

Two Trillion 641

Chapter 641 This is Your First Assessment!_1

Thirty top managers gathered in the central part of the amphitheater classroom, listening attentively like elementary school students.

It really did have the feel of a training camp.

Feng Li stood on the podium.

Despite her youth, no one dared to underestimate her.

On one hand, an Affairs Officer is equivalent to a provincial industry head, a rank higher than their current levels, and even has the authority to oversee their peers!

On the other hand, Feng Li spoke with a calm demeanor, "I hold double doctorates in economics and management. If there's anything incorrect in what I say later on, please feel free to point it out."

Double doctorates in economics and management!

The crowd was amazed; who would dare to challenge her lecture now?

Feng Li surveyed the crowd and, with a satisfied smile and nod, said, "In truth, calling this a training camp is something we all understand quite clearly. This is an evaluation!"

"The entire assessment period is three months, with one month per stage. Each stage has its stage head, and this training camp is just the first phase, with me as the examiner! During this stage, you may temporarily leave your posts, but that doesn't mean your company's operations aren't included in the evaluation. If problems arise at your companies during this time and you're unable to solve them adequately through remote means, it will prove that your abilities are insufficient for a higher position. And for that, I can only say sorry!"

The crowd couldn't help but feel alarmed.

Feng Li's smile remained calm, "In my stage, I can eliminate ten people. I hope none of you will be among those ten!"

The crowd couldn't help but swallow hard.

None of them wanted to be among the first to be eliminated; pride aside, it was simply too embarrassing.

"In fact, when I say training camp, I won't be giving lectures. That's not something people of your status need to be taught. I will only discuss and explore issues with you all. The final assessment won't be in the form of a test either, so I hope you don't feel too anxious," Feng Li said with a smile.

Many people immediately breathed a sigh of relief.

They had really thought they would have to write essays, memorize materials, and take tests.

At their age, rote memorization was not their strong suit.

"I wonder, Instructor Feng Li, what are the criteria for advancement and elimination?" someone couldn't help but ask.

"Good question," Feng Li replied with a smile, then her expression turned serious, and she enunciated four words, "I am the standard!"

Those four words struck like thunder, making people gasp.

The implication was clear; there were no standards, her personal judgment was the authority!

Once these words were spoken, some people had their reservations, but no one dared to voice them.

Arguing about reasonableness and fairness with an Affairs Officer who held absolute authority over the decisions was akin to seeking death.

"Not only me, but the examiners for the next two stages also represent the ultimate rules!" Feng Li scanned the audience and then smiled, "However, since we have been selected as the examiners, we are individuals who the President of the Greater China Region absolutely trusts and recognises, capable of ensuring fairness and justice. If you have any objections, you may report them to the President of the Greater China Region."

Those with objections below couldn't help but lower their heads.

Appealing to the President of the Greater China Region about the unfairness of an examiner?

If they had the power to be heard by the heavens, they wouldn't need to worry about fairness...

No further objections were raised.

Even the haughty Zheng Qinghong reeled in his arrogance and behaved a bit more respectfully.

Feng Li saw this and smiled with satisfaction.

Bai Xiaosheng found it amusing.

These general managers, usually so imposing, were now neatly subdued by a young lady; it was quite the interesting scene.

Zhao Qianze couldn't help but glance at Bai Xiaosheng and asked in a low voice, "Bai, do you know Officer Feng, you two... are acquainted?"

"No, I just treated her to a bowl of noodles once," Bai Xiaosheng replied.

Zhao Qianze looked incredulous; just as Feng Li seemed to glance their way, he instantly dared not speak.

Even she had to tread with caution.

Zheng Qinghong occasionally shot glances towards Zhao Qianze and Bai Xiaosheng.

Seeing the two conversing in low voices, his gaze barely concealed his anger, yet still, he dared not burst out.

After all, having been publicly subdued by Feng Li, even his background was of no help!

Mu Beichen observed this scene and couldn't help but snicker to himself. The angrier Zheng Qinghong got, the better Mu Beichen's chances of setting them against each other!

On the stage, Feng Li continued, "Actually, this stage of the assessment is very simple—attend a class here every week for two and a half hours, and one month will see the end of the course."

She spoke as though it were nothing, but no one present dared to assume it would be easy.

To them, the more "ordinary" it seemed, the more insurmountable it could be.

Seeing no one respond, Feng Li picked up a stick of chalk, turned, and walked to the blackboard where she swiftly wrote down several questions.

Her handwriting was beautiful; it was a sight to behold.

But the spectators had no time to admire her penmanship; they were more focused on the questions.

Unsurprisingly, these could be the exam questions!

And they all looked incredibly tough—none seemed to be ones they could answer offhand.

However, Bai Xiaosheng frowned slightly.

"These... they look so familiar," Bai Xiaosheng mumbled to himself.

Mu Beichen was also surprised, having pondered over some of these questions.

"Could today be my lucky day?" Mu Beichen couldn't help but get excited.

"Alright."

At the lectern, Feng Li tossed aside the chalk, dusted off her fair hands, and addressed the audience, "All of you here come from different industries, different fields. I wonder if you've considered how to enable the companies under your management to exert greater influence within the industry, to become benchmarks, and to lead as dragons. How to integrate your company's growth with the development of a city. How to ensure your companies meet the expectations of local government officials? What are your thoughts on these questions on the blackboard?"

Conversations buzzed among the audience.

"My goodness, aren't these questions a bit too grandiose, and how are they related to managing a company?"

"Indeed, as corporate leaders, do we need to look so far ahead and think so much?"

"Are these questions not a bit too exaggerated?"

However, someone immediately retorted.

"You need to understand that the group is selecting not just a company leader, but a provincial industry responsibility officer. A provincial industry responsibility officer must have that broad vision!"

"That's right, without the ability to build high and survey the larger context, how can one govern an industry within a province!"

"I think these questions are great, they have depth, and we need to consider them if we want to take things a step further!"

That line of reasoning abruptly quelled the voices of opposition.

Many held their breath and fixed their gaze on the blackboard without blinking.

Zheng Qinghong and Mu Beichen did the same.

Feng Li watched this and couldn't help but smile.

"Good. I'll give you all ten minutes to think! After ten minutes, you will have the chance to speak!"

Feng Li's eyes were sharp.

"This is your first round of assessment!"

Chapter 642: Overwhelmingly Confident Mu Beichen_1

As soon as Feng Li spoke, the entire room was shocked. Had the first assessment already arrived?

Ten minutes to contemplate so many questions and come up with profound insights, how difficult it was!

It was simply impossible to complete!

Fortunately, Feng Li added, "Each person may choose one to two questions to discuss, with no upper limit. The more issues you consider and the more reasonable your explanations, the more points you'll get. Of course, if you're greedy and talk nonsense or ramble, I'll also deduct points!"

With that, Feng Li picked up a notebook from the lectern, showed it to everyone, and said, "Everything is recorded here for a comprehensive assessment!"

Everyone nodded in agreement.

There were only ten minutes.

All the people in the room were staring at the blackboard, lost in thought.

Some scribbled on paper, while others constantly searched for information on their phones.

Feng Li did not stop them.

Everyone in the room, including Zheng Qinghong, Mu Beichen, and Zhao Qianze, entered a state of "fierce battle."

Only Bai Xiaosheng appeared somewhat "idle."

Regarding those questions on the blackboard, Bai Xiaosheng had been somewhat surprised initially, but after reading them closely twice, he immediately understood.

"I really don't know where Feng Li found these questions. Aren't these the same set I worked on in Zhongjing? The relationships among enterprises, industry, and government, creating a circular ecological economic model..." Bai Xiaosheng thought to himself.

He had even reported on this to the ministers in the province.

At that time, his presentation had won endless praise from the minister and the leaders of the review committee, who clapped many times.

Now, these had become the questions for the first round of assessment?

Bai Xiaosheng was left astonished.

And his demeanor of "laziness and lack of thought" immediately caught the attention of Feng Li on the lectern.

"What is he doing? While everyone else is seriously preparing, why is he the only one who doesn't seem to care?" Feng Li couldn't help frowning.

Feng Li had a very good impression of Bai Xiaosheng, and although she wouldn't give him an easy pass, she still hoped to see a qualified answer sheet from him.

But Bai Xiaosheng's attitude made her instantly displeased.

Feng Li even looked over several times, hoping Bai Xiaosheng would notice her gaze and become serious.

Unfortunately, it was to no avail.

Bai Xiaosheng returned her looks with a warm smile, but he didn't write down any thoughts or look up any information, maintaining a lazy posture.

"I can't be bothered with you!" Feng Li was both anxious and angry, and eventually, she also stopped paying attention to Bai Xiaosheng.

Actually, Feng Li was somewhat misjudging Bai Xiaosheng.

With these questions, he could talk for an hour straight without pausing to think.

This was originally his expertise!

Time passed by, minute by minute.

Ten minutes were not long, and to the eyes of the examinees, it was simply too short.

And when Feng Li uttered the words "time's up," many people were still reluctant to stop, continuing to think and search for information.

Feng Li surveyed the crowd and said, "Who would like to speak first?"

At this question, people looked at each other.

No one wanted to be the first to speak. They all wanted to think a bit more, refine their points a bit more.

After all, speaking up would set a precedent, so they had to be cautious.

"No one wants to start?" Feng Li smiled and said, "Then we'll start from this row and go back in order. Once we finish this row, the second row will start from the back to the front. Five minutes per person, thirty people, that's a hundred and fifty minutes. Once we finish, the class is dismissed. How about it?"

The first person pointed out immediately wore a bitter expression.

The difference between being the first and the last could be over a hundred minutes, which would be a huge disadvantage for him.

The last person, however, suddenly smiled brightly.

Feng Li looked at the expressions of everyone and laughed, "Before you speak, state your name, but there's no need for self-introduction. As for your score, the first to speak will get additional points, then it decreases in turn, and the last person to speak will have points deducted for having more time to think. As to how points are added or subtracted, I have my own rules, which you don't need to worry about; however, I guarantee absolute fairness."

"With that, are you reassured?" Feng Li asked the first person.

That person immediately looked pleased.

The last person's face immediately soured.

In truth, fairness was something that the examiner had to consider thoroughly; otherwise, how could one be fit for the job!

In the crowd, people like Bai Xiaosheng, Zheng Qinghong, Mu Beichen, and Zhao Qianze were the least concerned about so-called fairness.

"Alright, then I'll talk about my views on the second question." The first person stood up, smiled at Feng Li, nodded to the people behind, and stated his name.

With limited time, discussing only one question without being greedy was a smart approach.

Feng Li seemed to approve, casually making notes in her book.

The man seemed accustomed to acting the part, used to being the head of a large enterprise.

He started by saying he had five points to make, and after discussing the first and second points, Feng Li already tapped on the table with her finger, "Time's up, next."

"Five minutes have passed already?!" the first person exclaimed in disbelief, then pleaded with Feng Li, "Officer Feng, just give me two more minutes, just two minutes. I haven't even got to the crux of my argument."

Leaders, who doesn't drag out a speech.

However, Feng Li wasn't going to indulge him!

"This person!" she said, her gaze fierce and unyielding with just three words.

The first person had no choice but to sit down, feeling helpless.

The second person quickly stood up, announced his name, and said loudly, "I will express my views on the third question!"

This person took to heart the lesson from his predecessor, not daring to dilly-dally, his mouth firing off like a machine gun, barely pausing to breathe.

It was uncomfortable for everyone to listen.

"Could he choke on his own words?" Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but mutter.

Next to him, Zhao Qianze heard and, stifling a laugh, cast a reproving glance at him.

The second person spoke too hastily and quickly, sometimes even lacking clarity and logical coherence.

Feng Li showed no expression, and when the time was up, she noted something in her book and said, "Next."

The second person also sat down with some regret, and the third person stood up...

It went on like this for ten people.

Feng Li remained expressionless throughout.

It wasn't until the eleventh person, whose presentation was somewhat excellent, that Feng Li nodded slightly, apparently somewhat approving.

Instantly, the others looked on with envy, jealousy, and hatred; the eleventh person's face flushed with excitement.

Soon, it was Mu Beichen's turn.

And he was eager to try!

After standing up, Mu Beichen first gave Feng Li and everyone an elegant smile and said, "I will elaborate on both questions one and three!"

At this statement, the room erupted.

"What, two questions! All the people before only spoke on one question!"

"Five minutes for two questions, is this guy crazy?"

"Who is he? Just for that courage, I, Wang, am impressed!"

Feng Li pressed her palms down in the air, signaling for silence, then indicated that Mu Beichen could begin.

Before speaking, Mu Beichen took a deep breath, glanced at Bai Xiaosheng, then at Zheng Qinghong, the corners of his mouth hiding a faint smile.

Watch and see, I, Mu Beichen, will show you that I am the number one in this training class!

Mu Beichen was brimming with confidence!

Chapter 643: I Disagree!_1

As Officer Feng Li signaled that he could begin, Mu Beichen started to speak eloquently.

His speaking pace was neither rushed nor dragged, simply ideal, and each word was crystal clear. His voice carried the potential of a broadcaster, magnetic and profound.

Listening to him was truly a pleasure.

In the lecture hall, silence fell instantly as everyone listened intently.

Surprise gradually appeared on many faces.

Those who had already spoken were even silently clicking their tongues in astonishment.

This Mu Beichen, his views were incredibly refined. The insights he offered were to the point, and every sentence hit the nail on the head!

It was delightfully satisfying to listen to him!

To be able to think to this extent was indeed impressive!

Many people looked at Mu Beichen with eyes filled with admiration.

Five minutes.

Without waiting for Officer Feng to remind him, Mu Beichen closed his mouth.

The timing was just right.

This man, even his control over time was to such an extent! Impressive indeed!

Many were even more admiring.

Officer Feng Li smiled and nodded, as she promptly recorded notes in her notebook.

It was unclear what she was writing, but the time she took was three to four times longer than ordinary people.

Then, Officer Feng Li looked up approvingly at Mu Beichen, put down her pen, and actually started to clap softly.

The monotonous applause echoed in the lecture hall.

Those present were somewhat taken aback, as this was the first person for whom Officer Feng Li had clapped.

Although it was only a few claps, they represented the approval of the Affairs Officer.

Many quickly followed with applause.

The applause was somewhat irregular, but after all, this was the first collective acknowledgment!

Mu Beichen wore a humble and courteous smile as he nodded with thanks to those applauding.

"For the first time, someone has given an answer that satisfies me. Your name is Mu Beichen, isn't it? I'll remember that," Officer Feng Li said with a smile.

Everyone looked at Mu Beichen with undeniable envy.

This impression score was priceless!

"Thank you for your recognition," Mu Beichen said elegantly like a gentleman, with the utmost politeness, and his face showed a blush of pride.

As he sat down, he couldn't help but glance at Zheng Qinghong and Bai Xiaosheng, feeling proud inside—

Even if your answers were as outstanding as mine, this impression score is something you can only dream of but never reach!

Amidst his pride, Mu Beichen unexpectedly discovered.

Zheng Qinghong wasn't paying any attention to him at all, being preoccupied with looking at Zhao Qianze and staring at Bai Xiaosheng.

And Bai Xiaosheng appeared somewhat lazy, seemingly completely unmoved.

Mu Beichen's brow furrowed in annoyance.

I spoke so brilliantly, and those two, are they blind or pretending not to see?

They must be doing it on purpose, to mess with my mind!

They couldn't possibly have missed my excellent answer!

Mu Beichen sneered.

"Next," Officer Feng Li said from the podium, but when she looked up, her gaze landed on Bai Xiaocheng sitting in front of Mu Beichen.

A sense of annoyance suddenly surged in her heart.

This "Mr. Bai," whether through intermediaries or in person, had tried more than once to ask her to go easy.

In this lecture hall right now, there were probably many who harbored the same thoughts.

Having to deal with that would be exasperating indeed! Officer Feng Li couldn't help but think to herself, "It seems I have to make an example of one to warn the others."

A trace of cold glint lingered deep in her eyes.

Making an example of "Mr. Bai" in public might offend the new Affairs Officer, Wang Xincheng, or even cause the Senior Affairs Officer, Officer Li, to be displeased.

The consequence only lingered for a second in Feng Li's mind before she cast it aside.

She wasn't afraid!

"If they really want to hold a grudge against me over this, so be it!"

Feng Li, although seemingly amiable on the outside, was incredibly resolute at heart, not to mention that she had the support of the old master behind her!

As Feng Li pondered these thoughts, Bai Xiaocheng had already begun introducing himself and sharing his narrative.

He focused on a single issue, presenting his own perspective, and even "borrowed" some of Mu Beichen's views on the fly.

Had he stuck to what he had originally planned to say, it might have been bland but at least it wouldn't have been wrong.

But his decision to change tactics last minute threw his logic into chaos, and in his panic, he even started to stammer!

Now things were looking up.

The crowd's gaze converged on him once more, but this time it wasn't out of admiration; instead, they looked on with mockery and ridicule, making Bai Xiaocheng even more embarrassed.

Even Zheng Qinghong, standing nearby, couldn't help but look over and frown—he couldn't bear to listen.

"Alright, you can stop now," Feng Li interrupted Bai Xiaocheng abruptly.

Bai Xiaocheng was suddenly stunned.

It hadn't even been five minutes.

"Actually, before coming here, I'd heard from someone that there was a Bai in this training class who was very impressive and that I should take note. I've been curious—just how impressive could someone be to amaze me!"

Feng Li scoffed coldly, looking at Bai Xiaocheng, "So, this is your idea of being impressive?"

At these words, the onlookers' glances were full of insinuation as they watched Bai Xiaocheng.

Looking for someone to pull strings with the examiner ahead of time?

Officer Feng Li actually aired the matter in public.

It appeared she was setting up a negative example!

Under the numerous suggestive stares, Bai Xiaocheng's chubby face was covered in beads of sweat.

With this made public, would he be eliminated on the spot?!

Feng Li looked around at everyone and continued, "I can tell all of you that you may have your own wide networks, even capable of delivering messages to the ears of the examiners."

"But, it won't do you any good!"

"The greater the expectation, the greater the disappointment, and we may very well give you a lower score!"

Feng Li's voice was clear and forceful, striking at those present.

A few who had similar thoughts had suddenly turned a shade paler, feeling simultaneously relieved that they hadn't taken that step; otherwise, they could have been publicly called out.

This was a profound humiliation!

"Utterly foolish!" Zheng Qinghong glanced at Bai Xiaocheng and squeezed out a few words.

An examiner approved by the President of the Greater China Region was not to be swayed by personal favors!

Bai Xiaosheng watched indifferently, and although he remained silent, he agreed with Zheng Qinghong's sentiment.

On the platform, Feng Li picked up her notebook, flipped through it, found a printed list, and unfolded it to take a look.

She had never remembered Bai Xiaocheng's name.

When Bai Xiaocheng was introducing himself just now, she was distracted and didn't catch it.

So now, she needed a glance.

Spying a surname Bai on the list, she closed the list and called out sharply, "Bai Xiaosheng, I am now placing you on 'observation status' in the class, do you accept this!"

With Feng Li's sudden outburst echoing commandingly, the room fell silent as thunder.

All at once, Bai Xiaocheng was stunned, his gaze locked straight on Feng Li, as if he did not understand.

Feng Li looked at him coldly.

Even if he was scared witless it was useless; once she made a decision, she would not change it.

"I disagree!"

Before Bai Xiaocheng could speak up, a loud shout rang out, and Bai Xiaosheng suddenly rose to his feet and exclaimed loudly.

Feng Li looked at him in astonishment.

I'm dealing with this person, why are you standing up? Feng Li was puzzled.

"I mean, Officer Feng, if he's upset you, why are you punishing me!" Bai Xiaosheng protested with limitless grievance.

Chapter 644: This Person is Extremely Shameless_1

People sit in the classroom, but trouble descends from the sky!

Bai Xiaosheng felt unjustified.

He didn't provoke anyone, and out of nowhere, he was being "observed for retention"?

Was this any of his business? Bai Xiaosheng looked at Feng Li with immense frustration.

Aside from Mu Beichen, Cheng Tao, and Zhao Qianze, who knew Bai Xiaosheng's name, the others looked at him stupidly, equally puzzled.

"I'm punishing you?" Feng Li looked surprised, "What are you talking about?"

"You're penalizing Bai Xiaosheng, and I am Bai Xiaosheng!" Bai Xiaosheng pointed to his nose, then pointed at Bai Xiaocheng, "He is Bai Xiaocheng!"

So there were two with the surname Bai!

Feng Li was startled and quickly reopened the list to double-check.

Indeed...

"Then I apologize, it was my mistake," Feng Li was straightforward, immediately apologizing to Bai Xiaosheng in public, "I'm sorry."

An Affairs Officer apologizing in public, that's quite a face-saving moment!

Maybe there will even be some special consideration later!

The crowd thought privately.

So his name is Bai Xiaosheng!

Zheng Qinghong secretly glared at Bai Xiaosheng, etching the name into his memory.

Mu Beichen felt a tinge of regret, "If Bai Xiaosheng was really kept for observation, that would have been too good to be true!"

Zhao Qianze was puzzled; she had thought Bai Xiaosheng knew Feng Li, but now it seemed otherwise...

"I apologize to you, Mr. Bai Xiaosheng, please take a seat," Feng Li said again.

"Reporting to the instructor, you just startled me, and I got so nervous, I forgot many things I had prepared," Bai Xiaosheng said brazenly, "Therefore, I request you give me some extra points!"

The crowd was astounded and turned to look at him. Even Zheng Qinghong and Mu Beichen were taken aback.

He was unabashedly asking for points!

Scared into forgetting your prepared thoughts?

What kind of reason is that!

You're acting like a three-year-old who forgets things at a scare! This is just an excuse to seek advantages, isn't it!

Shameless!

Zheng Qinghong, Mu Beichen, and the others immediately looked disdainfully at Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng appeared entirely nonchalant.

Beside him, Zhao Qianze could hardly contain her laughter.

This Bai was indeed not one to suffer losses!

On the podium, Feng Li looked at Bai Xiaosheng with a mixture of amusement and annoyance.

Indeed, she had spoken incorrectly, and Bai Xiaosheng's reason could pass, but asking for points so overtly and confidently, it would be difficult to find a second one in this group!

"Alright, I'll consider it," Feng Li conceded a step.

The gaze of the crowd converged on Bai Xiaosheng, filled with envy, jealousy, and resentment.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled and sat down.

But Mu Beichen was choking with anger, cursing inwardly, "This shameless guy, claiming he forgot due to fright, even if he doesn't perform well later, he'll have an excuse!"

Utterly despicable!

Zheng Qinghong shared the sentiment with Mu Beichen without consultation.

It was just a minor incident, and the punishment for Bai Xiaocheng remained unchanged.

When Bai Xiaocheng sat down, his face was filled with dejection, utter disappointment, and even some pessimism and despair.

And the answers continued.

Thanks to the inspiration provided by Mu Beichen, and given sufficient time to think, two more people managed to answer two questions each. Though not as striking as Mu Beichen's performance, they still received verbal commendation from Feng Li and sparse applause from the crowd.

Soon, it was Zheng Qinghong's turn.

Zheng Qinghong stood up, his expression haughty, "I will answer three questions. The first, the third, and the fifth!"

As soon as he spoke, the whole room was abuzz.

"Mr. Zheng will cover three questions in just five minutes?!"

"You're kidding, I thought Mu Beichen had already taken it to the max!"

"Yeah, just five minutes, for such a big topic and three questions to answer, what can be said..."

Everyone found it unbelievable.

Mu Beichen's gaze narrowed, his eyes revealing a trace of solemnity.

Zheng Qinghong, he was trying to one-up him!

Bai Xiaosheng curiously glanced over, just in time to make eye contact with Zheng Qinghong.

Zheng Qinghong disdainfully glanced at Bai Xiaosheng, his lips curling into a cold smirk.

He wanted everyone, especially Zhao Qianze, to know that he, Zheng Qinghong, was the strongest and most outstanding among these people. That Bai guy, even if he scored a few more points by fluke, was still miles behind him!

This aura caused Feng Li on the stage to nod in approval.

Zheng Qinghong, huh? Let's see just how exceptional you are! Feng Li thought to herself.

Even she knew about this man.

"Let's begin!" Feng Li said.

Zheng Qinghong then began to speak.

His voice was steady and clear, each word crystal clear, with a penetrating power.

His words were even more concise than Mu Beichen's!

And he was answering three questions!

Feng Li was so captivated she listened in rapt attention. The audience was silently amazed.

The breadth of vision, the depth of insight, was extraordinary!

Even Mu Beichen had a look of astonishment on his face and could hardly believe it.

At the same time, he couldn't deny that Zheng Qinghong was indeed very impressive!

"However, I only lost because I didn't have enough time to think. He had more time to ponder than I did!" Mu Beichen wasn't disheartened and firmly believed that the gap between him and Zheng Qinghong wasn't too pronounced!

The five minutes were up, and Zheng Qinghong had just finished speaking.

Feng Li snapped out of her reverie and was the first to start applauding.

Then a thunderous applause erupted from the entire hall, incredibly enthusiastic.

This was a tribute to the strong!

"Zheng Qinghong, truly lives up to his reputation!" Feng Li nodded slightly and made a heavy note in her notebook.

Zheng Qinghong himself haughtily glanced at Bai Xiaosheng and gave Zhao Qianze a slight smile before sitting down.

Zhao Qianze didn't look at Zheng Qinghong; her applause was merely symbolic.

After clapping, her brows furrowed, she lowered her head and was absorbed in looking at the ideas she had written down on paper.

Dissatisfied!

She couldn't compare to Zheng Qinghong, let alone Mu Beichen!

Zhao Qianze, being a competitive woman, was suddenly a bit unhappy.

Beside her, Bai Xiaosheng noticed her slightly troubled expression and glanced at the scribbled opinions on the paper, immediately smiling. He reached out, pressed his hand on the paper, and pulled it towards him.

Zhao Qianze was startled, then saw Bai Xiaosheng take the pen and start writing and drawing on it.

"Stop messing around, Bai, that's for your sister to use! You don't want me to embarrass myself later, do you?" Zhao Qianze couldn't help but lower her voice.

Bai Xiaosheng ignored her.

"Don't worry, I won't let you down," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

At just one smile from him, Zhao Qianze gave up on trying to get her paper back.

"Fine, I remember it anyway," Zhao Qianze thought to herself.

In a moment, Bai Xiaosheng had finished his corrections and pushed the paper back to her.

Zhao Qianze was curious about what Bai Xiaosheng had written, but first she couldn't help but praise upon seeing the handwriting, "Beautiful!"

Actually, Bai Xiaosheng's handwriting used to be ugly, but after showing off to Elder Xia, he thought European scripts were nice and thus permanently recorded them in his mind.

The script he was using now was European script.

Zhao Qianze praised the handwriting, but upon closely examining the content, she was instantly stunned as if struck by lightning.

She couldn't believe it and looked at Bai Xiaosheng in disbelief, "This, this, did you just help me revise this?!"

Chapter 645: A Little Guidance_1

Seeing what Bai Xiaosheng casually revised, Zhao Qianze was utterly shocked.

The content suddenly became incredibly smooth; the viewpoints flowed like clouds and water, without any delay, and moreover, the angle was remarkably fresh!

Her beautiful eyes bulged round, her delicate lips wide open, the more she looked, the more unbelievable it seemed.

She had thought this younger brother before her was just an interesting little guy.

It wasn't until she saw what he had modified that she had a startling realization—

This person was extraordinary!

"Zhao, don't just stand there, hurry up and take a look, it's almost your turn," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile, softly reminding her.

In fact, he had seen that the viewpoints in Zhao Qianze's paper were not bad, with a touch of novelty, just not fully fleshed out.

He had simply lent a hand casually.

"Thank you, Bai," Zhao Qianze said, very moved, lowering her voice, and gave Bai Xiaosheng a deep look.

Then, Zhao Qianze collected her shock, concentrated all her attention, stared at the page, and made a full effort to turn it into her own words.

Soon, it was Zhao Qianze's turn.

"Qianze, you can do it!"

On the other side, Zheng Qinghong couldn't help but cheer for her.

In reality, he hoped that Zhao Qianze would fail, so he would have a reason to console her.

Additionally, Zheng Qinghong had a bit of chauvinism; deep down, he believed that women were inherently inferior to men.

Zhao Qianze paid no attention to Zheng Qinghong, instead, she smiled at Bai Xiaosheng.

Bai Xiaosheng gave her a thumbs up as encouragement.

On that side, Zheng Qinghong's jealousy was aflame.

Meanwhile, Mu Beichen observed Zheng Qinghong and Zhao Qianze's behavior and snickered inwardly.

He had already begun planning how to take advantage.

As for Zhao Qianze's speech, he hadn't taken it seriously at all; in his opinion, only he and Zheng Qinghong were neck and neck. Other people were not worth considering, let alone a woman.

Zhao Qianze began her speech at the indication of Feng Li.

She, too, elaborated on two questions.

Zhao Qianze was beautiful, and so was her voice. Normally, her voice had a tempting tone to it.

But at the moment, she was serious, changed from her past self, only using a clear and distinct voice to express her opinions.

As Zhao Qianze elaborated, everyone became gradually surprised.

On the stage, Feng Li was listening intently.

Everyone knew that only when Zheng Qinghong spoke did she have such an expression.

Zhao Qianze was the second to achieve this!

A look of slow, creeping astonishment filled Mu Beichen's face, even turning into shock.

Zhao Qianze's insight was not inferior to his, and even seemed to have the upper hand.

"This woman, she's actually this strong?" Mu Beichen couldn't believe it.

Zheng Qinghong was also immensely shocked, but then his eyes sparkled brilliantly, and he thought joyfully, "Worthy of the woman I have my eye on, no one but me can conquer her, haha!"

Five minutes later, Zhao Qianze finished speaking.

This time, the applause was unanimous across the audience.

Feng Li and everyone present clapped together, a rare moment of unity.

"Thank you."

Zhao Qianze gave a sweet smile and, as she sat down, she sent a grateful smile towards Bai Xiaosheng.

The warm applause only ceased after quite some time.

Feng Li kept scribbling notes in her notebook, constantly exclaiming, "I didn't expect Ms. Zhao Qianze to have such extraordinary insight. So far, in terms of points for argument, you can be considered second!"

This statement from Feng Li made everyone click their tongues in wonder.

If Zhao Qianze was second, then the first was naturally Zheng Qinghong.

His strength was there for all to see.

"So, I'm only third place?" Mu Beichen's expression remained calm, but his hands under the table were clenched tightly, the veins on the backs of his fists bulging.

His pride, his arrogance, made him unwilling to accept this!

"However, this is just the beginning. In the upcoming evaluations, I must prevail!" Mu Beichen vowed resolutely in his heart.

The excitement caused by Zhao Qianze soon subsided.

The answers continued once more.

But with the dazzling performance of Zheng Qinghong, Zhao Qianze, and Mu Beichen, no matter how hard the others tried, they all seemed a bit lacklustre.

On the podium, Feng Li even felt somewhat disinterested.

However, seeing that Bai Xiaosheng was soon to present, she couldn't help but frown in secret.

If the ones Wang Xincheng and Officer Li had noticed were not Bai Xiaocheng, then it must be this Bai Xiaosheng.

To be valued by those two, this person must be quite impressive, yet why does he look so nonchalant...

"This Bai Xiaosheng, why doesn't he seem nervous at all! Logically, with his youth, he should be highly competitive, but he looks so indifferent. It's infuriating, does he have no desire to advance!"

Feng Li watched with an almost 'iron not becoming steel' feeling of frustration.

"It seems, when it's his turn to speak, I can't show him too much favor. I need to properly discipline him; it will be for his benefit in the long run!"

Feng Li secretly resolved to save this "unambitious" lost lamb, to lead him back to the right path.

Bai Xiaosheng sat there with a calm face, but suddenly felt an inexplicable chill.

"Weird, am I coming down with a cold?" Bai Xiaosheng wrapped his clothes tighter and couldn't help but murmur in his mind.

At this moment, only two people were left before it was his turn to speak!

"It's just, there's no need to take it too seriously. When the time comes, I'll speak casually; after all... it wouldn't be a true victory." Bai Xiaosheng couldn't help but think.

Topics deeper than these, he had reported to the provincial leaders and had even received overwhelming praise.

These were no big deal.

At this very moment.

Downstairs in this building, Tutor Huo Dong was hurrying over with an assistant, a trace of anxiety and self-blame on his face.

"Sigh, as one grows older, the memory worsens. I was so busy organizing my manuscripts that I lost track of time. It's already this late now. They must be nearly at the end over there. I wonder if there have been any stunning figures or outstanding views. Alas, I am late, too late!" Tutor Huo Dong mumbled as he hastened along.

Originally, he had planned just yesterday to attend Feng Li's training class today to see if there were any entrepreneurs with outstanding thinking to get acquainted with and to discuss and exchange views on some issues, to gain some inspiration.

Now, he didn't even know how many people's speeches he could catch.

"Even if I've missed out, it's no big deal. Later on, I can have Feng Li introduce them to me. If there is someone truly insightful, I'll invite them for coffee and have a thorough chat," Tutor Huo Dong thought to himself.

The two hurried to the door of the lecture hall, and the assistant reached out to push the door.

"Don't be reckless!" Tutor Huo Dong quickly stopped him, stepping forward himself, "Let me do it."

Then, Tutor Huo Dong gently knocked on the door.

At that very moment.

The person before Bai Xiaosheng had just finished answering, and it was almost his turn, when suddenly, there was a knock on the classroom door.

"Please come in," Feng Li called out towards the door.

Outside, Tutor Huo Dong straightened his clothes and pushed the door open.

"Professor?" Feng Li, upon seeing Tutor Huo Dong, was momentarily startled and blurted out.

Professor?!

The audience was taken aback, turning their attention to Tutor Huo Dong.

Feng Li went over to greet her own professor.

"I hope I'm not interrupting. May I sit in?" Tutor Huo Dong asked with a smile.

"Of course!" Feng Li replied eagerly, then she said to the audience, "This is my professor, the Dean of the Economics and Management Department at Zhongjing University!"

This introduction certainly surprised everyone.

After Tutor Huo Dong entered, he took a seat in the corner properly and signaled for Feng Li to continue.

Feng Li then returned to her spot, "Next, please."

Bai Xiaosheng stood up.

Dean Huo Dong silently appraised him and couldn't help but think, "Is there such a young general manager? Youth is great. I wonder if he'll have any novel ideas. It should be interesting. After class, I might even give him some pointers."

Chapter 646: Astonishment Throughout the Audience _1

Feng Li glanced at Bai Xiaosheng, who stood up, and unobtrusively wrote down his name in her notebook.

"This guy, I have no idea what he can come up with. I had planned to publicly criticize him, to give him a good talking-to and spark some ambition in him, but now that the teacher is here, would it be too much to do so publicly? I don't want to discourage him too much."

Feng Li felt a twinge of difficulty—this was a delicate balance to strike.

"Let it be. Let me listen first and then decide. Let's see to what extent he can speak. If it's too bad, I can't be lenient! It's for his own good!" Feng Li thought to herself.

Bai Xiaosheng, in no hurry, did not start by stating his name as the others did.

After all, there had been that earlier incident.

Who in this room does not know thee!

Thus, he simply began his presentation.

"Hold on, you have to say first which questions you're going to answer," Feng Li interrupted him just as Bai Xiaosheng barely started speaking.

"Do I have to answer those questions? Can't I just speak randomly?" Bai Xiaosheng grumbled, "I'll just talk about whatever comes to mind. You just score me as you see fit, just don't forget the extra points you promised me."

There was a burst of laughter from the crowd.

Speak randomly? You score as you see fit? Such decadence, no ambition!

Feng Li's face turned an ugly shade of anger.

Mu Beichen watched Bai Xiaosheng with a sneer in his heart, "I had thought highly of him, but at a moment like this, this Bai Xiaosheng is still fooling around. With such a lack of sense, he is nothing but an arrogant and ignorant boy!"

Mu Beichen glanced at Zheng Qinghong, his gaze bearing a trace of solemnity.

"With a room full of people, it seems that in the end, only he and I will battle for the top spot!"

As for Zhao Qianze, a woman, even if she had just given some impressive performance, Mu Beichen didn't consider her at all.

At this moment, Zheng Qinghong also wore a mocking smile as he watched Bai Xiaosheng.

The more embarrassing mistakes this kid made, the clearer the gap between him and Zhao Qianze would become.

"Zhao Qianze, only I, the top student of this training class, am worthy to pursue you. This green boy with shallow experience shows it. You will see he does not compare to me!"

However, Zhao Qianze, who was sitting beside Bai Xiaosheng, did not share their way of thinking at all.

Her jade arm propped up, a delicate hand cradling her lovely cheek, she looked at Bai Xiaosheng with a tilted head and a smile.

Her eyes were full of anticipation.

On the podium, Feng Li's face was cold, and she said stiffly, "Then go ahead and speak, time is limited, remember not to go over!"

In the corner, Tutor Huo Dong was a bit amused, "Looks like Officer Feng Li knows him. Look at that, she's been provoked into anger."

Bai Xiaosheng smiled and cleared his throat before he began to speak.

Putting on airs!

Feng Li couldn't help but roll her eyes.

"Everyone, look at the five questions Officer Feng Li wrote on the blackboard. Regarding the three elements involved—enterprise, market, government—we all understand that we need to consider them as a whole. So, who do you think should be the main body?"

Bai Xiaosheng asked with a smile, "Enterprises, or perhaps industries?"

"You might choose one of them, but I believe we should not rigidly insist on who is the main body; instead, under the most favorable conditions, we should push the most suitable factor into the main position!"

"Only when the cake is big enough can more be shared, only when the knife is sharp enough can fairness be maintained..."

Bai Xiaosheng began to speak eloquently.

Before he started, many people were watching just to see a joke unfold.

Feng Li was holding back, looking for faults to criticize.

Tutor Huo Dong wasn't taking it too seriously, either.

However, two minutes after Bai Xiaosheng began, the whole room fell silent, you could hear a pin drop, and only his voice remained.

Everyone looked at Bai Xiaosheng with eyes of disbelief, filled with amazement,

He did not state conclusions in one, two, three points, but rather spoke in a tone of discussion and exchange, even frequently posing questions.

He was like having a conversation, compelling people involuntarily to listen and to think.

Here in this classroom, he more closely resembled an instructor.

Three minutes later, everyone was left in shock.

Even Zheng Qinghong's eyes burst with a brilliant gleam as he gazed at Bai Xiaosheng, "So it turns out that he is a hidden gem!"

Mu Beichen looked at Bai Xiaosheng in astonishment, his face filled with disbelief.

The insights Bai Xiaosheng had shared were far beyond his own.

"This is impossible, did he really come up with this himself? There can't be such a huge gap between us!"

Mu Beichen refused to believe it.

On the podium, Feng Li's eyes widened in surprise as she watched Bai Xiaosheng, her pen skimming across her notebook in tune with his words, rapidly jotting down her own realizations.

At that moment, she looked less like a lecturer and more like a student.

In the corner, Tutor Huo Dong turned around in astonishment to look at Bai Xiaosheng.

He nodded as he listened, constantly pondering, with his expression even showing his excitement.

The words of Bai Xiaosheng were a great enlightenment to him too!

"It seems that some of my theories and models need to change because of this," Tutor Huo Dong gazed at Bai Xiaosheng, "Who is this young man, to be so remarkable!"

Less than five minutes after he had started speaking, the entire hall was captivated.

However, as Bai Xiaosheng was speaking, he suddenly stopped abruptly, without a word.

"Why have you stopped speaking?" Feng Li was the first to ask.

"Yes, continue, it's a crucial moment!"

"Could it be you're tired? It hasn't been very long."

"Maybe you're thirsty, do you need a glass of water first?"

Various voices rang out at once.

Even Tutor Huo Dong in the corner was a bit anxious; he hadn't heard enough.

"You, go and ask him quickly, what does he want! If he is thirsty, get me the best pot of tea, if he is hungry, buy him something to eat. Whatever he wants, just give it to him!" Tutor Huo Dong urgently said to his assistant.

The assistant listened, somewhat dumbfounded.

Never had they heard Tutor Huo Dong treat anyone like this, not even the university president would probably receive such treatment!

As the assistant was about to go over, Bai Xiaosheng started speaking again.

"Time's up," Bai Xiaosheng said with a smile.

If he said five minutes, then it was five minutes.

The entire hall was stunned, including Feng Li on the podium.

They had all been so mesmerized by the lecture that they had forgotten!

Feng Li's face immediately contorted with conflict.

On one hand, she valued rules highly and was punctual to a fault.

On the other, she was eager for more, not yet satisfied with what she'd heard.

Everyone else was also looking at each other, unsure of what to do.

"Maybe let him speak for another two minutes?" someone tentatively suggested.

It was Cheng Tao, sitting behind Bai Xiaosheng, who had spoken, anxious to hear more.

The more Bai Xiaosheng spoke, the greater the enlightenment they received, and when it was their turn, they could present their thoughts better.

"Let him talk, at least finish this part!"

"Yes, let him speak, this hanging suspense is unbearable!"

"Let him talk, we are not in a hurry!"

Cheng Tao's words instantly set off the entire audience who pleaded with impatient expectation.

"Ahem." Feng Li coughed feignedly, "reluctantly" nodded, and then urged eagerly.

"Since everyone is asking, then you should continue speaking for a bit!"

Chapter 647 There's a Problem Here! _1

Bai Xiaosheng is someone who sticks to time, Once the time is up, he stops talking.

To avoid taking up others' time and displeasing them.

He sticks to time, alright, but it seems that everyone isn't grateful.

The crowd in unison demands that he continue.

Bai Xiaosheng has a helpless expression on his face.

Modern people are really hard to please, they even force you to abandon your principles.

Tutor Huo Dong look anxious; he also wants to keep listening.

On the podium, Officer Feng Li is urging him again.

Zheng Qinghong and Mu Beichen look around, their faces somewhat ugly, They didn't get this kind of treatment when they were speaking!

Seeing Zheng Qinghong's darkening expression, Bai Xiaocheng immediately shouts, "Rules are rules, huh? Can we even extend the time?"

His words not only met with no support, but it was like he had poked a hornet's nest.

"Rules are dead, people are alive. Can living people really be suffocated by dead rules?"

"That's right! Besides, rules aren't set in stone."

"Yes, stubbornly adhering to rules and being inflexible, why participate in a selection if that's the case..."

"Giving him extra time is because he speaks to our interest, you brother are a time-saver, but what you say also needs to have an audience!"

"Exactly, well said!"

With Bai Xiaocheng's "one call," there comes "a hundred responses," surrounding him are voices counteracting his.

He instantly wilts, shrinks his neck, and dares not make a sound.

Bai Xiaosheng's face shows difficulty; he feels what he has said is already enough, and speaking more won't benefit him...

Officer Feng Li sees his expression and with a bite of her silver teeth, she immediately says, "You continue, I'll give you extra points!"

"Alright then." Bai Xiaosheng agrees promptly.

"..." Feng Li couldn't help but roll her eyes.

Bai Xiaosheng starts speaking again, and this time, he speaks for another twenty or thirty minutes, with everyone listening carefully to his presentation without interruption.

Many people begin to write furiously, noting down the key points from Bai Xiaosheng's speech.

"Quick, write everything down!" Tutor Huo Dong also urges his assistant to take notes.

"Got it!" The assistant busily writes at a rapid pace.

Tutor Huo Dong looks at Bai Xiaosheng, observing the young face, his heart filled with uncontrollable shock and excitement.

"He has been speaking continuously for such a long time without showing signs of exhaustion in his thoughts! This young man is a rare talent. Given time, he might reach the heights of that pioneering entrepreneur Bai Xiaosheng from Zhongjing City!" Tutor Huo Dong couldn't help thinking.

Only the top circles in Zhongjing City knew of Bai Xiaosheng's significant actions, which he did singlehandedly.

This news had been passed down by word of mouth to Tutor Huo Dong, who had been longing to visit that legendary figure, yet had no opportunity.

Today, before answering questions, Bai Xiaosheng should have introduced himself. However, after Bai Xiaocheng's incident, he no longer needed to announce his own reputation.

One thing led to another, and Tutor Huo Dong still doesn't know that the Bai Xiaosheng he has been yearning to meet is right in front of him!

But not everyone wants to listen to Bai Xiaosheng's presentation.

Mu Beichen feels like sitting on pins and needles, each second feeling like an agony.

He "won" over Bai Xiaosheng once, so he can't accept being overshadowed now.

Zheng Qinghong is also very displeased, anger boiling within.

It's not that Zheng Qinghong can't accept others speaking better than he does, but Zhao Qianze, by Bai Xiaosheng's side, is looking up at him like a fangirl holding her cheeks in adoration.

This sight stokes the flames of jealousy within Zheng Qinghong immensely.

From his angle, Mu Beichen notices Zheng Qinghong's reaction.

His eyes narrow slightly as he can't help but hook a cold smile at the corner of his mouth.

Mu Beichen quickly scribbles something on a piece of paper, then rolls it up and extends it towards Zheng Qinghong.

Zheng Qinghong was brooding when he suddenly felt a poke on the back of his shoulder. He turned his head and saw Mu Beichen flashing a smile at him, while slipping him a rolled-up paper tube.

Zheng Qinghong took the tube with a puzzled look, unrolled it, and immediately his eyebrows shot up. He glanced at Mu Beichen again.

Mu Beichen smiled without saying a word.

Zheng Qinghong looked at the paper again. There were only two sentences.

An assertive sentence—

"His insights are exquisite; it's impossible that he came up with them on the spur of the moment. There's something fishy here!"

A question—

"Leak of the vocational test?"

Zheng Qinghong's pupils abruptly constricted.

Indeed, what Mr. Bai had said was logically flawless, well thought out.

Even a genius couldn't have achieved this in such a short time!

Unless he had thought it all through beforehand!

Everyone present was immersed in Bai Xiaosheng's speech, completely oblivious to this issue.

Zheng Qinghong couldn't help but glance at Bai Xiaosheng, his belief in his own judgment growing firmer.

He couldn't contain himself as he looked at Zhao Qianze's adoring expression, feeling an overwhelming urge to expose Bai Xiaosheng's pretense.

As for the "leak of the vocational test," it was a question. Whether only Officer Feng Li knew about the test questions, and whether she leaked them, was beyond Zheng Qinghong's concern.

He didn't want to invite trouble.

Zheng Qinghong turned his head again, giving Mu Beichen an indifferent look.

"This guy, is he trying to use me to expose the matter, making me his pawn?" Zheng Qinghong, being very astute, guessed the intention at once, but he didn't care.

As long as he could make Zhao Qianze see through Bai Xiaosheng's façade, that would be enough.

Moreover, he wouldn't be so foolish as to take action himself.

Zheng Qinghong moved closer to Bai Xiaocheng and poked him.

Bai Xiaocheng, sensing that Zheng Qinghong seemed to want to say something to him, was immediately flattered and leaned in closer to listen.

"Take this. After Mr. Bai finishes talking, question him! If necessary, question Officer Feng Li as well!" Zheng Qinghong whispered.

Bai Xiaocheng was first startled, then, looking at the paper, he suddenly understood, and his face changed dramatically.

Mr. Zheng was using him as a pawn to initiate a confrontation!

And to question Officer Feng Li?

Was he trying to ensure he got eliminated even faster...?

Bai Xiaocheng's expression turned to one of panic, a bitter look on his face, unwilling to agree.

"Don't forget, we're in this together. You're here to help me eliminate troubles. Do you really think that you can last until the final round?" said Zheng Qinghong, with a cold snort and a gloomy glint in his eyes, "You received a 'probation' the first day because of your own presumptions! That was no small error. Want to go back without even being a general manager?"

Zheng Qinghong's threat made Bai Xiaocheng break out in a cold sweat.

"Go on, even if you're eliminated because of this, I, Zheng Qinghong, will not let you down. You know that!" Zheng Qinghong patted Bai Xiaocheng's leg.

A conflicted light flickered in Bai Xiaocheng's eyes.

But the hesitation lasted only a moment.

Bai Xiaosheng had finished speaking, and thunderous applause filled the air.

"I'll do it!" Bai Xiaocheng bit down on his teeth and agreed.

Zheng Qinghong smiled with satisfaction.

Meanwhile, Bai Xiaosheng was gesturing his thanks amidst the enthusiastic applause and had just sat down.

Without waiting for Feng Li to speak, Bai Xiaocheng suddenly sprang up and shouted.

"Wait a minute, I have something to say!"

Chapter 648: You're Cheating! _1

Bai Xiaosheng's remarks won universal acclaim.

This time, without waiting for Officer Feng Li to lead, everyone in the audience burst into applause together.

Every person clapped vigorously.

There was both recognition of Bai Xiaosheng and gratitude toward him.

Everyone had gained immensely!

After Bai Xiaosheng sat down, just as Officer Feng Li was about to say a few words, Bai Xiaocheng leapt up, shouting "I have something to say".

Officer Feng Li immediately frowned.

She really didn't have much fondness for this Bai Xiaocheng.

"Mr. Bai Xiaocheng, what do you have to say?" Officer Feng Li asked patiently.

The applause stopped, and everyone looked at Bai Xiaocheng with surprise, not understanding what was happening.

"I suspect there's a problem here, someone cheated!" Bai Xiaocheng bellowed impatiently, pointing directly at Bai Xiaosheng, "It's him!"

These words made everyone present take a sharp breath.

This wasn't just having something to say, this was an outright accusation!

Bai Xiaosheng stared at Bai Xiaocheng in astonishment, not understanding why.

However, he then saw the sneering Zheng Qinghong and Mu Beichen, whose eyes lit up faintly.

He instantly understood.

So these two were behind this scheme.

Bai Xiaosheng's eyes grew cold.

"On what basis do you say this, that's slander!" Zhao Qianze immediately protested, quick to defend Bai Xiaosheng.

"Indeed," Officer Feng Li's face also showed some displeasure as she spoke deliberately, "Mr. Bai Xiaocheng, slander is a grave accusation. I hope you are prepared to take responsibility for your words and actions!"

"I, I will certainly take responsibility for my words and actions!" Bai Xiaocheng shouted, "Everyone, think about it! Even if this Bai Xiaosheng had two hours to think, could he come up with so much, and so watertight? Is he a god? I don't believe it, I think he must have had access to the exam questions in advance!"

Bai Xiaocheng's words exploded like a thunderclap.

Suddenly, there was uproar.

"Got the exam questions in advance?"

"Is this true?!"

"I was wondering earlier, his logic was impeccable, involving so much knowledge and so many fields, how could an ordinary person have such a vast store of knowledge..."

"Yes, he's a human brain, not an electronic one!"

All kinds of murmuring erupted in an instant.

Previously too engrossed, no one had considered this.

But now, with Bai Xiaocheng igniting their doubts, it immediately made them suspicious.

Officer Feng Li was also stunned.

Thinking about it, it indeed seemed incredible.

Even with her dual doctoral degrees, even Tutar Huo Dong couldn't achieve such a feat...

Seeing the voices around him supporting his claims, Bai Xiaocheng suddenly felt emboldened, "If there has been a leak in the exam questions, then this is no fair assessment! Although we have the utmost trust in Officer Feng Li and believe she would not voluntarily disclose the questions, there's no guarantee they couldn't have leaked through other channels, right... Nobody can assure that, can they..."

This assessment involved each person's future and fate.

Naturally, everyone was unwilling to settle for ambiguity, and immediately voiced their support.

Zhao Qianze couldn't help but argue in defense of Bai Xiaosheng, as only she knew that Bai Xiaosheng could easily elevate her ideas to a new level. This ability was indeed beyond what anyone would expect!

But her lone voice was completely drowned out by the crowd.

Zhao Qianze was extremely anxious, looking toward Bai Xiaosheng, hoping he would rebut.

Bai Xiaosheng remained calm, not uttering a word, as if what was being said had nothing to do with him.

Zhao Qianze's anxiety was futile.

"Officer Feng Li, may I ask if anyone else knew about these exam questions before this?" Bai Xiaocheng now took on the role of detective, asking seriously.

Officer Feng Li's expression was exceptionally unpleasant.

"I know." Suddenly, a composed voice rose from the corner.

Someone stepped onto the stage.

"You?" Bai Xiaocheng was startled.

The person who came forward was Tutor Huo Dong.

Dean of the Business and Management Department at Zhongjing University, Ph.D. supervisor!

Huo Dong calmly walked over and took Officer Feng Li's place.

Feng Li, in front of a teacher, didn't say another word and obediently retreated to the side.

"However, I don't think it was a case of leaked exam questions." Tutor Huo Dong looked at Bai Xiaocheng calmly and surveyed the crowd, saying, "I believe in this gentleman's ability! If you question his ability, I have a few questions here that I'd like to discuss with him, which everyone can listen to. If the exam questions were leaked, one could prepare the answers in advance by rote memory, but who would deliberately memorize the answers to these unrelated questions?"

What Tutor Huo Dong said made sense.

The whole room instantly fell silent.

Given Tutor Huo Dong's age and status, his words were highly persuasive.

"Sir, may I pose a few questions to you?" Tutor Huo Dong asked Bai Xiaosheng with a smile.

For a distinguished Ph.D. supervisor and Dean of the Department to use the words 'may I learn from you' when addressing a young man was truly surprising for the crowd.

Bai Xiaosheng smiled, stood up, and spoke with confidence, "Sure, old sir, ask away."

Tutor Huo Dong had long been eager to interact with Bai Xiaosheng, and this farce had just given him the opportunity.

Unexpectedly, he even felt a bit of joy in his heart.

"Sir, I was moved by your presentation, so I will start with two questions derived from what you discussed, first to satisfy my own curiosity and second to help you clear your name from this trap. How about that?" Tutor Huo Dong said with a smile.

"No problem." Bai Xiaosheng replied readily.

Such confidence was indeed convincing.

The crowd immediately grew quiet and listened attentively.

Tutor Huo Dong began organizing his words—his questions were thought up on the spot; he voiced them and then corrected, amended them as needed.

Bai Xiaosheng pondered for a moment, then spoke eloquently.

Still with no delay, still with clear reasoning, he amazed the crowd.

Tutor Huo Dong asked two consecutive questions, and Bai Xiaosheng's answers caused many to nod repeatedly.

Tutor Huo Dong's eyes shined, nodding frequently; it was evident that he was very satisfied.

"This is on-the-spot questioning and answering, to be able to do to such an extent!"

"It appears his exceptional ability is his own, nothing to do with cheating."

The audience murmured softly among themselves.

Just when Bai Xiaosheng's spot was about to be cleared, Zheng Qinghong shot Bai Xiao a cold glance.

Bai Xiao swallowed nervously.

Failing to accomplish the task given by Zheng Qinghong would mean effort wasted!

Bai Xiao was also incredibly anxious.

"That's still not fair!" Bai Xiao suddenly exclaimed, pointing at Tutor Huo Dong, "You, an outsider, what right do you have to interfere in our group's affairs? How do I know you didn't collude in advance!"

Bai Xiao was still obstinately causing trouble.

But this time, there were few who echoed him.

The crowd had eyes to see and ears to hear. Bai Xiaosheng's ability to respond on the spot to that extent was clear evidence of his capability.

Bai Xiao's behavior at this point resembled that of a desperate clown.

However, due to Bai Xiao's accusations, Bai Xiaosheng again paused.

"Silence!"

Tutor Huo Dong, who was thoroughly enjoying the exchange, was caught off guard by the interruption and immediately flew into a rage, pointing at Bai Xiao, "You say I have no right? Fine, I'll make a call now to the President of the Greater China Region to see if that qualifies me!"

Chapter 649: I Am Bai Xiaosheng 1

Tutor Huo Dong's statement silenced the entire room, and everyone looked at the old mentor in disbelief.

"He said he has the qualifications to call the President of the Greater China Region?"

"Does he even know the President?"

"The President of the Greater China Region has repeatedly offered large sums to hire the teacher as a consultant, even promising that if the teacher simply accepts the position in name, he could become an Honorary Senior Affairs Officer. The teacher, preferring to conduct his research, has repeatedly declined. However, the seat has always been kept for him. What do you think, does he have the qualifications?" Officer Feng Li asked, his face darkening.

With a single sentence, everyone was astonished.

An Honorary Senior Affairs Officer, a long-term reserved seat!

Bai Xiaocheng was utterly stunned.

He could never have imagined that Tutor Huo Dong actually had such a powerful background.

"In front of the teacher, you'd better be polite. He is an old friend of our President of the Greater China Region!" Feng Li snorted coldly.

Everyone was terrified and couldn't help but swallow.

The extent of Tutor Huo Dong's influence shocked them once more.

Even Bai Xiaosheng was incredibly surprised as he looked at Tutor Huo Dong, having not anticipated this connection.

Mu Beichen looked at Tutor Huo Dong with astonishment, a flicker in his eyes.

Zheng Qinghong was also stunned and speechless.

None of them had expected Tutor Huo Dong to be so closely connected with the President of the Greater China Region.

Now that such a high-ranking official was supporting Bai Xiaosheng, this damned guy, who knows what sort of fluke he has stumbled upon!

They were both envious and resentful.

"Now I have confirmed that this gentleman did not have prior knowledge of the questions and answers. He relied entirely on his own abilities!" Tutor Huo Dong authoritatively concluded to the crowd.

Everyone nodded in agreement.

With such a dignitary vouching, they naturally believed it.

"Cough."

Just as everyone was convinced, Bai Xiaosheng coughed and said, "Well, I did actually know the answers beforehand."

The sudden statement baffled everyone present.

Even Tutor Huo Dong and Officer Feng Li on the stage were taken aback.

With his innocence proven, Bai Xiaosheng "confessed" to the crime.

What sort of act was this!

Bai Xiaosheng didn't say this out of folly or impulsiveness.

He admitted it for a reason.

On the first day of the selection, dominating everyone and rising to the top wasn't a good thing. It made him the biggest enemy, and over the next three months, he would become everyone's "public enemy"!

Bai Xiaosheng was not that foolish!

He needed to keep a low profile!

He had to let everyone know that his victory was not easy.

"These questions, I would like to ask Officer Feng Li, where did they come from?" Bai Xiaosheng inquired.

He was certain that these questions were likely derived from his own innovations.

"I provided them to Feng Li, and she modified them a bit," Tutor Huo Dong answered for Feng Li.

"And where, sir, did you acquire them from?" Bai Xiaosheng asked with a smile.

"These questions originated from a case study I collected. They were created by a very impressive individual in Zhongjing, an enterprise, industry, and city government integrated development, shaping a new model for a city brand," Tutor Huo Dong answered truthfully, looking at Bai Xiaosheng with some confusion, unsure of his motive for asking.

The people seated around were also exchanging puzzled glances, clueless about his intentions.

Only Mu Beichen's pupils suddenly constricted, "Could it be that the individual Tutor Huo Dong is referring to, from Zhongjing, is..."

On the stage, Feng Li couldn't help looking towards her own tutor.

"Teacher, that impressive person you mentioned, what's his name?" Feng Li asked curiously.

She had wanted to ask that day.

Unfortunately, Tutor Huo Dong had been pulled into a meeting by the headmaster of Zhongjing University, so she missed the opportunity to find out.

"His name," Tutor Huo Dong finally said under everyone's watchful gaze, "is Bai Xiaosheng."

Bai Xiaosheng!

The moment these three words were uttered, Tutor Huo Dong suddenly felt an eerie stillness in the atmosphere.

Everyone, including her student Feng Li, seemed as if they were under some spell, frozen in that instant.

"What's wrong?" Tutor Huo Dong jumped in fright and hurriedly asked.

"Nothing's wrong?" Bai Xiaosheng mumbled.

All eyes turned toward him in unison.

"I am Bai Xiaosheng," Bai Xiaosheng stated calmly.

"You, are Bai Xiaosheng?!" Tutor Huo Dong exclaimed in shock, hardly able to believe her own ears.

The person whom she had never had the chance to meet was right in front of her eyes!

"If you deduced these questions based on the things I've done, then obviously, I would know the answers beforehand," Bai Xiaosheng shrugged and said with a smile to everyone, "So, I'm not much stronger than all of you; I'm just luckier."

This was what Bai Xiaosheng truly wanted to say to everyone.

I'm not a genius, not a freak, don't think I'm abnormally strong, and don't target me in the future...

"Our Anjiang Province once held a selection for provincial benchmark enterprises, and it took me several months of deliberation to finally gain the leader's acknowledgment," Bai Xiaosheng deliberately exaggerated the time.

"I see, that explains it!"

"It's a twist of fate, using a question that derived from his work."

"Ah, I really thought a monstrous figure had emerged."

The crowd sighed in admiration of Bai Xiaosheng's fortune and also breathed a sigh of relief.

Whoever had experienced the pressure of being compared with a freak knew its intensity!

That makes sense, I thought there's no way Bai Xiaosheng could be so much better than me—after all, he's been defeated by me before! Mu Beichen thought to himself.

"Just luck," Zheng Qinghong also remarked indifferently.

Even he let out a silent sigh of relief.

While everyone else felt this way, only Zhao Qianze still looked at Bai Xiaosheng with suspicion.

She was convinced this man was not so simple; after all, a man who could effortlessly elevate her thinking level was nearly demonic.

However, Zhao Qianze did not say more.

Bai Xiaosheng's explanation satisfied everyone.

Aside from being shocked, Feng Li gave Bai Xiaosheng a deep look, quickly recovered her composure, and flicked an indifferent glance at Bai Xiaocheng, "Mr. Bai Xiaocheng, with this, are you satisfied?"

Bai Xiaocheng was bewildered and at a loss.

"I will ask headquarters to revoke your qualifications as a disciplinary measure," Feng Li said coldly.

With a bitter expression, Bai Xiaocheng slumped down, drained of strength.

"Haha, so you are Mr. Bai Xiaosheng, forgive my poor eyesight!" Tutor Huo Dong said excitedly to Bai Xiaosheng, "When you're finished here, you must come visit me; I have questions about your theory that I would like to discuss!"

Being personally invited by the old professor made everyone envious.

"Sure," Bai Xiaosheng nodded and smiled in response.

Tutor Huo Dong nodded at Feng Li, handed over the lectern to him, and stepped down.

The presentations continued.

However, no matter how brilliant the subsequent speakers were, the audience's interest had waned.

Soon, the training class's first lesson came to an end.

Tutor Huo Dong, at the first opportunity, whisked Bai Xiaosheng away.

Seizing the moment, Mu Beichen walked up to Zheng Qinghong with a smile, "The old gentleman knows the President of the Greater China Region; could Bai Xiaosheng get a stroke of fortune?"

Zheng Qinghong glanced at him, and with a chilly smile, replied, "Do you think the Affairs Department is staffed with just anybody?"

"Not a chance!" With that, Zheng Qinghong left without paying Mu Beichen any further attention.

Watching his back, Mu Beichen gave a sarcastic smile, "Didn't take the bait, huh!"

Chapter 650: A Very Pleasant Chat_1

Bai Xiaosheng was pulled into his own office by Tutor Huo Dong.

There, Bai Xiaosheng saw several small blackboards propped up, all written with the very things he and Mayor Ji Mingyang were striving to accomplish in Zhongjing—taking the lead with Zhongjing Media in the local media industry, working with the municipal government to forge "business card-style city" New Zhongjing.

"This is all the information I could collect, but of course, there are many critical details that I am unaware of."

"This is the economic model I have established based on your approach, still being perfected."

"This is a new pattern I personally deduced from these, still exploring."

"This is..."

Tutor Huo Dong was brimming with enthusiasm, showing Bai Xiaosheng his research one by one.

Bai Xiaosheng was full of admiration.

What is an expert! This is what an expert is!

Tutor Huo Dong had already developed a theory, created models, and gone even further, deriving new patterns from them.

Bai Xiaosheng was immensely impressed!

Once, he had been foolishly moved to tears by some experts' speeches online, thinking that many were titulars without substance.

But seeing someone like Tutor Huo Dong, he then understood that genuine experts are incredibly formidable. They scorn lofty statements in the public eye, choosing to toil quietly in their realm. The heights they can reach are awe-inspiring and command respect!

"Mr. Bai, I invited you here this time because I wanted to discuss and exchange ideas with you about these matters. I wonder if you have the time," Tutor Huo Dong asked politely, his expression showing a hint of worry.

After all, Bai Xiaosheng was the general manager of a major corporation in the city, with a busy schedule, and he might not have time to engage in scholarly research with an old man like him.

"When it comes to learning, I always have time, and it's an honor to exchange ideas with you!" Bai Xiaosheng said sincerely.

Tutor Huo Dong was delighted, "It's my honor as well!"

The old and the young sat down on the office sofa, passionately starting their discussion.

Officer Feng Li finished her affairs and rushed over. Seeing them in deep conversation, she did not want to interrupt. Instead, as she listened by the side and felt enlightened, she simply took out a pen and started taking notes.

Seeing Bai Xiaosheng's focused expression and animated demeanor when discussing issues, Officer Feng Li couldn't help but be enchanted.

They say that men who concentrate on their work are the most attractive, and indeed it is true!

Bai Xiaosheng's profound knowledge also left a deep impression on Officer Feng Li.

"He knows so much! It seems my own knowledge is still insufficient. I definitely need to work harder in my spare time!" Officer Feng Li thought to herself.

Bai Xiaosheng also had great respect for Tutor Huo Dong. If it were not for Red Lotus' assistance, he would have found it difficult to keep up with the tutor's pace.

Of course, Bai Xiaosheng's own abilities were no less exceptional; otherwise, if it were someone else, even with a wealth of information, they might not know where to start or how to articulate it.

And so, after more than an hour of conversation, the old and the young still showed no signs of stopping.

"Teacher, Bai Xiaosheng, it's already one o'clock. Aren't you hungry? Perhaps we should eat something first," Officer Feng Li couldn't help but remind them.

The old and the young were startled to realize so much time had passed.

"Haha, exhilarating, exhilarating! I lost track of time in my excitement. This meal is on me!" Tutor Huo Dong laughed heartily.

The teacher hadn't been this happy in a long time, as if he'd grown several years younger! Feng Li smiled.

"I'm the one who has gained a lot, so I should be the one to treat you to this meal!" Bai Xiaosheng said earnestly.

Bai Xiaosheng wasn't being modest; in exchanging ideas with such a sage, he naturally benefited a great deal.

How much one can achieve and how high one can climb is unrelated to age, it is connected to one's perspective.

To elevate one's perspective, one has to stand on the shoulders of giants.

This "giant" was someone like Tutor Huo Dong, who had reached the pinnacle in the field.

The reason why the President of the Greater China Region offered Tutor Huo Dong a seat as an honorary Affairs Officer right off the bat was precisely because of this point.

Huo Dong and Bai Xiaosheng were both insistent on treating the other to a meal, neither yielding an inch.

"How about I treat you two, okay?" Feng Li said with a laugh, interrupting them both, "One is my tutor and the other has given me many insights, may I please treat you?"

"No way!" The old and the young said in unison.

Feng Li was completely out of patience.

In the end, the three left the office and didn't head to any luxurious place, but instead went straight to a decent little restaurant in the campus.

Along the way, countless university students were amazed to see the respected Dean of the School of Management, having a warm conversation with a young man as they walked.

Even the university president couldn't enjoy such enthusiasm from Dean Huo!

Everyone was shocked, and they looked at Bai Xiaosheng with reverence.

Throughout the journey, Bai Xiaosheng received a multitude of admirations.

Even he himself felt that the glory he had lost in his college days had been entirely reclaimed today.

At the small restaurant, when the owner learned that Tutor Huo Dong had arrived, he personally greeted them, let them into a private room, and even cooked for them himself.

The dishes here were exquisite, and the taste was also exceptionally good.

Tutor Huo Dong even rarely drank some wine.

Midway through, the old man took a trip to the bathroom.

While seizing the moment, Bai Xiaosheng asked Feng Li with a smile, "Officer Feng, how did I score this time? You didn't forget about my extra points, did you?"

Bai Xiaosheng actually still remembered this detail.

Feng Li wanted to laugh secretly but put on a serious face, pretending to be earnest, "Considering you knew the answers in advance, it really wasn't fair to the others, so I deducted a part of your points..."

"How can this be!" Bai Xiaosheng was immediately shocked and angry, "I'm going to tell Tutor Huo Dong!"

This guy actually wanted to tattle.

With a mix of laughter and despair, Feng Li had to say, "This time, you scored the highest of everyone!"

Bai Xiaosheng then broke into a broad smile.

While they were chatting, the door to the private room opened, and the two thought Tutor Huo Dong had come back, but when the person entered, they realized it was Zhao Qianze.

Both were somewhat surprised.

"Officer Feng Li," Zhao Qianze greeted Feng Li with a smile before turning to Bai Xiaosheng, "Bai, I've been looking for you for a long time before rushing over."

"Miss Zhao Qianze, come in, have a seat. My mentor is in the bathroom, and he and the others are the main characters of this meal, I'm just accompanying," explained Feng Li with a smile.

It was a big taboo for an examiner to sit down for a private meal with a candidate, so she was worried Zhao Qianze might misunderstand.

"No need, I've just eaten. Officer Feng, you don't need to explain, I understand. I'm just looking for Bai for a quick word, may I have two minutes?" Zhao Qianze asked Bai Xiaosheng with a smile.

"Sure," Bai Xiaosheng nodded with a smile and got up to go out with her.

Outside, Bai Xiaosheng looked at Zhao Qianze doubtfully and asked, "Zhao, what do you want to talk about?"

Zhao Qianze had a charming expression in her eyes but it also carried a hint of pleading.

"Bai, there's a shop I own here in Zhongjing, if you have time these next couple of days, I would like to invite you over! And if possible, I'd also like to ask you for a favor!"