

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

Chapter 59: Everyday Company Affairs

The project plan for Detroit was finally settled.

Every part of the company immediately kicked into high gear.

As for the project's budget, after Chen Xu discussed it with Xiao Dao, Ying Gao, and the others, they arrived at a preliminary figure:

100 million yuan.

Of course, the budget would definitely be increased later.

He intended to squeeze every last cent out of the remaining 50 million yuan.

With a total budget of 150 million yuan, he was determined to squeeze the system dry this time.

Thinking about what made Detroit such a special game, Chen Xu leaned back comfortably in his office chair.

Although using the Leverage Funds reduced the final loss settlement multiplier to 0.75, it also increased the total project budget by 50 million yuan.

'I'm not asking for much. Sekiro lost nearly six million last time. If I can just double that this time...' Chen Xu thought hopefully.

A loss of 12 million yuan, even with only a 0.75 settlement ratio, would still let him cash out nearly 8 million yuan from the system.

By then, wouldn't he be able to visit luxury clubs whenever he wanted?

Just as Chen Xu was imagining that wonderful future, someone knocked on the office door.

Looking up, he saw Zhou Ran.

"President Chen, we've rented a temporary kitchen. I've also coordinated with the chef and the nutritionist. When would you have time to taste the dishes?"

The temporary location was a storefront in an old residential neighborhood not far from the office building.

It had originally been a crawfish restaurant, but it had gone out of business.

"Let's do tomorrow at noon," Chen Xu said after a moment's thought. "If the food is good, we'll have them work there for now and hire someone to deliver the meals to the company."

"Understood, President Chen." Zhou Ran nodded.

"Oh, one more thing." Chen Xu suddenly added. "Find some time this week to help me look for a car."

He really couldn't keep treating himself poorly when it came to transportation.

After all, he drove every day—to work, and to his massage and back therapy appointments.

If the ride wasn't comfortable, that would be a real pain.

"President Chen, do you have any specific requirements?" Zhou Ran asked.

"The brand doesn't matter. I just want something with good safety features and a comfortable ride. The budget is around one million yuan."

"Should we purchase it under the company's name?" Zhou Ran asked.

"No." Chen Xu shook his head.

If he could use company money, why would his budget only be one million?

He'd multiply it by five without hesitation.

After they finished discussing business, the office fell quiet again.

Chen Xu glanced at the time.

There was less than half an hour before the end of the workday.

With so little time left, he couldn't be bothered to continue refining Detroit's design documents.

The project was still in its early preparation stage anyway.

Looking at Zhou Ran, who was standing perfectly straight beside him, Chen Xu spoke out of boredom.

"Xiao Zhou, do you play video games?"

Caught off guard, Zhou Ran hadn't expected that question.

After hesitating for a second or two, she replied,

"Not very often, but I do occasionally play some more casual games."

"We're a game company," Chen Xu said earnestly. "Even if you're not passionate about games, you should at least know something about them—especially our own products."

Zhou Ran nodded as if receiving instruction.

"Normally, there isn't all that much work here. Whenever you don't have anything else to do, just stay in the office and play our game, Sekiro."

"Think of it as a small assignment. Finish the game once so you'll better understand one of our own products," he said with a smile.

To be honest, the only reason he'd hired a young, attractive secretary was to give himself something pleasant to look at.

Just having her around made his mood better while he was at work.

He had no intention of testing boundaries or pursuing anything beyond a professional relationship.

After all, this was the workplace.

But at the moment, there really wasn't much for her to do.

He couldn't very well have Zhou Ran standing beside him all day like a wooden post.

If there wasn't any work, then he'd simply find some for her.

Besides, as an employee of a game company, it was only natural that she should become familiar with the company's own games.

"Understood, President Chen," Zhou Ran replied instinctively.

But immediately afterward, she replayed his words in her mind...

As those words sank in, Zhou Ran's expression gradually turned serious.

Although she had only been with the company for less than a week, Morning Star Games had already given her plenty of pleasant surprises.

The benefits were exceptionally generous, and her coworkers were kind and approachable.

Everyone in the studio was full of energy and enthusiasm.

Most importantly, Chen Xu, the boss, was nothing like the sleazy or overbearing executive she had half expected. There had been none of the inappropriate behavior or greasy charm she had worried about.

From the bits and pieces she'd heard from her colleagues, she had also pieced together an impression of him:

A genuinely good boss who cared deeply about his employees' well-being.

Being able to join this company felt like a stroke of luck.

But at the same time, Chen Xu's words had been a wake-up call.

What exactly had she been doing since joining the company?

She had been helping rent and renovate company housing, hiring chefs and nutritionists, arranging gym memberships, coordinating employee physical examinations with hospitals...

And now she had another task: helping the boss choose and buy a car.

It sounded like a lot of work.

But was any of it truly important?

Not really.

It wasn't that *any random person* could do it, but almost anyone with a bit of relevant experience would be perfectly capable.

As the boss's secretary, she didn't necessarily have to be passionate about video games. After all, she was a secretary, not a game developer.

But as the secretary of the owner of a game company, how could she know absolutely nothing about games?

Even putting industry knowledge aside, shouldn't she at least be familiar with her own company's products?

If an employee didn't even know the company's own games, what would outsiders think?

Perhaps President Chen's words weren't just casual advice.

Maybe he was subtly reminding her.

He had first mentioned that the company wasn't particularly busy on a normal day.

But was it really that there wasn't much work?

Or was it because she simply wasn't capable enough yet?

Just because she hadn't been involved in game-related work didn't mean there wasn't any.

Perhaps she just wasn't qualified to handle it yet.

After all, if she knew nothing whatsoever about games, how could she possibly deal with game-related matters?

"President Chen, I understand now! I'll work hard!"

Seeing Zhou Ran suddenly wearing such a solemn expression, Chen Xu had a feeling she had imagined all sorts of things again.

Still, this wasn't the first time.

Rather than explaining himself, he simply smiled, nodded encouragingly, and said,

"That's the spirit. Do your best. You can head home for today. And don't secretly go home and play the game on your own time. Work should be done at the office."

Hearing those words, Zhou Ran felt as though the softest part of her heart had been touched.

So this was President Chen's concern for his employees.

He knew she wasn't particularly interested in games.

He was even worried that she might force herself to play at home after work just to improve, sacrificing her own free time for the job.

In that instant, Zhou Ran finally understood why her coworkers' eyes lit up whenever they talked about President Chen.

He truly was a boss with remarkable personal charisma.

"Yes, President Chen."

With a gentle smile, Zhou Ran turned and left the office.