

Horrors 731

Chapter 731: Senior Was Taken by a Monster

When the visitors left the room, the senior immediately closed the door to the photography club and kept mumbling. "How can this be? She has returned!"

Incessant banging came from behind the door. The whole door shook like it could be knocked down at any moment. The senior was quite a good actor. Under his influence, the already panicking visitors became even more flustered.

"There's a problem here. Please go on ahead to the physical check-up for the new students. It's inside the room at the front there. The doctor has already arrived." The senior forced a smile. The door shook violently. In the dark corridor, the visitors would not have been so afraid when there was a guide leading them, but exploring the scenario on their own was quite a tall task.

"What are you all doing here? Go!" The senior's voice turned urgent. He leaned his back against the door of the photography club. Even so, the door was still shaking very greatly.

"We should listen to him, let's go." Chui Ming and Lee Yuan led the group away. Before they got too far, the senior holding back the door suddenly added, "Right, I'll give you another piece of advice! There is a problem with the elevator, and it is temporarily out of order. Try not to wander off to another floor because in the staircase..."

He was halfway through when a pale arm reached out from the middle of the door and pulled the hapless man into the room.

"Save me! Save me!" The senior's blood-curdling scream echoed down the hall. His pale face squeezed between the door. His cheeks were filled with blood, and he waved his arms madly around for help.

"Save me! Pull me out!"

Blood red paint squirted out from behind his head, and it landed everywhere. Under such circumstances, people were not going to get any closer. The visitors stood there and watched the senior being dragged slowly into the door, and the blood trickled along the floor.

"Save me!" The senior screamed loudly. Right then, Chen Ge, who was at the back of the group, moved forward. His shoes stepped on the red paint. The 'blood' was not as sticky as actual blood; it was red paint diluted with water. Without much hesitation, Chen Ge reached the door and grabbed the senior's hand.

"Save..." Before the senior could finish, Chen Ge pushed him behind the door and locked it. The corridor became quiet immediately. Even the ghost inside the room was at a loss.

The visitors looked at Chen Ge with widened eyes. The latter only said with some embarrassment, "Sorry, I guess my hands slipped."

After Chen Ge walked for three meters away from the room, the door started to shake again, and the senior's scream and a female ghost's wicked cackle came from inside the photograph club's room.

“These workers at least know how to adapt to a situation.” Chen Ge returned to the back of the group, and he noticed the other visitors were still looking at him. “Don’t just stand there—we need to hurry to find the doctor. Just now, the student said that it’s not safe to use the staircase, and we are too close to the stairs now. Perhaps there might be things that crawl out from there later. After all, you saw the movie earlier; the ghost first appeared at the staircase.”

With a calm tone and sharp analysis, after pushing the senior to his death, Chen Ge’s ability to remain so collected left a deep impression on the other visitors.

“You are right; we are too close to the staircase now.” Lee Yuan was slightly afraid. He looked at the stairs behind him and the dark corridor ahead of him. He did not dare move forward—no one knew what kind of monster they would run into. He nudged forward a few steps before stopping. He turned back to ask Chen Ge for help. “Big brother, how about you lead the way for us?”

“Would you like to take up the rear? Actually, that is more dangerous than walking ahead. The end of the group is closest to the stairs, and who knows, you might just find an extra person walking behind you?”

“That’s enough! I’ll lead at the front then!” Lee Yuan grabbed Lee Xue’s hand, and Lee Xue hugged Lee Yuan’s waist tightly. This couple appeared like they had entered a mine zone and walked very slowly. Seeing this, Chen Ge shook his head slightly.

These visitors were all normal visitors. If they were visiting his Haunted House, they would not have survived a one-star scenario, so it was normal for them to be afraid of everything.

Lights were installed on the wall at every interval of ten meters. The lights flickered, but there did not seem to be a rhythm behind it, which added to the creepy atmosphere. Nightmare Academy created a good atmosphere, but it was still leagues behind Chen Ge’s Haunted House. Removing his backpack, Chen Ge glanced at the time and decided not to waste time anymore. “If I wrap this up early, I might be able to catch the afternoon train back.”

Taking out the ballpoint pen wrapped in cellophane tape, Chen Ge placed it inside his shirt pocket. For this kind of small scenario, the Pen Spirit was more than enough.

“Come, I will lead the way.” Turning on the red flashlight, Chen Ge walked alone at the front. The visitors at the back needed to start running to keep up with him.

“There are two cameras installed on either side of the corridor. In the middle of the corridor, there is a camera that can turn a hundred and eighty degrees. These are the only three that I’ve discovered so far. If there are no other cameras, the blind spot should be these few places,” Chen Ge mumbled to himself as he walked down the corridor. The visitors did not understand his action at all. They could not figure why someone would pay attention to security cameras’ locations inside a Haunted House. Perhaps this was how a true expert attempt a Haunted House.

Chen Ge walked for a long time but did not come across any rooms that resembled a clinic or health center. He could only turn around and knocked on the doors one by one.

“Is anyone in? We’re here for a physical examination.” When he knocked on the third door, footsteps came, and once the wooden door was open, a thick stench of disinfectant leaked out. A doctor in a

white coat stood at the door. He looked at the visitors and asked with surprise, “Why are there so few of you? Where is the senior that is supposed to be leading you?”

The visitors all turned to look at Chen Ge, but none of them dared to say that it was this person who had pushed the senior into the haunted room.

“The senior was captured by ghost, and he told us to find you on our own,” Chen Ge explained calmly.

“Is that so?” The doctor was confused. “Why don’t you all come in first. For the sake of privacy, please occupy one cubicle each. You can come out after filling out the form provided.”

The door opened, and the visitors were given the view of a bed inside the clinic. It was covered up with a blanket, but a slender arm dangled from one end of the bed. The cupboard at the back of the room had a saw, a syringe about ten times its normal size, a black awl, and a scary-looking hammer that was only slightly smaller than Doctor Skull-cracker’s hammer.

“Doctor, what are these things for?” Chen Ge walked toward the cupboard but was quickly held back by the doctor. “Those are for the physical examination.”

The doctor chuckled darkly and turned to study the few visitors with dark intentions. “Please enter the cubicles to fill up the form first. After the examination is done, you’ll officially start your student life here.”

“Okay.” Chen Ge studied the hammer inside the cupboard and involuntarily rubbed his hands together. He was the first to enter the cubicle.

Chapter 732: What Kind of Character Should I Give Myself?

The cubicle was very small, with a form and a pen hanging from a wall. Chen Ge picked up the form to study it. “Please select the one that you are not afraid of.”

The first row offered the choice between darkness and claustrophobia. “Is this some kind of psychological test to see if the participants suffer from any kind of psychological illnesses?”

Chen Ge was not afraid of darkness or being trapped inside a small space. He was about to randomly select an option when a thought flashed through his mind. *Does Nightmare Academy design a specific route based on the answers given here to scare the visitors at the maximum level?*

After giving it some thought, Chen Ge circled the word darkness. With Yin Yang Vision, darkness did not affect him at all. The second row was two pictures, one of a spider and the other of a snake.

The third row was a choice between mad murderer and wronged spirit. The fourth row had two pictures of carcass mannequins; one was headless, and the other was covered in blood.

Chen Ge answered all the questions quickly. He opened the door of the cubicle and walked out holding the form. Chen Ge used less than half a minute. The doctor was just sending in the last visitor, so he had not even had time to turn around.

“Do you have any other tests that I need to take?” Chen Ge placed the form on the table and stared at the hammer and saw inside the cupboard. Probably out of safety concerns, all these things were tied down with ropes and could not be taken down easily.

“You’re done already?” The doctor appeared to be thinking, and Chen Ge’s sudden appearance gave him quite a fright.

“Is that so surprising?” Chen Ge saw something bulging in the doctor’s pocket—it seemed to be in the shape of a remote control. There should be some kind of unique trap inside the cubicles, but since Chen Ge had come out so soon, the doctor had not had chance to trigger it.

“I advise you to read through the form carefully. Each question has its own unique meaning. Your choices will help me determine your personality, and with that, we can draft the best system to help you,” the doctor said in a kind and worried tone. When the two conversed, the other visitors left the cubicles one after another until only the second cubicle to the last remained closed.

“It has been three minutes already. What is taking her so long?” Lee Yuan hugged Xue Li’s arm—this couple stuck together like glue.

The doctor was getting impatient as well. He knocked on the door lightly. “Miss, are you done yet?”

There was no answer. The doctor knocked again before the door creaked open. The woman with few words walked out from the cubicle and handed the form to the doctor. The form was rather wet. The doctor looked down involuntarily and realized that the form was wet from tears.

The woman had answered the first few questions honestly, but starting from the fourth question, some kind of trauma seemed to have overwhelmed the woman, and she had scribbled ‘Death’ many times on the picture. With Yin Yang Vision, Chen Ge saw that all the words were written on the picture with the headless mannequin. He wondered if this was a plot inside the Haunted House or an accident.

The doctor hesitated before he folded the form and placed it inside his pocket. “Thank you for the forms. Now, please follow the senior who led you here to join the welcoming ceremony.”

“That senior has already been captured by a ghost. He is still trapped at the photography club,” Chen Ge reminded him. He realized that the doctor was being rather absent-minded; he had forgotten the fact that the senior had already been captured.

“Oh, right. In that case, I’ll lead you there.” The doctor walked to the door and held the doorknob. “I’ve scanned all of your expressions, and no one has any problems physically or mentally. Once you walk out of this door, you will have officially become the students of Nightmare Academy. As the school’s counsellor, I will give you one last piece of advice. Do not open any random door at the school, and do not trust everything a stranger tells you.”

The door opened. The doctor switched on his flashlight and walked ahead with his head lowered. The visitors followed behind him closely. They took a few steps when the visitors heard the sound of nails scratching the door coming from behind them.

Turning back to look, there was a girl wearing a school costume standing at the corner leading to the stairs. Her face was as pale as paper, and she had a creepy smile on her face. Her arm waved mechanically at the group of visitors.

The dim lights at the corner flickered. The girl appeared and disappeared in the darkness. Her lips were open, but no voice came out. It seemed like she was saying something.

“There’s a ghost behind us!” The fatty, Lee Bo, screamed as he squeezed through the group and huddled behind the doctor. When the others saw the girl, they all moved subconsciously faster, and Chen Ge was left at the back of the group again. He turned around to stare at the girl. When other people were scared by the girl’s scary make-up, Chen Ge was studying the girl’s lips.

“Do not follow the doctor.”

“Stay away from him.”

“Be careful of the adults.”

“Run.”

The girl seemed to be giving the visitors hints, but other than Chen Ge, no one saw it.

“Why should we be careful of adults?” Chen Ge was suddenly reminded of a detail. The senior that showed up earlier had been wearing a uniform that was conspicuously too small for his size. “Is the senior not a student but an adult?”

Stopping, Chen Ge stared at the girl at the corner, calculating the distance between himself and the girl. “If I rush ahead, I can cover this distance in under five seconds. Before the doctor can even react, I will have joined the girl and become a part of the ghosts.”

Compared to the black phone’s mission, visiting another Haunted House was a holiday, and Chen Ge gradually found the joy. “I’ve already paid for the ticket, so as long as it is within an acceptable range, I can attempt this any way that I want. To expand the visitor’s creativity and to help them unwind, that is the purpose of a Haunted House.”

The plot that originally only had one path was forcibly made into an open ending by Chen Ge. He became more excited. “I’ve been too busy dealing with the black phone lately. Today, I should try to relax and unwind.”

His pupils narrowed, and Chen Ge stared straightly at the girl at the corner as a warm smile appeared on his face.

Some powder dropped from the pale face. The girl suddenly shivered when she saw the smile on Chen Ge’s face. She staggered involuntarily backward and then disappeared into the darkness.

“She’s so shy. A real ghost wouldn’t act that way.” Carrying the backpack, his hands inside his pocket, Chen Ge walked down the dim corridor, but he had never found things so bright.

“The doctor represents the darkness in the adults’ heart, working to hide the secret in the school; the girl at the corner represents the ghosts, not liking to be seen and disappearing once I make any move. Since neither party represents the force of good, how about I turn myself into the third party at this phantom school?”

Chapter 733: Don’t Play Games in the Classroom

Most plot-heavy Haunted Houses would arrange roles for the visitors to play. That way, they could immerse themselves into the plot more easily, like at Nightmare Academy. In this Haunted House, all the visitors were treated as new students enrolling at the school, and they would adopt the new student identity to slowly unravel the ghost stories at the school.

Theoretically speaking, Chen Ge's identity was also a new student, but he did not have the understanding or preparation to be a new student. Other visitors focused on solving the puzzles and clearing the scenario, but he was focusing on how to become a new nightmare.

Actually, Chen Ge did not wish to go so far to Xin Hai to do something like that, but Nightmare Academy had forced his hand. Walking down the dark and eerie corridor, Chen Ge was very satisfied with the building. Situated on Xin Hai's busiest merchant street, and due to its special geographical situation, it ensured that the place would not be hit by sunlight no matter the time of day, which meant that it would have little to no influence on his employees. The interior was very spacious as well. There were six floors in total, and that was more than enough to fit in many Haunted House scenarios.

"If I'm going to open a branch in Xin Hai, this place is the most suitable." Of course, Nightmare Academy would not hand the location to Chen Ge freely, so he was merely daydreaming and planning ahead.

"Hey, you at the back! Try not to get left behind!" The visitors had walked quite a distance away when they realized that Chen Ge was lagging behind, and one of them called to urge him along. With the doctor leading the way, the group arrived at a large classroom.

"Go in now. The new student welcoming ceremony will be held inside this classroom. If you're lucky, you might even get to meet the headmaster." The doctor left. The visitors stood outside the door, watching him walk away.

"He's leaving just like that?" Xue Li hugged Lee Yuan and grumbled under her breath. "Isn't he going to give us some hints?"

The few visitors stood in the corridor, and no one dared to be the first to enter. Without planning it, their eyes gradually moved to fall on Chen Ge.

Other than Lee Yuan, Chen Ge was the only adult male there.

"The way I visit a Haunted House is different from what you'd imagine. If you wish to rely me, then you'd better be prepared to run," Chen Ge warned them kindly. He had a natural affection toward those who dared to attempt Haunted Houses. Perhaps it was a kind of an occupational habit.

Pushing the door open, a thick stench of blood hit them. The welcoming ceremony for the new students was also the start of nightmare!

Old tables were arranged in the classroom, and many mannequins were positioned in the seats. There was a working projector placed on the podium, and a dead person's model hung from the blackboard.

The closed windows, strange lights, and the eerie background music created a perfect atmosphere of terror.

“The scent coming from this model is ninety percent similar to a real body. How did they manage to do this? Did they splash animal blood on the model?” It was two different worlds inside and outside the door. After Chen Ge entered the classroom, his tone changed. “No wonder this place managed to become the biggest Haunted House at Xin Hai.”

After Chen Ge got into the classroom, Xue Li planned to follow, but she only took the first step when she was suddenly pulled back by Lee Yuan.

“What are you doing? You gave me such a fright!” Xue Li placed her palm over her chest and glared at Lee Yuan. Lee Yuan winked multiple times, and after pulling Xue Li aside, he whispered into her ear. “Didn’t you hear what he said earlier? The man said that the smell coming from this model is ninety percent similar to the real one.”

“And? What does that have to do with anything?” Xue Li still had not caught onto what her boyfriend was trying to express.

“My dear, that can only mean that he has interacted with a real dead body before!” Lee Yuan was shaking in his boots. Taking on the largest Haunted House at Xin Hai was already a big challenge, and now he realized there were a few strange people in his group. What was he to do?

“You have a point.” Xue Li was a more innocent person and did not jump to the worst possible scenario immediately. “Perhaps he’s a doctor. I hear some surgeons come to Haunted Houses to relax after completing difficult surgeries. We’re lucky this time to have grouped up with a professional.”

“I hope you’re right.” Lee Yuan and Xue Li found themselves lagging behind since the rest had moved on without them; they were the only ones left in the corridor. The lamps down the corridor suddenly turned on. Lee Yuan did not mind it that much. He was still deliberating over whether to follow Chen Ge or not. At that moment, the lamps nearer to them switched on, and a shadow flashed across their eyes.

A cold draft moved through their hair, and Lee Yuan suddenly sneezed. He lifted his head subconsciously and saw strands of hair dangling from the ceiling. In a corner where the ceiling was poked through, there was the face of a child. With pale skin and half-open lips, the girl seemed to have something to say to Lee Yuan. Through the hole in the ceiling, she tossed a ball of paper toward Lee Yuan.

“Help! There’s someone there!” Lee Yuan screamed, and his legs started to carry him away. He was about to pull Xue Li into the classroom when the lamp closest to them came on. Just three meters away from them stood a monster about two meters tall!

The skull was pierced through by nails, and the clothes were wet with blood. The exposed skin was covered in scary-looking wounds. His fingers were decaying, and he was holding a black and red rope in his palm.

“What the f*ck! When did such a large monster appear?” Lee Yuan and Xue Li charged into the classroom without hesitating. Then they slammed the classroom door shut. “Come and help! There’s a monster outside the door! Help block the door!”

The visitors inside the classroom were already nervous. They were carefully investigating the room. The sudden loud commotion coming from outside spooked them. They were not scared by the props inside the Haunted House but by their own allies.

Bang!

Something outside the classroom rammed heavily into the door. Lee Yuan used all his might to hold the door back, and veins pulsed on his forehead. "Come and help me!"

Chen Ge reacted the fastest. He ran over to push the door shut. "Did you guys trigger some kind of trap?"

"No, I swear, nothing like that happened! We were just standing outside the door! We have no idea when this thing appeared!" Lee Yuan's face was red.

"I understand it now. The appearance of this monster is to ensure that the visitors will follow the designated plot. If you stay in one place too long, the monster will appear." Chen Ge helped to close the door, and he grabbed the broom to lock the door in place.

"Now that the monster has blocked the door, how are we supposed to leave?" Even though the door was temporarily closed, the monster did not leave, and he kept knocking against the door like a crazy.

"The clues should be inside this room. It could be a talisman to chase the monster away, or it could be a secret path or even a weapon." Chen Ge looked at the door that might break down at any moment. He was so calm that even his teammates felt afraid. "The terror level is rising now. This is more like it."

"Hey! Come take a look at this!" When Chen Ge and Lee Yuan were closing the door, Chui Ming discovered something. He pointed at the projector; the screen next to the blackboard was showing a short video.

Four male students entered a dark classroom. Each of them occupied a corner of the room, and as they counted down the numbers, they moved along the walls. They walked around and around when suddenly a fifth person appeared on screen.

Since all five of them were wearing the same uniform, Chui Ming had a hard time telling who the extra person was.

Chapter 734: This Is Different from the Script!

Chen Ge glanced at the five children on screen, and he instantly recognized this rather famous supernatural game.

"This is called the four corners game. At midnight, four people are tasked with standing in the four corners of a dark, closed room and then walk along the walls in a clockwise fashion.

"When the first person reaches the first corner, they have to pat the shoulder of the next person lightly. Since there are four corners in the room and four people playing the game, when the people in the classroom start to move, there will be a corner that is left empty.

"When you pass the empty corner, cough once, and then you can continue on down toward the next corner."

“How do you know this so well?” Chui Ming was surprised. He was holding a diary that he had found next to the projector, and the game’s rules were written on the first page.

“The version that I gave is the standard mode. If you wish to make it more interesting, you can cover your eyes and call out your name, then ask the name of the person standing there when you reach the corner. This way, it’ll be far easier for a fifth person to appear.” Chen Ge extended his hand to grab the diary, and Chui Ming subconsciously darted away. “What? Don’t you trust me? This Haunted House is so scary. Only by working together will we be able to survive.”

“It’s not that I don’t trust you. I just think it’s not that normal for a visitor to know the rules of such a scary game to its exact details.” Chui Ming seemed to have been left with some scars when he last visited Nightmare Academy, so he had a deep caution toward anyone.

“How is that not normal?” Reaching into his pocket, Chen Ge pressed on the black phone. “This kind of famous supernatural game is not that scary because many people have attempted it before. Actually, I have some rare games in mind, would you like to give it a try? This place could not be more suitable.”

Chui Ming gulped as he looked around. The classroom door was jostled by the monster that awaited outside, the model before the blackboard swayed back and forth, and the mannequins at the seats carried scary expressions; was it really suitable to play any kind of game in that kind of environment?

“Fine, I’m not going to joke with you anymore. If I’m not mistaken, Nightmare Academy’s welcoming ceremony involves playing this game, and we should be able to move on after playing it.” Chen Ge was familiar with the tricks because he was in the same business.

“The ghost is about to come in, and you still have the time to joke, huh? Let’s get a move on.” Lee Yuan and Xue Li walked over. They made sure to stay away from the door.

“First, there is one thing that I need to correct. The entity that is knocking against the door now is a monster, not a ghost; they are completely different things.” Chen Ge took the diary from Chui Ming. He opened it and placed it on the podium. He stood before the blackboard, and the model with the horrible smell swayed behind him like a pendulum.

“This diary is unnamed, but from the handwriting, it seems to belong to a student. It is worth noting that the handwriting in this diary is uniform, meaning that there were probably multiple owners,” Chen Ge analyzed easily. “My observation is that the handwriting changes after completing each game. Does this mean that the people who participated in the game died after writing in this diary?”

Chen Ge spoke very fast. With the training from the black phone, the man was calmer the scarier the environment was. “Combining the video on screen and the diary, let me reconstruct the situation for you. The four new students didn’t listen to their teacher and entered this school at night to play the four corners game. During the game, an extra person appeared, and then all four of them disappeared. So, we would need to finish what they started and experience this game ourselves.”

Two hours per visit... Chen Ge planned to narrow that down to less than half an hour. He nudged the model away. “Excuse me.”

While the other visitors were still reading through the diary, Chen Ge moved to the corner of the classroom and discovered a ring attached to the wall. He pulled on it, and the blackboard shifted silently.

“There’s some kind of mechanism installed here. I get it now.” Chen Ge turned to yell at the other visitors. “There should be four rings in this classroom, one in each corner. Four of us need to stand in the four corners and then pull on them at the same time. After that, we should be able to escape.”

Chen Ge, who had been through a lot, had far greater thinking and reaction speeds than a normal visitor. Plus, he had his wealth of experience to rely on. Basically, with a little clue, he could reconstruct the whole story.

Before the visitors understood what was happening, Chen Ge already came out with the solution to the problem. The few visitors moved to the corners of the classroom with some suspicion. After they pulled on the rings together, the blackboard gradually rose to show the hidden path behind it. The monster outside the door heard this and knocked on the door even harder.

“Quick, let’s go!” Lee Yuan and Xue Li stood at the corner closest to the hidden path. Neither of them wanted to stay there any longer, so once the hidden path appeared, they let go of the ring and ran toward the blackboard. However, once they did so, the blackboard started to slide back into place.

“Four of us have to pull on the rings at the same time to keep the blackboard lifted.” Chen Ge understood it then. The reason that Nightmare Academy designed this was not to scare the visitors but to split them up. After all, visiting a Haunted House alone would be far scarier than visiting it with nine other people.

“I believe that we will have to split up. Four of us have to stay back to pull on the rings, and the rest will go in.” After Chen Ge said that, the others looked at each other, and it was clear that none of them wanted to stay.

“How about the three of us stay behind?” The little fatty, Lee Bo, said, “Ladies first, after all.”

Lee Yuan and Xue Li were a couple, so naturally, they would not split up. Thus, the final candidates to stay back were Chen Ge and the three students. The four stood in the four corners, and the mechanism was activated. Once Lee Yuan and the rest got into the hidden path, something did happen.

The blackboard came down suddenly, creating a loud crash as it hit the floor.

Someone has let go of their rings?

Narrowing his eyes, with his Yin Yang Vision, darkness did not affect Chen Ge that much. He looked around the other corners and saw that all three students had let go of the rings. They stood facing the wall with their heads lowered and their fingers knocking on the wall lightly.

So, these three students are the Haunted House’s actors.

The truth dawned on Chen Ge; he had been isolated.

The four visitors that came at the end are probably all their workers.

He was not angry or afraid. After all, Chen Ge had done much worse to his own visitors.

After giving it some thought, Chen Ge opened his mouth to say, "What happened? Why did the blackboard fall? Which of you let go? Are you guys still there?"

There was a trace of surprise and fear in his voice, giving the impression that he was trying hard to keep calm.

"This is Lee Bo, I'm here! Now what should we do? It is so dark in here; I don't dare move!"

From the corner closest to the blackboard came Lee Bo's voice. His lips were wide open, and he screamed with a voice that was almost breaking. When he spoke, Lee Bo looked in Chen Ge's direction, and the joy of revenge was shining in his eyes.

"Don't be afraid! Stand where you are, I'm coming to get you!" Chen Ge's voice was full of concern and warmth like he was worried for the boys' safety. "Please don't panic, I am trying to figure out a solution! Who is still here? Please speak up, let me know your exact location!"

"I'm standing next to the diary. When I was looking through it earlier, there was an extra notice at the bottom of the rules. If you fail to find the exit, we can play this second game to locate the new exit." Chui Ming's voice came from opposite Lee Bo. The two of them stood in the corners closest to the blackboard.

"Looks like we need to play this second game to escape. Later, I need you to follow my orders. No matter what happens, remember to stay calm!" Repaying their vengeance with kindness, Chen Ge reminded them, "When the real game starts, there might be an extra participant. That should be the Haunted House's actor, so whatever you do, do not panic."

Chapter 735: Why Are You Behind Me?

The four visitors occupied the four corners of the classroom. The surroundings were dark, and there was no light at all. Background music that came from an unknown corner drifted into their ears and would have caused any visitors present to break out in a cold sweat.

"If you're all ready, we will start playing this game." Chen Ge had attempted many supernatural games before, but this was his first time playing it with strangers.

Out of safety concerns, Chen Ge reminded the other participants again, "This Haunted House never ever sees the sun, so it gathers a very heavy Yin energy, and that attracts the presence of many strange things.

"Playing a game like this in a Haunted House is actually a very dangerous activity. When I arrived at this place, I noticed that Nightmare Academy is located at the Yin corner of the merchant street, and it is also located at the back end of the whole building. This is Yin on top of Yin. To make matters worse, there is a taller skyscraper built next to this building blocking the only source of sunlight to Nightmare Academy. This kind of geographical location is incredibly scary."

"We are just students. Can you please not make thing sound so scary?" Lee Bo pulled down the zipper of his top and exposed the school uniform underneath. It was identical to the uniform that the senior wore.

“What I’m saying is very simple. Playing a supernatural game in a Haunted House might cause us to really run into those things. If you’re afraid, you’d better leave this room as fast as you can, because certain things might not be a trap arranged by the Haunted House but something else completely...”

“I know, but can we please start the game already? This place is too creepy. I don’t want to stay here any longer.” Xiao Gou was in the corner opposite from Chen Ge. When he said that, there was a strange smile on his face.

“Okay, then I’ll start first.” Chen Ge walked toward Chui Ming while touching the wall. Based on the rules, he needed to reach Chui Ming’s location. Slowly moving forward, to make it appear more real, he even closed his eyes.

His fingers touched the corner of the wall. Chen Ge opened his eyes, and a pale face was floating in the dark. Chen Ge reached out to touch the shoulder of the man before him. Chen Ge was moving in a clockwise motion; he was supposed to move to Chui Ming, Chui Ming was supposed to move to Lee Bo, and Lee Bo was supposed to move to Xiao Gou.

Chui Ming did not speak. He followed the blackboard and moved to Lee Bo’s corner. When he reached Lee Bo, he patted Lee Bo’s left shoulder and then right shoulder. This appeared to be their signal.

Chen Ge realized that once Chui Ming did that, Lee Bo’s tensed shoulders conspicuously relaxed. The game progressed with ease, but when they did the second round, something changed.

Xiao Gou patted Chen Ge’s shoulder. He occupied the corner when Chen Ge had originally been. According to the rules, Chen Ge should have been moving to Chui Ming’s corner while the rest stood where they were. However, Chen Ge was only halfway through the motion when Xiao Guo suddenly moved to follow behind Chen Ge!

Not only him, both Chui Ming and Lee Bo also started to move at the same time. The three of worked well together. Their movement was light and did not make any sound. When Chen Ge arrived at Chui Ming’s corner, Chui Ming had already left, so the corner was unoccupied.

If Chen Ge was a normal person, they would have been overwhelmed by anxiety because, theoretically speaking, there should have been someone waiting in this corner. Xiao Gou maintained his distance from Chen Ge. In his mind, he could already see how panicked Chen Ge was. This new student welcoming ceremony was specially designed for Chen Ge—a normal visitor would not have been blessed with such an experience.

Darkness was human’s primal fear. Without the ability to see and hear, with the change in the rules, no one would be able to maintain their calmness. Xiao Gou looked at the shadow in front of him with anticipation. He repeated the script in his mind as he arranged his expression and prepared to jump forward. However, at that moment, something that he did not expect occurred.

Chen Ge fished out a ballpoint pen from his shirt pocket and stopped where he was for a second.

“What is he doing it?” After a moment, Chen Ge straightened himself and stood in the corner. Then Xiao Gou saw a blurry figure leave Chen Ge’s corner and move toward the next corner.

“There was someone in that corner?” Xiao Gou stopped moving instantly. His first reaction was that the two other actors had made a mistake—they had strayed from the script. “So, what should I do now?”

Chen Ge stopped at Chui Ming's original corner. Chui Ming and Lee Bo did not know what had happened. Following the plan, they had already moved to the next corner. Chui Ming and Lee Bo were waiting for Chen Ge's scream. They had disliked Chen Ge for a long time. Now that the man had volunteered to walk into their trap, of course, they would not let him go so easily.

At least that was their plan, but they waited for a long time and did not hear Chen Ge's scream. Chui Ming turned back to look. He still had not understood where the problem was when someone patted him on his shoulders. His hair stood on end, and Chui Ming instantly leaned against the wall.

"What's going on? Has Chen Ge moved along without staying in the corner?" Looking at the shadow behind him, Chui Ming could only discern a rough outline. This person's size was completely different from Chen Ge's. He was too short and too thin.

Of all of them, only Xiao Gou matched this size.

"Brother Gou?" Chui Ming called after the shadow softly, but there was no answer. Chui Ming had no idea what the problem was. With confusion, he continued to move forward to where Lee Bo was.

When Lee Bo saw the tittering shadow moving toward him, he was given quite a shock as well. With no other option, he moved toward Xiao Gou's corner.

Chen Ge was not scared. His teammates had made some mistake, so Xiao Gou was stunned. After giving it some thought, he decided to move back to his original location and pretended like nothing had happened.

After all, there were night-cams in the classroom. If there was a problem, the technicians would have informed them through messages already. Before joining the group, they had been given Bluetooth earphones. If needed, they could put it to use—this thing was one of the necessary items for a Haunted House worker.

Xiao Gou moved backward, and Lee Bo moved toward his corner. The two of them moved at almost the same speed. In the dark, to prevent himself from being exposed, Xiao Gou moved very lightly. He was being very careful, walking backward with his hand on the wall. When he was about to reach his corner, his finger suddenly touched another person's hand!

His arm shrunk back as if electrified. He did not expect there to be an extra person coming from behind him!

"Who is this?"

"Brother Gou?"

Lee Bo was quite shocked as well. He had just assumed the spot when someone touched his hand.

"Why are you behind me?" Xiao Gou was surprised. This was not the first time that they had cooperated, but this was the first time that something like that had happened.

Chapter 736: Her School Uniform Is Different

“But I’m supposed to be behind you!” After hearing Xiao Gou’s voice, Lee Bo calmed down quite a bit. After all, this proved that he was dealing with a human being and not something else.

“That’s not wrong, but...” Xiao Gou looked at the corner before him and lowered his voice to a whisper. “This is not how the script is supposed to go, right?”

“I know, but you have to ask Chui Ming about that. I only walked toward you because he came to me.” Lee Bo was confused, having no idea what was happening.

“Looks like the problem lies with Chui Ming. Chen Ge is just ahead; he hasn’t moved on, and he has no reason to move on his own.” Xiao Gou fished the Bluetooth earpiece out from his pocket. He was going to put it in but was afraid of being discovered by Chen Ge. After giving it some thought, he signaled for Lee Bo to calm down as he headed toward the corner where Chen Ge was. With his hands on the wall, Xiao Gou sought his way through the darkness. When he reached Chen Ge’s corner, he became more cautious as he reached out to touch Chen Ge on his shoulder.

The height hasn’t changed. This person should be Chen Ge, but how come his body temperature is so low? This is so strange.

“Xiao Gou?” Before Xiao Gou could come to a decision, Chen Ge suddenly called his name.

“What... what’s wrong?” Pulling his hand back, Xiao Gou stumbled through a reply.

“Something’s not right. When I walked over here earlier, someone was standing in the corner. She was smaller than Chui Ming, but I don’t think it was Lee Bo. I suspect the Haunted House’s workers have snuck into our ranks.” Chen Ge sucked in a cold breath. His voice felt like it was squeezed through his teeth, and it sounded very scary.

“One extra person? The Haunted House workers might have joined us?” Xiao Gou stared at Chen Ge’s blurry face, and his mind was blank. *Are you telling three Haunted House workers that we might have been infiltrated by the Haunted House’s workers? Is this some kind of joke?*

“I’m not lying to you, be careful,” Chen Ge said seriously, and this flustered Xiao Gou. Even he started to wonder if the leader had sent in reinforcements to help them.

“Okay.” Xiao Gou nodded. When Chen Ge moved to the next corner, he silently took out the earpiece from his pocket and put it in.

“Can you hear me?” With his face against the wall, Xiao Gou used his clothes to shield the light from the phone screen, and he whispered to ask his colleagues at the surveillance room.

“Yes.” A middle-aged man’s voice came back through the device. “I was about to call you. Why didn’t you follow the script? Do you know how much trouble I went through to come up with this system? It’ll be able to enhance the horror factor of the game to its maximum. Stop playing around and get back to your stations and follow the script this time.”

“Boss, there appears to be some problem here. Have you sent in other people to help us?”

“I don’t think so.” The middle-aged man was confused and was baffled by Xiao Gou’s words. “Stop talking lest you get exposed. If there’s some accident, I’ll be first to inform you.”

Xiao Gou was still worried, so he added, “Boss, I’m not sure where everyone is now. Can you see where everyone is through the camera?”

“How can you not remember something so simple after so many rehearsals?” The man was getting impatient. “You are now on the right side of the blackboard, the one nearest to the door. Lee Bo is on the left side of the blackboard, and Chui Ming is in the furthest corner of the classroom. Chen Ge is moving. Oh, he’s now stopped in the corner closest to the backdoor. Also, how did you all screw this up? You’ve finished a round, and there are still people in all four corners.”

“Boss, don’t worry, now that I know everyone’s location, we’ll follow the script again.” Just as Xiao Gou said that, footsteps came from the last row of the classroom. The person did not attempt to hide the sound of his footsteps at all.

“Is someone moving?” To add to the atmosphere, there was no light in the classroom. Xiao Gou could only see a shadow moving at the back of the classroom.

“No one is moving. All four of you are standing in the corners; no one is moving.” The middle-aged man looked at the surveillance and told Xiao Gou what he saw. He was doing that out of kindness, but he had no idea the depth of horror his little update had brought to Xiao Gou.

Footsteps were very audible inside the quiet classroom—there was indeed someone moving in the class!

“Boss, I’m confirming with you again, are you sure that you haven’t sent another person here?”

“No, how many times do I need to tell you that all four of you are standing in the four corners? No one has moved. How come you sound so weird today? Are you not feeling well? Is it because your mother has been lecturing you again?” The middle-aged was getting impatient.

In the camera, all four people were occupying their individual corners, but there came footsteps in the classroom!

It could only mean that there was a fifth person in the classroom! Who could it be? When did they get in?

Xiao Gou’s mind was fraying. He could not help but be reminded by what Chen Ge had said at the start of the game. *Playing this sort of game inside a Haunted House was dangerous, because you might just summon the real thing.*

“We’ve attempted this many times before, and there haven’t been any problems, but this time...”

If one walked along the riverbank often, one’s feet were eventually going to get wet. Xiao Gou was about to update the situation to the man in the security room when the man spoke ahead of him.

“Eh? What’s going on with Chui Ming?” the middle-aged man said with surprise. “Chen Ge is still standing at his corner. He hasn’t moved to Chui Ming yet, so why has he started to move ahead?”

When the middle-aged man said that, it was around the same time that the previous footsteps stopped, and the new shuffling footsteps began.

The three of us have cooperated many times. Chui Ming wouldn't have moved ahead unless someone patted him on his shoulders!

When that thought entered his mind, Xiao Gou's forehead broke out in cold sweat. It was true that he worked at a Haunted House, but it did not mean that he was fearless.

"Boss, who is occupying the corner Chui Ming had earlier?" Xiao Gou rubbed his palms, which were slick with sweat, on his shirt.

"What is wrong with your head today? I can see clearly from the surveillance that the corner is currently unoccupied."

"You can't see it on the camera?" Xiao Gou was really panicking. He was young in real life, which was why he had been given the role of a high schooler. "In other words, a ghost is standing in that corner."

"What ghost? Are you trying to pull my leg? Aren't three of you ghosts, or have you lost your mind after playing a visitor for too long?" The middle-aged man had no idea what Xiao Gou was talking about.

"Quick, go back and follow the script. I'm going to have the recording of Chen Ge being scared, and I'm going to edit it into mini clips and spread them on all major websites. That'll teach him a lesson!"

"Yes, boss, I'll try my best." Xiao Gou forced himself to agree. He looked at Chui Ming, who was still moving in the dark. After a moment's hesitation, he took out his phone to send Chui Ming a message.

Chui Ming was on his way to find Lee Bo, and suddenly, his phone vibrated. He took out his phone and glanced at it while using his clothes to shield the light. It was a message from Xiao Gou, and it read, "The ghost is behind you!"

It was a simple question, but there were endless ways to interpret it. Chui Ming looked behind him, and there was a person standing in the corner that he had just vacated. It looked rather thin and lanky, reminding him of Xiao Gou.

Have Chen Ge and Xiao Gou swapped locations? I'm an actor, and in the Haunted House, actors are ghosts. So, this message means that Xiao Gou is now behind me, doesn't it?

Confused, Chui Ming stopped moving. From his perspective, it was Xiao Gou who strayed from the script first, and there was nothing that he could do but continue with the mistake.

What is he trying to tell me?

For the sake of safety, Chui Ming reached into his pocket to find his earpiece. Before he could do anything, footsteps came from behind him. He held the phone in his hand and watched the figure come close. Very soon, Xiao Gou's second message came.

"Don't stop! We've attracted a real ghost this time!" After reading the message, with the weak light from the phone screen, Chui Ming lifted his head. He still could not see the face of the person behind him, but he managed to discern that the person was wearing a different school uniform from the students of Nightmare Academy, and four words were emblazoned around the chest area.

"Mu Yang High School?"

Chapter 737: You Think He's Crazy, but He's Actually the Devil! [2 in 1]

Why is this person wearing the uniform of another school? Chui Ming was stunned. Mu Yang High School? Haven't heard of that before. Is it some other visitor who wandered in here? But how come I never heard the leader say anything about this?

When Chui Ming stood there thinking about it, the footsteps echoed in the dark again, and the blurry shadow slowly approached him. The temperature around him seemed to drop lower. The cold draft from the air-conditioner crawled into his collar and caused the hair on Chui Ming's back to stand.

"Brother Gou, is that you?" No one answered Chui Ming. He took in a deep breath. A kind of indescribable pressure grew on the young man's shoulders, and his body felt like turning and running.

What is going on?

He was inside the Haunted House, and he was one of the employed workers, but at that moment, he felt like he was one of the visitors.

His eyes bulged widely. The more he assessed the situation, the more flustered he felt. The person that was following behind him was definitely not Xiao Gou. After all, she was wearing the school uniform of a different school!

The unknown was the scariest, and that was exactly the situation that Chui Ming found himself in. He knew that someone was following behind him, but he had absolutely no idea who that someone was. He was playing out a familiar scene, but due to the stranger behind him, everything turned that much creepier.

Darkness swallowed Chui Ming like a wave. His chest rose and fell unevenly, and his breathing came up short. It felt like he was the only one left inside the classroom. The other visitors and colleagues fell away, and all he could see and sense around him was an endless stretch of darkness.

After a person had gotten used to a colorful world, when they were placed back into complete darkness, there would be a temporarily panic like they had been forcibly yanked away from their original world. Chui Ming, who had scared many other visitors in this scenario, was given the bitter taste of his own medicine.

The phone in his palm vibrated again, a sign that someone had sent Chui Ming another message. Suppressing the fear in his heart, Chui Ming used his body to block the light from the screen, and he sneaked a glance at the message. "Put on the earpiece!"

It was still Xiao Gou who had sent the message, and the message was very short, only four words long.

If you have something to tell me, why don't you just come out and say it? This is only making me even more panicked! Chui Ming grumbled internally. As he held his phone in one hand, his other hand reached into his pocket to search for his earpiece. Just as his fingers closed over the device and were about to place it inside his ear, there came a cold draft blowing on his neck.

He whipped his body around and the light from the phone screen lit up the space behind him. Chui Ming did not lower his head. At his eye level, Chui Ming did not see any person behind him. What he saw was instead a pair of old female shoes, and the thing that touched his neck earlier was one of the shoelaces.

Why is this pair of shoes floating behind me?

With his eyes following the shoes, Chui Ming's neck slowly lifted to find the shoes' owner. He saw a black shadow almost standing on his shoulders! When he lifted his head to look at the person, said person was also looking back at him!

His heart appeared to have skipped a beat, and his entire person petrified. He held the wall, and his brain tried to use the last of its rationality to explain the whole situation. However, even as his brain turned and turned, he failed to come up with any valid explanation.

The abandoned classroom, darkness so thick that he could not see his fingers, a person standing on his shoulders, any two of those could scare a person witless, and Chui Ming was lucky enough to experience all three of them at once.

His neck that was tilted upward was frozen. Chui Ming opened his mouth to scream for help, but due to extreme fear, the words that came out from his lips sounded jumbled and mangled. No one around him understood what he was trying to express, and they were about to ask him to clarify when they saw Chui Ming blast forward like a rocket.

The script, the actor, the Haunted House—everything was tossed out of Chui Ming's mind. There was only thought in his brain then. *I need to get out as soon as possible!*

There was no destination, no route in mind. As long as it was not inside that classroom, it would have to do.

"Chui Ming!" Xiao Gou screamed the young man's name. He wanted to get Chui Ming to calm down, and all he got in return was the sound of the tables and chairs being knocked out of place. There was no light in the classroom, so Chui Ming could not see his way, but that did not stop the young man from tearing the place apart as he tried to make his escape through the classroom's front door.

Xiao Gou knew that it was a ghost who was following Chui Ming. Seeing Chui Ming's reaction then, he immediately realized how scary that 'thing' was.

"Where are you going? Chui Ming!" Xiao Gou asked in a loud voice, but Chui Ming disappeared in a trail of dust without once looking back.

"What happened to him? Why did he suddenly start to run outside? Will something bad occur to him?" There was a heavy hint of concern in Chen Ge's voice. He asked three consecutive questions, and the others still in the room could hear how worried he was on Chui Ming's behalf.

"I don't know, but I don't think that we should continue this game anymore. I need to go and find Chui Ming." Xiao Gou started to get afraid himself. The environment around him was too dark for him to tell for sure whether the ghost had left with Chui Ming or not.

"No way!" This reply came from the last row of the classroom and Xiao Gou's earpiece at the same time. Both Chen Ge and the boss of Nightmare Academy had the same reaction. "What are you guys doing? Follow the damn script that I gave you! Don't you dare mess this up and make me a joke in front of this guy!"

Xiao Gou's boss breathed angrily into the earpiece. Before Xiao Gou could reply to his own boss, he heard Chen Ge say from the last row of the classroom, "You are never supposed to stop a supernatural game halfway, or the spirit that you've summoned will follow you for the rest of your life! Whether this is a plot by the Haunted House or the real thing, if you do not want to be woken up by ghosts in the middle of the night, we'd better finish this game!"

Hearing Chen Ge and his boss yelling in his ears at the same time was about to push Xiao Gou over the edge of sanity. What kind of people had he run into this time?

How is there a visitor who is actively requesting that we finish a supernatural game inside a Haunted House? This has never ever happened before.

Chen Ge was the visitor, and the person in his earpiece was the boss. Since both of them insisted on continuing this game that had strayed very far from the designed script, Xiao Gou could only force himself to continue.

"Okay, then... we will continue." He gritted his teeth and prayed that the ghost had already left with Chui Ming.

"Now that we are down a participant and a corner is empty, we will need to change up the game rules." Chen Ge was probably the first person who would go to another person's Haunted House and edit their rules. He did not think that he was being particularly bullish about it. "The basic rules of the game shall remain unchanged. We will continue to move in a clockwise circle. When you reach an unoccupied corner, cough audibly, and then we will leave the corner empty and move on to the next corner."

"Sure, we will do it your way." Xiao Gou was no longer that focused on the game, and he handed the decision-making part all over to Chen Ge.

"Then I think we should start with me as well." Chen Ge counted down to three and took out the comic from his backpack. Then, he touched the wall and moved toward the corner in front of him. He did not try to hide his footsteps, and in the darkness, one could see a figure walking alongside the wall.

Xiao Gou kept his eyes on Chen Ge. The corner that Chen Ge was heading toward was very close to the place where Chui Ming encountered the 'accident'. His nerves were pulled taut, and his focus was sharp. Soon, Chen Ge reached the next corner. He did not cough and stopped where he was.

He didn't cough at all! This can only mean that there is still someone occupying that corner! Xiao Gou's body was shaking lightly, and he was incredibly anxious. Chen Ge stopped at the corner, but the sound of footsteps did not stop. A figure swayed gracefully as it moved from the last row of the classroom toward Lee Bo.

Of everyone there, only the little fatty—Lee Bo, who still had not caught up to the truth—played the role he had been assigned honestly. Feeling a light pat on his shoulder, Lee Bo touched the wall as he moved toward Xiao Gou. That was a code between the Haunted House's workers. When Lee Bo reached Xiao Gou's corner, he patted the latter on his left shoulder once and then on his right shoulder once.

"Brother Gou, what happened to Chui Ming?" Lee Bo asked in a whisper.

Xiao Gou did not want to scare Lee Bo, so he did not reveal the whole truth. "Just ignore him. Remember, if there's anything that doesn't feel right, leave this classroom as fast as you can."

After saying that, Xiao Gou started to move toward the next corner.

Perhaps he was imagining it, but Xiao Gou felt like the darkness around him had thickened. It felt like there was a black hole in front of him, and it would suck everything that wandered too close into it. With his hands on the wall, Xiao Gou slowly nudged himself toward the corner that Chen Ge had occupied earlier, and there was the shadow in the shape of a person standing before him.

He walked closer and reached out his hand, but just as his finger was about to fall on the person's shoulder, Xiao Gou was suddenly reminded of a small detail. Chen Ge was the person who had started this round, so technically speaking, the corner that Chen Ge had originally occupied should have been empty!

Chen Ge had already moved onto the next corner, so who was the person standing in that corner?

The feeling of fear rushed at him from all corners. Xiao Gou's hand dangled weakly in midair, and he was suddenly reminded of something even scarier. The game had already finished one whole round, but so far, no one had coughed. In other words, it could only mean that there was more than one ghost inside this classroom!

The arm that was raised could not be lowered anymore. Xiao Gou had exhausted all the courage he could summon. After a moment's hesitation, he came to a decision. He touched the shoulder of the person before him lightly and then immediately jumped back a few meters.

It was not until the person wandered away that Xiao Gou sighed in relief. He did not stay in the corner for too long. Instead, he stealthily moved to the hidden pathway that was only known to the Haunted House workers and then decided to hide inside it.

I can't stay here any longer!

Xiao Gou took out his phone and wanted to send a message to Lee Bo to inform him of the bad news when his boss' voice came from the earpiece. "Gou Jun, what the hell are you doing? The visitor is still inside the classroom. I want you to go and scare him, so what are you doing running out like that?"

"Boss, listen to me, something is really different today!" Xiao Gou tried his best to explain to his boss, but the game was still continuing inside the classroom.

The footsteps echoed constantly in the classroom, and very soon, Lee Bo felt someone pat his shoulder. This honest little fatty did not think too much of it and continued to move ahead. When he reached the corner where Xiao Gou was supposed to be, he discovered that the corner was empty.

"Brother Gou?" Lee Bo stood at the corner alone. He paused and looked around for a few seconds. Then he followed the new rules set by Chen Ge and coughed once before moving to the next corner. In the dark classroom, Lee Bo felt increasingly worried. He slowly but surely reached Chen Ge's corner. However, when he reached that corner, he realized that the corner was also empty!

Where is he? Where is the visitor?

Completely blinded by this development, there was nothing else Lee Bo could have done but continue with the game. Lee Bo coughed again and made his way to the next corner. The classroom was so quiet that he could only hear his own heartbeat and his own footsteps.

When he reached the third corner, Lee Bo finally realized that something was not right because this corner was empty as well.

“Where is everyone?” Lee Bo did not dare to move recklessly. He tried to contact Xiao Gou, but the person did not give him any reply. He thought about giving up, but whenever he felt like doing so, the warning that Chen Ge had given earlier would appear in his mind. If he stopped the supernatural game halfway, he would be pursued by the spirits for the rest of his life.

Just the thought of that caused Lee Bo to shiver. Devoid of options, he could only force himself to continue. *How come it feels like I'm the only one left in the classroom?*

Near the backdoor, Xiao Gou had just finished explaining the situation to his boss and was about to reply to Lee Bo's message when he saw Lee Bo walking toward him through the window on the backdoor.

No matter what, this game cannot be continued anymore. When Lee Bo comes closer, I'll drag him out with him. And the visitor... I'm sure he'll have fun with the game on his own. After all, this is exactly what the boss wishes to happen to him.

With his hand on the doorknob, Xiao Gou observed Lee Bo through the window. He opened the door a fraction and was about to open his lips to call out Lee Bo's name when a chill rushed right up to the top of his head!

Xiao Gou could very clearly see that there were three swaying figures following behind Lee Bo!

They stuck to Lee Bo closely, and their footsteps were eerily similar to Lee Bo's, but Lee Bo did not seem to notice this at all!

There are three of them?

His butt fell against the ground. Xiao Gou's legs kicked on the ground as he staggered backward, and he screamed at the top of his lungs, “Lee Bo! Run!”

The sudden scream gave Lee Bo quite a fright. When he noticed that the classroom's backdoor was open and Xiao Gou pointing crazily behind him, his natural reaction was to turn his neck around.

Three figures stuck close to him, and three different faces reflected in his eyes.

“Who summoned us to play this game? How come we haven't seen you before?”

The reply was an ear-splitting scream. This was the first time that Chen Ge had heard such a shrill scream escape from a male's mouth.

He watched the big body knock into the backdoor and then shoot out like a cannon. Chen Ge did not move to chase after the boy. He pulled back the Pen Spirit and Ol' Zhou. He turned back to pick up the diary that had fallen on the ground and turned it to the third page.

On the last page of the first diary entry, the following was recorded. “Four kids played the four corners game inside an abandoned classroom. The three older kids purposely ganged up to bully the youngest child, and in their carelessness, they caused the youngest child to perish in an accident.

“Later, all three of the older children disappeared, and on the seventh day of the youngest child’s death, his family found three dolls made from paddy stalks under his bed. On the back of each of the three dolls was a different name— Chui Ming ¹, Gou Hun ², and Li Po ³.

This first entry is describing the first scary scenario, which is the four corners game inside the abandoned classroom. In that case, the second diary entry should correspond to the second scenario.

Sitting inside the creepy Haunted House set, Chen Ge flipped to the second entry with curiosity. There was a pretty girl by the name of Die. She had fallen in love with a boy, and to prevent her confession from being rejected, she decided to ask the Pen Spirit for an opinion.

The Pen Spirit game? Chen Ge stopped reading then. He had an unreadable expression on his face. Even with the same theme, I hope that they can bring me a different feeling.

Without going ahead to read the other diary entries, Chen Ge walked out from the classroom’s backdoor.

Should I head directly to the Pen Spirit’s scenario, or should I go borrow some tools from the doctor first?

He looked down the dark corridor and shook his head.

Oh well, I’ll guess I’ll carry on. No matter what, I’m going to clear this Haunted House today.

Chapter 738: Come, Repeat After Me [2 in 1]

The diary that was placed on the podium to scare the visitors became the guidebook for Chen Ge to explore the Haunted House. He placed the diary inside his backpack and rushed toward the second set described in the diary.

As the most famous Haunted House in Xin Hai, the size of Nightmare Academy was larger than Chen Ge had anticipated. The theme of a haunted school was maintained from beginning to end, and it covered almost all the school-themed ghost stories. “There are six floors in total. It’s going to be fun today.”

The large location, no matter from which angle, was a good thing for Chen Ge. He could explore to his heart’s content, and if there was a chance in the future, he could assimilate the whole building into his own Haunted House.

The Pen Spirit scenario was not far from the classroom where the new student welcoming ceremony was held. Looking at the paint on the wall, which was peeling, Chen Ge walked down the corridor until he came to an old, battered door. There was a sign above the door that read ‘Storage Room’.

“In the diary, the girl by the name of Die is said to play the Pen Spirit game inside the storage room.”

Pushing open the door, before Chen Ge even stepped in, he could hear the sound of a girl crying. The crying came and went quickly—it was too fast for Chen Ge to discern where it came from.

“Is anyone in here?” There was a big difference between Chen Ge’s Haunted House and Nightmare Academy. Chen Ge’s Haunted House allowed its visitors to explore it freely. There was no guide or help

along the way while most of the Haunted Houses on the market had a set route that one had to follow during visitation.

Now that he had wandered onto the set for the Pen Spirit without warning, he was very worried that the actors were not ready yet, and it might influence his overall experience. After he spoke out loud, the sound of crying weakened, and Chen Ge stopped to observe his surroundings.

The walls in the storage room were purposely made to look older than they were. The racks in the room were filled with a layer of dust, and the corner was piled high with various items. The lights inside the room were dim, and occasionally, one could hear the sound of mice scurrying about.

“The diary only said that Die played the Pen Spirit game here, but it did not mention a single detail about the storage room itself. So, assuming there was some kind of accident when Die was playing the Pen Spirit game, I could run into one of the two ghosts here; one is Die, and the other will be the Pen Spirit.”

When Chen Ge walked past the first row of shelves, the squeak of a mouse came from a spot around his left leg, and he felt something running past his left ankle. When something like this happened to a normal person, they would jump or yelp in shock, but Chen Ge was unaffected. Instead, like a little boy who was curious about everything, he squatted down to take a better look.

“There is a rope placed between these two rows of racks. Once the visitor’s legs step on it, the fake mouse trap attached to the knot will slither out.” Chen Ge scratched his chin. “Indeed, some might be scared by things like this. This is quite interesting. A Haunted House might not need to rely on ghosts and monsters completely. Anything can be made into something that can bring fear and terror. This is able to fulfill the various needs of the visitors, and it matches my goal of designing a multi-faceted Haunted House.”

Chen Ge memorized these little tricks. He planned to research them in more detail when he returned and use them as the basis to come up with something exciting and fun. Standing up, Chen Ge continued to move forward, proceeding to the space between the first row and the second row.

The corridor was very narrow. Chen Ge saw that there was a glass jar on the second row that was almost falling. He extended his hand to push the jar slightly deeper to prevent an accident. When he was pushing it, he saw a pale face hiding behind the glass jar.

“Is he on the other side of the rack? No, it should be squeezed between the racks.” Chen Ge stared at the face for a while before grabbing the glass jar and placing it on the ground. He reached over. His finger poked the face’s cheeks, and he squeezed for a while. “Synthetic rubber? A mask?”

Chen Ge moved all the stuff on that row away and finally saw what it was. It was a human mask that was stuck to a basketball. “It’s a fake skull? If there was a real person hiding here, it would be that much scarier, but I can see the problem; the place is too small for a living person to squeeze inside.”

Skipping the second row, Chen Ge headed to the third row. This time, he was greeted by a falling glass jar again, but this time, instead of one, there were five of them.

“Aren’t they afraid of shattering the glass and accidentally harming the visitors? Or are they using reinforced glass, which does not break that easily?”

When Chen Ge walked past the jars, he noticed that each of them was filled with something different. The liquid inside was dark, and the objects reminded him of human organs. “Do the five jars correspond to five human organs?”

Chen Ge picked up the jars one by one to study before replacing them. When he reached the fourth one, a slender arm suddenly shot out from behind the rack and wrapped itself around his wrist!

This happened so suddenly and without warning that Chen Ge was stunned for zero point something seconds before he snapped into being. He tightened his fingers and twisted his wrist around to grab the arm instead. He pulled on the arm and refused to let it go as he leaned over to look behind the rack. A girl in Nightmare Academy’s school uniform was stuck to the rack. She was gritting her teeth in pain.

“Let—let go!” That was most likely not what the girl was supposed to say.

“I’m so sorry. I was too scared. I didn’t mean to hurt you.” Chen Ge slowly let the girl go. When he looked behind the rack again, the girl had already disappeared. “Where did she go?”

The sound of crying returned. Chen Ge walked around the shelf and came to the deepest part of the storage room. Amid a mess of unused items, a slender girl was heaving with tears, collapsed on the table.

“I apologize for what happened earlier. I accidentally pulled too hard because I was too afraid.” Chen Ge squatted down next to the table. He was afraid that the girl was crying because he had injured her.

“I don’t feel good. My heart has been cut into pieces by a sharp knife.”

“I only touched your wrist a bit harder than usual. You’re not going to use that against me, are you?” Chen Ge grumbled under his breath.

The girl looked at the reddening fingerprints around her wrist. Even though this visitor’s reaction was slightly different from what she had expected, at the end of the day, she was a professional Haunted House actor, and she got back into her role easily. “I was deeply in love with a person, but after consulting the Pen Spirit, I found out that he did not care for me at all. I used the method taught to me by the Pen Spirit to make him change his mind, but I accidentally caused his death. I regret it deeply, so I came back here to consult the Pen Spirit again and see if there is a way to turn things around.”

“How are you going to turn things around when the person is already dead?”

“The Pen Spirit will definitely know a way!” The girl suddenly exclaimed loudly, and her eyes were red with tears.

“Sure, sure, but let’s be real. Among all the Specters, the Pen Spirit is definitely not the most powerful, so I suggest you don’t hold too much hope.”

“In any case, we have to give it a try.” The girl lifted her head, and the make-up on her face was thick and gaudy. It looked rather strange inside this abandoned storage room. “Can you lend me a hand? You need at least two people to complete the Pen Spirit game. Normally, people don’t come to this storage room. I need another person’s help to begin the game.”

“No problem.” After a moment’s hesitation, Chen Ge opened his lips to ask, “You said you need two people to start the Pen Spirit game, then who was the second person that you played with the first time you consulted the Pen Spirit?”

The girl chose to ignore the question, and her voice turned shriller. “Sit across from me, and the two of us will hold the body of the pen like this. Then you can leave the rest to me.”

“Okay.” Chen Ge saw himself as a gentleman, so he did not press and followed the girl’s instructions. He moved to the other side of the table and picked up the pen. It was a silvery white fountain pen. It was about twice the size of a normal ballpoint pen, and there were some decorative swirls on the casing.

“This is quite a nice-looking pen.” His thumb pressed on the top of the pen, and he left enough spaces between his other four fingers. The Pen Spirit game was a game for two, so Chen Ge left enough space for the girl to place her fingers. “Is it like this?”

Chen Ge’s action was so standardized that he did not need the guidance from the girl at all. At this point, a strange feeling surfaced in the girl’s heart. This person before her seemed to play the Pen Spirit game often, but would a normal person play the Pen Spirit game at home alone every day?

The girl nodded and took the seat across from Chen Ge. “After the game starts, you do not need to say or do anything, just sit there quietly.”

“Understood.”

“Once the game starts, the game mustn’t be stopped halfway. If you summon the Pen Spirit but don’t send her away, the consequences will be horrible,” the girl warned seriously.

“I understand all that, you can start now.” Chen Ge looked around. Playing the Pen Spirit game inside the abandoned storage room was an interesting experience. The Nightmare Academy had a very good handle over the atmosphere, combining the lighting effect and the background music. His heart was already pumping even though he was just sitting there.

After the girl sat down and reached out to grab the pen, her brows instinctively creased slightly. *This is strange, how come this person’s hand is colder than mine?*

“Can we start now?”

“Oh, okay.” The girl took a deep breath. She held the pen with one hand and stuck the other underneath the table. She started to recite, “Pen Spirit, Pen Spirit, can you please tell me how I can see my love again?”

After that, her eyes were glued to the pen on the table, and her bloodshot eyes looked rather scary in the dark. They waited for a long time, but the pen that they were holding did not move, standing upright above the paper.

“Pen Spirit, Pen Spirit, please tell me the answer! I have already followed all of your instructions! I did everything that you told me to do, but why did he still die? I love his person not this lifeless body!”

The girl’s mastery of her emotions gradually unraveled, and her pupils started to burn red. There was only a small table between the girl and Chen Ge. Due to their close distance, the feeling of abandonment and madness could be felt very clearly.

“Pen Spirit, Pen Spirit, I do not wish for him to die! Please answer me! Pen Spirit, answer me!” The girl started to scream like she had gone insane. Her screams echoed around the storage room. “Tell me what I need to do—I can give you everything I have in exchange! I know you’re here! Pen Spirit, I know you are still here!”

When the girl screamed the last sentence, the pen in her hand twitched slightly.

“Pen Spirit, is that you? Please tell me, how can I make him hear my voice again?” The girl screamed like she was asking for someone to save her life. Both of her eyes turned red like they were about to drip blood.

Under her relentless shouting, the pen dangling over the paper finally moved. Chen Ge could feel the body of the pen moving on its own, and this surprised him. He and the girl were both holding the pen, and he knew for sure that neither party was nudging the pen. The pen was indeed moving on its own.

The Pen Spirit has arrived? No, this fountain pen is unreasonably heavy, so there must be some kind of mechanism installed inside. The table is covered with this tattered tablecloth, and it hides everything underneath from view. However, from the sense of touch, the table is made from metal. Is it possible that she is using some kind magnet?

The girl’s voice grew louder, probably because she saw the shock on Chen Ge’s face. Under her continuous questioning, the pen wrote on the piece of white paper. “To gain something, you have to lose something. What have you prepared for me this time?”

Seeing the sentence on the paper, the girl became strangely excited. “What is it that you want? I will give it to you!”

“The same as before.”

The pen that they held suddenly stopped moving. The girl seemed to enter some kind of trance as she silently stared at the sentence on the piece of paper. “Same as before?”

The girl’s tone was rather seriously. It sounded like she was talking to herself, and it made her look like she was possessed. To an outsider, she appeared to be conversing with something that only existed in her mind.

She repeated this question again and again. Then she slowly lifted her head to look at Chen Ge. At that point, the pen that they were both holding started to move again. “Right, just like before. You sacrificed five organs of your best friend, and in exchange, I gave you the undying loyalty of your lover. Now, if you want your lover to return, give me another life in exchange!”

The make-up on her face was already ruined. The girl’s expression turned wicked. The hand that she had kept hidden under the table shot forward, and she was holding a sharp dagger in her palm!

“Wait a minute!” Chen Ge sat where he was and did not even shift in his posture. He studied the few sentences written on the paper, and his creased brows slowly smoothed out. He turned to the girl and said, “Don’t act so recklessly. The Pen Spirit is lying to you. Even if you kill me, she is not going to help you fulfill your wish.”

The girl maintained her pose, but her face was slightly twitching. *Do you not see the dagger? Why are you telling me this now?*

“The Pen Spirit’s main power is telling the future; the so-called fulfilling your wish is just a trap. I mean, think about your previous transaction.

“You gave her a human life, but she was playing word games with you. She made use of the chance to kill your lover and lied to you, saying that it was because she was helping you gain your lover’s undying loyalty.

“I believe I understand your story now. You might have encountered a fake Pen Spirit. Of course, there might be a different possibility where there is no Pen Spirit in the beginning at all and the so-called Pen Spirit is yourself.

“You were jealous of the fact that your best friend and your crush got together, and you borrowed the Pen Spirit’s name to kill both of them in cold blood!”

Chen Ge analyzed the situation calmly, and it baffled the girl. *Why is this visitor expanding the story on his own?*

“Girl, put down the dagger in your hand; that is not how you play the Pen Spirit game. The thing that you summoned was not the Pen Spirit but the demon living inside your heart.” Chen Ge held the girl’s wrist carefully but firmly. He took the dagger away from her and placed it next to him before taking out a ballpoint pen covered in cellophane tape from his shirt pocket.

“The real Pen Spirit will not harm the innocent. The only thing that will ask you to do that is the human heart.” Chen Ge’s voice seemed to possess a type of magical power. He held the girl’s hand and curled it around the ballpoint pen together. “Don’t be afraid. I will introduce you to the real Pen Spirit.”

Both of them moved back to opposite sides of the table. Chen Ge and the girl held the broken pen together.

“Empty your mind and voice the question that resides in the depths of your heart.” Chen Ge’s eyes were gentle, his voice soft. “Come, repeat after me. Pen Spirit, Pen Spirit, you are my spirit from my previous life, and I am your spirit in this life. Can you please tell me who the person that loves me the most is?”

Chapter 739: Why Did You Poke the Bear?

Led by Chen Ge, the girl recited the incantation. They held the pen together, and the girl grumbled internally, *Why am I doing this?*

However, there was something about the man before her that made it difficult for her to go against his wishes.

The tattered ballpoint pen was held above the paper. After the two finished the incantation, they stopped and looked at the paper quietly. It was very quiet inside the storage room, and no one spoke; they could only hear the sound of their hearts beating.

What is the man doing? He doesn’t really think that he can summon the Pen Spirit, right?

The girl's eyes darted about as she glanced at Chen Ge. For some reason, the dagger that she had pulled out from underneath the table was sitting next to the man. "Er..."

The girl wanted to tell the man that the game was up, but Chen Ge stopped her by shushing her. "Quiet, she has arrived."

After Chen Ge said that, the pen between them started to move slightly, and it proceeded to draw a circle on the white paper. The girl could feel the power from the pen. She did not apply any force, but the paper started to move on its own.

He has to be behind this! The girl looked at Chen Ge, trying to see some clues from his expression. To her disappointment, Chen Ge was focused fully on the pen that they were holding, and she could not see anything unusual from his face.

The pen at Nightmare Academy could move on its own because the pen and table were both custom-made. They could be controlled. In a way, they were a magic trick. As long as they knew theory behind it, anyone could do it. Subconsciously, the girl believed that Chen Ge was doing the same thing. She wanted to expose Chen Ge, but even after studying him for a long time, she could not find any flaws.

The pen on the paper continued to move, the strokes becoming firmer and stronger. Finally, it wrote a name on the white paper—Qu Changlin.

"Qu Changlin? So, that is the name of your lover." Chen Ge lifted his head to look at the girl. "It is not easy to find love in this world. Treat him well, and try not to disappoint an honest man."

When she saw the name on the paper, the girl's face slowly changed. First, it was shock; then, it turned into terror!

She knew Qu Changlin. The man was a worker at Nightmare Academy as well, and he often looked after her! He had even confessed his feelings to her once, but he had been rejected by her then. This should have been a secret between her and Qu Changlin, so how did this man know about it?

Waves roared within her heart, and the girl's arms were shaking. Her fingers touched Chen Ge's, and that unreasonable frigidness caused her panic to amplify. The man before her was smiling so warmly, but how come she felt like the temperature in the room had been steadily dropping?

Her body shook uncontrollably, and the girl tried her best to console herself. *Boss said that this visitor is very unique. He is adept at psychological games and is purposely here to create trouble for Nightmare Academy. He probably investigated all the workers here before arriving, and through my micro expressions, he managed to tell that Qu Changlin has a thing for me.*

The girl knew that the chance of that was not high, but that was all she could do to convince herself. That was the only way she could maintain her sanity. She bit on her lips. The girl was not going to surrender so easily. She decided to use her own method to expose the man.

This man can guess the name of the person who likes me, so what? He will never guess the name of the person whom I wish to spend the rest of my life with!

The girl had a secret buried in her heart—the name of her real crush. She had not told anyone about it before.

After a short pause, the girl asked lightly, “Can I ask the Pen Spirit another question?”

“The Pen Spirit can only predict once per day. If you force it, the result might not be that accurate.”

“Just this one last time, okay?” Before Chen Ge could say anything, the girl gripped the pen and asked her question. “Pen Spirit, Pen Spirit, can you tell me the name of my future partner?”

This question sounded very familiar to Chen Ge. He could feel the pen shuddering, and the tape on it appeared like it could tear at any moment. The whole pen felt like it was about to burst.

“I didn’t intend to lead you to this question. You wished to ask it yourself.” After saying that, Chen Ge quickly let his hands go. The pen was originally held by two people. The girl had not been applying any force, so she had assumed that it was Chen Ge who had been moving the pen around.

But now that Chen Ge had pulled his hands away, the pen was still standing above the paper. The girl’s eyes slowly widened, and then something scarier happened!

The pen started to move. The girl could tell for sure that she was not doing anything! It was not her who moved it!

What is going on? Is something wrong with the magnet under the table? But this is a plastic ballpoint pen—it isn’t made from metal!

The pen continued to move, and it initially wrote one sentence for the girl on the piece of paper—YOU WILL DIE!

It was a simple sentence, but it looked scary. The girl wanted to pull her hands away, but she realized that her hands seemed to be glued to the pen, and her arms were pulled along whether she liked it or not. The pen moved faster and faster until the whole paper was filled with YOU WILL DIE!

“Wait, help! What is happening?” The fear in her heart materialized, and the remnant of rationality was submerged—the girl was swallowed by endless darkness. She searched frantically for Chen Ge in the dark. However, once she lifted her head, she saw something that she would never forget in her life.

Just above her shoulder was someone standing!

She was wearing a dirtied school uniform, and at that moment, she was scrawling madly with the ballpoint pen like she was venting a horrifying emotion.

...

A piercing scream came out of the storage room, and it was followed by something heavy landing on the ground. Chen Ge replaced the glass jars and walked out from the second rack. He looked at the girl lying on the ground. By then, her red-colored contacts had fallen out of her eyes. He shook his head lightly.

“Why did you need to go and anger her?”

Picking up the pen that was almost breaking, Chen Ge then glanced at the fountain pen on the table. The Pen Spirit did not seem interested in the fountain pen at all.

“Chill out, she didn’t mean it.” Chen Ge consoled the Pen Spirit and walked out of the storage room.

“That’s one more scenario completed. Where shall I go next?” Chen Ge took out the diary and turned to the third entry. This time, the incident happened inside the bathroom—there was an angry spirit living inside the fourth cubicle, and it would appear at midnight.

“It’s related to the toilet, huh? Abandoned toilets can be quite scary. After all, the Yin energy there is the heaviest.” Chen Ge studied the map. He was not far away from the bathroom, just around the corner.

“Since I’m already here, might as well. Hopefully, I will be pleasantly surprised this time,” Chen Ge said and walked toward his next destination.

...

Inside the bathroom at the end of the third floor, a black shadow was hiding inside the fourth cubicle. He was scrolling through his phone with a bored expression on his face when he received a call.

“Boss, are you looking for me?”

“Qu Changlin, in a moment, a special visitor will enter your scenario. You have to find a way to help me scare the hell out of him!”

Chapter 740: Walk In, Crawl Out

“Don’t worry, Boss, I promise to complete the mission!” Qu Changlin patted his chest and promised. He did not mind even if his boss was not there personally to see it, and he gave his promise first.

“I like your attitude, Changlin. That’s why you are one of our Haunted House’s best employees. That is why I’ve assigned you an important location like the bathroom. I hope you won’t disappointment me.”

“As long as he enters this scenario, I guarantee you that he will walk in but crawl out.”

“The man is attention-detailed and very dangerous. I will disconnect my communication with you later to prevent your location from being exposed, but I will follow your movement through the cameras.”

“Boss, I will not disappoint you.” After Qu Changlin gave another promise, he was reminded of something. He lowered his voice to ask, “Boss, the closest scenario to mine is the Pen Spirit. Did something happen to Xiao Die?”

“Xiao Die is fine. Don’t worry about other people, focus on your job! He is coming. I will wait for the good news in the surveillance room.” The middle-aged man hung up soon. At the same time, the door of the bathroom creaked open.

...

“Why didn’t the bathroom in the Haunted House get separated according to gender? This is too unprofessional.” Chen Ge pushed open the door to Nightmare Academy’s bathroom. A pungent smell immediately assaulted him. “Such a thick stench of disinfectant. What happened here that required so much disinfectant?”

Taking out the diary from his backpack, Chen Ge tried to find the answer from it, but to his disappointment, there was nothing useful from the entry about the bathroom. It only mentioned vaguely that something was hiding inside the fourth cubicle.

“According to the diary, the worker should be hiding inside the fourth cubicle. When the visitor walks past it, the worker suddenly jumps out, but won’t that lower the scare factor?”

When Chen Ge first read the diary, he easily came up with a solution. If the worker was hiding inside the fourth cubicle, he would stand inside the third cubicle and observe the situation inside the fourth cubicle before making a decision. But once he walked into the bathroom at the end of the corridor, Chen Ge changed his mind. The smell of disinfectant there was really too heavy.

There had to be a reason that the bathroom had been arranged like that. Could it be to hide something? To use the smell of the disinfectant to hide the smell of something else...

“What kind of thing is both scary and smelly?” Chen Ge tried to come up with an answer as he walked into the bathroom. There were many cracks on the floor, and many creepy sentences were written unevenly on the wall. Occasionally, lizards crawled along the walls and ceiling, causing a rustling sound.

There was no window, and an old table lamp that gave off a red light was placed in the corner. Underneath the lamp was a small black box.

“What’s this?”

Normally, such things would not be found inside a toilet. Chen Ge walked past the first cubicle and stopped next to the lamp. He reached out to open the little black box, and inside it was a note that read—Do you like our prank?

Underneath the note was a group picture. A bunch of children were looking at the camera nervously, and only the kid at the most edge was grinning like crazy. On the back of the picture, Chen Ge found another sentence—It was just a prank, bro.

“A prank, is it?” The diary gave little clues. Chen Ge did not know what theme of this scenario was. He picked up the strange box and placed it inside his backpack—he had a feeling that he would have a use for it later.

Chen Ge’s action was being silently observed by a pair of eyes in the dark. The person could not understand the reasoning behind it. Inside the bathroom that was stinking and set up like a crime scene, why would anyone stuff a random object inside one’s bag?

Holding the backpack with one arm, Chen Ge examined the table lamp again. He switched it on and off several times and left after ensuring that there was nothing wrong with it.

“The bathroom comprises of the sink and six cubicles. There are no other items in here, and there is nothing obviously wrong with the lamp. So, the person should still be hiding inside the cubicle.” Chen Ge had experienced something similar at Mu Yang High School before. He did not feel fear, but his heart was surfeited by this feeling of déjà vu.

He opened the door of the first cubicle. It was thick with the smell of disinfectant. Chen Ge pinched his nose and examined the cubicle patiently.

He found complaints written on the walls of the cubicle.

“He made my clothes wet again today. I hate Xiao Lin!”

“Xiao Lin pulled the chair back when I tried to sit down, and it caused me to fall to the ground.”

“Xiao Lin planted a frog inside my drawer! I’m going to puke!”

They were as mentioned earlier, pranks, but all of them mentioned Xiao Lin. The boy seemed to be the class prankster, and many classmates had fallen victim.

“There doesn’t seem to be anything truly scary.” Chen Ge scanned the words. The messages inside the cubicle appeared so innocent compared to the messages left at the Third Sick Hall.

He opened the door of the second cubicle. There were still many complaints, but unlike the ones inside the first cubicle, the children appeared to be more angered, and a small portion of them bordered on dangerous.

Then, Chen Ge opened the door of the third cubicle. Some of the messages had come up with a prank to revenge on Xiao Lin. They came up with this horror story about the fourth cubicle inside the toilet and ‘accidentally’ revealed it to Xiao Lin. Then everyone came up with various ideas to set up the bathroom, trying to get Xiao Lin back once and for all.

Through the snippets of messages on the wall, Chen Ge had a grasp of the whole situation. The messages alone would not be too scary, but combined with the third entry of the diary, it did sound quite spooky.

“Did Xiao Lin manage to leave the fourth cubicle in the end?” Chen Ge stopped before the fourth cubicle. This cubicle had been specially mentioned in the diary, so the scariest thing should be inside there. Perhaps when he opened the door, the students’ prank would happen, or perhaps when the door opened, Xiao Lin would return.

However, none of that happened. When Chen Ge opened the door of the fourth cubicle, and to his surprise, there was a mirror placed inside the cubicle.

“These kids are quite creative.” Chen Ge looked at the mirror stuck behind the toilet. The more he studied it, the more he realized that something was wrong. His reflection was not shown in the mirror. “Interesting, they have pasted a picture on the surface of the mirror?”

Chen Ge reached out to touch the mirror. When his fingertip was about to touch the surface, he suddenly heard a soft voice coming from above him, and then the back of his neck felt itchy. He lowered his head to study the mirror—there was nothing on the surface. The itch on the back of his neck grew more pronounced like a bug had fallen and was crawling there.