

This is a 25 page script for an opening issue to an e-sports-themed action drama graphic novel codenamed Competitive Shadow Conclave.

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Volume Name (placeholder): ***How I became a pro gamer.***

Chapter Name (placeholder): ***Xploit.***

Pages: **25**

Nature of the Document: ***Page by Page script***

### In One Sentence:

An avid gamer enrolls into college following his pre-defined path to becoming a functioning member of society. He'll become a pro gamer instead.

### In one Paragraph:

It's the "sports manga" formula applied to ESports using a MOBA-like game. There will be a lot of influence from the League of Legends scene which is the one I'm most familiar with. They're super popular and work really well, these sports manga, and e-sports has blown up in popularity so I really think this is an untapped genre, even if we can't use the IP of an actual e-sport.

# Shadow Conclave

## PAGE 1

A man with a seemingly living cloak made of shadows stands amidst bodies of his allies and foes. Behind him stands the headquarters of his organization, with everything of value inside. He is the Darkness. A fight just happened and only he is left.

He is staring down a Victorian-styled steampunk scientist: Falk Goldschmidt, the Mad Genius. The Darkness is all that stands between the man and the final goal standing behind him. The scientist steps forward towards the Darkness.

### **THOUGHT:**

C'mon, c'mon, take the shot.

The Mad Genius points his mechanical arm as it transforms, hand completely raised so a gun barrel can protrude out of his wrist.

In response, the Darkness dissolves into a stream of shadow, one that lunges at the scientist across the ground.

## PAGE 2

The Mad Genius doesn't actually take the shot, however. Instead, he drops a mine on the ground, with the mechanical arm already turned back to normal. (the player basically cancelled the auto attack). The Darkness has committed however and cannot cancel its ability.

The Darkness materializes straight into the mine and the Mad Genius is already walking back to gain some distance.

### **THOUGHT:**

NO!

The mine zaps with electricity, stunning The Darkness who, now in its normal humanoid form, blinks as damage points pop out of its head along with the appearance of a health bar that shows his health is below half.

The Mad Genius shoots the stunned Darkness, his arm again transformed for the effect, causing more damage. The Darkness trembles, trying incessantly to move.

Its player incessantly clicks the right mouse button, trying to get him to move.

### **SFX:**

Clickclickclickclickclick

Health bar on the brink of emptying, the Darkness gets free and shoots out a spike of shadow that hits the fleeing Mad Genius for some damage, bringing his health to half but getting shot meanwhile.

He liquefies into a pool of shadow which promptly moves towards the Mad Genius who is walking away and dropping a cylindrical device that gets stuck to the ground

PAGE 3

The Cylindrical device is connected to Falk with a metal wire that extends as he gains distance.

**THOUGHT:**

No no no, miss the timing, asshole, miss the timing!

The pool gets under the mad genius who is still walking away. Promptly, it materializes into a spring of spikes, which miss as the Mad Genius is pulled towards the device by the metal string.

The Darkness's normal body shows up but it's now a computer screen, with the Hud all visible showing all the spells are on cooldown.

The player grabs his face with both hands as the screen in front of him goes alpha-scale

**SOUTHSEND(mumbling):**

He faked the auto, son of a bitch...

Cheering is erupting all around him as the crowd goes wild for the end of the game.

**CHEERING:**

Whoooooahh!

**CASTING:**

And it looks like that'll be it for Team Solo Kill as Deceiver will claim their bank and seal what is a decisive second victory!

PAGE 4

Southsend looks forward at his screen, heartbroken.

**CAPTION:**

All the great sports players want one thing and one thing only.

Everything.

A hand taps his shoulder and he looks to the side.

**CAPTION:**

But in sports, there's no room for all the greats.

He looks up to a pair of glasses placidly looking down, with a hand extended. The player who just beat him, the man who is, without a doubt, the superior player. Unreachable despite Southsend's massive year long effort. His world championship is over thanks to that face that is looked down at him, from behind opaque glasses.

**CAPTION:**

There's only room for one.

PAGE 5

Southsend trailing behind his team carrying his keyboard and mouse, shoulders and head down as his teammates talk away. The two closest are talking, one of them is Asian, but in front of them is someone tearing up into a hugging arm and the guy most ahead is just shaking his head, thinking his team sucks.

**CAPTION:**

The rest go home.

No matter how good they are, no matter how much anyone thought they deserved the win, they lost.

They go home.

**JETTISON:**

Man, fuck this group to death, seriously.

**W2K:**

It's our fault, no? We not get 1<sup>st</sup> seed, we for sure make to semis if only we win playoff.

**JETTISON:**

Yeah, man. I guess unlucky.

The scene is actually on a flat screen sitting aside our protagonist, who's playing some other video game, a first person shooter. Caster voice is coming out of it. Fizzle it out into the background to manifest our guy's not listening.

**CASTER:**

It is a tragic but not unexpected end, that's why they called it the group of death.

A voice calls out for him from outta the room.

**MOTHER:**

Andy! I said now!

PAGE 6

Our protagonist takes his phones n' mic out of his face, chuckling. His friends' voices come in through them, three different lines.

**XPLOIT:**

Woot, the timing on that forfeit, boys. I'm out.

**COMMS1:**

First day, right?

**COMMS2:**

Yo, remember, you gotta find the biggest guy on the block and kick his ass!

**COMMS3:**

That's jail, you idiot, he's going to college.

**COMMS2:**

What's the difference?

**XPLOIT:**

Har har.

He looks inside the backpack, frowning, and we see his very nerdy room. Posters, two computer screens, messy as all get-out.

**XPLOIT:**

Do I have everything? I have everything, right?

**MOTHER:**

ANDY!

NOW!!

Our protagonist runs out the room, scared.

**XPLOIT:**

YES! I'm running!

PAGE 7

Xploit marches at a fast pace across a college campus, late for the introduction assembly at the main building. He's walking past all the dorm apartments and such, crossing the grass.

**XPLOIT(Thought):**

Geez, I'm so damn late. If the match had just started faster, damn it.

He's interrupted by some guy walking out of one of the dorms right near to him. A voice is chasing after him from inside the dorm building

**FROM INSIDE BUILDING:**

Dude! DUDE!

**SOME GUY:**

No! Screw all you guys! That's it, I'm done!

Xploit's a bit stumped, just watching as the second guy comes out while trying to plead with the first. The senior isn't going to chase though, he's just walking out the door.

**LIEKLY:**

We're in the middle of a series, dude! You can't do this!

**SOME GUY:**

No, you're right, I can't. Sorry but I'm sick of it, fuck this game and fuck all of you as well!

Liekly, having stopped, looks to Xploit.

He looks him up and down.

They talk to each other, Liekly clearly thinking about something dangerous and Xploit perfectly passive and hesitating.

**LIEKLY:**

Hey, I dunno you. This your first day?

**XPLOIT:**

Uhh, yeah? I'm a freshman.

You know every one?

**LIEKLY:**

I seen everyone at least, but not you. You play videogames? PVP?

PAGE 8

Xploit being interrupted, downright frightened, by Liekly's mad smile and the fact he starts walking towards him.

**XPLOIT:**

What? Yeah, I mean, I play One Shot, but I also like fighting ga--.

**LIEKLY:**

Cool, come here, we need you.

Xploit's dragged by the hand through the door by the guy, protesting but not man enough to say no, he's a pansy and a freshman after all. Liekly's just keeping a troll smile on.

**XPLOIT:**

Hey, whoah, I can't, I gotta get to this assembly to get t—

**LIEKLY:**

Oh, I've seen that three times, I can just tell you about it, don't worry, this is more important!  
You gotta help us out!

**XPLOIT**

But—

**LIEKLY:**

Welcome everyone to this great learning institution...

Same thing inside the dorm, they're going up some stairs.

**LIEKLY:**

These are the happiest days of your lives, enjoy them, etc etc, but study, bla bla, go to our website and get your schedules, whatever, just come to me if you need anything, man, I gotchu.

**XPLOIT:**

Exc—please—I rather hear it from them?

**LIEKLY:**

Just dude, it's against the rules to bring in someone who's not registered so don't say anything, alright? They can't know you're playing.

**XPLOIT:**

Playin' what?

**LIEKLY:**

Sshhh.

Liekly drags him inside a huge lan room where three other people are set up. Two of them, BKool and IHeartGrill, at their respective pcs, the other one, Matsu, next to a whiteboard, inspecting it. It's a setup with five computers, however, all huddled together around one huge circular desk so that they're all playing facing each other somewhat. The room is huge, like a play room that was hijacked for a lan room, with extensions and posters and stuff all over the place.

**LIEKLY:**

You gotta focus on what's really important right now.

PAGE 8

The three look at the two confused. Matsu, looking back from the board, goes to talk but Liekly interrupts him, doing a shush gesture. Liekly's dragging Xploit to one of the seats.

**MATSU:**

What the fu--

**LIEKLY:**

Yes, I know, the drama queen is back everybody. As usual.

Let's all just take our seats and get back to it! We can still do this.

**LIEKLY(whispering):**

Mute mute.

Voices come from Liekly's computer, the one he's heading to. Meanwhile, Matsu's already at his, clicking on mute, and so do the other two. Xploit looks 100% out of sorts and awkward.

**VOICE FROM PC:**

You guys ready? I'm counting here.

**LIEKLY:**

Yep! Yep, super ready, man, is the lobby up? Good to go on their end?

**HOVERING SFX:**

\*Mute\*. \*Mute\* \*Mute\*

**VOICE FROM PC:**

Good to go, just have Oink accept the invite.

**LIEKLY:**

You gotcha, sorry about this, just go once he's in.

Liekly mutes his own computer.

**HOVERING SFX:**

\*MUTE\*

Liekly stands up and reaches for Xploit right next to him, still smiling mischievously as he uses the mouse.

**MATSU:**

What the hell's happening, man? The hell is this?

**XPLOIT:**

Good quest—

**LIEKLY:**

Alright, he left it logged in.

Look, man, we're in the middle of a tournament, we either win this match or we're out. Good thing is all you gotta do is not feed, let's go.

Liekly grabs the mouse and clicks.

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Bkool's laughing but IHeartGrill is worried. Matsu's just angry. Liekly's pretty much ignoring them as time is very short and the priority is clueing Xploit in.

**IHEARTGRILL:**

Dude, we're gonna get disqualified.

**XPLOIT:**

I've never played this game.

**LIEKLY:**

No worries, I'll tell you what to do. The game's got these alarm things we can use, I'll tell you where to go.

**MATSU:**

Marcus, what's the point of this?

Liekly stands up in annoyance.

**LIEKLY:**

Guys, for fuck sake. If we get disqualified, then that's that. If we lose, we lose, but c'mon, we gotta at least try.

**IHEARTGRILL:**

I dunno about this.

**LIEKLY:**

Well we gotta try! Kid's here, I'll put 'im on passive Hunter and micro the guy's routes. It'll be fine.  
The other three stare in disbelief as Liekly moves back to his pc.

**LIEKLY:**

Crap, gotta ban. Let's see.

**IHEARTGRILL:**

He's never played Shadow Conclave, what're we doing? Let's just call it and go catch some sleep.

**BKOOL:**

Hahaha dude, can you imagine Tom's face if he finds out we won with a noob in his place?!

Liekly forms a massive troll grin and looks up.

**LIEKLY:**

Yes! That would be hilarious, right?! Right??

Matsu holds a really hard frown, clearly not in agreement.

Liekly sweats a bit as he stares at the countdown of the champion selection.

**LIEKLY:**

Come oonn... Matsu-senpai, purreaseee.... You're first pick.

Matsu holds a really hard frown.

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Liekly blows kisses at a begrudged Matsu while walking next to Xploit again. All the computers announce the pick. Bkool is still laughing his ass off.

**MATSU:**

He's picking for me.

**ANNOUNCERSVOICE:**

ZANIYAH, THE HUNTER.

**LIEKLY:**

Yeeess, I love you, baby!

**MATSU:**

Shut up.

**BKOOL:**

This is insane hahaha.

**LIEKLY:**

Alright, man, quick rundown.

Liekly pulls up a map of the game they're about to play on the screen, in a browser. The map is an assortment of buildings and is mirrored half-way by a river. Three bridges cross the river following along mirrored roads. Each team has one tower at each of the roads, lights on, watching for infiltrators. Xploit's lifting his hands, utterly intimidated.

**LIEKLY:**

Everyone plays as a champion in this game, what we're doing now is picking them.

So first, stay away from the towers unless one of us is there. The rest of us will spend most of our time on these bridges, you'll go where I tell you to, ok?

**XPLOIT:**

This is crazy.

**IHEARTGRILL:**

They picked the Darkness.

**LIEKLY:**

You control your character with your mouse clicks. If you click on an enemy unit, you'll attack them.

**XPLOIT:**

I've kind of seen some of it, I was just watching the worlds rebroadcast, actually.

Liekly sitting back on his chair to make his pick, smiling exciting.

**LIEKLY:**

Cool, man.

Hey, Tom walked out on us, man, not you. We really appreciate you trying no matter what happens. You da mvp here.

PAGE 11

They put in the last pick as Liekly amps up his team. Matsu's angry and spoiling for a fight, Bkool's still mostly having fun, IHeartGrill is looking super nervous.

Xploit's looking at the screen seriously concerned, his backpack half taken out but still very much hanging off one of his shoulders.

**MATSU:**

Pick Bobbie for me, I'm going to school this noob.

**LIEKLY:**

Alright, win lane win game boys. For money.

**BKOOL:**

And Tom's shame!

**IHEARTGRILL:**

Guys, let's focus.

Xploit is seriously feeling a bit sick. He's missing the freshman meet, doesn't that mean he'll get hazed even harder? His life is flashing through his eyes. He's so inside his head he doesn't hear that he's being talked to.

**XPLOIT(Thought):**

Oh my God, what am I doing here I never even played this before. I'm missing the assembly, if my mom finds out.

His shock is broken by Liekly smacking him in the shoulder.

**LIEKLY:**

Dude wake up!

**XPLOIT:**

Ah! Uh, yeah, what?

Liekly brings on the pressure as he's no longer smiling.

**LIEKLY:**

Get your head in this, we need you, alright?

The game's gonna ask you to pick your skills. For q,w,e and r. Pick all the ones that say "passive".

Also, we're going to have to unmute, they need to hear our comms, so you stay silent. Not one word.

Xploit looks at the selection screen. A bust picture of Hunter is highlighted with a box beneath it titled with "Q". It has five paragraphs, Xploit is reading out loud in his mind the one that he has highlighted. Liekly is meanwhile pretending Xploit is actually Tom, the guy who left.

**XPLOIT(Thought):**

FLEXIBILITY OF THE WILD:

Switches between melee and ranged auto attacks (Passive).

LIEKLY:

You're gonna go where I tell you to and do what I tell you to, asshole, or you're off the team.

Xploit then reads the "W" section, listening to some laughter from BKool.

**XPLOIT(Thought):**

A HUNTER'S INSTINCT:

Highlight the presence of valuables when standing still (Passive).

LIEKLY:

Just one word, Tom, and that's it.

I don't wanna listen to ONE FUCKING WORD from you, all the people we've forced to wait, seriously.

**BKOOOL:**

Pffffhhhehee.

The section is now titled "E", and Liekly is back to pep-talking.

**XPLOIT(Thought):**

I AM THE GREATEST THIEF:

Maintains stealth of movement even while running (Passive).

LIEKLY:

Now guys, I know it's been frustrating but this is it, we can do this.

At last, the section is titled "R" and Matsu makes a comment from outside the panel.

**XPLOIT(Thought):**

A HUNTER'S SENSES:

Attuned to sounds, no stealth can bypass her hearing (passive).

**MATSU:**

Great pep talk, man.

**LIEKLY:**

Look at their comp, man, it's obvious what they're thinking.

Trust me.

A hand touches Xploit's shoulder.

He looks to the side to see Liekly's stupid excited face.

**LIEKLY:**

I got you.

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Xploit gulps as he looks at the screen. It's the same building in front of which we showed a battle at the beginning. His thoughts are interrupted by a big alarming noise in his ears. All of the other characters are leaving.

**XPLOIT (Thought):**

Okay okay, game ends when they get into this building, or we get into theirs.

He said I wasn't in the bridges so I should be the thief, I'll go in-between the bridges to steal from the NPCs, right?

**SFX:**

FWEEEN!

He looks aside.

We show the minimap to show that a visual ui element, bright and yellow, is on their base (on top of him) and dissipating. Another one just popped up next to the inferior corner of the map, on top of an empty space with the symbol of a house.

**SFX:**

FWEEEN!

**XPLOIT(THOUGHT):**

Okay, he'll alert me and then the position I'm supposed to go to. He said to use the right button right?

The cursor clicks on top of the minimap. The Hunter is already moving while speaking a line.

**THE HUNTER:**

Yes...

**XPLOIT(THOUGHT):**

Okay, that attack range toggle is on...Q. Wait, weren't there abilities beyond the four?

Xploit reads the hud cautiously in his mind, his eyes no longer looking afraid or anything, but focused and interested.

**XPLOIT(THOUGHT):**

He didn't tell me about these so I assume they were fine how they were before...sneaking? I shouldn't have to sneak thanks to my e...yeah so I guess he did just forget.

Damn.

**PAGE 14**

The Hunter lock-picking a medieval-looking house, specifically a wooden door. She looks focused and determined.

**XPLOIT(THOUGHT):**

A thief spends most of the bridge phase stealing from the houses, trying to get the team at a money advantage, since the money's shared.

The path through which I take the houses is important, and the enemy thief might come to my side of the bridges and try and mess with me.

Xploit, who's still hanging on to his backpack over his left shoulder, peers into the computer screen.

**XPLOIT(THOUGHT):**

This guy, who got me into this. I don't even know his damn name.

He'll use these alarms to tell me where to go.

We see Liekly, huge confident smile on his face, staring at his screen in concentration.

**XPLOIT(THOUGHT):**

Can he really do that kind of multi-tasking?

**LIEKLY:**

Alright, this guy's acting like a pussy, he's setting up a gank for sure. Tom, once you're done with the houses there, come to my bridge. And put that shit on ranged, I see you melee anyone, I'll put you through the wall.

Xploit looks aside at Liekly looking frightened/worried even as BKool laughs again.

**XPLOIT(THOUGHT):**

Geez. What have I gotten myself into?

**BKOOL:**

Hahahhahah, I think we'd need a permit for that, man.

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We see Liekly leaned in, fully taking in the screen.

He glances down at the corner of the map.

We see the map, the icon of his character, the Mad Genius, on top of the bridge with the icon of the Hunter next to the bridge. The icon of the school bully is alone in the top-most bridge and the bot bridge has three champion icons, The Don, the Lady of Light, The Alchemist.

He glances up, as if he's the Mad Genius looking forward at the Darkness, gun aimed at an npc, a patsie.

**LIEKLY(THOUGHT)**

Their thief's the Shadow and he's getting level 2 first so if it's happening...

The Mad Genius pops the patsie, who blows up into coins, and in that same instant, the Darkness, just like before since it's the same skill, materializes into a stream of shadow that lunges at the Mad Genius across the ground.

**LIEKLY:**

Shit!

The Mad Genius walks back as the Darkness materializes next to him with the Shadow coming out of the face of the bridge, two steps away. Health bar decreases somewhat.

**LIEKLY:**

I knew it!

Get in here, Tom, hit them, hit them!

Mad Genius is halfway back to the tower, from the middle of the bridge, dropping a mine to intercept the Shadow, who threw a ninja star at him.

The Hunter is running to the middle of the bridge. She's holding a blowgun in her hand.

The Mad Genius's health lost some more of its length as the Darkness is on top of him and the Shadow is stepping around the mine, throwing another throwing star. The Hunter has the blowgun on her mouth.

**SFX:**

PTU

**LIEKLY:**

Get in-between us, dammit.

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We see the Mad Genius under the tower, his health bar blinking low, and the Hunter a few steps into the bridge, attacking the Darkness who's losing health as the patsies attack him, two small ones with swords and two small ones with flintlock pistols, the kinds you'd associate with old timey pirates.

**LIEKLY:**

Hit 'em! Don't stop hitting them!

The Shadow moves into range as the Darkness sinks into a pool of shadows, just like in the beginning.

The Hunter is already attacking the Shadow, patsies as well, while the pool of shadow moves away. The Mad Genius is walking forwards as well. The Shadow is attacking back (kiting).

**LIEKLY:**

Patsies on our side, keep going, hit 'em hit 'em!

The Darkness materialized, stepping forward hesitantly. The Shadow walking away, still getting attacked, now little below half health.

**LIEKLY:**

Alright, back off, we're good, we're good.

But Liekly's eyes glisten as he grins evilly, the screen reflecting off his eyes.

**LIEKLY:**

In fact, we're better than good.

The Mad Genius shoots a patsie, popping him. His body shines with a level up.

A distortion of light is in one place, where he was, and in a new place, where he is. A teleportation.

The Mad Genius's arm transforms and shoots a high caliber bullet that hits the Darkness, taking his hp to zero.

Liekly leans back in exuberance, laughing his ass off. BKool reacts but the others remain focused, except for Xploit who gets frightened.

**LIEKLY:**

HHAAAAHAHAH GET FUCKED!

**BKOOOL:**

What?! What happened?

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**LIEKLY:**

HAHAHAHAHA

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Liekly makes fun of the others, eyes still on the computer, and hands in the peripherals.

**LIEKLY:**

I got that clutch level up! Poor dude.

Alright Tom, get the fuck off my lane. Go over here.

Xploit looks as the map receives an alarm on the top side of the map, still on his side though.

**XPLOIT(Thought):**

That was the “port” that he used, it’s one of the extra abilities. I have it too.

He levelled up off that npc, unlocked the third ability and used the port to get in range to kill the other guy. That was close.

Liekly, still holding his troll smile, glances sideways at Xploit with a bit of admiration.

**LIEKLY(Thought):**

This freakin’ kid switched targets pretty well, wtf. The zoning was kinda decent too.

We see both their faces, each concentrated on his computer screen. Liekly confident, Xploit much less so.

**LIEKLY(THOUGHT)**

Anyways, should back and buy.

**XPLOIT(Thought)**

Okay, when do I back? We back sometimes, right?

He’ll tell me, right?

Matsu is silent and focused, sniffing as he plays. He casually calls out a solo kill.

**MATSU:**

Solo kill soon.

We see the botlane guys. IHeartGrill rolls his eyes and BKool laughs again.

**BKOOL:**

Lol, good old Matsu.

PAGE 18

The Hunter is searching a cabinet inside a house's room, money graphic shows up because she just collected some money.

A graphic appears on the wall, like foot prints in the middle of the air.

**XPLOIT(THOUGHT):**

What's that?

The Shadow appears out of the wall, throwing throwing-stars at the Hunter, causing immediate damage.

**XPLOIT:**

Osht!!

The Hunter runs out as Xploit frantically tries to use the controls, all the while getting attacked with stab attacks by the Shadow.

**XPLOIT(THOUGHT):**

Dammit, where're the alarms?! How do I—

Xploit frowning in discomfort and effort.

**XPLOIT(THOUGHT):**

I dunno what to do I don't know—

He looks as his screen goes grey, showing that he's dead. His shoulders are slumped.

Liekly is side-glancing at him as he gestures desperation, grabbing his mouth. Meanwhile, BKool and IHeartGrill are talking to each other off-frame.

**BKOOL:**

Ha, Matsu called it, there's your—

**IHEARTGRILL:**

Yo, yo, where's my peel hey!

**BKOOL:**

I got you, I got you!

PAGE 19

We see Amanda, her flamethrower at work on top of the Don as he shoots back with a pistol while the Holy Lady is stuck on some kind of goo that's on the ground. The Bronze Alchemist is attacking her.

**BKOOL:**

Fuck 'im up!

The Don dies and the Holy lady is dying, even if she's already fleeing. Patsies are attacking her.

**BKOOL:**

Gottem'!

**IHEARTGRILL:**

Nice, woo, nice! Let's go!

We see the two celebrating and Matsu, in the corner, lifting his hand kind of victoriously.

**MATSU:**

Uhn! Yeah!

We show Matsu's screen and it shows a triple kill, including Thunuk's dead body in front of the schoolboy.

**MATSU:**

Alright.

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Liekly, troll-smiling as usually, nods happily.

**LIEKLY:**

Three for One, boys. Tom, get back out there.

Maybe you'll catch him around topside still.

Liekly glances sideways to see a still Xploit, shaking his head.

Xploit finally takes his bag off, while clicking the mouse to get the character moving.

**XPLOIT(Thought):**

Okay.

He takes his jacket out to bend over the chair behind him.

**XPLOIT(Thought):**

I don't even care anymore about what the fuck's going on.

Without looking or noticing Liekly is watching him, Xploit nods with a newfound determination.

**XPLOIT(thought):**

I don't want to lose.

Liekly looks ahead with a knowing smile.

**LIEKLY(Thought):**

This fucking kid.

PAGE 21

Matsu argues back with Liekly over a call, but only Liekly is looking away.

**MATSU:**

I couldn't leave, he'd take my tower.

**LIEKLY:**

Now they're taking *my* tower!

**MATSU:**

Play better, what do you want from me?

**LIEKLY:**

Argh.

IHeartGrill and BKool arguing amongst each other, respectively happy and amused.

**BKOOL:**

Nooo, I died for your sins, guys, don't let me down!

**IHEARTGRILL:**

That's it, dude, one mo—woot!

Liekly smacking Xploit in the shoulder, temporarily angry. Xploit's shaking his head apologetically.

**LIEKLY:**

Keep your ears open, Tom! You gotta listen to me!

Xploit nodding in agreement as Liekly is talking with Matsu just looking ahead in concentration.

**LIEKLY:**

Okay, we're gonna set up a patsy push down bottom and go for the amulet. Tom go down there and push, they'll go for you but it's okay.

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All of them just focused on the game, super serious. Yes, even BKool.

**NARRATION:**

In sports, as improbable as something is, it's never impossible. That's why great players will always try, for what is the alternative? Losing anyway?

Each and every one of them have their eyes narrowed in concentration.

**NARRATION:**

But in every match, there comes the moment when they either confirm that it won't happen.

Each and every one of them have their eyes open in realization, that wow, it could actually happen. They could actually win a team challenger tie breaker with a guy who never played the damn game before. Because they just won a huge fight.

**ANNOUNCER:**

Quadra kill!

**NARRATION:**

Or when possibility turns into hope. Visible, tangible hope.

Liekly and Bkool are the only ones smiling and laughing. Xploit is a bit at a loss but Matsu has his warrior spirit even more energized. Bkool is losing it, barely able to keep his hands on the peripherals.

**BKOOL:**

Hhhahahaahha

**LIEKLY:**

Holy crap, guys, we got it.

**BKOOL:**

We can actually win this hahahahahaha!!!

**MATSU:**

Guys, focus, we need to use this advantage.

**LIEKLY:**

Let's go guys, the dream is real.

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Xploit focused on the game, nodding at Liekly again.

**LIEKLY:**

Alright, Tom, get over here and stand still. Hopefully you still remember what a moving valuable means.

The Hunter running at an NPC, the tax messenger.

**XPLOIT(THOUGHT)**

I remember this.

The Tax Messenger's an npc carrying gold across a random route.

Matsu, super challenged, barking out in the general direction of them all.

**MATSU:**

Get outta here, I have to be on my own.

Liekly shaking his head with a huge smile on his face, because they just got the Beasts. IHeartGrill is commenting in utter disbelief.

**IHEARTGRILL**

We got it, we got the beasts...this is happening.

**LIEKLY:**

God, I love this game!

Xploit leans into the computer, along with Liekly and Matsu next to him.

**LIEKLY:**

Alright guys, final fight, follow my engage. Let's go

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The four champions of the enemy team, Thunuk, Darkness, The Don and the Holy Lady all stand in front of their final building.

They suddenly move away from each other as a big looming shadow appears on the ground, created by a falling object.

A big spherical contraption falls from the sky right on top of them, followed by a laugh.

**MAD GENIUS:**

HA HA HA HA HA HA HA

It breaks apart to reveal the Mad Genius and the School Boy, both already attacking. The Mad Genius is transforming his hand to shoot out a high caliber bullet at the Don while the School Boy is leaping at him with a tackle dive.

The Hunter, Amanda and The Bronze Alchemist run in to attack Thunuk while the School Boy is on top of the Don, who's on the ground, wailing at him with an array of punches. The Darkness attacks the Mad Genius who ignores him.

Thunuk kills the Hunter and the Darkness kills the Mad Genius, but the Don is dead. The School Boy rushes at the Darkness while the Holy Lady is doing a blessing that heals Thunuk a bit.

The Darkness has pooled and is trying to get away from the school boy who switched to the Holy Lady. Thunuk is stuck in a pool of sticky stuff, courtesy of the Bronze Alchemist.

Xploit is looking on in concern but is interrupted by a hand on his shoulder. Liekly is smiling at him. We can hear Bkool laughing his ass off.

**LIEKLY:**

We won, Tom. Holy shit, we won.

**BKOOL:**

HAHAHHAHAHAA OH MY GOD HAHAHAAAA

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Xploit with eyes wide open, smiling.

**CAPTION:**

They call them upsets.

Matsu with arms outstretched, head leaned back in victory.

**MATSU:**

YEAAAAH!

IHeartGrill is leaned all the way back, hands rested on his face in exhaustion, BKool falls off his chair laughing.

**IHEARTGRILL:**

Hoooo-my gosh...

**BKOOL:**

I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS AAAHHH AHHAHAHAHa

**CAPTION:**

These reminders that everything is possible.

Liekly's talking, still well in his role of team leader. He's trying not to laugh, but at the same time, he's so happy about winning and feels so responsible for it. Unlike BKool, he feels they really deserved it.

**LIEKLY:**

Gee to the Gee, boys, well fucking played.

**CAPTION:**

But for some, they are not upsetting in the slightest.

Xploit looking at a victory screen.

**CAPTION:**

For some, they're what sports are all about.