

You Were Told to Lose Money By Making Games, and You Actually Did It?

Chapter 68: This Is President Chen's Wisdom!

At Morning Star Games.

After hanging up the phone, Chen Xu couldn't help but sigh.

The pitiful, almost tearful voice of Kamiyama Atsushi still lingered in his mind.

*How did I end up poaching your people again?*

*At this rate, won't I end up recruiting every employee at Hyakukin Studio?*

That said...

He had to admit—

They were really good.

Thinking about the development progress of Detroit, Chen Xu had to acknowledge that the employees from Hyakukin Studio were genuinely capable.

Moreover, they had brought valuable expertise with them.

For example, they possessed experience in developing large-scale games—something Morning Star Games currently lacked.

Beyond that, they also contributed years of accumulated technical know-how.

The reason Detroit was progressing so smoothly wasn't just because it was an interactive cinematic game.

The experience brought by the former Hyakukin employees was equally crucial.

"Forget it. I'll do him this favor."

After a moment's thought, Chen Xu dialed Yamagami Eiji's number.

"President Chen, what instructions do you have for me?"

As soon as the call connected, Yamagami's energetic voice came through.

Even without seeing him, Chen Xu could already picture Yamagami bowing over the phone.

The image was simply too vivid.

"Yamagami, the friends you recommended before—they're also Hyakukin employees, right?" Chen Xu asked after a moment.

It wouldn't be appropriate to tell him outright that Kamiyama had called to complain.

The man was still the president of a well-known studio.

He had his reputation to protect.

"Yes, President Chen. Is something wrong?" Yamagami asked, puzzled.

"Nothing serious. I just heard that the employees in the motion capture department often talk about our company's benefits."

"If that's the case, ask everyone to keep a lower profile. After all, they're still on Hyakukin turf."

Chen Xu couldn't exactly say, *"You guys keep talking about how great our company is, and it's causing panic over there because they think we're trying to poach more people."*

After all, they were his employees.

And he was the one benefiting from all this.

Besides, employees enthusiastically discussing their company's benefits only proved how much they appreciated the company.

He couldn't possibly order them to keep their mouths shut or blame Yamagami over something like that.

That would be going too far.

So Chen Xu chose a more tactful approach.

Just keep it low-key.

Don't discuss it right in front of Hyakukin employees.

That was already giving Kamiyama more than enough consideration.

As for telling them not to interact with Hyakukin employees—

What did that have to do with him?

If anyone wanted to forbid such contact, that should be Hyakukin's management.

Was he supposed to police whom his employees were friends with?

"Ah... O-Okay, President Chen."

On the other end of the line, Yamagami Eiji sounded completely bewildered.

He was even stumbling over his words.

Hearing his reaction, Chen Xu tried putting himself in Yamagami's shoes.

If he were an employee—working tirelessly, giving everything for the company with the game development progressing smoothly, only for the boss to suddenly call and instead of offering praise or encouragement, the call sounded more like a reprimand.

That would definitely hurt.

"Also, help the Osaka employees feel like they're truly part of the company as soon as possible. This weekend, organize a team-building event for everyone there. Finance will reimburse all the expenses."

After thinking it over, Chen Xu decided to extend another benefit.

At headquarters, every week or two, he would take the employees out for team-building activities—eating together, having fun, relaxing.

The Osaka staff were his employees too.

He couldn't show favoritism.

...

Downstairs at Hyakukin Studio.

Inside the motion capture studio.

Yamagami Eiji stared at his phone after hanging up, still wearing a confused expression.

*Why did President Chen suddenly make that phone call?*

Eiji kept turning the question over in his mind.

It wasn't until he returned to the motion capture studio and saw a group of employees on break enthusiastically discussing Morning Star Games headquarters' lunch menu for the day that something suddenly clicked.

He immediately called Shinji over, his expression serious.

"Shinji, President Chen has given us a mission."

"A mission? What mission?" Shinji, who had just finished supervising a motion capture recording session, looked puzzled.

"The mission that Xiu Fu originally planned."

Eiji pointed upward with a meaningful look.

"You mean...!"

Shinji's eyes widened.

"Shh! President Chen told us to keep it low-key."

Eiji quickly lowered his voice.

"...Isn't that... a little inappropriate?" Shinji hesitated.

"Talented people choose employers worth following. Isn't that exactly why we left Hyakukin in the first place? Because we believed Morning Star Games had a brighter future."

"Besides, President Kamiyama has always been under tremendous financial pressure. Acquiring the motion capture department only gave Hyakukin temporary relief. Without a successful game, sooner or later he'll have to start another 'voluntary retirement' campaign."

"We're just preparing ahead of time."

"There are simply too many employees with too much payroll. President Kamiyama can't handle them."

"President Chen can."

Eiji spoke quietly.

Hyakukin Studio was already in the past.

Now he belonged to Morning Star Games, so naturally he had to think from his new company's perspective.

Besides...

President Chen had already hinted at it.

Only he and Shinji had come to Osaka.

So how could President Chen possibly know that the motion capture employees frequently talked about headquarters' benefits?

The fact that he mentioned it so specifically...

Clearly, there was a deeper meaning.

In Eiji's mind, Chen Xu's real intention was obvious:

Use that as the opening. See if they could recruit even more employees from Hyakukin Studio.

After all, President Chen was eager to attract talented people.

And then he'd told them to keep a low profile, since they were still on Hyakukin Studio's turf.

So...

They should do exactly what Xiu Fu had done when recruiting them.

Operate quietly.

Even if everything was exposed later, by then they'd already have returned to headquarters.

The game would already be finished.

Hyakukin Studio wouldn't have any effective way to retaliate.

And even if the recruitment failed, Morning Star would lose nothing.

Especially considering that, at the end of the call, President Chen had authorized reimbursement for team-building events.

Why organize team-building?

Why approve the expenses?

The real purpose wasn't the team-building itself.

It was Hyakukin Studio.

The whole strategy felt incredibly familiar.

After all...

He'd been through it himself.

Back then, he'd been the one struck by the "sugar-coated bullets" before being dug up with a single swing of the hoe.

Now, it was his turn to hold the hoe.

Having once been successfully recruited himself, he understood better than anyone how to win over those "little radishes"—the employees waiting to be uprooted.

This was President Chen's wisdom.

"So... what do we do?" Shinji no longer hesitated.

Since it was President Chen's mission, they would simply carry it out.

"We follow President Chen's instructions."

"We keep everything low-key."

"We influence people gradually."

"Tell everyone to stop being so conspicuous tonight."



"Then pick a few sharp people to work with us."

"We'll keep the waters calm."

"And this weekend, we'll invite some of them out for dinner."

"When everyone's half sober and half drunk, we'll start testing the waters, little by little."

Eiji patted Shinji on the shoulder.

"This is going to be a long campaign."