

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

Chapter 50: System, the Slower You Are, the More Excited I Get!

May 10th, Noon

Sitting in his office, Chen Xu let out a long sigh.

Looking back on the settlement period of just over a month and a half...

It had truly been like the sea itself—wildly turbulent.

First came the game's launch.

The level of optimization had exceeded all his expectations.

Even though players complained that the game was brutally difficult, they still ended up giving it overwhelmingly positive reviews.

Then the official announcement angered the player base.

After that, Chenmei Studio swooped in to kick them while they were down.

But to his surprise, the players who had participated in the earlier AQ tests, along with Yang Chen, stepped forward to defend the game.

Once again, Sekiro's reputation began to recover.

Fortunately, Chenmei Studio's hired online trolls were competent enough.

They managed to keep the controversy alive for a while longer, delaying Sekiro's explosive sales surge.

Otherwise, the final result would have been utterly disastrous for him.

'I guess this is what they mean by good deeds being rewarded.'

Chen Xu sighed with emotion.

"Now..."

"It's time to reap the rewards."

Leaning back in his chair, Chen Xu stared at the clock hanging on the office wall, the corners of his mouth curling upward.

As the second hand completed another full rotation, the minute hand pointed exactly at twelve, while the hour hand moved ever so slightly forward.

The first settlement cycle officially began.

The moment the time arrived, the familiar system interface automatically appeared before his eyes.

【Loss Conversion System】

【System Fund: 94,088,976 yuan】

【Final Settlement Result: Profit: -5,911,024 yuan】

【Second Settlement Period: ??????????】

【Personal Funds: 12.5 yuan】

【First settlement cycle completed. System update will begin automatically.】

【Update Notice: This update will take one natural day.】

【Update Contents: This update will optimize the profit conversion ratio, improve profit scaling, and unlock brand-new features...】

It's... updating?

Chen Xu blinked in surprise.

A patch?

Wait...

So this system has been running on a beta version this whole time?

Then he shook his head.

Who cares whether it's Beta or Alpha?

Update all you want.

The important thing is...

System, you still haven't done the one thing that actually matters!

Without saying a word, Chen Xu fixed his eyes on two lines:

【Personal Funds】and【Profit】

A full thirty seconds passed before the system finally reacted.

【Host's first settlement... loss amount... 5,911,024 yuan... has now been converted into Personal Funds.】

【Profit and loss are both part of the journey... Please continue your efforts, Host.】

【System upgrading!】

It seemed to be the system's first time encountering a situation like this.

Its CPU apparently couldn't quite process what had happened.

The notifications didn't even appear all at once.

Instead, they slowly scrolled across the screen, one word at a time, as though the system were dragging its feet.

It felt like a young woman being forced to undress in public against her will.

Reluctant, embarrassed, yet unable to resist, she could only slowly remove the last pieces of clothing one after another, dropping them onto the floor.

Even at the end, she'd instinctively cover herself with both hands, making a futile attempt to preserve a shred of dignity.

"Hmph! Why are you dragging this out?"

"What, are you trying to dodge your debt, system?"

"You wouldn't want to become the laughingstock of the entire system world, would you?"

"So hurry up and hand over my money!"

Chen Xu slapped his thigh excitedly.

The more bashful the system acted, the more excited he became.

The slower it moved, the more thrilled he felt.

Although he'd already spent millions—even tens of millions—through the company before, that money had all been spent on legitimate business purposes.

At most, he'd only enjoyed some employee benefits himself.

He couldn't freely use those funds for personal reasons.

But this time was different.

This money belonged entirely to him.

He could spend it however he wanted.

If he wanted to donate to charity and support impoverished kids in some country, he could do exactly that.

The thought of such a huge amount of money alone was exhilarating.

He immediately picked up his phone.

The bank transfer notification had already arrived.

Personal Account Balance: 5,911,036.5 yuan

He generously ignored the fifty cents.

Looking at the seven-figure balance in his bank account, Chen Xu beamed with delight.

Although he was still a long way from buying his dream riverside luxury apartment, buying a luxury sedan with a three-pointed star emblem was no longer a problem at all.

After the initial excitement wore off, Chen Xu gradually calmed himself.

Money was certainly wonderful.

But in the end, it was only a few million yuan.

He couldn't let it go to his head.

Stay grounded.

This is only the beginning.

He firmly believed that the future would be even brighter.

More importantly, before moving on, he needed to reflect on the mistakes he'd made during this first settlement cycle.

After all, if not for one unexpected twist after another—and finally running into the extraordinarily capable Chenmei Studio, the second-largest game studio under Vencent Group—there was simply no way he could have ended the cycle at a loss.

So he had to admit one thing.

This time, the fact that he had managed to squeeze such a huge payout out of the system had far more to do with luck than with his own ability.

This time, he'd managed to hit the system's jackpot largely through sheer luck.

But he couldn't rely on luck every single time, could he?

Moreover, a large part of what had driven Sekiro's sales this time was the influence of the online troll campaign.

After all, Morning Star Games had been nothing more than a complete newcomer, with virtually no reputation to speak of.

That was why the trolls had been able to create an overwhelming wave of negative reviews at launch, influencing many players' first impressions.

But next time, things probably wouldn't be so easy.

After all, Sekiro's reputation had completely exploded.

Looking at the Steam page, the game's rating had gone from "Mostly Negative" to "Mostly Positive," and was steadily climbing toward "Very Positive."

Review scores from major gaming media outlets were also being released one after another.

Even overseas.

Sekiro's reputation was finally beginning to spread around the world.

The reason media reviews had taken so long this time was simple.

Domestically, they had largely been suppressed by Chenmei Studio.

Abroad, on the other hand, almost nobody even knew the game existed because it hadn't received any marketing.

But trying to repeat the same strategy with another game wouldn't work anymore.

This wasn't ten or twenty years ago.

Marketing was still important, but that didn't mean a game couldn't sell at all without it.

Back then, games were sold primarily through physical retail stores.

Digital storefronts like Steam didn't exist.

Without marketing, store owners would simply stick your game in some obscure corner of the shelf where nobody would notice it.

In those days, marketing could sometimes matter even more than quality.

Nowadays, promotion is still important, but as long as a game was good enough, its sales would never be bad.

Thanks to Sekiro, Morning Star Games had made a huge splash throughout the industry.

Their next game definitely wouldn't launch in complete obscurity.

It wouldn't be watched under a microscope like every move made by the long-established AAA giants, but people would certainly be paying attention.

'I also wonder what new features the system will add after tomorrow's update... And how exactly it'll adjust the profit conversion ratios.'

Chen Xu rubbed his chin thoughtfully.

But before long, he stopped thinking about it.

After finally managing to squeeze a huge payout out of the system, he now had a substantial amount of money that he could spend however he pleased.

Wouldn't it be a waste not to enjoy himself?