

## Horrors 331

### Chapter 331: Give the Child a Future

No one knew for sure how many ghosts were hiding inside Coffin Village. Chen Ge was reminded of what Ah Qing had said—Coffin Village had ten percent dead people, ten percent living people, and eight percent ghosts. Based on that percentage, we've only seen a small part.

Chen Ge's situation was not that optimistic. The three sets of dirty clothes floated toward them, the two kids with red paint on their faces bounced happily toward them, the door of the old house next to them creaked open, and something that looked like a human face poked out from underneath the pillow. All the roads were blocked off. They could only move forward, but what waited ahead seemed to be creepy bright lights.

Using his Yin Yang Vision, Chen Ge could see these were swaying human skulls. He charged ahead with the hammer. He did not plan to slow down. Rushing ahead meant he needed to deal with some of the ghosts, but if they stayed, they would be surrounded by all the ghosts.

"Chen Ge, slow down! It was so dark earlier; the sudden appearance of lights has to be a trick. Those are probably the Skull Lanterns that Master Bai mentioned earlier!" Ol' Wei was not consumed by fear, and he tried to warn Chen Ge.

"Don't worry, I got a good look. Those are just normal lights. Charge ahead! Don't be afraid!" Chen Ge's footsteps did not slow down. The three ran with all their might. The baby in Master Bai's arms started to wail, which drew more monsters to them. With the light from the Skull Lantern, the surrounding darkness was banished, and they could clearly see the advancing shadows.

Weird footsteps echoed down the street. Chen Ge raised his head to look. A dark coffin was moving through the alley. The coffin was carried on all four sides by villagers who had their heads lowered. They looked like normal villagers, but their expressions were extremely scary. Their lips cracked open with creepy smiles like they were not carrying a coffin but food.

"The Pallbearers? Xiao Chen! Stop! Chen Ge! Don't go any closer!" Master Bai hugged the bamboo basket and used his arm to shield the baby. He could not stop Chen Ge.

Running at the front, Chen Ge saw the four weird men carrying the coffin, but he could not stop himself anymore.

The four Pallbearers walked out of the alley, and the coffin blocked Chen Ge's way. It looked like a coincidence, but it could have been premeditated too. Chen Ge was not one to underestimate his enemy, even if they were ghosts. Since they were unwilling to let them past, he had to find a way to push through. Only by disrupting the opponent's plan could they be safe.

"Don't mess with the Pallbearers!" Master Bai yelled, but his warning fell on deaf ears. "We'll talk later!"

The hammer fell right on the coffin. Splinters flew, and all the ghosts stopped.

"Quick!" Ol' Wei grabbed the baby from Master Bai and hopped over the coffin. He had been a police officer for about twenty years, and this was the first time he had met someone as rash as Chen Ge. The

four Pallbearers slowly raised their heads. The smiles froze on their faces as they looked at the shattered coffin lid. Green surfaced on their pale faces!

Shrill screams echoed down the narrow street, and the four Pallbearers chased after Chen Ge. The lingering spirits escaped from the coffin. They bowed toward Chen Ge before disappearing. Chen Ge had no idea what he had done. At the time, he only wanted to smash the coffin; he did not even turn to look at the aftermath.

The three raced down the road. They got close to the lights. Ol' Wei, who carried the baby, realized that something was wrong. Behind the bright lights, there appeared to be something circular like a ball.

"Chen Ge, are you sure those are normal lights?" The baby in his arms cried, and a cluster of ghosts chased behind them. Ol' Wei did not dare slow down.

"I'm sure!" Chen Ge dragged Master Bai to follow Ol' Wei. The lights swayed. They moved for another few meters, and even Master Bai, with his poor eyesight, could see the pale faces behind the lights. "Chen Ge, stop! Those are Skull Lantern!"

Master Bai pulled for Chen Ge to stop, but the man's speed did not decrease. If anything, he dragged Master Bai forward. "Skull Lanterns are still lanterns, right?"

The hammer waved, and the first Skull Lantern that floated toward them was sent flying before it even managed to attack!

The candle fell to the ground and extinguished next to Chen Ge's feet. "Follow me!"

The three raced through the group of human heads, and there was suddenly the sound of a marching band. They turned to look. Inside the street that Ah Qing had marked with a red cross on a map was a group of people. They were blowing sad music on the trumps, and people were wearing mourning clothes. They wailed and wailed, but there were no tears. Paper money fluttered in the wind, and the death flag waved. They held paper dolls that were bright red as they headed for Chen Ge's group.

"This is bad!" Master Bai's heart was racing. His fists tightened, and he was so nervous that he could not finish a normal sentence.

"These are different from normal ghosts?" Chen Ge also realized something. When the funeral procession appeared, the Skull Lanterns floated off immediately—the Sedan Kids and Mummy Wraps also stopped. Only those four Pallbearers became more insane.

"Of course, this is the Death Funeral, the dead holding a funeral for the dead! The Pallbearers are part of the Death Funeral. If the coffin is not delivered, the Death Funeral procession cannot end," Master Bai explained.

"Then, we'd better get a move on."

The Skull Lanterns had been scared off by the Death Funeral, so the three made use of this opening to charge ahead. There was a split in the road. The left was an empty road, and the right led to the Death Funeral.

“Go ahead, I’ll stay back to buy us some time.” Chen Ge shoved the map into Master Bai’s hands. He had memorized the map. The ghosts that were at the front of the Death Funeral had already caught up with the Pallbearers. When they saw the coffin that Chen Ge had shattered, their expression was amusing.

“Go on, I have a feeling I’m being targeted.” Chen Ge felt the gazes of the ghosts on him. He stood in the middle of the road, holding the hammer, like he was telling them he was the culprit. Chen Ge was made uncomfortable by the hatred that collected on him. “Quick! I’ll delay them! Just leave me be!”

He slid the comic in his chest. Chen Ge did not want them around because it might affect the real power of his workers. However, his words had a different effect on Master Bai and Ol’ Wei.

“Don’t be stupid! We’ll go together!” Ol’ Wei grabbed Chen Ge’s arm, and he sounded urgent.

“I’ll catch up in a bit, go!” Chen Ge was calling Xu Yin and Zhang Ya’s name internally, and Xu Yin seemed to respond.

“No!” Ol’ Wei and Master Bai said at the same time. They did not think Chen Ge would make such a choice; they could not handle the pressure.

“We don’t have time to argue.” Chen Ge pushed Ol’ Wei’s hands away as he said seriously, “Do this for the sake of the baby. He was born in the darkness and hasn’t had the chance to see the sun. You have to get him out of this place!”

Then Chen Ge charged into the fray. He was like a moth flying toward the flame. Seeing the young man submerged in the sea of monsters, Master Bai and Ol’ Wei’s eyes were red. In this starless light, his figure was like the only brightness.

“Chen Ge...” Ol’ Wei and Master Bai could not speak. There was really such an honorable person who would sacrifice their lives to save others. Ol’ Wei hugged the baby tightly. “Looks like I’ve misunderstood him. We were mistaken!”

Chen Ge rushed at the Death Funeral and immediately ran down the other direction. There was a whole group of ghosts chasing after him. Of course, he did not dare to turn around. As he called Xu Yin’s name, he flipped through the comic. “Uncle! Are you there? Help me!”

### **Chapter 332: Fight for the Well**

Without Master Bai and Ol’ Wei holding him back, Chen Ge ran much faster. He raced through the village filled with monsters and screamed Xu Yin and Yan Danian’s names. Zhang Ya was hibernating, so she gave no response. Xu Yin did give some response, but he was in the middle of a crucial transformation, so he could not help Chen Ge.

Yan Danian was the only ghost Chen Ge could rely on, but this Lesser Red Specter was cowering in the corner of his comic. He picked up his pen and drew circles on the floor, pretending not to hear anything. It was obvious that he was more scared than Chen Ge.

It was understandable. The uncle had locked himself inside the drawer and refused to interact with people. The first time he had chosen to trust some and exit his comfort zone, Chen Ge brought him to

Coffin Village. The village that was filled with monsters and danger unsettled the uncle. The world that he had in mind was not like this.

The ceremony had reached its end. All the monsters inside the village had awakened. He could turn down any corner, and he would see dangerous monsters.

“There are only two relatively safe places left in this village. One is the small building next to the ancestral hall. The Red Specter cares about the old lady who lives there, so none of the ghosts dare get close. The second is to meet up with the ceremony procession. Jiang Ling and the Zhu woman are there. Based on the loud commotion earlier, they’re probably fighting with the ghost stories society.”

Chen Ge thought about it and decided to head to the loud noise. There was an old lady living inside that building next to the ancestral hall. If something happened, the old lady would suffer with him. Therefore, he decided to bring this chaos to the ghost stories society. Chen Ge ran for his life, and the monsters behind him continued to gather. Chen Ge was feeling wronged; all he did was wreck a coffin, why were these spirits so relentless?

The people who were fighting probably also did not expect Chen Ge to cause the whole village to chase after him. Seeing the group that grew behind him, Chen Ge stopped caring about the red crosses on Ah Qing’s map. He ran past them; his only wish was to leave as soon as possible. This caused the group trailing behind him to get bigger.

Gradually, the chaos that he had caused was not smaller than the commotion near the outskirt of the village. The cold wind caressed his face, and the wails echoed endlessly behind him. Chen Ge forced his way through the Coffin Village. Probably because it had taken down so many spirits, blood trails appeared on Doctor Skull-cracker’s hammer, and it looked even scarier.

Chen Ge leaned against the wall and took in big gulps of air. Even if he was physically stronger than most, he was fast approaching his limit. He turned to look back, and what he saw made his scalp tingle.

The quantity was unbelievable. In this situation, even Xu Yin broke through to Red Specter, it would not change the situation. Chen Ge needed Zhang Ya’s help. “I knew a three-star scenario wouldn’t be so simple!”

There was still some time to dawn, but Chen Ge did not think he could hold on any longer. “If I fail to unlock this three-star scenario, it won’t appear again. I have to give it my all.”

With a grit of his teeth, Chen Ge raced down another street and finally reached the western side of the village, the place where he heard the sound of fighting. Dragging the hammer, leading the host of ghosts, when Chen Ge exited the street, the two forces that were fighting stopped at the same time. When they saw Chen Ge, Chen Ge also saw them.

There were four wells around Coffin Village. The ceremony started at the western well. The ceremony then rounded the village and ended back at the western well.

The Zhu woman was hugging a Red Specter ghost baby with no facial features but few apertures on his face. Jiang Ling and Fan Yu were standing behind her. Facing them were two people wearing black robes. Their whole bodies were covered by the robes.

*Ghost stories society!*

These words appeared in Chen Ge's mind when he saw the black robes.

*Two at once? Could the chairperson be among them?*

The continuous murders, the trek into the mountain, it looked like the ghost stories society was determined to finish something that night. For the sake of their goal, they even went head-to-head with law enforcement.

*Since it's something so important, the chairperson who has been hiding behind the veil might do this personally.*

The situation was chaotic. The ghost stories society and the Zhu woman seemed to be fighting for the well. Standing next to the well, wearing a white and red shirt, was the spider-like Zhu Xinrou who was fighting a uniquely-shaped thin monster.

The thin monster, which symbolized human desire, was the most common monster inside the society. The stronger the monster, the longer its body and the more human faces it had on its body. However, this monster that was fighting Jiang Ling's sister was slightly different. It was sewn together by 6 shadows, but they shared the same lower body. It looked weird but was very strong. It had the upper hand when fighting Jiang Ling's sister.

The fight was bloody, and both had numerous wounds on their bodies. However, Zhu Xinrou, who had less fighting experience, was slowly losing. *These two Specters looked to be stronger than Xu Yin, but they're not Red Specters.*

Chen Ge initially thought that Zhu Xinrou was a Red Specter, but in comparison to the ghost baby, the difference was quite obvious. When the ghost baby showed up, the whole street's lanterns turned red; the presence was completely different.

*Looks like I've underestimated the terror of a Red Specter.*

Due to Zhang Ya, Chen Ge thought Red Specters were quite common. However, after witnessing the fight between these two Specters, he realized the gap between Red Specters and normal ghosts.

Jiang Ling's sister was barely hanging on, but the Zhu woman held the ghost baby tightly. It did not seem like she was going to help Zhu Xinrou. She did not turn to look at the adjacent battle. Her eyes were on the black robes.

*The only threat that can make a Red Specter cautious is another Red Specter. The black robe opposite from the Zhu woman has to have a Red Specter on them.*

The society's power surprised Chen Ge. The patient known at the Devil had two Red Specters, and now this black robe had another Red Specter. The society had three remaining members, but there were only two before him—the most dangerous one was probably still in hiding!

The two parties stood around the well; they were trying to feel each other out, and no one made a move.

Their plan was probably wait for Zhu Xinrou to lose, and then the situation would be bad for the Zhu woman. However, neither party anticipated Chen Ge's arrival. The scariest part was, this intruder was leading half the village's ghosts with him!

In just a few seconds, Chen Ge understood what was happening. He waved the hammer and yelled over his shoulder, "Come and get me!"

With numerous ghosts following behind him, Chen Ge led them to rush at the two black robes.

### **Chapter 333: Chaos**

The members of the ghost stories society were surprised by Chen Ge's sudden appearance, but when they saw the stampede following Chen Ge, they had difficulty calming down. One Chen Ge was not that scary, but a whole village of angry ghosts was. There were so many of them!

The two members had chills run up their spine. The ghosts led by Chen Ge rushed at them like tsunami; the whole process only took several seconds. They were not even sure whether the ghosts were following Chen Ge or chasing after him.

As an outsider, the two naturally treated Chen Ge and the ghosts behind him as enemies. The monster that was sewn together from six thin monsters forced Zhu Xinrou back as it tried to return to the black robes. However, it was just one monster, so it was powerless before the wave of angry ghosts. Only a Red Specter could suppress a whole village of ghosts!

The black robes knew this fact well. They shared a quick word, and the one who had been staying back sighed lightly as he took out his hand from his sleeve. He was holding a wooden box in his palm. When the black robe showed his hand, Chen Ge's eyes narrowed. The blood in his body sped up, and he was reminded of the Wednesday meeting. "Very fair skin, tapered fingers, I've seen this hand before—the owner of this hand was just next to me!"

The familiar event appeared in his mind, and Chen Ge couldn't control himself anymore and shouted, "No. 10! You're ghost stories society's No. 10!"

When Chen Ge shouted out the number, the hand shook before it quickly recovered. The black robe was not affected by Chen Ge and opened the wooden box. The box was similar to the box Zhang Ya had snatched from the devil; there was a piece of black blood left on the edge.

As the box opened, the ghost baby in the Zhu woman's arm seemed to sense something. Its body started to leak blood like it was ready for battle. However, since the member dared to take out the wooden box, they had naturally come prepared. They did not mind the ghost baby but put their focus fully on the box. "Xiong Qing, you can come out now. Your wish will be fulfilled."

Chen Ge's heart shook when he heard that. "Wasn't Xiong Qing injured by the police and is currently hospitalized?"

He remembered this patient with hemi syndrome. Half of his face was covered with wounds, and the other half was normal. When he was at the Third Sick Hall, Chen Ge had chased this Xiong Qing throughout the building. The black robe continued to call, and the black blood at the edge of the box slowly dissipated as a strong stench leaked out from the box.

The blood vessels crawled out from the box and knitted themselves together to form a man in a red patient's garb. Half of this man was no different from normal while his other half was made up from

pulsing blood vessels. It looked like the one half of the man had been torn apart when he was alive. The blood vessels tried to coagulate several times, but they failed.

*Just how much pain was he in before he passed away?*

Xiong Qing suffered from hemineglect, so his worldview was different from others. From how he saw it, the whole world was slanted, and only he had the means to fix it. He had once been the doctor at the Third Sick Hall and tried to do that to his patients. Now it appeared like he was trying to fix himself.

His eyes slowly open, and his bloodshot eyes fell on Chen Ge. Xiong Qing's resentment toward him was palpable, and even after his death, he wanted to kill Chen Ge!

*What's going on? Didn't Inspector Lee say Xiong Qing has been captured? Then why would his soul show up here? And in the form of a Red Specter?*

Rushing toward a Red Specter was the last thing Chen Ge thought to do, but now he had no other choice. If he ran in any other direction, the ghosts behind him would follow him, and the members of the society would discern the problem.

The chance was slipping. For Chen Ge, his only chance of survival was to make the ghost stories society and the ghosts at the village fight one another. He yelled Xu Yin and Yan Dalian's names as he rushed at the black robes!

Leading the innumerable ghosts, Chen Ge charged at Xiong Qing with the hammer. Xiong Qing was completely different from when he was alive. When he smiled, half of his lips raised slightly, but the other half broke to his ears. This was probably the most 'correct' image in his mind.

Many blood vessels curled out from the left side of Xiong Qing's body. It seemed like he was going to bind Chen Ge and slowly pull him into his body. The blood vessels blocked his way like a carnivorous flower, waiting for Chen Ge to jump into it.

Shielding himself with the hammer, Chen Ge aimed for the spaces between the vessels. He tried to jump through them, but Xiong Qing expected that, and the blood vessels knitted themselves together.

Chen Ge was charging right into a beast's mouth and tried to squeeze through the gap between the teeth. He had zero point something seconds to do this, but Xiong Qing did not give him the chance. The smile on his face was filled with malice. Xiong Qing started to pull the vessels back; he was trying to pull Chen Ge into his body!

The vessels closed, and the road ahead narrowed. Chen Ge only managed to reach one of his arms out when the blood vessels almost consumed him. However, at this time, the comic in his pocket moved on its own, and a heavy sigh escaped from it.

The uncle hiding in the corner raised his pen and took up the comic. He flipped to an empty page and sketched Xiong Qing's face. When he was finished, Xiong Qing, who was now a Red Specter, stopped for a second like he was knocked in the head. A force tried to pull him away, but it only took Xiong Qing one second to undo the force.

However, with this one second, Chen Ge managed to squeeze through the blood vessels!

He held the hammer and rushed ahead without turning back to look. He did not have any intention of fighting the black robes, so he picked up his pace.

When they saw this, the two black robes understood something. Chen Ge was not there to fight them but use them as the scapegoat!

Chen Ge had survived certain death and charged ahead. He only dared to stop after putting some distance between them. Behind him, Xiong Qing, who had been stumped by Yan Danian, was angered, and he got into a battle with the ghosts from Coffin Village.

The Zhu woman also realized this was a great chance. She had the ghost baby and Zhu Xinrou ambush the black robes. The three-sided battle was complete chaos, and there were screams everywhere.

Yet, the instigator of this battle hid in the corner and watched the battle like a spectator. Hugging the hammer, Chen Ge's shirt was drenched.

*That was too close!*

*The Red Specter suddenly paused... this is Yan Danian's power?*

Chen Ge flipped the comic open to thank uncle in person, but he was in a low mood. Tonight's experience had completely shattered the hope toward life that Yan Danian had just regained. The uncle seemed to lose all hope and pick up his pen to draw circles in the corner.

Chen Ge looked at Yan Danian in the comic seriously. "Uncle, please cheer up! I promise you, tonight is really an accident! Your choice to follow me is really the correct one!"

### **Chapter 334: Losing**

After a long day of consolation, Yan Danian finally found the courage to face the world again. He told Chen Ge it was his power that paused the Red Specter earlier, Spirit Drawing. There was a chance for him to drag the ghost that was seen into the comic, but for a Red Specter, he could only delay them for less than a second.

Temporarily, Chen Ge did not know what kind of limitation this power had, but he realized there were not many empty pages in the comic, so the number of ghosts that could be stored was limited, and the success rate of the power was low. This power was not enough for Yan Danian to become a Lesser Red Specter; that hidden power was the most exciting for Chen Ge.

However, no matter how hard Chen Ge tried to convince Yan Danian, he did not reveal any information; it felt like he himself did not know he had that power. Xu Yin and Zhang Ya were asleep, so he still needed the uncle's help today. Therefore, Chen Ge did not press any further. After comforting the uncle, he put the comic away.

"Uncle Yan is not bad, just a little withdrawn." When Chen Ge was trying to console Uncle Yan, he felt like he was speaking the truth. "The things that happened tonight caught you by surprise, but after experiencing this several times, you should be able to get used to it."



Looking at the rampaging ghosts and Red Specter around the well, Chen Ge nodded slightly. "This kind of scenery is only visible if you stay with me. Perhaps in the future, you will understand my intention."

When he recovered, Chen Ge took the comic and hammer to circle around the outside of the battle. He called out his employees from the comic to have them pull the stragglers into the corner. Chen Ge believed that he was a reasonable person. He would have his employees beat the ghost until they were almost dead before asking whether they would join the Haunted House. If they were willing, it was a win-win situation as the ghosts entered the comic. If they were not willing, they would be food for his employees.

*I will need quite a number of ghosts from this village if I want to complete the three-star scenario. I'm doing this for the sake of the visitors.*

Initially, the employees in the comic did not know how to cooperate, but with Chen Ge's guidance, they slowly learned what to do. In the end, without Chen Ge's intervention, they would drag the isolated ghosts to their corner.

"Very talented." Chen Ge was satisfied with his employees' performance. He held the hammer and hid in the corner as his eyes narrowed on the two black robes.

"No. 10 is probably someone who knows me in real life. The chance of him being the chairperson is very high. If I can knock him unconscious, Xiong Qing will be somewhat affected." Xiong Qing was a hurdle that he had to take down if he wished to harm the members. Therefore, Chen Ge's gaze returned to Xiong Qing. When he arrived at Coffin Village, he had received the call from Inspector Lee saying that Xiong Qing had been captured around New Century Park.

However, two days later, Xiong Qing had appeared before Chen Ge as a Red Specter. The conditions to form a Red Specter were very harsh. This was observable from Xu Yin. They had to be tortured at the time of their death, filled with ire and resentment, and be highly aggressive.

*Half of Xiong Qing's body was almost torn apart. If this is how he was when he died, then it's quite obvious how much pain he was in, but the key question was, why did he wander around New Century Park alone? Was it a coincidence that he was captured by the police? Where were the other members of the society when he was captured?*

With these questions, some speculation appeared in Chen Ge's mind. *Was it the society's plan to abandon Xiong Qing from the very beginning? To make him lose the last bit of hope and then slowly torture his body? Then, using his pain and resentment and the black blood inside the wooden box, they would create a Red Specter?*

The ghost stories society had retained access to a blood door for as long as five years, so they knew about more secrets than Chen Ge. Creating a Red Specter could be one of them. *They purposely abandoned Xiong Qing to make him lose all hope? But how did they complete the rest of the transformation after Xiong Qing was captured? How did they gain access to Xiong Qing inside police detention?*

This confused Chen Ge. He looked at Xiong Qing, whose body was breaking apart, and his gaze darkened. *Did the society rely on ghosts, or is someone cooperating with them?*

Regardless of the process, it was an undeniable truth that Xiong Qing was now a Red Specter. The society had managed that, and they had to have a bigger reason for coming to Coffin Village. *What is their plan?*

While Chen Ge was deep in thought, the scenario at the well started to change. The ghosts attacked everything in sight, their resentment exploding. A Death Funeral was very common at Coffin Village. It had been a tradition for many years, and no one dared to disturb the Death Funeral. However, that day, not only did someone interrupt the ceremony, he even smashed their coffin!

This was an offense that they could not stomach; all the ghosts were in a frenzy. The two members of the ghost stories society who were trapped by Chen Ge were angry as well. They felt seriously wronged. The boss of the Haunted House had done something horrible to provoke the entire village of ghost, but they were left to face the consequences.

If possible, the black robes wanted to reason with the ghosts to call for a truce so that they could work together to deal with the most horrible individual. However, the Zhu woman did not give them the chance. When she saw the village ghosts tangle themselves with Xiong Qing, she had the ghost baby crawl over to deal with the two black robes.

The members of the society were familiar with human psychology, at least better than the people trapped in this isolated village. When Chen Ge led the group of ghosts, they already anticipated this, so they called the special thin monster back to block the rampaging ghosts and had Xiong Qing deal with the ghost baby.

The two Red Specters fought, and their battle was different from normal Specters. Similar to other ghosts from the society, Xiong Qing used the blood vessels that came out from half of his body to change into different shapes to try to consume the ghost baby.

The ghost baby's tactic was weirder. His baby started to leak blood, which formed tadpoles that swam toward Xiong Qing. They tried to crawl into his body. Both of them were fast, but they purposely avoided the well during their fight.

The situation was worsening for the society. The thin monster was slightly stronger than Jiang Ling's sister, but it was ultimately not a Red Specter. Facing the village of ghosts, it was slowly losing.

### **Chapter 335: Wu Fei**

"Ever since we ran into that guy, everything started to derail; this cannot be a coincidence."

No. 10 was looking at the corner that Chen Ge had disappeared to. His face was hidden inside the robe, so no one could tell his expression.

"Who can tell for sure?" The black robe standing beside No. 10 laughed. "I have something I forgot to tell you, but I suppose now is as good a time as any."

"If it's bad news, then you can spare it. I've heard enough recently." No. 10 squeezed on the wooden box until it had a noise.

“Several days ago, when I used my scapegoat to escape Fang Hwa Apartments, I was spotted by the man.”

“I’ve already warned you to not do unnecessary things.” No. 10 turned around. His voice was raspy and throaty. Even with his accomplice, he was using a fake voice.

“That’s where you’re wrong. That scapegoat had a worthwhile death because I got some valuable information from his mind.” The black robe’s voice was laced with laughter. Even though the situation was looking bad, he did not seem worried.

“What information?”

“That door at his Haunted House is currently unoccupied. This means that the door-pusher has already left.”

“The door-pusher left? He’s not the one who opened the door?” There was a discernible change to No. 10’s voice, but it returned to normal seconds later. “Why did you wait until now to tell me such an important thing?”

“The Red Specter in his shadow is not weaker than the female ghost haunting this village. The difficulty is almost the same; that’s why I didn’t tell you anything.” The mention of the Specter in Chen Ge’s shadow ended the cheeriness in the black robe’s voice. He turned to look in the direction Chen Ge escaped. “However, he has just revealed several details, and this, I feel, is a chance.”

The black robe’s voice turned chilly. “The people that we sent to kill him haven’t returned. All the Specters should have been consumed by the Red Specter in his shadow already.”

He took in a deep breath and turned to look at No. 10. “Including the Devil’s two Red Specter children.”

No. 10 understood immediately. “Overconsumption of Specters will lead to hibernation. However, no Specter dares to consume so many things at once. Have you considered the possibility that Devil’s two children have been made into puppets and the Red Specter in his shadow isn’t asleep? This could just be a trap for us to walk into.”

“You have a point. He does feel like someone who would do something like that.” The black robe made a fluttering laughter. “Actually, I admire the man. He’s wicked, cruel, and cunning but manages to disguise himself so perfectly and live a harmless life under the sun.”

Regarding Chen Ge, the black robe gave a very good comment. No. 10 nodded and agreed, “The enemy is too cunning, so we have to be careful. Actually, I also wanted to take him down, but you saw it yourself. Earlier, when Xiong Qing wanted to kill him, he suddenly stopped. Only a Red Specter can affect a Red Specter. No matter whether the Red Specter in his shadow is asleep or not, the man is hiding yet another Red Specter!”

“So, are you willing to give up? If we can control all of them, then we can get two doors.” The black robe was very persuasive.

“This is not a question of whether we’re willing or not.” No. 10 glanced at the black robe coldly. “Several days ago, the society still had twelve people, but how many of us remain today?”

An answer appeared in the black robe’s mind. He was silent and did not answer.

“Only three of us remain, and he only taken five days to do that. Therefore, we cannot afford to be too careful when dealing with this man.” No. 10’s heart was bleeding. Each of the numbers was a living person, a valuable ‘patient’ that they had handpicked from the society.

“Then, we shall proceed according to plan.”

“Let’s move on before things change again.”

“Okay.” The black robe moved his neck. Ignoring the ghost baby and Xiong Qing as well as the rampaging ghosts, he walked toward the well.

“Jiang Ling, have your sister stop him,” the Zhu woman said. Jiang Ling, who stood behind him, called for her sister, and after a while, the wounded Zhu Xinrou rushed at the black robe.

“Do you think I’m afraid of you?” The laughter in the black robe’s voice increased. He pulled off the robe, and a blood red monster made from faces appeared!

“I don’t think I’m that clever, but people around me are too dumb.” He pointed at Zhu Xinrou, and the faces monster blocked her way.

Chen Ge saw this, and his heart shook. “The society has another Red Specter!”

When he heard what the black robe said earlier, he had a good guess as to this man’s identity. This black robe was most likely Wu Fei from the Third Sick Hall. Jiang Ling’s sister was already wounded, and she was facing a Red Specter, so the battle was concluded before it even started.

Wu Fei and the Devil were the most dangerous patients of the Third Sick Hall, and both of them carried Red Specter. No one dared stop him as he walked toward the well. He looked in and took out another wooden box from his chest. He opened it to reveal the black blood stain. Several minutes later, the water in the well did not change. The man smiled. “No Red Specter can resist this black blood. They cannot remain calm like this. It is as I suspected—the female ghost has already left the well!”

He closed the wooden box and turned to look at the Zhu woman. “If she’s not inside the well, where can she be?”

The man’s eyes were cold and icy; they felt like the eyes of a scorpion. He slowly walked toward the ceremony procession. The Red Specter that was covered with faces had completely apprehended Zhu Xinrou; they were not on the same level.

“We’ve been investigating this village for half a year. The ghost has already left the well; you’ve been lying to the villagers.” The black robe glared at the Zhu woman, his gaze sharp as knife that stuck into one’s heart. There was no chance of lying before him.

Hearing that the ghost had left the well, the first to speak were the deformed villagers. They were stunned before they got angry for being lied to. One of them wanted to demand an explanation from the Zhu woman, but before he could say anything, the Red Specter with faces dragged him away.

“I don’t like to be interrupted.” The black robe’s voice lowered dangerously. He walked up to the Zhu woman. “You have to know where the ghost in the well has escaped to, right?”

### **Chapter 336: The Start of the Nightmare**

“She’s inside the well. She just hasn’t awakened yet.” The Zhu woman did not get scared off but stood firmly, shielding the two children.

“In that case, I’ll go look for her myself.” The black robe waved at the Red Specter beside him. The ghost that was just faces crawled into the villager’s body. In less than one second, the villager collapsed to the floor, dead.

“Looks like it’s not him.” The black robe raised his head. “She was forced to her death by the villagers, so even if her ghost form might disperse, she would not possess a villager, then who could it be?”

Instead of contemplation, it sounded more like the black robe was trying to see the Zhu woman’s reaction. Before entering Coffin Village, the ghost stories society had gathered a lot of information, but it was vague and needed confirmation. Hearing what the black robe had to say, the Zhu woman was anxious.

“She hates the villagers, but there is one lady by the surname Zhu who is the sole exception.” The black robe called the Red Specter to return. His finger stroked the creature’s hair gently like he was treating his lover. “If I were that woman, I would leave my spirit with the person I trusted the most.”

He patted the Red Specter’s forehead lightly, and his tone changed as he pointed at the Zhu woman. “Kill her!”

The crazy man was still talking about something else the last moment, but the next second, he turned aggressive. The Zhu lady did not expect this turn of events. During the crucial moment, the jewelry that she took out from the red coffin changed. Each of the jewels was hiding a half Red Specter; this was the woman’s last trump card.

She whispered something to Jiang Liang before turning to focus on controlling the ghosts to deal with the man’s Red Specter. Jiang Ling and Fan Yu heard what the woman had to say and slowly retreated.

The Red Specter with faces elicited a creepy laugh. This Red Specter was different from others; it was more like a coagulation of people’s resentment, and it had most likely come from behind the ‘door’. The ghosts that came out of the jewelry were torn apart, and all the faces on the monster made the same small action—they opened their mouth to bite at the Zhu woman.

The black robe seemed to have been waiting for this moment for a long time already. His voice was shaking. “We’re going to consume a top Red Specter. This was unimaginable in the past!”

The man finally said the real reason the society came to Coffin Village. They had managed to find out there was an injured powerful Red Specter in Coffin Village through some means, and their plan was surrounding this Red Specter. After consuming a powerful Red Specter, the society would have their own powerful Red Specter.

The mouths bit on the woman’s body. After two to three seconds, the face monster stopped.

“She’s not on here?” The black robe was surprised as he moved his gaze to Jiang Ling and Fan Yu. “This is rather troublesome. In that case, we’ll just need to slaughter everyone.”

The face monster charged at Jiang Ling while the black robe stood where he was. He seemed to already know the result, so he did not care about the rest and started to do his own stuff. He reached into his

robe to search for something. He took out a handful of paper dolls, and each of them had a pained expression on their face.

“All 34 villagers of Lin Guan Village are here. According to their answers, all the villagers that escaped from Coffin Village decade ago had some connection to the Zhu woman. It even included her own progeny.” The man slowly stood up and looked at Jiang Ling. “Of all the deserters, only that little girl wasn’t made into a paper doll by me. In that case, there’s a very good chance the ghost is in her body.”

Fan Yu grabbed Jiang Ling’s hand as they raced into the village, but how could the two kids outrun a Red Specter? As the face monster approached then, Fan Yu suddenly heard a familiar voice coming from the corner ahead. “This way!”

Chen Ge shoved the hammer and comic into his backpack. He stood before them with both of his hands empty. He looked like he was ready to run.

“Chen Ge?” Fan Yu slowed down. He was surprised, and this was also the first time he had said Chen Ge’s name.

Before he reacted, Chen Ge grabbed them off the ground. “How rude! Call me big brother!”

One in each arm, Chen Ge raced down the village. The same thing happened several minutes ago, but this time, the burden on Chen Ge increased, and the thing chasing him was a Red Specter.

Chen Ge called Xu Yin, Zhang Ya, and the uncle’s name. Zhang Ya gave no response; Xu Yin wanted to help but could not. When Uncle Yan saw the Red Specter, he hid himself immediately.

To drag the time until dawn, Chen Ge purposely ran through the dangerous spots that he could remember. The map given by Ah Qing was immensely helpful. Chen Ge ran through all the spots that were marked by a red cross, but even so, the distance between them and the society’s Red Specter did not increase.

“I cannot run anymore! Is there anything you want to tell me?” Chen Ge felt like there was a ball of fire in his chest, and his legs were getting numb.

“Uncle, put us down. We can walk on our own.” Fan Yu’s voice lost its usual coldness.

“If you cannot do this anymore, run to the western side of the village and go into the third house on the left.” Jiang Ling’s voice appeared the same time as Fan Yu. However, it startled Chen Ge because the girl’s tone was completely different from before. She sounded like a young woman talking.

The society is right? The Red Specter is hiding inside Jiang Ling? This thought flashed across Chen Ge’s mind. He had been hiding next to the well, so he knew what had happened.

“Okay! We’ll go that way!” He changed direction and raced to the third home. “What now?”

“Go in the house and place me before the door to the left bedroom.” Jiang Ling’s voice was becoming weird.

Chen Ge kicked open the wooden door to enter the inner room. There was no coffin in this home and no furniture either. Even the walls were peeling. There was no time for Chen Ge to consider why. He placed

the girl on the door of the left bedroom and then collapsed to the ground. He had raced throughout the village with all his might. Even if he was made of steel, he could not run anymore.

A wicked laugh echoed outside the house. The faces squeezed through the front door. The Red Specter had arrived.

"I know who has been kind to me. After we deal with this thing, I'll thank you personally." Jiang Ling looked at Chen Ge as she bit on her thumb. She allowed the blood to soak her palm. "I just want to be a human, why is that so hard?"

She leaned lightly against the wooden door. When her body touched the door, the simple door started to get covered with a thick layer of blood.

"It was me who left this layer of blood; this home was the start of my nightmare."

Jiang Ling pushed the wooden door open, and there was a blood red world behind it.

### **Chapter 337: Other Than Myself, They All Came**

Jiang Ling held Fan Yu's hand as she walked into the door. Chen Ge had no other choice. Compared to the Red Specter that was just faces, the world behind the door felt safer. The moisture in the air thickened, and a stale smell of blood hung into the air. Chen Ge's sight was affected like he was standing in a world of fog.

This is different from the door in the Third Sick Hall.

This was the second time Chen Ge had entered the blood door. The world behind the door in Coffin Village was covered by a blood fog, and he could only see three meters before him.

"Be careful not to get lost. There are man-eating creatures in here." Jiang Ling had completely shed her disguise. Her childish voice was laced with undeniable strength.

"Understood." Chen Ge had a hard time believing this. "This is hard to process. A little girl who cannot hit me even if she jumps her highest is a powerful Red Specter."

"Even if you've saved me, please watch your mouth, or I might need to repay your kindness only in death." Jiang Ling looked at Chen Ge coldly. After entering the door, her dress started to change. The blood in the fog surrounded her like she was the master there. Chen Ge's eyes twitched slightly because the words were very familiar. It reminded him of Zhang Ya's love letter.

After Chen Ge got in, Jiang Ling closed the door. When she opened it again, the scene outside the door had changed. It was a blood red village, and the fog covered up the sky.

"The Red Specter will arrive soon. This door will not stop it for that long." When the blood fog got close to Jiang Ling, it would seep into her body. However, probably because she was injured, she could not summon the fog on her own. With Jiang Ling leading the way, the three headed into the village. The closed door behind them shuddered slightly, and there were echoes of growling coming from behind it.

"Where are you taking us?" The blood fog had no effect on Jiang Ling, but it made Chen Ge and Fan Yu feel uncomfortable. It felt like they were submerged in a swamp.

“Be quiet.” Jiang Ling signaled for them to hide inside the small hut. They waited for several seconds, and a curious monster walked past them in the fog. The monster was large, and his arms were deformed. His facial features were twisted, and he wore a roughly-sewn coat. He looked around like he was searching for something.

The monster soon walked past them and disappeared.

“What was that?” Chen Ge pointed at the monster.

“The villagers.” The hatred in Jiang Ling’s eyes could not be eclipsed. “They are how the villagers look in my eyes.”

“The villagers in your eyes? The blood red world was constructed with your psyche in mind?” Chen Ge valued any information related to the world behind the door.

“I’m not sure how this world is formed, but this world is very similar to a nightmare that I once had. In that nightmare, all the villagers look like that, deformed and creepy. They’re constantly looking for me, trying to drag me back.” Jiang Ling did not continue. She changed direction and headed for the inner part of the village.

There was a blood red world behind the door, but even now, Chen Ge had no idea whether these worlds were connected or isolated. Based on the suicidal investigator, everyone had a door in their heart, and only at the most despairing moment could one push open the door.

The door at the Third Sick Hall was pushed open by Men Nan, and the world behind it reflected how Men Nan saw the world—the mummified patients, twisted doctors, and broken arms that formed from fear. The world behind Coffin Village’s door was covered by blood fog and populated by the villagers that wanted to capture her. This fitted the girl’s understanding of the village.

The world behind the door reflects the human heart? Is it a real nightmare? Chen Ge was reminded of the door at his own Haunted House. Then what about the door at my Haunted House? Who left that door behind?

The sound of fighting came from the fog. It was likely the society’s Red Specter fighting the villagers behind the door.

“Let them fight, we need to find something.”

Wading through the fog, Jiang Ling led Chen Ge and Fan Yu to the center of the village. The fog there was light, and in the middle of the village, a group of villagers were kneeling. Their bodies were heavily deformed, and their faces looked ugly. Even though they were wearing human clothes, they could not be considered humans.

“What are they doing?”

“Repenting.”

The monsters had their heads lowered, and their bodies were facing the ancestral hall. Right in front of it was a red coffin!



Different from real life, the coffin behind the door blocked the entrance to the ancestral hall. The hall was the place where the villagers sent respect to their ancestors, but the coffin blocked the entrance fully.

“We’ll be able to survive after we open that coffin.” Jiang Ling walked around the crowd to slowly head toward the ancestral hall. “Do not awaken these monsters.”

The three held their breath as they moved slowly toward the ancestral hall. The fog moved like it could sense the presence of living humans. Some of the monsters slowly raised their heads.

Fan Yu and Jiang Ling walked ahead, and Chen Ge covered them from behind. His heart chilled as he looked at the monsters on the ground. Red paper money covered the floor, and the monsters looked like they were attending a funeral. They were forced to make sad expressions, but the tears could not be forced out.

A funeral?

After Chen Ge entered the Coffin Village, he realized that the village had many traditions related to funerals, like the white lanterns that hung on the street, paper money, and coffins.

Both in real life and the world behind the door, there was a funeral, a funeral that had not ended until today. Chen Ge took out his black phone to take a look. Even after I entered the world behind the door, the phone didn’t say that the mission has failed. Looks like as long as I am inside the village, regardless of whether it is inside the door or outside of it, the mission is still in effect.

He looked for the mission message. He saw the name Coffin Village on the black phone. Initially, he had thought this name was weird, and he did not think much of it. However, after concluding the stuff that he saw at the village, he had some ideas.

The screen moved, and Chen Ge looked at the details provided by the mission. “That day, other than myself, they all came.”

The mission hint was short. Chen Ge slowly narrowed his eyes. He finally understood what it meant. These people came to ‘my’ funeral to cry on ‘my’ behalf. That is why there’s a myself. The hint is telling me that the key is the funerals.

Chen Ge turned to look at the ancestral hall, and Jiang Ling had already reached the red coffin.

### **Chapter 338: Where Did the Cat Come From?**

The small, fair hand pressed on the cold, antique coffin lid. When Jiang Ling touched the red coffin, all the kneeling monsters stopped mourning, and the twisted, scary faces started to rise.

“Come help me!” Jiang Ling screamed shrilly. Her face had lost the usual cuteness, and her expression looked scary.

BANG!

The solid coffin lid fell to the ground, and everyone turned to look inside the coffin. A woman was lying inside the large red coffin. Wet dark hair stuck to her slim body. Her skin was pale, and her face was handsome. Chen Ge would not describe her as pretty, but there was definitely something unique about her.

“Help me buy some time.” Jiang Ling walked into the red coffin and stared at the woman in the coffin. The villagers all stood up. They were conversing in a local language, and they looked so happy.

“How do you expect me to buy time?” Chen Ge turned to look at Jiang Ling, and he got another surprise. Jiang Ling lifted her hair back, and there was a bone missing from the back of her skull. Her head curved inwards. *This is the only deformity on Jiang Ling’s body?*

Walking forward, Jiang Ling rubbed her own blood on the woman’s hand and then placed the hand on the back of her head. The blood vessels reached out from the woman’s palm and crawled into Jiang Ling’s head through the depression.

*What is she doing now? Has she reincarnated into Jiang Ling, or is she just possessing her body?*

When the villagers saw the woman sleeping in the coffin, they charged at her like a bunch of crazed animals.

“This is why I hate children!” Chen Ge took out the hammer from his backpack and shielded himself before the red coffin. He felt himself being the target of a mob. Seeing the group of monsters charging at him, Chen Ge was flustered. The only thing he could do then was give it his best and call for Zhang Ya to appear.

When the crazed monsters had almost reached Chen Ge and the red coffin, laughter came from the blood fog. “If the female ghost doesn’t come out to save you at a time like this, she must really be in a slumber.”

A red wave made from faces blasted through the fog, knocking Chen Ge and the villagers away.

*The society’s Red Specter!*

Chen Ge was just brushed by the monster, but his face felt frozen. He looked at his chilled left hand. In the urgency of the moment, he raised both of his hands to shield his head, and his elbow brushed up against the Red Specter.

“I’ve been tailing you for this particular moment.” The faces coagulated to form the monster again. A black robe walked out from behind him. The man stopped beside the red coffin and turned to look at Chen Ge. “Surprised to meet again so soon?”

The black robe said the last sentence in a different voice. He was mimicking the voice of the investigator.

“So, it’s you.” Chen Ge still had a trump card on him—Yan Danian’s power—but he could not use it willy-nilly because his opponent had seen this power before, and they might have prepared for it already.

“Two birds, one stone. You’re one of our targets. You’re too dangerous; we cannot let you leave this place alive.” The black robe took out a small vial from his sleeve. It was half-filled with blood. He swirled it lightly, and the liquid parted to form individual vessels. “Enjoy your last few moments of freedom. In a bit, it’ll be your turn.”

The face monster had stopped the crazed villagers, so the black robe did not waste time and opened the cap, pouring the vial over Jiang Ling's head.

"These blood vessels were found behind the 'door'. They're extremely precious and extremely useful. They also hide the biggest secret with regards to Red Specter." The situation was in the black robe's full control. He stared at the vessels that crawled out of the vial with extreme focus. "As long as they're touched by these blood vessels, even Red Specter won't be able to escape."

Chen Ge stared at the vial as the vessels slid down its wall and touched Jiang Ling's hair.

"If the ceremony between Jiang Ling and the woman is interrupted, it's over for me." Chen Ge patted his backpack and surreptitiously tapped the white cat's head. "It's your time to shine. Snatch that vial away. Remember, it's that glass thing in the man's hand!"

Chen Ge pointed at the black robe's palm. He did not know whether the white cat understood him or not. The blood vessels might affect the Red Specter's psyche. If the female ghost was controlled by the black robe, then there was definitely no chance for Chen Ge to survive the night. This was his last bet. He was going to use everything he had to protect Jiang Ling and the woman in the coffin.

Chen Ge did not have much time left. He was not one to hesitate. Just as the vessels were about to crawl into Jiang Ling's head, he grabbed the hammer and charged at the black robe!

"Such incompetence." The black robe did not move and maintained his posture. When Chen Ge was two meters away, the face monster burst through the village and blocked Chen Ge with a weird laugh.

"Yan Danian!" The uncle in the comic knew if he did not do anything now, he would also be affected, so he picked up his pen to draw the face monster in his comic. When he finished, the Red Specter stopped, and Chen Ge charged at the black robe. This was the chance he was looking for!

"We will not fall for the same trick twice." The black robe used his empty hand to send a bunch of paper dolls flying at Chen Ge's face. The paper dolls screamed and cried as they tried to climb on Chen Ge.

Chen Ge's movement was affected, and the Red Specter had already recovered. His situation was dire, but Chen Ge was exceptionally calm. He grabbed his backpack and threw it at the black robe.

"So god damn stubborn." The black robe used his free hand to grab the backpack, but when he did so, a white shadow flew out from within!

Even though he had created many ghost stories, he was stunned. "What was that?"

The distressed white cat did not really understand what Chen Ge told it. It just thought there was something special about the vial. It opened its jaw and bit the vial. It then bounded away from the black robe and climbed onto the roof of one of the buildings.

"A cat?" The crazed villagers, the black robe, and Chen Ge were all looking at the white cat. Its pure white coat was a great contrast to the blood red world.

"Well done!" Chen Ge cheered, but what happened next stunned him.

The white cat looked at the people underneath it as the vial dangled from its lips. Its little head swung left and right, and the blood vessels that were at the mouth of the bottle slid down its throat.

The white cat did not seem to realize the vial was empty. It blinked several times like it was trying to find Chen Ge among the crowd.

### **Chapter 339: Owe You a Favor**

According to the black robe, the blood in the vial was the most precious thing they had found behind the door. It carried the Red Specter's secret and seemed to be the main method the ghost stories society used to control Red Specters. However, to everyone's surprise, it was swallowed by a cat.

"It ate it?" The black robe was so angry that his fingers were shaking. He really did not expect that someone would bring a cat to a place like this. "Get it to vomit it out!"

The black robe's voice turned shrill; this appeared like it was his real voice.

The white cat's ears were pressed against its skull. It sensed the aggression from the black robe and prepared to escape.

"Go and catch it! I want to split its stomach open and squeeze every drop of blood from its body!" The face monster beside him heard the order and rushed to the roof. The arrival of the Red Specter made the cat run immediately. It jumped over the rooftop before disappearing among the group of deformed villagers. The village was a mess. The black robe gritted his teeth. He was a careful person, but even he did not expect a turn like this.

"I need to catch it; that was the last bottle." The black robe saw the Red Specter that was led away by the white cat, and the distance between them grew bigger. After the Red Specter was ten meters away from him, the black robe had a black feeling starting in his heart. He turned over his shoulders and saw Chen Ge charging at him with the hammer.

"Enjoy your last minute of freedom! That was what you said earlier." Chen Ge found the opening he needed.

"I hate people like you who need to rely on others the most. Humans have to rely on themselves!" Chen Ge roared with the hammer flailing. "If you dare, let's hash this out among ourselves!"

The black robe looked at the hammer in Chen Ge's arms, and he sucked in a cold breath. "This madman."

He turned to run, and Chen Ge followed close behind. The Red Specter had been lured away; this was the perfect opportunity, and Chen Ge definitely would not let it pass so easily. The black robe no longer had the ease to maintain the sense of mystery. He kept his hands on the hood as he called for the Red Specter to return.

This situation was similar to how it had been at Fang Hwa Apartments. After the Red Specter was lured away, those who were possessed opened themselves up to being attacked.

*Looks like the Red Specters aren't omnipotent. Chen Ge, having experienced this twice, realized the problem. That's right, a single Red Specter is not enough. Looks like I need to befriend a few more of them!*

They were both parties protected by ghosts, but the black robe's physical condition was much worse than Chen Ge's. This was probably because the way they interacted with ghosts was completely different. Chen Ge used tricks and goodwill to make the ghost accept him while the relationship between the society and their ghosts was more like a contract.

The black robe slowed down after some running. When Chen Ge noticed this, he picked up the pace!

"Today, I shall avenge the dead investigator!" Those who did not respect life would not be respected by life. The Red Specter heard the black robe's call for aid, and it quickly hurried back.

However, when it passed the red coffin, the expression on all its faces changed like it had seen something very dangerous. The black robe was in grave danger, but the Red Specter did not go over to help him. It stopped beside the red coffin on high alert.

The blood fog in the village thickened. The deformed villagers seemed to feel something; they all turned to look at the red coffin, and their bodies shook.

"Another failure."

The voice came from inside the red coffin, and the woman inside slowly opened her eyes. Her eyes were different from a normal person's, reflecting the shadow of the little girl, Jiang Ling. "In the end, I cannot sever my relationship with you."

The blood vessels crawled into her palm, and the woman touched the back of the girl's head lovingly. "I owe you a piece of your skull, so I owe you a favor."

Jiang Ling collapsed to the ground, and the woman turned her gaze to the Red Specter that was covered with faces. "Since you refused to give me the opportunity to be a human, then I shall refuse you the chance to be a ghost."

When she finished, the blood fog turned and formed invisible shackles controlling everyone present. The woman walked out of the red coffin, and there were numerous blood vessels trailing behind her. The face monster tried to struggle, but the blood fog kept it firmly in place. Half a village's fog morphed into blood water to stick on the society's Red Specter.

"Still want to fight me in the world behind my door?" The woman reached out to touch the thing's faces. When her fingers reached into its body, all the faces started to scream, but it was pointless. What happened next was gory and bloody. The woman peeled the faces off one by one and threw them right into the red coffin.

"Now, it's your turn." The woman controlled the blood fog to lift up the kneeling villagers. The louder they begged, the happier she was.

With the woman's laughter ringing beside his ears, Chen Ge, whose movement was also impaired, shivered involuntarily. He looked at those villagers in pain and shook his head. "Those who you've injured would eventually turn into your nightmare."

The blood fog seeped into the woman's body. After she finished tormenting the villagers, she carried Jiang Ling off the floor and walked to Chen Ge.

"You said I cannot hit you even if I jump?" The woman looked at Chen Ge with a faded smile.

“Did I say something like that? I don’t remember anything like that.” The hair on Chen Ge’s body stood on end. The woman before him had a vengeful heart, and she was much more difficult to deal with compared to the ghost stories society.

“If you can’t remember it, then so be it.” To Chen Ge’s surprise, this vengeful and scary woman did not trouble him. She moved several steps to the left and squatted down before Fan Yu. “You discovered me a long time ago, didn’t you?”

Fan Yu nodded. He was just a child, so he did not think about lying at all.

“Then why did you choose to stay by my side?” The woman leaned her face close to Fan Yu like she was trying to see his expression closely.

“It was you who accompanied me. I don’t have that many friends.” Fan Yu pointed at Chen Ge. “Unless you count him.”

The woman smiled and took out a jade bangle from her sleeve. “You can see them. Wear this, and they won’t harm you anymore.”

Standing up, the woman placed Jiang Ling beside Chen Ge. “Take her and leave. This village is going to be buried forever.”

Chen Ge did not quite get what the woman was saying. He carried Jiang Ling and grabbed Fan Yu’s hand. “I can leave?”

“Yes.”

“Then can I bring him with me?” Chen Ge pointed at the black robe. “I have something to ask him.”

### **Chapter 340: It Split**

Chen Ge lifted up the hood, which was hiding a ruined face. “Who is your chairperson?”

“It’s not me.” The black robe’s face was filled with a smile. “Have fun guessing. You’ll definitely see him before you die.”

Then, blood vessels crawled out of the man’s lips. The blood seemed to have a life of its own. Veins popped up on the man’s skin; he seemed to be experiencing some kind of extremely painful torture. His lips fell open, and his throat and mouth were filled with blood vessels.

*The blood in his body seems to be consuming him.* Chen Ge gripped the hammer and wanted to give him a whack but was stopped by the woman beside him. After the blood crawled out from his mouth, it wrapped the man up fully, and only his general shape remained.

“The chairperson is just next to you. He has been watching you and is the most interesting person among all the people you’ve met.” The black robe croaked. Chen Ge and the woman watched as the black robe was slowly consumed from within. He gradually become a pool of blood and seeped into the blood-soaked ground.

“What are those blood vessels?”

“You can understand them as part of a Red Specter.” The woman picked up the black robe and seemed to discover something interesting within. “Take the children and leave. If you stay too long inside the door, you’ll be trapped here forever.”

The woman held the black robe and disappeared amid the blood fog. Chen Ge looked in the direction she had disappeared, and his heart was filled with confusion. “What was inside that black robe? How come I heard traces of joy in her voice?”

Chen Ge found the white cat on the rooftop of the ancestral hall. It still did not understand what had happened. It held the vial in its lips, and its white fur was standing on end. Obviously, it was spooked.

“Come down here, it’s safe now.” The white cat eventually jumped down from the beam. When Chen Ge caught it, he realized that the cat had gotten heavier.

“Why do you have to eat everything?” Chen Ge pried the cat’s mouth open to take a look, but he could not see anything off about it.

“That thing was prepared by the ghost stories society. Is it harmful to a cat if consumed?” This was the first time Chen Ge had come across such a problem. Realizing there was nothing wrong with the white cat, he placed it inside his backpack and led the two children to the bedroom where the woman had once stayed.

“The blood door is her room door, so for her, every time this door is opened, it’s the return of her nightmare.” The blood door was closed. Chen Ge tried pushing it several times, but it would not budge.

“Let me. Jiang Ling has taught me how to open the door.” When Fan Yu pressed against the door, the bangle gifted by the woman started to bleed, and the blood covered his palm. Slowly but surely, the door was being pushed open.

After they left the blood door, Chen Ge took out his black phone to take a look. He had been waiting for the message on his phone. The black robe was most likely Patient 9 from the Third Sick Hall—Wu Fei!

However, the black phone did not update after the man’s death. Whenever one of the patients from Third Sick Hall was killed, the mission completion rate would increase, and after gaining a ninety percent completion rate, he would receive the hidden item for this three-star scenario!

When Xiong Qing was captured and the Devil was killed, the black phone updated, but this time, there was no update after Wu Fei’s death.

*What’s wrong?* Chen Ge thought back to the events with the black robe and felt like he had overlooked something important.

*The black robe has been tailing us and only made his move after he made sure Zhang Ya was asleep. When he saw me, the second sentence out of his mouth was uttered in the voice of the investigator.* Chen Ge frowned. There was not anything particularly suspicious about the black robe. *Is he still alive? The blood vessels carried his soul and escaped? Or did he hide his real consciousness somewhere else, like how it was with that dead investigator?*

Chen Ge thought back to the woman’s reaction when she picked up the black robe and realized the key might have been that robe.

“This is such a waste.” Zhang Ya was asleep, and he had no power to demand the robe from that woman. “The one who pushed open the door seemed to be more powerful than a normal Red Specter inside the door.”

Chen Ge gave it some thought after leaving the old home. He decided not to return to the well but find a place to hide until dawn. Chen Ge led the two children to the middle of the village. He crawled through the secret tunnel to reach the two-story building.

“Granny, are you asleep?” Chen Ge carried the two children into the room, and when he went upstairs, the old lady was not in the small room.

“Where is she?” Chen Ge put down Jiang Ling and grabbed the hammer. “The old lady’s legs are seriously atrophied, so she couldn’t move on her own. Someone got here before me?”

All the furniture in the room looked tidy and untouched. If the old lady had been forcefully taken away, the place would not have been so clean. Chen Ge tapped Fan Yu’s shoulder. “Can you see anyone inside this room?”

“No.” Fan Yu shook his head.

“Then where can she disappear to?”

A baby’s crying filled up the room. The place was not big. Chen Ge ransacked the place, but he could not find the old woman.

“This is weird.” Chen Ge placed the unconscious Jiang Ling on the bed. He sat on the ground. He was about to take a breather when a gunshot was heard from the western end of the village!

“A gunshot? Is that Ol’ Wei?” Chen Ge climbed up from the ground. “They’ve returned? Or have some accidents befallen them? Or has backup arrived?”

There was only one gunshot before the world became quiet again. Chen Ge was worried about Master Bai and Ol’ Wei’s safety, so he led Fan Yu and Jiang Ling out of the house and headed for the western part of the village. By then, the sun was coming up.

When Chen Ge arrived at the western part of the village, No. 10 had left. Xiong Qing and the ghost baby had disappeared. Only the fainted villagers remained.

“What happened here after I left?” Chen Ge grabbed a villager to ask, but the man was too traumatized to say anything other than the repeating, “It split. It split.”

Chen Ge was not sure whether that was local slang or something really did split. He looked around and saw the Zhu woman collapsed next to the well. Her hair was a mess, and she looked horrible.

“Can you hear me?” Due to his work, Chen Ge was very good at treating fainting spells. With his aid, the woman slowly awakened.

“Don’t worry, the black robe has already left.” Chen Ge held the weakened woman in his arms. “Can you tell me what happened here? Where is the black robe carrying the wooden box?”