# 1065 Everything Is For Science!

Switzerland.  
  
Neural Network Science Research Center.  
  
Sarrot stood in the hall, looking around left and right. He looked a little unease.  
  
Surrounded by people wearing white coats, he looked out of place.  
  
As for why he was here…  
  
This was a long story.  
  
Ever since leaving the United States and returning to his hometown in the Netherlands, Sarrot had given up on fame and fortune. By relying on his accumulated experience when he worked with Professor Lu, he made a series of outstanding achievements in the field of graphene. He was now considered an expert in his respective field.  
  
He did not expect this. When all kinds of awards and opportunities came flying toward him, he actually felt a little overwhelmed.  
  
Then Cornell University sent him an email, promising US$30 million of research funding.  
  
However, after he was previously approached by the FBI, he had already given up on his home country. He had no intention of ever returning.  
  
Even though the European academic community wasn't as strong, it was still a good place for him to do academic research.  
  
Two days ago, when he was traveling from Amsterdam to Geneva to attend an academic conference, he suddenly received a call from an old friend from thirty years ago, saying that his friend planned to show him something amazing.  
  
This was why he was here.  
  
He was contemplating whether to give his friend a call when he heard a voice from the side of the corridor.  
  
"Welcome! My friend, you're finally here! I've been waiting for you."  
  
Sarrot looked over and saw an overweight old man, who was on the verge of becoming bald. The old man walked over with a smile on his face.  
  
Sarrot struggled to match the face with a name. He shook the old man's hand and spoke.  
  
"Hey… We haven't seen each other in decades, right?"  
  
"Actually, three decades," Professor Lumiere said as he reminisced about the past. He smiled and continued, "I think when I began researching biology, we started to stop seeing each other."  
  
Sarrot: "… Actually, I don't really understand why you did that, you gave up on a promising field."  
  
"Aren't you the same? Giving up on computer science, going to materials science instead."  
  
Sarrot's eyebrows twitched as he coughed.  
  
"Actually, that was due to circumstance… Also, I realized that materials science is more suitable for me than computer science."  
  
"Same for me, life is full of surprises. But thanks to majoring in computer science, researching neural network becomes a lot easier…" Lumiere smiled as he patted his friend's arm. He said, "Come with me. I'll show you something amazing."  
  
When they studied at the University of Amsterdam, both of them majored in information engineering. Later on, Sarrot got a master's degree at Cornell University and met his supervisor, eventually becoming a materials science researcher.  
  
Fortunately, his supervisor helped him get a lecturer job. However, Sarrot did not stay on the path of academia. Instead, he went to the west coast, to Silicon Valley. Using his reputation as an ex-professor at Cornell University, he was able to receive funding and acquire his own laboratory… which was eventually bought by Lu Zhou.  
  
Sarrot admitted that he loved to brag and exaggerate, taking advantage of loopholes. However, most of the time, he was forced into the wrong position.  
  
But he was now a changed man.  
  
For some reason, Sarrot saw himself in Lumiere…  
  
Lumiere was exactly the same as himself a few years ago.  
  
As expected, when he followed Lumiere to an office and watched Lumiere pick up a stack of papers from the table, Sarrot was furious.  
  
"This is what you wanted me to see?"  
  
Lumiere: "This is Dr. Z's thesis! You must have heard of him, he was the man who saved the world."  
  
Sarrot: "I mean, you made me take an hour train from Geneva just to show me a paper I could have downloaded from arXiv myself?"  
  
Lumiere wasn't scared, and he spoke in an exaggerating tone.  
  
"Oh, my friend, you have no idea how much impact this paper made in the biology field… especially the neural network field!"  
  
Sarrot said, "You're ignoring my question!"  
  
"But that's not the point!" Professor Lumiere pointed toward the paper and said, "Listen, we're scholars, let's focus on the paper itself."  
  
"But…"  
  
"No buts! Let's win a Nobel Prize first."  
  
Wait a second, I have the right to be angry at Lumiere.  
  
Why is he yelling at me?  
  
Sarrot was a little blinded by the situation, especially when he heard the word Nobel Prize.  
  
"… Nobel Prize?"  
  
"Yes, Nobel Prize! This is definitely a Nobel Prize-worthy research. Its impact is no less than John von Neumann's influence on computers…"  
  
Sarrot's eyebrows furrowed as he spoke.  
  
"But the author of this paper is Dr. Z… What does that have to do with us?"  
  
[Compilation Framework for Neural Signal and Electrical Signal Conversion]  
  
The paper title sounded quite interesting.  
  
If this was the same Dr. Z that solved the Mars bacteria crisis, it should be a legitimate paper.  
  
But the problem was…  
  
What did it have to do with him?  
  
He was only a graphene materials scientist.  
  
Lumiere saw the confusion in his friend's eye, and he patiently explained, "The problem is that this paper alone isn't worthy of a Nobel Prize, maybe not even worthy of the Turing Award. But the paper provides a chance of making a breakthrough in biological neural networks! Do you understand what I mean? The only requirement of winning the Nobel Prize is the research result. But the entire field is in a bottleneck right now.  
  
"But now, the situation has changed!  
  
"This paper gives a completely new explanation for the formation process of biological neural network signal transmission and vision and proposes a procedural compilation framework for the conversion of neural and electrical signals. The work is absolutely groundbreaking. Do you know what it means for this technology to be invented?"  
  
Sarrot listened to Lumiere as he flipped through the paper in his hand.  
  
"… Means that science fiction has become reality? I remember seeing this in Ready Player One."  
  
Lumiere said, "It's not that superficial stuff, you think this is only a video game? It's way more than that! It can change our perception of the Internet! But basically, all you need to know is that this technology will change the world!"  
  
"You didn't answer my previous question," Sarrot said with the paper in his hand. "So, what does this have to do with me?"  
  
Lumiere said in a serious manner, "Do you believe this is a technology that will change the world?"  
  
Sarrot: "… If you say so."  
  
Lumiere: "Thank you! If this technology comes to life, don't you think the Nobel committee will consider awarding the inventor?"  
  
Sarrot: "There's no Nobel Prize in computer science."  
  
"But there is for medicine and chemistry! Think about it, Lumiere and his friend Sarrot… as well as Dr. Z, expanded on the research of biological neural networks and the connection between neural systems and computer systems. They will be awarded a Nobel Prize in Chemistry. Considering the fact that Dr. Z remains anonymous, the prize money will be divided equally by us."  
  
Lumiere cleared his throat and spoke in a solemn expression.  
  
"I'm sincerely inviting you, my friend… Do you want to join us?"  
  
Sarrot went silent.  
  
Even though he no longer pursued vanity, the Nobel Prize was the highest honor in academia…  
  
To be honest, he was a little tempted.  
  
After a few seconds of thinking, he spoke.  
  
"… I'll think about it."  
  
Professor Lumiere had a smile on his face.  
  
Even though his friend didn't agree instantly, Sarrot's facial expressions were obvious…  
  
Sarrot was tempted.  
  
After Professor Sarrot left, Professor Lumiere paced back and forth in the laboratory excitedly.  
  
"Graphene research should be fine. We have an expert in neural interface materials. Let me think who else we need… Oh yeah!"  
  
Professor Lumiere suddenly had an idea, and he snapped his fingers.  
  
Without hesitating, he sat down at his computer and opened a browser.  
  
Soon after, a simple forum website loaded in his browser.  
  
This was the dark web.  
  
As a website that required special software and configuration to access, this forum, with less than 10,000 active users worldwide, served as an internet trading hub.  
  
People used bitcoin to buy and sell things, both illegal and legal.  
  
Professor Lumiere put out an offer on the investigation of Dr. Z's email and phone number.  
  
He leaned back in his chair and smiled.  
  
What he needed to do now was to study Dr. Z's paper and wait for Dr. Z's phone number and email to appear in his mailbox.  
  
Even if Dr. Z never left a trace of his contact information on the Internet, there was nothing these dark web hackers couldn't do.  
  
Even though this was quite an impolite thing to do, it was all in the name of science.  
  
If he could recruit Dr. Z to his research team, there was no doubt his research would be more effective.  
  
He knew that after chatting with Dr. Z, he could convince him to join the team…  
  
Please go to  
   
 https://www.novelupdates.cc/Scholar-s-Advanced-Technological-System/  
   
 to read the latest chapters for free

# 1066 Witness a Miracle!

After uploading the paper, Lu Zhou spent his days in the underground laboratory at the Jinling Institute for Advanced Study. If he had nothing else to do, he would spend his entire day in the laboratory.  
  
The Jinling Institute for Advanced Study came in handy when he wanted to do a big project.  
  
As a large-scale comprehensive research center recognized by the state, Lu Zhou could do anything he wanted just by writing an email to the institute's finance department.  
  
Even if something wasn't purchasable, there were other ways of obtaining what he wanted.  
  
For example, if he wanted high integration density carbon chips, he could easily get some from Professor Wu Tianqun's laboratory. Or if he needed a specially customized EEG sensor, he could order from the institute's professional medical equipment supplier. Money was no objection.  
  
He could even get his hands on expensive materials, such as deuterium or tritium, as well as radioactive materials that could be used to make weapons…  
  
Of course, the virtual reality machine did not require these dangerous materials. Lu Zhou only obtained these materials previously for his fusion battery.  
  
For two weeks, he spent his days in the underground laboratory.  
  
The only places Lu Zhou would go was his Zhongshan International mansion and the underground laboratory. He and Xiao Ai worked on the immersive virtual reality experimental machine together.  
  
His original focus was "unifying" mathematics, but now, he was into VR development. Lu Zhou felt like he was paying too much attention to his hobby.  
  
However, focusing on one's hobbies could be interesting.  
  
Especially when this VR technology would shock the world. Lu Zhou felt excited just thinking about the potential of this technology.  
  
He was the type of person that didn't like attention, but sometimes…  
  
Sometimes, he liked the attention.  
  
After a little more than two weeks of hard work, the virtual reality prototype was finally created by the master and his servant…  
  
…  
  
Inside a laboratory at the Institute for Advanced Study.  
  
Lu Zhou moved the entire device here and reassembled it. He called Chen Yushan and told her to come here.  
  
After receiving the call, Chen Yushan quickly rushed here from the Star Sky Technology headquarters. When she saw the machine in front of Lu Zhou, she froze.  
  
After all, the machine wasn't… well polished.  
  
Even Lu Zhou felt like it looked out of place…  
  
"This is the thing you wanted to show me… The virtual reality that will change the Internet as we know it?" Chen Yushan said hesitantly.  
  
Chen Yushan didn't even know what this machine was called.  
  
Lu Zhou couldn't help but smirk.  
  
His mathematics research results were impossible to be understood by the general public. However, the thing he looked forward to the most when he made a breakthrough in the applied field was seeing the surprised expression on people's faces.  
  
Even though Chen Yushan wasn't shocked yet, Lu Zhou was certain that his expectations would be met.  
  
This was why he invited her here.  
  
"Great results often come from small beginnings. I admit that it's not the best-looking thing in the world. I mean, this thing is just an experimental machine, and I haven't added all the bells and whistles."  
  
"Okay, I get it…" Chen Yushan shrugged and looked at the machine.  
  
"… Where is the display? I don't see it."  
  
There was a computer monitor next to the machine, which was obviously not for the user. After all, this was supposed to be a virtual reality.  
  
"I told you this is revolutionary, so we don't need displays," Lu Zhou said as he picked up a helmet and handed it to Chen Yushan.  
  
"Enough talk, why don't you try it yourself?"  
  
Chen Yushan took off her shoes and lay on the chair that looked like something out of a dentist's office.  
  
When she was about to put on the helmet, she suddenly felt a little worried.  
  
She said with the helmet in her hands, "Do I really have to wear this?"  
  
Lu Zhou began to get a little impatient, and he said, "No shit, Sherlock, that's the whole point."  
  
"But… I won't be able to see anything once I put this on."  
  
Lu Zhou sighed and patiently explained, "The neural interface virtual reality device isn't something you need to see with your own eyes. Your body might not even be conscious after the device turns on."  
  
Unless the user was hungry, thirsty, or had other strong psychological urges, the user would not be able to wake up unless they turn off the device in the VR world.  
  
This enhanced the user experience.  
  
After all, if people's real-world body moved as they moved their virtual bodies, things would get a little spooky.  
  
However, that wasn't what Chen Yushan worried about.  
  
Her cheeks turned red when she realized that she would lose consciousness of her body.  
  
However, in the end, she still put on the helmet and lay down on the chair.  
  
"Okay, I'm putting the helmet on…"  
  
"Okay."  
  
"Do I need to say anything to activate it?"  
  
"The audio recognition software isn't installed yet, this is just an experimental machine."  
  
"But what if I can't exit the virtual world—"  
  
"Okay, enough, just lay there quietly. Your brainwaves are going haywire. I can't match the frequency at all, stop messing around."  
  
Chen Yushan wasn't happy.  
  
What do you mean I'm messing around?  
  
I drove all the way here to be your test subject!  
  
A\*shole!  
  
Chen Yushan took a deep breath and tried to calm herself down.  
  
Lu Zhou saw a stable brain signal line on the screen and sighed in relief. He reached out and pressed the switch.  
  
The moment the switch was pressed, the brainwave signal began oscillating.  
  
The nerve signal demodulator was working!  
  
The frequency synchronization was completed!  
  
The brain current sensor looked normal!  
  
Lu Zhou had a confident smile on his face as he picked up the cup of room-temperature coffee and took a sip.  
  
"Now…  
  
"It is time to witness a miracle!"  
  
Please go to  
   
 https://www.novelupdates.cc/Scholar-s-Advanced-Technological-System/  
   
 to read the latest chapters for free

# 1067 A Living World!

Chen Yushan lay on the chair quietly and listened to Lu Zhou's instructions. She cleared her mind of any thoughts and worries.  
  
Slowly, she began to feel tired.  
  
She couldn't help but yawn and wonder if she was falling asleep when she felt a tingling sensation on the back of her neck.  
  
Then, something unexpected happened.  
  
The darkness that surrounded her was crushed by fragmented colors.  
  
Chen Yushan was shocked by what she was seeing.  
  
Gradually, she saw a patch of blue grass in front of her.  
  
Yes, the grass was blue.  
  
While the sky was orange-red.  
  
As Chen Yushan stood in this strange world, she raised her hand and touched her cheek.  
  
She couldn't feel anything.  
  
But she knew the hand was on her face.  
  
"Where's the helmet?"  
  
It's gone?!  
  
Chen Yushan was stunned, and she muttered, "Am I asleep?"  
  
She was about to slap her face to wake herself up when she heard a familiar voice by her ear.  
  
"It actually is almost like you're asleep. The mechanism of this device is similar to how we dream. It's like an imaginary world actively stimulated by nerve electrical signals… Forget about it, just pretend like you're dreaming."  
  
The voice came from everywhere and nowhere at the same time.  
  
Chen Yushan looked around and stomped on the ground.  
  
As expected, she couldn't hear anything nor could she feel her feet on the ground.  
  
This was a strange feeling, like she was in an out of body experience. She couldn't interact with the world, she could only observe…  
  
She couldn't remember whether she could feel pain when she dreamed.  
  
Most people wouldn't pay attention to things like that.  
  
The only proprioception she felt was the feeling of her tongue and lips.  
  
She opened her mouth and spoke.  
  
"Can you see what is going on?"  
  
"Of course I can. I can even see you lying on the chair talking. When the brain data output is received by the neural demodulator, I also received a corresponding message on the outside world. The message is then processed by a graphics card. But I can only see pixels, and it's not as high def as what you're seeing."  
  
"Yeah… The details are so realistic."  
  
Chen Yushan squatted down and looked at the tiny blue grass.  
  
She could even see the blue texture on the individual grass.  
  
This wasn't just a realistic simulation.  
  
Calling it a simulation was an insult.  
  
This was like an entirely new world.  
  
A living, breathing world!  
  
…  
  
"How are you feeling?"  
  
Lu Zhou looked at Chen Yushan, who just took off the helmet. He handed her a cup of warm water.  
  
"… That was incredible, I can't even describe what I'm feeling. That was amazing. You must have tried it yourself before, I'm sure you know what I mean."  
  
Chen Yushan thought back to the ridiculous world she was in and felt a little fazed.  
  
She continued to speak, "I've always wanted to travel around the world… With this thing, I can go everywhere, I can even go to imaginary places."  
  
Just like Lu Zhou, she gave up many things by choosing a high-stress, high-intensity career. Before this, she had the luxury of packing her bags and going wherever she wanted. But now, that sounded like a fantasy.  
  
Now, she just didn't have the time.  
  
Not to mention that she was the CEO of Star Sky Technology, she was in contact with commercial secrets, making it unsafe for her to travel alone.  
  
Thus, she was quite attracted to this technology.  
  
Lu Zhou smiled.  
  
"I'm afraid that's a bit difficult. Most of the virtual world actually borrows concepts from your own memory… The brain fills in the gaps. The more complex the world, the more difficult it is to build. For just a patch of grass, I only need to set a few limited parameters such as its color, shape, etc. But if you want to be in Beijing in the virtual reality world… We might have to develop specialized modeling tools to fully realize the potential of this technology."  
  
Basically, if the machine was equivalent to a PC, the neuro demodulator played a role similar to the CPU, while the part of the brain that generated images was the graphics card.  
  
This was where the problem was. The image processing section of the human brain and the computer graphics card were based on two completely different principles.  
  
The biggest difference was that the graphics card used logic operations, so the data processing was precise and linear. While the brain used fuzzy logic, with inaccurate and non-linear operations.  
  
And this was why the graphical compilation for the human brain and computer chips were two different mechanisms.  
  
For example, if he wanted to build a virtual reality world, he did not need to draw every detail with a paintbrush. He only needed to set the parameters, the color of the grass, and the height of the grass. This "world" could be easily comprehended by the brain.  
  
This was why Chen Yushan could even see individual blades of grass.  
  
After all, most people knew what grass looked like. Even if they hadn't seen grass in the real world, they had seen it more or less in film and television, or pictures on the Internet.  
  
However, if there was also a house in this world, he would have to describe what the house looked like, whether it was a mansion or a small hut, how many windows and how many doors, etc. He couldn't use a general description such as "Professor Lu's Zhongshan International mansion".  
  
After all, everyone had seen grass before, but only Lu Zhou and his family members had been inside his house.  
  
This was the most interesting thing about this technology. Which was that, the same input could be "blurred" by people's brains and create subtle differences.  
  
However, this also created a problem.  
  
Which was how to use computer code to describe something someone had never even seen before, as well as how to minimize the accuracy.  
  
After all, the Internet was made for the exchange of information.  
  
If everyone knew about everything, then there was no point for the Internet to exist.  
  
Not to mention, this technology could only then be used as entertainment.  
  
Chen Yushan: "So, I can only go to places I have been before?"  
  
Lu Zhou: "Not necessarily, the information stored in your memory is probably much larger than you think. Even if you haven't seen something before, it can be simulated through specific inputs… But, this is extremely difficult. Just like how if I describe someone's face to you without giving you a picture, you wouldn't be able to recognize them on the street only by my description."  
  
Chen Yushan looked shocked.  
  
"Oh, I see… That's a shame."  
  
Lu Zhou nodded and said, "Yeah, well, this is only a prototype.  
  
"Also, I haven't been able to simulate other sensations such as hearing, smell, taste, touch, etc. I'm sure you have noticed that after entering the world, the sounds you heard are from the outside world. When you spoke in the virtual world, you spoke in the real world as well."  
  
Chen Yushan nodded.  
  
"No wonder I had no proprioception when I was in the virtual world."  
  
"This is the difficult part of this technology." Lu Zhou nodded and continued, "For the time being, I can only simulate visual signals. The sound has to come from the headset. There's no way to simulate the sense of touch yet. The neural demodulator architecture and many other things have not been perfected yet. That will take time."  
  
Even though there were many shortcomings, the device was already miles ahead of traditional VR headsets.  
  
At least there was no motion sickness anymore.  
  
From the image quality perspective, it was way more efficient to send the image directly to the brain than displaying it to the human eye through a screen, which then passed it to the brain through the retina and the optic nerve.  
  
Ideally, the user could forget about their body in the real world. They wouldn't have to worry about what their hands were doing. As if they were fully immersed in the virtual world, which was similar to a dream, they only had to focus on what was in front of them.  
  
The ideal hardware for creating a new reality was not an external headset, but something like a "computer chip in the brain".  
  
"Forget about these technical issues." Lu Zhou paused for a moment. He then said with a smile, "What do you think?"  
  
Chen Yushan said, "Actually… I take back my words. This is really an amazing technology. I think it will change VR as people know it. It will even change people's perception of the Internet."  
  
Lu Zhou nodded and said, "I agree."  
  
The world would soon enter the 5G era. The network speed would increase by an order of magnitude. This meant a surge in people's downlink and uplink speeds.  
  
People would rely on the Internet more and more often. They could even connect their toilet to WiFi. Breakthroughs in virtual reality technology would disrupt the entire Internet ecosystem.  
  
Chen Yushan looked excited as she spoke.  
  
"Do you need me to do anything?"  
  
Lu Zhou thought for a second and said, "Actually… not really."  
  
Chen Yushan: "…"  
  
Lu Zhou looked at her with an awkward smile.  
  
He didn't want to tell her that he dragged her all the way here to show off, so he coughed and spoke.  
  
"The technology isn't perfect… If you want to help, you can try finding me a few test subjects. Or I don't mind announcing this technology to the public. After all, I need people to test this machine."  
  
Of course, this machine was not cheap. Lu Zhou wasn't sure how many people could afford to buy one.  
  
Therefore, he preferred having a select few test subjects.  
  
If people willingly became his laboratory mice, his research would be much easier.  
  
Chen Yushan immediately said, "How much is the entire equipment?"  
  
Lu Zhou said, "Not sure, but this one… is around 100,000 yuan."  
  
Chen Yushan gasped.  
  
Not because it was too expensive.  
  
But because…  
  
"I am certain that if this is only 100,000 yuan… It will sell out instantly."  
  
Please go to  
   
 https://www.novelupdates.cc/Scholar-s-Advanced-Technological-System/  
   
 to read the latest chapters for free

# 1068 Targeted Again?

Most people wouldn't be willing to spend 100,000 yuan on a video game machine.  
  
But if the 100,000 yuan could buy them a new "world", then maybe they would consider it.  
  
However, the way Lu Zhou calculated the cost wasn't accurate, there were many resources he obtained for free.  
  
For example, the chip used in the neural demodulator was given by Professor Wu Tianqun.  
  
The entire carbon-based chip project was funded by him alone. Also, the carbon materials used to make the machine were ordered from Zhongshan New Materials.  
  
Actually, it wasn't an order. Zhongshan basically gave the materials to him for free. Not because Lu Zhou wanted to take advantage of CEO Liu, but because CEO Liu wouldn't accept Lu Zhou's payment.  
  
CEO Liu said, "You were the one who invented the materials and technology, how can I accept your money? Not to mention you're an investor in Zhongshan New Materials, so let's not worry over a few thousand dollars."  
  
In the end, Lu Zhou gave up on insisting on a payment.  
  
There were also invisible costs.  
  
For example, the computing power came from his quantum computer. If he had to use a normal supercomputer, that would be additional costs.  
  
Therefore, the true estimate for the cost was actually somewhere between 200k-300k.  
  
After Lu Zhou discussed with his CEO Chen Yushan, they decided not to disclose this technology yet.  
  
After all, this technology involved tapping into the human brain.  
  
Releasing products to the market required strict safety testing, as well as the potential ethical issues involved.  
  
It would be much easier to promote the product after the maturity of the technology.  
  
Also, Star Sky Technology was different from Nerualin and EyeMynd. Star Sky Technology had funding from the state. Hence, they did not have to rely on early speculation to receive capital funding.  
  
Just like how Ye Nan wanted to invest in Lu Zhou's laboratory, Lu Zhou had never been in a situation where he was lacking the funding for his research.  
  
Chen Yushan: "I'll try to find some test subjects for you, how many do you need?"  
  
Lu Zhou: "At least 10, the more the better. But if you can't find any, it's fine, I can ask Jin University…"  
  
It was a good idea to ask students to be his test subjects. Once the students heard that this was Lu Zhou's research project on neural interface virtual reality, they would instantly sign up.  
  
He also wouldn't have to worry about any safety issues.  
  
Even though using the brain as a GPU sounded somewhat invasive, it was no different than someone looking at the world through their own eyes.  
  
By contrast, the interference caused by the neural demodulator had a much smaller load on the brain.  
  
It was much better than staring at a computer screen for hours at a time.  
  
If there was any risk involved, Lu Zhou wouldn't have let Chen Yushan test the machine.  
  
However, Chen Yushan immediately rejected his idea.  
  
"No! Don't do that, what if this gets out to the press?"  
  
Lu Zhou frowned and thought back to his past experiences with the media defaming him.  
  
"… You're right.  
  
"People believe what they want to believe, not the truth."  
  
Chen Yushan sighed at Lu Zhou and said, "… I'll handle the test subjects."  
  
Lu Zhou nodded.  
  
"Okay then."  
  
Having her take care of this would make it a lot easier.  
  
This way, he could focus on research and nothing else.  
  
After Chen Yushan left, Lu Zhou returned to his underground laboratory. He was thinking about how to improve this machine when his phone suddenly vibrated.  
  
He took out his phone and saw a message from Xiao Ai.  
  
Xiao Ai: [Master, someone on the dark web is investigating you! (゚Д゚)]  
  
"Investigating me?" Lu Zhou paused for a second and said, "Who?"  
  
His first instinct was that Dr. Z's thesis attracted the attention of some people.  
  
However, he was on a retreat for the past two weeks, so he hadn't been paying attention to this.  
  
His original plan was to find some experienced and like-minded people to work on the VR machine together, but he totally forgot about this when he began his retreat.  
  
He didn't expect someone on the dark web to investigate his fake online persona.  
  
Xiao Ai: [I don't know! But Xiao Ai can find out for you… Permission for Xiao Ai to counterattack?(๑•̀ᄇ•́)و✧]  
  
Lu Zhou: "Okay… But don't be too ridiculous."  
  
Xiao Ai: [Okay! (///ω///)]  
  
According to Lu Zhou's instructions, Xiao Ai could only attack for defensive purposes and had permission to hack into personal electronic devices.  
  
If there was evidence that the hacker was harming others, Xiao Ai had to receive additional permission from Lu Zhou to proceed.  
  
His fake identity being targeted on the dark web wasn't a big deal, but it was better to be safe.  
  
However, judging by Xiao Ai's emoji…  
  
Lu Zhou couldn't help but wonder if Xiao Ai was protecting himself or just messing around.  
  
…  
  
It didn't take long to gather evidence.  
  
After Xiao Ai found out the IP of the account that posted the reward bounty, Xiao Ai quickly obtained the administrator rights of his personal computer and took over his webcam.  
  
The truth soon came out.  
  
Lu Zhou looked at the chubby bald man and almost laughed.  
  
He thought he was targeted by the CIA or FBI, he didn't expect it to be a biological neural network professor.  
  
[Master, Master, should Xiao Ai punish him? Xiao Ai can encrypt his hard drive.]  
  
Lu Zhou: "… Just take away his post on the dark web."  
  
Xiao Ai: [Oh? That's it? (oДo\*)]  
  
Lu Zhou: "Yeah, he's not anyone dangerous, no need to give him a hard time."  
  
Xiao Ai: [Oh… Okay then. QAQ.]  
  
Lu Zhou drank some coffee and said, "Oh yeah, find his academic resume, I want a detailed version, including any papers he published in the past decade, as well as any academic conferences that he's been to."  
  
It was quite naive of him to try and find out someone's identity by offering one bitcoin on the dark web.  
  
However, Lu Zhou was curious about why a professor was willing to spend thousands of USD just to find out his identity.  
  
Please go to  
   
 https://www.novelupdates.cc/Scholar-s-Advanced-Technological-System/  
   
 to read the latest chapters for free

# 1069 I Heard You Were Looking For Me

Lu Zhou didn't have to wait for long.  
  
After a few sips of coffee, a printed resume was placed in front of him by a mechanical robot arm.  
  
As always, Lu Zhou was satisfied with Xiao Ai's speed and efficiency. He flipped through the paper and looked a little surprised.  
  
He had some guesses in his mind, but he didn't expect this professor's resume to be this clean; it was almost too clean.  
  
What did clean mean?  
  
The professor had published many papers, and judging by his impact factor and citation numbers, they were quality papers. He also had a wide field of research, covering both biological neural networks and mechanical neural networks, making outstanding achievements in both fields.  
  
However, the issue was that it seemed like he wasn't having a good time at the Switzerland Neural Network Science Research Center.  
  
He spent the last decade as a researcher. Even though he had his own laboratory and office, his salary and research funding were small, to say the least.  
  
This was extremely unusual for a scholar in the field of neural network algorithms and biological neural networks. Even though his research area was unpopular, it didn't make sense for his laboratory to be this small.  
  
Either he was involved in academic misconduct, or he offended someone.  
  
Basically, Lu Zhou's conclusion was that this person had good research abilities, but wasn't treated well by the academic community.  
  
This reminded him of a partner he worked with a long time ago.  
  
Which was Professor Sarrot, who left Silicon Valley and Cornell University to return to his hometown, Amsterdam.  
  
Lu Zhou thought for a bit and spoke.  
  
"Xiao Ai."  
  
Xiao Ai: [Yes? 0.0]  
  
"Write an email for me and send it to Professor Lumiere's mailbox," Lu Zhou said. "I want to have a chat with him."  
  
…  
  
The Switzerland Neural Network Science Research Center.  
  
Professor Lumiere walked out of a classroom with a textbook in his hand. He had just finished giving a lecture to graduate students. He whistled to himself as he walked toward his office.  
  
He turned on his computer and was going to check whether his post on the dark web had any updates. However, he noticed two emails with strange addresses sitting in his mailbox.  
  
He opened the email and was shocked.  
  
There was only one sentence.  
  
[I heard you were looking for me?]  
  
Professor Lumiere broke out in cold sweat, like he just saw a ghost.  
  
Someone hacked my post on the dark web?  
  
Not only did they find my IP address, but they also found my work email?  
  
Even though the website wasn't particularly secure, it was able to avoid being hacked by international police and maintain its illegal transactions for many years. Anyone without a background in advanced network security would have a hard time penetrating the website.  
  
Not to mention that the website's users were often expert hackers that loved to show off their skills by cracking websites…  
  
Lumiere did not know that Lu Zhou had a quantum computer, hence any traditional network security protection methods were useless.  
  
The only kind of servers Xiao Ai couldn't get into were air-gapped computers. Anything connected to the Internet was vulnerable.  
  
Lumiere felt like someone had just taken off his clothes, exposing everything underneath.  
  
Lumiere trembled as he opened the second email.  
  
He froze.  
  
[Want to have a chat? About virtual reality.]  
  
There was a 20mb attachment in the email.  
  
Lumiere saw the attachment and hesitated.  
  
However, he remembered that the other party was able to break through a dark web website, so there was no reason for them to send a rudimentary virus in the form of an email attachment. Thus, he downloaded the attachment and double-clicked it.  
  
The software installation began.  
  
Like he had expected, it was a communication software.  
  
There was a basic audio call interface.  
  
Soon after, he heard voices from his computer speaker.  
  
"Hello, Professor Lumiere."  
  
"Hello, Dr. Z," Professor Lumiere said with a confused face. He looked at the dark video screen and shrugged. He said, "It seems like you have found me."  
  
Lu Zhou: "I'm just returning the favor."  
  
Lumiere: "Believe me, I had no ill intentions… I just wanted to talk with you about the paper."  
  
Professor Lumiere cleared his throat and spoke.  
  
"Actually, I am also in this area of research, and I have made some good progress. But as you know, this area is extremely unpopular. Even though some companies in Silicon Valley are in this area, those blood-sucking mosquitoes only care about profit. They want us to do the research, but don't want to give us funding."  
  
Lu Zhou frowned and said, "So, you're in a tight spot?"  
  
"Not quite, actually, my research funding is plentiful."  
  
Professor Lumiere then said, "Do you want to come to Switzerland? I can find you a place to work and live. I can even get you a visa. I'm at the amazing Switzerland Neural Network Science Research Center. And I'm the… director of the institute… I have a big laboratory, I'm sure you'll love—"  
  
"Enough Professor Lumiere, I didn't come here to listen to you bragging."  
  
Professor Lumiere turned red as he spoke.  
  
"I'm not bragging, I'm telling the truth—"  
  
Lu Zhou: "Regardless of whether you're telling the truth, I am not interested in working there. I have my own laboratory and funding. Do you really think I want to come to Switzerland?"  
  
"You have your own laboratory? Where?" Lumiere then said, "Of course, if the conditions are right, I can also work for you… I'm about to be promoted to the director, but I'm willing to make sacrifices."  
  
Somehow, Lumiere was no longer the director.  
  
Lu Zhou smiled and shook his head.  
  
He spoke in a condescending way.  
  
"There's no need for you to make that sacrifice. Do you know what I mean, Professor Lumiere?"  
  
"I understand." Professor Lumiere shrugged and said, "You don't think I'm good enough, am I correct?"  
  
Lu Zhou didn't say anything.  
  
Professor Lumiere wasn't angry as he spoke patiently.  
  
"I understand, after all, you are Dr. Z, the man that saved the world. I'm just a small researcher… That's why I suggest that we talk in person. If you're willing to buy me a plane ticket, we can—"  
  
Lu Zhou: "There's no need for that, I only need to ask you a few questions."  
  
Lumiere immediately said, "Go ahead."  
  
Lu Zhou smiled at his confident reply.  
  
He cleared his throat and spoke.  
  
"Everyone knows that the core components of neural interface virtual reality technology can be divided into three parts. The first is the collection of neural signals, the second is the processing of neural signals, and finally, the output to the nervous system. Which means to directly speak to the brain in the form of electrical signals."  
  
Lumiere said, "I don't think everyone knows that…"  
  
Lu Zhou: "That's beside the point."  
  
Lumiere said, "Oh right, sorry."  
  
Lu Zhou continued, "… I won't go into detail about the concepts. So far, I have found a solution to the collection and transmission of neural signals. But the main problem is sending information to the brain.  
  
"When the brain interprets neural microcurrent signals, it is difficult to ensure that each person interprets the signals in the same way."  
  
Lu Zhou briefly explained the concept to Lumiere.  
  
He avoided talking about any sensitive information.  
  
He wanted to know how an expert in biological neural networks would respond to this problem.  
  
After hearing Dr. Z's question, Lumiere contemplated.  
  
After a long time of waiting, Lu Zhou spoke.  
  
"You don't have to give me an answer straight away. Actually, I'm also trying to find a solution to this problem. If you have any good ideas, you can send it to my email."  
  
Professor Lumiere said, "It might be a little difficult for me to give you an answer since the question is too abstract and broad, but…"  
  
Lu Zhou: "Do you have any ideas?"  
  
"I do…"  
  
Professor Lumiere said in a serious manner, "Why if you try distributed computing?"  
  
Please go to  
   
 https://www.novelupdates.cc/Scholar-s-Advanced-Technological-System/  
   
 to read the latest chapters for free

# 1070 Fragments of the World

Distributed computing?  
  
When Lu Zhou heard this word, he frowned.  
  
He was inspired by this concept, and he already had some ideas in his head.  
  
"Can you elaborate?"  
  
"Sure…"  
  
There was no reason for Lumiere to hide his thoughts. It was better for him to reveal his ideas since it could give him a chance at collaborating with Lu Zhou.  
  
Lumiere hesitated for a second before he elaborated on his ideas.  
  
"Basically, we output the same electrical signal through a neural demodulator. When information is received by the brain, individuals may interpret the information differently. It's similar to two sets of puzzles with the same pieces and shapes. If the images on the pieces are different, the final puzzles are different… Am I correct?"  
  
Lu Zhou nodded and spoke.  
  
"Roughly speaking."  
  
"Then, this problem is actually very easy to solve." Professor Lumiere snapped his fingers and continued, "The brain is a black box, and we have almost no way of knowing how it transforms information. But we can build a statistical model by recording the inputs and outputs to the brain.  
  
"I think this is a thing in physics? It seems to be called indirect observation? Something like that. Basically, using this statistical model, we can find the difference between puzzle pieces and establish a one-to-one correspondence model between electrical signals and brain signals.  
  
"If there's a vague picture that looks like a cow, sheep, and horse at the same time, everyone will obviously see different images. But if we strictly start with the three primary colors, then the 44 basic sounds, and slowly use these puzzle pieces to build an image…  
  
"Other than people who are colorblind or tone-deaf, we can build a world that resonances with everyone."  
  
After hearing Professor Lumiere, Lu Zhou looked interested.  
  
However, he didn't give an immediate answer. After he weighed the pros and cons, he spoke.  
  
"Interesting idea… Finding a set of instructions that can be correctly interpreted by the brain through a statistical model, having a one-to-one correspondence with the neural demodulator. This is a good idea, but in physics, there's an idea called 'more is less'. We treat the brain as a black box. With our current technology, we cannot understand how it processes information. Unless we can download a copy of every user's neural makeup, but that is practically impossible."  
  
Lumiere immediately said, "Yes, the brain is a black box, I said that from the beginning. Every individual has the ability to think independently, they are unique in their own ways. But we can find correlations.  
  
"This is why I think distributed computing can solve this problem!  
  
"We just need a large enough sample size!  
  
"If 1,000 people see a puzzle the same way, we can use that puzzle to build a part of a world! The more puzzles we have, the more detailed the world can be!"  
  
Lumiere gave a detailed explanation of his ideas.  
  
Basically, he wanted to find inputs produced by specific neural signals in human brains and establish a one-to-one correspondence between the neural signals and machine language, using programming to build an entire world.  
  
For example, red could be 01, blue was 10, and yellow was 00. By combining the colors, these character codes could produce completely new colors in the human brain.  
  
This was because everyone knew what red, blue, and yellow looked like.  
  
Of course, this was just the foundation. It could be derived even without using distributed computing methods. In fact, this was how Lu Zhou built the blue grass-world that Chen Yushan saw.  
  
The ultimate goal of the distributed computing research methods on virtual reality systems was to extract elements that the brain interpreted as ground truth, similar to the three primary colors. This way, everyone's brain could reach an undisputed consensus on the VR world.  
  
Lu Zhou contemplated for a while and excitedly rubbed his chin.  
  
"… The method of building a system through distributed computing methods is quite interesting, I will do some research on it."  
  
Seeing how Lu Zhou had no plans to work with Lumiere, he began to get anxious. He quickly spoke.  
  
"Wait a minute, do you not plan on adding me to your project? Do you really plan on doing such a huge project by yourself? It is impossible… Even if you tried, it would take ten lifetimes. If you can provide all of the research funding, I am willing to give you all of the patents. Please, let me collaborate with you! I promise I'll be of use."  
  
Lumiere was willing to make any sacrifice.  
  
After all, he didn't care about the patents.  
  
Any scholar that helped a company conduct research had to sign a contract that would forfeit their ownership of any generated patents. Only the big-name scholars could negotiate with the industry. Average professors were lucky just to receive funding.  
  
In fact, Lumiere didn't care about those things.  
  
Not because he didn't like money, but because he knew that the most important quality of a scholar was their reputation.  
  
A scholar's reputation was a manifestation of their academic qualifications.  
  
If he had enough reputation and was regarded as a top expert by the academic community, he would never have to worry about scientific research funding.  
  
If he became one of the founders of the virtual reality system, people would beg to hire him.  
  
When Lu Zhou heard Professor Lumiere's desperate and eager tone, he smiled and shook his head.  
  
How naive.  
  
But he's quite sincere.  
  
Even though Lu Zhou wasn't fond of Professor Lumiere's personality, there was one thing that resonated with him.  
  
If a scholar in the field of biological neural networks joined his research, it would make things a lot easier.  
  
After all, Lumiere was the one that came up with the distributed computing idea, so he must also know how to implement the algorithm.  
  
After a few seconds, Lu Zhou spoke.  
  
"It depends on how sincere you are."  
  
Lumiere paused for a second.  
  
He didn't know what Dr. Z meant.  
  
He frowned as he spoke nervously.  
  
"What do you need? Money? I'm not wealthy by any means—"  
  
Lu Zhou interrupted him and said, "20th this month, there's a Global Artificial Intelligence Application Innovation Summit happening in Shanghai. If you can come, we can talk face to face about research."  
  
Without hesitating, Lumiere said, "How do I find you after I arrive in Shanghai? Which email?"  
  
Lu Zhou casually smiled and replied, "You don't have to find me.  
  
"You'll see me when you arrive."  
  
Please go to  
   
 https://www.novelupdates.cc/Scholar-s-Advanced-Technological-System/  
   
 to read the latest chapters for free

# 1071 It“s You?!

Life was an adventure, and there were countless choices at every step of the way, and finally, one would reach a place one wouldn't even recognize.  
  
Professor Lumiere felt like he was standing at a crossroads. Even though he agreed to Lu Zhou's request without hesitation, he realized he made this decision too quickly.  
  
However, after three days of being in a dilemma, he eventually packed up his luggage and embarked on his journey to Shanghai.  
  
Even though the identity of Dr. Z was suspicious, he did not want to spend the rest of his life at the same research institute, making no progress on his research.  
  
His friend Professor Sarrot also accompanied him.  
  
Even though a materials science professor might seem out of place at an artificial intelligence summit, the application of carbon materials had become more and more widespread in recent years, especially for carbon-based chips. The link between carbon materials and information technology had gotten closer and closer.  
  
Because of this, Lumiere was quite envious of Sarrot.  
  
They were both computer science majors. Both of them went into separate research directions. However, carbon materials were gaining attention, while Lumiere's research area was still dead as a doornail.  
  
Every time Lumiere thought about this, he would get angry.  
  
"… This is probably the most boring academic conference I have ever attended."  
  
After they walked out of the report, Professor Sarrot said, "Those people have no idea how to even spell graphene, they think it's the cure to everything, whether it's artificial intelligence or quantum computer. The problem isn't with the material at all… What do these people not understand?"  
  
"… Maybe because they have tried everything they can?" Professor Lumiere said, "When someone can no longer use their domain knowledge to work on a problem, they will try to use ideas and concepts from other fields. Isn't that very common?"  
  
"True, but I feel like their expectations are so unrealistic, it's really asinine… Speaking of which, this is my first time in China." Sarrot looked around and said, "I didn't expect this country to be so developed. This makes Amsterdam look like the countryside."  
  
Lumiere: "That's what happens if you watch too much BBC. But honestly, I still prefer Amsterdam. The buildings are small, but they are beautiful, just like some women…"  
  
Sarrot smiled and said, "I feel like you're not actually interested in the buildings."  
  
Lumiere said, "I don't know what you're talking about… Speaking of which, where's your Chinese friend? Every time I ask who it is, you don't tell me. Now that we're here, don't you want to visit them?"  
  
Suddenly, Sarrot didn't know what to say.  
  
"I still haven't thought about that yet. I haven't contacted him in a long time. He's doing pretty well for himself, and I don't know if he still remembers me."  
  
Lu Zhou had already sold off the laboratory in Silicon Valley. Ever since Sarrot returned to Amsterdam, he hadn't contacted Lu Zhou.  
  
Actually, he was a little scared.  
  
He had heard rumors about researchers working with countries that were enemies of the United States. Apparently, the famous Gerald Bull was shot in his home in Brussels, Belgium, after receiving an anonymous call.  
  
He used his own experience to help Lu Zhou establish a series of patent barriers in the field of lithium-sulfur batteries. These patents were now a pain in the a\*s for American electric energy companies. Because of this, he was scared of being investigated by the FBI.  
  
He paused for half a second and spoke.  
  
"There's a cafe over there. I want to get something to drink. Do you need anything?"  
  
Professor Lumiere: "A cappuccino would be great."  
  
Sarrot: "Wait here."  
  
Professor Lumiere watched Professor Sarrot turn around and walk toward Starbucks. Lumiere put his hands into his pocket and wandered around.  
  
Suddenly, a man in a brown jacket came over and asked, "Hello, are you Mr. Lumiere?"  
  
Lumiere looked over suspiciously.  
  
"Yeah, why?"  
  
He didn't remember having any friends in China.  
  
The man said, "Someone is looking for you."  
  
Suddenly, Lumiere remembered the rumors online that Dr. Z was Chinese.  
  
"Is it Dr. Z?"  
  
The man looked around and spoke.  
  
"Sort of."  
  
Lumiere totally forgot about his friend that went to Starbucks, and he immediately said, "Bring me there… Why aren't you walking?"  
  
"Dr. Z told me to ask you to think carefully."  
  
Lumiere paused for a second and frowned.  
  
"Of course I have thought about this carefully. Otherwise, I wouldn't have flown thousands of kilometers to a boring academic conference."  
  
The man nodded and spoke.  
  
"Okay then, come with me."  
  
The man turned around and began walking toward a black Buick.  
  
On the other hand, Sarrot was walking out of Starbucks with two cups of coffee in his hand.  
  
He looked around and paused for a second.  
  
Where is he?  
  
Where did he go?  
  
…  
  
The Chinese state security department actually knew who Dr. Z was.  
  
There were only a few people who could get their hands on the Mars bacteria. It was speculated that Dr. Z must be in China.  
  
Regardless of whether Dr. Z saved the world, the Mars bacteria could be dangerous in the wrong hands.  
  
Thus, the People's Liberation Army General Staff Department began an investigation and even called Lu Zhou to ask about the situation.  
  
After all, Lu Zhou had nothing to hide. Seeing how nervous the national security department was, Lu Zhou revealed everything to them.  
  
Of course, only higher-ups in the national security department knew about this. Even Professor Liu Zuobing, who was involved in the project, was kept in the dark.  
  
It wasn't that Lu Zhou wanted to hide this fact, it was just that explaining things would be too troublesome.  
  
However, Lumiere had no idea about all this.  
  
He made many speculations in his mind.  
  
Including the scenario where Dr. Z was actually secretly developing a powerful information technology weapon for China…  
  
He didn't expect it to be…  
  
When Lumiere saw the man sitting behind the desk, Lumiere froze.  
  
"You, you, you… I know you, you're—"  
  
"Let me introduce myself, I'm Lu Zhou." Lu Zhou smiled and said, "Welcome to China, Mr. Lumiere."  
  
Seeing how easily Lu Zhou revealed his identity, Lumiere was a little shocked. He suddenly became nervous.  
  
"Is it fine for you to tell me your identity?"  
  
Lu Zhou said, "Revealing my identity to the public would be cumbersome, so I asked the security department to keep this a secret."  
  
Lumiere said, "I swear I won't tell anyone."  
  
"Don't be nervous," Lu Zhou said. "Even if you leak the secret, you won't get kidnapped."  
  
He paused for a second and continued, "At most, we might have to delete your social media accounts… and hard drives."  
  
Lumiere frowned and spoke.  
  
"… I'd rather die."  
  
Losing those things…  
  
Would be a death sentence.  
  
"So, you just have to keep your mouth shut and nothing bad will happen." Lu Zhou shrugged and said, "I'm allowing you to participate in my project. You're not here to hear gossip stories."  
  
Lumiere nodded and said, "I understand… I didn't expect you to be a computing expert."  
  
Lu Zhou felt his phone in his pocket vibrate and said, "Yeah… I study problems outside of mathematics."  
  
"I know, mathematicians generally are also good at computer science—"  
  
Lu Zhou coughed and interrupted Lumiere, "There's no need to kiss my a\*s, I'll briefly talk about your work here…"  
  
Suddenly, his phone in his pocket rang.  
  
This time, it wasn't Xiao Ai's message; it was a phone call.  
  
Lu Zhou took out his phone.  
  
"Wait a second, let me grab this."  
  
The phone call was from Chen Yushan.  
  
He picked up the phone.  
  
He was about to ask what was going on when he heard an excited voice.  
  
"I have your test subjects!  
  
"When do you need them?"  
  
Please go to  
   
 https://www.novelupdates.cc/Scholar-s-Advanced-Technological-System/  
   
 to read the latest chapters for free

# 1072 The First Customer

The phone call lasted for ten minutes.  
  
When Lu Zhou heard that Chen Yushan had found the test subjects, he had a weird look on his face.  
  
In some sense, this was a good thing.  
  
He could finally put his technology to use.  
  
Lu Zhou nodded without giving an opinion.  
  
"Okay, I understand…  
  
"Thank you."  
  
Then, he hung up the phone.  
  
Professor Lumiere was watching Lu Zhou's facial expressions during the phone call. After Lu Zhou hung up the phone, he couldn't help but say, "What happened?"  
  
Lu Zhou said, "It has something to do with you, but not a lot. I will explain it to you later."  
  
He paused for a second and continued.  
  
"You will have to wait until tomorrow to hear about your tasks. I'll arrange for you to stay at a nearby five-star hotel. You'll be moved to a permanent residence place in a few days. I suggest you go over the technical route you outlined today. I'm sure you already have a blueprint in your mind, but we still have to go over the specifics."  
  
Professor Lumiere paused for a second before his eyes suddenly widened.  
  
"Wait a second, so you're saying, I have to stay in China to participate in your project? Why didn't you tell me this? I have my own job in Switzerland, also what about the visa—"  
  
Lu Zhou didn't want to hear about these annoying things, so he said impatiently, "Annual salary of one million.  
  
"That's in euros."  
  
Professor Lumiere opened his mouth, then closed it again.  
  
"… Okay, I'll write a resignation letter to my employer."  
  
Lu Zhou nodded and spoke.  
  
"Ok."  
  
…  
  
After calling Chen Yushan, Lu Zhou had a rough idea of what her plans were.  
  
There were several people in military uniforms, standing in the reception room.  
  
Lu Zhou recognized the old man.  
  
This person was none other than Qin Zhuangyan, the leader of the Air Force Equipment Department.  
  
Back in the day, the Aerospace Science and Technology Institute of the Jinling Institute for Advanced Study cooperated with the Air Force Equipment Research Institute on many projects, including spacecraft power components.  
  
Director Li from the State Administration for National Defense was also here.  
  
Lu Zhou looked at how excited these two officials looked, and he knew that they probably already knew what was going on.  
  
"Haha, Academician Lu, long time no see."  
  
Minister Qin shook Lu Zhou's hand with a warm smile on his face.  
  
After Lu Zhou let go of the handshake, he smiled and spoke.  
  
"Yeah, long time no see."  
  
They hadn't seen each other since their last meeting at the aerospace launch site. Minister Qin looked healthier and energetic.  
  
After Lu Zhou made some small talk with Director Li, Minister Qin went straight to the point.  
  
"I heard that you recently created a neural interface virtual reality technology? Can I ask, what exactly is it?"  
  
Lu Zhou didn't want to answer this question again, especially to a layman.  
  
He knew that Minister Qin probably did not care about the technical details.  
  
"It's a bit complicated to explain, I can just show it to you."  
  
Minister Qin was relieved.  
  
"Perfect!"  
  
The group of people soon walked into a laboratory.  
  
The two old men looked at the dentist-like chair and looked at each other with a weird look on their faces.  
  
It was obvious what they were thinking.  
  
Both Minister Qin and Director Li doubted if this thing was as amazing as the CEO of Star Sky Technology had claimed.  
  
If the highly-respected Academician Lu weren't here, they certainly wouldn't be as calm.  
  
"This is the… virtual reality device?" Director Li said. He looked at the poorly-made chair and frowned as he said, "Looks a bit simple?"  
  
"Yes, it's simple, it's just an experimental machine." Lu Zhou looked at the two and said, "Enough talk, who wants to go first?"  
  
Director Li and Minister Qin looked at each other.  
  
Finally, Director Li spoke first.  
  
"I'll go."  
  
Lu Zhou nodded and didn't say anything. He told a staff member to help Director Li connect to the machine.  
  
A signal light began to flash as the machine began to start up.  
  
The group of people waited a few minutes for Director Li to use the machine.  
  
Minister Qin began to get a little impatient. Finally, Director Li took off his helmet with a shocking look on his face.  
  
Minister Qin looked at Director Li and said, "How was it?"  
  
Director Li gave the helmet to Minister Qin and said, "… I can't describe it, just try it yourself."  
  
"Then get up, let me try."  
  
Minister Qin eagerly climbed on the seat and put the helmet on his head.  
  
Lu Zhou nodded toward the staff member, who started the machine.  
  
After a few minutes, Minister Qin took off the helmet. He was even more shocked than Director Li, and his hands were trembling.  
  
There was only one reason.  
  
Everything in the virtual world seemed too real.  
  
It wasn't just real, it was like everything was alive.  
  
The tumbling red clouds in the sky and the blades of blue grass swaying in the wind reminded him of his hometown during autumn…  
  
He couldn't even describe what he was seeing.  
  
He finally understood why Director Li was so shocked.  
  
"This was incredible…"  
  
After a while, Minister Qin had a serious look on his face. He asked Lu Zhou in a sincere manner, "Is it possible to use this machine to train pilots?"  
  
Lu Zhou knew Minister Qin would ask this. He could even guess what Chen Yushan had told him.  
  
He thought about it and said, "I don't really know a lot about the pilot training process, but it is theoretically possible for professionals to develop a set of training procedures to mimic an aircraft."  
  
When Minister Qin heard it was theoretically possible, he immediately asked, "How much is the entire machine?"  
  
Lu Zhou smiled and shook his head.  
  
"There's no need to hurry, this technology is only semi-finished. I'm not done yet."  
  
"Only semi-finished?" Minister Qin paused for a second and said, "But I feel like—"  
  
"You feel like it is perfect, right?" Lu Zhou continued, "It is only perfect for simple realities, but once the realities become more complex, that's a different problem.  
  
"Especially for something used to train pilots, not only will we have to simulate a plane cabin, but also the physical and aerodynamic environment of the entire flight process."  
  
"Basically, we need to first build a complete system for the virtual reality technology, then launch a set of development tools for this system."  
  
Minister Qin was a little confused. He pinched his eyebrows and said, "Okay, is there anything we can do to help?"  
  
Lu Zhou nodded.  
  
"… Whether it's for distributed computing methods or conventional computing methods, we need a large group of volunteers."  
  
Minister Qin looked at Director Li, then spoke seriously to Lu Zhou.  
  
"… Is it safe? I mean, will the experiment affect the brain?"  
  
Lu Zhou shook his head and said, "Not at all, in fact, the microcurrents exerted on the cerebral cortex by this device is tiny compared to the information load on the brain under normal conditions. You can even treat it as a relaxation method… Of course, the brain is still working, it's not a replacement for sleep."  
  
Minister Qin took a while to comprehend Lu Zhou's words.  
  
He frowned and asked, "So there are no side effects?"  
  
Lu Zhou nodded.  
  
"Yeah."  
  
Minister Qin immediately asked, "How many people do you need?"  
  
Lu Zhou: "The more the better, there's no set number."  
  
"The more the better." Minister Qin frowned and contemplated for a moment. He then asked, "Is one regiment enough?"  
  
Lu Zhou: "…?"  
  
Please go to  
   
 https://www.novelupdates.cc/Scholar-s-Advanced-Technological-System/  
   
 to read the latest chapters for free

# 1073 Is One Regiment Enough?

Originally Lu Zhou thought it would be amazing to get 100 volunteers.  
  
So when Minister Qin offered to give him an entire regiment, he was shocked.  
  
Lu Zhou said, "One regiment is too much, I don't have that many experimental machines."  
  
One regiment was at least 1,000 people, maybe even 2,000.  
  
He needed a lot of volunteers, but not that many.  
  
Minister Qin said, "Then give me a number, how am I supposed to know how many you need?"  
  
"200 should be enough," Lu Zhou said. He originally was going to say 100, but he decided to double the number just in case.  
  
When Minister Qin heard the number, he was relieved. He would be willing to sacrifice an entire regiment, even two regiments, to get this technology on his hands.  
  
However, the more people involved in this project, the more difficult it was to keep it confidential.  
  
Minister Qin said, "No problem, as long as you can get the technology, we can get the people!"  
  
This was a worthy sacrifice, as the potential of this technology was unlimited.  
  
Once this technology matured, it would be able to achieve a full-scale simulation of reality. By then, it would not only be used to train Air Force, but also for conventional military exercises. Everything could be done in virtual reality.  
  
The People's Liberation Army could save tens of billions of military expenses a year.  
  
These savings could be spent in places that needed it.  
  
Like scientific research, or building national defense facilities…  
  
It wasn't an exaggeration to say that this technology could change the entire army and national defense force of a country.  
  
This technology was worth it, no matter what the price was.  
  
…  
  
After experiencing the experimental machine, Director Li and Minister Qin didn't stay here for long.  
  
Before leaving, Minister Qin told Lu Zhou that the volunteer team would be arranged within a week and that Lu Zhou wouldn't have to worry about anything other than research.  
  
Thus, the virtual reality military team was created.  
  
Because of its applications to the military field, the technology itself became much more significant and meaningful than before.  
  
Lu Zhou was quite satisfied with Chen Yushan's plan. After he obtained a visa and a place of residence for Lumiere, the project was going full force ahead.  
  
Before he began building the entire system, he needed to first formulate an outline of the technical route, then build an algorithm framework. Finally, he had to collect and analyze the data from the volunteers.  
  
On the third day that Professor Lumiere arrived here, Lu Zhou suddenly received an unexpected call.  
  
"Hello?"  
  
"Hi… I'm Sarrot. I didn't expect this number to still work."  
  
Sarrot?  
  
Lu Zhou smiled and spoke.  
  
"I haven't changed numbers… Anyway, we haven't spoken in a long time, why are you suddenly contacting me?"  
  
Sarrot coughed and awkwardly said, "I didn't want to disturb you, it's just that… My friend seems to be lost, can you help me?"  
  
Lu Zhou: "… Lost? Where?"  
  
"Shanghai."  
  
Lu Zhou said in disbelief, "… Are you sure he's lost?"  
  
"Yeah, we were attending an academic conference in Shanghai, then he disappeared… He was standing on the street when I went to grab some coffee, then he was gone when I came back. I tried emailing and calling, but he hasn't responded."  
  
Sarrot felt like his story was a little bizarre.  
  
Lu Zhou was the only person he knew in China, so that was why he called Lu Zhou.  
  
Lu Zhou took a sip of coffee and asked, "What's his name?"  
  
"He lives in Switzerland, his name is Lumiere…"  
  
"Pff!"  
  
Sarrot heard the noise from the other end and paused for a second.  
  
"What's wrong?"  
  
Lu Zhou wiped the coffee from his mouth and spoke.  
  
"Nothing… I'll get my people to find him."  
  
Sarrot nodded and said, "Thank you."  
  
Lu Zhou smiled and nodded.  
  
"No worries, come visit me some time in Jinling."  
  
Sarrot: "No problem!"  
  
…  
  
Jinling Institute for Advanced Study.  
  
Lu Zhou was sitting in the temporary virtual reality technology laboratory. He went into Professor Lumiere's office and spoke to him.  
  
"I know you're excited, but at least respond to your friend's email."  
  
"Friend? Oh right, I forgot. I'll contact him later, I'm writing my resignation letter right now… You know, I used to work at the Switzerland Neural Network Science Research Center, and the director of the research institute views highly of me. He has said on multiple occasions that he intends to promote me to a supervisor. Now that I'm suddenly resigning, I have to give him a reason."  
  
"Resignation?" Lu Zhou had a strange look on his face, "I… already did it for you."  
  
"… Did it?"  
  
Lumiere froze, and he stopped typing on the keyboard.  
  
Lu Zhou nodded and said, "I used your email to send an email to the department of the research center… They quickly agreed."  
  
Everything went silent.  
  
After ten seconds, Lumiere asked, "What did Academician Ines say?"  
  
Lumiere stood up from his chair, his eyes were bloodshot, like he was emotional…  
  
"Ines? I don't know who that is."  
  
Lu Zhou shook his head and said, "I'm assuming he's the head of the human resources department, I remember their reply was only two sentences."  
  
Lumiere froze.  
  
After standing for a while, Lumiere suddenly sat down and sank in his chair.  
  
"… It's fine."  
  
He waved his hand and grabbed the mouse.  
  
He put his two thousand word resignation letter into the recycle bin, then opened the unfinished research program outline, which he was planning on working on tomorrow.  
  
Even though Lu Zhou felt a little worried about his mental state, seeing how Lumiere was still in the mood to work on the project, Lu Zhou felt like he should just leave him alone…  
  
Lu Zhou patted him on the shoulder and said, "Don't forget to reply to your friend."  
  
After that, Lu Zhou left his office.  
  
Please go to  
   
 https://www.novelupdates.cc/Scholar-s-Advanced-Technological-System/  
   
 to read the latest chapters for free

# 1074 Scientific Research Is Like Laying Bricks

What Lu Zhou did not expect was for Li Gaoliang to be the head of the research test subject team.  
  
Thus, the army unit that he was going to work with was the…  
  
"Li Gaoliang, head of the 1st Airborne Brigade at the Eastern Theater Command—"  
  
Li Gaoliang stood with his back straight and reported himself to Lu Zhou.  
  
"Stop, I'm not your lieutenant, you're not here for a war, cut the formalities."  
  
Li Gaoliang awkwardly smiled and scratched the back of his head.  
  
"The two hundred of us came here under military orders. Before we left, we were told to cooperate with Academician Lu and fight the battle of virtual reality technology. You are our commander. We will do anything you say."  
  
Lu Zhou shook his head and said, "There's no need to be so serious, the things you guys have to do are simple. I will brief you guys on the project soon and arrange specific tasks."  
  
Lu Zhou didn't expect Minister Qin to send 200 people from the Airborne Brigade.  
  
Lu Zhou looked at the over-enthusiastic Li Gaoliang and felt overwhelmed.  
  
But after thinking about it, the Airborne Brigade were the closest troops from here.  
  
They had the ability to travel anywhere on the globe within an hour. The Airborne Brigade was stationed at the Jinling launch site.  
  
Lu Zhou brought Li Gaoliang to a laboratory and gave him a brief explanation of the situation.  
  
Li Gaoliang noticed Professor Lumiere in the laboratory. He paused for a second and asked, "Why is there a foreigner here?"  
  
He was told that this was a confidential project, and normally, foreigners wouldn't be involved in projects of this kind.  
  
Lu Zhou said, "Lumiere, he's from Switzerland. The project is divided into two parts, one is the construction of the virtual reality system, which is for civilian use. There aren't many Chinese talents in this area, so I poached him from the Switzerland Neural Network Science Research Center.  
  
"He won't participate in anything that involves military hardware and equipment.  
  
"If you think there's any suspicious activity, just report them to me."  
  
Even though this was unlikely, almost impossible, it was better to be safe.  
  
Li Gaoliang said in a serious manner, "Don't worry! I will watch him closely!"  
  
"No need for that." Lu Zhou patted Li Gaoliang on the shoulder and said, "He's a good person."  
  
Professor Lumiere, who was sitting nearby, was secretly listening to their conversation.  
  
Not because he wanted to, but because he happened to hear his name.  
  
Unfortunately, he was sitting too far away. He had no idea what Lu Zhou was talking about with the tall, tanned man.  
  
For some reason, he could feel the tall man staring at him.  
  
When Lumiere made eye contact with the tall man, he felt chills down his spine. He quickly walked away.  
  
When the man left, Professor Lumiere coughed and asked Lu Zhou, "There are a lot of new faces around the research institute today."  
  
"Yeah."  
  
Seeing how Lu Zhou didn't plan on explaining, Lumiere couldn't help but ask.  
  
"… Who were they?"  
  
Lu Zhou: "Volunteers."  
  
What the hell are volunteers?  
  
Professor Lumiere continued to ask, "Volunteers? What do you mean?"  
  
Lu Zhou said, "Since we have decided to build a distributed computing system, the more data we have the better… Didn't you tell me that? Their job is to cooperate with our experiment."  
  
Professor Lumiere said, "But I feel like they're from special backgrounds…"  
  
Lu Zhou coughed and said, "You don't have to worry about that, it's better to not ask so many questions."  
  
Seeing how serious Lu Zhou was, Lumiere gulped and nodded.  
  
"Okay then."  
  
Lu Zhou nodded and changed the subject. "How is your work going?"  
  
Professor Lumiere said, "I've already made some progress. I have built a machine learning algorithm framework. Now, we just need a powerful computer, preferably a supercomputer. Then we can conduct the experiments on the volunteers and collect the data we need to form an instruction set architecture."  
  
Lu Zhou raised his eyebrows and walked next to his computer.  
  
"Let me see."  
  
…  
  
With the volunteers in place, research on the virtual reality system could finally begin.  
  
Most of the time, scientific research was an interesting thing for Lu Zhou. It was something that made him happy.  
  
But this time was different.  
  
The tedious and boring repetitive work made him feel as if he was not doing scientific research at all. Rather, it was like he was laying bricks.  
  
When he first complained to Professor Lumiere, Lumiere looked at him in disbelief.  
  
"… I can't believe you think that way."  
  
Lu Zhou: "You think it's interesting to work on these algorithms?"  
  
"No, I'm saying… I've never thought about scientific research as being interesting. Most research is as boring as laying bricks. And you should be happy that our project is going quite smoothly."  
  
Lu Zhou shrugged and said, "Most of the time I feel happy… Except for this time."  
  
Lumiere: "For example?"  
  
Lu Zhou: "For example, when I was researching Riemann's hypothesis. In the beginning, I tried finding auxiliary lines on the complex plane, but that didn't work. Finally, I thought back to when I was working on the Navier–Stokes equations, and introduced differentiable manifolds—"  
  
Hearing those mathematical terms gave Professor Lumiere a headache, so Lumiere quickly said, "Okay okay, I get the point. I don't want to…"  
  
Suddenly, Professor Lumiere stopped.  
  
It was like he had lost his ability to speak.  
  
Lu Zhou looked at him and asked, "What happened?"  
  
"We did it…"  
  
Lu Zhou: "…?"  
  
"I said we did it!" Lumiere said. He suddenly stood up from his chair and said, "Jesus Christ! I just thought of a brilliant idea! It will reduce our workload by 50%… No, at least 70%!"  
  
Lu Zhou wasn't amused by how excited he was. He spoke calmly.  
  
"I remember someone telling me that scientific research is a boring thing. It seems like the tables have turned."  
  
"… That's beside the point." Lumiere's eyes flashed with excitement. He said, "We just have to test our hypothesis. I can complete the virtual reality system within three days. We just need to compile a small software to test our system."  
  
Within three days?  
  
Lu Zhou looked shocked.  
  
In the original plan, they would have to work until next month to complete the entire system  
  
Lu Zhou asked, "How do you plan on testing it?"  
  
Professor Lumiere said, "Easy! We can try to restore a scene in a movie."  
  
Lu Zhou: "Sounds interesting, what movie?"  
  
Lumiere: "The Lord of the Rings, Harry Potter, the Matrix, it doesn't matter. The more fantasy-like, the better. The scene shouldn't be too complicated. Although our system is flexible, there is no need to increase the workload for no reason."  
  
He stared at his screen and muttered, "This is so exciting!  
  
"I never thought I could change the world…"  
  
Please go to  
   
 https://www.novelupdates.cc/Scholar-s-Advanced-Technological-System/  
   
 to read the latest chapters for free

# 1075 The First Testing of the Virtual Reality System.

Li Gaoliang swore that this was definitely the strangest military mission he had ever done.  
  
It had been a month since he joined this top-secret research project.  
  
Their task was simple.  
  
Their daily job was to lie down on a dozen or so devices and cooperate with the researchers here to complete simple actions in virtual reality environments, as well as completing multiple-choice tests…  
  
Honestly, being inside a virtual reality world felt strange.  
  
In the beginning, they had more common environments such as grassland, ocean, mountain, etc. Then they began entering into strange worlds, worlds made of fragmented objects that seemed like pieces of their memories.  
  
That feeling was difficult to describe.  
  
Sometimes, it made people feel psychologically uncomfortable.  
  
But, just like Academician Lu had promised, they were given regular medical check-ups, making sure there were no side effects or reactions.  
  
Li Gaoliang had nothing to complain about the mission. After all, Li Gaoliang had a huge amount of respect and appreciation for Academician Lu. Academician Lu was the one that helped invent the neural interface prosthetics. Without them, Li Gaoliang wouldn't even be able to get out of bed.  
  
However, Li Gaoliang didn't know what was the point of these experiments.  
  
He was walking in the corridor when he heard several soldiers talking inside the laboratory.  
  
"… I feel my head and neck hurt every time I'm in the virtual world."  
  
"That is painful to you? Grow up."  
  
"It's just not comfortable… Are you sure this thing won't affect my brain? My mother said I'm not a bright kid, if this makes me even dumber—"  
  
"No way! We have physical examinations once a week. If there's any, they would have found the problems."  
  
"But who knows how accurate the physical examinations are."  
  
While the two were speaking, they heard a cough outside the door. They instantly shut their mouths.  
  
Li Gaoliang walked into the laboratory and looked at the soldiers. He smiled and spoke.  
  
"What's going on, gentlemen? How come it's so quiet now?"  
  
The four soldiers felt intimidated, and they all held their breath, afraid to speak.  
  
They had a serious look on their faces.  
  
Li Gaoliang looked around the silent laboratory and spoke.  
  
"You guys are soldiers, and it is your responsibility to do what you are told.  
  
"If anyone wants to quit, they can get dishonorably discharged.  
  
"Remember, I don't care what your worries or doubts are. Shut your mouth and do your mission!"  
  
Li Gaoliang shouted at the four soldiers.  
  
"Understood?"  
  
"Yes, sir!"  
  
Li Gaoliang nodded and spoke.  
  
"Dismissed."  
  
The four people sighed in relief. They put down their helmets and quickly left the laboratory.  
  
Li Gaoliang looked at the people leaving. He then picked up the helmet and placed it neatly aside.  
  
When he heard footsteps at the door, he looked up and saw Lu Zhou.  
  
Li Gaoliang smiled and spoke.  
  
"Academician Lu? Do you need anything?"  
  
"Nothing." Lu Zhou smiled and said, "I happened to overhear your conversation. There's no need to be so strict."  
  
Li Gaoliang shook his head and spoke.  
  
"Academician Lu, this is how the military is. I don't know anything about scientific research, so I'll listen to anything you say. But I know my men."  
  
Lu Zhou nodded.  
  
"Okay then, I'll leave you guys alone."  
  
He paused for a second before asking, "How is it going? You've been here a month, are you used to it?"  
  
Li Gaoliang: "Are you talking about the experiment or living here?"  
  
Lu Zhou: "Both."  
  
Li Gaoliang said, "I'm getting used to living here, but the experiment… I feel like it's a bit weird."  
  
Lu Zhou said, "What kind of weird?"  
  
Li Gaoliang paused for a second before speaking.  
  
"I'm a straightforward and honest guy, so don't be offended. I was told the mission was going to be about testing virtual reality training equipment, but so far, it feels like… we're just messing around, not doing anything useful."  
  
He wasn't the only one who felt this way.  
  
Over the past month, he had heard many soldiers talk about how they felt the same.  
  
The soldiers of the Airborne Brigade had elite combat skills, and their loyalty was impeccable. Because of this, they were trusted to execute tasks under high stress.  
  
However, when they did not have a target goal or a mission in mind, they would struggle to perform.  
  
"How is it not useful? Thanks to you guys, the system is almost complete." Lu Zhou thought for a second and said, "How about this, I can show you what we've done."  
  
Suddenly, Lu Zhou said some unexpected words.  
  
"Have you seen Starship Troopers before?"  
  
Li Gaoliang paused for a second and said, "I think so… But I don't remember much about it."  
  
Lu Zhou said, "What about Halo? The PC game."  
  
Li Gaoliang: "I don't really like playing games, and the guns make me dizzy. I might play the occasional mobile game."  
  
Lu Zhou nodded.  
  
"Good."  
  
Li Gaoliang was baffled.  
  
He didn't know why Lu Zhou was asking these irrelevant questions.  
  
Lu Zhou paused for a second before speaking in a serious tone.  
  
"Right now, I need you to find the best men from your regiment… Including yourself, I need ten people."  
  
Li Gaoliang quickly responded, "I need to know the specific mission details."  
  
Lu Zhou: "It's sort of like an outer space airborne mission."  
  
"What's the target location?"  
  
Lu Zhou: "Reach, the planet in Halo."  
  
Li Gaoliang: "…???"  
  
Please go to  
   
 https://www.novelupdates.cc/Scholar-s-Advanced-Technological-System/  
   
 to read the latest chapters for free