

## Horrors 1151

### Chapter 1151 Could This Be the Truth? 2 in 1

Mr. Wang told Chen Ge about the serial killings that happened twenty years ago. Part of the details matched the information that Chen Ge already knew of the crime. For example, the killer once drowned the victim at Eastern Jiujiang Dam. Then, the killer lured the victim into White Dragon Tunnel and strangled him inside the tunnel, and there was a citizen who saw the killer push the victim from the edge of a tall building. Due to the long distance, the witness did not get a clear look of either the killer or the victim. However, in each case, the victims were children of a very young age. They wore different clothes, but their body size and height were extremely similar. It gave off the inscrutable feeling that the same child had been killed multiple times.

After hearing the revelation from Mr. Wang, Chen Ge's heart was thumping unevenly. When he did the Trial Missions given by the black phone, he had personally witnessed these scenarios. He was the child who was killed multiple times by the killer!

Lifting his hands to press against his temples, green veins popped on Chen Ge's forehead. The shattered memories were slowly piecing up together in his mind. He felt a headache mounting.

"Mr. Wang, are you sure that the name of the last victim was Chen Ge? Did you guys find his body?"

"Even though I failed to find his body, I was present when he was killed." Mr. Wang's eyes were filled with regret and guilt. His hands clenched into fists. "After our long analysis, we locked onto three children in Jiujiang who had the same build and size as the victims in the previous cases. We believed that the killer would target one of these three children next."

"Therefore, the police had set up surveillance around these three children?"

"Yes. At the time, the law enforcement was lacking manpower, so I was called to join the operation as well. I was assigned to Team Seven by the captain of the Jiujiang Police Station at the same time. Our team was responsible for watching over a private orphanage." Mr. Wang paused for a moment as if worried that Chen Ge did not understand him. He added, "Of the three children that we'd narrowed down, one of them lived at the city center of Jiujiang. He came from a very good family. The second child lived in Western Jiujiang, the child of the manager for Luo's Real Estate. The last child though was living in Eastern Jiujiang's private orphanage."

The details of the three children did not match Chen Ge at all. He could remember very clearly that he was living with his parents at Jiang Yuan Apartments in Eastern Jiujiang. The three children targeted by the police at the time could not be him, but how come the last victim was called Chen Ge?

"Even to this day, I can remember what happened clearly. The police only told the orphanage's teachers and the director their mission; the children did not know anything. They spent their day playing like usual and then went to sleep. Once night fell, everything was normal until it was midnight, and the child that we were supposed to be watching over suddenly disappeared. Even now, I have no idea how the killer managed to do something like that. It was impossible to sneak a child without a trace out of a room of other sleeping children. After the child disappeared, I immediately reported it to my superior, and then the whole of Team Seven started to go and search for the child.

"In the end, Captain Yan, who had just joined the force back then, and I found the child inside an abandoned building in Eastern Jiujiang." Mr. Wang's voice was shaking. Time supposedly washed away everything, but it was definitely not the case with Mr. Wang. Even when he was thinking back to the case now, he still found it hard to control his emotions. "The child was shaking like a leaf. He was seriously injured, and his eyes were pleading for mercy. He cried out for help. He told us that his name was Chen Ge. He said he wanted to see his parents, but just as the child was about to give us the name of his parents, the killer entered the room."

"The child told you with his own lips that his name was Chen Ge?" Chen Ge himself had no recollection of this. He could not remember anything relating to Mr. Wang's story.

"Every single sentence that I am telling you now is the truth."

"So, what happened after the killer entered the room?"

"The killer was wearing a doctor's coat and had the mask of a devil on. It appeared like he had already filled the room with narcotic gas before he walked in because once he did, Captain Yan and my mind started to spin and turn. After he shared a few words with the child, he took the child forcibly away." Mr. Wang's expression was wrought with pain and guilt. "If only Captain Yan had fired his gun at the time, perhaps things would have ended up differently."

"Then, did you guys catch him in the end?" That was the only thing that Chen Ge cared about.

"Based on the report from the officers in the other teams, they finally surrounded the killer by the side of the lake, and they personally witnessed the killer toss the victim's body inside the lake." Mr. Wang took a deep breath. "The police instantly detained the man wearing the white coat by the lakeside. Everyone witnessed him kill the child and dispose of him in the lake, so there was no mistaking him as the killer! But the problem was there were still several unsolved mysteries regarding the killer that they captured.

"Number one, the man in the white coat that they captured by the lakeside was a madman. He kept mumbling, 'Do not come back again... do not come back again.'"

"Number two, the white coat that he was wearing did not fit him at all. It was clearly not his size.

"Number three, the way he disposed of the body was extremely amateurish. It did not look like the action of someone who had committed multiple murders."

"So, you believe that the captured man was a scapegoat? The real killer found a madman and purposely put on a show for the police to see?" Actually, what Chen Ge did not say was, perhaps the killers had been switched as well. The victim and killer encountered by Mr. Wang and Captain Yan were the real killer and the young Chen Ge, while the one encountered by the main police force at the lakeside was a planted killer. Even the body that was tossed into the lake probably was not Chen Ge but one of the innocent orphans from the Eastern Jiujiang orphanage.

"Yes, your guess is similar to mine!" Mr. Wang's gaze became sharp. "Captain Yan and I had a close encounter with the killer. Even though he was wearing a devil's mask, obscuring his face, the chilling and oppressing presence that radiated off him was completely different from the killer who was eventually captured by the police!"

“Did the police eventually find the body of the victim of the child from the Eastern Jiujiang orphanage?” Chen Ge asked.

Mr. Wang shook his head. “Throughout the murders, none of the victims’ bodies were found.”

With what Mr. Wang had said, Chen Ge came up with a hypothesis. The doctors from the cursed hospital had been trying to kill him again and again for twenty years, but they realized that no matter how many times they tried, they could not kill him and attracted the law enforcement’s attention in the process. To distract the police away from them, they purposely directed this whole show before the team of officers and had the police apprehend a scapegoat. The killer and victim of these serial killings were still alive in this world, but other than a few people who were still concerned about this case, no one cared about it anymore. The truth would not change due to time; it would instead get buried under the sands of time.

“Have the police found any information regarding the previous few victims?” Chen Ge held onto the road light and kept his head lowered.

“No, they have failed to do so. Similarly, they could not find the bodies. Even the hair and blood had been properly cleaned by the killer, so nothing was left behind.” Mr. Wang’s expression was severe. “I can tell you confidently that this was a serial killer, but when the captain of Jiujiang Police Station closed the case twenty years ago, simply because the bodies of the victims could not be found, in the end, the case was treated as an indiscriminate murder case.”

“Is there a difference?”

“The difference is very big, but honestly, it does not really matter now.”

In the unfamiliar city, Mr. Wang and Chen Ge stood by the side of the road. The people walked past them. They had their own lives to hurry to, and no one really cared about what they were talking about.

“So, did you come to Xin Hai hoping to reopen this case?”

“Yes, the white coat worn by the killer at the time perfectly matched the uniform of a private hospital in Xin Hai. Other than that, Captain Yan and I heard the voice of the killer before. When he spoke, he had a local Xin Hai accent.”

“Do you still remember what the killer said at the time?”

“No, I don’t. The feeling of having the memory blurred out is very hard to stomach.” Mr. Wang swept a glance at Chen Ge, but he did not continue. Actually, he had the same feeling when he visited Chen Ge’s haunted house. Therefore, he had quickly recorded all the details that he could remember on the notebook the first moment he woke up. This did not mean that he suspected that Chen Ge was the killer. He just thought that Chen Ge did not appear like a normal haunted house operator, and that was one of the reasons he wished to cooperate with Chen Ge.

“What is the name of this private hospital that you mention? Where is its exact location?”

Mr. Wang was a crucial witness of the serial murder from twenty years ago, and that was the part of the memory that Chen Ge was lacking. Just based on this point alone, Chen Ge was ready to help Mr. Wang.

"The abandoned hospital was situated at the border of Xin Hai and Jiujiang. It's used many names in its lifetime, but the one that most people knew it by would be Xin Hai's Central Hospital." Mr. Wang hesitated for a moment before he turned to Chen Ge with sincerity. "I know I cannot do everything on my own. A single person's power is limited, and I won't be able to handle most situations. If you are free tonight, do you mind going there with me?"

"Just the two of us?"

"And Ol' Wu." Mr. Wang was determined to make this journey no matter what, but Chen Ge also knew that with just the three of them, they would not put a dent in the defense of the cursed hospital.

"Mr. Wang, if you are willing to place your trust in me, I hope that you are able to wait a few more days." Chen Ge would not tell Mr. Wang about his own secret, so he offered a different excuse. "The night before last, the Cards Archway in Xin Hai collapsed. The police found a mass grave there. This new case is related to a case that happened one year ago."

"I know the police in Xin Hai are very busy, so they do not have the time to help me. I can understand that."

"No, what I mean to say is that these two cases are related to the private hospital that you just told me as well," Chen Ge said in a very serious tone. "These three cases are related to that hospital. The Xin Hai police will eventually realize that, and when that happens, we can go with them."

"Then, how much longer do we need to wait?"

"Soon." Chen Ge also had no idea when the law enforcement of Xin Hai would lead their investigation to the cursed hospital, so this was the only thing that he could say for now. "You have already waited for twenty years, so what does a few more days matter? We should exchange contact information. When the time arrives, I will inform you immediately."

"Okay." Mr. Wang also sighed in relief. If the police in Xin Hai could help him with the investigation, naturally, that would be best.

"Mr. Wang, there is one last thing that I need to tell you. Do not try to investigate this on your own. If there are things that you wish to tell me and cannot do so on the telephone, you can come find me at Nightmare Academy on Destiny Avenue." Chen Ge put on a reassuring smile. "That is one of my estates as well. It is very safe."

"Thank you." Mr. Wang focused his eyes on Chen Ge. It was clear that he still had something else on his mind, but he did not say anything in the end. He turned around and left, melting into the crowd. After Mr. Wang walked away, the smile on Chen Ge's face disappeared along with him.

"How come I have no memory of any of that at all? Has my own memory been tampered with as well?" What Mr. Wang just told him could prove indirectly that Chen Ge indeed had been killed many times when he was young. That was not an illusion created by the ghost fetus; it was something that had happened in real life. The thing that Chen Ge had been trying to ignore now was brought up to the surface. He could not pretend that it did not exist anymore. He had to face this head on.

“The child who was killed again and again should be me. All the information and details matched, and the person who killed me should be someone from the cursed hospital. And what kind of role did my parents play in this whole process? How come they did not stop the hospital from murdering me?”

Chen Ge gripped his hair tightly until some strands of hair came out in his fingers. This kind of feeling of being unable to remember something that had clearly happened was very painful.

“My parents were always so kind to me. It was this family who showed me the meaning of happiness, warmth, and love. How could such parents sit idle and watched me being murdered again and again?”

“Or perhaps the person that the doctors killed was not the real me, but a kind of something on me. Like perhaps the amalgamation of sin on my body?”

Chen Ge took out the black phone and carefully looked over the Trial Missions that he had done in the past.

“When I first obtained the black phone, the first Nightmare Mission that I did required me to stand before the mirror with my eyes closed. It was midnight. The me standing outside the mirror was a person, and the me inside the mirror was a ghost. One was kind and cowardly; the other was cruel and scary. Is it possible that the mission was trying to tell me something through the Mirror Ghost?”

Chen Ge could still remember the description of that Nightmare Mission now.

I know you’re still not wholly convinced about the existence of ghosts in the world. In that case, how about a little game? The truth will be revealed when you open your eyes.

“The mirror was used as the main item, when I opened my eyes at the time, would I see the version of myself in the mirror?”

“When the haunted house officially opened for business, the first unique visitor that I encountered was Fan Yu. The child was reluctant to communicate with others in real life, and he had been searching for heaven. The other Fan Yu turned into the painter in the blood red world behind the door. He carried the curse and the resentment of the whole School of the Afterlife, building a heaven within the realm of hell!

“Fan Yu and the painter—one represented humanity, and the other suffered all the sin; one was living outside the door, and the other had entered the door. Fan Yu was the key person to unlocking the scenario of Mu Yang High School, and Mu Yang High School was the first two-star scenario I encountered.

“The key character to my first three-star scenario, the Third Sick Hall, was Men Nan. Wait, the situation here was the same with Fan Yu! He was born inside a mental hospital. All the tragedy and pain morphed him into a Red Specter behind the door while his actual living body became a student under Doctor Gao and lived a normal person’s life.”

Now that he thought about it, the whole thing was incredibly scary. Doctor Gao was the chairman of the Ghost Stories Society, and the Red Specter Men Nan was trapped by him inside the door at the Third Sick Hall while the Men Nan in real life became his best student. Doctor Gao might have known more than Chen Ge expected. From the very beginning, he was probably doing some kind of purposeful experiment, and Men Nan was his test subject!

"The events surrounding the four-star mission, ghost fetus, are even clearer. The shadow escaped from me. From the information that I have, he suffered most of my pain and despair, and he was desperate for happiness and bliss. It was this part of his emotions that became the seed that eventually birthed the ghost fetus."

Holding the black phone, Chen Ge's face was pale. He finally realized it. Ever since he obtained the black phone, every single key Trial Mission had been trying to tell him the same message. Behind one person's happiness, there was another person who was silently suffering all the sin and tragedy.

"Could there really be another version of myself behind the door?"

Chen Ge looked at the black phone he held in his palm. He looked at the messages that he had received on it. He looked at the reflection of himself on the cold phone screen.

"I think I get it now."

## **Chapter 1152 Dinner Is Served 2 in 1**

"Chang Wenyu once said that she'd seen the black phone somewhere inside the blood city, so the person who has been messaging me should be there as well." Many clues started to link together, and Chen Ge was getting step by step closer to the truth.

When Chen Ge entered the Nightmare Academy on Destiny Avenue, he noticed that there was a gaze from the Si Li Xiang eatery opposite that had been following him. But when he turned his head that way with Yin Yang Vision, he failed to find anyone. There was no one there staring at him.

"Was it the boss of Si Li Xiang staring at me?" Chen Ge could not confirm that suspicion. He planned to wait until night arrived before he went over the place to give it a more thorough check.

Entering the headmaster office, he noticed that Chi Ren was asleep. Chen Ge did not disturb him as he moved to sit at the study table. He opened his backpack and was about to arrange his items when his expression darkened.

"Why are these paper notes still inside my backpack? Didn't I hand them over to the Xin Hai police?" Chen Ge took the paper notes out from his backpack. The uneven handwriting on them was like a curse that could not be shaken loose.

"There are more than ten Red Specters living inside my backpack. If 'someone' intended to silently to place the paper notes back inside my backpack, the Red Specter employees would have noticed it!"

If a common person encountered something like this, the first thing that would come into their mind was tearing up the paper notes or burning them. After they did that, they would realize that the paper notes would continue to appear in their vicinity. This was the quintessential beginning to a ghost story. But Chen Ge, as history had proven, was not a common person. First, he placed the paper notes on his own shadow. He waited for half an hour and noted that nothing strange had happened. Then he picked the paper notes up and shoved them inside the red high heels.

"These paper notes keep appearing, as if they are trying to remind me that I am living inside a sickened world. They keep on repeating the same sentence. If I start to believe the message of the statement and am led to believe its truth, I will probably become an actual patient."

The cursed hospital only needed two kind of people—doctors and patients. The way they treated Doctor Fang and Chen Ge was completely different. It was as if they had already decided that Chen Ge was a ‘suitable’ patient from the very beginning. They had tried everything they could to convince and persuade Chen Ge of his own ‘illness’. The moment Chen Ge’s conviction started to shake, the moment he also believed that the world was sick and needed to be changed, he would have fallen completely into the cursed hospital’s trap.

“The city of Xin Hai gives me a very bad feeling. On the surface, it is peaceful and vibrant, and the security is very tight. Yet, I cannot feel safe for some reason whenever I am here.”

Chen Ge was still thinking about the problem when Chi Ren, who was asleep on the bed, suddenly screamed. His hands waved violently about, and his lips kept mumbling something incoherent. His emotions were unusually heightened.

“What happened to him? Is it a nightmare?” Chen Ge had a Red Specter who specialized in dreams—the son of the woman in the tunnel. But Chen Ge did not dare summon him out that easily. What if Chi Ren suddenly woke up to find a giant spider before him? He would probably be scared out of his wits.

“Hey! Wake up!” Chen Ge pushed slightly but firmly on Chi Ren’s shoulders. Chi Ren, who was woken up from his sleep, sprang up into a seated position. His chest was rising and falling violently, and his clothes were wet from cold sweat.

“Was it another nightmare?” Chen Ge handed a glass of water to Chi Ren, but Chi Ren did not dare touch the glass. He curled his body into a ball and shrank backward, his eyes overwhelmed with fear and terror.

“It came into my dream again! It appears to know that I have already betrayed it!” Chi Ren claimed in a shrill voice. His hands scratched his face. The man did not seem to realize that the scratches went so deep that they left bloody gashes on his face.

“Don’t panic. Can you please tell me what happened in your dream first?”

“I dreamt about that ghost who only has a mouth on its face. It was standing next to the bed and requested that I told it a story.” Chi Ren placed his hand over his heart. “I was very afraid, and I told him that I no longer had any stories to tell it. But it refused to take no for an answer. It threatened me, saying that if I refused to tell it any story, it would peel open my head and crawl into my brain.”

“Then what happened?”

“Just as it was about to crawl into my brain, you woke me up.” Chi Ren was obviously still petrified by his nightmare. “I have a feeling that it knew I have already betrayed it. All the family members who have betrayed it get seriously punished. They would be better dead. I need to escape! I cannot stay in Xin Hai!”

“You need to calm down first.” Chen Ge grabbed Chi Ren’s shoulders as he tried to crawl out from bed. “The curse on your body has been temporarily suppressed. Even if he knows that you have betrayed him, as long as he is unable to find you, you will be temporary safe.”

"But it knows how to find me. As long as I am still in Xin Hai, it will eventually find me!" Chi Ren was on the verge of a mental breakdown. A man of over forty was scared witless, to the point he had regressed to the state of a child.

"If it could appear in your dream, there is a possibility that it could have gone through your memory through your dream. That way, it found your location and came in person to get you." Chen Ge did not want to lie to Chi Ren.

"I am surely dead now. I need to leave this place as soon as possible! I need to go now! I cannot wait until sundown anymore! There is no more time!"

"Like I said earlier, please do not panic. It could only go through your memory in your dream, which means that it can't do anything to you as long as you do not fall asleep." Chen Ge flipped through the comic to summon out Zhang Yi. Zhang Yi, who was now a Red Specter, gave a presence that was completely different from before. It was intensely scary.

"I could stay awake for another twenty-four hours, but that does not mean that I won't eventually be overwhelmed by fatigue and fall asleep!" Chi Ren hugged his own head. His eyes were filled with despair. At the beginning, he only gave Doctor Fang a warning. That was not a big sin, but now he had shared everything he knew with an outsider. That was a taboo at the cursed hospital. If he was captured, he did not dare imagine what those group of people might do to him.

"The person that you fear can look through your memory in your dream and know everything that has happened to you, that is indeed a very formidable power, but it does not mean that it is irresolvable." Chen Ge signaled for Zhang Yi to use his own power. "We only need to tamper with your entire memory and consciousness, then we will be able to fool the enemy. In other words, we will have to create a fake memory for you."

"Create a fake memory for me?"

"Yes, I will temporarily hide away part of your memory and use that to misdirect the enemy." When other people ran into trouble, the first thing they would consider was how to solve the problem, but when Chen Ge ran into any trouble, the first thing that he would think of was how to turn that problem into his own benefit.

"It will be pointless. Even if the memory is hidden away, as long as I am still in Xin Hai, it will definitely be able to find me." Chi Ren shook his head with pain in his eyes. He had already given up. "Every person with the surname Chi in Xin Hai is its eyes and ears, and I still have its curse inside my body. If I do not escape from Xin Hai, it only needs to pay a little sacrifice, and it will be able to sense my location. I am its 'family', someone who can never shake loose from its control."

"Its sensory power is only limited to Xin Hai?"

"They have buried their curse deep beneath the ground of Xin Hai. They have cursed this city for twenty years. You should run away with me; we cannot win this."

"The curse is buried underground?" Chen Ge held a tight grip over Chi Ren's hands. "Tell me more about that."



"I cannot say more than that. Once I do, the curse will be triggered! It will hurry over here immediately!" Chi Ren struggled with his life. The cursed hospital was a fear buried deep inside his heart. Any kind of verbal consolation was unable to coax him out of his mist of despair.

"Looks like there is no other way. I will figure out a way to bring you away from here, but before that, I need you to take you to one place first." Chen Ge waved for Chi Ren to follow him. They walked out from the headmaster's office and down the dim corridor of the Nightmare Academy.

"We are here. This is the place." Chen Ge stopped before a door. When he pushed open the door, he also made a signal out of Chi Ren's sight. Zhang Yi silently appeared behind Chi Ren. When Chi Ren peeked inside the room to look, Zhang Yi's hand fell on the top of Chi Ren's head. The eyes slowly closed. Zhang Yi had wiped out all of Chi Ren's memory that was related to Chen Ge inside his mind.

"You have helped me a great deal. Naturally, I will not leave you to die like that." Chen Ge was a very principled man. He planned to wipe out Chi Ren's memory and then sneak him out of Xin Hai at night. "The Demon God with the surname Chi is able to look through all the memories of the people who have the surname Chi through their dreams. I will have to remember that. That is very important info."

Zhang Yi could look through a person's memory as well, but even after he became a Red Specter, he still had to make physical contact with someone before he could use his power.

"Boss, his mind was filled with a black spider web, and many memories had been melded together with curses. The only thing I could do was remove the most recent memories related to you from his mind. I did not even dare look through his earlier memories before I got afraid of triggering the curse and setting off the enemy's alarm."

After Zhang Yi became a Red Specter, he did not lose his rationality. If anything, he gained more than a bit of humanity.

"You have done very well." Chen Ge looked at Chi Ren, who had fainted on the ground. "The Demon God with the surname Chi has started to appear in these poor people's dreams. Looks like the cursed hospital has already noticed a problem. I wonder what they will do next."

The true power of the enemy was an unknown, and their ability was unclear. If Chen Ge was cornered, he would be in a very bad spot.

"If I trigger the curse, will the Demon God with the surname Chi hurry over immediately? Perhaps I can make use of that." Chen Ge took out his phone to call Ol' Wu. "Brother Wu, do you have time tonight? Can you drive your car over to the backdoor of Nightmare Academy?"

"No problem," Ol' Wu promised readily. At around six something, Ol' Wu drove the car provided by the Jiujiang Medical University and arrived at the backdoor of Nightmare Academy. Chen Ge released the Red Specters to scout their surroundings. After ensuring there was no one around, Chen Ge brought the unconscious Chi Ren out and placed him on the backseat.

"Who is this?"

"A friend of mine." Chen Ge then grabbed his backpack and also crawled into the car. "I need to send him back to Jiujiang."

“What? We are going back to Jiujiang?” Ol’ Wu was shocked. “Are you already done with your task here?”

“Not yet, but I need to go back temporarily.” Chen Ge closed the car door. “Brother Wu, when your car is about to cross Xin Hai’s border, you need to decelerate.”

“Why?”

“Just follow my instructions.” Chen Ge flipped through the comic and ensured that every single Red Specter was in their best condition. “Let us prepare to set off.”

The car slowly moved. A dangerous glint was hidden at the bottom of Chen Ge’s eyes.

The Demon God with the surname Chi has cursed every single one person with the Chi surname. Earlier, Chi Ren mentioned that once they trigger the curse, the Demon God will arrive immediately. Chen Ge slowly narrowed his eyes. In other words, this was a perfect chance to lure a lone Demon God away from the cursed hospital!

When Chen Ge heard what Chi Ren had to say earlier, a mad idea had formed in his mind. He planned to lure the Demon God out and use this chance to dispose of it!

He knew that the cursed hospital had at least two Demon Gods. If he was able to kill one of the Demon Gods, the situation would be much better for him. Chen Ge’s side was completely ready, but the Demon God with the surname Chi had been in existence for decades. Chen Ge believed that he had a seventy percent success rate, and that was enough for him to take this gamble.

The red high heel, Xiao Bu, Chang Wenyu—I have three Top Red Specters and several Red Specters with unique power and Demon God Zhang Ya. That should be enough to set up a death trap. The people with the surname Chi will not be able leave the territory of Xin Hai freely. Along with the fact that the curse has been triggered, even if the Demon God does not show up itself, it will send other Red Specters in its place. No matter what, this is the perfect chance to hack away at the power of the cursed hospital.

Chen Ge was tired of dealing with small mobs. He decided to tear off a huge chunk of meat from the cursed hospital. Ol’ Wu, who was driving, had no idea what was going on in the backseat. He merely adjusted the temperature inside the car and mumbled under his breath, “This is so strange. How come the air con is so cold tonight? It’s so cold that my teeth are chattering.”

Xin Hai’s streets were very busy. Chen Ge and Ol’ Wu also happened to leave during rush hour. It took Ol’ Wu a whole hour to get the car to the countryside of Xin Hai. As Chen Ge had requested, just as they were about to leave Xin Hai, he started to decelerate. The atmosphere inside the car became heavy. Chen Ge closed his eyes to rest as much as he could, and he had all the Red Specters rein in their presence. After a while, the car successfully left Xin Hai. No one appeared to stop them.

“The plan has failed? Did I overthink things?” Chen Ge did not let his guard down. He continued to wait patiently. The night sky darkened, the lights from the streetlights dimmed, and the surroundings suddenly became curiously quiet. The number of cars on the road gradually dwindled until Ol’ Wu became the only vehicle on this long, solitary road.

“This is strange. There are so few cars on the road.”

“You wanted us to take a detour before we left Xin Hai. This path is less commonly used. It is normal for there not to be too many cars on the road. It will become normal again when we get on the highway.”

Ol’ Wu still had not realized the severity of the situation. Just as he said that, the vehicle suddenly shuddered. It felt like the wheels had rolled over something. “Hmm, what was that? The road should be flat here.”

Looking at the rear-view mirror, Ol’ Wu started sweating bullets. On the road behind him, someone covered in blood lay on the ground!

“I hit someone!” He stepped on the break immediately. Ol’ Wu quickly parked the car by the side of the road. “Chen Ge! Quick, we have to go check up on the person!”

“Do not panic!” Chen Ge grabbed Ol’ Wu’s hand to steady him. “No matter what happens, I need you to stay close to me! You must not run away from me!”

“O... Okay...”

Carrying the backpack, before Chen Ge even got the chance to open the car door, Chi Ren, who was unconscious, suddenly started to shriek. His hands reached to his throat, and his fingers gouged into his neck. He was trying to kill himself!

“Ol’ Wu! Watch over him! Try to stop him from harming himself!” Chen Ge had Ol’ Wu control Chi Ren while he quickly flipped through the comic. The people from the cursed hospital had arrived, but he did not know whether it was a Demon God or not.

Chen Ge used Yin Yang Vision to look at the body on the ground. The dead body covered in fresh blood suddenly convulsed. A face that had been crushed supposedly by the car and filled with wounds turned toward him. “Save me...”

The sticky blood leaked out from the dead body’s wounds. It morphed into numerous blood lines to pierce through its body. Then, the blood lines controlled the body to charge at Chen Ge!

“This Red Specter is just a toy! I need to find the puppeteer!” To be able to control a Red Specter like that, Chen Ge knew that he had landed a big fish. The sound of pages flickering kept echoing, and an endless sea of red started to spread around Chen Ge!

“It is time for all of you to come out. Dinner is served!”

### **Chapter 1153 I Have Kidnapped the Demon God’s Son 2 in 1**

Chen Ge had predicted that the cursed hospital might send their people, so he had purposely gotten Ol’ Wu to drive the car to the other side of the city, the side that was furthest away from the cursed hospital, and along a lane that people rarely used to leave the city. It was true that one might run into ghosts if one travelled too late at night, but if a ghost tried to ambush too many humans on the road, they might run into Chen Ge. There were not that many people on the road. Even if he got into a battle with a Demon God, they would not harm any nearby innocents. Furthermore, this place was very far from the cursed hospital, so Chen Ge had enough time to kill the opponent and escape as soon as possible. Chen Ge’s escape looked like it was done in a hurry, but actually, every step was carefully planned. The endless blood waves gushed out from under his feet and soaked into the ground, sealing up the road at an extremely fast speed. The Red Specter before him was just a toy; the real danger was

the one controlling it. Chen Ge knew that very well, so he had all his Red Specters make their moves at the same time to seal up the entire territory.

“Found you!” The spreading of the blood soon met resistance. Chen Ge turned his head in that direction. A child was sitting at the door of an abandoned building by the side of the road. The child kept his head lowered, and he had something like a lollipop in his hand. When the blood that came out from Chen Ge’s feet reached the child, the blood involuntarily moved around him and could not get close to the child’s body.

“Is it a Demon God?” Chen Ge was very nervous as well. Using his Yin Yang Vision, he finally saw clearly that the boy was not holding a lollipop but an eyeball that was pierced through a stick. Around the boy’s feet was a cluster of toys. The toys were all made from different human facial organs. The Red Specter in the middle of the road lunged at Chen Ge under the boy’s control. When it was about one meter away from Chen Ge, it could not budge forward anymore. The stench morphed into a thick palpable wall to block the way toward Chen Ge. The Red Specter howled in pain. Its body was torn by the blood lines. The boy did not care about its feeling. For him, it was just a tool that could be replaced at any time.

“No wonder you have the guts to escape. You’ve found someone to help you.” A chilling and shrill voice came out from the boy’s body. The boy raised his head. His face was as pale as paper, and his whole face only consisted of a mouth! “Why would you escape when we are family? There is nothing more that I hate than those who abandon their family!”

The boy’s voice travelled into everyone’s ears as if the voice could pierce through their eardrums. Seeing the boy’s emotion was getting out of control, Chen Ge was not only not afraid, the corner of his lips turned up into a smile.

He isn’t running? Looks like he has not realized the situation he is in.

Chen Ge had once heard from Chi Ren that this was the child that he first dreamt about inside the morgue. Later, his dream included a middle-aged man who only had a mouth on his face. With that information, the middle-aged with only a mouth was the real Demon God with the surname Chi, and this boy with just a mouth was probably his split self or perhaps his son. No matter the situation, there was at least one point that was certain. The boy was very powerful. At the very least, he was powerful enough to believe that he could deal with any trouble that Chen Ge might pose to him.

Even though he was surrounded by the sea of blood, the boy still did not intend to escape at all. He knew that he had fallen for an ambush. The first thing that came into his mind was to kill Chen Ge alongside with the traitor. Actually, this was expected of the boy; Xin Hai was the cursed hospital’s territory, so there was nothing for him to worry about. Furthermore, his task was to chase after a betraying family member. Who would have thought the person would have a friend that had a Demon God, three Top Red Specters, and many Red Specters with unique talents to set up an ambush? A normal person or ghost would not even consider that.

Chen Ge used this psychological that the opponent might have, and instead of running away, he pretended to escape to lure the enemy into his trap.

“This boy can control Red Specters like toys, and he has a curious relationship with that Demon God. Thus, the boy himself should be very powerful as well.” Chen Ge’s initial plan was to trap and surround

the enemy, but he did not expect the boy to voluntarily fight him head on. If the boy had chosen to run away when he first saw Chen Ge, it would have been very unbeneficial to Chen Ge should this turn into a chasing battle, and that was what he worried about the most. Thankfully, however, the boy was too overconfident to do something like that.

Seeing the boy slowly walk toward him, Chen Ge could not stop the smile from appearing on his face. One Red Specter after another appeared from the blood mist. When the boy's attention was occupied by the several Red Specters, the red high heels and Xiao Bu, who had been hiding in the dark, attacked at the same time. This was not cunning; this was Chen Ge's tactic. The Top Red Specters attacked from the back. When the boy realized what had happened, it was already too late. Five fingers covered in curses pierced his chest, and multiple black and red blood vessels stuck into his body. The sound of wailing shattered the peace of the night. A pile of living facial organs fell out from the boy's body. Somehow, these organs were still alive. The eyes were still blinking, and the lips were screaming; the whole scenario felt surreal and terrifying.

"Make it quick!" After the quick interaction, Chen Ge had a sense of the boy's true power. He was a Top Red Specter, but he was different from a normal Top Red Specter. There were plenty of black patterns that did not belong to him residing inside his body. This gave Chen Ge the feeling that this body was like a spare body the Demon God had prepared for himself. Just like how Chang Wenyu had separated out her heart, the Demon God with the surname Chi had given the pattern with a special meaning to this boy. The boy could not utilize this power inside the black pattern. Combined with the ambush from two Top Red Specters, one of them being the red high heels, a Top Red Specter who specialized in curses, the battle from the beginning was one-sided bullying. That was Chen Ge's style; he would never preserve his energy. A battle should be wrapped up as soon as possible.

Demons danced in the sky, and ghosts floated on the wind. Blood and curses covered the empty road. Even the clouds over the horizon were dyed red. The Top Red Specter from the cursed hospital was attacked by more than ten Red Specters from Chen Ge's haunted house. His body was flickering. He was seriously injured, but he refused to die. The black patterns on his body would always protect him at the most crucial moment. In the end, he knew that he could not resist any further. He thus transferred his memory and his consciousness into the black pattern and gave up the rest of his body. The battle continued, but a very bad feeling started to form inside Chen Ge's heart. "If this continues to drag on, the cursed hospital will definitely send reinforcements!"

The black pattern on the boy's body was under incessant attack. The Demon God with the surname Chi must have sensed it already, and if he arrived at the scene, everything would go out of control. Chen Ge's plan was to surprise the enemy with an ambush, but now that the cursed hospital knew that he had the ability to surround and slaughter a Top Red Specter, they would not let their guard down again. Unable to take advantage of the situation, Chen Ge decided to call it a night. With the cooperation of several Red Specters, the dying boy was sent behind the door of the Tunnel Lady's son.

"Ol' Wu! Get back to the driver's seat! We are going back to Jiujiang!"

Chen Ge had done something big this time. He had directly kidnapped the Demon God's 'son'. With no time to waste, Chen Ge immediately ordered Ol' Wu to drive and leave Xin Hai. After they got on the highway, Chen Ge turned back to look at Xin Hai. The night sky above Xin Hai's countryside was painted

red, like a bloody mouth that was widening. "Has something happened inside the cursed hospital? Did they not send anyone to chase after us?"

Touching the wedding ring on his finger, Chen Ge had no idea whether this had anything to do with Xiao Sun or not. Ol' Wu had just experienced the scariest night of his life. He drove the car directly back to Jiujiang. He had not driven so fast in his life before.

"Chen Ge, when we left Xin Hai, what was the thing that we encountered?" Ol' Wu's voice was shaking. He had been holding this question in during the whole journey, but just as they were arriving at their destination, the question finally slipped out.

"I will tell you in more detail when we reach New Century Park. We still have not escaped from the danger yet."

"The theme park? We are not going to a theme park! We should head to the police station now! I am going to give Captain Yan a call!"

"That won't be necessary. Trust me. I will explain everything to you when we reach the theme park."

When Ol' Wu drove the car into New Century Theme Park, Chen Ge summoned out Zhang Yi and sent Ol' Wu into a beautiful dream. "When you wake up, you will forget all the pain and anxiety."

Chen Ge left Ol' Wu inside the car. He carried Chi Ren and headed toward the haunted house. After he opened the gates, before he even entered, the curtains were pulled back to reveal Ol' Bai, who was hugging Xiaoxiao, and a big white cat was slumped lazily across his shoulder. "Boss, you're home."

Seeing Bai Qiulin in the role of a househusband, Chen Ge did not know what to say. He removed the white cat from Ol' Bai's shoulder. "You are a Red Specter. At least get them to respect you while you're working."

The white cat wiggled its body out of discomfort. It tried to scratch at Chen Ge, but it was easily ignored by the latter.

"Did any accidents happen at the haunted house while I was away?" Chen Ge was not that worried about the haunted house, but he still needed to ask.

"The running of the haunted house went smoothly. Everyone gave their full cooperation, but..." Ol' Bai pointed at the direction of the haunted house's toilet. "There was a little change there. Master Wei and I were planning to try to reach out to you and tell you about this."

"The toilet? What happened?" Chen Ge became nervous.

"The door of the cubicle suddenly opened on its own one night."

"What?" Chen Ge's heart immediately jumped to his throat. He rushed to the toilet, and what he saw caused his already quivering heart to palpitate even further. The wooden boards that had previously sealed up the cubicle door littered the ground in pieces. The picture of the demon on the door was ghastly and creepy, like it was watching everyone that headed into the toilet.

"The door was opened from the inside. When I heard the sound, it was already like this." Ol' Bai walked in behind him. "To preserve the state of this place, I have not cleaned this place at all. I have been guarding the entrance and made sure that no one came in here."

"When was the door pushed open?"

"Around midnight yesterday." Ol' Bai tried to bring up his memory about that night. "At the time, I was training the students from Mu Yang High School in the underground scenario when we suddenly heard a loud crash."

Ol' Bai walked to the cubicle door and pulled the door open. The picture of a demon was carved into the outside of the door, while inside the door, there was a bloody handprint.

"The handprint was left behind that night. It is clear that it is the handprint of a child. I can't think of a child in this haunted house who would match this handprint." Ol' Bai shared everything that he knew with Chen Ge.

"The door that has been relatively quiet has started to change. Is it because someone has escaped from behind the door?" Chen Ge stared at the bloody handprint on the door. "And he chose to open the door when I was not at the haunted house? Is this a coincidence, or is it premeditated?"

The door at his own haunted house being pushed open from the inside was not something that Chen Ge had envisioned. His focus was currently all on the cursed hospital; he did not have any energy left to investigate this door at his own haunted house. One could not enter a blood door without any preparation. For example, the door of the ghost fetus and the door at the School of the Afterlife, once entered, would put one under the control of the 'door pusher'. Therefore, Chen Ge had no intention of entering this door without finding out more about it. Ever since he obtained the black phone, this was the first time Chen Ge had been away from the haunted house for so long.

"I have a feeling that the thing that escaped from the door was purposely trying to avoid me. It did not harm anyone and did not destroy anything inside the house. After it left the world behind the door, it disappeared almost immediately." Chen Ge silently scratched his chin. "It feels like it was being chased by something behind the door and finally found its chance to escape."

The handprint on the door was that of a child. Chen Ge memorized the shape of the handprint and then closed the cubicle door.

"It feels like everything is connected somehow." Chen Ge had Ol' Bai to continue guard the entrance to the toilet while he entered the underground scenario. After greeting every employee who had been left behind at the Jiujiang haunted house, Chen Ge brought the remaining Red Specters into the Spider Boy's door. The world behind the door was separated from the real world. Even the Demon God would not be able to sense the boy's presence there. Chen Ge had already planned everything with no crack in his plan.

Chen Ge turned to Zhang Yi. "Have you gone through the memory of that Top Red Specter?"

"I just became a Red Specter myself, so the difference in power is too big. I cannot go through his memory." Whenever Zhang Yi wanted to get close to the boy, he would be burned by the boy's curse,

and black blisters would appear on his body. Of all the employees, only the red high heels was not affected by this at all.

"The power difference is too big? Then you guys should continue to suck away his power. No matter the method, just keep on doing it until you are able to read his memory." Chen Ge used the most vindictive tone to say the cruelest thing.

Hearing what his boss had said, Zhang Yi smiled helplessly, but he did not dare reject him. He merely said, "The Top Red Specter who is familiar with curses is currently peeling away the layer of curses. After she has consumed all the curses, there should be no issue."

The curses on the boy were a strain that the red high heels had not seen before. The curse contained the Demon God's power, so it could injure the red high heels, but at the same time, it could increase her power. As mentioned before, it was difficult for the red high heels, who was already a Top Red Specter, to seek a breakthrough, but she was now one step closer to becoming a Demon God. With the cooperation of more than ten Red Specters, each using their unique talent, they had split the Top Red Specter from the cursed hospital into several parts.

The most dangerous curse was consumed by the red high heels, the remaining memory and consciousness was given to Zhang Yi, and the resentment and hatred collected by the Top Red Specter was shared among the rest of the Red Specters. The only thing that remained was the black pattern that came from the Demon God. This strange pattern contained the truth of life and death. It had a captivating beauty to it while giving off a very dangerous presence.

"The most valuable things on the Top Red Specter are these few patterns. Consuming them will give one an enormous power boost, but one has to be able to perfectly digest them." Zhang Yi relayed the words of the red high heels to Chen Ge. "It is very difficult to digest them. Even the boy with the aid of the Demon God was unable to do it."

"Even a Top Red Specter was unable to do it?"

"Digesting a demon god's resentment with just the ability of a Red Specter is almost impossible because the process of digestion will take too long. During this whole process, the consumer will suffer from unimaginable pain and despair, and they have to be careful not to get influenced by the Demon God's lingering spirit." Zhang Yi shook his head. "That is too difficult. Unless the Demon God who produced this pattern is willing to help, almost no one could successfully digest this thing."

The most valuable thing was also the most dangerous. Most of the Red Specters were unable to give it a try; only a Red Specter was silently staring at that strange pattern.

"Xu Yin?" Chen Ge and the nearby Red Specters all turned toward Xu Yin. The young man with the melancholic expression reached out, and he slowly raised his arm. The skin that came into contact with the pattern cracked and shattered almost immediately. This was a pain unimaginable to a normal person, but it only made Xu Yin barely frown.

Of all the employees at the haunted house, Xu Yin had the toughest determination, and Chen Ge had confidence in him. He believed that even if he was influenced by the Demon God, Xu Yin would not do anything to harm Chen Ge or the haunted house.



## Chapter 1154

### The Last Nightmare Daily Mission 2 in 1

When Zhang Ya was hibernating, Xu Yin had protected Chen Ge many times. Most of the time, both the human and the ghost were at their weakest, and they had somehow managed to survive through the impossibility. The ghosts that Chen Ge trusted the most were Zhang Ya and Xu Yin; the bond that they shared had already surpassed the distance between life and death.

“Are you sure you want to consume the black pattern of this Demon God?” Chen Ge looked at Xu Yin seriously. Even though Xu Yin was the most suitable candidate, he was not going to force him to do things that he did not want to. Even though Xu Yin was going to gain enormous power, he would also suffer from unimaginable pain. Just from the touch alone, Xu Yin’s skin had started to crack at a very fast speed.

Xu Yin looked at the black pattern at the tip of his fingers and then slowly nodded. No one knew what Xu Yin was really thinking. Perhaps he could feel the pressure coming from the Demon God, or perhaps he knew that Chen Ge was not in a good position. The danger that they had experienced together made him realize that his current power was not enough for him to protect everything that he valued. He never wasted much energy on words, but he knew deep inside his heart that he did not wish to lose anything else in his life.

“There is no need to force yourself.” Chen Ge and the other workers at the haunted house turned to Xu Yin. Among the group of ‘people’, Xu Yin slowly raised his arms and swallowed the Demon God’s black pattern. When the black pattern slid down his throat, Xu Yin’s face and neck surfaced with innumerable thin and tiny black blood vessels. The heart of the Red Specter in the middle of his chest was palpitating crazily.

Even just by looking at him, one could imagine how much agony he was in. Xu Yin’s expression gradually twisted from pain. Despair and sadness rushed into his eyes, he seemed to turn back into that helpless young man that Chen Ge once encountered. Rationality was being consumed. Xu Yin was at the edge of going berserk. The endless howls echoed behind the door. Chen Ge actively rushed forward to reach out and grab Xu Yin’s hands. The Red Specter’s cold and sticky blood enveloped Chen Ge’s hands. The blood vessels carved out numerable wounds on Chen Ge’s arms. The blood vessels slid across Chen Ge’s skin, cutting and slicing it open. Warm blood kept on leaking, but Chen Ge did not take one step back. “Do not be confused by the Demon God. You are Xu Yin. Your name is Xu Yin!”

The Red Specter employees behind him also moved forward. Blood vessels of different intensities fell on Xu Yin’s body. They were unable to help him share the pain, so they could only use their own method to help him induce the recovery of his body as soon as possible.

A Red Specter had forced himself to swallow the pattern of a Demon God. This was something that had not happened before. In a few short minutes, Xu Yin’s body felt like it had been reconstructed. A normal Red Specter would not have survived an ordeal like this, but Xu Yin had somehow survived it.

He slowly got used to that sensation of pain. The strange pattern around his red heart was growing rapidly while the black pattern from the Demon God with the surname Chi was disappearing at a rate noticeable to the naked eye. Suddenly, a strange male voice came out from Xu Yin’s body. It was unclear

what the man was saying, but it sounded like it was mumbling some kind of vicious curse. Following the curse, the black pattern inside Xu Yin's heart morphed into a mouth, and it attempted to bite at Xu Yin's heart from inside the latter's body.

When the mouth bit into Xu Yin's heart, the black pattern around Xu Yin's heart also crawled into that mouth. Neither party backed down, and they were both trying to eat the other. Resisting the extreme pain, with the aid from all the employees at the haunted house, the black pattern around Xu Yin's heart gradually won over. The black pattern from the Demon God with the surname Chi was shattered and was turned into nutrients for Xu Yin. Drops of black blood with strange presence dripped out of Xu Yin's heart. It changed the young man's presence completely. The black pattern around his heart also started to spread madly.

"Was that successful?" Chen Ge asked the red high heels through Zhang Yi.

"I suppose you can call it a temporary success. The pattern of the Demon God might strike back at any moment because Xu Yin still needs some time to completely digest the nutrients."

Other people could not assess Xu Yin's body; only red high heels, who was familiar with curses, would be able to do that.

After Zhang Yi turned to her with the questions, he also returned to Chen Ge with some good news. "Due to some unknown reason, a huge change has happened to Xu Yin's body. Now, most curses will not work on him. This was something revealed by the Top Red Specter who specialized in curses as well."

The pain would continue for a while longer, but Xu Yin's condition could be said to have stabilized. The Top Red Specter from the cursed hospital was utilized completely; not even a single part was wasted.

"Zhang Yi, you'd better look through his memory as soon as you can. The more you can find out, the more beneficial it will be for us."

Summoning all the Red Specters into the comic, Chen Ge left the world behind the door. Returning to the haunted house's underground scenario, Chen Ge suddenly felt it was more comfortable at home. When he was at Xin Hai, even though he had so many Red Specters with him, he did not feel safe at all.

"The next focus should be the cursed hospital. My parents should be there. I need to find them as soon as possible." Chen Ge had returned to Jiujiang, but Zhang Jingjiu and Qu Changlin were still in Xin Hai. He knew that their situation there would get more and more dangerous, so he had to return there. "I have already given my promise to Mr. Wang to solve the case together. Other than that, I still need to consider Xiao Sun's safety. If I stay too far away from him, even if he sends me a message through the wedding ring, I will not be able to rush to him in time to help him."

Chen Ge could not stay for too long in Jiujiang. He planned to deposit Chi Ren at the haunted house, and then he would depart back to Xin Hai once the sun rose.

"Last time, I left in such a hurry that I still have many things that I did not have the time to do." Chen Ge first entered the staff breakroom alone. He took out the black phone and used the remaining scream points to draw items from the wheel of misfortune. Perhaps he had really drawn all the Specters from

the prize pool already. He did not encounter any Specter from his draws, but he won many strange and curious items.

“Is the game a scam? Either I draw a Specter or something only useable by Specters? Can’t you give me something I can use once in a while?” Chen Ge was getting rather annoyed. He read through the introduction of the Wheel of Misfortune provided by the black phone again. He knew that there were supposed to be many different prizes, but everything that he had won so far was related to ghosts and Specters. “Is it the influence of the title Red Specters’ Favored?”

Chen Ge had no other choice but to share the items that he had won with his employees. Seeing the happiness looks on his workers’ faces like it was Christmas, the annoyance in Chen Ge’s heart slowly dissipated.

“The strengthening of the employees is beneficial to me as well.”

After he was done with the gift-giving, Chen Ge realized that the Nightmare Daily Mission Coupon that he had won from the previous draw still had not been used. He glanced at the time and decided to use it before he could think twice.

“The Nightmare Daily Mission normally has a special requirement—I cannot bring any Specter and things related to the black phone with me. It is impossible to do the Nightmare Daily Mission in Xin Hai. The risk will be too great, so I can only give it a try at Jiujiang.”

Putting away the black phone, Chen Ge looked left and right before he spotted the white cat, which was curled up next to the wall. The white cat, whose body had grown even rounder, looked at Chen Ge with open eyes. It waved its tail back and forth. The other Specters and spirits had all been given gifts. It appeared to be anticipating one for itself.

“Do you think I have forgotten about you?” Chen Ge took out the high-class cat food inside the cupboard. After he lured the white cat to his side, he scratched the cat’s head gently. “We might need to go out for a spin this midnight.”

Since he had returned to Jiujiang, Chen Ge wanted to finish things that he had not handled. After taking a swift break inside the staff breakroom, Chen Ge waited for midnight to arrive. He took out the black phone and tuned into the daily missions, which would have refreshed.

“Simple Daily Mission: The number of surveillance cameras is seriously underwhelming, so accidents are bound to happen. Please install new security cameras in all three-star scenario within the next twenty-four hours.

“Normal Daily Mission: The number of baleful Specter employees is growing rapidly. To ensure that they are loyal toward you, you must ensure the state of their mental health. Please help five spectral workers complete their dying wishes within the next twenty-four hours.

“Nightmare Daily Mission: Have you ever wondered if there would be another version of yourself standing on the other side of the door when you pushed open a specific door inside your house alone at night?”

Of the three daily missions, only the last mission was written in ghastly blood-like red letters. Taking in a deep breath, Chen Ge chose the last daily mission.

“Nightmare Daily Missions are very dangerous. Are you sure you want to choose it?”

“Yes!”

“Red Specter’s Favored, you have accepted the nightmare daily mission, door—this the most difficult of all the nightmare missions. Hopefully, your luck will be as good as always.

“Door (Nightmare Difficulty): Close your eyes, cover your ears, and do not speak a word that is not your name! Starting from 1:44 am, push open all the doors in your house!

“Whenever you push open a door, you must call out your own name. There are two ways to succeed at this mission. One is to have successfully pushed open all the doors in your house, and the other is to hear your own voice echoing from the other side of the door when you shout out your name.

“Warning! You cannot reveal the information of this nightmare mission to any other individual! You cannot carry any items related to the phone or any Specter or spirits with you when conducting this nightmare mission!”

Chen Ge was silent looking at the writing on the black phone. Based on the description of the nightmare mission alone, it did not look that scary, but Chen Ge knew how difficult it would be when put into practice.

“The mission requirement is for me to push open all the doors inside the house, but it did not mention whether ‘this house’ is referring to the house that I once occupied or this House of Horrors. If it is referring to this haunted house, even if it gives me the entire night, I will not be able to open so many doors when the most crucial of my senses are blocked.”

Chen Ge stared at the words on the phone screen.

“For me, the only way to pass this mission is to hear the echo of my own voice from the other side of the door, but at the same time, the mission requirement has me block off my hearing. In that case, how am I supposed to hear any voices coming from the other side? Or is it because the voice that rings out from the other side of the door will travel directly into my heart and mind?”

Pushing open doors in your own house and then hearing your own voice coming from the other side of the door, from the description, it sounded very simple, but it carried a very unique meaning to it.

“Will I run into any danger conducting this mission inside the haunted house...” The thought just flashed across Chen Ge’s mind when it occurred to Chen Ge that not too long ago, the door inside the toilet had been pushed open, and something had escaped out from it. The thing that had escaped from behind the door was possibly still hiding in the haunted house.

“Even if he is still hiding inside the haunted house, I should not be that worried.” For the sake of security, Chen Ge tied one end of the rope around the white cat and the other end of the rope around his own waist. Leading the white cat, Chen Ge entered the prop room and found the necessary eye patch and earmuffs. When all the preparatory work was done, Chen Ge walked to the front door of the haunted house. He wanted to start from the entrance and then gradually open all the doors inside the haunted house.

"I grew up in this haunted house. For the area aboveground, I can walk through it with my eyes closed. The real difficulty will be the underground scenarios."

Time was slowly ticking away. At 1:43 am, Chen Ge put on all the necessary accessories and started to count his heartbeat at the entrance of the haunted house. When it was 1:44 am, Chen Ge pushed open the front door of the haunted house with a powerful swing. He was unable to see or hear anything. The world around him was dark and quiet; it felt like he was the only person left in the world. The map of the haunted house was slowly being constructed in his mind. Chen Ge moved down the corridor with his eyes closed. He did not bump into anything. After all, he had taken this route basically every single day.

"All the nightmare missions have a deeper meaning behind them. They are leading me step by step closer to the truth. This mission should be no different."

Chen Ge did not tell his other employees about the details of the mission. He could not hear any voice or see anything. Padding down the corridors of his own 'home', it felt like he was walking back in time to the time when his parents had just disappeared. The young man who had just lost the anchors in his life always cowered inside the corner of the haunted house's staff breakroom. He was very afraid. He was not yet ready to deal with all these things alone. But from a time that was hard to pinpoint, the young man had started to change.

"Chen Ge?" Pushing open the door to the dressing room, Chen Ge called out his own name lightly, but there was no response. Holding onto the door, the image of him helping his employees with their makeup appeared in his mind. They were busy as they joked among each other. He had never imagined that he would be able to make so many friends in his life.

"Chen Ge?" Then he found his way to the Prop Room. After pushing open the door, there was still no response. Chen Ge slowly moved down into the darkness. The surrounding became more and more quiet and cold. The surveillance room, the staff breakroom, the changing room, Chen Ge had visited them one by one before he finally reached the toilet. He knew very well that he was standing before his haunted house's toilet. The blood door was inside this toilet.

"Is the aim of this mission to lure me to open that door? But a blood door can only be opened at midnight, can't it? Unless the person pushing open the door is the door-pusher himself."

With a certain supposition in his mind, Chen Ge opened the toilet door, walked through it, and moved toward the fated cubicle. His hand landed on the door handle and slowly pushed.

"Chen Ge?" The cubicle door was pushed open. Chen Ge's heart was beating so loudly, and he held his breath without knowing it.

One second, two seconds...

About ten seconds later, he did not hear his own voice being echoed from the other side of the door.

"It's not here?" Retreating from the toilet, Chen Ge went to explore the scenario of Minghun and Murder at Midnight, but he still failed to find that door.

"Could it be underground?" He slowly nudged his foot forward and pulled open the iron door that led to the underground scenario and carefully stepped down the stairs. The temperature continued to drop. Chen Ge shivered involuntarily. He tugged at the rope around his waist and realized that the white cat

had already struggled loose from its constraint. The other end of the rope had been dragging on the ground.

“The cat has gotten cleverer and cleverer.”

Even though Chen Ge had gone to the underground scenario many times, it did not form muscle memory. To ensure that he did not miss any doors, he could only move slowly step by step.

Darkness, loneliness, chilliness, and quietness, Chen Ge felt like he was stranded alone in this world, and all of his sensory emotions were being slowly stripped away.

### **Chapter 1155 Please Come and Find Me 2 in 1**

With his eyes closed and ears blocked, unable to share what he was doing with his employees, all he could do was repeat his name again and again. Chen Ge walked for a long time down the dark hallway. He tried to bring up the map of the haunted house inside his mind, but he slowly discovered something scary. It appeared like he was not inside the haunted house at all. He had no idea where he had landed. He was unable to communicate with anyone. He could not hear anything, and all that he could see around him was darkness. Piercing chills stabbed into his heart; Chen Ge finally stopped moving.

“Am I still inside the haunted house?” This was the first time Chen Ge had felt like he was unfamiliar with his own haunted house. “Is it possible that I exited the haunted house when I opened one of the doors earlier?”

Many different scary thoughts entered his mind. Chen Ge had no idea what was waiting ahead of him, and he had even less of an idea when he could push open that real door. Searching in the dark, when he could not see even the wisp of hope, he tried to open all the doors that he could encounter. Chen Ge felt like this whole experience was quite a *déjà vu*. The Nightmare Daily Mission with the name ‘Door’ appeared to wish to tell him something. In the absolute darkness and silence, time slowly lost all meaning. Chen Ge’s body movement became more awkward and the surface of his skin was startlingly cold. Memories from his past flashed across his mind, and the strange sense of *déjà vu* became stronger and stronger.

“Chen Ge?” He called his name again and again while he kept repeating the same action. The surroundings became quieter and colder. Chen Ge’s gait slowed down. A very scary thought overwhelmed his mind. If he continued walking, he probably would not find his way back. His mind became duller, and he could not stop his brain from filling his heart with ghastly and eerie imagery. Chen Ge was visited by an emotion that he had not encountered in a very long time—despair.

In the past, no matter how scary the enemy was, no matter how strong the opponent was, Chen Ge would not give because he had a firm determination holding him upright and pushing him forward, but in this Nightmare Mission, the determination was slowly being hacked away. There appeared to be a lingering voice in his mind that was trying to tell him that despair was the norm. It was not until then that Chen Ge realized hope was like a colorful soap bubble—it would burst with the lightest of touch. All this time, he had been like a child who was holding a soap bubble in his grasp. He stood stubbornly on the other side of the world and insisted on believing that the world inside the soap bubble was the real one.

His memory was flipped over by a pair of invisible hands. Along with the sense of chill, pain, and suffocation, many kind of memories that supposedly did not belong to him were churning in his mind. The feeling was very bad, but strangely enough Chen Ge felt they were also quite familiar. It was as if he had personally experienced a similar kind of pain in the past, and he had been through it more than once. His footsteps gradually slowed down. He seemed to be walking down a path that had no end. All his memory and experiences were 'polluted' by despair. They did not want Chen Ge to keep on going; they wanted him to just stop and stay there forever.

The road ahead was very dangerous, and the chance of returning could be zero. It was a world of darkness waiting to envelope him. When he could still think with his mind, Chen Ge's arms reached toward his eyes. He was hesitating over whether to take a peek or not. If he did look, the Nightmare Mission would definitely fail, but if he did not remove it, he could no longer stand the overwhelming anxiety in his heart.

"Is it possible that I am now inside the world behind the door? Someone other than the door pusher only can push open the door at midnight, but what if I am the door pusher? What if I was the one who pushed open the door in the haunted house?"

His fingers landed on the bridge of his nose. In the end, Chen Ge chose not to look, and his feet decided to keep on moving.

"I am currently experiencing pain that did not exist in my memory before. I am experiencing a despair that did not belong to me. I have no idea what the black phone is trying to tell me, but I know that when there is despair, there is also hope. The two cannot exist without the other."

For those in despair, even though they were surrounded by bliss, they would not escape the torment of despair. And for those with hope, even if they had lost everything, they would be able to see a colorful world inside a simple soap bubble.

"I have never been treated kindly by this world, but that does not mean that I do not love this world for what it is." For some reason, Chen Ge was reminded of Zhang Ya and the other employees at his haunted house. "Even when I am in the deepest despair, I can chance upon a very beautiful accident."

With his eyes still covered, Chen Ge suffered the pain that he had not experienced. He forged his way forward while suffering the double torment both on his mental and physical health. He no longer hesitated, and he spent no time on overthinking as he picked up speed. The pain on his body became more obvious, and the pressure on his mind grew heavier. The scenes of Chen Ge being killed slowly swamped his mind. Before he died, he struggled helplessly and pleaded for mercy, but every time, the thing that welcomed him was painful death. His compromise, kindness, and help had all been disappointed; his final result was only despair.

The green veins on the back of his arms popped. Chen Ge suffered all of that silently. He did not stop his footsteps, and he kept on moving. "No wonder who is the owner of this despair, it will not stop me from moving forward."

Before Chen Ge obtained the black phone, most of the memories left in his mind had been beautiful and happy ones. His parents also wished that he could continue with his life in that manner. But in reality, when he obtained the black phone, Chen Ge had been given the chance to make a choice. If he had

chosen to deny accepting the phone when he found it, then he would have kept on living with his happiness, being none the wiser about the other world around him. However, Chen Ge had chosen a different path. He wanted to know the truth, and for that, he had traded his blissful ignorance for despair and began his slow journey of searching for his parents.

As he slowly approached the truth, the despair that had been hidden away would slowly be brought back to the forefront, but Chen Ge had no regret. Along the way, only Chen Ge himself knew how difficult the path he had chosen actually was. His life schedule had been turned upside down. He worked more in the night compared to the hours in the morning, he had not had a good rest since forever, and he was always caught in between the line of life and death. He spent his days with Baleful Specters and Red Specters.

Dancing on the sharp edge of a knife was not enough to describe Chen Ge's situation, if he was a little careless even once, he would have become a dead body already. He had chosen the most difficult path, but at the same time, this was the path that would lead him the quickest to the truth. This was not some kind of good fortune or bad tragedy that someone had placed on him, it was a choice that he had made for himself in the wide path of destiny.

"I will not change due to this despair, and I will never abandon my path. No matter what has happened in the past, I am willing to face them openly!"

Images of his own death flashed across his mind again and again. Chen Ge felt like his body was being torn apart repeatedly. Suffering the dual torture on his physical and mental selves, he pushed forward with determination in the seemingly endless darkness. He could not see his surrounding, and he felt he was stranded alone in the world. He could not hear any sound and could not sense the passage of time. He kept on calling his own name as he opened one after another door.

"Chen Ge..." He pushed open another door before him. Chen Ge had lost count of the doors he had opened, but suddenly, another voice came from the space before him.

"I did not expect you to really come here one day." Chen Ge's own voice came from a spot that was only a few steps away from Chen Ge. At that moment, Chen Ge almost removed the eye cover, and his body could not help shuddering. "Everyone wants to kill you. You are my final hope. Please come and find me no matter what."

Something was slipped inside his palm, and the voice became smaller and smaller.

"I am in the haunted house within that city. Please, you have to come and find me!"

That city? The blood red city? There is also a version of the haunted house in the blood red city?

Gripping the thing in his palm, Chen Ge could not control himself any longer. He opened his lips and was about to voice out the question in his mind. "You..."

But when the first word escaped from his lips, the chill around him instantly disappeared, and the arm that he raised suddenly came into contact with something hard. It was the handle of a door. Pushing the door open, the memories that did not belong to him started to disappear. It was as if he had walked back to earth from hell. The phone in his pocket started to vibrate. After being stunned for several moments, Chen Ge slowly removed the eye cover and the earmuffs. The first thing he saw was all his



haunted house employees standing before him in a circle. They were all looking at him strangely and curiously.

"This is... Wait, I'm still inside the toilet?" He looked around and realized he was standing inside the cubicle of the haunted house's toilet. His hand was still holding the door of the cubicle. "I did not leave this place and go to the underground scenario?"

"You covered your eyes and then locked yourself inside the cubicle. Initially, we thought you were possessed by some kind of ghost, but then we thought about it among ourselves and felt like no ghost would do something that would waste so much of their energy and for such little gain." Men Nan was standing right at the door. Seeing that nothing was wrong with Chen Ge, he squeezed through the crowd of 'people' and left. "The party's over. The man is fine. Go back to your work."

I did not enter the underground scenario but have been standing inside the toilet cubicle. In other words, when I pushed open the door of the cubicle, I entered the world behind the door!

Chen Ge was covered in cold sweat. He lowered his head to glance at his palm. Before the other voice of himself disappeared, the person had shoved something into his hand. It was a key that was covered in cracks.

"A key? Wait, this is the self-preceptive key." Once Chen Ge tried to take a closer look at the sky, the rust covering the key in his palm peeled off in big patches, and then the key itself split in two. "I entered the world behind the door, and it was with this self-preceptive key that I was able to return back to this world from the haunted house behind the blood door?"

Chen Ge had obtained two self-perceptive keys from his missions in the past, but he had no idea what they were for.

"It should not be that simple. The person behind the door perhaps wanted to remind or warn of me something through this key."

The words that his own voice said kept appearing in his mind. Chen Ge's brows did not stop creasing.

"There is another haunted house inside the blood red city, and he is currently hiding inside that other haunted house, huh? Why does he treat me as his final hope?" Chen Ge leaned against the door. His back was already soaked in cold sweat. He felt like the energy had been fully drained from his body.

"This door inside the haunted house should've been pushed open by him." Chen Ge looked at the cubicle door. He pushed on it lightly, but nothing changed inside the cubicle. Only the door pusher could control the door. Chen Ge himself was unable to open the door, but the fact was, he had been able to enter the door earlier, so the real 'door pusher' had probably opened the door for him through some method.

"Wait a minute! Is there a possibility that the door pusher has been split in two? Only when both parties are touching the door at the same time can the door be opened?"

Climbing up from the ground, Chen Ge gave a brief explanation to his employees and then had Ol' Bai continue guarding the toilet while he ran back to the staff breakroom. The moment he opened the door, Chen Ge saw the white cat, who was munching on the high-class cat food inside the cupboard. But he was in no mood to be training his cat. He took out his black phone and swiped on the screen.

“Congratulations, Red Specter’s Favored, for completing the Daily Nightmare Mission—Door! You have obtained the unique special talent—Lips of Tragedy!

“Lips of Tragedy (Natural Talent): As they say, tragedy comes from the lips. Now that you have gained this talent, you will be able to hear all that they converse about among themselves.

“Congratulations, Red Specter’s Favored! This is so impressive. You now possess Mortician’s Make-up, Spirit Sniff, Ghost Ear, Yin Yang Vision, Lips of Tragedy, and Dollmaker’s Talent, all six natural talents. The current you can now produce the version of yourself that you want.”

Looking at the message on the black phone, Chen Ge shuddered involuntarily. He had a feeling that the last sentence was hinting about something incredibly horrible.

“The current me can now produce the version of myself that I want? I need to personally make another version of myself? What does it mean?”

Chen Ge had not used most of the six talents to their maximum potential. Other than Yin Yang Vision, he did not use the rest of the talents much. All this time, he thought the rest of the talents were rather weak, but from the looks of it, that was not the case.

“Never mind, it is too early to consider something like that.” Chen Ge knew very well that to unleash the full potential of the dollmaker’s talent, he would first need to capture a living human to experiment on them. A perfect living door needed a fresh human life. This was something that Chen Ge would never attempt to do. “Perhaps in the future, I might change my mind, but I hope that day never comes.”

Chen Ge put the black phone away. The nightmare daily mission that night had given him more questions than answers. He needed to lie down to slowly work over the information that he had gathered.

“Is the despair that I experienced when I was doing the mission the despair that was experienced by my other self? What exactly is my other self anyway? Has he been shouldering all the despair that should have fallen onto me?”

Chen Ge found it impossible to rest. His mind was too active with questions. At that moment, Chen Ge’s eyes glanced at the white cat, which was still sneaking toward the pack of cat food. Chen Ge sat up to drag it away from the cupboard and forced it to join him on the bed. He tussled the cat’s furry coat, and his heart slowly calmed down.

“Even the cat knows when to run away from danger, but someone like myself insists on walking down the most dangerous path. However, the most despairingly, this appears to be the only path that is given to me.”

Being hugged by Chen Ge, the white cat appeared to be frozen in fear. It seemed to have realized that it had done something wrong earlier, so it was acting like the best pet in the world. It did not dare move in Chen Ge’s grasp, playing the role of a fluffy doll.

“The white cat has consumed the blood vessels from the Ghost Stories Society. The blood vessel was prepared by Doctor Gao for the woman in the well, so technically, it belonged to Doctor Gao.” Chen Ge scratched the bottom of the white cat’s stomach. “Is it possible for me to trace Doctor Gao through the

blood vessels in the white cat's body? Or can I somehow make Doctor Gao actively come to me through the blood vessels in the cat?"

There were at least two Demon Gods at the cursed hospital. Chen Ge knew that he was too weak to deal with the cursed hospital on his own, so he wished to gain the assistance of Doctor Gao. His finger moved up and down the white cat's belly like a surgeon drawing out the lines before the surgery. The white cat was so scared by Chen Ge's action that it could not help convulsing.

"The blood vessels have probably been digested by the white cat's body already. Looks like I will have to bring it with me behind the door in the future."

Looking at the time, there was still some time before dawn. Chen Ge carried the white cat in one hand and found the graduation certificate from the School of the Afterlife inside the prop room.

"It has been quite some time since I last returned. I wonder if anything has changed at the School of the Afterlife."

The cursed hospital had placed a ton of pressure on Chen Ge. He decided to combine all the sources that he had to deal with the hospital together.

"The blood city is very close to the School of the Afterlife. If I am lucky, perhaps I will run into a lost Red Specter."

### **Chapter 1156 Expanding Red City 2 in 1**

Chen Ge had Ol' Bai stay back to guard the haunted house. Then he pulled all the other Red Specter employees into the comic and carried the white cat out of the haunted house. The guard at the entrance of the New Century Park was already fast asleep. There were not many vehicles on the road. Chen Ge waited for a long time before a taxi stopped for him. At 3:00 am, Chen Ge arrived at Western Jiujiang Private Academy. He held the graduation certificate and ran to the toilet cubicle at the top of the education block.

"How do I use this thing?"

He gave it multiple goes, but the blood door did not show up. Chen Ge had no idea whether this meant some kind of accident had happened to the door of the School of the Afterlife or he had missed the crucial timing.

"The School of the Afterlife's door currently is still missing a door pusher. It looks like I will have to come back again at midnight tomorrow."

Just as he said that, the shadow behind him started to change. A drop of blood leaked out on the cubicle door, and the blood slowly bloomed like a flower. The blood flower expanded to cover up the entire door, and a strong stench of blood drifted out from the gap of the door.

The startlingly red of the blood reacted with the red letters on the graduation certificate. Chen Ge tried to give the blood door a push. Instantly, a wave of redness overwhelmed him. When he recovered, his world was covered in red, and the whole building was surrounded by blood. "The School of the Afterlife?"

Chen Ge stood where he was. Before he decided what to do next, the sound of footsteps came from the outside corridor. Chen Ge reached for the comic subconsciously to summon Men Nan and Xiao Bu. Moments later, the toilet door was pushed open, and two beautiful young ladies appeared at the door. One of them was wearing a white dress and the other a red dress. They had similar facial features, but the reactions they had when they saw Chen Ge were completely different.

“Yin Bai, Yin Hong?”

“Once the blood door was pushed open, I knew that you’d returned.” Yin Hong tilted her head to the side to swipe a glance at Chen Ge. Then her eyes landed on Xiao Bu and Men Nan beside him. Her cute brows slowly frowned as she pulled Yin Bai’s hand to move her away from Chen Ge. “State your intention. What is your purpose for coming back to your alma mater? Even though we do not really welcome you here, considering that you once saved our school, we can offer you some help if it is absolutely necessary.”

“Is the headmaster here? I wish to talk to him.” Chen Ge was quite worried about the School of the Afterlife as well. After all, this place was very close to the red city. The old headmaster from Mu Yang High School was just a Half Red Specter. Chen Ge was afraid that he might not be able to handle things alone.

“Follow me then.” Yin Hong did not waste time and led Chen Ge to the nurse’s office. After the original school doctor was killed, the place had been vacated.

“I want to meet the headmaster. Why did you bring me to the nurse’s office?” Chen Ge was rather confused.

Yin Hong shrugged quite helplessly. “Just go in, and you will see.”

Pulling open the blood red curtain, Chen Ge saw a fat old man who was in a red shirt sharing his experience and counselling several students. The old man heard the movement of the curtain and lifted his head to see Chen Ge. Instantly, a kind smile appeared on his face. “Chen Ge? Why are you here?”

“Sir, when you did breakthrough to become a Red Specter?” Chen Ge was very shocked. When he left, the old headmaster had been a Half Red Specter. It had not been that long since they last met, but the old headmaster had already become a Red Specter, and he seemed to possess a special power within him.

“I also cannot remember the actual moment. Ever since I took over the responsibility of this school, I have been trying my best to help these children, and without knowing it, I turned into a Red Specter.”

The old headmaster at Mu Yang High School was a very special Specter. After he died, he did not consume any ghosts, but he had somehow become a Half Red Specter. Now, even more miraculously, the senior gentleman had somehow turned into an actual Red Specter. From the old headmaster, Chen Ge saw another path available for Specters to breakthrough to their next level. Perhaps this was a path that was more suitable for Yan Danian.

“How did you manage to do it? Can you tell me more about the details?” Chen Ge appeared rather inconspicuous standing amid a bunch of young students.

“My experience probably will not be much use to you. The children at the School of the Afterlife came from all different backgrounds, but most of them are victims of school bullying or children of broken families. They had never experienced love and warmth. My purpose is to heal the wounds that they have suffered during their childhood by attempting to provide them a new home at the School of the Afterlife.” The old headmaster rubbed his large belly. “Actually, I have not done anything. It was mainly because the children have slowly given me their approval. They have influenced the school’s consciousness, and I gradually gained the approval from the school’s consciousness.”

When the door of the School of the Afterlife was at its weakest moment, it desperately needed to search for itself a new door pusher. Under those circumstances, since the old headmaster had gotten the approval from most of the students, and there was no competition from others, the school’s consciousness was slowly channeling its energy into the old headmaster and aided him to slowly become the owner of this door. In terms of pure power, the painter and Chang Wenyu were much stronger than the old headmaster, but neither of them would be able to bring salvation to the students behind the door. Even though the old headmaster was the weakest among them, this kind gentleman was the most suitable candidate. While he could not build a fake heaven behind the door, nor could he help all the students escape from the constraint of the door, he was trying his best to create a sanctuary behind the door for these lost souls.

“A four-star scenario can cultivate a Demon God. The School of the Afterlife is a four-star scenario approved by the black phone. If the headmaster is given some more time, he might really become something of a miracle.”

Without consuming any Specters, he could become a Demon God. This incident that was almost impossible was slowly turning itself into reality due to the determination within the old headmaster to do the best by his students. The old headmaster had provided a brand-new path for Chen Ge. He felt like he should sit down and have a real talk with Yan Danian to understand the thoughts that Yan Danian had inside his heart.

“Sir, during this period, has the red city caused any trouble for you?” When Chen Ge entered the School of the Afterlife last time, Zhang Ya had just become a Demon God, and she had been recovering from a heavy injury. Moreover, most of his employees had still been quite weak. This time, it was different. Just looking at Top Red Specters alone, he had three with him.

“About that city...” The smile disappeared from the old headmaster’s face. “It is not looking so good. I will bring you to the top floor, and you will understand what I mean.”

The headmaster led Chen Ge to reach the top floor of the education block. The iron door that led to the roof was the only door in the School of the Afterlife that was not sealed up by wooden boards.

“I will open the door. Do not move too far away from me. It is very dangerous.” The old headmaster took out a key from his shirt. The key had the etching of a small heart of a Red Specter. Slowly, the door was pulled open slightly. The rolling blood mist slid through the gap and floated down the corridor. After ensuring that there was no danger, the old headmaster finally waved Chen Ge over. “Look for yourself.”

Using his Yin Yang Vision, Chen Ge looked through the gap. Many different kinds of buildings stood around the School of the Afterlife, and every one of the building was covered in blood!

"This was different the last time I came!" Chen Ge was very shocked.

"The School of the Afterlife has already been swallowed up by the red city," the old headmaster said with a helpless smile. "Not long after you left, the distance between the school and the city became smaller and smaller. We had no choice but to abandon part of the campus and gather all our energy. We used the rest of the wooden boards and soul nails to seal up the main campus, and this is the only door that we have left open."

"In other words, the School of the Afterlife is currently a completely isolated scenario?"

"Yes, we've had to abandon places like the field, the recycling center, the library, the extra-curricular hall, and so on. Most of the school body are gathered in the education block, the dormitories, and the lab building." The old headmaster looked at the blood fog outside the door and sighed lightly. "That is the only solution available to us at the time. Before the red city, we are so weak and small."

The School of the Afterlife had already been consumed by the red city. This was something that Chen Ge did not anticipate before he arrived.

"The red city is still expanding. No, perhaps the word growing is more suitable." The old headmaster tried his best to look at the bright side. "Even though the campus is now much smaller, as long as we stay in the main few buildings, the ghosts from the red city will not harm us. They seem to have a set of rules that they have to follow here."

Before this, the School of the Afterlife was situated at the fringe of the red city. Just like the ghost fetus scenario, it was a scenario in and of itself, but now the School of the Afterlife had become part of the red city. Chen Ge looked into the distance through the gap in the door. All he could see were the red buildings, and they continued over the horizon.

"I wonder if the cursed hospital is also isolated outside of the red city." Chen Ge focused his gaze as far as he could. "If only I could make this city to go and consume that cursed hospital."

"Chen Ge, this place is very dangerous. If there's nothing else, I am going to close the door now," the old headmaster said.

The painter headed into the red city after he was defeated, and Doctor Gao might currently be somewhere inside the red city as well. Should I try my luck inside the city?

Chen Ge flipped through the comic. He wanted to have his employees go hunting inside the red city, but it was too dangerous. He could still remember what had happened to Doctor Gao after he had forged his way through the underground morgue to the red city.

Bang!

The iron door was slammed shut. The old headmaster appeared to have read Chen Ge's mind. "Do not do anything stupid. Even a Top Red Specter will not be able to survive the danger inside the red city."

"How do you know that, sir?"

"When the school was first being consumed by the red city, there were some Specters and ghosts who were hiding inside the blood fog. It was clear that they wanted to enter the school. It was unclear what happened after that, but all of the ghosts and Specters were killed and murdered." The old headmaster

himself could not give a clear account. "It was very scary. We were hiding inside the education block at the time, and all we could see was a red shadow floating past."

"Was that a Top Red Specter?"

"Even a Top Red Specter could not kill so many Specters in an instant. Furthermore, there were Top Red Specters among the ghosts who were interested in the School of the Afterlife." The old headmaster still shivered just thinking about it. "If you somehow end up inside the red city, you have to remember to stay away from any red shadows. If I have noticed anything, it was that they do not seem to be able to enter any buildings."

"Thank you for the information." Chen Ge took a deep breath. "Sir, do you mind opening the door again? I wish to conduct an experiment outside the door."

"How come a human like you is so much braver than ghosts?" The old headmaster shook his head, but in the end, he was persuaded by Chen Ge's miraculous power of persuasion. Holding the comic, Chen Ge had the red high heels pull out some blood with the red Specter's blood vessels from the white cat's body. "Put some curse on this blood. See if you can make contact with Doctor Gao."

The red high heels gave it some try before she shook her head.

"It won't work? Looks like the blood vessels left behind the Ghost Stories Society are not enough. In that case, I will have to go and find Gao Ru Xue." Chen Ge did not mean Gao Ru Xue any harm, but the girl was Doctor Gao's blood relative, and he wished to reach Doctor Gao through her. The tragedy of Doctor Gao started when he encountered the cursed hospital. His wife's death was also related to that hospital, so he shared a common enemy with Chen Ge. They should be able to form a truce.

"Chen Ge! Quick come back! Do not stay out there for too long!" The old headmaster spotted something approaching from the blood fog, and he shouted to warn Chen Ge. Chen Ge did not want to take any unnecessary risks. He put away his comic and returned to the school. Closing the iron door, the old headmaster finally sighed in relief. "Do not go out there unless it is truly necessary. The red city is very dangerous."

"Sir, I hope you do not mind, but there is another favor that I need from you." Chen Ge voiced out the other reason he was there that night. "Is there anyone left at the school who can contact the painter? I wish to get his cooperation to help me with something."

"All the students who approved of the painter have already left with him, but there is something here that should be able to help you find the painter." After locking the door, the old headmaster led Chen Ge to the lab building. He found an unfinished oil painting inside the art room. "This is the only painting left behind by the painter. When he left the school, all the paintings dissolved into ash. This is the only painting that remained. I believe that is because this painting is very important to him."

Chen Ge picked up the half-finished oil painting. The content was very simple. It was the painting of a young man with heavy lines of worry on his face sitting next to a boy under the sun. They appeared to be chatting about something. "This painting is about the painter and Fan Yu, huh?"

This was a simple scene, but it was a dream that was impossible to fulfil for the painter. Chen Ge took good care of the oil painting, and then he went to meet up with the other Red Specters at the school. He still needed more helpers to deal with the cursed hospital.

After gaining the old headmaster's approval, Chen Ge left the school with three Red Specters. After leaving the School of the Afterlife, dawn had not yet arrived in real life. Chen Ge gave Zhang Wenyu a call, saying that he wished to meet him in person. Half an hour later, Chen Ge found Zhang Wenyu at an abandoned building in the countryside of Northern Jiujiang. The suicide line operator was standing next to a homeless person who was suffering from a serious illness. He stared at the person silently. It was clear that he wanted to save the person, but he knew better than to break the rules. In the end, he was like Death animated in real life, watching the person's slowly drift away.

"I wish to ask you for a favor." Chen Ge walked toward Zhang Wenyu.

Zhang Wenyu answered with a simple word. "Sure."

"Do not hurry to say yes. The enemy that I need to deal with has at least two Demon Gods." Chen Ge did not want to press others into his aid.

"Demon God?"

"A ghost that is at least ten times scarier than a Top Red Specter," Chen Ge said with a serious expression. "Are you still willing to help me after knowing that?"

"Of course." Zhang Wenyu nodded.

"Thank you." Chen Ge wanted to pull Zhang Wenyu into the comic, but he failed after multiple tries. After he asked for more details from Yan Danian, he only found out why. Zhang Wenyu might appear to be a Red Specter, but actually he represented a multitude of ghosts and Specters. The comic was not large enough to fit so many spirits and ghosts.

When Chen Ge was figuring out what to do, Zhang Wenyu's body slowly disappeared. Moments later, Chen Ge got a message on his phone. It was a message delivered from the number of the suicide line operator. "I will always be by your side until you have resolved this danger."

He turned to look around him. Even with the help of Yin Yang Vision, Chen Ge was unable to see Zhang Wenyu, but there was a source of power that he could not describe that was burgeoning in his heart. It felt like there were a large group of people silently following him and cheering him on. "The people that you have rescued will eventually become the source of your own salvation."

The sun was rising over the horizon. Chen Ge put away his phone and left Northern Jiujiang. He hailed another cab, and this time, his destination was Jiujiang Medical University. He planned to meet up with Doctor Gao's daughter, Gao Ru Xue.

## Chapter 1157 You Are My Seventh Friend 2 in 1

He arrived at Jiujiang Medical University. Chen Ge gave a call to Gao Ru Xue on her phone, but no one picked up. Chen Ge entered the school and found a free lecturer. After asking him, Chen Ge only found out that Gao Ru Xue had applied to defer. She had not appeared at the school for a very long time. "Her



mother was killed by that hospital, and now her father has disappeared after committing such a serious crime. It is hard to imagine the pressure and pain that Gao Ru Xue must be feeling.”

Since Gao Ru Xue refused to answer Chen Ge’s calls, he had no choice but to personally go to her place. He knocked on her door for several minutes before Gao Ru Xue opened the door. She looked so much more haggard, and she had lost quite a bit of weight. “Chen Ge?”

“Do you mind if I come in to talk with you?” Chen Ge carried his backpack. He had not slept that night. His eyes were bloodshot, and he did not look much better than Gao Ru Xue. “I have something that I have to discuss with your father, but I need your help to be able to find him.”

With a small nod, Gao Ru Xue opened the door and allowed Chen Ge to enter the room. The room was covered with a thin layer of dust. It was clear that the place had not been properly cleaned for quite some time, but at least overall the place still looked rather passable. Everything was neat, if a little bit dusty.

“I also would like to talk to him, but I have no idea where he is.” Gao Ru Xue sat on the couch. Even though a decent amount of time had passed since the incident at the underground morgue, Gao Ru Xue could not stop the change in her expression whenever she talked about her father.

“I need some of your blood.” Chen Ge did not wish to go into detail. He stated his reason for being there directly.

“My blood?” Gao Ru Xue slowly lifted her head that was previously lowered. She looked at Chen Ge with open confusion before she stretched out her arm toward Chen Ge. “Using my blood, you will be able to find out where my dad currently is, right?”

“It might not be successful, but it is worth a try.” Hearing that, the light in Gao Ru Xue’s eyes slowly dimmed, but she still did not pull her arm back. Instead, she said, “If you really do succeed in meeting him, remember to tell him that I miss him a lot.”

“Of course.” Chen Ge had Gao Ru Xue close her eyes, and then he summoned out the red high heels. A black curse like an iron needle pierced into Gao Ru Xue’s body and sucked out a drop of blood right from her heart.

“You can open your eyes now.” Chen Ge looked at Gao Ru Xue’s pale face, and he gave her a serious promise. “I will relay your words to Doctor Gao personally, and I will try my best to help your family if it is within my power.”

After he left Gao Ru Xue’s home, before Chen Ge moved that far away, Chen Ge got some good news. By applying a curse on both the blood vessels inside the white cat’s body and the blood from Gao Ru Xue’s heart, the red high heels had successfully sensed a very scary presence. Based on Chen Ge’s prediction, the monster that was giving off this scary presence should be none other than Doctor Gao

“It is a good thing that we can sense his presence. After we enter the world behind the door, perhaps the intensity of this presence will become much stronger.”

After he walked out from the apartment, Chen Ge rushed to Jiujiang Children’s home and retrieved a drop of blood from Fan Yu. After he was done with everything, Chen Ge silently returned to New

Century Park and woke up Ol' Wu before theme park opened for business. "Brother Wu, it is time to wake up. We should prepare to return to Xin Hai already."

Ol' Wu, who was fast asleep, was shaken awake. He looked at Chen Ge blurrily. There were so many questions on his face.

Chen Ge tried his best to help 'recover' his memory. "Last night, I asked you for a favor to drive me back to Jiujiang to get something. Did you forget about that?"

"Yes, I think I do remember that." Ol' Wu rubbed his head.

"So, let's return to Xin Hai. I have already gotten everything that I needed." Chen Ge placed the white cat on the backseat. He had already done everything that he could. What he needed to do next was focus all his energy against that cursed hospital and get to the bottom of the mystery behind his parent's disappearance. The car left New Century Park in the morning, and they arrived in Xin Hai when the sun was at its peak.

"Brother Wu, if possible, stop using this car. Other than that, I need you to remind Mr. Wang not to go out late at night. It will also be best if the two of you are staying somewhere with a lot of people." Chen Ge was worried that the car might be targeted by the cursed hospital, so he gave Ol' Wu a kind reminder.

"Okay." Ol' Wu dropped Chen Ge at the Nightmare Academy and then left in a hurry.

Chen Ge carried his backpack and hugged the white cat as he pushed open the front door to the Nightmare Academy. Once he stepped into the building, he felt something was not quite right. Because they had not yet prepared to open for business, the central air con was not on, but at that moment it was curiously cold inside the haunted house. "Xiao Die? Zhang Jingjiu?"

With a bad feeling in his heart, Chen Ge flipped through the comic to summon out several Red Specter employees.

"Search the entire building!" Chen Ge ordered in a serious tone. He did move away from the entrance. He stood right at the front door. If there was a trap, he would turn and run at the first notice. Half a minute later, Men Nan appeared before Chen Ge. "There is no one inside the haunted house."

"Did something or someone come here last night?" Chen Ge was very worried about the safety of his haunted house employees.

"We cannot sense the trace of the presence of any other baleful Specters, but I can say for sure that something indeed infiltrated this place last night." Men Nan pointed at the entrance to one of the scenarios. "Come and take a look at this."

Being escorted in the middle of several Red Specters, Chen Ge walked to the entrance of the scenario. The wooden doors that led into every scenario were covered in paper notes, and every single note had that familiar statement on it.

"This is a sickened world. Why have you not discovered that fact? I swear to cure you!"

The paper notes with different handwriting covered the many wooden doors, and it looked intensely creepy.

"This has to be the doing of that cursed hospital." Chen Ge was reminded of a detail. The previous morning, when he returned to the Nightmare Academy from his Red Specter hunting, he had felt a sharp gaze that was watching him from Shi Li Xiang eatery. Perhaps from then on, he had already been targeted. "Time to go to Shi Li Xiang eatery."

It was just past the lunch time, so there were not that many people inside the eatery. Chen Ge burst through the door with several Red Specters behind him.

"Welcome to Shi Li Xiang. How can I help you today?" The waiter very passionately walked toward Chen Ge, but the latter ignored him directly. He walked toward the counter and strode toward the door that was meant for employees only.

"Hey!" This was the first time the waiter had encountered a customer so rude and unreasonable. He was about to reach forward to stop Chen Ge when his body was suddenly drained of power, and he collapsed onto the chair behind him. Chen Ge did not want to waste time on meaningless actions. Without wasting any time, he rushed into the kitchen at the back, and he saw the boss of the shop who was pouring something into a big vat of sauce. The boss was Chi Longtou.

"Zhang Yi!"

Wasting no time for a single pleasantry, when Chi Longtou saw Chen Ge, Zhang Yi had already crawled into his body. About ten seconds later, Zhang Yi crawled out from the back of Chi Longtou's head, and he reported with a disappointed expression. "The enemy appears to have realized that I can look through people's memories, so this man's memory has already been tampered with. I cannot find any useful information."

The cursed hospital had realized that Chen Ge had a Specter who could look through people's memories, so they had sent someone over to deal with Chi Longtou's memory. Chen Ge had already predicted that the Demon God with the surname Chi would be able to look through a living individual's memory, so he did not reveal the presence of Chi Ren to any of his living employees. He had kept Chi Ren hidden inside the headmaster's office. The devil was always in the detail.

"Even if the cursed hospital has taken away my employees, they won't be able to obtain any useful information from my living employees, but with how the cursed hospital approaches things, if I am unable to find Zhang Jingjiu and Xiao Die soon, I am afraid they will be in mortal danger."

Be it living employees or ghost workers, Chen Ge treated them like they were his family. Now that his family had been kidnapped, he was naturally not going to sit idle.

After he returned to the Nightmare Academy, Chen Ge summoned out all the Specters from the comic. He started a carpet search, not letting go of a single detail. After about half an hour, Chen Ge was rewarded with a new discovery. He found a cursed letter inside Xiao Die's room. The content of the letter was pieced together from newspaper cuttings. The letters of different size were stuck to the paper, and it looked like a ransom letter.

"Is this some kind of cursed game? I held the hands of seven friends to come to the hospital. My mother said that the patient is among us. If any of us are not smiling, then that person is the patient. My good friends, my bad friends, they all smiled.

"I held the hands of seven friends to come to the hospital. Father told us that mother is sick and told me to wait outside the sickroom. My good friends, my bad friends, they all turned to look at mother. They told me that none of us would leave the hospital alive.

"I held the hands of seven friends to come to the hospital. The doctor told us my father and mother had both died at the hospital. My good friends, my bad friends, they heard what the doctor said. They said that they would not come to play with me at the hospital at midnight anymore."

Even after reading the letter, Chen Ge had no idea what the content of the letter was trying to express at all.

"Was this left behind by a non-smiler?" He turned the letter over to the other side. Chen Ge discovered the picture of a human face blurrily drawn on the back of the letter. When he looked closer, he was able to see the following words written not that clearly along the human face—"You are my seventh friend."

"I am the seventh friend? So, there are seven people who received this letter last night, huh. Is this some kind of an invitation to a cursed game?" Chen Ge put the cursed letter away. After he ensured that there was nothing else to discover, he pulled out his phone and called the police immediately. "Captain Cai! I have been assaulted by the criminals! Three of my employees were kidnapped last night!"

After hearing the call from Chen Ge, the police did not even know how to react. From their perspective, no matter how rampant the criminal activity might be, they would not go to the biggest business area in Xin Hai to conduct their crimes, much less commit something as serious as kidnapping three people at the same time.

"We will be there in a minute! You'd better look after your own safety until we get there!"

In just ten minutes, two patrol cars had arrived at the entrance to the Nightmare Academy. "Captain Cai, come and look at this door!"

Chen Ge dragged Captain Cai by his arm and ran to the entrance to the haunted house scenario. The paper notes that covered the wooden door gave the police quite a shock.

"When did you discover that your employees had disappeared?"

"I returned to the haunted house around noon today. Once I walked through the front door, I realized that the employee on duty was not at reception. It was then that I realized something was wrong because my employees were still living at the haunted house. After that, I called them on their phones, but there was no answer. When I walked in deeper into the haunted house, I encountered this door," Chen Ge said urgently. "These employees followed me from Jiujiang because I wanted to expand my haunted house to Xin Hai. We were supposed to open a second branch here, but before we could even open for business, they have already been targeted by the criminals. This is all my fault! The criminal must know that I've been investigating him, so he used this kind of method to take revenge on me!"

"Please do not blame yourself too much. By the way, were you not at the haunted house yourself last night?" Captain Cai felt like there were too many loopholes regarding this case.

"Initially, I planned to reopen this place for business in three days, so last night, I went back to Jiujiang to gather some necessary props. Ol' Wu from Jiujiang Police Station can attest to that. He gave me the ride back to Jiujiang. You can probably see us on the traffic cameras as well." Chen Ge was very sad. "The

criminals' real target is me! If I had not involved myself in this case, then my employees would have been safe!"

"Mr. Chen, you must not think that way. It is already very impressive that you dared step forward to expose the evilness of the criminals. Technically speaking, it is our responsibility for the failure to protect the safety of your employees." Captain Cai wanted to console Chen Ge, but he really did not know what to say.

"Captain Cai, there must be more than one criminal at work here. They were able to kidnap all three of my employees at the same time, so they should be working in a group!"

"Yes, that is what we are thinking as well, and our investigation is heading in this direction."

"I am afraid that there might be more than just my three employees who disappeared last night. They should have been planning this for a long time." Chen Ge's basis for saying something like that was because of that cursed letter. The letter said that he was the seventh friend, so it was highly probable that there were seven cursed letters in total. "Captain Cai, the criminals have actively targeted me and my people. They must have done more than that behind the scenes. You are the only people who I can rely on now."

"Please do not worry. I will assign people to guard around your haunted house. If they dare return, I will ensure that they are apprehended."

"They have just caused such a big disturbance here. I doubt they will return to this place any time soon. This case is related to the safety of my three employees. Is it possible for me to join the investigation?" The cursed hospital had existed in Xin Hai for more than twenty years. The police must have collected some cases related to the cursed hospital. Chen Ge wanted to make use of the police force's information and try to get to know that hospital as best as he could. He knew the truth behind certain things, so the perspective that he held would be different from the Xin Hai police. Therefore, he might come to a different conclusion regarding the same case.

"I am afraid I cannot make the decision regarding something like that." Captain Cai rejected him in a roundabout way.

"That's okay." Chen Ge did not press further. "The criminals have kidnapped three people, so it must have caused them some trouble. They will make their next move tonight. You guys need to be careful."

When Captain Cai heard that from Chen Ge, he felt weirded out. Normally, when a person encountered this kind of situation, they would plead the police to capture the culprit as soon as possible, but Chen Ge had been consciously reminding the police officer to mind their own safety.

Both parties exchanged information for an hour. Chen Ge linked the clues of all the cases together, and some of the clues could be directly or indirectly linked to an abandoned hospital in Xin Hai's countryside. Xin Hai had always been a city with very good security. The cases that had happened in the past few days were extremely rare serious crimes. With the stern order from above, the police force all over the city had mobilized. More than one case was being investigated at the same time. When the whole city was brought under control, the police even prepared to conduct a deep investigation into the hospital in Xin Hai's countryside.

The peace and silence on the surface of Xin Hai had been completely shattered. The tides were raging violently under the surface. At 3 pm, Chen Ge had just sent the police off when he received a call from Ol' Wu. He brought Chen Ge more bad news—Mr. Wang had disappeared.

Chen Ge did not even have time to finish his meal. He hurried to where Mr. Wang was staying. He did not encounter Mr. Wang there, but he did come across Mr. Wang's student, Zuo Han. "Why are you here?"

"Last night, I gave my lecturer a call because I wanted to ask him something. When we were halfway through the phone call, he said that someone had entered his room." Zuo Han looked very serious. "He hung up on me to give it a check. After that, he did not answer any of my calls. I was worried about him, so first thing this morning, I got on the earliest train to come to Xin Hai."

"Did you find anything special inside Mr. Wang's room? Like a note or a letter..."

Before Chen Ge finished, he saw Zuo Han pick up a letter from the small coffee table. The letter was similar to the letter that Chen Ge found inside Xiao Die's room. The only thing that was different was on the back of the letter. On the human face on the back of the letter, it was written—'You are my first friend.'

#### **Chapter 1158 Four Star Trial Mission Cursed Hospital! 2in1**

"This letter again?" Chen Ge pulled out the letter that he found in Xiao Die's room and placed it on the coffee table as well. "Last night, three of employees went missing, and I found similar letters in their rooms as well." "What is their goal?" Zuo Han's eyes stared closely at the letters on the table.

"The back of Mr. Wang's letter states that he is the person's first friend, and on the back of this letter that I found in my employee's room, it states that they are the person's seventh friend. This person believes that my employees and Mr. Wang are both their friend. There must be something in common between my employees and Mr. Wang."

Chen Ge very calmly started to do his analysis.

"In terms of timing, I suspect they have captured these people based on the serial killings that happened twenty years ago. Mr. Wang was the person who was involved in the investigation of the case from twenty years ago, so he was the earliest person who found out about the clues of the real truth while my employees are wrapped in this situation due to the fact that I started to investigate this case recently. In a way, they can be considered the last few people who became related to this case."

"Therefore, Mr. Wang is the first friend and your employees are the seventh friend?" Zuo Han nodded. He agreed with Chen Ge's analysis. "Boss Chen, can you leave the letter that the person left for Mr. Wang for me to keep?"

Chen Ge could guess what Zuo Han was planning. After a moment's hesitation, he handed the letter to Zuo Han. "Do not act too rashly. The people that we are dealing with do not belong to the same world as you."

"They do not belong to the world as me?"

"I am sorry that I cannot reveal more details to you, but trust me that I will not do or say anything with the intention of harming you." Chen Ge picked up his backpack. "If possible, you and Ol' Wu should leave Xin Hai as soon as possible and find a place where there are many people to stay."

"Then, what about you?" Zuo Han could pick out a trace of unusual urgency in Chen Ge's voice.

"Certain things happened because of me. Therefore, it's my responsibility to deal with it. I cannot escape from it." Chen Ge said a few words to Zuo Han and Ol' Wu, and then he left from the place where Mr. Wang was staying.

The cursed hospital had been operating in Xin Hai for many years. This was something that Chen Ge had already noticed several days ago when he was out hunting for baleful Specters. All the Red Specters in Xin Hai appeared to have been cursed, be it the evil spirit at Cards Archway or the Red Specter at the abandoned school. Their spirits had both been polluted; they had been turned into monsters who only knew how to kill and to spread the seed of despair. The control that the cursed hospital had over Xin Hai was invisible. Any Specters or spirits that had any kind of power within the territory of Xin Hai were all under their control. In other words, the cursed hospital could be said to represent the darker side of this big city.

"The seven friends might be all related to the serial killings from twenty years ago. In other words, these seven people might all be related to me. Perhaps they are all people who knew a little something about that case. The cursed hospital is now forcing me to show my hand." Chen Ge had been through a lot of things, so he saw through the cursed hospital's ploy almost instantly, but unfortunately, even if Chen Ge knew that this was the enemy's evil plan of trying to lure him into a trap, there was nothing that he could do about it. If he wanted to uncover the truth, he could not be a coward and slither away. Furthermore, this time, seven innocent human lives that were related to Chen Ge were on the line. The cursed hospital had done everything it could to force Chen Ge out from the darkness and into the open.

Perhaps the cursed hospital was somewhat cornered by Chen Ge as well. After all, Chen Ge was someone who was playing a hit and run tactic with his Demon God and Top Red Specters. Today, the cursed hospital had lost a Red Specter, and tomorrow, they might lose a Top Red Specter. No matter how long the history of the cursed hospital went in Xin Hai, they could not allow themselves to be continually ground down like this anymore. The cursed hospital had been cultivating their power in Xin Hai for more than twenty years; they would not allow Chen Ge to ruin their power. They had learned from their previous mistake. They would no longer send out one Specter after another for Chen Ge to ambush. That might happen in a game, but this was not something that would happen in real life.

After Chen Ge had ambushed and killed one of their Top Red Specters, the cursed hospital had responded almost immediately. They would have to deal with the big problem that was Chen Ge no matter what. To be frank, now was not the perfect time for Chen Ge to make his move, but the cursed hospital could not allow this to drag on any longer. The cursed hospital possessed the advantage of the location, but Chen Ge had the possible advantages of unity and people. Both parties had completely stopped dancing around in circles and started a killing game with the city of Xin Hai as the background.

Night fell. The busy city of Xin Hai was still as bright as if it was daylight. If anything, the crowd on the street was even more bustling than in the morning. The partying crowd did not realize that there was an additional hue of redness in the night sky. Bloodshot eyes opened up in the shadows of the city, but

even they did not notice a young man who was standing at the corner of the street. The young man was carrying a large backpack, and he had a cat with a fur coat the color of snow following him.

Chen Ge did not return to Nightmare Academy. After he left Mr. Wang's home, he went directly to the police station. He did not enter the station but posited himself at the café next to the station. The passers-by assumed he was a street performer based on the large amount of items he was carrying and the pet that curled around him. In any case, no one came to disturb him.

At around 8 pm, Chen Ge received some good news. The red high heels had managed to gain contact with Doctor Gao through her curses. Although, instead of actually gaining communication, it was more like the red high heels had used the blood and curse to create the fake impression that Gao Ru Xue was heading toward the cursed hospital. Through the curse in the blood, she could sense that the distance between Doctor Gao and herself was slowly closing. To prevent unnecessary misunderstandings and accidents in the midst of battle, Chen Ge had the red high heels brand the blood that was mixed with the curse on the back of his arm. A scar that was in a shape of a droplet was the seal that was mixed from the blood from Gao Ru Xue's heart and the blood vessels taken from inside the white cat's body. Doctor Gao was madly moving toward the location of this scar.

"Based on the red high heels' prediction, Doctor Gao's current power level is much higher than hers. To be able to surpass a Top Red Specter who specializes in curses, there is a very high chance that Doctor Gao has already become a Demon God."

There was an irresolvable hatred between Doctor Gao and the cursed hospital. Chen Ge hoped that it would mean Doctor Gao would prove helpful to him when he was dealing with the cursed hospital. Now that he had the aid of two Demon Gods, Chen Ge felt like he could give it a try.

He took out the black phone and turned to the page that had all the Trial Missions. His eyes finally landed on the four-star Trial Mission, Cursed Hospital.

"The cursed hospital is the only mission that I have not completed on the black phone's list of missions. I wonder if anything will happen to the black phone after I accept this mission."

At the very beginning, there was no four-star trial mission that was showing at all inside the list of missions provided by the black phone. As Chen Ge continued to clear more and more missions, the four-star trial missions started to get unlocked.

"The black phone has not updated its list of available mission for a very long time now. After I complete the trial mission at the cursed hospital, I wonder if it will update with five-star trial missions."

The difficulty of a four-star Trial Mission was already impossible for Chen Ge to accept. If there was really the presence of a five-star Trial Mission, how high would the difficulty be?

Chasing all the unnecessary thoughts out of his mind, Chen Ge looked at the last mission available on the list of the trial missions, and his finger slowly moved. His parents disappeared at that hospital. All of this started because he had not given up the mission of looking for them. Actually, he had been waiting a very long time for the arrival of this day. One could say that all of his effort and sacrifice was for this moment, for him to have the power to make this choice. And now he had done it and had surpassed the expectations of everyone.



“The lives of at least seven people are in the hands of the cursed hospital. I cannot watch them be killed by the cursed hospital just like that.”

His finger touched on the screen lightly. Chen Ge soon received the message from the black phone.

“Are you sure you want to accept the challenge of the four-star Trial Mission—the Cursed Hospital? Warning! This Trial Mission is extremely dangerous! Please make sure that you have finished with all of your preparations before you make this decision!”

“Yes, I am sure!” Chen Ge continued to move his finger to click on the confirmation button. The black phone then kept vibrating. He had received multiple messages.

“Red Specter’s Favored, Chen Ge, you have now accepted the four-star Trial Mission—Cursed Hospital!

“Cause and effect. The ending has been destined since the beginning. In the end, you have returned to this place.

“Life and death. You have used one death after another to deflect fate and destiny. Twenty years have been exhausted to buy yourself a chance at life.

“Kindness and sin. Everyone thought that the world behind the door is a representation of despair, pain, and unforgivable sin, but there was a child. He has sealed up his own kindness deep inside the nightmare behind the door but has left the most extreme sin in the human world.

“Human and ghost. Are you willing to choose to become a blissful human or an immortal ghost?

“Mission requirement: Arrive at Xin Hai Central Hospital before midnight and survive until sunrise.

“Optional Mission 1: Find your parents or their dead bodies.

“Optional Mission 2: Provide salvation to Patient 1 or kill Patient 1.

“Optional Mission 3: Kill the hospital president or become the new hospital president.

“Mission hint: The version of yourself who lives inside a dream might be immortal, but your life is nothing but a slate of barrenness.”

After reading the messages that appeared on the black phone, Chen Ge was startled for a very long time. The information that was provided by the description of the mission this time was enormous. The cursed hospital might be the most complicated and most difficult mission that he had ever attempted.

“The ending has been destined since the beginning?”

Reading the mission description, many predictions that Chen Ge had were slowly being confirmed.

“The young version of myself that died again and again must have come to the cursed hospital about twenty years ago. He fought for a chance for me to keep on living, but there is one thing that is different from what I believed. The child has sealed up the kindness in the nightmare behind the door but has left the most extreme sin outside the door. If this child in question is the other version of myself, then the child who is suffering the torment of despair behind the door is the representation of kindness and the me who is living a normal person’s life outside the door is the representation of sin. Can I understand it this way?”

Chen Ge paused for a moment and could not help questioning his own self.

“Do I look like a bad person? But I have sworn on my soul that everything that I have done was out of the kindness of my own heart. I have helped so many people and saved so many ghosts.”

Putting this question aside for now, Chen Ge turned to the optional missions. When he saw the first optional mission, his whole body became jittery with excitement. Since the black phone had given this mission, there was an eighty percent chance that Chen Ge’s parents were still trapped in the cursed hospital. From the first day Chen Ge obtained the black phone, he had been waiting for this chance to arrive.

“I am not that interested in the other two optional missions, but I have to complete this first optional mission no matter what!” Chen Ge only managed to calm down several minutes later. He read the information given by the black phone all over again. “Be it the hint or the optional missions, there are choices of opposite ends. This is something that is very strange. I should pay some attention to it.”

Chen Ge had done all the preparation that he could. At around 10 pm, he received a call from Captain Cai. The tone of Captain Cai on the other end of the phone was rather strange.

“Chen Ge, we have already finished our investigation of that abandoned hospital in the countryside. Our people did not come back with any findings of any strange events happening there. The hospital has been abandoned for many years now. There is no trace of any living people there at all.”

“Then, what’s your next move?”

“Part of the police will be assigned to continue the exploration at the abandoned hospital, but most of the police force will be mobilized to scout out the entire city. The criminals are very cunning. Perhaps they intend to use different existing ghost stories to create widespread panic throughout the city. If we do not capture them as soon as possible, it might lead to a very bad influence on the city.”

Captain Cai briefly informed Chen Ge of the investigation, but essentially, he had not given Chen Ge anything useful. Just as Chen Ge was about to hang up on the phone, Captain Cai suddenly lowered his voice. He appeared to have moved to a place where there were not that many people around him.

“Chen Ge, I need you to listen to me. This case is very strange. If you involve yourself any deeper, you might be in mortal danger, so you’d better leave everything to the police.”

“Did something happen to the police at the cursed hospital?” Chen Ge very astutely noticed something was not right.

“Do you still remember the reminder on that paper note?” Captain Cai’s voice lowered even further.

“This is a sickened world?”

“When you return, you’d better burn all the paper notes that contain that sentence.”

“What’s wrong? What did you guys encounter over there?” Chen Ge still wanted to press for more details, but the signal suddenly became very bad. Captain Cai’s yelp came from the other side of the phone. It sounded like someone had bumped into him. The call was disconnected. When Chen Ge called back the same number, no one picked it up anymore.

“The tone that Captain Cai was using was different from usual. Is it possible that he was forced to make this call under the threat of someone else? Or was someone trying to mimic him on the phone?”

Since Chen Ge had Tong Tong with him, he knew that other Specters could have done the same thing.

“This is not good.”

The cursed hospital had a lot more spirits and Red Specters compared to the number of employees that Chen Ge had at his haunted house. Their combined powers and abilities were enough to overturn Chen Ge’s understanding of the normal world.

“I have already accepted the trial mission on the black phone. I have no other choice.”

Chen Ge waited until past ten pm before he called a cab to head to Xin Hai’s countryside. To ensure that the driver was not a puppet sent by the cursed hospital, Chen Ge even had Zhang Yi quietly look over the driver’s memory. Ever since he accepted the mission, other than his company of ghosts, Chen Ge refused to blindly trust anyone from Xin Hai. To search for his parents, he had worked through endless days and nights. He had struggled multiple times along the line of life and death. Everything that he had done it was in preparation for this day. He would not allow himself to make any mistakes.

After they entered the countryside of Xin Hai, the hubbub of the city was left behind almost instantly. They were still within the territory of Xin Hai, but this place appeared to be a completely different world from the city. Behind them were the bright lights of a bustling city, while before them was an enveloping darkness. Only traces of some abandoned buildings could be seen in the dark. This was the countryside of Xin Hai, a piece of land occupied by many abandoned buildings. The deeper one ventured into it, the lower the chance of one encountering another person.

“Dude, I will drop you off here.” The driver parked the taxi by the side of the road. No matter how much Chen Ge was willing to pay, he refused to go any further. Chen Ge did not waste too much time arguing with him. After he paid his fare, he got out from the car. He was about to leave when the driver poked his head out from the driver’s seat window and waved at Chen Ge.

“Is there anything else?”

“Based on your accent, you aren’t a local, right?” The driver looked left and right before he whispered at Chen Ge. “Do not stay too long at the countryside. I hear from the older generation that this place is a small hell. Many people have been buried here.”

Before Chen Ge could ask for more details, the driver turned the car around and returned the way he came. The speed was twice as fast compared to before.

### **Chapter 1159: When I Encounter Darkness, I Walk Right Into It (2 in 1)**

“A small hell?” Chen Ge kept his eyes on the taxi until the last bit of light from the taillight of the taxi was also swallowed up by the darkness of the night. The countryside of Xin Hai was extremely deserted; there were barely any people on the road. Flipping through the comic, Chen Ge had all his employees remain ready, and then he placed the white cat on the ground. The white cat, which was naturally cautious, perked its ears perked up. Its heterochromatic eyes were filled with intense anxiety. It stuck close to Chen Ge and showed more than once that it would crawl underneath Chen Ge’s clothes if it could.

"You also feel the danger in the air?" Scratching the white cat on the back of its head, Chen Ge took a deep breath. He moved away from the main street and trekked deeper into the countryside on the smaller path. Walking through the series of abandoned buildings, the surroundings became quieter and quieter. The sound of the insects chittering had disappeared, as did the last speck of light.

"This piece of land consists of mostly unfinished residential buildings. How come the construction was stopped only after the shells of the foundation were built?"

Using Yin Yang Vision, Chen Ge saw the many different crass words that were written on the outer walls in red paint. It appeared like there was a riot among the employees due to the delay in the construction company paying their salary. They desecrated the unfinished building to force their bosses to surrender to their demands, but something else had happened.

Not far away from the unfinished residential area was a large site of an abandoned factory area. There were chemical factories and medical factories, but most of the factories did not specify what kind of factory they were. The rust on the fences showed that they had been there for a long time already. They lacked cleaning, and various large machines had become garbage that was impossible to deal with. The Xin Hai countryside was larger than Chen Ge anticipated. The taxi driver basically dropped him at the edge of the countryside; the man did not intend to drive Chen Ge in any further.

To prevent the possibility of an ambush on the main road, Chen Ge did not dare use the paved street. He could only slowly seek out his own path this day. The interaction that he had with the Xin Hai police proved useful at a moment like this. It was not completely useless. At least when he visited the police station, he managed to gain a more detailed understanding of the building layout at Xin Hai's countryside. The countryside had been abandoned for so long that the location of the various abandoned buildings and factories were only marked down at the map used by the police force.

"Residential areas, various factors, cinemas, supermarkets, small parks, and the types of abandoned building at this countryside sure are numerous. It is basically like a forgotten city." Chen Ge had been wondering why the cursed hospital situated deep inside the countryside would be called Xin Hai Central Hospital, but he believed he had found the answer. If the entire Xin Hai countryside was seen as an abandoned city, then the cursed hospital was indeed placed at the center of this city. "The mission requires me to arrive at Xin Hai Central Hospital before midnight. I am on a time crunch. Looks like I'd better pick up my pace."

If Xin Hai was the cursed hospital's territory, Xin Hai countryside was their old lair. Chen Ge reminded himself that he had to be extremely careful with his every step here. At around 11 pm, Xin Hai Countryside, which was surrounded in darkness, suddenly had a flash of light cut through it. Chen Ge looked toward the source of the light. It looked like a car that was driving down the main road. "Wait, isn't that the car from Jiujiang Medical University? Could that be Ol' Wu and Zuo Han?"

Chen Ge knew how dangerous the cursed hospital was, so he immediately took out his phone to call Ol' Wu. "Ol' Wu, you have come to Xin Hai Countryside as well?"

"It was Zuo Han who drove the car away! I parked the car in the original parking spot at the apartment, and then I brought Zuo Han with me to check in at a hotel in the middle of the city. But half an hour ago, when I went to take a shower, Zuo Han grabbed my keys! He's now missing, and he is not answering my calls!"

“Zuo Han is not the kind of person to act so rashly. Take a close look around the room. See if he has left any clues behind for you!” Chen Ge was a bit desperate. The battle between the haunted house and the cursed hospital was on a completely different level. No matter how clever Zuo Han was, if he was dragged into this battle, there was only one ending.

Death.

“When I went to take a shower, I believe he was reading a book... Hmm, yes, found it.” The sound of pages being flipped came from the other side of the line. Ol’ Wu suddenly said, “Hmm?”

“Did you find something?”

“Some of the words on this page have been circled in pencil,” Ol’ Wu said softly. “Room, someone, the, is, in.”

“Someone is in the room?” Chen Ge widened his eyes. “Someone is in the room! Ol’ Wu, leave the room immediately! Now!”

By the time Chen Ge shouted that order, the other side of the line had already gone quiet. No matter how loud he cried, there was no response.

“The cursed hospital has already made their move, so what exactly do they wish to take from these people around me?” Chen Ge shared a very normal relationship with Ol’ Wu. There was basically nothing that Ol’ Wu knew about Chen Ge, but even so, he was not spared by the cursed hospital. The memory that Ol’ Wu might have when he accompanied Chen Ge in leaving Xin Hai had already been wiped away by Zhang Yi. The cursed hospital would not find any valuable information on him. That could be considered the only good news.

“Have they targeted anyone related to me? The hospital is most familiar with curses. Is it possible that they are attempting to put a curse on me through the many individuals who are related to me?”

For most curses to work, they required a medium. The scarier and harsher the curse, the more significant the medium needed. A very bad feeling overwhelmed Chen Ge’s heart.

“Time is needed to complete a curse. They have just taken Ol’ Wu, so if I am not wrong, their curse cannot have been completed just yet.”

Chen Ge looked at the car that sped into the darkness, and he moved faster than before. At 11:30 pm, Chen Ge finally arrived at the perimeter of Xin Hai Central Hospital. This abandoned hospital was situated at the middle of Xin Hai’s countryside. Several buildings were joined together to form an inverted cross. It gave off a sense of death, like a zone of hell.

“This is the place where my parents gone disappeared, huh?” Chen Ge did not use the front door. He summoned the red high heels and Xue Rong while he observed the hospital from the outside. Xue Rong did not expect that she would once again return to this place where her nightmare originated after she tried so hard to escape from it. The curse in her body was evoked. If not for the suppression from the red high heels, she would have gone berserk.

“Have you lost your mind? Why would you voluntarily come here to seek death? Can’t you just live your life peacefully in Jiujiang? What is so bad about that?” Xue Rong tried her best to maintain her rationality.

“Stop wasting time. You were a night doctor at the cursed hospital before, so you should be very familiar with the inside of this place.”

“I am not going back into this place. There is no way you can convince me!” Xue Rong was on the verge of breakdown. Chen Ge had the red high heels add new curses on Xue Rong.

“The cursed hospital has captured my employees, and they are threatening with the lives of many other innocent people. I am not asking you to do me a favor here. If you do not want to help me, then I will have my employees swallow you up right this moment.” Chen Ge’s tone was sharp and icy. At a moment like this, hesitation and kindness would not help. It would only delay his plan. The black lines on Xue Rong’s body continued to increase as the red high heels applied more and more curses on Xue Rong. When Xue Rong was treating the red high heels, she too had placed many curses on the red high heels. In a way, this was a cycle in and of itself.

“Stop! Fine.” Xue Rong’s eyes were bleeding. Black blood vessels surfaced on her skin, and she was in extreme pain. “The cursed hospital will not capture people for no reason. There are only two kinds of people that they will capture—doctors who are worth investing in and humans who possess the unique properties to become patients! When the doctors are tricked into joining the hospital, they will start their work as a day doctor, but the patients are not so lucky. They will be kept inside the quarantine area. If they can survive for three days, they will gain a new number, which will replace their name.”

“Quarantine area?”

“Yes, all the new patients will be locked up there.” The black blood vessels on Xue Rong’s skin disappeared. She glanced at the red high heels fearfully. Her once patient had become a very scary monster. “The central hospital is very big, and the quarantine areas are at the deepest part of the hospital. I hope you will reconsider what you are doing.”

“I think you might have misunderstood me. I am not going to the quarantine areas to save people.”

“Then, what are you planning to do?” Xue Rong was a bit confused.

“My plan is to completely destroy this hospital and clear out any humans or ghosts who have already fallen for the curse. After cleansing the whole hospital, naturally, I will be able to rescue the people that they have kidnapped.” Chen Ge waved his arms. “Bring us into the hospital. Lead the way.”

Since she was basically no different from a hostage, Xue Rong had no choice. She led Chen Ge to the left side of the hospital.

“This here is the side door. It is relatively safer because only the hospital staff know about it.”

After Xue Rong said that, both she and Chen Ge saw the car that was parked beside the side door.

“Why would the car from Jiujiang Medical University be parked here? Did Zuo Han enter the hospital from the side door? But didn’t you say that only the hospital staff know about the existence of this door?”

“But that’s the truth!” Xue Rong was clueless as well. “I have no reason to lie to you. I will end up worse a thousand times if I am recaptured by the cursed hospital compared to being captured by you. Therefore, I will unconditionally side with you!”

“If the hospital staff know about this place, then doesn’t that mean that they will predict me using this door? This route is not as safe as you think.” Chen Ge shook his head. He chose a window that was even more out the way. At 11:54 pm, Chen Ge officially entered the cursed hospital. Xin Hai Central Hospital was supposed to have been abandoned for a long time already, but the inside of the building reeked of disinfectant, and there were occasional footprints and shoe prints on the ground as if people still wandered these halls.

“When Captain Cai called me earlier, he told me that there was no trace of any recent human activity at the hospital. Why would he lie to me? Was something standing next to him when he made that call?”

With the aid of Yin Yang Vision, darkness posed no trouble for Chen Ge. He carefully moved down the corridor. Without moving that far, Chen Ge saw someone had used a red paint to write the following on the wall of the corridor—‘This is a sickened world, why not destroy it?’

The ghastly handwriting combined with bright red paint, it stood out even in the dark. Chen Ge frowned slightly. He continued to move forward. The real maddening side of this hospital was slowly being exposed to Chen Ge. Yellowed death notices appeared on the ground, and black and white pictures of doctors were hung upside down on the walls. Some of the pictures had scratch marks from fingernails, and the white coats were poked through with needles. “The owner of the cursed hospital is the hospital director, and the doctors... why would they allow such vandalism of the doctor’s pictures?”

The situation was more complicated than Chen Ge thought. The corridor that he had been walking along appeared to reach down into the endless darkness, and every door seemed to hide a monster behind it. Every corner of the hospital showed signs of the patients’ struggles. The walls had been repainted layer after layer. The surface looked white as snow, but the inner layers were already corrupted, and the new layer did nothing to cover up the rotting smell.

“This whole place does not feel right, but strangely enough, I cannot sense the presence of any monster or ghosts.” Chen Ge had superhuman senses. Ever since he entered the hospital, he did not sense any danger. He only felt strangely uncomfortable, like he was dropped inside a pool of quicksand. The white cat, which was highly alert when it was outside the hospital, started to relax once inside the hospital. It strode next to Chen Ge and sometimes turned its head around to observe things out of curiosity.

“Do not let your guard down. The night at the cursed hospital has always been like this. You should be lucky that you have not run into any patients or night doctors. Every single one of them is scarier than the last.”

Even though she was already a Red Specter, when Xue Rong thought back to these things, she was still afraid.

“Are you sure? How come it feels like all the ghosts have already decided to leave tonight?”

Chen Ge pushed open the door of the sickroom. He saw the handwriting left behind by the patient on the wall next to the bed—‘Who can bring me away from this sickened world?’

“Why does everyone here think the world is sick? The truth is that because they themselves are sick, and that is why the world look sick from their perspective, isn’t it?”

There was plenty of similar handwriting, scratch marks, and paper notes that had the same message. Chen Ge had a feeling the cursed hospital was doing this on purpose. A normal person was led into the impression that they were living inside a sickened world, and then the cursed hospital used many crazy methods to show them how sick the world was to get the normal person to approve of the world’s sickness. Once that impression was made, the normal person would officially become a patient.

“No matter what, I cannot allow my conviction to be shaken. No matter how imperfect this world might be, it exists in reality!” Just walking down the corridor, the sickened world had already appeared before his eyes who know how many times already. Chen Ge finally understood why he felt so uncomfortable when he arrived at this place. Xin Hai Central Hospital was different from the outside world. In fact, one could say that the whole of Xin Hai’s countryside was different from other places. This place was the real sickened world. “They appear to have the aim of forcing madness on everyone that enters the hospital, be it the patients or the doctors.”

The scariest part of the cursed hospital was not the fact that they would kill people but that they would do everything in their power to change a person, like with the ghost fetus. What the shadow was looking for was bliss. He was desperate for love and being loved, but after he ran into the cursed hospital, the shadow’s worldview was corrupted. The child, who originally had a chance at salvation, was turned into a Demon God in the world of the dark fog. He had committed many erroneous crimes and had been made to suffer the most painful and the most despairing curse, and the culprit behind everything that had happened to him was the cursed hospital.

Chen Ge had no idea why the cursed hospital would do something like that, but he knew that what he needed to do now was ensure that he was not influenced by the cursed hospital. From the moment his employees were kidnapped, the cursed hospital appeared to have initiated their plan. Chen Ge wanted to destroy the cursed hospital, and the cursed hospital wanted to turn Chen Ge into a patient. The history behind the two parties had started more than twenty years ago; it crossed the line of life and death and two cities. It involved many forces. Many ghosts and people were waiting for this moment.

Walking out from the reception hall, Chen Ge entered the ICU. When Xue Rong and his employees were not paying attention, Chen Ge silently brushed against the wedding ring on his finger. Xiao Sun was located somewhere underneath the hospital. Chen Ge was very close to him. Chen Ge did not head directly to Xiao Sun but continued with his original plan. Along the way, he did not run into any living person or any ghost. He moved smoothly and arrived at the door that led underground.

“The first quarantine zone is underneath this door. I need to remind you, this place is very dangerous.” Xue Rong’s expression became quite strange. Black lines started to appear in her blood red eyes. “The atmosphere is indeed rather unusual at the hospital tonight. You’d better remain on alert.”

Looking at the dark corridor, Chen Ge rushed into it without any hesitation.

### **Chapter 1160: Am I Still Me? (2in1)**

The underground layout of Xin Hai Central Hospital was incredibly complicated. The internal space was very large, and the twisted handwriting could be seen everywhere. The air reeked of heavy disinfectant.



The ground was littered with stained patient's garbs and various types of trash. Occasionally, 'no entry' signs could be seen at the corners of the corridors, but the wooden signs had all been decayed away, and there were clear signs of struggles from the nail marks there were left behind on them.

"How come I have not encountered a single person or ghost at all? Is this Xiao Sun's work? But no matter how powerful Xiao Sun is, he could not have cleared an entire scenario on his own!"

Chen Ge walked down the underground corridor for a very long time. He looked into the many different sickrooms that were not locked. It was not until then that he realized none of the rooms at the hospital appeared to be locked. He could open the door and explore them if he wanted to. He had no idea what this meant but his feeling told him that this was not right.

"I have to be careful around these 'doors'."

The atmosphere inside the hospital became stranger and stranger. The feeling of oppression and suffocation grew stronger and stronger. It was as if the building that they were inside was slowly dropping into the abyss, and no one inside the building would be able to escape.

"If you move further ahead, you will reach the quarantine area. Everyone that is brought to the hospital, be it doctor or patient, will be first sent to the quarantine zone." Xue Rong's eyes were moving around. Her pupils were flushed with blood.

"Then that means that you were once sent into the quarantine area when you first arrived at this hospital as well. In that case, do you still remember any details from your days spent inside the quarantine zone?" Chen Ge suspected the secrets behind the hospital were all locked behind the quarantine zone.

"The quarantine zone's main purpose is for the hospital to observe the patients and have them recognize their true selves. After their condition has stabilized, they will be released." Xue Rong did not really answer Chen Ge's question, but instead, she introduced the function of the quarantine zone to Chen Ge.

"How would a normal person be forced to recognize their true self? How would a person who is not sick get their condition stabilized?" Chen Ge could not help but frown. "What exactly is inside the quarantine area?"

What Chen Ge did not tell Xue Rong was, he realized Xiao Sun was currently located inside the quarantine zone.

"I really cannot remember anything. After leaving the quarantine zone, I realize I was unable to remember anything that has happened inside the quarantine zone." Xue Rong did not look like she was lying around. "All I could remember was after I left the quarantine zone, I started to approve with the hospital's philosophy and voluntarily stayed to work at this place."

"You cannot remember anything about it?" Chen Ge thought back to the final stage of the ghost fetus scenario. He did not see any memory that was related to the quarantine zone inside the apartment building that was a tome of the ghost fetus' memory. In fact, the ghost fetus' memory started after he was moved into the sickroom. Based on what Xue Rong had said earlier, when a new person was brought to the hospital, they first had to be sent into the quarantine zone and not assigned a

sickroom. "Did the ghost fetus forget the incidents that happened to him inside the quarantine zone as well?"

Chen Ge continued ahead. There was not even a glimpse of light around him, nor was there any sign of life. A strange feeling started to arise in his heart. The underground building of the cursed hospital was very similar to the underground scenario of his own haunted house; the atmosphere was surprisingly similar. It was eerie, scary, and it kept creating different nightmares to consume various negative emotions.

"It feels like both the black phone and the cursed hospital are trying to build the same thing but the path that they have chosen to do this is completely different." Chen Ge eventually reached the end of the corridor, and before him now was a staircase that led deeper underground. At the corner of the staircase, written in uneven writing were the words 'Quarantine Area'.

The signal that came from the wedding ring became more intense. Chen Ge was on high alert and slowly moved down to the second basement level. "This is the quarantine area?"

Chen Ge glanced down at the sickrooms at both sides. The rooms were filled with many different old clothes and old shoes. Some of the models had already gone out of fashion. They were from at least ten years ago.

"I saw a similar set up at the old hospital's storage where Chi Ren worked. The shelves there were filled with various kinds of shoes as well."

At the time, the image had left a deep impression on Chen Ge. Each pair of shoes appeared to represent a person. After entering the storage, he felt like there were many different dead people squatting on the shelves.

He continued to move down the corridor. Several consecutive rooms that he walked by were filled to the brim with old clothes. "Just how many people has the cursed hospital 'treated' in the past twenty years?"

Chen Ge temporarily did not notice anything special about the quarantine zone. What changed was the number of crazed words that were left on the walls. They overlapped over each other. Even if one did not pay them specific attention, the message would be imprinted in one's mind.

The smell of disinfectant in the air became so heavy that it had reached the point of being stinging to the nose. But what most alarmed Chen Ge was that even though the smell of the disinfectant was so intense, it did nothing to cover up the barely discernible stench that was lingering in the air. He was very familiar with this stench; he had once encountered it in the world behind the ghost fetus' door. It was a kind of stench that only his nose could pick up.

He carefully walked into the deepest part of the quarantine zone. Chen Ge finally stopped in front of a door. This was the fourth floor underground of the cursed hospital, and it was the location where the stench was the thickest and the location where the signal from the wedding ring was the strongest. Xiao Sun appeared to be behind this door.

“The whole hospital has not even one person. Why would they purposely leave Xiao Sun behind the door? Could it be that Xiao Sun has already been exposed? Or are all the ghosts from the cursed hospital currently hiding this door?”

The situation at the cursed hospital was too strange. Chen Ge did not dare lower his guard. He gave it some thought. Before he pushed the door open, he whispered Zhang Ya’s name in his heart. The shadow behind him started to ripple. Zhang Ya also did not discover anything that was too strange about this hospital. She could not sense anything dangerous about this place. This appeared to be a very normal abandoned hospital.

With a Demon God present, Chen Ge felt more comforted. He signaled for Xue Rong to go and open this door at the deepest part of the quarantine zone. Xue Rong herself was one of the more powerful Red Specters. She would be able to take care of herself when she was faced with danger. Furthermore, she was at the constant edge of a breakdown, and she would not be able to listen to Chen Ge’s order if that happened, so if an accident happened, it would not decrease the overall power level of Chen Ge’s haunted house.

Chen Ge had taken many different factors into consideration before he decided to have Xue Rong push open the door. Xue Rong did not refuse. In her mind, her memory about her days in the quarantine zone was a blank as well. She wanted to recover the part of her memory that was lost. The finger that was covered in wounds landed on the door. Xue Rong slightly pushed. Just as she pushed open the door a gap, the shadow behind Chen Ge started to spread like a black ocean!

An indescribable horror reached its boiling point, and a pale arm reached through the line between reality and the void, carrying an enormous wave of blood as it surged at the door!

At the same time, the door before Xue Rong was thrown open from the inside. An arm that was carved with many black human faces reached out to block Zhang Ya’s wave of blood, and then another blood red arm reached out from inside the door to grab at Chen Ge’s shoulder!

“Two Demon Gods!” Black hair wound itself tightly around Chen Ge’s body. He became the battleground for the three Demon Gods. His body temperature instantly dropped below zero. Chen Ge’s physical body was being torn in many different directions. Just as he was about to be torn apart by the three Demon Gods, the black hair completely enveloped itself around Chen Ge. Zhang Ya hugged Chen Ge from behind and charged actively into the door!

Zhang Ya’s diary that was sitting inside Chen Ge’s backpack disintegrated into dust, and the lines of words appeared on Chen Ge’s body instead. At the same time, the blood on Yan Danian’s comic was slowly being washed away. All the pictures started to disappear. One Red Specter and ghost after another was pulled into the door. As the owner of the comic, before the last page of the comic disappeared, he held a ballpoint pen that was covered in cellophane tape in his hand and was madly drawing something at the edge of the page that was quickly dissolving. Before he was sucked into the door, the final painting that he had completed also appeared on Chen Ge’s back.

Heaven and Earth spun. His body felt as if it had been pulled apart into small pieces and reconstructed again. Chen Ge hugged his head with both of his hands. Many different memories in his mind were being squashed, and they were replaced by painful memories that did not belong to him.

“This is a sickened world. Actually, you are more familiar with that fact than anyone else!”

In less than half a minute, the fourth basement level of the cursed hospital returned to normal.

Death, silence, oppression, and a complete void of hope.

...

He slowly opened his eyes. His line of sight was very blurry. Chen Ge tried multiple times before he managed to find a focus. His body was covered in pain. The pain came from all parts of his body, but the source of the most intense pain was his brain. Chen Ge found that he was unable to control his body. All he could do was barely move his eyes about. He realized he was lying inside a sickroom. The sunlight shone into the room through the window that was equipped with an iron fence. It was very warm and comfortable. The sickroom was not big, and there were other people in the room because Chen Ge could hear drifts of conversation coming from the other corners of the room.

“C Reactive Protein, homocysteine, male hormone, head CT, hypophamine CT, breast CT, the speed of the nervous transport system does not any obvious anomaly...”

“Similar checks have been done during his previous bout of fainting. His mind was clear, inspection of his heart and lungs showed no sign of damage, the nervous system showed no sign of negative impact, and his limbs were working just fine. There should’ve been a chance for him to improve, but his condition suddenly worsened after the treatment began.

“The patient suffers from paranoid schizophrenia as well as serious delusions...”

Searching for the source of the voice, Chen Ge slowly turned his head and looked beside him. Two doctors in white coats were chatting with one another. After the younger doctor noticed Chen Ge had woken up, he immediately stopped talking and walked out from the room with the document file in his hand. The other middle-aged doctor though walked over to Chen Ge’s bedside.

“How did you sleep last night?”

Chen Ge raised his head with difficulty. When he saw the middle-aged doctor’s face, his lips opened slightly, but he realized he was unable to utter a single word.

“You’ve forgotten everything again?” The middle-aged doctor appeared to have gotten used to this already. “I am your main physician. My name is Gao Ming. You can call me Doctor Gao for short.”

“Doctor Gao?” The words were slowly formed in Chen Ge’s lips. His throat was completely raw. It was incredibly taxing even just for him to say these two words.

“Looks like you have come back to us.” Doctor Gao removed the straps that had been used to keep Chen Ge’s limbs bound. “Last night, when you were acting up, do you know how much trouble you gave me and the workers?”

“Me? Acting up?” Whenever Chen Ge tried to remember what had happened, an intense pain would shoot through his mind as if someone was using a knife to stab into his brain.

“Take these pills and have a good rest. After your condition has completely stabilized, I will apply to have you sent over to the normal sickbay.” Doctor Gao fed Chen Ge two white pills. After swallowing the

meds, Chen Ge realized his headache was gradually going away. After ensuring that Chen Ge had swallowed the pills, Doctor Gao turned to walk away.

"Wait a minute, Doctor Gao." Even though he was quickly overwhelmed by drowsiness, Chen Ge still called after Doctor Gao. "What is this place?"

"Xin Hai Central Hospital."

"Who brought me here?"

"Don't you worry about that. Just get a good rest. Do not go and think about those things. It will only hinder your recovery." Doctor Gao left after he said all that. The sickroom became incredibly quite other than the occasional bird song that came from outside the window. The warm sunlight showered itself warmly on Chen Ge's body through the iron net. He tried his best to gather his strength, but he was unable to sit up.

"My head hurts so bad..." His mind was working very slow, and whenever he tried to formulate a thought, intense pain would shoot through his body, so all Chen Ge could do was lie in the bed quietly. After who knew how long, the door was pushed open, and a young female nurse walked in carrying his meal. When Chen Ge saw the female nurse's face, the name practically slipped out of his lips. "Xu Wan?"

When she heard Chen Ge's voice, it was clear that the female nurse was quite shocked. She placed the tray of food on Chen Ge's bedside table and she sat down beside Chen Ge. "You managed to remember my name after all? I guess the six months I have spent looking after you were not a complete waste after all."

The female nurse was very kind. She looked cute and her voice was very soothing.

"Six months? You have taken care of me for half a year?" Chen Ge's brows were knitted in a frown, and his brain felt like it had been pierced with a thousand needles.

Seeing Chen Ge in such pain, the female nurse quickly stood up, "Your condition has not stabilized yet. Please do not use your brain too much. It will only cause further injury."

"Tell me, can you please tell me?" The pain scrunched up Chen Ge's face, but he still gritted his teeth to repeat those words.

"I will not tell you anything, lest it puts any more pressure on you. Please do not exhaust yourself like this. I will go and get the doctor now!" Xu Wan turned to leave, but the corner of her shirt was grabbed hold by Chen Ge.

Turning around, Xu Wan looked into Chen Ge's eyes that were filled with pain and sadness. "Who brought me here? What has happened to me?"

Xu Wan did not the heart to leave. She sat back down beside Chen Ge and reached out to massage Chen Ge's arm that was bursting with green veins. "If you can calm down, I will tell you what you wish to know. That is a promise."

Taking a deep breath, Chen Ge forced himself to stop thinking, and the pain slowly faded away. His facial expression slowly returned to normal. Chen Ge was like a wounded stray. His eyes were filled with the lethargy and pain after a long struggle. "Now, can you tell me?"

“About half a year ago, you drove your parents to the hospital. Your whole family was caught in a traffic accident, and only you were saved in the aftermath.” At this point, Xu Wan took a pause. She watched Chen Ge’s status closely. After noticing Chen Ge did not react too intensely, she continued. “But your brain was heavily damaged. You were in coma for a very long time. Not too long ago, you finally woke up, but the effect of the traffic accident appeared to leave you with a serious case of delusion.”

“I am suffering from delusions?”

“Yes, I believe it is your brain trying to protect itself. You refuse to admit that your parents are already gone, and you keep evading the truth and live inside the memory that you created for yourself.” Xu Wan looked at Chen Ge with clear concern in her eyes. “Occasionally, you lash out, but at other times, you are so still. During the few moments of sentience, you would describe a world where humans and ghosts were able to coexist, and you kept saying that you’d search for your parents, believing you could one day find them.”

“That was not a delusion, and I did not make any of that up.” Without even thinking, Chen Ge’s subconscious offered the words.

“I did not mean to shatter your dream, but if you insist on staying inside that dream, your only company will be pain. It is time to move on.” Xu Wan sighed under her breath. “Actually, you know that’s all fake. For example, in your story, you have not even met your parents because they are already dead. Furthermore, you rarely drive to any location; you always prefer public transport or taxi. That is because your subconscious is still afraid of driving after that car accident that cost your parent’s lives. It is not that you do not know what is happening. It is just that you have been purposely avoiding seeing the truth before you.”