

48 Hours 991

Chapter 991: Stakeout

"What should we do next?" Feng Zi asked Zhang Heng after he sent the email.

"Give me your bracelet."

"Hmm?"

Although Feng Zi was a little puzzled, she still took off her bracelet and handed it to Zhang Heng. He then put her bracelet on his wrist, right next to his. It was close enough for the signal blocker to cover both bracelets.

"Let's find a safe place first," said Zhang Heng.

"Okay, uhh... we can go back to my house or my sister's house," Feng Zi suggested after thinking for a bit.

"No. Your ID is already in their possession, which also means that they have all your information. In other words, you can't go back to your home, your sister's house, or your colleague's and friends' place. Besides..." Zhang Heng paused.

"...it's you. Not us. I still have things to do. I'm going to send you over first."

"Wait. So, you want me to find a place to hide like some useless heroine in a cliché movie? After that, I'm supposed to wait for everything to be over and show my face five minutes before the finale. Then, I will need to act all surprised and welcome you home, overjoyed and all? No, I don't want that. I can help you. Didn't you rely on me to help you make everyone take off their shirts in the bar?" Feng Zi asked.

"Being a useless heroine is better than dying. And the situation is different this time. The next battle is going to be a big one. I may not be able to protect you."

"The good news is that I don't need your protection. You haven't come to the second level before. That means you are unfamiliar with the streets here, and you don't know anyone here. I don't know what you want to do next, but I'm pretty sure you'll be needing a trustworthy local to help you with the directions. And that person is me." Feng Zi pointed at her nose.

Zhang Heng hesitated for a moment and finally made a concession. That was because Feng Zi was right. Having a local by his side could indeed increase the success rate.

"Okay. But you have to promise me that you will do exactly what I tell you."

"No problem," Feng Zi quickly agreed. "What do you want me to do next?"

"We still have to find a safe place to make it our safe house," Zhang Heng said, "so that if we are somehow separated, we can meet at the safe house."

"I understand, but we have to go back to my factory before looking for a safe house," Feng Zi said.

"..."

"You just agreed to do as I said," Zhang Heng raised his eyebrows.

“Yes. I didn’t violate the agreement. I just made a small modification. We will go to the safe house, but I have to go back to the factory to get my equipment before that. You said that you might not be able to protect me. So, I have to find a way to protect myself.” Feng Zi blinked innocently.

“Are those equipment important to you?”

“They are very important to us. Those are the tools that I made myself. Believe me. Those tools will definitely be of use. And it won’t take too much of your time to take a trip to the factory. At this time, all the workers have left the factory. So all we have to do is sneak into the factory, grab my tools, and sneak out. No one will know,” Feng Zi said.

“Well. Let’s go to your factory first. After that, we will look for a safe house.” Zhang Heng was not a stubborn man. As long as Feng Zi could give him a reasonable reason, plans could always be changed according to the situation.

When the two were about to leave the night market, Zhang Heng suddenly stopped moving forward.

“What’s wrong?” Feng Zi asked.

“We are being watched again.”

Feng Zi’s eyes widened. “No way. Look at my attire. How can those bastards recognize me? Do you really want me to add eek... eek... eek... to every sentence I say?”

“It’s useless. The people who watch us this time are not the bystanders we met before. All of them are pros. So no matter how much you eek, it won’t affect them.”

After all, this time, Zhang Heng had only disguised himself with whatever clothes he could find at the night market. Hence, it was not as effective as before. Feng Zi was also with him now. Her temperament and the Lolita costume were more than enough to get rid of the eyes of ordinary people. When it came to the pros, however, they were as conspicuous as gold bars lying on the road.

Nonetheless, the stalker was also discovered by Zhang Heng. Although the former perfectly blended himself in the crowd, he still failed to hide. Zhang Heng also noticed that the enemy kept a good distance from him. Zhang Heng figured that they must’ve discovered Red’s body. In other words, the enemies were aware of his strength, the reason why they took a rather conservative approach. Despite that, however, Zhang Heng believed that they wouldn’t remain that way for too long.

Judging from the way the enemies watched them and hid, Zhang Heng realized that the person could also be a member of the emergency response team. After all, the emergency response team had the numbers advantage. Even if many couriers needed dealing with, only a couple could bring them real trouble. That meant their advantage in numbers would still help them efficiently achieve their goal.

The enemy had not attacked them, probably because he was waiting for his partner.

“What should we do? Do we have to move places? I know a crowded place not far from here,” Feng Zi proposed.

“No. No matter where we go, it is going to be difficult for us to get rid of that guy,” Zhang Heng said. “According to the original plan, I remember another alley at the other side of the bar.”

“Yes, but the alley leads to a school. I don’t think there’s anyone at the school.”

“Great. We shall go there.”

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The boy in the baseball cap noticed that his targets had suddenly quickened pace, and his heart clenched a little.

Had he been discovered?

However, they seemed like they were in a rush somewhere, and he did not see Zhang Heng and Feng Zi turning their heads around to check on him. Since they were about to leave the night market and the crowd had become less dense, the boy waited again for good measure. It wasn’t until the two parties were thirty meters apart that the boy quickly followed them.

The boy cautiously tailed them for about a mile. After a while, Zhang Heng and Feng Zi didn’t seem to realize that he was following them, and he believed that they were genuinely in a rush somewhere. So the boy followed the captain’s orders and updated his latest status in the chat group. When Zhang Heng and Feng Zi disappeared at the entrance of an alley, the boy hesitated for a moment. He then lowered the brim of his baseball cap, pretended to be a passerby, and walked towards the alley.

Chapter 992: Professional And Cautious

The boy in the baseball cap walked steadily to the alley and glanced with the corner of his eyes. He felt a little surprised because Zhang Heng and Feng Zi had disappeared.

The boy was taken aback, not expecting to come across such a circumstance. However, being a professional, He quickly composed himself, raised his head, and looked at the school in the distance as he stood in the dark.

Just when he thought if he should get closer, he received a message from the group chat. No. 7 and No. 5 were coming to assist him. As they asked for his coordinates, they also told him that they would get to him within a quarter of an hour.

So the boy immediately sent the address of the school to his allies. After that, he opened the navigation application and checked the nearby street map. He realized that the school had two doors. The side door was facing the alley while the other was facing the main road.

The boy frowned. Judging by their actions, he quickly figured out the duo’s plan. They wanted to pass through this school, enter through the side entrance and leave by the front door. This was indeed a handy method to get rid of pursuers. However, it did not mean that they realized that someone was following them. Precisely, it was an effective way to get rid of any potential stalkers.

The boy knew that Zhang Heng’s stealth ability was excellent after he examined Red’s body. Hence, he was not surprised that his opponent would also possess anti-reconnaissance awareness. If Zhang Heng behaved normally, the boy would think that he had been discovered.

Then, now, he had to face another problem. Knowing that Zhang Heng and Feng Zi were going to use the school to get out of their sticky situation, he thought whether he should obey the captain’s orders, which was to stay here to wait for No. 7 and No. 5 go after them himself.

He did not hesitate for too long before he made a decision, swiftly deciding to enter the alley after them. Zhang Heng and Feng Zi might be gone by the time No. 5 and No. 7 got here. By that time, the three of them would only be staring at each other, with nothing more to be done about the problem.

After witnessing how Zhang Heng killed Red, the boy was slightly afraid of Zhang Heng's swordsmanship and assassination skills. In his opinion, as long as he did not come into close contact with Zhang Heng, he should be safe.

Right after that, the boy took out a pistol from his waist. The next moment, he turned into a cheetah, walking against the shadow of the wall, and entered the school with his dextrous movements.

The boy was in no hurry to make a move, carefully observing his surroundings instead, ensuring he scanned all possible hiding spots. After that, he designed the best route he could take in his mind. The route allowed him to avoid all the potential hiding spots as much as possible. He also had to confirm he had enough time to pull the trigger if he got ambushed.

On the rooftop of the teaching building, Zhang Heng and Feng Zi, lying on their stomachs, witnessed a magical scene.

They saw the boy in the baseball cap trotting along, turned sideways, stood up, and looked around. With a gun in hand, he barely walked in a straight line. Although the destination was less than thirty meters away, he trotted in a big circle and walked a few times diagonally before getting to where he wanted to go.

"What the hell has he been he smoking? Is he here to entertain us?" Feng Zi was puzzled.

"He's not having a convulsion or performing. He's worried that I might ambush him. The way he's moving allows him to eliminate every potential threat. Other than that, he is constantly changing his field of vision while observing places he couldn't see before," Zhang Heng explained. "He is actually quite professional and cautious."

"Professional and cautious? I think you are trying to say he has a good imagination," Feng Zi laughed.

Zhang Heng did not explain further. He had already picked up the stun gun he had just assembled with Lego. After that, he inserted the Infinite Building Block to materialize the stun gun.

Feng Zi was left in bewilderment when she saw what he did.

"What kind of black technology is this? Is it modular technology? Transformable material? Memory metal? I have never seen such a transformation before."

"Neither. It's a supernatural force," Zhang Heng admitted.

Feng Zi harrumphed, "It's fine if you don't want to tell me. It's not like I'm going to steal your skill anyway..."

But less than half a second later, she regretted what she said and asked curiously, "Well, I want what you have. Where did you get such a good thing? Can you let me study it for two days?"

"Sorry. You won't learn a single thing from it even if you study it for a lifetime." Zhang Heng then raised the stun gun in his hand and aimed at the boy in the baseball cap downstairs.

Just before Zhang Heng pulled the trigger, the boy fell to the ground.

“Did you manage to hit him?” Feng Zi asked on the side.

Before she finished speaking, Zhang Heng pushed her down, and the guardrail in front of them was hit by flying bullets, creating a string of sparks.

Feng Zi inhaled sharply, asking, “How did he know we are hiding here?”

“The reflection of my gun barrel probably exposed our spot. The moon at the second level is quite bright,” Zhang Heng said.

“Just because of that small reflection, he managed to find out where we hid?”

Earlier, Feng Zi thought that the boy was acting funny, but she dared not underestimate him anymore. With wide eyes, she stammered, “What kind of marksmanship is that?”

As soon as she finished, she saw Zhang Heng lifting the stun gun. He bent down, walked to the fire ladder, saying, “Wait for me here. Remember not to raise your head no matter what you hear. After I deal with him, I will signal you to come downstairs.”

“What are you doing?”

“There is only one tranquilizer shot in the stun gun. I have to make sure I hit him,” Zhang Heng said casually.

“What do you mean by hitting him?”

“In layman’s terms, it means I have to get closer to him.”

“Are you crazy? Didn’t you see how he was shooting?! He almost killed us!”

Feng Zi could not understand why Zhang Heng had to take such a deadly risk. First, there was only one bullet in the stun gun. Then, considering the enemy’s remarkable marksmanship, and since the tranquilizer round was more powerful than an actual bullet, the best thing they could do right now was to stay and wait for the enemy to come upstairs.

However, Zhang Heng knew that the emergency response team had more than two members.

“Don’t worry. I can handle him.”

Zhang Heng climbed down the fire ladder.

Not long afterward, Feng Zi, on the rooftop, heard a few gunshots again. Every gunshot made her more and more nervous. However, she still remembered Zhang Heng’s warning. So, she resisted the urge to lift her head to check them out.

After that, she heard the gunfire getting more intense on the first floor. Half a minute later, the gunshots stopped.

Feng Zi’s heart crunched up in a bunch, wondering if Zhang Heng was dead or alive.

Chapter 993: Aiming Assistance

Zhang Heng jumped off the fire ladder with his stun gun on his back. He then lowered himself in front of the window in the corridor, raised his head, and looked downstairs.

In a split second, he ducked again. Almost as soon as he lowered his head, a bullet shattered the glass in front of him and hit the painting display wall behind him, leaving a hole behind. During the previous fight in the bar, Red's hand was pinned on the table before she could grab the gun to shoot Zhang Heng. After that, she tried to grab the gun with her other hand, but it was a failed attempt too. In the end, she resorted to assassinating Zhang Heng. Unfortunately, she did not get to showcase her marksmanship.

During this battle, Zhang Heng witnessed for the first time the marksmanship of the emergency response team members. It seemed the baseball cap boy's marksmanship had reached the peak of Lv 2, and he was close to getting to Lv 3. With more than decent reflexes and accuracy, Zhang Heng realized that the enemy's aiming speed was quicker than his.

It was not something a human could pull off. Zhang Heng was now located on the fourth floor of the elementary school building. The entire floor had more than thirty windows facing the side. Even if the boy figured out that Zhang Heng had left the rooftop in advance, locking on to Zhang Heng and firing at the right window so quickly was still impossible.

Thinking about his enemy's unbelievable aiming speed, Zhang Heng was more inclined to think that the boy must've employed some sort of technology to improve his aiming speed. In order to confirm this conjecture, Zhang Heng quietly changed his positions and performed a quick squat while silently calculating the time in his heart. The result was the same as the last time. Not long after he squatted, he saw a bullet flew past his ear.

His accuracy and shooting speed was inhuman, but that didn't worry Zhang Heng one bit. After confirming his deduction, he continued downstairs.

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The boy, on the other side, was leaning against the flowerbed, hiding his body entirely in the bushes. He stared at the teaching building in front of him intently and continued communications with No.7 and No.5 via headset.

"Where have you been? I met the target in the school. We have engaged in a shootout, and he has me trapped in the teaching building."

The voice from the other side of the headset sounded a little dissatisfied.

"You have already started shooting at him? Didn't the captain ask you to wait for us?"

"Well, you guys were too slow. I checked the map, worried he might move to another street through the school. So, I decided to go after him alone. He fired at me first, so I'm just fighting back."

"Did you manage to hit him?" another voice asked.

"No. I must say that he is capable of moving extremely fast. Even my assisted aiming program can't catch up with him," the boy in the baseball cap blinked.

If someone was standing close enough to him and got a good look at his face, they would see a strange blue light glowing from the corner of his left eye. Looking to be a contact lens, it was a military device

secretly developed by a weapons company under the Shengtang Morgan Group. It featured a built-in micro-motion sensor that allowed him to capture moving targets in a very short time.

This was also the reason why the boy had such swift aiming speed. His marksmanship was remarkable as well. With this device, he was confident enough to fight with the world's best shooter. Zhang Heng was, after all, just a courier to him. If his captain didn't warn him, he would've rushed into the building without waiting for No.7 and No.5.

"Wait for me. I just killed a courier on my side, but I didn't find the thing we wanted on him. Estimated time of arrival at your location in 5 minutes," No.7 said.

"Same here," No.5 concurred.

"You guys might have to move faster. I'm afraid the battle would be over by the time you guys arrive," the boy licked his lips.

The moment he hung up, he saw Zhang Heng moving around the third floor to the second floor. Unfortunately, Zhang Heng had an absolutely rapid movement speed. Even with the help of the assisted aiming program, the boy still failed to hit the target.

"Tsk... Tsk... It seems like he is really strong!" the boy in the baseball cap praised, "but...it's a pity that you met me tonight."

The next moment his assisted aiming device issued an early warning. Immediately, the boy in the baseball cap quickly aimed his gun at the top of the stairs on the first floor. Without thinking twice, he pulled the trigger, and bullets poured out of the gun with smoke.

This time, the target was not as lucky as before; his head was blasted by the bullet. Right after the shot, the boy felt that something was not right. He realized that the "person" he had fired at was just a coat that hung behind the wall of the stairs. When the wind blew at it, the coat flew up a little.

There was cold sweat on the enemy's forehead. He realized that he might have made a fatal mistake. After he fired his gun, Zhang Heng quickly rushed out from the south side of the teaching building.

He then quickly lifted the stun gun in his hand and calmly pulled the trigger.

From the beginning, Zhang Heng never paid much attention to the so-called assisted aiming device. Even though the boy had successfully used this little device to improve his aiming speed and did something inhuman, Zhang Heng figured out that the little device had a fatal flaw.

That fatal flaw was its aiming speed was too fast. The baseball cap boy's aiming speed had exceeded his judgment and reaction ability. In this case, the gunner did not have the time to finish processing his thoughts before pulling the trigger.

This might not be a problem in ordinary combat, but it would be fatal if he encountered a master.

All these times, the assisting aiming device was the thing that was leading him. Once Zhang Heng figured out the mechanism of the assisted aiming device, he could easily use it against the boy. And this was what did. He used the coat and window to trick the baseball cap boy successfully and completed this counterattack.

The stun round accurately hit the boy's shoulder, and the anesthesia immediately began to release into his body. However, before the process was completed, the boy gritted his teeth and pulled the stun round out of his shoulder. When he wanted to hold the gun, he found out that he could no longer control his arm.

So the boy quickly used his other hand to grab the gun. But, unfortunately, Zhang Heng had gotten to him by that time. He then saw Zhang Heng abandon the rifle in his hand, draw the blade from his waist, and slashed his gun in half.

Upon seeing that, the boy in the baseball cap recalled the wounds left on Red's body. His instincts told him that he should now distance himself from Zhang Heng immediately.

However, his body was out of his control. The boy in the baseball cap wanted to stand up, but he failed to complete such a simple action. In the end, his feet went soft and fell to the ground. The last thing he saw was Zhang Heng picked up the stun round on the ground and inserted it into his leg, releasing the remaining anesthetics into his body.

Chapter 994: Deduction

Feng Zi had been drowning in fear on the rooftop for a long time. After the series of gunshots, she didn't know who won or lost.

Until Zhang Heng's voice came from downstairs.

"Okay. You can come down now."

Feng Zi poked her head out cautiously after she heard what Zhang Heng said. When she looked down, she saw Zhang Heng and the baseball-capped boy lying on the ground beside him, not knowing whether he was alive or dead. Only then did she confirm that the battle was over. She then breathed a sigh of relief from the top of the building and ran to Zhang Heng.

After that, Zhang Heng picked up the boy's torso.

"Didn't you say you walk around the factory carrying heavy objects?"

"Yes. Why ask?"

"Help me carry his lower half."

"What are you going to do?"

Although Feng Zi was puzzled, she still did what Zhang Heng told her, lifting the boy's lower half. Since the latter was comatose, Zhang Heng and Feng Zi lifted him effortlessly.

"His accomplice might come over anytime soon. We have to leave this place quickly," Zhang Heng said. He then picked up the stun gun he had dropped on the ground and put it in his backpack.

"Wait, we are taking him with us? Didn't he just try to kill us earlier? So why not just kill him here?" Feng Zi asked while helping Zhang Heng to move the boy.

"He'll be of use to us if we keep him alive."

That was why Zhang Heng had assembled a stun gun using the Infinite Building Block instead of a sniper. If Zhang Heng used a sniper rifle to fight, the battle would have ended long ago, regardless of whether the enemy had an assisted aiming device or not.

“He can be useful?”

“Well, if all goes well, I have to get in touch with the people who rely on him. Let’s go and find a car first. Then, after we put him in the trunk, we will go to your factory to get your stuff.”

The moment Zhang Heng and Feng Zi left the school, another figure came from outside. Looking like a rugby player, the man didn’t step into the school right away because he had tried to contact the boy half a minute ago. The boy, however, had failed to answer his call. At the same time, the school was eerily quiet, making him more and more anxious.

The rugby player finally chose to stay at the school gate. Two minutes later, another taxi stopped in front of him, and a man in a suit came out. The latter slammed the door and rushed to the rugby player.

“What’s the situation now?” he asked after a nod.

“Lost contact with No.9, and there’s no movement inside the school. I suspect No.9 has been killed by the enemy,” the rugby player announced solemnly.

“Who the hell is that guy?! Is he really that powerful? He killed two of us, one after another.”

A look of surprise appeared on the face of the man in the suit. The emergency response team rarely suffered casualties since its establishment, let alone the loss of two members in a single operation.

The rugby player was a little unhappy.

“The captain explicitly warned No.9, telling him to wait for us before making any moves.”

“His worries were not without reason. This school has two gates. If he just keeps an eye on one, the target might escape through another door. I heard that the guy’s ability for disguise is exemplary,” the man in the suit bemoaned. “No.9 is not stupid either. Since he knows his opponent is an excellent swordsman and assassin, I’m sure he’ll be well-equipped before dealing with such an enemy. Isn’t he carrying the new military device? When it comes to the gun, no one is a better marksman than him.”

While the man in the suit talked, he had already drawn his gun. The rugby player, too, drew his weapon. After knowing what happened to No.6 and No.9, they became extremely wary when entering the school.

It took them a full half-hour to search the entire school, including the balcony and playground. After they confirmed that no one besides them, they stopped in front of the flower bed where the baseball-capped boy once hid; after they took a look at it, the man in a suit received a call from the captain.

The latter answered the phone and reported, “No.7, and I have reached the place and completed the preliminary investigation. Looking at the traces that we found at the scene, No.9 was fighting with our target.”

The man in the suit hesitated when he said that.

“Spill it,” the captain on the other end of the phone asked.

“I don’t know if it’s appropriate to say what I want to say. Strictly speaking, we only found traces of No.9 firing his gun here. From the rooftop to the first floor, his opponent did not seem to have fired any shots. He was hiding most of the time. No.9 did most of the shooting at the entrance of the first floor. We suspect that they fought there. However, something is not right.”

“What do you mean by that?”

“The latest set of footprints are found on the south side of the teaching building.”

The captain on the other end of the phone said casually, “This is not surprising. The target has been hiding on the south side of the teaching building. He might have used his companion or something as bait to make No. 9 to shoot at the stairway. After that, he came out from the south side of the teaching building and killed No. 9. After all, No. 9 relied on his assisted aiming device too much.”

Although the emergency response team captain did not come to the scene, he came up with his deduction based on the information provided by the man in the suit. After hearing it all, the man in the suit and the rugby player came to a realization.

The man in the suit continued, “No blood was found on the first floor. I don’t think he used the woman named Feng Zi to bait him. No.9’s position was quite a distance from the south side. Even if he was misled once, he should be able to react before the enemy attacked him. So, it seems that there can only be one explanation. The opponent used a non-lethal, long-range weapon against him. If this is the case, we won’t know whether the enemy’s marksmanship is good or bad.”

“His marksmanship is remarkable,” the captain who had been listening said. “There is no doubt about this. A poor marksman wouldn’t have figured how to use the assisted aiming device fight No.9.”

The captain’s explanation shocked the man in the suit and the rugby player.

“Doesn’t this mean that the target’s swordsmanship, assassination skills, disguise ability, and marksmanship are excellent as well? Who is he? A veteran that defected from the emergency response team?”

“Not that guy.” The captain went silent for a moment, not seeming to have any intention to explain more. He then paused and said, “You guys should come back first. Don’t go after him for the time being to avoid meaningless casualties. No.3 and No.4 have blocked the station, and they are monitoring it. He can’t escape. Let’s kill all the other couriers first. After that, we will deal with him together.”

Chapter 995: Feng Zi’s Travel Bag

As Zhang Heng stood guard for Feng Zi in the car, he simultaneously looked out for any suspicious people behind the factory. Ten minutes later, Feng Zi carried a big travel bag and walked toward the iron fence.

“Why are you looking at me? Come and give me a hand!”

Feng Zi waved at Zhang Heng. She then lifted the travel bag with all her strength and threw it over the iron fence. After that, she quickly climbed over it.

Zhang Heng then walked out of the car and lifted the travel bag that Feng Zi tossed over the fence. The moment he lifted the bag, his entire body was drawn towards the ground. It must've weighed at least twenty to thirty kilograms. No wonder Feng Zi was sweating profusely.

After that, Zhang Heng put the travel bag in the back seat. By that time, Feng Zi had already climbed over the iron fence and had landed on the ground. She then wiped away her sweat with her Lolita dress.

"What's in it?"

"The handheld computer you wanted. And the rest of it is small things that I made and repaired during my break. I used all kinds of scrap electrical parts as material for those items."

Feng Zi got into the car, opened the travel bag, and took out a radio and a round coin before throwing it to Zhang Heng.

"This bug has a range of fifty meters."

Then, Feng Zi took out a palm-sized metal box. "This smoke generator can be used as a smoke bomb. It takes a while for the smoke to generate. This device has a built-in battery and doesn't have to be connected to a power source.

"And this is a heat inducer device. I made it from scratch too. When you drop it hard, a human-shaped balloon will pop up with hot air."

Feng Zi then took out a coke can from her bag.

"I have a laser gun too. I added a magnifying glass to an industrial laser cutting gun to amplify its power. However, I can't give it to you. I need it to defend myself..."

One by one, Feng Zi took out the things in the travel bag, explaining their functions enthusiastically.

Initially, Zhang Heng did not care much about Feng Zi's return to the factory to grab her stuff. He simply needed the opportunity to ask her to bring him a handheld computer. However, when Feng Zi opened the travel bag, he had to admit that most things in the bag intrigued him a lot.

"So, you invent all these creations whenever you have nothing better to do?"

"Yes, I told you I've been waiting for an adventure. Of course, I have to be prepared," Feng Zi said. "If you give me more time, I can even make you an exoskeleton."

"I don't doubt it."

Zhang Heng started the car, glanced around, and stepped on the gas the moment he confirmed there weren't any suspicious people around. "Let's go. The show has just begun. Next, we have to step down to let other actors perform."

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In order to ensure the success of this transaction, Mr. G had sent a total of ten couriers to do the job. Since nine of them were there to confuse Shengtang Morgan Group, only one courier would be responsible for the transaction.

Although the emergency response team had received the news in advance from the mole and had their sights on Zhang Heng, he, as leader of Team Zero, would never place all his bets on one side. So, he planned to take out all ten couriers in one fell swoop.

By doing that, he could prevent all unwanted accidents. He also had lots of confidence in his team. Admittedly, though, he still underestimated Zhang Heng. The mole had greatly exaggerated Zhang Heng's combat skills, causing No.6 to be asked to masquerade as the trader. She was supposed to paralyze him, drag Zhang Heng out of the bar, and attempt to hold him until her ally joined her in killing Zhang Heng together.

However, little did he expect that No.6 would fail to leave the bar. In the end, Zhang Heng exposed her and sent her to her maker. After that, 0 made another mistake by sending No.9 to track Zhang Heng's whereabouts. Unfortunately, No.9 disappeared as well.

Fortunately, judging from the photos sent by No.7 and No.5, there was a high probability that No.9 was still alive. Currently, he was being held hostage by Zhang Heng.

To be honest, Zhang Heng's move surprised 0. It was because he showed no mercy when he killed No.6. Clearly, Zhang Heng was not affected by the fact that No.6 was a female. The knife wound on her throat also indicated his resolve. In the subsequent battle at the school, however, Zhang Heng behaved differently. Risking getting shot, he approached No.9 just to capture him. The change in attitude puzzled 0 a little. Then, when he thought of the email that he intercepted earlier, something came to his mind.

In the end, he ordered No.7 and No.5 to stop investigating the disappearance of No.9 and deal with other couriers first.

With help of the union's powerful influence, they managed to locate and kill five couriers in less than half an hour. Those five couriers were pretty good but way weaker than Zhang Heng. None would defeat the emergency response team members if they had a one-versus-one battle.

In the end, four were killed, and one was severely wounded. After being tortured, the ailing courier did not live long as well. Although they still failed to get their hands on their targeted item, the emergency response team had temporarily sealed off the central shuttle station on the second level. Therefore, 0 believed that it was only a matter of time before the real courier would be caught.

On the other side, Zhang Heng had found a temporarily unoccupied apartment with Feng Zi's help. They decided to use it as a safe house. The apartment belonged to her ex-colleagues boyfriend, and since the latter now worked on the third level, he would only return on Wednesday and Friday. Considering he wasn't here today, and that Feng Zi and her colleague used to come here for hot pot, she decided to borrow this place temporarily.

Feng Zi looked around and confirmed that there was no one around. She then took out something like a barcode scanner and swept it across the apartment's door. The next second, the doors on both sides of the apartment opened automatically.

After that, Zhang Heng made the tranquilized baseball-capped boy look like a drunkard, carried him, and walked into the apartment with Feng Zi. The three rode the elevator to the 11th floor. Feng Zi did the same and opened room 1105.

Finally, it was a little safer for them. She closed the door and turned on the light while Zhang Heng put the boy on the carpet and checked the rope he tied on him. Before Feng Zi could say anything, Zhang Heng suddenly spoke up.

“Pretending to be unconscious is useless. I know you’ve gone through drug-resistance training. The stun round is supposed to put ordinary people to sleep for at least four hours. However, its effects last approximately only an hour for you. If you want to wait for the right time to retaliate, it’s entirely up to you. Since you don’t want to communicate, I will seal your mouth with glue.”

Chapter 996: Working Together Again

The eyebrows of the baseball-capped boy trembled, and he finally opened his eyes. When he looked at Zhang Heng, clear hints of fear flashed across his pupils.

“Who the hell are you?”

“Who do you think?” Zhang Heng asked rhetorically.

“We did a background check on you. You are just a common bodyguard clone produced by the G7Z security company. Your memory is nothing out of the ordinary. They wouldn’t put too much attention on a clone like you. I know they also gave you a default memory template. You were not supposed to be able to connect with the relatives and friends that you have. Anyway, they just needed to make sure that you wouldn’t doubt your identity temporarily. You do indeed have better fitness than ordinary people, and you should only possess basic bodyguard defensive skills. How did you get so good at fighting? Where did you learn your marksmanship, assassination skills, and camouflage skills? Did someone privately give you some special memory? How can you explain your physical fitness? Why is it so much better than the description?”

The boy raised a series of questions, but Zhang Heng answered none of them. Feng Zi, on the other side, was taken aback.

“Are you a clone?”

“If you are referring to a standard-configuration clone, I do have the serial code on the back of my neck and the tracking device under my cerebral cortex,” Zhang Heng said.

“How is this possible? I’ve had a few cloned co-workers before—you are completely different from them. They are like... like the blindfolded donkeys I told you about. However, I don’t feel that about you. In fact, when you stepped into the bar, I felt that you were more real than ever. You are more real than a clone and even more real than the ordinary people around me,” Feng Zi said.

“My situation is more complicated. I will explain it to you later when I have the opportunity.” Zhang Heng said. He then turned his attention to the boy in the baseball cap. “It’s now my time to ask the questions.”

While talking, Zhang Heng took out the Oath Rings and a piece of parchment from his backpack. After completing the pre-ceremonial rituals, Zhang Heng began to ask questions.

It took him about an hour to find out who the members of the response team were, and their location on the second level. Zhang Heng asked all the questions in detail, with Feng Zi by his side lending assistance. When the Oath Rings showed that the boy was lying, Feng Zi would teach him a lesson with the laser gun in her hand.

After a few times being hit by the laser gun, there were a few more bloody holes appeared on the baseball cap boy's thigh. He could also smell his own flesh cooking. Realizing that it would do him no good if he continued to lie, he eventually chose to cooperate obediently.

However, Zhang Heng knew that this information could only be used for reference. The emergency response team would make corresponding adjustments once they realized that the boy had been captured. So, while Zhang Heng asked the questions, Feng Zi followed up with the union's movements on the handheld computer.

She noticed that there were only four rewards left, she and Zhang Heng included. It also meant there were only three couriers left.

"Last question." Zhang Heng looked at the boy in the baseball cap. "You should have a communication channel between your team, right?"

"That's right, but you threw away my bracelet," the boy winced.

"It doesn't matter. You should remember how to contact your captain."

The boy with a baseball cap hesitated for a moment but quickly nodded after glancing at Feng Zi's laser gun.

"Yes."

"Give me his contact information."

After that, Zhang Heng took the handheld computer from Feng Zi and sent Mr. G an encrypted email. The password was Miss F's birthday. And the other party did not disappoint him. He received a reply three minutes later.

The email contained the address of a chat room.

Zhang Heng joined the chat room, and he received a communication request from After he clicked "confirm," Mr. G's voice could be heard from the other side almost immediately. And he was furious.

"What's your previous email supposed to mean? You know the team will see that email, don't you?"

"I am the real courier. Isn't it normal for me to sacrifice other baits to get out of trouble when people from Shengtang Morgan target me?" Zhang Heng said casually.

After he finished, Mr. G, on the opposite side, was also speechless. Since Zhang Heng was the real courier, there was indeed no problem for Zhang Heng to do what he did. However, Mr. G also realized

that Zhang Heng might have realized that he was being betrayed by him when he sent the email. So Mr. G's voice finally returned to normal, without any anger.

"Since we both are wise men, let's not beat around the bush. I admit that I lied to you about the transaction because, like Miss F, I still can't trust you. However, everything I told you about the operation is true. No matter what role you play in this transaction, as long as you make it back alive, I will fulfill my promise and extract the tracking device in your head. However, you ruined everything with an email. You choose to go against me. So don't expect me to perform the operation on you," Mr. G snarled.

"I'm against you? Then I must admit that quite a few people must be against you right now," Zhang Heng said. He then took a quick look at the screen and paused.

"I noticed. Apart from me, you have only two couriers left. It seems like without me helping you stall the emergency response team. Not looking good for your other couriers."

"My people are good enough."

"I don't doubt that, but it seems they aren't half as good as the emergency response team," Zhang Heng chuckled.

"What are you trying to say?" Mr. G asked after a moment of silence.

"Your transaction is complete, right? But it looks like your people are in trouble now. I noticed that they are about to be caught by the emergency response team. But luckily, I'm still here."

"Would you like to help my people get back to the first level?" Mr. G asked.

"It depends on what you are willing to offer."

Mr. G, on the other side of the phone, thought for about three seconds, and he seemed to be weighing Zhang Heng's proposal.

"If you can help my people get back to the first floor, then our previous agreement will still stand. I will arrange someone to do the operation for you, and I won't hold you accountable for the email that you sent me," he said after a while.

"An additional five million credits, compensation for betraying me," Zhang Heng said lightly.

Mr. G sounded a little angry when he heard Zhang Heng's request.

"Better don't go overboard, you."

"It's just a tiny, reasonable request. It can't a big sum to you, isn't it?."

Mr. G hesitated for a moment.

"Well, I will let the courier with the goods contact you later. You must protect his safety," he finally said.

"Deal."

Chapter 997: Maitreya

“Are you done negotiating? Are we going to keep helping Mr. G protect his deliveryman?”

Feng Zi found two bottles of Cola in the refrigerator and threw one to Zhang Heng.

“No. He won’t trust me.” Zhang Heng hung up the phone and grabbed the Cola. “Well... I don’t trust him as well. He wants to keep using me as bait.”

“Huh? Why did you email him?”

“There were certain things I needed to confirm,” Zhang Heng said. “Although he was furious when I talked to him earlier, he did not sound panicky. From the surface, it appeared the emergency response team almost had him. The interesting thing is that he doesn’t seem to think so. He finally agreed to my proposal not only because he wants to keep using me as bait, but the larger reason is that he doesn’t want me suspicious of him.”

“What do you mean by that?”

“Everyone says that Mr. G is the uncrowned king of the first level. More than half the forces and gangs on the first level are related to him. However, his power has always been limited to the first level. He was actually afraid of the actual ruler of New Shanghai 0297. However, I don’t think someone like him will stay obediently on the first level,” Zhang Heng said as he popped the Cola. “He never actually placed his faith in me since the beginning. I believe he has another trump card.”

“What do you plan to do next?” Feng Zi asked.

“I plan to reveal it,” Zhang Heng replied casually.

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At 10:45, Zhang Heng came to a small pharmacy according to the address on the email. It was late at night, and save for the pharmacist and female cashier playing with her phone, there were only five customers in there.

A couple picking pregnancy test strips in front of the counter was closest to the cash register. An old man who looked almost eighty years old was asking a pharmacist to grab him some Chinese medicine. There was also another man who seemed to have caught a bad cold. The man, wearing a mask, was sitting on a chair, reading the medicine’s instructions.

Zhang Heng looked around, and his gaze lingered on the masked man for a moment. After a while, he stopped looking. At that moment, the pharmacist on the other side was done helping the old man prepare his Chinese medicine. He then walked over to Zhang Heng.

“Do you need any help?” he asked.

“Oh. I’m fine. I just need some vitamins. I’ll look for them myself.”

“Okay, no problem,” said the pharmacist. “Vitamins are located at the left of the second row of shelves. Help yourself.”

“Thank you.”

Zhang Heng thanked him and walked over.

About two minutes later, a man wearing a motorcycle helmet and leather jacket walked into the pharmacy. The man also looked at the people in the store, and his gaze landed upon the masked man.

The helmeted man then stepped up and sat down beside the latter. "Do you have a peach-flavored electronic cigarette?" he asked.

Snorting, the masked man cursed, "Go away, you f*cking gay!"

The man in the helmet was taken aback. However, receiving no reaction from the helmeted man, the masked man stood up, patted his pants, and walked out the drugstore.

After that, the helmeted man saw an ordinary guy in work uniform, looking to be a resident from the second level, walking toward him. Immediately, the helmeted man turned to his back and put on a defensive posture.

He then heard the other party say, "I don't have peach, but if you are willing to pay me 100 credits, I can get you a cocoa-flavored e-cigarette."

"That would be great," replied the man wearing a motorcycle helmet in joy and relief. He stood up and followed Zhang Heng out of the pharmacy until they left the surveillance camera's range. It was only after that did the helmeted man reach out. "Hello, I am Maitreya, the courier responsible for this transaction. Are you here to protect me, Zhang Heng?"

Maitreya's extended hand stayed in the air for two seconds. Then, after seeing that Zhang Heng did not react, he retracted his hand in embarrassment. "Mr. G told me about you. I can understand your dissatisfaction. However, the important thing now is to leave here and send the goods back to the first level."

"Did you bring the goods?" Zhang Heng asked.

"It's with me," Maitreya nodded and tapped on his helmet. "But the problem is that the emergency response team has blocked the station, and there are only three couriers left. So, they only sent three members to track our whereabouts. The rest have gathered at the station to prevent us from leaving."

"Let's go back to the safe house and discuss how to leave this place," Zhang Heng said.

"Okay," Maitreya replied with no objection. "Mr. G said that you are the strongest clone he has ever seen. He asks me to do what you ask. And I believe you will bring me out of this place."

Zhang Heng was noncommittal when he heard what he said. He then took Maitreya back to the apartment on the 11th floor.

As soon as the door was opened, Maitreya saw a young man with a baseball cap tied up. He then quickly reacted and complimented, "This is an emergency response team member that you have held hostage! So, you're as good as I've heard. Even the elite armed forces of Shengtang Morgan Group can't match up to you. By the way, didn't you have a female companion? Is she here?"

"It's just a woman I met in a bar. I asked her to help find me a place I could use as a safe house. Afterward, I killed her to conceal my location."

"If I were you, I would've done the same." Maitreya nodded and sat down on the sofa.

“What would you like to drink?” Zhang Heng opened the refrigerator.

“Oh, whatever. We are still on the run, and I’m not picky,” Maitreya said. “By the way, we are safe now. Can you tell me how we are going to return to the first level?”

“We will make use of this hostage,” Zhang Heng said while kicking the baseball-capped boy.

Maitreya hesitated. “That’s good thinking, but I have to remind you that these guys from the emergency response team are determined to complete their missions. Compared to the safety of their compadre, they always consider their mission is more important. I... I don’t think they’re going to let us leave just because we threaten them with their ally,” Maitreya said euphemistically.

“No. This hostage is just a bit. We are going to use the hostages to draw them away from the station. Only then can we break through their barricade.” Zhang Heng picked up the pistol on the table. “And if they send us a small number, I don’t mind helping them with a membership reduction exercise.”

Chapter 998: The Third Path

“Now that’s a good idea!” Maitreya’s face finally showed a touch of joy. “Mr. G was right. As expected, no matter what troubles you face, you always find a solution.”

“Really, what else did he tell you?” Zhang Heng put away the gun.

“It is true he’s at fault this time. He shouldn’t have lied about the job. When we return to the first floor, Mr. G said that he would personally apologize to you. Not only would he operate on you and pay you five million credits, but there are other compensations too. Basically, he would do anything to make sure that you are satisfied,” Maitreya respectfully said.

“That’s mighty kind of him. He only thought of me when he was forced into desperation.” Zhang Heng said casually.

Maitreya smiled, not denying what Zhang Heng said. “Anyway, it is better to be useful than useless. So only those who are skillful will be used by others, and those who are as skillful as you are allowed to control your fate.”

“What about you?” Zhang Heng sounded noncommittal. “Why are you willing to risk your life to be courier for tonight’s transaction.”

“I want a better world where there are no class differences, exploitation, deception, and everyone can find the meaning of their existence...” A yearning look appeared on Maitreya’s face.

“With all due respect, no matter the society you live in, there will always be class division and exploitation,” Zhang Heng said. “As for the meaning of self-existence that you mentioned, most ordinary people wouldn’t be able to find it, whether clone or not.”

“That’s really pessimistic. No wonder Miss F said that you are not an idealist.” Maitreya sighed. “Your life must be very boring. Even though you have strength that everyone envies, you can’t find a reason to put it to good use. You are like a knight with a sword, but there is no lord for you to serve.”

“I have seen many idealists. Under normal circumstances, there are only two paths presented in front of them. Either they are defeated by reality and forced to give up their idealism, or they will choose to stick to their idealism and die in despair.”

“Fortunately, we will not take either of the two paths that you mentioned because we have an outstanding leader,” Maitreya smiled.

“I haven’t finished,” Zhang Heng said. “Very few will take the third path. Those who choose the third path will realize the huge energy contained in their idealism, and they would start making good use of that energy. If the person is a perfectionist, they could be very convincing at the time. Some of them would start to gather their believers in the name of their idealism. After that, they would gather their believers and trick other perfectionists into serving him. In the end, their blood would pave the way for the person to claim the throne.”

After Zhang Heng finished, the room fell into silence. And after a while, Maitreya said, “Heh, that’s quite a refreshing idea. But I believe Mr. G is not like that.”

“This is just random off-the-mill stuff. Don’t take it too seriously. You don’t have to admit anything.” Zhang Heng then looked at the time again. After that, he pointed at the baseball-capped boy on the ground. “It’s almost time to contact the emergency response team. Bring him with us. We have to move. This place is not suitable for us to contact them.”

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Zhang Heng was supposed to meet the emergency response team at an amusement park. Maitreya and Zhang Heng drove there, and they saw the locked gate. Under normal circumstances, the amusement park’s staff would leave work at nine o’clock, leaving only one old security guard to guard the gate. Obviously, the latter could not defeat Zhang Heng and Maitreya.

After knocking out the old security guard, Maitreya found a set of keys from his duty room. He then opened the gate, and the two drove into the amusement park. This was the largest amusement park on the second level, equipped with various interesting rides. Children usually loved to come here. Zhang Heng parked the car at the racing kingdom located at the southwest corner. The ride featured dozens of car models that were identical to their real counterparts. If the real cars were parked here, spotting the clone would be almost impossible if not tested individually.

Zhang Heng and Maitreya agreed that if too many emergency response team members attacked them, they would return to this spot and drive away from the amusement park. After that, Maitreya installed Feng Zi’s self-made high-definition camera on the highest spot in the park, the Ferris wheel. Other than that, he also did some preparations at the spot Zhang Heng requested.

At twelve o’clock, a zero-emissions car pulled up outside the amusement park. Two men and a woman got out of the car. Wearing bullet-proof suits and armed to their teeth, they walked to the gate, looked at the lock, and were about to use brute force to break the lock when they heard Zhang Heng’s voice coming from the speaker in the front gate.

“Just leave the car outside. The small door is unlocked. Just enter from there.”

The man and woman then looked at the man leading the way. Seeing the latter nod, the three walked through the open small door. After they entered the amusement park, they started searching around vigilantly. The woman among them raised the heat detector in her hands and checked the rides around them to see if there was an ambush.

It took three twenty minutes to walk to the center of the amusement park. But even after combing the place, they still didn't see Zhang Heng and Maitreya. Unexpectedly, though, they found the baseball-capped boy who had disappeared earlier. Strapped to the Ferris wheel's highest point, they didn't know if he was alive or dead.

The leading man made a gesture, and the other man got into the control room and looked for the start button.

Maitreya then looked at the feed from the camera. He felt a little nervous. After that, he said to Zhang Heng, "There are three enemies. Should we fire or flee?"

"We can't escape. They still have eight people. Since the three of them are here, that means there are five of them guarding the station. So we can't possibly break through their barricade. In other words, we have to deal with the three enemies here first. It will force them to send the rest here.

"How is your marksmanship?" Zhang Heng asked after a pause.

"I served in the Marine Corps before. That was where I learned to shoot. And I got excellent results. I guess my marksmanship is better than most, but I'm definitely not as good as those monsters out there," Maitreya smiled bitterly.

"Then you should find a place to hide in the next battle. Look at the screen and update me with their movements in real-time," Zhang Heng said.

"Understood." Maitreya did not try to force himself to fight with them.

After Zhang Heng assigned the task, he climbed onto the pirate ship ahead of him, holding his Lego Baretta. Being about two kilometers away from the Ferris wheel, even the thermal detector couldn't detect him.

Zhang Heng set up the gun on the pirate ship, measured the wind speed, and looked at the temperature, humidity, and atmospheric pressure. After that, he aimed at the leader and pulled the trigger without hesitation.

The bullet whizzed through a distance of two kilometers and hit the target's chest on point before a gunshot rang. The gunshot was so powerful; his whole body was sent flying as if someone threw Thor's hammer directly on him.

Chapter 999: Determination

The leader's body hit the base of the Ferris wheel pretty hard. His back collided with the steel bracket. And it looked really painful. With raised eyebrows, What Zhang Heng saw surprised him. With the power of Barrett's bullet, the target's body should be torn into half after Zhang Heng landed his shot accurately on him. Logically speaking, he shouldn't be sent flying as if hit by a locomotive. And Zhang Heng also noticed that the leader could still move after his body collided with the metal frame.

Enduring the pain, the leader got up from the ground and turned to the other side. Although his two companions had already determined the approximate location of the sniper through the shot, it was too far to attack Zhang Heng. So, he had to look for a cover to hide first.

Simultaneously, Maitreya's voice could be heard coming from the radio, "He may be wearing the latest generation bulletproof vest. Not in mass-production yet, there have been reports in the news saying that the vest can disperse the energy of a bullet and distribute the force throughout the entire body. That is why you large-caliber ammunition can't hurt him."

"I noticed that too," Zhang Heng said, "But if he gets shot for the second time, his ribs can't possibly withstand the force."

When Zhang Heng was speaking, the man hiding in the control room had made his move. He opened his backpack and took out a black box filled with dozens of rifle parts. He then skillfully assembled all those parts together into a rifle. Only two-thirds the length and size of a normal rifle, it looked extremely lethal.

After that, he carefully took out a box of ammunition at the bottom of the box. There were only twelve rounds, but they were made of special material. He then put them into the magazine one by one. Once that was done, he got up quickly and took a deep breath.

As compared to an ordinary sniper, he hardly aimed, checked out the wind speed, or paid attention to things like humidity and air pressure. All he did was hastily fire a shot at the pirate ship and quickly squat down.

The next moment, a violent explosion rocked the pirate ship. Soon, flames engulfed the entire cabin.

If one had not seen it with their eyes, no one would have thought that a bullet would actually cause such a terrifying explosion. It was comparable to the destructive force of an RPG. Maitreya was taken aback after he saw the explosion. Zhang Heng chose to snipe his target from two kilometers away because he wanted to ensure his safety as much as possible. At this distance, only top-tier snipers could land a successful hit. Even if there were a sniper on the enemy's team, it would be difficult for them to land a hit on Zhang Heng.

However, no one thought that the three emergency response team members who came with so few items were carrying heavy weapons. Since they could not determine the exact location of Zhang Heng, they went ahead and blew up the entire pirate ship.

Looking at the pirate ship engulfed by flames, Maitreya could not help but worry about Zhang Heng. Although Zhang Heng's location was not at the center of the fire, the wood and parts that were sent flying around when the pirate ship exploded were extremely deadly. Zhang Heng could die if the debris hit him.

Maitreya hesitated. He wanted to check out Zhang Heng's situation, but he remembered Zhang Heng told him that he should stay at where he was and keep an eye on the three people under the Ferris wheel.

Upon hearing the explosion, the man in the control room poked out his head to take a look at the situation. Simultaneously, the female companion did the same thing too. After they confirmed that it was safe for them to come out from their cover, the leader cautiously emerged from hiding.

He then gestured to his two companions beside him, asking them to go to the pirate ship to confirm that the target was dead. The next moment, however, they heard the terrifying gunshot again. And the man in the control room saw his leader's body flying again. This time, he was not as lucky as before, although the bulletproof vest saved his life once again. After he took the first shot, his ribs were on the verge of fracture. After Zhang Heng fired the second shot at him, his ribs no longer withstood the impact.

The leader's body was slammed into the base of the Ferris wheel again. This time he had at least broken four or five ribs. Although he gritted his teeth and went back to his cover, he clearly seemed way more sluggish than before. He had lost half his strength, at least.

At the same time, the three tensed up again. The man in the control room fired another shot in the direction the bullet came from, blowing up a merry-go-round. The explosion should be powerful enough to kill whoever hid there.

Maitreya's surprised voice came from Zhang Heng's earphones.

"It's great that you are alive! How did you escape the explosion?!"

"I was not on that ship."

Knowing that his opponents had good marksmanship, Zhang Heng did not stay in the same spot after he fired his first shot. He immediately ran to a different spot. Of course, he did not expect the explosion. When the explosion happened, he was close to the merry-go-round.

Now, Zhang Heng was on the move to his next spot. The three enemies under the Ferris wheel suddenly felt the pressure.

Like a ghost, a sniper who constantly changed his spot after firing a shot pressure his enemies tremendously. No one knew where Zhang Heng was right now and when they heard the gunshot again, the three could do nothing but hide behind their cover.

They could not let it go on like this. Apart from the man in the control room, the other two enemies were not in a closed environment. Sooner or later, Zhang Heng would move to a spot where he could shoot at them easily. As of now, the leader was not looking good. If he were shot for the third time, it would not be possible for him to breathe again, even if he had the bulletproof vest on him.

Just as Zhang Heng was looking for the next shooting point, he suddenly heard Maitreya talked to him. This time he only said one word, "Sorry."

After that, Zhang Heng heard an explosion coming from the southwest corner of the amusement park. That was where he parked the car earlier. However, his expressions remained unchanged. "What do you mean?" he asked calmly.

"About twenty minutes ago, the emergency response team killed the eighth courier. So now we are their only target. They sent three more people to the amusement park, as well as two police teams. But don't worry, I will stay here to deal with them with you." Maitreya said.

“It seems like you are ready to sacrifice yourself. Since you are going to stay here with me, who is going to deliver the goods back to the first floor?” Zhang Heng asked.

“That is not important anymore,” Maitreya said. “Sorry, I know you don’t believe in what we are doing, but I can assure you that everything is worth it.”

Chapter 1000: Surprise Move

When Maitreya apologized to Zhang Heng, two more police cars stopped in front of the amusement park’s gate. Other than the two federal police with guns, there were three more people that dressed exactly like the people under the Ferris wheel. Needless to say, they were also members of the emergency response team.

After seeing those three entering the amusement park, Maitreya breathed a sigh of relief.

The responsibility that laid on his shoulders wasn’t light tonight. He needed to use Zhang Heng to draw the response team away from the station so the goods could be safely transported back to the first level. In order to ensure the plan’s success, another courier made the sacrifice. Maitreya received the news twenty minutes ago. The other courier tried to enter the station by blending himself into the crowd. Unfortunately, the emergency response team spotted him, and he was killed instantly.

Once the courier at the station was killed, he and Zhang Heng were the only couriers left to transport the goods back to the first level. Logically speaking, the emergency response team would assign almost all of their members to bring them down.

The nine fakes and one real courier were just lies told by Mr. G. Among the ten couriers, Maitreya was the one responsible for meeting up with the seller and completing the transaction. However, he was only responsible for completing the transaction. Once he completed his task, the goods were no longer with him. In other words, all the ten couriers were just bait, sacrificial lambs for the mission. There was, however, another mysterious person that delivered the goods back to the first level.

Maitreya’s final task was to pave the way for this mysterious person.

“I’m sorry, my friend,” Maitreya apologized to Zhang Heng again. “What happened tonight was not what Mr. G and I intended. Unfortunately, the situation forced our hands. Shengtang Morgan Group has too much power in New Shanghai 0297. Only fearless sacrifice and courage can get us the light of hope. Although we have not been together for long, I can feel that you are a good person. We may not be friends, but at least we are fighting the same enemies together. No one will remember our names when the world becomes better. However, whatever we do today will be passed down for generations!”

“You are too optimistic.”

When Maitreya gave his passionate speech, Zhang Heng received a message from Feng Zi, the latter sending him only one sentence.

[It has started.]

After that, Zhang Heng connected his handheld computer to the amusement park’s surveillance system. And at the same time, he turned off Maitreya’s viewing rights. He then said, “Do you really think that are the only ones that can pull such a trick?”

“What do you mean?” Maitreya was puzzled.

“What I mean is that after you watched my previous battle with those three people, you automatically assumed that the three who came afterward were from the emergency response team. Don’t you think that you were too sloppy?”

“Of course we are not. Our people near the station noticed that the emergency response team left.” Maitreya suddenly paused, and he thought of something else. Immediately, the expression on his face changed. After that, Zhang Heng heard him attempting to send an email.

“You better not contact your allies at the station because they probably won’t have time to reply to your email now,” Zhang Heng reminded in kind.

Long before Zhang Heng went to the pharmacy to see Maitreya, he had already contacted O, the captain of the emergency response team, informing him that Mr. G might have other armed forces hiding at the second level. The two then even came up with a plan to work with each other. An entire show put together by Zhang Heng and the emergency response team made Mr. G’s men think that the response team had already left the station. By doing that, they managed to draw out the real deliveryman.

The response team had no reason to refuse the cooperation. Most of their members were still guarding the station, and Zhang Heng’s proposal didn’t change their defensive plan either. All Zhang Heng did was ask three of their members to pretend to leave the station.

At the same time, Zhang Heng realized that O might have figured out his plan. However, he did not think that Zhang Heng could achieve his crazy goal.

“Hey, kid.” Zhang Heng picked up Barrett and said to Maitreya, “Anyway, you have to contact Mr. G to report on the new emergency situation here. Help pass on my words to him.”

“Did he get my permission to change the world?” Zhang Heng asked casually after a pause.

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Both Zhang Heng and the emergency response team knew that the cooperation between the two parties was only temporary. As long as they drew out the armed force hiding at the second level, their collaboration would cease to exist. In other words, the three people under the Ferris wheel, the federal police team, and the three newly arrived plainclothes were here to kill Zhang Heng and Maitreya.

Earlier, O had pondered a long time about how many team members he should send to the amusement park. The best outcome was to eliminate Mr. G’s hidden armed forces, locate the goods, and kill Zhang Heng, who killed and kidnapped his team members.

In the past, he did not need to face such a difficult circumstance because the entire emergency response team was elites. It was almost impossible for them to lose in a one-on-one battle. Unfortunately, they were facing Zhang Heng this time, and he had already caused the team to lose two of their members. Hence, O was having a hard time dealing with the situation.

If Zhang Heng sent too few people to the amusement park, he could surely kill all of them, but on the other hand, if he sent too many, the ones left at the station might not be enough to stop Mr. G’s men.

In the end, O decided to place his focus on the station. His team's goal tonight was to find the goods, after all, so he sent three team members and two teams of federal police to deal with Zhang Heng. In his opinion, the people he sent to deal with Zhang Heng should be more than enough. Logically, they should have higher chances of winning as well. When Mr. G's men appeared at the station, O couldn't help but be thankful that he left enough men to guard the station.

When the fight broke out at the station, the battle at the amusement park kicked off as well.

After Zhang Heng said the last sentence, he cut off the connection with Maitreya and entered the giant castle at the amusement park. He chose this spot because the buildings were strong enough to withstand the impact of the explosion. In addition, the building itself was built on higher ground, second only to the Ferris wheel and the space shuttle. It also held the perfect vantage point for a sniper to kill his enemies.

Zhang Heng's Barretta, made of Lego bricks, had only five bullets left in the magazine. Once empty, he wouldn't be able to reload it. Thus, he had to make sure that he wouldn't waste those precious bullets. Hence, when Zhang Heng dealt with ordinary enemies, he chose to use other weapons.

He then turned on Feng Zi's homemade smoke generator and slowly filled the castle with white smoke. After that, he took out the Filter Lens and put it on.