

Horrors 891

Chapter 891: Several Red Spectres

The sea of memories washed about. Every raindrop was the painter's eye. Combined with the painter's special power, he had absolute advantage in the School of the Afterlife. No wonder even Chang Wenyu did not dare tackle the painter head on. The man in the fog hurried quickly toward the education block in the mirror. The painter stood where he was. He stared at the eye of the storm, and the black arms that reached out from his wounds extended, forming a piece of perfect skin on his chest.

The battle earlier had been so intense, but the painter had used all of the arms to shield this part of his body; he had hidden that secret from many people. This was the only part of his body that was not injured. This went to show the intensity of the battle between Red Specters. The man hiding in the storm easily came to the mirror. With no one stopping him, things went a bit too smoothly. He felt a trace of anxiety in his heart. He turned back to look and saw the painter removing the last piece of 'canvas' from his body.

Has he seen me?

The seed of anxiety grew in his heart, and it soon grew to crawl over his entire body. The moment the 'canvas' was torn out, the man's body swiftly turned into a shadow. He was like a nightmare. There was no definite shape, and he looked different to different people. The painter's bloody hand dangled over the 'canvas'. His black eyes stared ahead, and he did not start to paint for a long time. "You are not a ghost?"

The heavy rain continued to fall. The painter's eyes seemed to see something, and he said something weird from his lips.

When he said that, the man in the center of the storm became more desperate. He stopped maintaining the form of a living person and completely melted into the storm. He raised the blood fog and used the most brutal method to rush at the surface of the mirror. When the painter saw that, he knew that the man had guessed the location of the door.

"You are wearing a mask and using another person's body—what exactly's hiding under your skin?" The painter's eyes turned completely dark. The white of his eyes disappeared fully, and he looked scary. Things had gotten out of control. No one knew what the painter saw that he was so shocked.

Endless blood fog drifted out from the red city—that was the source of the fog. The man's power had everything to do with the fog. Of course, that could be how he hid his real identity, so he was only using this power. The fog on the ground rumbled, and the memories in the sky rained. A storm ravaged the school. Everyone was dragged into it, and there was no place to hide. As the mirror in the sky kept collapsing, the school itself was affected. The stain on the walls lightened, the windows were shattered, the doors were brutally shoved open, endless students found their lost memories, and they were consumed by the storm of confusion and bitterness.

With their memory awakened, to save themselves, more and more students chose to join Chen Ge, and a few of them were Red Specters. In the blood storm, the school was shaking. Other than Top Red

Specters, no one could guarantee that they would be safe. It was dangerous to be in the school alone—only by gathering together and combining their strength would they have a higher chance of survival. Other than Chen Ge's group, there were a few places where many students were gathered.

One was the lab building. It was the tallest building in the school, dominated by the seniors. They had deep colored uniforms and could be seen at the native residents of the school. Some of them might have been living there when the door pusher opened the door. In terms of power, they might not be the first, but in terms of familiarity with the school, they were the best.

The other place with many students was the center of the school. That was the place where most students were. With the help of the teachers, they were barely hanging on.

The third part was the northern part of the school. Chen Ge had not explored that place before. It mainly consisted of classrooms and some strange buildings of unknown uses. It was worth noting that there were several Red Specters gathered there, and some of them were Chen Ge's old friends like Zhu Long, Zhou Tu, Wang Yicheng, and Zhang Ju. The four of them had been led there by Chen Ge from the campuses. After they split up at the library, they had not seen each other. Chen Ge had no idea why they would gather at the northern side of the school. Currently, all four of them were injured, and that was probably because they were trying to protect the students who were following them.

At this juncture, any student would be able to give them power. Everyone used their body to resist the storm, but as Red Specters, they were under the most pressure. The blood fog carried with it monsters that attacked the students, and the students moved to gather at those few places.

Chen Ge's group saw this when they were leaving Mu Yang High School. The storm was insane, and each Red Specter was like a lighthouse. The red made people cautious, but at the same time, it gave people hope.

They are all on the northern side?

The conflict was endless. Chen Ge used Yin Yang Vision and saw Zhu Long and Zhang Ju, who were in battle. Zhou Tu and Wang Yicheng were dying. Only the other two Red Specters were fighting the onslaught, so the situation was not positive.

"Sir, I'm afraid we can't leave just yet." Chen Ge looked at the northern side of the school. Zhang Ju and the rest were the members of Chen Ge's supernatural observation club. Even though Chen Ge had created this club randomly, the members did not know that. "I have to meet up with the few Red Specters on the north side. They are my friends."

The old headmaster saw the children being consumed by the blood fog, and he felt so bad. Even if Chen Ge did not say it, he wanted to help more people, but he was powerless. Now that Chen Ge had volunteered to go and save people, the old headmaster agreed without hesitation. "Okay, I will go with you."

"The School of the Afterlife is a four-star scenario. Things have gotten to this stage, but the door still hasn't shown up. It means that this is not the worst situation. We need to move now. With the addition of those Red Specters, we'll be stronger." Chen Ge did not trust anyone, but he had personally led Zhang Ju and the rest from the campuses and knew about their history.

“You two need to calm down! If we go there now, many people will die. I can feel something in the city awakening. If we do not leave before it awakens, it will be too late!” Yin Hong did not care about others; she only cared about herself and the people who loved her. Next to her, Xu Yin nodded. His body was wounded as his eyes stared at the red city.

“We should have enough time.” No one knew how things would develop, but Chen Ge did not hesitate. “The earlier we move, the better.”

The group turned around. When they passed the female dormitory, Chen Ge entered it to grab Zhang Ya’s present box and the bag of candy. He had to prepare for the worst. If he was forced to leave the school, he would take care of Zhang Ya’s items; he would not leave them behind at the school.

Chapter 892: Black Blood

At the School of the Afterlife, everyone had their own aims and would make different choices for their own target and benefit. When tragedy struck, Chang Wenyu disappeared, the painter fought the monsters from the red city, the Top Red Specters did not have time to care about others, and that gave Chen Ge the perfect chance. However, danger came along with this chance.

Yin Hong and Xu Yin felt something awakening in the red city. If they did not leave in a short amount of time, when more monsters came from the red city and the school was sealed, the well might be discovered.

“Quick!” To reach the northern side of the school, they had to pass through the center of the school. That was where all the staff and teachers of the school were gathered, and that included Mr. Lei, whom Chen Ge had met before.

“Everyone, do not panic! Stay in your room!” Mr. Lei and the other teachers tried their best to maintain the order. Actually, they were happy when they saw Chen Ge. In this kind of chaotic situation, they would welcome powerful people to join them. “You have arrived! I’ll leave the few classrooms on the western side to you. If all of us work together, we will be able to survive...”

Before the teacher could finish, he saw Chen Ge and the other Red Specters walk past him, heading toward the northern side of the school.

“Hey, where are you going? Do not waste your energy blindly! Relying on the school’s original defense is the best solution!” Mr. Lei’s voice was harsh. Even though he looked down on Chen Ge, he was saying this for Chen Ge’s own good.

“I have to go and save the others!” Chen Ge’s eyes scanned the students in the classroom. “My friends are on the northern side of the school. I cannot watch and allow them to be consumed by the fog!”

“Have you lost your mind? There are who knows how many monsters in the school now. Even if there are Red Specters among you, you will be surrounded. They are not afraid of Red Specters!” The teacher next to Mr. Lei tried his best to stop them. They did not want Chen Ge to leave. From their perspective, that was too risky and unnecessary.

“I know it is dangerous.” Chen Ge’s eyes swept the classroom and the students inside looked back at him. They were curious what kind of person would choose to go and save others in this situation. “But that is the difference between you and me.”

Then, Chen Ge did not stay any longer. “If you want to, you can follow behind me. If you don’t want to, I won’t force you. Wait here, and we will meet up at the center of the school.”

After leaving behind the group of weaker students, Chen Ge’s group moved faster. Seeing them walk away, the few teachers showed complicated emotions.

“What are you guys standing there for? Is now the time for you to be spacing out?” Mr. Lei roared at the teachers and then continued to repair the windows. With the rush of the blood fog, no one was safe. Everyone was a boat that might tip over any time soon, and saving oneself was nothing to be ashamed of. Cutting through the school was much more difficult than Chen Ge had anticipated. The blood fog caused low visibility, and due to various reasons, the corridors inside the school seemed to have changed.

Seen from the field, Mu Yang High School appeared close to the northern side of school, but one actually had to travel a long distance to get there. All the Red Specter were wounded, but it was still within an acceptable range. Through this experience, the employees of the haunted house grew stronger, especially Bai Qiulin and the boy with the stench. After Bai Qiulin consumed Xiong Qing’s heart, even though he had turned into a Red Specter, he was slightly weaker than Xu Yin who had found his heart. However, through this endless slaughter, things changed. From Li Wan City to the School of the Afterlife, Chen Ge had given him plenty of chances to train, and Ol’ Bai was no longer the same old gambler.

The other employee who gave Chen Ge a surprise was the boy with the bad smell. After he found his Red Specter’s body, he showed his extremely dangerous side. His power was related to the stench. Without a reminder from Chen Ge, he stayed at the back of the group and blocked down all the monsters that tried to ambush them from behind, and it looked like this posed no trouble for him. The boy seemed to have retained his memory at the haunted house. He was friendly with Chen Ge and the other employees but showed annoyance at the residents of the school, like he had experienced something very harrowing there.

With the Red Specters leading the way, Chen Ge’s group moved extremely fast. After some turns, they arrived at the northern side of school. There, they saw another monster from the fog. It was about five meters tall and crawled all over the corridor. Its body was covered with tongues, and the disgusting thing was that each mouth was filled with human teeth. They looked scary.

“What are these?” No one had seen them before. The monster was like something that came out from a child’s nightmare. Its body was heavily twisted. It had the appearance of a human, but it could not be called a human.

“If it dares stand in our way, kill it.” Chen Ge had nothing to worry about—he did not care as long as it was not a Top Red Specter. Xu Yin, the headless woman, and Yin Hong walked at the front. They worked together to kill the monster. It ended with a horrible death. The Red Specters had not seen this monster before, so they were cautious. They tore it into pieces and then used blood vessels to pierce through every inch of its flesh. After the monster died, its body turned into dry blood capillaries. It was worth

noting that even so, its heart was still beating. The heart was much smaller than a normal human heart, and it had strange patterns on it.

Xu Yin removed the heart and passed it to Chen Ge like it was very useful to Specters. Seeing the hunger in the Red Specter's eyes, Chen Ge thought about it and handed it back to Xu Yin. "This is yours. If we encounter another one, you should discuss among yourselves how to share it."

Xu Yin grabbed the strange heart, and excitement crossed his eyes. His pale fingers peeled open the heart, and inside was a drop of black blood that had not congealed. After sucking the blood, Xu Yin's wounds started to heal, and his body turned more real and scary.

When he saw that black blood, Chen Ge thought it look familiar. He believed that he had seen it once in the base of the Ghost Stories Society. It had been kept inside a wooden box, and the box had been taken away by Zhang Ya. After consuming the black blood, Zhang Ya had fallen into hibernation for a while.

"The Ghost Stories Society once hunted this kind of monster? They have entered the red city before?"

As the only member of the society, Chen Ge had many things that he did not understand. These secrets should be in Doctor Gao's mind, but the man had gone insane, and there was no telling if he would ever snap out of it.

"If there's a chance, I should return to the society's old lair. Perhaps I might find some good things that I missed before."

Chapter 893: Big Thing Is About to Happen

After the decision had been made, Chen Ge stopped thinking about it. He led the Red Specters toward the northern side of the school. The red city was dangerous, but danger always came with opportunity. There were many things that were helpful to Red Specters in the city, like the monster from earlier, but that kind of monster was not that common.

Outside the education block, the painter and the man in the fog were still fighting. Chen Ge made use of this opportunity to cut through the school to reach the northern side. Zhang Ju and the rest were fighting the monsters, so it was easy to find them.

"Zhang Ju! Zhu Long!" Blood vessels crawled down the corridor, and the pungent smell assaulted their nostrils. Following the dripping sound of blood, Chen Ge came to the door of the one of the classrooms with the accompaniment of several Red Specters.

"Mr. Bai?" When they saw Chen Ge, Zhang Ju and Zhu Long felts tears in their eyes. A friend in need was a friend indeed.

"Don't be scared, I'm here to save you!" Chen Ge did not say anything else but the simplest truth. "It is not safe here. Bring all the children, and we'll leave!"

"Okay!" Zhang Ju, Zhu Long, and Zhou Tu were Red Specters, and Wang Yicheng was a Half Red Specter. However, Wang Yicheng and Zhou Tu had lost their fighting ability, and it was Zhu Long and Zhang Ju who were holding up the fight. Both parties met up, and the number of Red Specters around Chen Ge increased again to a startling number.

“Why didn’t you wait for me after arriving at the library? Why did you end up on the northern side of school?” Chen Ge had been curious about that. He did not think that Zhang Ju and the rest would abandon him.

“We were ambushed. Once we left the campuses, we were attacked. It appeared to be the painter’s people, and they were Red Specters, too,” Zhang Ju explained softly. “I couldn’t handle it alone. Thankfully, Zhu Long soon came from the mirror. The person who ambushed me weren’t expecting two Red Specters. After a momentary daze, they started to escape. Then, we chased after them until we reached this place.”

“Then? Where did they go?” There were other Red Specters hidden at the school; this attracted Chen Ge’s attention. If it had not been Zhu Long and Zhang Ju but himself who came out from the mirror first, he would have been in big trouble. The other party was prepared, and he might have killed Chen Ge before he had the chance to summon Xu Yin. Just thinking about that caused Chen Ge shiver.

“Don’t worry about that. That person now is...” Zhang Ju and Zhu Long pointed at their stomachs. “... in here.”

“I’m not worried about that. There was a Red Specter on the route Chang Wenyu arranged for me, so this means that someone has leaked the secret.” Chen Ge stopped thinking about this troublesome problem. “The painter is a difficult person to deal with. Luckily, he is not coming after us now.”

Chen Ge looked out the window. He had another name added to the list of people he did not want to face other than Doctor Gao.

“This kind of person is suitable to be friends with, but it’s not easy to be their friend.” Doctor Gao wanted to revive a dead person, and the painter wanted to build a paradise behind the door—they both had some strange ideals. After saving the trapped students, when Chen Ge led Zhang Ju and Zhu Long to the center of the school, Mr. Lei finally shut up.

“I will not force you to make any choices, and I will try my best to help you. However, I have limited power, and I can’t do so much. I can only save those who are dear to me.” Chen Ge had rescued the people on the northern side—that gave him the approval of many students, and more people wanted to follow him. Compared to the Red Specters around Chen Ge, the staff were on the weaker side. When Chen Ge prepared to leave to the western side of the school, many students were willing to follow him. Before Chen Ge promised anything, the teachers became worried. They knew very well that the school’s consciousness was made up from every student, so the more students they had, the safer they would feel.

“Calm down, look at who is holding back the scariest monster. The fact that you haven’t been consumed by the red city is due to the painter. He is the one you should be thanking, not this fella called Chen Ge.” Mr. Lei was feeling annoyed. “Only Top Red Specters can be relied on. No matter how good the others did, it is just a futile struggle.”

Mr. Lei was telling the truth, and it was something Chen Ge could not deny. He asked the teachers to look after the students, but at the moment, Chen Ge stopped moving.

“How did you know I don’t have any Top Red Specters with me?” When he said that, the surroundings became quiet.

“You have a Top Red Specter with you?” Mr. Lei scanned the ghosts around Chen Ge. He did not believe this.

“Why do you think they are gathered around me?” Chen Ge showed a winning smile.

“Are you talking about Chang Wenyu?” Mr. Lei was reminding of something, and he frowned.

“Not her. Technically speaking, this Top Red Specter that I have is the real owner of this school. I came here to recover her stuff.” Chen Ge was not lying, and his expression was calm.

Under Chen Ge’s cold gaze, Mr. Lei suddenly shuddered. He saw the present box that Chen Ge was holding, and he remembered that the box was taken from one of the rooms in the female dormitory. A scary thought crossed his mind. Mr. Lei sucked in a cold breath, and the way he looked at Chen Ge changed. “It’s her?”

Chen Ge did not waste time answering—he just smiled. He hugged the box and ran to the western side.

Many students wanted to follow Chen Ge, and this time, Mr. Lei did not stop them.

“Sir, what should we do?” There were fewer and fewer students in the classrooms; the surrounding teachers were anxious. “We have promised the painter, no matter what happens, we wouldn’t have the students’ conviction shaken.”

“If that woman has really returned, where would she hide?” Mr. Lei did not appear to hear the other teachers as he kept his eyes on Chen Ge’s back.

“Mr. Lei?”

“Shush! Something big is about to happen!”

More students left the center of the school. The painter outside the building felt this, and his black eyes turned away from the man in the fog for the first time to look at the school. Chen Ge, who was running down the corridor, felt a chill run down his spine, and then he could not stop sweating. He turned to look out the window and happened to meet the painter’s gaze.

The painter’s dark eyes did not seem to have any life, but Chen Ge’s eyes reflected a blood red world. The painter was reflected in Chen Ge’s eyes, and he saw himself clearly.

Chapter 894: Broken Door

As he stopped to help his friends, more and more students chose to follow behind Chen Ge. Most of them were doing it to save themselves, but from the moment they made that choice, something changed.

“So, this is the school’s approval?” The gaze from the painter made Chen Ge feel like he had fallen into ice, but a sense of warmth exuded from the students around him. It was a strange feeling, like he was wrapped in warm blood. It did not feel bad. “There is no telling what will happen when a living human like myself gains the school’s approval, but there is no better choice at the moment.”

Chen Ge turned his head around and forced himself to look away from the painter, and the chill slowly disappeared.

“He didn’t notice anything, did he?”

After running several meters away, Chen Ge looked out the window again. To his consternation, the painter’s black eyes were still looking his way, but not at him but at this shadow. The mirror in the sky was ravaged by the blood storm, but the painter did not move his brush. He could only paint a ghost, and the man in the storm was not a ghost. He had not told anyone about that before, not even Chang Wenyu. The mirror was getting more and more unstable. The reason the painter could face three people alone was due to the support from the school’s consciousness. He kept breaking the mirror that represented the school’s consciousness to gain the power approaching a Greater Red Specter.

“This is getting a bit too troublesome.” The painter wrapped the blood vessels around the ‘canvas’ that he had torn from his body. He dragged his wounded body toward the eye of the storm. The man in the storm did not know about what he was planning. When he saw the painter approach him, his attack on the mirror grew more aggressive.

This monster was scarier than anyone had anticipated, but to prevent himself from being seen by the painter, he had been holding back, hiding in the storm. Greedy yet cautious, he always placed his own safety first. That was probably the only way to survive in the blood city. The blood storm continued to blow, and it cut at the painter’s body like knives, yet the painter did not care about it. His dark eyes stared into the storm.

Those who were in his gaze would be shaken, and that included the man in the storm. A glance had ruined Kindness—the painter’s special power shook the man. Seeing the painter approach, he stopped hiding his real power. An arm crawling with black blood vessels reached out from the storm. The skin of this arm was not that different from a living person, but the black capillaries on it caused people to be cautious. His body was running with black blood, and he looked like a mix of a human and ghost. The arm gave a familiar feeling to everyone there, like they had seen it many years ago in nightmare but now they could not remember the details.

Initially, the man only showed an arm. As the arm reached outward, it also showed his shoulder and the patient’s garb that he was wearing. Instead of saying that he was wearing it, it was more like the patient’s outfit grew on his skin so that he was unable to take it off. Upon closer inspection, the patient’s outfit worn by the man was similar to the one worn by the ‘doctor’ at the school. They should have come from the same place, but one had run into the red city, and the other had run to the School of the Afterlife.

Chen Ge witnessed the changes outside the building with his own eyes. When the patient’s outfit showed itself, he had an ominous feeling. The man had probably come from the cursed hospital, a patient that had escaped. Just an escaped patient was that scary, so how scary could the hospital itself be?

Actually, Chen Ge understood it well. Even though they were both four-star scenarios, the cursed hospital and the School of the Afterlife were not on the same level. Just like how the Third Sick Hall and Underground Morgue were both three-star scenarios, but the underground morgue was much more dangerous than the Third Sick Hall. The door pusher for one was Doctor Gao, and the other was Men

Nan. Put Men Nan and Doctor Gao in a match, and the result was clear. That was the case with the School of the Afterlife and the Cursed Hospital; one had a dead door pusher while the other had far reaching influence into every corner of Jiujiang. If Chen Ge arranged the known four-star scenarios on the black phone based on their difficulty, the simplest should be the School of the Afterlife, then the Ghost Fetus, and finally the Cursed Hospital.

I've already interacted with the Cursed Hospital. According to the non-smiler, the hospital will eventually come to get me. The ghost fetus knows that I've killed the shadow, so it will also come find me...

Chen Ge could not share this problem with others. A normal person might not even get a Red Specter's attention, but Chen Ge was being targeted by two four-star scenarios at the same time.

What have I done to deserve this?

While Chen Ge reflected on that, the situation outside the building changed again. The man in the fog reached into the mirror. The black blood appeared to be some kind of toxin that worked on memories and emotions. The blood mirror cracked a lot. The man abandoned his arm, and the mirror almost fully collapsed. The memories fell like rain, and the cries of every students echoed everywhere. It sounded like the school was crying. The mirror shattered, and everything in the mirror crumbled, including the library and the education block.

The buildings collapsed, and the rooms disappeared, with only the last toilet on the fourth floor remaining. The dried blood vessels protected this room heavily. With the infiltration of the black blood, the layer of blood vessels peeled off. The cubicles in the toilet turned illusory, and the doors started to disappear until it reached the last cubicle. Chen Ge had been there before, and he remembered the last cubicle not having a door. When the last blood vessel dropped away, the cubicles that had doors all disappeared, and a door surfaced on the last cubicle that originally did not have a door.

The door appeared like it had always been there. This non-existent door on the western and eastern campus was the only thing that was real on the two campuses. When the illusion fell away, the real door appeared.

The last cubicle in the fourth-floor toilet, that was where the door pusher entered the School of the Afterlife. Without the protection of the mirror, everyone saw the door. It was covered in cracks like it had been broken before and was slowly pieced back together.

Chapter 895: This Is My Chance

The door to the School of the Afterlife had finally appeared. It was the only real existence in the mirrored paradise, the core of the mirrored world. When the illusion shattered and the heaven constructed by the painter had broken, the only thing that remained of the large western and eastern campuses was this door. It looked unassuming, different from the doors of other scenarios. There were no blood stains on it, like it was just a normal door.

"Quick! Look! There's something behind the door!" someone in the crowd shouted, and everyone turned to look behind the door. A bloody reflection was shown on the cracked door—there was a

woman hiding behind it. She was not that tall and wore a normal dress. The only thing different was that her heart was dyed red. The girl had a bleeding heart.

“Chang Wenyu? She has been hiding at the door?” The most dangerous place was often the safest place. No one would have guessed that Chang Wenyu was hiding by the door, so everyone including the painter was shocked. Of course, the man in the fog was shocked as well. He had done so much to find the door, and just as he was about to gain it, there was already someone standing beside it. He had a bad feeling in his heart, like everything he had done was for someone else.

Chang Wenyu, as if she had known that things would reach this stage, did not panic. When the hand of the man in the fog was about to reach the door, she stood to block it.

“Chang Wenyu!” the man in the fog shouted, but the arm that was made from black blood was unable to get close to the door. Chang Wenyu held her bleeding heart, and she had a smirk on her pale face. Strange patterns appeared on her dress, and as the pattern disappeared, more students collapsed to the ground like their energy was drained.

“This door hasn’t really made any considerations for the people in the school before. It continues to trick lost souls into coming here to strengthen itself so that it will no longer be so lonely. How is that different from a devil?”

“It is actually worse than a devil because at least the devil makes use of human greed and desire, but the door uses the weakness and despair in people’s hearts.”

Chang Wenyu was prepared. As someone who could tussle with the painter, she was not a simple character.

“Using hope as bait and having people believe that this was sanctuary that could provide an escape from reality... Once you arrive here, you realize that this is a much deeper layer of hell. There is no salvation, no hope, and no escape.” Chang Wenyu looked at the broken door. “Why should such a door remain?”

She appeared to be asking the painter and conversing with the door at the same time.

“I’ve known about the door’s exact location for a while, but this door hasn’t appeared before me before. If it was not cornered, I would not see this door.” The smile on Chang Wenyu’s face slowly disappeared. She stood before the door, and the pattern on her face slowly leaked into the broken door. The shattered door quivered slightly like it was pleading for mercy.

“Painter, you might not know this, but actually, since I left the school, I have lost the school’s approval. Yet, have you ever wondered why, after losing the school’s approval, so many people at this school are willing to help me?” Chang Wenyu interrogated the painter, with the man in the fog stuck in the middle. He was cornered from both sides, and he was the most desperate person. The painter did not answer Chang Wenyu, instead continuing to attack the man in the fog.

“You know the answer, but you have been running away from it. Not every student here wants to stay; they should have their own choice. A life where you cannot make your choice, no matter where it is, is just another gilded cage.”

Chang Wenyu stood before the door.

She wanted to destroy the door, the man in the fog wanted to claim the door, and the painter wanted to kill. All three of them had different goals. The poorest thing was the man in the fog—he was stuck. He wanted to give up, but he was unwilling because the door was literally right before him.

Some treated the school as a sanctuary, while others saw it as a cage. Some were trying to change the school, to turn the bad into good, while others wanted to ruin all the negative emotions so that they would not harm anyone else. Chen Ge saw the battle above the school clearly. He could not decide who was right or wrong—everyone had their own opinions. The seemingly united school's consciousness was actually very fragile.

“Chen Ge, now is the best chance. We should leave while we can.” Yin Hong did not care about the result of the fight. She just wanted to leave. For most of the students, the school did not represent any good memories.

“Now is indeed a good chance.” The chance that Chen Ge meant was completely different from what Yin Hong meant. He was truly courageous. He looked at the sky. “Let them fight. The Top Red Specters that we can only look at from below will eventually come down, and that is when we strike.”

“You want to go after them?” Yin Hong was shocked by what Chen Ge said. Be it the man in the fog, the painter, or Chang Wenyu, none of them were normal Red Specters. They had reached the top of the range for Red Specters, and with the school's help, they had the power of a Greater Red Specter.

“Do not be scared by their appearance. Take a closer look. Even though the painter and Chang Wenyu have their conflict, they are joining forces to deal with the man in the fog. The man has an advantage when he deals with the painter alone, but when he is attacked by both, it is only a matter of time until he fails.

“The man will either escape from the school or be consumed by the painter and Chang Wenyu. The key thing is that there is another unresolvable conflict between Chang Wenyu and the painter. After the man in the fog leaves, they will fight again.”

Chen Ge saw this clearly.

“Chang Wenyu wants to destroy the school's door, and the painter wants to use the door to reconstruct a heaven here. Neither of them will give up this chance.”

“A cornered beast is very dangerous. I don't think that we should get ourselves involved. It's lucky that we will be able to escape.” Not only Yin Hong, but Han Song and the other students did not want to make the painter or Chang Wenyu their enemy. The employees at the Haunted House said nothing, though; they had full confidence in Chen Ge.

“The scariest thing about the painter is his special power. The reason Chang Wenyu hasn't shown up is because she's waiting for the painter's special power to run out. The fight of both parties will cause them to use everything. After they have fought, we will only face an empty shell.”

Chapter 896: The Last Painting

Chen Ge's tone was calm, like he was describing something that was unimportant. "You have stayed at the school for too long, so it's natural for you to be afraid of the painter and Chang Wenyu, but for myself and other outsiders, they are just normal Top Red Specters."

Hearing the consolation from Chen Ge, Yin Hong and the other students felt worse.

"There are no normal Top Red Specters," Yin Hong grumbled softly. She looked at Chen Ge and was suddenly reminded of what Mr. Lei had said earlier, her gaze wandering to Chen Ge's shadow. She felt like something was hiding in Chen Ge's shadow, but the presence was so weak that she could not identify it.

"Never mind, I'll choose to trust you this one time," Yin Hong said as she ran to Yin Bai, pulling her hand firmly.

"You..."

"No matter what happens later, do not let go of my hand. You have to understand that the only person who treats you with sincerity is me," Yin Hong said like this was their parting words, and that gave Yin Bai quite a shock. The sound of fighting kept coming from outside the school. Chen Ge looked calm on the surface, but internally, he was not that calm. He had called Zhang Ya's name multiple times in his heart, but there was no response. Without Zhang Ya, with the power of the Red Specters around him, he only had the power to resist.

"Mu Yang High School's old well had the painter's secret, so the painter definitely knows about it. That path is no longer safe. Even so, after leaving the school from the well, finding the Third Sick Hall through the red city won't be easy either." Chen Ge had many students gathered around him, but he really had no confidence that he could lead everyone to safety. If they go through the red city, most students would die and be permanently buried in the city.

"The best solution is to wait until we can take control of the situation." The School of the Afterlife was a four-star scenario, and it was isolated from the red city. With the appearance of the door, the fewer the secrets and the more things that appeared, the better Chen Ge felt.

"Chen Ge, forgive me for asking, but do you really think we can become the new owner here? We can do better than the painter?" The old headmaster was anxious. He was the oldest and the voice of reason. "The painter's power is close to that of a Greater Red Specter, and he has such a scary special power. Even so, he couldn't get full control of the school and gain the door's approval. Why do you think we can do it?"

This question had been in the old headmaster's heart for a long time—he just had not said it out loud. Chen Ge wanted him to become the new headmaster, but he was just a Half Red Specter. Every single Red Specter there could kill him easily, much less the painter.

"The students entered the door due to despair; they wish for salvation behind the door, not more lies. The painter has good intentions, but he is too extreme. There is no heaven behind the door. Once the fake heaven is exposed, the result will only be worse." Chen Ge turned to look at the old headmaster, "We do not want lies; we need to provide actual help for these homeless children and turn this place into a home that they can rely on."

“We are not going to fix heaven. We are going to build a sanctuary that they can use to take a break. And no one will stop them from leaving. No one’s life is perfect all the time. Half of the time, it is filled with pain and conflict, but that is a complete life. We are not trying to change their life; we are merely providing them a break whenever they need it.”

This was the first time that the Red Specters behind the door had heard someone say something like that. They felt like Chen Ge had a point, but once they gave it a closer look, they realized that something did not feel so right.

“Okay.” The old headmaster stopped speaking, but there was still concern in his eyes.

While Chen Ge’s group were discussing, the situation outside the school changed again. The man hiding in the storm was attacked from the back. He had a pact with Chang Wenyu, but at the last moment, Chang Wenyu betrayed him. Everyone was out for themselves. They were merely using each other. Trust and friendship were rarer than diamonds behind the door.

“Chang Wenyu!” The door was just before him, but he could not reach it. The man in the storm yelled crazily. He wished to tear Chang Wenyu into pieces.

“We are all one step away from becoming something more than a Red Specter. The person who pushes this door open and becomes the real owner of the school’s consciousness will become a Greater Red Specter.” Chang Wenyu understood that well. “Did you think I would help you become that? If you gain this moveable door, you will use it to trick more students into entering it and use their pain and despair to strengthen yourself.”

“Isn’t that how the door should be used? The world has abandoned you behind the door. They bullied and tortured you. Now you finally have the method to take revenge, to make them feel the same thing—don’t you want that?” The man in the storm kept screaming. He had sacrificed a lot, but he had gotten nothing in return, and he might lose his life.

“Even now I have no understanding why the door appeared. This kind of thing is better destroyed.” The rune behind Chang Wenyu slipped into the door. The door slowly turned red, and blood leaked out from the gap. “Look, no matter how well the door hides it, it is still flowing with human blood. It is a monster that depends on despair and pain to survive.”

The cracks on the door grew bigger, and every student in the school heard the pleading, but the sound was different, like it came from their own hearts. The pleading door influenced all the students, including the painter. Since the mirror broke, the power he could borrow had lessened. His large body was slowly dwindling, and the arms behind him were shriveling as he dragged them weakly behind him.

Perhaps because Chang Wenyu had left the school and did not rely too much on the door, she was not affected that much. If anything, her presence only grew stronger.

“This door accepted you when you were at your most despairing moment, but now you want to destroy it. Without it, where will the other despairing people hide? Do they have the face the cruel world alone?” Even though the painter had greatly weakened, there was a glow in his dark eyes, like everything that had happened was still within his expectations.

The blood vessels that covered his skin revealed a corner, and the painter turned to look at Chang Wenyu.

Chapter 897: Rune on the Door

Chang Wenyu was the most unique presence at the school. She did not follow the rules, did not want to be bound, and purposely tried to undermine it. But a personality like that was loved by many at the school. Perhaps their 'lives' were too boring—her appearance was like a light for those despairing students. The light was not bright, but it stood out in the darkness. Her personality was completely different from that of the painter. It was not done on purpose, and the two of them steadily went down opposite paths from each other.

Interestingly enough, the students at the school did not fully support either one of them. The students were quite evenly distributed in support of them. Theoretically speaking, only by vanquishing the other could they claim the entirety of the school's consciousness and become the new door pusher. That was when their battle started, and it had continued.

The man in the fog suffered attacks from the painter while he attacked Chang Wenyu. The runes on Chang Wenyu's back were destroying the school's door and blocking the attack of the man. Of the three, the one who had the prerogative was the painter. He could use one of his powers to deprive a Specter of their everything. This power was useless on the man in the storm, but it was useful on Chang Wenyu. The painter hesitated. After he dealt with Chang Wenyu, he would face the man in the storm alone, but that was not the key. The one closest to the door now was Chang Wenyu, and the second was the patient. When Chang Wenyu could not hold on anymore, the patient would immediately go after the defenseless door. If he became the new door pusher, it was over for the painter.

The vessels wrapped around the 'canvas' again—the painter did not use his power on Chang Wenyu. After so many years of battle, he knew her well. Since she dared appear, it meant that she had something else up her sleeves. It was too dangerous to go after her. The painter waited for Chang Wenyu to finish the fight with the man in the storm, and Chen Ge waited for the 'three' of them to end their fight.

What are the runes on Chang Wenyu's back? Why can they make the cracks on the door bigger? When I was interacting with the ghost stories society, I didn't notice anything that can damage the door unless the door pusher chose to suffer all the sin behind the door.

Chen Ge was curious about the runes on Chang Wenyu's back, but he couldn't see it from his angle. Chang Wenyu was leaning against the door, and her body blocked most of the runes.

Those runes appear to be drawn in blood. They don't look like letters but like patterns that were formed after paintings were torn open.

Time ticked, and the runes on Chang Wenyu's back slowly lessened. The new runes appeared to come out from her own body. They carried her flesh and blood, and when they printed on the door, they were stuck with her blood. More runes covered the door, and Chen Ge slowly realized that the runes were not formed randomly. They were arranged according to a certain arrangement before forming a bloody

painting. It was a Specter with three heads, covered in shackles, and the eyeballs were shining with blood. Bizarrely, the eyeballs looked like they were real, like they had been gouged out from human eyes.

I have seen that somewhere before... Chen Ge used his Yin Yang Vision, and a thought crossed his mind. Before I entered the underground morgue, the ghost story society came to my haunted house! Doctor Gao left such a painting on my door!

Like he was struck by lightning, Chen Ge couldn't believe his own eyes.

It is the same one!

At the time, Doctor Gao had used the phone spirit to lure him away and then sneaked into the haunted house, but then his ceremony did not seem to have been completed. Before he entered the door, he had been stopped by the guardian spirit of New Century Park.

What is the meaning of this painting? Why does Chang Wenyu believe it can destroy the door? What does the monster represent? It looks like a ghost but is not a ghost, and even ghosts are afraid of it.

The door of the school was moaning. The picture of the three-headed demon became clearer. Every piece of the painting had Chang Wenyu's flesh. It looked gruesome.

Before, Doctor Gao wasn't a Red Specter, and he used a normal person's method to conduct the ceremony. This allowed him to enter the door at my haunted house. Now, Chang Wenyu, as a red Specter, is using her own blood to complete this painting. The effect is definitely different. Looks like she is determined to destroy this door.

Using her flesh to do the painting drained Chang Wenyu a lot. The blood at her heart was fading, and bruises appeared on her limbs. The man in the storm had blood that could poison the ghosts. Chang Wenyu could not resist it anymore, and the poison infiltrated her body. Indescribable pain ravaged her body, but her mouth was slowly blooming. She was familiar with this feeling—the greater the pain, the brighter her smile!

The painting on the door was almost complete, and Chang Wenyu's body was at its limit. The blood at her chest almost disappeared. Without the red dress, Chang Wenyu looked like a normal girl, but there was an indescribable emotion in her remaining eye. The man in the storm could retreat at any moment, and the one in the most dangerous situation was Chang Wenyu. Yet, the girl had madness burning in her eye that made everyone else cautious.

If the painter was a sea of death, Chang Wenyu was a flaming ocean. When she was in deep despair, there was no telling what she would do. In the whole school, the person who knew Chang Wenyu the most was the painter. At this point, the blood on the painter started to attack Chang Wenyu. Once the door was destroyed, the School of the Afterlife would disappear. All of the students would lose their sanctuary and be exposed to the red city. The painter and the monster in the storm joined forces, and that was far beyond what Chang Wenyu could suffer.

The painting on the door was becoming more clarified. It was almost complete, but Chang Wenyu was at her limit. There was no trace of blood in her body, and her body was filled with wounds, but she stood before the door with a smile. Her head swung around. The remaining eye seemed to be looking for something. In such a dangerous moment, Chang Wenyu's strange action drew the painter and the man's

attention. They followed her gaze, and then three gazes fell on the western side of the school, on one person.

Chen Ge!

Being scrutinized by three Top Red Specters, Chen Ge was dripping with sweat. *Why are they looking at me?*

While Chen Ge was confused, Lin Sisi's phone in his pocket suddenly vibrated. He opened it to look, and it was a message from a stranger. 'Have you remembered what you've lost?'

Chapter 898: No One Can Leave

What have I lost?

When Chen Ge saw this message, he was instantly reminded of the black phone. He had no idea who had sent this message, but it had to do with one of the Top Red Specter, or else the timing was too perfect.

So, a threat?

The message was not named, and the sender was unknown, but based on Chen Ge's prediction, the black phone was most likely with Chang Wenyu. It was Chang Gu who had handed him the backpack, and the phone had been the only thing missing.

She wants me to help her? But why would the message be sent to Lin Sisi's phone? Lin Sisi is the painter's partner; he has been helping the painter by protecting the dormitories.

Chen Ge did not get it.

Perhaps Chang Wenyu has approached Lin Sisi before.

The imminent problem was not to see who had sent the message but to get out from his latest conundrum. Being scrutinized by three Top Red Specters, Chen Ge had a déjà vu feeling. It seemed to have happened at Li Wan City before, so he did not panic that much, and that shocked the surrounding students.

Calm down, I have to calm down! The black phone is important to me, but that is a secret known only to me. Neither Chang Wenyu nor the painter know that. If I act strangely, it will expose the importance of the phone. Thus, the best solution is to act normal.

That was what Chen Ge thought and what he did. When he saw the message on Lin Sisi's phone, his expression did not change. Very casually, he placed the phone back in his pocket and turned around to look at the students.

"The well is in the western field. The boards at the end of the corridor can be removed, so we'd better move!"

The reason he had stayed was to grab some benefits, but since the three Red Specters were onto him, the most rational solution was to leave. When Chen Ge saw the message on Lin Sisi's phone, he did not stay but chose to leave.

When Chang Wenyu saw this, her smile lessened, but the madness in her eyes grew. Her body was consumed by strange runes, and the three headed demon appeared to be branded on the door. The door kept groaning, and every student at the school could feel the pain coming from their heart.

"The movable door has broken the rules. Only the people in despair can push open the door, but the door has no right to trick despairing people. Whether or not to enter the door is the choice only given to the door pusher. That is the last and most saddening choice they have made in their lives!"

Chang Wenyu's eyes were red. She smiled as she looked down at all the students at the school.

"No one can take away this right."

After she said that, she gave up defense and allowed the attacks to fall on her. The whole school was echoing with her crazy laugh. The three headed demon fully surfaced. Its eyes rolled about, and it started to consume the already shattered door.

The door was about to collapse. The man in the storm cursed and extended his other arm out of the storm. His attack looked like self-mutilation. Every power used his own flesh as the base; the longer the battle dragged on, the worse state he would be in. The painter looked at the crazed Chang Wenyu and took out the skin hidden in the blood again. His bloody finger was about to land on the canvas when he caught sight of Chen Ge from the corner of his eyes. He had been cautious about something. After some hesitation, he put the canvas away and adjusted the remaining school's consciousness to stop Chang Wenyu.

Chang Wenyu used everything to summon the three headed demon to destroy the door. The painter and the man in the fog tried everything to stop Chang Wenyu, and the worse thing was, more strange noises were coming from the red city. More monsters were waking up. The battle of the three Top Red Specters had reached its climax. Even Chen Ge, who was far from the battle, faced some trouble.

On the western field, a thin boy and a blindfolded man stood next to the well. There was a four-legged humanoid monster crawling on the mouth of the well. Other than them, endless black briar was coming toward the western side. The monsters in the red city appeared to have received some order and were all gathering this way.

The painter and the patient in the storm did not plan on letting Chen Ge go. The reason was simple. At the last moment, Chang Wenyu had laid her eyes on Chen Ge. They seemed to believe that Chen Ge possessed something of hers, or Chen Ge was one of her trump cards. Initially, Chen Ge had been hiding in the dark. No one had paid him any attention, but due to Chang Wenyu, the spotlight had landed on him. But luckily, the focus of the Top Red Specters was still on Chang Wenyu, and Chen Ge could handle this situation.

"Don't block our way. I don't wish to have conflict with you." Even though Chen Ge said that, he wished for a fight. He had more Red Specters, and if he could consume one Red Specter from the enemy, it was a gain.

“This well is connected to the painter’s heart—it is not the exit on the other side,” the thin boy told Chen Ge. He was kind toward Chen Ge, which was strange. “Please go back. I do not want to fight you.”

“You seem to know me well?” Chen Ge looked at the boy and signaled for everyone to be prepared.

“I am Lin Sisi. You have been using my identity on the eastern campus.” The boy coughed. “The same thing happened to us. Actually, I wish to live like you, but unfortunately, there is no return.”

“It is never too late to make a choice unless there are no more choices.” Chen Ge pointed at the students behind him. “I can stay, but do you wish to these innocent children to get involved? Please, let me take them to a safe place first.”

He would rather stay in danger and not have danger come to any students—his impression of Chen Ge improved a lot.

“We cannot let even one of the students go. They are part of the school’s consciousness. The loss of each student will weaken the school’s consciousness. Now, the painter requires power, so all of you had better stay here.” The blindfolded guy had a chilling tone. “Chang Wenyu wants to ruin the door. She has lost the qualification to become the door pusher. After chasing away the monster that came from the city, the painter will undeniably become the new door pusher of this school, and then he will obtain the power of a Greater Red Specter.”

Chapter 899: What Is Hiding in Your Shadow? [2 in 1]

“The painter will undeniably become the new door pusher at the School of the Afterlife? You guys sure have plenty of confidence in him.”

Due to the different position that they took, they naturally had different ways of dealing with things. In the eyes of Lin Sisi and the rest, the painter was their only hope—he was the one closest to becoming a Greater Red Specter—but Chen Ge did not share their view. Be it the painter or Chang Wenyu, their thoughts were too extreme. No one knew the actual meaning behind the door’s existence, and even the door pusher himself would be unable to explain it. In those circumstances, there was no need to force a change to the world behind the door. There had to be a reason for it to exist. Chen Ge’s thoughts were much more innocent than the rest.

“Please get out of the way. The students are innocent. You all have no right to make them sacrifice themselves.” Chen Ge stood in front of all the students from the school. “It was the door from the School of the Afterlife that lured them into the door; it was not them who opened the door willingly. So, it was the door from the school that needed their help, not the other way around.”

Chen Ge’s very words resonated deeply with the hearts of the students. “None of us wish to fight the painter or Chang Wenyu; we just want to be alive.”

When the students following behind Chen Ge saw Lin Sisi and the man with the blindfold, they started to feel uneasy. It was an everyday affair to feel threatened by the school’s consciousness, and the painter and his people were in a way the representative of the school’s consciousness. Going against them meant that they would be abandoned by the school’s consciousness, and in the world behind the door where danger was lurking everywhere, losing the protection of the school’s consciousness was no

different from finding death. Before this, they had no choice, so even when the school's consciousness went against their own ideals, they had no choice but to silence their heart and follow.

However, that day, Chen Ge was there.

There were several Red Specters around him, and he had saved many of the students who were trapped in danger. He dared go against the painter's people, and he was not afraid of the teachers who represented the managers. Everything that he did was out of consideration for the students themselves. How could they not follow a person like that?

Why would they find a reason to reject such a person?

The same knife cut bread and flesh—the one thing that might help them could also injure them. The painter's people blocked the exit, and their actions lit a fuse under the resentment that had been curdling in the students' hearts.

One had to understand that not all the students at the school were Specters. A large portion of them were lingering spirits who had been kidnapped by the 'door'. Their souls were hooked inside the door, but their physical bodies were still lying in the hospital in a coma. Before Chen Ge entered the School of the Afterlife to find Chang Gu, he had seen many parents of the students trying to find and corner Chang Gu. Those were the parents of the students whose lingering spirits had been trapped behind the door.

Releasing a small portion of the lingering spirits would not affect the School of the Afterlife, but to let go off all of the students, the foundation of the School of the Afterlife would collapse upon itself. The painter and the school's consciousness would not allow that to happen, so they had no choice but to block Chen Ge's path.

"Chen Ge, I really do not wish to fight you—you will not win." Lin Sisi slowly lowered his head, and the following seemed to subconsciously escape from his lips. "You do not understand how scary the painter can be..."

"Lin!" Before Lin Sisi could finish, the blindfolded man interrupted him harshly. He turned around and pulled off the black cloth that covered his eyes. "Do not forget who it was that pulled you out from the deep water of despair and who it was that used the painting to help you retain the only beautiful memory you had."

After hearing what the blindfolded man said, Lin Sisi's eyes slowly turned cold. It was as if the boy had put his emotions away. It appeared that the boy was not a killer by nature, but for the sake of the painter, he would do what he normally would not.

"Chen Ge, neither I nor Lin hate you. Even the painter places great value upon you, and as a matter of fact, he wishes for you to join us. We should not be fighting each other. Take all the students back to the classrooms, and the painter will forgive all the mistakes that you have previously made."

"Forgive me?" Chen Ge took several steps back. Just as Lin Sisi and the blindfolded man thought that he was about to compromise, Chen Ge opened his mouth to say, "I do not think that I have done anything wrong, so I do not need his forgiveness. In fact, it is you people who need to reflect on what you have done."

There were plenty of students following Chen Ge, and more and more students were being dragged away by the monsters in the blood fog, never to return. The patient in the center of the storm was worried that Chen Ge would be convinced by the painter's people, so he ordered a large number of monsters to attack the students that were following Chen Ge. With every second that dragged on, more and more students would disappear.

"You will regret this." The blindfolded man threw away the black cloth that he was holding. The eyes that he had kept closed were now slowly opening. The left eye was a sea of blood, and the right eye saw the people and monsters, but there was no scenery or background. It was as if, other than blood, humans, and Specters, there was nothing else that was able to be registered in his sight. "I have now seen the moment of your death."

The painter and the man in the fog formed a consensus on the way to deal with Chen Ge. The monsters in the fog and the blindfolded man attacked Chen Ge's group at the same time. The difference was, the blindfolded man and Lin Sisi only went after the Red Specters, but the monsters in the blood fog attacked indiscriminately. This naturally placed Chen Ge's group in a desperate situation.

"Stop it! Please stop it!" The old headmaster cried at the top of the lung. He saw with his own eyes the students being dragged into the blood fog and their spirits dispersing just like that. It was just too cruel. Being killed behind the door meant that they would be left with nothing, and it was no different from being wiped out from the world. No trace of them would be left anymore, and that was such a cruel punishment for the students who had basically done nothing wrong. For most of them, they were not at the School of the Afterlife of their own volition, so what had they done to deserve such an unsightly ending?

The battle between the painter, Chang Wenyu, and the man who controlled the fog reached its climax. This was a matter of life and death; their underlings did not dare dawdle. They tried their best to accomplish their boss' orders. Even if it was going to add just a fraction of the chance to victory, it would be worth it. Therefore, for the battle on Chen Ge's side, there were no tests or trials; the battle started with the bloodiest massacre.

The power of the blindfolded man and Lin Sisi was far beyond Chen Ge's expectations. There was no surprise that they could become the painter's left- and right-hand men. Both could make use of the school's consciousness, and each of them possessed extremely scary special powers. The blindfolded man could see the image of the person before they died, so he could recreate that process of death and turn himself into pure fear and pain.

Lin Sisi's power was even more unique. His body could morph into a ball of gray smog. No one could see through the smog. The monsters that were dragged away by the fog, be it Red Specters or normal Specters, when they reappeared, would lose their combat ability, and their bodies would be covered in wounds.

Chen Ge had a feeling that the people being dragged into the gray fog were still able to walk out of it alive because Lin Sisi never wanted to kill in the first place. Lin Sisi and the blinded man had unique special powers and completely undid the numerical advantage that Chen Ge's group had. Thus, the situation was getting worse.

Destroy the leader and the gang will collapse. That was logic that everyone would understand. There was a fatal flaw in Chen Ge's group, and that was Chen Ge himself. He was just a living person. Even with the close protection of the many Red Specters, it was hard for him to survive in the chaos behind the door. The blindfolded man and Lin Sisi both attempted to approach Chen Ge. As one Half Red Specter after another collapsed in their path, it was finally the Red Specters' turn.

Most of the Red Specters who followed Chen Ge were already wounded, and the key problem was that other than Xu Yin, there were no other Red Specters who would risk their own lives to protect Chen Ge. There were two enemies but only one Xu Yin.

With the approach of the strong enemy and the collapse of his friends one after another, as well as the continuous red wave that came from the red city that was not far away, the situation was getting steadily worse.

The fight of the three Top Red Specter had not reached its conclusion, but they were already at their limit. The final victor would literally consume everything. Han Song and Yin Hong tried their best to save as many students as they could and protect the students who had been following Chen Ge, to prevent them from being slaughtered by the monsters in the blood fog. The remaining Red Specters, though, all gathered around Chen Ge to stop the blindfolded man and Lin Sisi.

"People like you will never give up until you're pushed to the gallows." Lin Sisi morphed into gray smoke. No one was able to stop him, so they turned their attention to focus on the blindfolded man. He felt the pressure and turned to look at the mouth of the well. The monster that was on the mouth of the well chuckled wildly. With his limbs on the rim of the well, he poked his head into the hole.

Just as people were wondering what he was doing, the sound of water flowing came from inside the old well. The sound grew louder and louder, until it sounded like large and powerful waves hitting against the rocky shore. When the monster with four limbs poked his head out from the well again, everyone who saw him had a frown on their face. The monster's head and body had inverted.

He charged at Chen Ge with a crazy smile, and after he left, many human heads floated out from the old well. They looked like black bubbles.

"What are those?"

A series of strange cackling echoed over each other, and endless inverted monsters with their heads hanging down crawled out from the old well.

"That well hides the biggest secret of the painter. It is an inverted world inside there. This is how human being look like in the painter's heart." After Lin Sisi gave that explanation, he charged toward Xu Yin. He could see how much Chen Ge valued this Red Specter. The gray smog surged forth, and Xu Yin was lost inside the smog.

"Xu Yin!" Chen Ge saw Xu Yin disappear inside the gray fog, and it felt like someone had yanked a piece directly out from his heart. The monsters that crawled out from the water well charged at Chen Ge's team. Most of the Red Specters had been dragged down, and Chen Ge, who was standing in the middle of the battle, appeared to be surprisingly calm.

The situation had truly gotten out of control. The painter had many trump cards that he had not shown, and he was one enemy whom Chen Ge still could not red.

Chen Ge turned to look at the present box that he was carrying in his arms. He took out a candy from the candy bag that was next to the box. It was milky white candy, and it gave off a sweet, alluring smell. However, the human face that was pleading for mercy on it was quite disturbing to say the least. Calling the name silently in his heart, Chen Ge placed the candy gently on his own shadow. The candy dropped onto the ground, but nothing happened. However, Chen Ge's strange action did manage to attract the attention of everyone around him.

"What are you doing?" Even though he was being attacked by numerous Red Specters, the blindfolded man still had the luxury to observe Chen Ge. This person should be the scariest Specter at the School of the Afterlife behind Chang Wenyu and the painter. Chen Ge did not reply. He took out another candy and placed it again on his shadow.

This time, something changed with the candy. It slowly dissolved like it was being absorbed by something inside Chen Ge's shadow.

"What is hiding in your shadow?" The man with the blindfold had a very bad feeling. He unleashed a loud, shrill scream, and many monsters crawled out from the old well, charging madly at Chen Ge.

Chapter 900: A Trick?

The Red Specters behind the door were teetering at the edge of life and death, so their senses were sharp and attuned. Even though the three underlings of the painter had been fighting with the other Red Specters from the School of the Afterlife, most of their attention had been placed on Chen Ge alone. Actually, including the painter, everyone was very curious. How did a living person like Chen Ge manage to have so many Red Specters listen to his orders? How did he manage to do that? What kind of power did he possess to accomplish such a feat?

The unknown was always the scariest. The painter and his people did not go after Chen Ge directly because of this reason; they did not know anything about Chen Ge's trump card. They stood there and saw Chen Ge growing stronger and stronger as more and more Red Specters gathered around the man.

"The reason that you can control other Red Specters is inside your shadow?" The man with the blindfold wished to get some information from the change in Chen Ge's facial expression, but to his disappointment, other than the added swiftness to his movement, Chen Ge did not show any unusual reactions, and his face was startlingly calm.

Drops of candies landed on the shadow, and they slowly melted like fresh snow. Not just the man with the blindfold, but all the surrounding Red Specters started to feel a weak presence coming from Chen Ge's shadow. This presence was slowly gathering itself like something was awakening from its dream, but this process of awakening was going to be very long.

"I remember Mr. Bai once said that there is a special someone hiding inside his shadow." Heavily injured, Zhou Tu, who hid at the back, commented on this like he was talking to himself.

“Yes, I do remember Mr. Bai saying something like that as well.” Another student who had been brought over by Chen Ge from the eastern and western campus, Wang Yicheng, concurred. “Before leaving the two campuses, we felt that presence. But after leaving the campuses, the sense of the presence instead became less obvious and weaker.”

It was unknown whether they were doing this on purpose or it was a pure coincidence, but the conversation between the two was overheard by the people around him, and that included the man with the blindfold who managed to hear them very clearly.

“Your last trump card is hidden inside your shadow?” The man with the blindfold had basically confirmed that Chen Ge only dared enter the School of the Afterlife in the form of a living human because there was something protecting him inside his shadow. In fact, he could push this speculation further and say that perhaps Chen Ge was just a puppet. Maybe the thing inside his shadow was the real mastermind behind the curtain. No one at the School of the Afterlife really knew what was inside Chen Ge’s shadow. Both the man with the blindfold and Lin Sisi had a very bad feeling about this. They did not think that Chen Ge’s shadow would be something to deal with.

Coincidentally, at that moment, several teachers ran over from the end of the corridor of the education block. The leading person was Mr. Lei. When the Red Specters who guarded around Chen Ge saw the arrival of Mr. Lei and the rest of the teachers, they were quite relieved and happy. After all, they had interacted with each other before, and they were not actually enemies. However, what Mr. Lei said next completely shattered the hope of those Red Specters around Chen Ge.

“There is a Top Red Specter hiding in his shadow! She is not weaker than the painter and Chang Wenyu. Furthermore, she is deeply related to this school! We have to stop him no matter what!” Mr. Lei and most of the staff at the school were on the same team as the painter. They were helping the painter manage the heaven that was constructed inside a nightmare.

“Top Red Specter?” The three simple words appeared to have some kind of magical power that could shake everyone’s heart. Even the three Top Red Specters who were fighting non-stop, like it was the end of the world, temporarily stopped moving.

“Chen Ge, do not disappoint me! You were able to hide until now! I knew I could count on you!” Her back and joined with the door already. Chang Wenyu, who was covered in wounds and had her lips split open, was laughing like maniac. Her blood red eyes were dancing with mockery. “Even if you kill me, neither of you are destined to get this door! The Red Specter who once destroyed this door has returned—the Specter who scares the door itself has returned!”

The situation appeared to have changed in that moment. Chang Wenyu was roaring and yelling like she had lost her mind. The painter’s face was dark as the far side of the moon. The man in the patient’s outfit who was stuck in the middle controlling the blood fog was as confused as he could be.

“Stop him. We need to stop him no matter what!” When the fourth Top Red Specter appeared, the balance would be definitely shaken. Other than the people who voluntarily followed Chen Ge, all the other monsters and Specters gathered to surround and attack Chen Ge. They ignored the Specters that hung around Chen Ge and placed their target on Chen Ge alone. They wanted to kill Chen Ge before the man had chance to summon the Specter from inside his shadow.

“Stop them! We need to stop them!” Those Red Specters and students who initially followed Chen Ge were slightly shaken when they were cornered, but when he heard from Chang Wenyu that there was another Top Red Specter hidden in Chen Ge’s shadow, their confidence in Chen Ge returned practically instantly. They were both Top Red Specters, so Chang Wenyu did not need to lie. They felt like they had placed their bets on the right party, so they started to give it their all and sacrificed everything to protect Chen Ge to buy him as much time as they could.

Blood swam about like sea. The expression of Chen Ge, who stood in the center of it, did not change; he just kept dropping the candies from the bag onto the shadow. His shadow was like a deep pool. No one knew what was hiding underneath. They could only see some trace of shadows. The candies disappeared one after another, and the massacre around Chen Ge reached its bloodiest moment.

A large amount of blood squirted out from Lin Sisi’s gray fog, and one could even hear the blood curdling scream from Xu Yin. The Red Specters that surrounded the man with the blindfold all carried fatal wounds on them. They were slowly approaching a state close to death. The man with the blindfold utilized his power on them, but no one really cared; everyone risked the chance of being shattered into pieces to help Chen Ge buy as much time as they could. The inverted and disfigured monsters that came out from Mu Yang High School’s old well charged at Chen Ge at the same time. The students from the School of the Afterlife all volunteered to stand guard around Chen Ge, and they used their actions to win the school’s approval.

“Painter, I bet you did not expect this, right? My last trump card is not even on me.” Chang Wenyu kept mocking the painter. She was trying to buy them, too. The door of the School of Afterlife had almost been consumed by the three-headed monster, and the cracks on the door had grown so big that it was almost impossible to fix it. The painter was not influenced by Chang Wenyu, but one could capture a trace of hesitance in his eyes. He stared at the shadow behind Chen Ge, and the last piece of ‘canvas’ covered by blood vessels silently appeared in his hand.

The monsters from the old well and the blood fog cut open a path that headed toward Chen Ge, but any monster that tried to charge at Chen Ge would be stopped by the students. There was a low gasping voice that came from the crowd. The saliva that was radiating this horrible stench slid down the corner of his lips. A pair of evil, venomous eyes were staring at Chen Ge’s back. The four limbs crawled swiftly on the ground. The humanoid monster who ‘worked’ at the trash collection center was like a praying mantis that was hunting its prey. It borrowed the cover of the surrounding and jumped and weaved its way toward Chen Ge. It aimed for Chen Ge’s neck and then opened its mouth wide.

BANG

A woman’s skull blocked and landed on the strange monster’s face. She used her own head to stop the attacking monster, thus protecting Chen Ge from harm. As someone who was practically ‘forced’ to be there, she had done more than she was supposed to. Her blood dripped down her body, and the headless woman in the red dress half knelt behind Chen Ge. She was covered in wounds, and one of her arms had been pulled off. She was unable to recover on herself, and the other arm was holding her own head. The monsters continued to swarm forward. The headless woman’s other arm was pulled off, and the pale arm dropped on Chen Ge’s shadow. The black hair that was tied around her wrist slowly melted into Chen Ge’s shadow. At that moment, Chen Ge’s shadow seemed to become quite different. The few

Top Red Specters at the scene all felt something. The three of them all turned to look behind Chen Ge at the same time.

“She... has awakened?”

The smile on Chang Wenyu’s face froze, and the man who controlled the fog had a strong sense of alarm rising within him. Of the three of them, the painter was the calmest, and he stopped hesitating and came to a decision. Before anyone could realize what he was going to do, his eyes turned pure black, and he turned to look at Chen Ge’s shadow. His bloodied finger fell on the last piece of canvas.

“This is not good!”

“Chen Ge! Shield your shadow from view!”

Cries and orders came from the crowd. Chen Ge also subconsciously moved his body about. He lifted his head to look, and the painter was painting Chen Ge’s shadow!

“The painter’s special power?” The painter was using his last power on Chen Ge’s shadow. The School of the Afterlife, which was chaotic and crazy, suddenly experienced a temporary lull. The match had been made. The painter could draw a ghost and strip away everything that was possessed by the ghost.

There was a great limitation to this special power, but only the painter himself knew what kind of limitation that was.

“It’s all over now...”

Chen Ge and the painter became the focus of the entire school. On the painter’s canvas, Chen Ge’s shadow gradually became clearer, and the shape of the shadow was having the same change.

“Even without seeing the real person, he can paint by looking at the shadow?” Chen Ge felt like something on his body had slowly been taken away. An existence that was intertwined with his own destiny was disappearing little by little.

“Painting is just one of my powers. This pair of eyes can see the outline of the framework of destiny. I can follow the trail of destiny and paint whatever’s related to you.”

Chen Ge’s shadow on the canvas kept on changing. Everyone’s attention was drawn by the painter, and Chen Ge’s hands involuntarily moved to his heart. The feeling was hard to describe. He knew very well that he was about to lose something important. He wanted to scream—he wanted to yell out that name at the top of his voice. The color of the shadow behind Chen Ge gradually faded, but the shadow on the painter’s canvas was getting clearer and clearer. Unable to breathe, after several long, tedious seconds, the shadow on the painter’s canvas finally changed, and it turned into the original shape of the Specter that was hiding inside Chen Ge’s shadow!

The painter’s breath suddenly weakened, and everyone turned to look at the canvas that the painter was holding!

On the canvas that was made from human skin was the picture of a weak, lanky body. There were many wounds left behind by nails and pins on his body. When the shadow on the canvas stopped changing, the shadow behind Chen Ge looked as if it had been thrown open. A small, shy shadow was standing next to Chen Ge. He hugged the sweet, milky candies in his embrace, and he was still munching happily

on them. Only after several seconds did he realize that something was wrong. The candies in his arms dropped and rolled to the ground. The small shadow forgot how to chew. He shared a look with the painter and saw his own reflection on the painter's canvas. The smoke-like body dispersed, as if being blown by heavy wind, and the small shadow disappeared like it had never existed in the world.

"The scapegoat?" When the painter said this like it was an afterthought, the three Top Red Specters and the numerous Red Specters around Chen Ge were baffled. The Specter that was hiding inside Chen Ge's shadow, the Specter that so many people were afraid of, was just a scapegoat that was not even a Half Red Specter?

"We've been tricked!"

The smile on Chang Wenyu's face completely disappeared, and the faces of all three Top Red Specters darkened. At that moment, no one realized that Chen Ge's torn shadow did not disappear fully. Instead, it started to spread to its surroundings like a widening sea of blackness.