice Control Mage and Radiant Shepherd displayed a seamless five-second control chain, a spectacular moment that you’d only see in a major competition.

“This ‘I Am Bai’ is amazing.

Who is he!”

“It must be Shi Xuan.

Only he could grasp the timing so perfectly and control consecutively like this!”

“Shi Xuan, Shi Xuan, Shi Xuan!”

The viewers went mad.

In the Krait Battle Team’s strategy room, Shi Xuan himself, usually so subdued and steady, wore a bittersweet expression.

His name filled the screen, yet it wasn’t him playing the game!

Shi Xuan’s gaze settled on the Ice Control Mage.

“I Am Bai”?

When did another master Ice Control Mage appear in the professional circuit?!

Even Shi Xuan’s eyes gleamed with an eager...

battle spirit.

At this moment, Bai Xiaosheng felt as excited as those in the live broadcast room.

Not because of his play, but because he confirmed something!

All the knowledge and secret manuals are useless by themselves, they are just empty talk without massive amounts of repeated practice and application.

But for him, it's different!

A few days ago, when Bai Xiaosheng was developing his strategy, he played the keyboard as if it were piano keys, not because his typing was freakishly fast by nature, but because the information Red Lotus transmitted to him put him in a state of excitement, making his mind and hands work faster!

Bai Xiaosheng had always suspected that by using the information as soon as he obtained it, he would reach a peak level of proficiency!

Reality proved his suspicions right!

Continuous One Ice Double Control made Bai Xiaosheng handle it with ease.

That moment, he glanced at the screen.

"Retreat!" Bai Xiaosheng decisively spat out the word.

The Ice Control Mage turned and ran with the Radiant Divine Shepherd!

"Interesting!" Han Shuying's eyes immediately lit up.

The two consecutive double controls had not impressed her as much as this retreat.

This person must be versed in tactics, he knows my layout!

And he has great strategic vision!

Han Shuying's gaze followed that character.

"Kill the Ghostly Assassin!" Despite her reluctance to let the fleeing Ice Control Mage go, Han Shuying commanded firmly.

Being rational is a professional player's most basic quality, and even though Han Shuying was very interested in the Ice Control Mage, she still made the right decision immediately.

On the other side, the neutral monsters finally fell!

"Yes!" Chen Baiyu roared in excitement.

But immediately after, the Ghostly Assassin...

died!

The Shadow Hunter and the Spider Queen almost simultaneously unleashed their most powerful skills, instantly taking out the half-health Assassin!

Chen Baiyu's laughter froze on his face.

The endless dawn turned into darkness, and his heart sank into the abyss of despair.

Why, I was about to go legendary!

Chen Baiyu was filled with reluctance.

"Why did you run, why didn't you hold them back, you bunch of deadweight losers!" Chen Baiyu's eyes reddened, ready to smash his mechanical keyboard to pieces.

“Shut up!” Zheng Pangzi bellowed, glaring at Chen Baiyu, “We’re all dead weight, are we?”

Just you are not.

You would’ve died anyway if you were late hitting the monsters!

And you speak of professional gaming?

Pah!”

Wu’s gaze was equally cold.

The supposedly superior “professional god” now looked like a clown.

Chen Baiyu felt a chill at their gazes and slumped into his chair in dismay.

Bai Xiaosheng kept his eyes off Chen Baiyu the whole time.

He stared at the screen, sighing softly.

Zhengdong Province rebuked Chen Baiyu, as the Radiant Divine Shepherd, caught by the enemy’s two damage dealers and one control, went down.

Bai Xiaosheng chose to retreat because he knew the enemy’s tactics.

An early game raid by the assassin, followed by an encirclement in the later stages.

To escape meant they still had a chance to win.

It's a pity Chen Baiyu didn't cooperate.

Now, with the Assassin dead and the Shepherd gone, there was no coming back.

Bai Xiaosheng launched his final attack and took his hands off the keyboard.

The outcome had been determined.

This last shot, a frost arrow, flew out, miraculously freezing all three heroes who happened to converge at the same spot!

This nearly miraculous coincidence silenced the spectators.

One ice, three controlled!

In the Krait Battle Team's strategy room, Vice-Captain Shi Xuan suddenly stood up.

"Go call the captain!"

"I am already here!" Fan Feiyang somehow appeared behind them at some point.

"Call Han Shuying right now," Fan Feiyang commanded with a grave expression, "Find out exactly who she's playing against!"

Who is this person!"

Chapter 30 Capturing the Ringleader_1

"Haha, we won!"

"Amazing!"

“We’re too strong!”

The people on Han Yuhao’s side were all smiles, high-fiving to celebrate.

Han Shuying sat quietly, her gaze fixed on the screen.

She, was left wanting more!

“Han Yuhao, go, challenge them to another round!” Han Shuying commanded.

Han Yuhao got excited; he enjoyed dominating opponents!

Han Yuhao immediately messaged Zhengdong Province.

At that moment, Han Shuying’s phone rang, and the caller was Shi Xuan.

It looked like, most likely, the rest of the team had watched the match too, given the vice-captain’s character...

Han Shuying almost instinctively made her judgement.

“Old Shi, you want to know who’s on the other side, don’t you?”

I don’t know either, but I want to play another round!” Han Shuying spoke before Shi Xuan could.

Silence came from the other end.

“Fine, play another round with him, but ban the Ice Control Mage!”

The voice speaking wasn't Shi Xuan's, it was the captain's, Fan Feiyang!

"Captain Fan?" Han Shuying was taken aback.

Fan Feiyang had taken the phone after Shi Xuan had made the call.

Han Shuying understood her captain all too well; his standards were exceedingly high.

Even he had become interested?!

If this "My Name is Bai" could play a second class to the extent of the Ice Control Mage, and add to that his global vision.

This person must be an exceptional talent!

They must bring him to Krait!

Han Shuying hung up the phone, her beautiful eyes sparkling with excitement.

At this moment, the box where Bai Xiaosheng and his team were, was filled with heavy silence.

It was unacceptable, too unacceptable!

Leaving aside Zhengdong Province, Wu and his colleagues were extremely frustrated!

The other side's mocking laughter was like a slap in the face before fifty thousand spectators!

How could they continue like this!

Chen Baiyu looked dejected, now everyone's gazes towards him were icy cold.

Losing wasn't shameful, but they had lost so utterly!

Not even taking down one person on the other side, it was a complete rollout!

It was truly humiliating!

Zhengdong stared at the screen, his fingers flying over the keyboard, then suddenly looked up.

"They're saying, they want another round!"

Another round?!

Wu and his colleague also looked up; they too wanted another shot!

"Bai, you lead us this time!" Zhengdong Province looked towards Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng exchanged a glance with him, then looked at Wu and his colleague.

"Want to win?" Bai Xiaosheng asked.

"Yes!" the three men replied in unison.

"Do you trust me?" Bai Xiaosheng asked.

"Yes!"

“Last round, had we listened to you, we might have had a chance!”

The few of them couldn't help but throw a disdainful look at Chen Baiyu again.

What so-called professional circle, he was nothing but a liability!

The look in Wu and his colleagues' eyes towards Bai Xiaosheng was filled with the former admiration they had for Chen Baiyu.

One Ice Double Control!

Such a cool and brilliant strategy!

Bai Xiaosheng took another look at Chen Baiyu.

They needed to play, and they needed those five people, including Chen Baiyu's cooperation.

“Chen Baiyu, team up with us for a match, win or lose, you'll get the reward I promised you without a penny less!” Zhengdong Province stated bluntly.

Under their gaze, Chen Baiyu reluctantly nodded.

“Alright then, let's do this, to another battle!” Bai Xiaosheng's eyes blazed with determination.

Get ready for the start of the game.

“Ugh, come on, their shameless move, they've banned the Ice Control Mage!” Zhengdong Province suddenly exclaimed.

Big Wu and Little Wu's expressions changed, and Chen Baiyu also frowned, looking towards Bai Xiaosheng.

"If it's banned, it's banned.

Anyway, the Ice Control Mage wasn't my choice just now," Bai Xiaosheng said nonchalantly.

His casual indifference was so cool!

Big Wu and Little Wu looked up to Bai Xiaosheng admiringly.

"Fine, they ban, we also ban.

What to ban?

Shadow Hunter or Spider Queen!" Zhengdong Province said through gritted teeth.

"It doesn't matter, they probably won't care either," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

The audience watching was abuzz with heated discussions, suddenly realizing.

The second game, the countdown began!

"There's still a match!"

"Great, a battle for supremacy with Krait, a sight rarely seen in years!"

"Come on, Shuying!"

“Come on, Shi Xuan!”

If the flood of comments could be turned into voices, it would be an overwhelming roar!

At this moment, the news also caused a storm on the internet, and the official website immediately posted a message on their home page.

The craziest thing was, spots for watching this live broadcast were being scalped online at exorbitant prices!

In the Krait Battle Team’s strategy room.

“So, they’ve changed their captain to that ‘I am Little Bai’?”

Shi Xuan spoke with interest, “I want to see what kind of lineup he’s going to choose.”

Fan Feiyang remained silent, sitting in his chair and watching quietly.

“What’s with these heroes?”

Once Bai Xiaosheng’s side had chosen their heroes, Shi Xuan couldn’t help but frown.

The five heroes didn’t form any well-known best lineup.

They couldn’t even match up to some of the more unorthodox tactical lineups.

“Strange, does this person have strong skills but not understand tactics?” Shi Xuan glanced at Fan Feiyang.

Fan Feiyang didn’t comment, still watching steadily.

Once Han Shuying's side had chosen their heroes, the professional combination could change tactics at least three or four times.

Switching tactics in battle to keep the opponent off guard, that's Han Shuying!

In the King's League, recognized as a tactical expert!

"This time, Shuying might have met her match!" Fan Feiyang, who had been quiet for a long time, suddenly said.

Shi Xuan furrowed his brows, taking a closer look at Bai Xiaosheng's side's five heroes, running through their information in his mind.

"Could it be..."

The usually calm Shi Xuan couldn't help but gasp in shock.

Ordinary people choose heroes and match tactics based on the hero types—attack, defense, support.

But if these five heroes' twenty-five skills were continuously divided, they could temporarily change into even more styles of play!

Especially these heroes!

Shi Xuan was startled, "Could this be 'Tactical Flow'?"

Many years ago, in the national league, it was called an invincible tactic, 'Tactical Flow', nearly unstoppable!

However, Tactical Flow demands ridiculously high mental responsiveness from the commander!

“Tactical Flow!” Fan Feiyang quietly mulled over the words and sat up straight.

In the private room.

“Top lane, retreat and swap places with Han Yuhao in the mid lane.

Mid lane, push forward, give up the bot lane, and go around to counter-attack from the middle to the top!” Han Shuying issued command after command.

Less than five minutes into the game, she had already switched tactics three times.

Han Yuhao and others were momentarily overwhelmed.

Han Shuying’s brows were tightly knit.

The other side had also changed their offensive three times in such a short period.

“One-shot flow,” “kite flow,” “double roam!”

Han Shuying grew increasingly alarmed.

She had to keep readjusting.

But by doing so, she fell into the opponent’s rhythm.

Han Shuying felt a sense of unease and heat, stretched out her hand to unbutton a button, and the lace edge of her bra peeked out, revealing a tempting flash of white.

Not good!

Han Shuying's eyes narrowed.

With all the shifting around, her own hero became isolated!

Bai Xiaosheng's side, with five powerful heroes, circled around and trapped Han Shuying's "Stunning Enchantress" in the center!

Break their stronghold, capture their leader, to dissolve their formation!

It's the "Catch the thief first, catch the king" tactic!