

## Horrors 421

### Chapter 421: Five Entrances [2 in 1]

The statue had once had a relationship with the ghost stories society, but she now belonged to Chen Ge's Haunted House. Rushing down into the underground parking, Chen Ge pushed open the door to the one-star scenario Wife's Room. The ugly statue stood next to the bed, her expressionless eyes gazing toward a particular direction in the room. No one knew what she had faced in the past. *Just what did Ol' Zhou and the rest tell her? How come she looks so devastated compared to before?*

Chen Ge walked to stand beside the sculpture and took out Yan Dania's comic. "I've identified your real killer, and as long as you're willing to be my employee, even if I put my life on the line, I will help you take revenge."

The statue did not understand what Chen Ge said, but Chen Ge could feel her body shivering like there was a change to her emotion. "The man who killed you is hidden at the deepest part of the underground morgue. The place is very dangerous, but if you are willing to join my Haunted House, I'll bring all the employees with me to demand a justice for you."

Chen Ge had come fully prepared, and he sounded confident and strong. It was obvious that he was not kidding; he really did plan to do this. The statue still felt that something was wrong. However, after she used her power, she confirmed that what Chen Ge had said was the truth; he was not lying to her. "I will take revenge for you. Tonight, I will enter the underground morgue to capture the culprit that once harmed you."

The statue's ugly face looked at Chen Ge, and blood tears started to fall from her eyes. Chen Ge was telling the truth; he was really prepared to go down into the underground morgue that night to risk his life. "Come with me, you are more familiar with the place. If you are willing to help me, things will be a lot simpler."

The statue was afraid. She really did not want to return to the underground morgue—the terror of the place was something unimaginable to outsiders—but she could not say no to Chen Ge's invitation. The man before her had helped her solve her problem and was willing to sacrifice his personal safety to venture into somewhere so dangerous. His intentions provided some semblance of warmth to her cold heart.

Seeing that enough groundwork had been laid, Chen Ge flipped open Yan Dania's comic. "Come with me. When we're there, I still have a lot more questions that I wish to ask you."

The statue had stayed in the underground storeroom for years, so she would be very familiar with the place. That was one of the main reasons that Chen Ge had to take her with him. The tears in the eyes stopped flowing, and the statue's ugly face started to change. The face that represented truth softened, and a 1.7-meter-tall girl appeared before the statue. The girl looked quite similar to Ma Yin—she was very reserved, and it was probably hereditary because both girls were very tall.

After the girl left the statue, she immediately crawled into Yan Dania's comic, and on the empty page, a female statue appeared. The statue was radiating sadness, pain, betrayal, and despair.

*With the girl's aid, the chance of success for tonight's mission has increased a lot.* Chen Ge left the Wife's Room and headed to Mu Yang High School. He transferred the boy with the heavy stench and the hanging man into the comic as well.

*When the completion rate of the Third Sick Hall was over ninety percent, I was rewarded a patient's list of all the mental patients. Each record carried the soul of a mad person, should I bring that with me?*

The mad people were originally members of the ghost stories society. Even after their deaths, they were controlled by their madness, and Chen Ge normally did not dare use them.

*I should bring them with me. At the very least, I'll gain an additional trump card.* Chen Ge thought about it and shoved the patient's list into his backpack. *When the society's chairperson sees all of his members standing on my side, I wonder how he'll react.*

Chen Ge also thought that he had perhaps crossed a line; he had not only inherited all the items that the ghost stories society collected over the years but also recruited all of its past members. *The ghost stories society lacked good leadership, and that was why they all acted this way. After I take over as the chairperson, I will change everything so that the members can receive real salvation.*

Carrying the bag and holding the hammer, Chen Ge left the Haunted House. He did not even have the chance to close the gate before Lee Zheng's phone call came. "After Doctor Gao's disappearance, Gao Ru Xue's emotional state has become very unstable. She seems to know something; we need you to go over to make contact with her immediately and try to dig for valuable information."

"Brother Zheng, I have something else to do tonight, and I'm afraid I won't be able to stay for long. How about you try to find other people to communicate with Gao Ru Xue?"

"It can only be you," Lee Zheng said firmly. "On the day, she was targeted by the eyes-gouging killer, and we have been through her phone. She had been calling you endlessly that day. I do not know the nature of your relationship, but I am sure it is not that simple. Chen Ge, I hope you'll be able to recognize the good from the bad and hold onto your principles when the situation calls for it."

By then, Chen Ge realized that Lee Zheng had a wrong idea about their relationship. That day, Gao Ru Xue's phone had been taken over by the phone spirit, and she could contact everyone but Chen Ge. Gao Ru Xue had kept calling him that day because she was feeling nervous and unsafe.

"Okay, I'll be heading over now."

From Lee Zheng, Chen Ge found out that Gao Ru Xue had been staying alone at Doctor Gao's practice. She did not want to return to the dormitory to stay with her roommates nor did she want to move back to Xi Xia Hu. Chen Ge arrived at Doctor Gao's practice, and when he got down from the taxi, he realized that the practice was very close to Western Jiujiang Medical University.

There were plain clothes looking after Gao Ru Xue twenty-four hours, and when Chen Ge got out from the car, the man in charge immediately spotted him. While Chen Ge's get up gave the man pause and his gaze settled on the white cat lying on Chen Ge's shoulder for a long time, he decided to follow the superior's order and went over to make contact with Chen Ge. The man gave Chen Ge some updates on Gao Ru Xue's situation, and then he handed him a recording pen before leaving.

He knocked lightly on the door, and after a long time, Gao Ru Xue came to open the door. She did not look like she had rested recently—she looked tired and spiritless. “Chen Ge, what are you doing here?”

“I heard you are not feeling well, so I came to visit you because I was worried.” Chen Ge carried the heavy backpack, and he realized how awkward he sounded. To smooth things over, he picked up the white cat and said, “Do you like cats?”

The furry head with the multi-colored eyes turned to look at Chen Ge with confusion. The white cat’s ‘cute’ reaction did make Gao Ru Xue feel a little better. She reached out to rustle the white cat’s head and moved back. “I’m doing fine. Please come in. Do you want anything to drink?”

Gao Ru Xue had been trapped alone for quite some time already, and she actually wanted to find someone to talk to, but she did not know who.

“It’s fine.” Chen Ge followed Gao Ru Xue into Doctor Gao’s office. What populated the room were books. There were many different kinds of books, and most of them were limited editions that could not be found online. “Is Doctor Gao really such a heavy reader?”

“Yes, he does not have any other hobbies. Other than reading, he likes to collect some weird art pieces.” Gao Ru Xue brew two cups of coffee and placed them on the table.

Chen Ge took a small sip and rambled a bit before he commented offhandedly, “By the way, we have known each other for quite some time already, but I never once heard you call Doctor Gao your father. It feels like you two are quite unfamiliar around each other.”

Gao Ru Xue had a private personality. She was not purposely trying to freeze people out, but perhaps she had gone through some experience to make her this way, and the type of experiences that she had been through, that was the thing that Chen Ge was tasked to find out.

After hearing what Chen Ge said, Gao Ru Xue did not answer immediately. She looked at the coffee inside her cup, and after a long time, she finally said the secret that she had hidden in her heart for a long time.

“A few years ago, one of the patients got into an accident in the middle of his session, and his condition suddenly worsened. No one knew whether it was his medication or my father’s treatment method. Halfway through his session, the patient went insane and jumped out of the window. At the time, my father hadn’t acquired his own practice yet, so he was practicing at home, and our house was on the 8th floor.

“The death of the patient naturally fell on his responsibility. The family hounded us endlessly. We tried to explain, apologize, but they would not accept it. Eventually, we moved, but it was still no use. At the time, my father was under great pressure, but thankfully, he had Mom to give him the support he needed. At the time, I thought it was just a hurdle and everything would be fine after we stepped over it. However, no one knew that the event would have such devastating repercussion.

“The patient’s family went to the hospital to block my father. They created such a ruckus, and things were worsening. Worried about my father, my mother called a cab to get to the hospital, but she got into an accident on the way there. No one answered the call. My father did meet Mother at the hospital, but...”

Gao Ru Xue held the cup with both hands. Her voice was very low, and she looked just like an abandoned doll. "It was too late. The rescue was unsuccessful. Mom left us, and my father trapped himself at home for a long period of time after that. It seemed like he had sealed himself off from the world.

"He refused to communicate with the outside world. When I passed his room in the night, I could sometimes even hear him calling my mother's name. From then onward, my father seemed to change into a different person. He started to do weird things like going out at night and coming back smelling of blood and formalin. When they were preparing to bury my mother, he did something unimaginable. He stole her body.

"Only I knew about that. I once asked him about it, but he seemed to transform into a different person. I will never forget how he looked at me then. Despair, sadness, and a madness that was intent on destroying everything.

"About a month after the disappearance of Mother's body, my father slowly returned to normal. His gaze became dark and deep like an ocean that had no limit; all the negative emotions had disappeared within it. He became more mature than before, like there was nothing in this world that was going to stop him.

"Other people assumed that he had walked out from the grief and regained a renewed hope on life, but only I knew that he had only buried those emotions deeper in his heart. The calmer he presented himself, the greater the pain in his heart. From then on, my father rarely appeared at night. He worked in the morning and would leave alone at night. Since then, I learned to live on my own."

Gao Ru Xue had been hiding that in her heart for a long time, and this was the first time that she had shared it with another person. Chen Ge had saved her life in the nick of time, pulling her back from certain death, so she trusted Chen Ge a lot.

"Working in the day, going out at night and still very energetic." Chen Ge felt like Doctor Gao's condition was similar to his. He believed that Doctor Gao had also been influenced by a ghost to become like this. When Gao Ru Xue finished her story, she was tired and curled up on the couch.

Chen Ge did not disturb her; the girl did not seem to have realized that her father had gone missing. After all, her life would go on unchanged. She would survive the night alone since her father would never return at night. Looking at the time, Chen Ge went into the adjacent room to grab a blanket for Gao Ru Xue, then he picked up the white cat and tip-toed out of the place.

After the door clicked shut, Gao Ru Xue, whom Chen Ge assumed was asleep, slowly opened her eyes. She touched the blanket that covered her body and turned to look at the door that was closed.

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After leaving the practice, Chen Ge walked toward Western Jiujiang Medical University. He needed to enter the underground morgue's central hub before midnight. On the way there, Chen Ge called Lee Zheng to report what he heard about Doctor Gao from Gao Ru Xue. After he hung up, he threw these thoughts out of his mind. He was completely focused on completing this Trial Mission.

The underground morgue was different from other three-star missions. It was perfectly preserved and not destroyed, so Chen Ge could not afford to be careless. He did not enter the university from the front entrance but took a long detour to the western gate. According to the map provided by Zhang Li, the real entrance to the underground morgue was near the western gate. Compared to the other gates, this place was very quiet; there were not even stalls lining the road waiting to do business with students.

Chen Ge looked left and right. After he made sure that no one was looking, he avoided the surveillance camera and hopped into the campus. *It is 9 pm now. I still have three hours.*

Even though there were street lights around the western part of the university campus, compared to other parts of the campus, this place felt quite deserted. Chen Ge walked through the bushes that lined the road and kept his back to the wall. Following the map that he had memorized, Chen Ge slowly sought his way to the entrance to the underground morgue.

The western part of the campus was the largest part of the campus. There were two lab buildings and several other buildings whose usages were unknown to Chen Ge. However, most of the buildings were sealed shut, and entry was not allowed. Chen Ge continued to move forward, and he came across three security guards who were patrolling the area. They were patrolling very far from Chen Ge. Even with his Yin Yang Vision, Chen Ge could only tell their general frame. *Why are the three security guards just going around this small area?*

According to the map, there were five entrances that one could use to enter the underground morgue. The three guards were patrolling the front door. When Zhang Li and the renovation team were expanding the morgue, they had used this entrance. Of the four remaining entrances, two were attached to the lab buildings, one was attached to the abandoned education block, and the last one was an emergency entrance. It was probably to prevent an underground emergency, so this entrance should lead outside of the campus.

The security guards had blocked the front entrance, so Chen Ge had no choice but to use other entrance. He walked to the lab building on the left. He pushed the window open and jumped into the room. He only walked a small distance before he saw a glass container that was placed on a shelf. There was something that looked like a human head being soaked within.

*I heard from Liu Xianxian that when she was following Liu Zhe, she discovered the man talking to a human head inside a glass bottle inside one of the labs.*

## **Chapter 422: Cadaver Walkway**

Liu Xianxian had once caught Liu Zhe in this room talking to the detached head in the glass jar.

*How suspicious.* Chen Ge turned on the flashlight function, and the light hit the glass jar. Even after so many years, the human head in the jar still looked very much alive.

*It's quite scary seeing these things at night.* Chen Ge stared at the jar for a long time. The head seemed to be suspended in liquid and completely immobile. It did not wink or move, different from what Liu Xianxian described. To be safe, Chen Ge summoned Ol' Zhou's group to inspect the jar, but they discovered nothing weird.

*The thing that possessed it has probably left already.* Chen Ge was deep in thought, staring at the jar. The fact that Liu Zhe would talk with the human head suggested that there was something here that could possess these samples and communicate via these things that were suspended in jars.

If that was true, then things might be shaky. The whole western part of the campus was under the enemy's surveillance. There were so many organ parts in the underground morgue and labs, and any one of them could be silently watching him. *I need to stay away from these things as much as possible.*

Chen Ge placed the white cat in his backpack and walked out from the room. There was a ten-meter-long corridor, and the doors on both sides were locked. There were a few doors that even had the yellow police tape. He looked in through the windows on the doors, and rows of lab tables were placed in the rooms. His pupils narrowing, Chen Ge saw something that looked like water stain left on the experiment slab that was at the front of the room. It felt like something had just crawled up from that slab.

*The entrance is not here.* If not for the mission and the time limit, Chen Ge would have liked to visit every room. *The lab is a good scenario—the atmosphere here is not bad. I should try to build something similar at the park.*

The reason Director Luo had taken down the surrounding attractions was to prepare for the Haunted House's expansion. To build a terror theme park, an underground parking lot was not enough.

He walked to the end of the corridor, and Chen Ge realized that one of the autopsy rooms was not locked. The door had been left half-open, and the seal was broken. *There is no dust on the door handle—someone has been through here recently.*

Chen Ge squatted down and noticed the friction and scratch marks on the ground. Chen Ge tried to push the door. The door was slightly twisted, and one had to hold the door upwards when they pushed to make sure no scratch marks would be left on the ground. *Looks like the person was in a hurry when they used this door, so they did not notice these details.*

As the door swung open, the stench of formalin hit Chen Ge. Chen Ge did not hurry to get into the room as that he knew whenever he could smell formalin, those things were nearby. Chen Ge placed the white cat on the table and touched its head. "Can you tell where this smell is coming from?"

Chen Ge tried to use his gestures to make the cat understand his meaning. The multi-colored eyes looked at Chen Ge, and after a while, the cat suddenly jumped down from the table and walked toward a single room at the back of the autopsy room.

"Found it?" There was another wooden door inside the room, and the cat snarled at the door. The formalin drifted out from behind the door. Chen Ge tried to push it and realized that it was locked.

"Move back a bit." Chen Ge raised the hammer, and the cat jumped back.

BANG!

The hammer aimed at the lock, and the key cylinder cracked. Chen Ge had gotten far more familiar with how to break down a locked door. He only needed to focus on the lock—compared to knocking down the whole door, that would create a smaller commotion.

There was a dark corridor behind the wooden door. Based on the map provided by Zhang Li, this was one of the entrances that led to the underground morgue. The corridor would lead Chen Ge to the outer perimeter of the morgue. Placing the cat back in his backpack, Chen Ge raised his flashlight into the darkness. He only glanced inward when he frowned. There was broken glass on the stairs and some indeterminate objects like someone had broken glass jars with organ samples there.

*The three guards at the front door will probably come to check on the noise soon. I should hurry.*

Chen Ge did not want to waste time, but when he turned to close the door, his gaze was attracted by something else. The back of the wooden door was filled with nail marks. It looked scary. *Something was trying to get out.*

There were so many nail marks that Chen Ge could not tell whether they came from one thing or multiple. Chen Ge snapped a few pictures on his phone and went down the steps, being careful not to step on any of the detritus.

Soon, he reached the underground level, and there was a split in the road. The corridor on the left was unpainted, and the one on the right was painted white. When he walked closer, Chen Ge saw some words painted on the wall—they were squiggly like worms, barely readable. The left corridor was called a human walkway, and the one on the right was called the cadaver walkway.

*The handwriting is about two meters high, so the writer should be an adult, but this handwriting looks like a child's handwriting.* Chen Ge took out his phone to glance at the map.

If he wanted to get to the underground morgue, he had to take the white corridor. For the sake of the mission, Chen Ge walked down the cadaver walkway. Perhaps it was his imagination, but once he entered the corridor, it felt like someone was moving in front of him. He tried to pick up the speed, and the person did as well; he slowed down, and so did the person.

He walked for half a minute when there were red letters surfacing on the white walls.

“You’re on the wrong path. This is a road for dead people only.”

“I’m warning you—turn back now.”

“Why are you so stubborn?”

“I know, you also want to be a cadaver, don’t you?”

Chen Ge did not care what they said. He was more curious about the words’ location. Some of them were on the wall, and some were on the ceiling. Chen Ge looked at them for a long time, and he realized that to create this effect, the person had to be crawling on the surfaces.

*Could it be a lizard?*

He stopped, and the person before him stopped.

The corridor became so quiet.

*All three-star scenarios have their own unique ghosts. I wonder what kind of monsters the underground morgue has.* Chen Ge placed the cat on the ground. When he started moving, so did the person before

him. *Hearing this echo, we're about twenty meters away from each other. The person is just around that corner.*

## **Chapter 423: Apple**

*Could he be the one who left these blood letters?*

Chen Ge decided to ask the person directly. He held the hammer and took out the recorder from his backpack. When he pressed the power button, the person before him suddenly disappeared. Only Chen Ge's footsteps echoed in the corridor. He turned the corner and a sentence was left on the white wall—*You'll regret this!*

*Is that a threat?*

There was nothing else on the wall other than the ugly handwriting. Chen Ge slowly put the recorder away.

*Now is not the time to get hung up over these things. The crucial thing is to get to the morgue's central hub within the time limit.*

Chen Ge knew very well, for a three-star scenario, the real terror started after midnight. Chen Ge walked down the white corridor, and he found more strange things. There were water stains on the painted walls, and it was unclear where the water came from. If one looked closer, one could find human hair on the ground—some were long and others short. Chen Ge picked one up, and it smelled faintly of formalin. The smell had soaked into the hair, not something that had been slathered on.

Other than that, the most confusing thing for Chen Ge was definitely the blood letters on the wall; the person seemed to understand that the white corridor was specifically for transporting cadavers only, and they kept warning outsiders of that fact. *Are these letters used to warn the medical students?*

The staff and students would use this corridor to enter the morgue to retrieve cadavers. The words felt like they had been written by cadavers, as they carried warning, threat, and a hint of hopeless compromise. Chen Ge could see new letters appearing every few steps, and the handwriting got worse like something happened to the author's wrist or hands. At some points, the handwriting stopped halfway like the brush had fallen out of the writer's hand.

*These sure are strange.*

Until now, Chen Ge had no idea what kind of monsters were hiding inside the underground morgue. The mission was just starting, and he still had many places to explore. The white corridors had slopes to them, and when Chen Ge reached the end, he was already at the second underground floor or the outer perimeter of the morgue.

*This is simpler than I thought.*

Perhaps due to Xu Yin's appearance earlier, everything went smoothly. Chen Ge only got a taste of danger; there was nothing really threatening. The end of the corridor was another split. One was unpainted, but it looked dark and creepy; the other corridor was still painted white, and there were signs of drag marks on the ground from the trolleys.



*These should have been left behind by the staff when they moved the bodies.*

There were carts specialized for moving dead bodies in the morgue. They looked light and convenient, which intrigued Chen Ge.

*The trolleys made by Uncle Xu are a bit too rough around the edges. After the underground morgue has been unlocked, perhaps I can use these to transport the fainted visitors.*

Being moved out of a morgue in a cart used to transport dead bodies, that would be a unique experience.

Taking out his phone, Chen Ge referred to the map. He was at the edge of the morgue and would reach the outer perimeter if he followed the white corridor. About seven meters down the path, there were three small morgues and a medium-sized morgue; beyond that, it was unknown. Chen Ge looked at all the map, but he could not find any more information. Brandishing his hammer, Chen Ge walked to the first small morgue. The steel door was not locked, and the door did not have any dust. The morgue had recently been accessed.

*Should I go in to take a look?*

Chen Ge had come up with a plan before he arrived. He planned to leave no rock unturned—that way, it would be safer on his way back. In this type of underground situation, the most dangerous thing was being cornered. The door creaked noisily, and there were four body freezers in the room.

The freezers were working normally and had notices saying things like ‘please do not touch without permission’. The room was small. Chen Ge walked around the room with the cat, and the cat showed no visible response. Exiting the morgue, Chen Ge entered the other few small morgues, and they were all fine.

*The marks on the floor stop at the medium sized morgue. Looks like the staff from the school will not go further than this. Chen Ge tried the door of the medium-sized morgue, and he realized that it was not locked. There’s a no entry sign on the door, but the door isn’t locked. Is this a slip-up by the staff, or did someone open the door after the staff left?*

Chen Ge pulled the door open a sliver and glanced into the room. Other than the freezers, there were a few metal tables along the corner. When his eyes caught the tables, Chen Ge’s gaze changed. The few tables were joined together, and there was something human-like lying on it.

It was both humanlike and not human—the thing had a human shape, but its four limbs were all twisted at impossible angles. The white cat elicited a soft growl, and Chen Ge slowly moved along the wall. He walked past the row of freezers, and they were not shut. The cooling air covered Chen Ge, and he shivered. *Are these freezers filled with bodies?*

Chen Ge moved away from the freezers, and when he got close to the table, he saw that it was a human plastic model that was picked apart which was on the table. It was probably a teaching aid in class, but it was abandoned there. The stomach was cracked open, and all the organs were arranged on the side neatly. This was fine, but the model’s eyes were open, and they looked so real, like a human’s eyes had been sewn into the model. There was a desire in that pair of beautiful eyes. Following his gaze, next to the model’s head was a rotten apple.

The rotten apple with the bruised, splotchy skin was a contrast to the shiny model. It was a work of art in a way. Chen Ge stood next to the table and was about to lean closer to take a look when there was a weird sound coming from the outside corridor. It sounded like mud falling from great height.

*Something is coming?*

Chen Ge did not have time to look. He took out the hammer and hid behind the door. He turned off the flashlight on his phone and used his Yin Yang Vision to focus on the white corridor outside.

#### **Chapter 424: Staff?**

The sound of mud flopping on the ground approached. Chen Ge leaned against the wall next to the door and raised the hammer in his hands. There was a flash of light in the dark, and then a white shadow walked out from the corridor painted white. The man was wearing a white coat and a thick mask. There was a flashlight squeezed under his armpit, and both of his arms were carrying two large red-colored buckets.

He moved very fast, and the content of the buckets, which looked sticky, kept getting splashed out from the bucket. As he walked near, the pungent smell hit Chen Ge. It was more than pure formalin; there was a worse stench mixed within. *That... looks like a living human.*

Chen Ge did not put down the hammer and kept his eyes trained on the man.

*University staff? But why would he come down to the underground morgue at 10 pm?*

The man's coat was too small for his muscular frame. He was clearly powerful—even though he was carrying two large buckets, he was moving quite fast.

*What is the man doing? Why is he going deeper into the underground morgue?*

The man was suspicious. He looked like a member of staff, but the thing that he was doing and his time of appearance confused Chen Ge. Chen Ge thought about it and gave up on speculating. He knew too little and decided to approach this in the most direct way. *If he enters this room, I'll have a talk with him, but if he doesn't, I'll trail behind him and temporarily not spook him.*

Perhaps due to his personality, Chen Ge rarely forced others—he gave the man a choice so that way, even if he accidentally injured the man, he would feel better. Gripping the hammer, Chen Ge held his breath. The footsteps neared, and the content of the buckets kept splashing out. The man frowned like he was not in a good mood. He continued walking ahead. When he walked past the medium-sized morgue that Chen Ge was in, he looked toward it and realized that the door had been pushed open.

“Didn't I close this door earlier? Who opened this? Is Li Jiu also in here?” The deep male voice drifted out from behind the mask. He stopped to look around and cursed. The man was in a bad mood. He put down the buckets, and the hands that were covered by plastic gloves headed for the doorknob. Just as his fingers were about to grab the doorknob, another man's voice came from the other end of the corridor.

“Brother Wei! Are you done yet? Why are you taking so long today?” A man who was thin and short, with tanned skin ran out holding a flashlight.

“There was a bit too much that needed cleaning today.” The man who was called Brother Wei did not enter the room. He pulled his hands back and turned to look at the skinny man with a frown. “Why are you here? Didn’t I tell you to go distract the guards? If they walk in here and see us, this will be so hard to explain.”

“Don’t you worry about that. Those guards are as cowardly as mice; they will never come in here.” Li Jiu looked into the medium-sized morgue. When he noticed that nothing was out of place, he turned his head back. He lowered his voice and moved to Brother Wei. “In any case, we’d better not finish this as fast as we can. When the guards were chatting, I overheard some things.”

“What did they say?”

“This morgue is haunted,” Li Jiu said in a creepy voice.

“Haunted? You believe in something like that?” Brother Wei placed the red bucket before Li Jiu. “Stop wasting time. Since you’re here, help me with these things. They look so disgusting.”

When Li Jiu saw Brother Wei did not believe him, he added, “Not only the security, even the students who are seniors at this school know that this place is haunted. Brother Wei, think about it, when we are normally tasked with dealing with the cadavers at a medical school, they prepare everything beforehand, and we only needed to transport them into the cars, but this school would rather pay us double the price but refuse to come in here to deal with things themselves. This is definitely suspicious!”

“As long as we’re getting paid, everything is fine. What is scarier than poverty?” Brother Wei grabbed the red bucket and walked deeper into the corridor. The bucket was practically overflowing, so once he moved slightly faster, the content would splash out.

“But I’m not wearing any gloves!” Li Jiu cried. Brother Wei ignored him, so without any other option, he picked up the bucket that was left for him with both hands and chased after Brother Wei.

After the two walked away, Chen Ge came out from the room. He looked at the sticky liquid on the ground, but he too could not identify it. “This is perfect. They’ll help me scout ahead. If there’s danger, I’ll go and help them.”

Chen Ge was about to leave the room when the white cat on his backpack cried. Chen Ge turned to look and saw that the human model had turned its head. It had originally been looking at the rotten apple, but it was now looking right at Chen Ge.

*The apple should represent life, and since the model was looking at the apple, it should desire life. Now that the thing is looking at me, does it mean that it’s planning to take over my body?*

If not for the warning from the white cat, Chen Ge would not have noticed this.

*Being stared by a model from the back, that is quite scary.*

Without hesitation, Chen Ge walked to the model and had a staring contest with it. After a while, he gripped the model’s head with both hands and twisted it off.

“Since you like to look at me so much then, I’ll grant you the pleasure of watching me clear this mission.”

Chen Ge placed the head inside his backpack, putting it next to the comic and recorder.

The footsteps in the corridor faded away. Afraid that he might lose them, Chen Ge hurried to catch up. The white corridors looked rather scary. Chen Ge walked past a few more morgues, and the deeper he ventured into the morgue, the more confused he became. "Zhang Li said that there were seven morgues at the outer perimeter, and if we move any further, we would reach the middle section of the morgue, but that zone is supposed to be banned from any entry."

The temperature was so low that it felt like all the freezers had been swung open, and the chill seeped out from the walls and floor tiles. The two that walked ahead also felt that something was wrong. They slowed down, and Chen Ge made use of this opportunity to catch up to them. There were only several meters between them. Chen Ge hid in the corner and focused on them using his Yin Yang Vision.

"Brother Wei, can't you help carry this? The thing in the bucket just hit my hands." Li Jiu put the bucket down and flashed the light on his hands. There were red spots surfacing on his palm that looked like insect bites. "They don't feel like anything, but they do look scary."

"You sure know how to create problems. Those are chemical baths. You'll be fine after washing it away." Brother Wei handed his flashlight to Li Jiu to have him shine the way, and he picked up the two large buckets.

#### **Chapter 425: Morgue No. 8**

"You're trying to blame this on me? If not for you forcing me to carry the bucket, this would not have happened," Li Jiu complained. He tried to wipe his hand on his shirt, but it did not have much effect. If anything, the red dots only got deeper in color.

"Stop wasting time. Come over and help. We'll leave after we're done. Why is this blasted place so cold?" Brother Wei walked ahead and held the buckets as he walked down the corridor following the map in his memory. They would pass a door that led to a morgue every few meters along the white corridor, and the number would be painted on the door. The two walked past Morgue No. 6 and then 7. Just as they were continuing to move forward, Li Jiu suddenly pulled on Brother Wei's shirt.

"What is it this time?" Brother Wei glared at Li Jiu with impatience. Standing where he was, Li Jiu flashed the flashlight at the door next to Morgue No. 7.

"When we entered this place earlier, there is a wall next to Morgue No. 7, right?"

"I can't really remember, why?" Brother Wei's voice sounded pressed because it came out from behind the mask.

"Look at this. Why is there another morgue next to Morgue No. 7? Is it a new addition?" Li Jiu did not dare move forward anymore. "There is such a thick layer of dust on the doorknob, so this must have been built some time ago. How come I have no memory of it?"

"Stop scaring yourself. You probably remember the wrong details." Brother Wei walked past Morgue No. 7 and stopped before the extra morgue. The morgue's door looked the same as the doors that preceded it. The unclear number was the only difference, like someone had scratched it out with nails.

“Shall we go in to take a look?” Brother Wei searched his mind, and he did remember that Morgue No. 7 was supposed to be the last morgue.

“If you want to go, you need to go in alone. I don’t dare.” Li Jiu shook his head as he held the flashlight.

“Why are you so easily scared? We probably handle even more dead bodies at the crematorium every day than what’s down here, so why are you acting like this?” Brother Wei said that, but in reality, his heart was shaking as well. He skipped over this topic and picked up his pace as he ran past the extra morgue.

“Wait for me!” Li Jiu chased after Brother Wei, and something unexpected happened. The distance between Brother Wei and Li Jiu increased. Just as Li Jiu was about to run past the morgue, the steel door of the morgue opened on its own. It was very sudden, like someone from within had pushed it open.

Li Jiu was already shaking in his boots. The sudden movement of the door scared him, and he yelped in fear. Hearing that, Brother Wei stopped and turned to look. When he saw that the door was open, his face blanched. “Why did you go and open the door? If you have time to go sight-seeing, why don’t you come over to help me?”

Brother Wei lectured Li Jiu, but the latter was feeling wronged as well. “The door opened on its own; I didn’t even touch it.”

He glanced into the room, and the moment he did, his body froze with his eyes locked in a certain direction.

“What’s wrong with you now?” Brother Wei had been partners with Li Jiu for years already. He knew his colleague well; he was not someone who was into pranks. He put down the buckets and walked to stand beside Li Jiu and look into the morgue.

In a glass tube not far from the door was a body soaked in liquid, and the scariest thing was that the body’s eyes were open.

“Brother Wei, how come it feels like it’s watching us?” Li Jiu kept his voice low. Whenever he opened his lips, it felt like cold air was running into his lips.

“Let’s go and take a look.” Brother Wei grabbed Li Jiu by his shoulders, and two of them entered the morgue. The morgue looked more like a display room. There was a plaque on the wall. It said, ‘Every donor deserves to be respected, and that respect should exist at all times.’

The plaque was pasted on the wall, but Brother Wei and Li Jiu’s attention was completely captured by the body with the eyes open. They did not notice the words on the wall. The two moved slowly into the room and stopped next to the dead body.

“Liu Zhengyi?” There was a short introduction on the bottom of the tube. The body’s name was Liu Zhengyi, a graduate at Western Jiujiang Medical University who had stayed as a lecturer after his graduation. The man was a morally-upright man. The introduction said that on the day that he became a teacher, he had already decided to donate his body to the school after his death.

Once upon a time, a student had been joking with the cadaver's looks in class, and he had scolded the student severely. He looked so young in the tube, and the introduction did not mention his cause of death.

"The preservation is so well done; it looks like a real person." Brother Wei reached out to tap on the glass tube. The body inside did not respond.

"What are you doing? What if you really wake him up?" The red dots had already spread from Li Jiu's arm, but he did not notice it. He yanked Brother Wei to the side. "Those security guards said that the underground morgue is haunted, and their own people refuse to come down here. Let's leave immediately and not take any work from this school ever again."

"Let's finish this contract first." Brother Wei flung Li Jiu's hand off. He looked to the side. There were other glass tubes in the room next to Liu Zhengyi, and each of them had a cadaver inside it. There was a kind-looking old man. He looked peaceful and had the presence of a university professor. There was a muscular teen of about twenty. His eyes were closed, and there was a bright smile on his face like he was having a sweet dream. Brother Wei's eyes scanned all the glass tubes, and when he saw the tube behind the door, he was startled.

The tube was empty. The weirdest thing about it was the cover at the top of the tube, which was open like something inside had just crawled out from it. The two sidled close to the tube and shone the flashlight on it. Then they discovered something even weirder. The top of the tube reeked of formalin, and there were two wet hand prints on the cover. Brother Wei and Li Jiu shared a look, and they both panicked.

"The thing inside the tube has crawled out?"

"Don't panic." Brother Wei looked around the tube. "If something did crawl out, it would have left more than two handprints, but there aren't any more handprints or footprints."

Li Jiu looked around with the flashlight, and he realized that Brother Wei was right. "Then how do you explain the two handprints?"

"No idea but we should leave immediately." This was second floor underground, and they were surrounded by darkness. The darkness was so thick that it felt like it could not be banished by the light from the flashlight. As Brother Wei was retreating, he turned and walked out with Li Jiu.

"I'll go deal with the stuff inside the buckets. You stay here and wait for me."

"Okay, come back quickly."

Brother Wei and Li Jiu left the room, and neither of them discovered that there was a cupboard behind the glass tube whose gaps were continuously leaking formalin.

## **Chapter 426: Cadaver Pool**

Brother Wei picked up the two large water buckets and walked down the corridor. Li Jie stood where he was. He held the flashlight in his hand and forced himself to resist the urge to flash it into the morgue. He knew, in the darkness, the cadavers were all looking at him. "I'd better close the door."

Li Jiu closed the morgue and looked around. Brother Wei had already left, and it was quite scary standing there alone.

He turned back to look, and it felt like there were monsters just hiding in the edge of the light. He wanted to go and check, but he did not have the courage. After much deliberation, he felt it was safer to stay with Brother Wei. "This place is too creepy. Being together at least means that we have someone to look after each other."

Holding the flashlight, Li Jiu turned back every three steps that he made, deadly afraid that he might find someone following him. "Hopefully, I'm just being overly sensitive."

After Li Jiu walked away, a scary-looking hammer peeked around the corner. Chen Ge poked his head out to look at the pair that wandered away. His eyes were filled with confusion. *Did the man discover me?*

He walked out from the corner and stood at the door. *The pictures given by Zhang Li didn't show this morgue. Could this be the mysterious Morgue No. 8 that shouldn't exist?*

Chen Ge pushed open the steel door and looked in. Other than the glass tubes with dead bodies, there was nothing out of the ordinary. *The dead look peaceful, so they should be voluntary donors. There is no trace of bad energy in here. This is not what I expected from Morgue No. 8.*

Due to his experience, Chen Ge took a look around, and his confusion grew. The situation at the underground morgue seemed more complicated than he had anticipated. *Just now, I think I heard the two talking about handprints and something crawling out.*

Chen Ge was about to enter the room when the white cat jumped down from his shoulder and ran down the corridor.

There were other people in the corridor, and Chen Ge did not want to expose himself yet. Thus, he quickly retreated out of the morgue to chase after the cat. After consuming the society's blood, the cat's body seemed to have grown larger, and its reactions became faster. In a blink of an eye, it was already several meters away.

*What is attracting it?* Chen Ge was very familiar with the white cat. Whenever they were out on a mission, the white cat would stick close to him. The cat used to be very feral, but that had been lost after a period of complacency. Most of the time now, it would be very cowardly. Therefore, unless truly necessary, it would not leave Chen Ge willingly. To stop the white cat from going missing, Chen Ge also picked up his speed, and they reached the end of the corridor.

The place seemed to have been sealed up at one time, but something had later happened that caused the brick wall to crumble. There was all sorts of trash in the road, and there was a sign that read—Lack of maintenance over the years. Danger of falling objects. No entry!

There was trace of that sticky substance on the bricks next to the sign. Brother Wei and Li Jiu had gone this way. *The outer perimeter with the seven morgues was the last expansion. Beyond this will be the middle section of the morgue.*

Western Jiujiang Medical University had been built decades ago; it was Jiujiang's earliest medical university. The underground morgue had perfectly preserved the medical scene at the time.

Back then, they had still used cadaver pools to store dead bodies. The pools would be filled with formalin, and the bodies that the university gathered through various channels would be soaked there. When the students needed to experiment, the teachers would lead them to the underground morgue to fish the cadavers from the pools.

*The road to the central hub should be somewhere in the middle section.* Chen Ge put away his phone. The map provided by Zhang Li was mostly about the outer perimeter. There was little on the middle section and nothing on the central hub. Hopping over the sign, Chen Ge walked into the middle section, holding the wall.

The air in the corridor turned murky. There was a weird smell in the air. Chen Ge sniffed the air, but he could not tell where the smell came from. It felt like the smell was coming from all sides. It had soaked into the bricks of the ceiling and the walls.

“The middle section is the forbidden zone of the university. Normally, even the security team and the people from the school don’t dare come here, so what are the two outsiders doing here?” Chen Ge really did not get it. The two seemed to like ‘adventure’ more than he did. Chen Ge slowed down and covered his nostrils and mouth with his hand. He stared at the white cat, making sure that the cat did not leave his sight.

After running several meters, the white cat leaned low to the ground and entered the hunting state like it had spotted a rat. This was the first time that Chen Ge had seen the white cat in such a serious state. He moved slowly with his body bent low.

After a while, the stench in the air thickened. The white cat continued to prowl. The corridor became older and more dilapidated. The white paint peeled off the wall to reveal the gray bricks.

After a few more meters, Chen Ge heard the voices of Li Jiu and Brother Wei coming from one of the rooms. The thing that had attracted the white cat came from that room as well. Afraid that the cat might do something hasty, Chen Ge picked it up and placed it in his backpack. He walked to the door and peered in.

The room was larger than Chen Ge anticipated. There was a large rectangular pool. Brother Wei stood in the middle of it while Li Jiu stood by the edge. *Every time, they collect such a large amount before they call us to come deal with it. Do they really think we’re not humans?*

Li Jiu coughed twice. He had seen many bodies before, but whenever he saw these things, he could not stop his gag reflex.

The repulsive smell oozed from the pool, and Li Jiu’s eyes were watering from it.

“I told you to wait outside, so who can you blame but yourself?” Brother Wei poured the content of the buckets inside the pool. “Just be satisfied, based on our contract with the school, we should be bringing these things back to our crematorium to burn them, but with this convenient dumping spot, we’ve already saved a lot of trouble.”

“You have a point.” Li Jiu’s face was white. Looking at the things that had been dumped into the pool, he still felt like vomiting, “Just how did the medical students manage to do this? These are all picked from the human bodies. Just thinking about it makes me shudder.”



The two continued their conversation, and Chen Ge heard everything. He finally knew the two's identity and their purpose for being there. Li Jiu and Brother Wei were workers at some crematorium. The university asked them to deal with the leftovers after autopsy classes.

Normally, each cadaver had their label. After cremation, the remains would be returned to the families or buried in a public cemetery. They could not do anything about that, but there were rarely whole cadavers in an autopsy room. There were many things that were left behind after autopsies.

These things were very hard to deal with, and they took a great deal of time. Li Jiu and Brother Wei wanted to save themselves some trouble, so they prepared to dump these things at the underground morgue.

They seemed to have done something like this before, and they had not been exposed.

### **Chapter 427: It Was Hiding Inside the Hole**

"Brother Wei, is the hole stuck? How come it feels like it's sinking slower than usual this time?" Li Jiu resisted his discomfort and glanced at the cadaver pool.

"There's probably something stuck down there." Brother Wei frowned while holding the buckets. He was getting agitated. They needed to leave the place as soon as possible, but weird things kept happening. "Go and look for items like brooms and sticks."

"Brother, we're in a morgue—where am I supposed to find a broom?"

"Then, are you suggesting we just leave it like this? If the university finds out, a fine is one thing, but we'll definitely lose our jobs. They are very particular about the cadavers." Brother Wei was not in a good mood. He waved his hands to fling the remains stuck to his plastic gloves away. "Don't just stand there, go!"

Brother Wei was wearing a white coat, gloves, and a mask, but he only had a pair of sneakers on. He lowered his head to take a look, and he felt like his sneakers were soaked with something—it felt uncomfortable. After he was yelled at, Li Jiu had no choice but to go look around the room with a flashlight. He eventually walked to a wooden closet that was placed in a corner. He opened the closet, and it was filled with several large rusted metal hooks that had long chains attached to them.

"What are these for?" Li Jiu did not want to venture out of the room, so he took out one of the hooks. "Brother Wei, can this work?"

Brother Wei did not want to waste time either, so he accepted the hook from Li Jiu. The hook was large, but the end was not sharp. However, it was very heavy. If he dropped it into the pool, it would probably sink immediately. "I guess it'll have to do."

There was a hole that was larger than a normal man's shoulders in the pool, and Brother Wei had no idea what it was for. Brother Wei lowered the hook toward the hole, and the hook was slowly submerging into the hole. Blocked by the floating substance, Brother Wei could not see into the hole. He stood by there and gripped the chains that were attached to the end of the hook.

“Why hasn’t it reached the end yet?” The hole was much deeper than he thought. “Who would dig such a deep hole at the bottom of the pool? Could it be the dead bodies?” If he had been anywhere but standing in a cadaver pool, he would have laughed.

“Just how deep is this hole?” When they were there the previous times, they just wanted to get things done, so he had really not considered that question before. To make sure the hook could continue to sink, Brother Wei squatted down. When there was about a quarter of the chain left, the hook finally hit something. Brother Wei grabbed the chain by both hands and pulled. He was shocked to discover that the hook was stuck.

“There was nothing in the way when it was sinking though, did it get caught on something? Maybe the thing that was clogging up the hole?” He pulled harder. Brother Wei was known for one thing—at the crematorium, he was the strongest. Brother Wei pulled like his life depended on it. The chain slowly pulled back, and it felt like the thing that was stuck on the end of the hook was especially heavy.

It looked like Brother Wei was fishing, but what could he possibly catch in a cadaver pool? Brother Wei had not considered that question. Half of his face was red, and even through the thick mask, one could hear him catching his breath. The chain was pulled out slowly, and it was covered with various indeterminate substances that gave it a creepy feeling.

“Come and help!” Brother Wei had pulling halfway through it when he suddenly realized that things were off. Earlier, when the hook stuck on something, it had been hard to pull, but at least the chain was still moving upwards. However, as he pulled, he noticed a resisting force from the other end. It felt like something was hiding inside the hole pulling back!

“Brother, I’m not wearing any gloves!” Li Jiu looked at the chain that was pulling out from the hole, and his legs were weak. Brother Wei gritted his teeth and leaned backwards. He used the weight of his body to stop the chain from sinking. He tried his best, and his mind was thinking about nothing but pulling that chain up.

“I don’t believe I’m going to lose this.” With his feet firmly planted on the ground, Brother Wei slowly moved back, and the chain pulled out little by little. The top of the hole started to bubble, and just as the hook was about to surface, the force inside the hole increased as if the thing inside the hole was only getting serious.

The chain was pulled taut for about a second before the force inside the hole suddenly increased. Without warning, Brother Wei’s body was pulled toward the hole. His feet slipped, and he fell. He was yanked toward the hole!

“Ma Wei!” Li Jiu jumped into the pool and grabbed Brother Wei’s coat at the last minute. His face almost touching the surface of the water, the smell of formalin made his eyes water. The chain danced on the water, and it was pulled into the hole by the force. The water was brownish and very murky. Ma Wei could see a blurry shadow sinking into the hole.

“What was that?” Cold sweat slid down his face. Ma Yin could not imagine what would have happened if he had been pulled into the hole. With both of his hands on the edge of the hole, Ma Yin collapsed to the ground with a blanched face.

“You didn’t touch those things, right?” Li Jiu asked uncertainly. He was having a hard time just looking at the hole, much less coming in close contact with it.

“No.” Ma Yin recovered after a long time. He stared at the hole and shivered. “Li Jiu, do you know of any fish that can survive in chemical water?”

“I know catfish can survive in sewers for a long time, but these chemicals are used to soak dead bodies—they’re for dead people. No matter how strong the organism is, it would be useless!” Li Jiu got quite a scare as well. If Ma Yin had fallen into the hole, he would have needed to change partners.

“If it’s not a fish, what could it be?” Ma Yin looked at the bubbling hole, and his voice shook. “When I was pulling on the chain, it was obvious that it got stuck on something. It felt like the thing was still asleep initially, but it got woken up by me.”

Ma Yin was spooked. He looked at his hands. “The thing was powerful, at least twice as strong as me. Even with the advantage of the ground, I was still pulled away.”

“Living deep inside a pool that is filled with formalin and dead bodies, twice the strength of a normal man...” Li Jiu did not dare to think any further. “Brother Wei, let’s hustle! It’s fine if we lose the job; our lives are more important!”

Ma Wei nodded. He also did not want to stay there. “Pull me up.”

He grabbed Li Jiu’s arm and tried to stand up, but he realized that his legs were powerless. He looked down, and Ma Yin saw that his shoes were completely wet like the content of the buckets had splashed on them.

#### **Chapter 428: Who Am I?**

“Can you stand up?” Li Jiu took a long time before he helped Ma Wei up. Ma Wei stomped his feet on the ground, but he did not feel any better. He felt like the parts below his calves were slowly losing their senses.

“The thing in the bucket is probably poisonous. It must’ve reacted with the other chemicals in the water.” Ma Wei had dropped out after high school, so he was not familiar with these things. He only knew that he needed to get to the hospital as soon as possible. “Li Jiu, your hands touched those things as well, right? Are they getting better?”

Li Jiu raised his palms. The red dots were spreading to form a rash, and it looked scary. “Some splashed on me, and it’s becoming like this. Your whole shoes were soaked, so it must be worse for you. We need to leave this place fast.”

Abandoning the two buckets, Li Jiu carried Ma Wei as they headed out from the pool. Before they could do so, the hole behind them gurgled like something was crawling out from it. At the same time, the tools closet placed in the corner of the room started to shake like there was someone coming out from inside.

“What’s going on?” Li Jiu was panicking. He jumped out of the pool and grabbed Ma Wei’s shoulders. “Quick! Those monsters are coming!”

He grabbed Ma Wei by both hands and yanked him out of the pool. The weird noises in the room grew, and the monster inside the hole started to crawl faster. The closet door burst open, and the rusted hooks fell to the ground.

After Ma Wei got out from the pool, the only thought they had was to run. The two stumbled to the door. The flashlight flickered, making the underground morgue scarier. The two were focused on escaping. When they reached the door, a man's face suddenly turned from the corner!

"What the f\*ck!" Li Jiu was walking ahead, but he was not that brave. Under the light from the flashlight, the man's face looked paler than it was. The pair of eyes focused on them, and it felt like their bodies had frozen under his gaze. The face had appeared so suddenly that Li Jiu's heart almost jumped out from his chest. He staggered back several steps to knock into Ma Wei, who was behind him. His legs having lost all feeling, Ma Wei had trouble even walking. The sudden collision with Li Jiu made him lose his footing. The two rolled and collapsed to the ground, their voices echoing in the underground morgue.

"I saw it!

"There was a face at the door!

"The thing's outside!"

Their whole focus was on the hole in the cadaver pool and the closet at the corner, so they did not expect the real danger to come from the door. The only exit was blocked, and Li Jiu cried for help. Crawling on the ground, he clambered back into the room.

Ma Wei still had no idea what was happening. He was just scared by how Li Jiu was reacting. Not raising his head, he followed behind Li Jiu and crawled after the man. The room was only so big, and there was no place to hide. The two leaned against the innermost wall and saw despair in each other's eyes.

"There were no footsteps. It was just a face that showed up at the door!" Li Jiu waved his hands. He did not even know how to describe it anymore. Ma Yin had followed behind Li Jiu, so he did not see the face, but based on his partner's description, he was already feeling scared.

His legs were turning into jelly. If they ran into danger, he would not even be able to run. However, compared to Li Jiu, Ma Wei was calmer. He lifted the flashlight and slowly moved the light to the door.

A man with a backpack was standing on the corridor. He was of average build and had a smile on his face. He looked kind, but when Ma Wei's eyes moved to the man's left hand, his heart skipped a beat. The man was holding a hammer that was at least half a meter long. The hammerhead was covered with sticky blood stains, and the handle looked like it was made from human bones. It looked so scary!

A smiling face and wicked murder weapon, the first thing that came into Ma Wei's mind was the movies about crazed murderers. According to the movies, the killers would look like this when they were about to kill, and they saw torture as a hobby, an enjoyable activity. His body curled backwards. Ma Wei squeezed together with Li Jiu, and the two workers could not stop shaking.

"I was still discovered." Chen Ge also did not expect that the duo would suddenly run outside. He wanted to hide, but he realized that the next corner was about six meters away. He walked into the room with the hammer. Chen Ge did not think it was such a big issue being discovered by these two. From their reaction, they did not have that much courage.

The hammer dragged along the ground, and the white cat followed behind it. Weirdly enough, when Chen Ge entered the room, the sound from the hole and the closet became silent. Li Jiu and Ma Wei saw Chen Ge walk closer, and their foreheads were sweating. In the end, it was Ma Wei who gathered the courage and demanded in an officious tone, "Who are you? What are you doing in the underground morgue so late at night?"

"Who am I?" Chen Ge toyed with the hammer in his hand. Stopping before Li Jiu and Ma Yin, he smiled. "I still haven't come up with the answer yet. How about you help me think up an identity?"

"What?" Ma Wei was shocked. He certainly had not been expecting that. He looked at Chen Ge and the hammer that reeked of stale blood. He forced a smile and said, "You must be one of the security guards."

"Western Jiujiang Medical University's guards have a uniform, so obviously I'm not one of them."

Ma Wei did not know what to say. He had a feeling that the man was about to kill them. With someone holding his arm, Li Jiu beside Ma Wei opened his lips. "I believe you're one of the university staff. I know you have something to do here. Neither of us saw your face, so we will not disturb you from working."

With the help of the wall, Li Jiu slowly stood up. He held Ma Wei's shoulders, and they tried to move away from Chen Ge.

"Not a bad guess." Chen Ge looked at the two. "Then why are you two here? Don't try to lie to me. Tell me everything that has happened here."

"We're employees at Jiujiang's Song Lin Crematorium, and we're here to help the school deal with the cadavers." Li Jiu told Chen Ge in general what had happened. When he mentioned the monster in the hole and shaking closet, Chen Ge's interest was piqued.

Chen Ge walked to the closet first. He opened the closet and knocked on the back wall. "It's hollow behind this closet; I suspect there is a pathway behind this."

### **Chapter 429: 'Red' Corridor**

Turning to look at Li Jiu and Ma Wei, Chen Ge ordered, "Don't just stand there, come and help."

The black phone's mission requirement was for him to enter the central hub before midnight. Without a map, Chen Ge had no idea where the corridor heading to the central hub was, so the fact that he had stumbled across a hidden pathway greatly interested him. The three pushed the closet aside, and behind it was a secret passage that was only wide enough for a single person. There was wind howling on the other end, and the air smelled of decay and rot.

Chen Ge reached out to touch the edge of the passage. It was wet and slippery, and there was something that looked like moss growing on the walls. However, the 'moss' was not green in color but dark brown. In fact, when it caught the light of the flashlight, it would glow red.

"Give me the flashlight." Chen Ge accepted the flashlight from Li Jiu and shone it down the passage. The passage was narrow and had many turns, so he had no idea where it led.

“Why would there be a secret passage in the room where the cadaver pool is? This looks like it has been dug years ago, what was the purpose?” Chen Ge looked at the two men, and they both shook their heads.

“Shall we go in to take a look?” Chen Ge was talking to himself, but when the two heard that, their expressions dropped. Probably worried that they would be forced by Chen Ge to scout ahead, Li Jiu said in a soft reminder, “We’d better not wander about. Even the security said this place is haunted. Brother Wei and I have personally experienced that this place is not safe—perhaps the legends are really true.”

Chen Ge also did not want to crawl into the tunnel. The space was too small, and it limited his power. Furthermore, if he ran into monsters from both ends when he was inside the tunnel, it would be very dangerous. When he was hesitating, the white cat called, and it slowly crawled into the tunnel.

*The thing that attracted the white cat is inside this passage? Chen Ge grabbed the hammer and leaned his upper body into the passage. There’s a draft, so the chance of asphyxiation is low.*

Hearing the cat, Li Jiu and Ma Wei realized that the scary-looking man brought a cat with him. Their eyes wandered between Chen Ge and the white cat, and their impression of Chen Ge changed slightly.

“You two stay here. I’ll be back after I go and take a look.” Chen Ge was worried that his retreat would be blocked, so he had the two workers help him guard the entrance. “That person over there, give me your phone. If there’s an accident, at least we can call each other.”

Chen Ge was pointing at Li Jiu, but the man was confused. Normally, people asked for phone number if they wanted to keep constant contact, right? Why did this man ask for his phone directly?

However, since he was too afraid to refuse, Li Jiu passed his phone to Chen Ge. “Don’t worry, if we can leave this place alive, I’ll definitely return you your phone.”

Hearing that promise, Li Jiu became even more nervous. After some brief conversation, Chen Ge found out the two’s names. If something happened, he would use Li Jiu’s phone to call Ma Wei.

“If you run into danger, you can call me as well. If you cannot hold them off, just run after you’ve called me.” Chen Ge put Li Jiu’s phone into the pocket of his jacket and followed the white cat into the tunnel. It did not feel like anything when he first entered the tunnel, but after he turned the first corner, Chen Ge realized that the air had become murkier, and the moss on the wall had increased.

*The white cat has swallowed the blood that the society found behind the door. Now that it’s running ahead, the thing attracting it might be related to the society.*

The passage narrowed and the deepest part of the tunnel was completely covered by the moss-like plant. Chen Ge used the hammerhead to scrape away some of the ‘moss’, and he realized that this thing was no different from a human. After the surface fell away, a red liquid would seep out from it. Chen Ge leaned in to sniff and found that the liquid was quite fragrant and did not have the smell of blood.

*Something like this can grow underground?*

After the liquid leaked out, the ‘moss’ that was scraped away regrew at a speed that was unimaginable. It seemed like the liquid had some regenerative power. Chen Ge continued to move forward. The tunnel

had become so small that he needed to bend over to move forward. The ‘moss’ continued to grow, and it felt slick stepping on it.

*Where will this passage lead to?*

The air became misty, but the color of the ‘moss’ turned brighter, from brownish yellow to a faded red. After a few more corners, Chen Ge’s breath caught in his lungs, he had trouble breathing. He called after the white cat and slowed down. He moved several meters, and the ‘moss’ on the wall had completely turned blood red.

Chen Ge looked around, and he was suddenly reminded of what Lee Zheng said. There were three types of corridors inside the underground morgue—the one with white paint, unpainted, and red paint. The blood red corridor was the creepiest and most mysterious. One had to be absolutely silent inside it, or something bad might happen.

*Is this the red corridor that he mentioned?*

The deeper he moved, the redder the ‘moss’ on the walls and the narrower the space. Chen Ge practically leaned against the ‘moss’ as he nudged further. He held the hammer in one hand, and as he turned a corner, the sharp part of the hammer scratched the wall.

Initially, Chen Ge was not paying attention, but when the ‘moss’ fell off, with the aid of the Yin Yang Vision, he could see something hidden behind the ‘moss’. He stepped back and slowly squatted down. He looked at the opening that the hammer had just made, and his pupils narrowed.

There was a human face under the ‘moss’—the face of a woman. Her skin was bleeding, and the most curious thing was that the blood from her face had a light fragrance to it.

*This whole passage is built from human bodies?*

Chen Ge froze, and he looked around. He wondered how many human faces were hidden under this ‘moss’.

*This is insane.*

The white cat continued to run ahead. Chen Ge looked at the woman’s face and hesitated. In the end, he chose to not abandon the white cat and continued to follow it.

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At the entrance, Li Jiu and Ma Wei looked at each other.

“We’re going to stay here to wait for him to come out?” Li Jiu lowered his voice to the smallest. He was afraid that Chen Ge might overhear him.

“What else can we do? I have a feeling he might be testing us. The moment we run, he might come out and kill us,” Ma Yin warned. The two of them could not understand why they would run into a young man holding a hammer in an underground morgue in the middle of the night.

“I still think we should leave. That man could be the ‘ghost’ that the guards talked about.” The more he thought about it, the more scared Li Jiu became. His face was white. “When we saw him, he didn’t even carry a light. This place is so dark, so how did he manage to look in the dark?”

Ma Wei conceded to Li Jiu’s point. “That’s right, something is definitely different about his eyes. Whenever our eyes met, my heart would race with panic.”

### **Chapter 430: Party Starts [2 in 1]**

“Which normal person would come to a place like this in the middle of the night? If we stay any longer, we probably won’t be able to leave.” Li Jiu silently nudged himself away from the secret passage behind the closet. Ma Wei used his flashlight to shine inside the passage. After he made sure that Chen Ge was not hiding around the next corner, he also started his retreat.

The two worked well together, and neither of them spoke as they helped each other walk out from the room. Compared to when they entered the place, the corridors seemed to have changed. They had a feeling that something was different from before, but what was different, the two could not put their fingers on it. Li Jiu walked in front with the flashlight. Ma Wei activated the flashlight function on his phone and followed closely behind.

“Be careful, there might be more than one monster in this underground morgue.” The scenario was like the most difficult escape-the-room game for Li Jiu and Ma Wei. They had to face cadavers that came back to life, monsters that could show up at any time, crazed murderers walking around with a murder weapon, and unknown deadly traps.

“Li Jiu, should I just drop my phone here? Holding it makes me feel like the man might call me at any time.” Ma Wei held his phone, but he did not feel any trace of security. The image of Chen Ge dragging Doctor Skull-cracker’s hammer across the floor appeared in his mind more than once. The young man had a creepy smile on his face, and imagining him on the other end of the phone gave Ma Wei the creeps.

“I think we should keep it. This is our only means of communication with the outside world. However, remember to change it to silent mode in case our location gets exposed during the key moments.” Li Jiu thought further and deeper. Being caught in a dangerous situation seemed to have brought out his hidden potential. Ma Wei followed his partner’s advice and changed his phone’s setting. The two stuck their backs to the wall and walked back the way they came.

After turning the corner, when they passed Morgue No. 8, Li Jiu, who walked in front, suddenly stopped. “Did the man open the door of the morgue? We closed the door when we left earlier, right?”

There was a sticky liquid stuck to the door handle. A thick mist of formalin circulated in the morgue. Li Jiu raised his flashlight and looked into the room. When he did, his eyes widened into two big circles.

“What’s wrong?” Realizing something was wrong, Ma Wei also leaned over to take a look. The glass tubes in the room were sitting where they were, but the cadavers that they were supposed to be holding had all completely disappeared!



Li Jiu's legs were shivering, and he pointed his flashlight to the ground. There were a few water trails leading out of the room and entering the corridor they were in. "The 'people' inside the tubes have escaped, and they are now also in this corridor."

Li Jiu's Adam's Apple was quivering. He moved his flashlight slowly to the corner, worried that something scary might pop out.

"Should we continue to move forward?" Ma Wei asked with uncertainty. His legs were still weak, and he could not run fast. If they ran into danger, he would be stuck there, waiting for death—that was the most despairing thing for the man. Li Jiu was also conflicted. The dark corridor was hiding the cadavers that crawled out from the glass tubes and various unknown dangers. However, if they stayed there, they would need to face the crazed murderer who was not less dangerous than the monsters.

"I think we should still move forward. If we move at full speed, we should be able to leave in about ten minutes if there's no accident." Li Jiu grabbed Ma Wei's phone. "The person with the hammer is probably still in the passage. I'll call the police first before contacting the security guards that are outside."

Li Jiu used the phone to call the police, and the number was answered; however, the signal was so bad that he could barely finish a complete sentence.

"This shouldn't be! Even though we are underground and the signal is understandably not so good, it shouldn't be at the level where we cannot even contact the police!" There seemed to be something in the underground morgue disturbing the phone signal, and Li Jiu had to give up after giving it a few more tries. Misery loves company—he felt like all the bad luck had gathered on him that night.

"Let's move outward first. If we run into any monster, we'll retreat backward." Li Jiu held Ma Wei, and he forced a smile. "At the very least, the man with the hammer doesn't seem like he's in cahoots with the monsters inside this place. That's good news."

The flashlight shone the light down the corridor. The two picked up speed, and when they passed Morgue No. 8, there was a weird sound coming from inside the room. Of course, they did not have the courage to stop to take a look. They pretended they did not hear anything and continued to move forward.

The corridor was so dark that it felt like it was endless. They ran past Morgue No. 7, and at the end of the corridor was a split in the road. Standing in the middle of the junction was a dark figure. It was not tall and very thin. It seemed to be holding something in its palms. Ma Wei touched Li Jiu's arm. "Shall we continue to move forward?"

Li Jiu could not tell for sure. He felt like the underground morgue was exceptionally crowded that night. He raised the flashlight slowly to let the light fall on the person before them.

Wearing a white, loose jacket, with a head of long flowing hair, it was a little girl who stood at the junction. She had her face lowered and was holding a rotten apple in her hands. This curious scene made Ma Wei and Li Jiu stop moving. They froze where they were as a chill crawled up their spines.

Feeling the light on her, the girl slowly raised her head. She looked cute and sweet. It gave the feeling that she was a quiet, introverted child. She had a pair of light brown eyes, and her gaze was locked on the apple like she was considering giving the apple a bite.

With her silky-smooth skin, exquisite facial features, and cute appearance, the girl formed a great contrast with the rotten apple. However, the most curious thing was, staring at the apple, there was more than a hint of desire that was inexplicable in the girl's eyes. The light from the flashlight made the girl frown slightly. Her small nose twitched like she smelled something fresh, and she continued to lift her head.

The light brown eyes turned to fall on Ma Wei and Li Jiu. The edge of the girl's lips moved, and the thin lips curved into a light smile. The smile was pure and innocent. There was not really kindness, but there was no maliciousness either; it was as if the girl had found a toy that she liked. Other than the smile that appeared on the girl's face, nothing changed about her. The girl seemed to be acting according to her own consciousness.

"Her hair and dress are all wet, and her skin color is not normal. Do you think she could have crawled out from the glass tubes?"

"But when we entered the morgue earlier, we didn't see any tubes holding a girl."

"Wasn't there a tube that was already opened? I suspect she came out from that particular tube."

Ma Wei and Li Jiu were shivering under the girl's scrutiny. Considering the fact that she might be a dead body, the shivers became even more violent, and their bodies staggered involuntarily backward. The girl stood where she was, but there were weird noises coming from the corridor. There was the sound of wheels running on the ground coming from the corridor that was painted white, and Morgue No. 7 that was next to them had a knocking sound like the thing trapped inside was trying to come out. The smell of formalin in the air thickened. Li Jiu and Ma Wei did not have much time left to make a choice.

"Going back is definitely a dead end—we might still survive if we move forward!" Li Jiu gritted his teeth and grabbed Ma Wei's shoulder. "Let's give it our all! We'll charge our way out of here!"

"Okay!" The two made their decision, and like a cornered animal, they planned to make their last stand!

Li Jiu aimed for the opening next to the girl. Dragging Ma Wei, the muscles in his legs tensed, and he jumped forward like a spring. "The corridor on the right is not painted!"

Normally, it was Li Jiu hiding behind Ma Wei, but now that Ma Wei's legs were injured, Li Jiu stepped forward. He cut a way out for them, and his expression turned ugly due to fear. His features scrunched up together, and a yell escaped from his throat. "Quick!"

The two charged toward the girl, and the sound of the wheels coming from the corridor was nearing. What Li Jiu and Ma Wei needed to do was enter the corridor that did not have the white paint before the wheels arrived. Every second was important. The girl saw the two men charge after her, and she remained immobile. The smile continued to hang on her face like she was unaffected by what was happening around her.

"This is our chance!" The girl was too careless. Li Jiu raised the flashlight. He had planned everything in his mind. When they ran to the girl's side, they would crawl past the opening next to her. The gap was

large enough for him and Ma Wei to go through. If the girl did anything to stop them, he would use the flashlight in his hands to whack at her. This was the most tense and important moment of Li Jiu's life, but he had confidence that he would be able to do this.

"Come on!" Running at full speed, when the sound of the wheels stopped, Ma Wei and Li Jiu had already reached the split in the road!

When they ran past the girl, the girl did not stop them; she just stood where she was, maintaining the same pose, not moving at all. It was surprisingly successful, but Li Jiu did not have the time to get excited because he knew it was not yet time to relax and celebrate. Running past the girl was just the first step; there was still a long journey before they could leave the underground morgue.

"Don't let your guard down!" He turned to look down the corridor that was painted white. There was a trolley used by the university staff to transport dead bodies sitting in it. They did not see anyone pushing the trolley, but they did see the several human bodies sitting inside the trolley, and one of them even had its head already yanked off!

"Thankfully, we didn't run down that way. Those bodies are definitely suspicious from the looks of it." Li Jiu was glad that he had made the right choice at the most crucial moment. He pulled back his gaze and used his flashlight to illuminate the unpainted corridor.

A sticky liquid dripped on his face. Li Jiu raised his head in confusion, and what he saw would be branded in his mind forever. The unpainted corridor was crawling with dead bodies, and their limbs and bodies were sewn together with red threads. They walked toward Li Jiu and Ma Wei like string puppets. There was so many of them. The pungent smell caused Ma Wei and Li Jiu's sense of smell to go haywire temporarily. Twisted dead faces fill their sight; everywhere they turned there were broken limbs and shattered bodies. Their brains were buzzing, and their thoughts were put on hold.

"Who would be able to survive this?" Running on inertia, Li Jiu almost ran into the crowd of dead bodies, but thankfully, Ma Wei pointed on his shirt at the last minute. "Back, back! Retreat!"

The two were quite good at survival. They had danced on the line of life and death so many times, and they had survived each time. There was definitely no way they were getting out. Seeing the corridor filled with monsters, Ma Wei and Li Jiu suddenly realized that the man with the iron hammer looked much friendlier and nicer.

They retreated quickly, and when they passed the girl, the child who stood where she was slowly turned her head. Like a toy whose spring had been turned, the girl's spine creaked noisily as the head slowly twisted around. The lips were turning white, but the smile still did not leave her face.

The head turned 180 degrees, and the girl who looked so normal had completely shattered Li Jiu and Ma Wei's last psychological bulwark. The fire running through their veins froze instantly, and a deep chasm of chilling helplessness opened up to swallow the two men. At a time like this, they could only try their best to run and escape. In their mind, the only person who could save them then was the young man from before.

Without once turning back to look, they raced back down into the middle section of the underground morgue. They rushed into the room with the cadaver pool, locked the door from the inside, and moved the closet to block the entrance. There were footsteps coming from the corridor. After a few seconds of

silence, something slammed heavily into the room where the cadaver pool was. Ma Wei and Li Jiu leaned against the closet.

Just as they were locked in a standstill with the monsters outside the door, the hole in the middle of the cadaver pool started to gurgle and bubble again. After some time, the human remains that were supposed to have sunk to the bottom of the hole started to gush upward like there was something pushing them up from below.

“We cannot stay in this room any longer. Brother Wei, let’s go into the secret tunnel as well!” Li Jiu’s suggestion was very risky. After all, no one knew what was at the other end of the passage. “Since there was no other option, why not just give it a try? The man did not hesitate when he entered the passage earlier. I feel like he should know something about this place.”

“Okay! We’ll do it your way.” Ma Wei picked up the chain from the ground to tie the closet tight to the door. They needed to buy as much time as they could. The two crawled into the secret passage, and they moved so quickly, giving no thought to the type of danger that they might face inside the passage. The passage was small and narrow, so the two moved with one in front and the other at the back. The distance between them and Chen Ge slowly closed.

After running several meters, they could hear the sound of the closet being shoved down coming from outside. Their hearts shook, and they raced as fast as they could down the secret passage.

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Chen Ge walked for a long time inside the passage, and the deeper he went, the thicker the layer of ‘moss’ became. It became so ubiquitous that he could not stop his shirt and body from accidentally touching it.

However, weirdly enough, when the fragrant liquid from the ‘moss’ touched the surface of his skin, his body temperature that had become so much lower than normal started to rise again. Even though it was only temporary, it made him feel warm, a sensation that he had not experienced in a long time.

*This might not be a good development.* Chen Ge was familiar with the fact that the ‘moss’ was covering human bodies. Even though he had been searching a method to make his body temperature return to normal, if the method was related to body bodies, he would need to give it a second consideration.

The ceiling of the corridor lowered, and the walls squeezed in from both sides. At the deepest part of the corridor, the path was almost completely swallowed by the ‘moss’. The white cat scratched its way through, and without any other choice, Chen Ge had to use his hand to move the peels of ‘moss’ that blocked the way apart.

His fingers touched the wall. Under the bright red ‘moss’ were human faces. Their eyes were tightly closed, and Chen Ge literally walked before their eyes.

*These human bodies are probably preserved with some special method. They look no different from normal, living humans.* Chen Ge felt slightly uncomfortable. *It would be no laughing matter if they suddenly opened their eyes when I am walking past them.*