Name: Zhang Siyuan

Calm Hippos

Safari always pictures hippos being docile and calm in the pond. Has someone ever seen hippos killing humans? I think the answer is no. The word hippopotamus (hippo) means "horse of the river," which is the name given by the Greeks to this powerful beast. They are known for their calm appearance and peaceful character. However, when hippos feel threatened, they display great strength and aggression. Similarly, some people have the trait of being able to remain silent in the face of a big right or wrong, choosing to respond silently. Such people may experience injustice, bullying, or provocation, but they don't immediately fight back or get into an argument. Instead, they chose to remain calm and respond with their wisdom and actions.

 In intense basketball games, conflicts sometimes erupt in a split second, making the whole scene tense. During one match, for some reason, the tension between the opponent and us gradually escalated, eventually leading to a clash. In the beginning, the game was very intense and both sides were full of fighting spirit. However, as the score gradually narrowed, the atmosphere of tension also began to permeate the court. During an opposing offensive round, I broke my opponent's attack, but also caused my foul, and one of the opposing players was angry and dissatisfied. He expressed his displeasure through words and physical gestures. I did not respond, but my opponent responded aggressively and with strong words. The thrill made him lose his temper and keep his cool. The conflict between us escalated in a very short time, and punches were thrown. The tension on the pitch was so high that the referee and his teammates tried to separate us before things got any worse.

 However, in this chaotic moment, I realize that this conflict is not in line with my values as a player and as a person. I took a deep breath and tried to calm down. This conflict will not only hurt me personally but also affect the atmosphere and momentum of the entire team. So I paid attention to my opponent's vexatious but chose to leave the center of the storm, and the tense atmosphere on the field gradually eased. I understand that the game of basketball is not only about competing and winning but also how to face challenges with sportsmanship and teamwork.