

Horrors 911

Chapter 911: Highest Difficulty Mission

The chance of running into special visitors will multiply at night? The black phone is encouraging me to open for business at night?

In the morning, Specters could only hide in the Haunted House. Even ghosts like Ol' Zhou and Duan Yue were afraid of the sun. They could only appear for a few minutes in the morning and could not be hit directly by the sunlight. If it was night, there would not be such limit, and thus, the Haunted House would be several times scarier than daytime. Not only because the environment had changed but also because most of the employees were actual ghosts, and the closer it was to midnight, the more active they were.

The problem with the door hasn't been resolved, so the visitors might be accidentally injured if a Specter sneaks through the door.

Chen Ge was not ready for a night opening yet. He rejected this idea after giving it some thought. Taking a box of cat food down from the cupboard, Chen Ge tricked the white cat over and held it in his arms. "Come, follow me to go and take a look at the new scenario."

The white cat was very sensitive to spirits and Specters. Bringing it was like bringing an alarm, and it could help detect the uncertain elements of the new scenario. The white cat was too busy munching on the food and rubbing its head on Chen Ge's chest to realize the danger it was in. When it realized that Chen Ge was taking it downstairs, it was already too late to run.

"Looks at how fat you are now. If you don't start moving around, you should change your name from White Tiger to White Pig."

Carrying the backpack, Chen Ge opened the door that led underground. A chill howled at him. With the unlocking of the School of the Afterlife, the underground scenario seemed to have become eerier. The sound of wind could be heard, and in the darkened surrounding, it was hard to tell where the wind came from. The yellowed test papers fluttered in the air, and occasionally, he would catch glimpse of mannequin heads rolling away.

"Still run about so late at night. In the future, I'll have to invite the old headmaster back and have him watch over you people every day."

Chen Ge carried the white cat with one hand and held the black phone in the other. He followed the instructions on the phone and walked behind the stairs. The entrance to the school was between the entrance to Mu Yang High School and the Underground Morgue. To enter this scenario, one had to pass through three iron doors. Just pushing them open was pressure enough.

The school looked normal on the surface, but with a closer examination, one would discover several extremely scary details. For example, with the thick curtains that were hung along the sides of the corridor, behind some of them was the cement wall, but some were hiding doors to other rooms. Even with the map on the black phone, Chen Ge was lost. The school was too big—it filled up the entire underground parking lot and even dug down several levels.

“Who would have thought such a school existed down here?” Chen Ge looked at the path that he just had just taken. “Or rather, it’s more appropriate to call it a small town.”

Chen Ge’s four-star scenario perfectly replicated the School of the Afterlife from behind the door. The overlapping of reality and nightmare, many scary memories appeared in Chen Ge’s mind, turning into his inspiration.

“Dormitory walls that are filled with nails, the canteen that only operates at midnight, the little girl that lies to people in the staff dormitory, the skull buried in the tree hole, the elevator that moves on its own, the blinking statue, the blackboard with bloody words, the inverted people that follow you around, the students who return after death, Mr. Bai who is not in the teacher’s record...”

Chen Ge touched his pocket. Mr. Bai’s staff ID and his own student ID were still there, but after leaving the door, those two documents had gained many blood splatters that could not be removed. It looked like they had been soaked in blood for a long time before being removed.

“I have a lot of material but not enough employees. This place is too big.” Chen Ge took out the comic to summon Yan Danian and had him release all the ghosts and spirits who had been ‘educated’.

When Chen Ge visited Li Wan City and the Coffin Village, he had helped many ghosts before—now was the time for them to repay his kindness. After Bai Qiulin became a red Specter, his words carried more weight. Many ghosts decided to put down their hatred after having a talk with Ol’ Bai and decided to embrace a new future. Chen Ge felt glad upon hearing that. He promised to help them fulfil their dying wish after this busy holiday was over. He was not just saying that; if the employees treated the Haunted House as their home, it was only natural for him to help them complete their wish.

Chen Ge registered all the spirits’ names, and only when the names could be searched in the worker’s tab of the black phone, he arranged their roles in the school. In total, Chen Ge designed more than forty ghost stories in the school and more than one hundred scare points, but most of them required employees to control them, and that meant his manpower was stretched thin. Often, a single employee had to handle multiple scare points.

“Temporarily, this will have to do. After this, I must design the story background so that the visitors can see themselves in the story more easily. What kind of identity should I give them, youngsters who came to the abandoned school to test their bravery at night? Students who have lost their memory trapped at the school? Just let them try to find the escape?” Chen Ge rubbed his head. “I have to use this scenario well. A simple escape is such a waste—I need to make this more exciting.”

Chen Ge walked around the school with the white cat. “Nurse’s office, lab room, music club, sports club... Wait a minute, I don’t think I’ve seen the art club.”

He walked for an hour but failed to find the art club. “I also haven’t found the unique buildings, the Red Specter Painting Room and the Ghost Story Classroom that were attached to the school. Is there a trigger condition to these two special buildings?”

Opening the black phone, Chen Ge studied the school’s control page carefully and realized where the problem was; he had been walking around the two campuses but had not been to the deepest red campus. To enter this hidden campus, one had to go through a hidden tunnel. There were three known

paths—the water well near the western campus' field, the movable mirror inside the eastern campus' library, and the last cubicle inside the toilet of the eastern campus.

“The scares are a hidden surprise, and whoever can find the hidden area will be so lucky.” Chen Ge came to the last cubicle of the education block. He pushed open the door, and it revealed a set of stairs that led downward. There was a blinking red light at the bottom, and his ears were filled with crying and laughter.

“Deep red campus?” This was the first time that Chen Ge's Haunted House had contained a four-star scenario. He hugged the white cat tighter and walked down the stairs. Bloody handprints and scary words started to appear on the walls, and more and more blood surfaced until the whole corridor was red.

“This looks perfectly like the world behind the door, very suffocating and scary. Many people probably haven't even seen a place like this in their dreams.” Chen Ge nodded with satisfaction. He covered the white cat's eyes and continued to move forward. The deep red campus was underneath the two campuses. This was the lowest level of the haunted house. This place was empty, with not even a ghost. The cries and laughter appeared to be the visitor's own imagination.

He walked for ten minutes, and Chen Ge finally founded the plaque for the art club. After entering it, he felt like he had returned to the oil painting room.

There were thirteen easels before thirteen chairs, and the thirteen easels had thirteen inverted bloody oil painting.

“The Red Specters' Painting Room?” When Chen Ge discovered this place, his black phone vibrated; a new message had come in.

“Red Specter's Painting Room (Inverted World): Once you enter the room, you will see the Red Specters' past. If you can face the terror, the Red Specters will consume part of your misfortune, but if you can't, fainting is not a bad option.”

“It can help the visitors improve their luck?” When Chen Ge saw the message, he tried to stand before one of the paintings, but nothing happened. “A normal person would have a hard time suffering a Red Specter's past, but if they can discover the hidden path and charge all the way here, then the visitors wouldn't be a normal person.”

Chen Ge thought about it, took out his phone, and wrote this on his planner. “For now, the mission with the highest difficulty will be to find all thirteen oil paintings in the School of the Afterlife and place them all back into the art club's painting room.”

From the words alone, the mission sounded normal and even boring, but in reality, one would faint at least thirteen times before completing it.

Chapter 912: Headlines!

“Director Luo needs a highly difficult mission, and this mission that I designed will be able to satisfy him.” Chen Ge stayed at the School of the Afterlife until dawn. To perfect this four-star scenario, he had

not slept a wink. "One has to wear the band designed by Director Luo to enter this scenario so that the doctors can rush to save them at first notice."

After the underground morgue was unlocked, Chen Ge had grown more courageous. As long as Doctor Wei said it was okay, he dared to do it. Hugging the white cat out of the scenario, Chen Ge left tired, but his brain was active. "Am I sick?"

Since the School of the Afterlife was unlocked, the reward that correspond to that scenario should have unlocked as well. Putting the white cat down, Chen Ge entered the dressing room and found Lin Sisi's phone and Zhang Ya's bedtime story in an unassuming wooden box in the corner of the room. He had used Lin Sisi's phone before, so there was nothing to be said. He opened the phone to look at it, and it contained a lot of information related to Lin Sisi and the video of him being bullied.

"This thing belongs to Lin Sisi. I'd better keep it." Chen Ge did not delete anything on the phone but used the comic to summon Tong Tong. "Can you possess this phone?"

After trying, Tong Tong nodded.

"Okay then, I'll leave Lin Sisi's phone in your care. Tomorrow, when visitors enter the school, just follow my instructions." Chen Ge handed Lin Sisi's phone to Tong Tong, who looked like he had just gained a new toy. However, Chen Ge was reminded of something else. Once he entered the School of the Afterlife, Chen Ge had been knocked unconscious, and Chang Wenyu had stolen his phone, causing him to be inactive.

"I can't let that happen again." Chen Ge went online to order several custom-made phones that matched the appearance of the black phone. He did not need them to have many functions, as long as they could call, send messages, and hide Specters. He had just opened the browser and had not even started his search when he saw the day's headlines. He glanced at them out of habit, but when he did, he was stunned.

Of the ten headlines, two of them were related to Chen Ge's Haunted House!

The top five highlights were celebrity gossip, but from the sixth headline, things took a strange turn, like a clear rivulet turning into a swampy ravine.

"The world after death really exists? The real testimonies from several comatose patients who woke up on the same day!"

Then, the seventh highlight that followed it was: "The fainted world is a theme park in the real world!"

Clicking on it, Chen Ge realized that the name New Century Park had entered the top twenty most searched terms of the day, and the number was still climbing.

"Did Director Luo buy these clicks?" Normally, he would read the news, but to have his workplace appear on the news, that was quite uncomfortable for Chen Ge. "Hopefully, Director Luo will be able to handle this."

Chen Ge refreshed the page and was about to go and find a web store that could custom make a phone when he saw the fiftieth headline and the two familiar words that appeared on the end of it.

“Chen Ge?” The highlight had just two simple words, and it appeared conspicuous among other highlights that had long titles. “Why is my name there?”

Chen Ge was sure that he did not see wrongly. He really did see his name among the daily news headlines.

“What is going on?” Quickly clicking on the link, Chen Ge realized that his ‘glorious’ history of helping the police had all been dug up—the livestream where he encountered the murderer in the haunted house; the livestream where he was chased by mad people in the mental asylum; how he had helped the Jiujiang police capture criminals, solve cases, and unearth the truth behind the case that had been silent for five years during the period when his livestream was banned; and even the news of him receiving the good citizen award had been found by the internet.

Some internet users even created a Chen Ge Wikipedia page, but the more they dug, the more shocked they were. Just what kind of a man was this?

All the information that they had found already existed online, including the award announcement on Jiujiang Law Enforcement’s website, Chen Ge’s livestreams, and many ‘tearful complaints’ from the numerous Haunted House visitors. There were rumors flying everywhere, and many people thought that Chen Ge was not a simple Haunted House operator, that it was just a cover.

Some said that he was a Private Investigator, some believed that he was a psychologist, and some guessed that he was a mysticism researcher. There was so much online that Chen Ge felt a headache coming. The comatose patients who woke up pushed him to the center of attention. He could not keep a low profile even if he wanted to. After looking through the article for a while, Chen Ge sighed in relief. The users were just guessing. None of them had any proof, and more importantly, the children had forgotten about the events behind the door; they only had a brief recollection of them.

When their spirits returned to their bodies, their memories became blurry. The experience behind the door would be like a very long nightmare, and Chen Ge was the person who woke them up. They appreciated Chen Ge a lot, but they had no idea why that was.

“Even I was in the headlines. Should I make use of this chance to promote the haunted house?” Chen Ge had never been someone who hesitated for too long. He logged into his video account, and even without having released any videos, he saw the wild growth of his followers and fan. With every new refresh, the number would continue to climb. One should strike the iron while it was hot, so Chen Ge used his account to release a teaser about the new scenario.

Once he logged on, the forum instantly exploded. The activity was so high that it scared even Chen Ge.

“Do I have such a big following?”

Chen Ge replied to about ten private messages, but there were simply too many, so he had to log out. Putting the phone away, Chen Ge turned to the last reward—Zhang Ya’s bedtime story. The book had a black cover, and it felt special to the touch like it was weaved from hair. Just touching it caused his body to break out in cold sweat.

“I’ll take a look at it when I’m free.” Chen Ge placed the book in a drawer in the staff breakroom and lay in bed to take a small rest.

At 8 am, the employees had gathered at the door. Chen Ge's chat the previous night had been quite effective. "Mind your scenarios carefully. Que Changlin, come with me. I have a special mission for you."

Chen Ge called Que Changlin over. Since theme park had not opened, he sent him over to the workshop boss, Qian Guigen. "I need to custom-make fifty student mannequins, and I need to use them tomorrow. So, you'll be here helping me."

"Use them tomorrow? Do we have enough time?"

"It'll be fine." Chen Ge took out the design that he had come up with the previous night. "You can start with this, and I'll come to help you in the afternoon."

Then Chen Ge's phone rang; it was Director Luo telling him to get back to the theme park. After giving the down payment to Boss Qian, Chen Ge hurried back to New Century Park and realized that Director Luo and Uncle Xu were both standing at the resting hall.

"Xiao Chen, the promo for the School of the Afterlife has been completed based on your request. Come and see if there's anything that needs editing." Director Luo summoned Chen Ge.

"It's perfect, matched the world after death perfectly." Chen Ge was satisfied with the promo. "By the way, Director Luo, have you seen the news headlines today? Did you buy those placements? How come even I am among them?"

"If I bought the placements, I would have placed New Century Park at number one." Director Luo shook his head. "Yesterday, there were at least ten children who were reported by the news, but the actual number hasn't been reported. Many media outlets are watching this, and we are right at the center of it all. However, this also means that we must be careful. Be cautious of your words. Say what you need to, but keep the lid on anything that you shouldn't."

Chapter 913: I Like Stubborn Visitors

"Don't you worry, I am not the type of person who would cause trouble," Chen Ge promised Director Luo again.

"The media might come today, and some have been invited by me, but based on how things are going, there will be other reporters, so you'd better keep a low profile." Director Luo's initial plan was to borrow this incident to increase New Century Park's popularity. After all, all the awakened students had mentioned New Century Park, but he did not expect even the name Chen Ge to make the headlines. "Have Ol' Xu do anything that you need. You stay at the Haunted House and prepare for the opening of the new scenario tomorrow."

"Okay." Chen Ge gave his promise. He returned to his Haunted House and crawled into the staff breakroom. "It's not fun that the whole scenario only has the hardest mission. I should design some easier missions to go with it. The scenario for the School of the Afterlife is so big that I can be more creative."

With the inspiration brought by the black phone, Chen Ge learned from the way it dispensed mission and designed many hidden and side missions. These missions looked unrelated, but if one completed all the side missions, they would discover the whole truth about the School of the Afterlife.

New Century Park was a lot busier than normal that day. Chen Ge looked out the window and saw many reporters squatting outside the Haunted house. Director Luo did not stop them. As long as they purchased the ticket, no one would stop them. Director Luo and Chen Ge did not show up, and this placed Uncle Xu in a tough position. The reporters and the visitors who had seen the news hounded him with questions, and he was directly swallowed up by the crowd.

Chen Ge stayed at the breakroom until noon. He opened the phone after he dealt with some stuff. There were already four headlines related to New Century Park among the top ten latest news stories, and one of them was the Haunted House's newest promo. Probably due to the fact that the video had obvious advertising purposes, there were many internet users that questioned its authenticity. Many people suspected that this whole thing was just a promotional method, and a few users who thought they had seen the truth jumped out to slander this uncouth advertising method.

That was fairly common; being scolded meant that one was famous. Chen Ge did not mind it, but when he clicked open his own headline, he realized that something was wrong. There were many unknown accounts who were directly inflaming the topic. Some masqueraded as Chen Ge to purposely slander New Century Park, and some of them even casually dropped the discussion about the futuristic theme park.

"The futuristic theme park is on the move?" Chen Ge looked at the account that had used his name post these strange posts, and he was rather mad. Since he was young, he followed the philosophy of arguing with his mouth and not his fists, so he rarely got into fight. Logging into his own account, Chen Ge wanted to expose the fake account, but he realized that the whole discussion forum had been controlled by the other party. Obviously, a whole team was behind this.

From the previous night to that morning, everyone had been concerned about the relationship between the comatose patients and new Century Park. They were curious about the authenticity of the world after death. This topic climbed up to the boiling point, and as the popularity grew, many strange people popped up. Some were analyzing it rationally while others were clearly there to stir the pot. From morning until noon, the wind changed, and many common users who did not know the truth were led astray and believed that this was media hype set up by New Century park. There was no world after death, and the awakening of the students came from heartless reporters to grab attention.

More and more people pointed their fingers at New Century Park, saying how low they had gone to promote themselves. There were quite a number of big online streamers who gave their views. One of them was called Liu Gang. He directly dug out New Century Park's past, saying that this was a theme park that was facing bankruptcy, and at the same time, there was a new futuristic theme park opening in the same city. Before this strong competition, New Century Park was about to be crushed, so they came up with this crude and vulgar plan and planned to use the world after death as some kind of hook to draw in some visitors.

This man acted like he was the only one who had seen through the ploy of New Century Park and appealed to his fans to boycott this kind of heartless businessman. Then, as casually as he could, he

slipped in the uniqueness of Jiujiang's futuristic theme park and how it was a rare sixth generation theme park even on an international scale.

"Just how much money has this Liu Gang taken from the people of futuristic theme park?" Chen Ge held the phone, and his heart was feeling uneasy. Futuristic theme park had plenty of money. The weeks before it was open, it would not allow New Century Park to come and disturb them. They would not stop at anything. From the current situation, it was clear that there were advertising experts working for futuristic theme park. Since the popularity could not be suppressed anymore, they rode on this tide and planned to turn it around on New Century Park and use it to promote themselves.

"We have less than twenty-four hours until the opening of futuristic theme park. This period is too sensitive." Chen Ge was thinking about how to react when he got Director Luo's call.

"Chen Ge, the futuristic theme park also pushed forth a new horror themed scenario called Reincarnation. They modified their slogan and started to promote a world after death and started to push it on various platforms."

"They are so shameless, but that is fine. Our scenario is real, and no matter how hard they try, they will not achieve the same authenticity that I have."

"Authenticity?" Director Luo caught the keyword immediately.

"Don't mind that, Director Luo. In terms of the content and the scare factor of the Haunted House, we will steamroll over them."

"I feel much better hearing you say that." Director Luo was about to hang up.

"Wait a minute, Director Luo. I can guarantee you that the quality of our Haunted House will be better than theirs, but the visitors don't know that. Can we do a livestream when we open for business tomorrow?" Chen Ge gave his suggestion.

"What is your plan?"

"This morning, we will have a livestream at our Haunted House, and then this afternoon, I will go and challenge their Haunted House. Through the comparison, the public will see the truth." Chen Ge was quite angered by the lowly tactics of the other theme park.

"Are you that confident? I heard that their scenario has combined the scenes from several horror movies and is replicated using the latest technology. Can you handle it?" Director Luo was worried about Chen Ge.

"No problem. I can guarantee you, if they come to our Haunted House to play, they will be carried out and, if I go to their Haunted House, it will also be them who end up being carried out."

"Well, you don't need to go that far..." Director Luo gave it some thought before saying, "When they come to visit, do not harm them no matter what, but if you want to go to their place, do anything you want. After all, that's their business."

"You have a point." Chen Ge felt like he had learned a lot from Director Luo.

“And Liu Gang and the others who were directing the flow on the internet. If necessary, you should go and challenge them,” Director Luo added. “It’ll be perfect if they can be persuaded to come and visit our Haunted House.”

Chapter 914: All Practiced Actors

Director Luo’s words inspired Chen Ge. “I have a streamer’s account myself with about 400,000 followers. Should I start a livestream or upload a video later to prove that we’re not lying?”

“Do whatever you want. Just make sure you do not say anything too incendiary. It is best if they can come, but it’s fine if they can’t.”

“I don’t care much about the others, but I have to lure that streamer known as Liu Gang here somehow. That guy has released so many unsavory and untrue statement. I believe he has received quite a large sum of money from the futuristic theme park.” Chen Ge was not one to hold onto grudges, but this time, the man really had crossed the line.

“Kill the cock to scare the monkey—that is not a bad idea. The streamer himself will be a walking attention generator. If he can come, it will satisfy the curiosity of many internet users, but the problem is... how are you going to make him accept our invitation?” Director Luo still had something else to do. After a few more words, he hung up. Chen Ge reminisced on his conversation with Director Luo. After some contemplation, he logged into his video platform account and decided to go head on against that Liu Gang.

Opening the livestream function of the platform, the moment he switched on the camera, the online viewing number jumped up from zero to over five hundred almost instantly, and with every new refresh, the number of viewers doubled. Ever since his livestream was unbanned, this was the first time that he had used this function. All his previous livestreams had been to promote his Haunted House, and now that the goal had been achieved, livestreaming and making videos were only Chen Ge’s hobby.

“Long time no see, guys.” Chen Ge bit his lips, feeling like he just said that to someone earlier. After a brief greeting to the public, Chen Ge went straight to the point and named the streamer, Liu Gang. From the start, he laid the truth on the table. Liu Gang himself had not been to Jiujiang, so how did he know the situation at New Century Park? He was a man with no responsibility to his words. Those who followed Chen Ge’s accounts were people who liked his videos and visitors of his Haunted House, so there were many comments in support of Chen Ge. But soon, there came another voice in the chatroom. Some unknown accounts slandered Chen Ge by calling him out for being a heartless businessman, a scammer, and for employing the disgusting advertisement method.

“Those coming to Haunted House seek excitement. If my Haunted House is not scary, then you can say I have scammed my visitors, but everyone who has visited my place has left a good comment, so how can you claim that I have scammed my visitors?” Chen Ge fired back with truths, trying to flood out the falsehood that was released by these uncouth internet users. “Has my Haunted House failed to scare you, or is the price of forty per ticket too expensive? My Haunted House has been in Jiujiang for more than a decade, and I have only increased the price once. The word heart and care for the visitors is plainly written on my face, so how am I a heartless businessman?”

Be it from quality or price, Chen Ge's Haunted House was indeed a unique existence on the internet.

"Boss Chen, that Liu Gang also released a video on his account! He has stated a lot, but mainly, it's about how he has seen through your trick and has gone to great lengths to slander your name." Some users liked to watch the world burn and helped release news from both sides.

"There is something like that?" Chen Ge was livestreaming from his phone, so he flipped open the comic to call over Ol' Bai, who was teaching the newbies, and had him summon Zhang Jingjiu. Ten minutes later, Zhang Jingjiu, who had not removed his make up, entered the room. Chen Ge used his phone to watch Liu Gang's video. It was unclear where the man got the information about the Haunted House, and one of the pictures from Night of the Living Dead had been placed by Liu Gang on the front page. There was a sentence underneath it—'This is it? Now I understand why he only dared to raise his ticket price once in the past ten years.'

The platform was Liu Gang's territory. He had more than a hundred thousand fans there, and the few who supported Chen Ge were overwhelmed practically instantly. Everywhere, there was mockery and sarcasm, and more and more members of the public were fooled. There were many users who had been to Chen Ge's Haunted House, and there were many who supported Chen Ge, but the man had the power to ban people from commenting, so Chen Ge's supporters were powerless in his territory. Seeing that the man was being proactive, Chen Ge felt reactive. He whispered a few words to Zhang Jingjiu and then spoke to his own livestream.

"I have seen Liu Gang's video. The whole thing is a bunch of nonsense. He used a picture from ten years ago to lie to others, and miraculously, a bunch of idiots still fall for it. Truth speaks louder than words. The visitors who have come to my Haunted House before know the quality of my Haunted House.

"Here, I wish to ask to Liu Gang a question, since you said my Haunted House is trash and not scary, would you dare accept my invitation to come visit?"

Chen Ge knew the man probably still would not come, so he lowered the difficulty.

"Tomorrow, my new scenario will open to the public. I will allow you to bring ten people with you to visit it together! If ten of you are still afraid, that's fine. I will even allow you to livestream the whole process and allow you to interact with your fans throughout. If you still don't feel relaxed enough, how about we make the bet bigger? After eleven of you have visited my Haunted House, as long as one of you can say honestly that my Haunted House is not scary, I will immediately openly apologize to you on my livestream."

Chen Ge's words stunned all the users in his chatroom. Even if they were afraid, surely they could say that they were not afraid. Furthermore, the more people who visited the Haunted House, the less scary it would be. Allowing eleven people to enter at the same time and giving him the chance to interact with his fans on livestream... it looked like Chen Ge was bound to lose.

Those kind users persuaded Chen Ge not to do anything so rash, but those who had challenged the Haunted House before all revealed sneaky smiles. For those who jumped directly to a high difficulty scenario without trying out a low quality ones first were simply seeking death.

"You heard what I said. Liu Gang, don't make me look down on you, and don't disappoint the many fans that you have."

When Chen Ge said those things on his livestream, there was a user called Wine for Moonlight in Liu Gang's comment area who started a thread with many crazy comments that slandered Chen Ge's Haunted House. He claimed that he had visited the Haunted House before, that it was not scary, that it was all a lie, and that he supported Liu Gang to visit the place fully. Seeing that, Chen Ge was not mad at all because that Wine for Moonlight was Zhang Jingjiu. This post was lighting fire under Liu Gang's bottom, forcing him to accept the invitation.

The thread initially did not have much popularity, but soon, another big streamer and blogger appeared in that thread, and that person was the Haunted House reviewer who had reviewed Chen Ge's Haunted House before—Ye Xiaoxin.

When the Third Sick Hall first opened, she had visited and almost fainted, but she was now good friends with Chen Ge. She not only shared this thread but had her followers all go to push it up and leave comments for Liu Gang. They all campaigned for Liu Gang to take a break and visit Chen Ge's Haunted House, using a professional angle to analyze how unscary Chen Ge's Haunted House was. With the help from big name like Ye Xiaoxin, Zhang Jingjiu's thread soon became the top thread in Liu Gang's comment area. As long as someone saw his video, they would see the thread.

"This girl sure is wicked, but I quite like it." Chen Ge's lips curled up into a smile. He realized that more and more people were leaving comments in the thread, and most of them were his allies. They said things like Liu Gang was not a man. If he did not take the challenge, they would unfollow him and so on.

All the comments stated that Chen Ge's Haunted House was not scary. The manager of the comment area did not know who to ban, and honestly, they too were quite confused.

After an hour, Liu Gang finally released a second video. He had a fan in his hand and showed the tickets that he had bought to the camera. "If certain people are too foolish to see the truth, then I will go and help them understand the level that they are at."

Then he handsomely opened the fan, which had on it—"Such buffoonery!"

"We'll see you tomorrow at 9 am. Good night."

The video was short, and there was cheer on Liu Gang's side. Everyone praised Brother Gang for his manliness, and that included Ye Xiaoxin and Zhang Jingjiu and the many other allies of Chen Ge. Seeing that Liu Gang had purchased the ticket, Chen Ge also laughed gaily.

"Is it too simple for eleven people to find thirteen paintings? Should I add some other missions?"

Chapter 915: Brother Gang, Real Man! [2 in 1]

Chen Ge directly challenged Liu Gang through his livestream, and Liu Gang uploaded a video in response to Chen Ge. The big names that belonged to two different platforms crossed swords on the internet, and that naturally attracted the attention of many internet users. Some of the rowdier bunch had already started a bet to see whether Liu Gang would be able to clear Chen Ge's Haunted House successfully. The winds on the news headlines were blowing every each way. The people behind the futuristic theme park and Director Luo from New Century Park only pushed the waves higher because both parties believed

that they already had victory in their hands, and they tried their best to promote this as much as they could.

The platforms that they were on also reacted swiftly. Liu Gang's platform specially opened a topic for Liu Gang while the short video platform that Chen Ge was on pushed his livestream to the front page. While Liu Gang and Chen Ge were shooting daggers at each other, there were calm and collected internet users who had seen through the smoke and mirrors. This challenge regarding a Haunted House on the surface looked like a conflict between Chen Ge and Liu Gang, but actually, it was a competition between New Century Park and the futuristic theme park. Jiujiang was not a big state, and it was a quickly developing city. While it had a lot of potential, with its current population, it was hard for it to cultivate two large theme parks. Therefore, between New Century Park and the futuristic theme park, one would have to be the sacrifice.

Based on the current situation, the futuristic theme park had a bigger chance of winning. All of its presale tickets had been sold out, but in terms of pure popularity and word of mouth, New Century Park was more on people's lips compared to the futuristic theme park. Other than that, Chen Ge, the operator of the haunted house, was an individual who would create topics of interest whenever he went, so it was very hard to say who would end up as the final victor.

There was chaos online as the fans of both parties went back and forth. Everyone had their own pride to maintain, and neither party was willing to back down. Therefore, everyone sat waiting to see the result the following day. Chen Ge maintained his livestream until the afternoon. When he started his livestream, there had been 400,000 fans, and when he logged off the stream, the number of fan had already jumped up to 650,000 people. This could almost be considered a miracle.

Turning off the camera on his phone, Chen Ge picked up the tea cup on the table next to him to quench his thirst. "I said too much. Now, my throat is parched. It is much easier to communicate with ghosts and Specters."

Pulling open the curtains, Chen Ge stretched his limbs and body. "The new scenario still needs a bunch of mannequins. I wonder how Qu Changlin is doing. How many mannequins has he finished?"

Chen Ge ran out of the Haunted House. Once he saw himself, he heard the cheer from the visitors outside. Many people were staring at his face, which could not be called handsome.

"Boss Chen, we have seen your livestream! You're awesome! Tomorrow, you have to scare that b*stard until he wets his pants!"

"That Liu Gang truly is seeking death. That is the only reason I can think of to explain why he is so desperate to see the world after death."

"Brother Chen! We're on your side!"

The visitors who lined up outside the Haunted House were mostly old customers of the place, and they included the strategy team from Jiujiang Medical University. Initially, coming to the Haunted House was just a hobby and a way to relax for them. Yet, in the end, the bunch of juniors had been tripped there again and again, and later, the seniors did not end up with a better result. Those passionate and inspired youngsters followed the order that came from above and came to challenge the Haunted House almost

daily. This had become basically an obsession for them. The only thing left was to drag their professors and teachers along with them.

Strangely, the headmaster of the medical university still had nightmares every few days. He kept dreaming about his former teacher coming into his dreams to lecture him. However, the headmaster could not remember the details of the lecture after he woke up—all he could remember in his hazy memory was the term Haunted House at the New Century Park. The headmaster was not someone who believed in ghosts, but after having the same nightmare again and again, no matter who it was, their conviction would be shaken. Therefore, even the headmaster himself wished that they would clear the Haunted House as soon as possible. A bunch of medical students who would go into the field to face the real criminals of the world in the future. How could they fail to handle even a simple Haunted House?

“Tomorrow, the Haunted House will be opening a new scenario for visitation. Be sure to come again tomorrow to join in the fun.” Chen Ge smiled as he greeted these familiar faces and then waded through the crowd. Chen Ge arrived at the mannequin workshop at around 4 pm. Qu Changlin did not disappoint him. This actor who had been isolated at Xin Hai Haunted House possessed an incredible talent for mannequin production. Mannequins should be all the same, but the ones made by Qu Changlin were extremely scary. It was as if one could see the emotions through the seemingly alive eyes inside the mannequin’s heads.

“All I wanted to do was make a company that consoles the lonely hearts of the world, but it is just my luck that I ran into the both of you.” Qian Guigen looked at the eerie-looking mannequin heads and limbs that filled up his workshop and shook his head with a sigh.

“Don’t listen to the rambling of the boss. Changlin, you have done a splendid job.” There were a lot of things to do, so Chen Ge went to provide help. When he used his Dollmaker’s Talent to work with the mannequins, Qu Changlin, who stood at the side watching, was shocked. The skill was godlike, and he forgot to even catch his breath. He felt like Chen Ge was not making mannequins for a Haunted House but was creating a piece of art of the human body.

“Mannequins also have souls. Only by providing them with souls will the visitors be able to feel their authenticity.” The theme park closed for business at 6 pm, but none of the employees at the Haunted House left. Zhang Jingjiu and Scissors drove the van provided by the theme park and ferried the first batch of mannequins back to the Haunted House. Xu Wan and Gu Feiyu stayed behind to help wherever they could. Every part of the theme park was filled with busy figures. All the personnel were preparing for the battle to come.

At around 8 pm, after everything had generally settled down, the workers got off work one after another. At the same time, Chen Ge received a phone call from Director Luo. “Everything is ready. Tomorrow morning, the designer of the Reincarnation scenario for the futuristic theme park will come to visit your Haunted House, and then in the afternoon, you will go to their theme park to visit their scenario. The whole process will be livestreamed, but...” Director Luo paused for a moment. “The people from the futuristic theme park gave their promise a bit too easily. There must be something malicious about this. You have to be careful when you are there tomorrow.”

“Director Luo, you know that I am a very careful person.” After hanging up, Chen Ge focused back on his work. The employees from the Haunted House all came to help, and they worked until 11 pm.

“You guys should go home and have a good sleep. Leave the rest to me.” Chen Ge took out his phone and glanced at the time.

“Boss, are you sure you can handle it alone?”

“Boss, I normally sleep at two or three. For me, the night life has just begun. I am not in a hurry to leave.”

“Boss, why don’t you take some rest as well?”

Hearing all that and seeing that none of his employees were quick to abandon him, Chen Ge’s heart was warmed. “Listen to me—go home now. If you don’t listen to my order, I will dock your pay.”

After every employee left, Chen Ge sent each of them a bonus and then continued with his work. At 2 am, all the mannequins were done, and Chen Ge loaded them onto the van. At the Haunted House, with the aid of the ghost employees, the work was much more efficient. They only took half an hour to place all the mannequins at the locations that had previously been decided.

“The fake and the real, the real and the fake. The ghost that you see is only a mannequin, and the thing that you believe is just a mannequin is a real ghost that has been following behind you.” Chen Ge made a few more small props to fill up the new scenario. He only returned to the staff breakroom to rest at 4 am. “Every morning, the sun will rise just the same, but the people who see the sun rising will be different.”

Chen Ge hugged Xiaoxiao and the white cat in his embrace. He leaned against the bed post and slowly fell asleep. After who knew how long, Chen Ge, who was half asleep, was woken up by the ringtone coming from his phone. When he saw the time on his phone, he instantly jolted out of his sleepiness.

Putting the white cat down, Chen Ge rushed to the toilet to take a quick cold shower and changed into a new set of clothes. He looked at himself in the mirror and showed the most quintessential and kind smile, which was required in the service business.

“All those months of hard work have been for today.”

Wiping away the water vapor from the surface of the mirror, Chen Ge turned to head outside. Putting aside the thick curtain, the sun shone on his face. Chen Ge pulled open the gate of the Haunted House with a smile on his face. The few employees of his Haunted House had already arrived.

“Today, we will have more visitors than usual. We have to be more careful. Come, I will help you guys with your make-up.”

Before it was even 8 am, all the employees at the New Century Park had started to get busy. Chen Ge’s Haunted House’s entrance had two new working stations—one was to check the hand bands, and the other had a use that Director Luo had not informed Chen Ge of. However, there were six medical boxes that could be seen sitting neatly under the station.

At 8.15 am, all the workers assumed their position, and the theme park broadcasted the music all over the place. At 8.30 am, the cars from the media outlets started to arrive at the entrance of the park. At 8.40 am, a large number of visitors had filled up the eastern and western gates of the theme park. There were many who were not locals of Jiujiang. They had purposely come from outside to take part in this

momentous day. Seeing this, all the workers inside the theme park had their hearts drop in relief. They had all worried that no one would choose New Century Park during this holiday season.

At 8.45 am, a few workers carried several video cameras into theme park, and it was then that Director Luo made a phone call to Chen Ge.

“Director Luo, do you need me?”

“Go and look at Liu Gang’s front page. Their platform has made a theme park counter app. It can be used to calculate and monitor the number of visitors taken in by a theme park in real time. This should be the idea of the futuristic theme park; they want to make a joke out of us.”

Director Luo’s voice was even. He was like a rock in the middle of the sea—no matter how strong the wind, how high the waves, he would not be affected. It was because of Director Luo’s steadfast support that New Century Park had been able to survive more than a decade.

“It is too early to tell who will be the laughingstock today.” Looking at the visitors who had gathered, Chen Ge had a confidence boost.

“It is not wise to underestimate the futuristic theme park.” Director Luo sent a few pictures to Chen Ge’s phone. The carpark for the futuristic theme park was filled with cars, and the four entrances that they had were also filled with visitors. “Based on the current situation, the futuristic theme park will be able to accept at least 19,000 visitors today. That number has only been achieved by our theme park once in our years of business, and that was during our first year. Other than that, I am worried about another thing.”

“What is it?”

“Managing a theme park is a long and lengthy business. The reason so many people came to our theme park today is because I have made a little hook on our promotional video. Our theme park has been in business in Jiujiang for a decade already. Many people have precious memories here, and I suppose you could say that I have gone with the theme of nostalgia. Look, the visitors who have come to line up so early in the morning, most of them purely want to preserve this memory.” Director Luo’s voice had a subtle change to it. “I truly appreciate that they have come to support us at this moment, but after taking them out of the equation, we have actually lost half of the battle at the beginning. Our popularity on the internet is very high, but there are not many who would purposely come to Jiujiang to visit us.”

“It will be fine. Once our reputation has been made and stabilized, in the future, more and more people will come to visit us. In terms of overall services, we are indeed no competition for the futuristic theme park, but they are too ambitious. They have to be good at everything, so we will use that against them and destroy them little by little.”

Chen Ge knew that was going to be very difficult, but that was the only choice. He also went to download the theme park counter app. New Century Park and futuristic theme park were featured on the front page, and according to the number of the online presale tickets, the futuristic theme park had twice the number of New Century Park.

“The situation does not bode well for us at least on the surface, but I will things will change if we all work hard together.”

At 8.50 am, the workers started to welcome the visitors who had been waiting outside the gates. At 9 am, both New Century Park and the futuristic theme park opened for business at the same time!

On the counter app, the number of ticket sales started to rocket. The numbers shot up at about the same time, and there was no clear winner or loser.

“Return to your scenarios! Prepare for business!”

The first bunch that charged into the New Century Park were the media reporters who were after the newsworthiness, and following them were the old customers of Chen Ge’s Haunted House. Then, there were many new visitors who were there out of curiosity, and lastly, there were the normal visitors.

The theme park had been open for three minutes, and a long queue had already formed outside Chen Ge’s Haunted House. The resting hall was also filled with people. The new screens that were installed outside the Haunted House were cycling through the various promotional ads for the different scenarios. Uncle Xu and two other workers were responsible for scanning the tickets. Meanwhile, Chen Ge stood at the entrance of the Haunted House as if waiting for something.

At around 9.20 am, there was a small commotion at the entrance of the New Century Park. After a short and temporary argument, a group of people made a beeline toward Chen Ge’s Haunted House. Some of them were carrying cameras, and others were capturing videos on their phones directly—they pulled a lot of attention.

There were two of them who were leading. One of them was carrying a fan and had a big face. Without the filter of the camera lens, his skin appeared dark. The man appeared to see himself as some kind of cultured individual. Seeing the people that bustled about, a frown started to crease on his head. The other group leader had an ID from the futuristic theme park around his neck. He wore thin-rimmed glasses. He had light brow and very fair skin like he had not been exposed to the sun for a very long time.

With the aid of his Yin Yang Vision, Chen Ge could see them from a far. The one with the fan and big face was Liu Gang, and the other had to be the designer employed by the futuristic theme park. His name was written on the ID badge, and he was called Bai Buhui.

“The people of futuristic theme park came with Liu Gang. Looks like my previous guess was correct after all.” Chen Ge was indeed waiting for them. The visitors were obediently queuing up, but a few of them did not follow the rules and cut to the front of the line immediately.

“Go back there and line up! Didn’t your parents teach you how to respect other people before?” It was about the turn for the students from Jiujiang Medical University. When they realized that someone had cut in line, they yelled to stop them immediately.

“We are not here to visit. Yesterday, the boss of this Haunted House made the taunt so carelessly online, thinking that I would not dare answer his challenge. I cannot wait to see the expression on his face now that I am here.” Liu Gang flapped open the fan. He had a polite tone to his words, but still, he did not go and line up.

“You really think the boss is afraid of you? You think he was just bluffing? Have you come to the right place?” The student from the university thought that he had misheard. He was about to ask for more when Chen Ge walked over.

“Guys, there is no need to argue with them.” Chen Ge had a face full of smiles as he pointed at Liu Gang. “They are here to challenge the four-star scenario.”

“Challenge the new scenario?” The students from the medical university quickly retreated away from them. “Then, we haven’t said anything. Please go ahead!”

“Such a fake performance.” Liu Gang half lifted his head to look at Chen Ge. “You are much more presentable in person. I can’t believe you are the same person who was barking like a crazy on the internet yesterday.”

“Since you are here, you are one of my visitors. I am always kind to my customer.” Chen Ge could not wait any longer. “Please come with me, I will bring you to the new scenario.”

“Wait a moment.” Liu Gang ignored the halt that he had created by standing there. More than ten people squeezed through the door. He had the man who carried the camera aim it at him. “You can start now.”

He took out his phone to open the platform that he was on. After ensuring that there were no issues, he smiled at the camera.

“Good morning, my dear Gang fans. I am Liu Gang. I am currently at the entrance of that Haunted House, and this person next to me is the boss who sent me a challenge yesterday. Now, I will livestream the whole process of my visit as I challenge his latest Haunted House scenario!” Liu Gang was good at setting the atmosphere. He flapped the fan. “Without further ado, please prepare your popcorn and watch me show you the truth today!”

As he spoke, many fans showered him with donations and money. The whole chat was filled with praise for their Brother Gang, their manly Brother Gang, the manliest person there ever was.

Chapter 916: Have a Good Time

The connection was stable. Liu Gang was satisfied with the livestream effect. He closed the fan and glanced at Chen Ge. “Don’t panic. We promised to livestream the whole process yesterday.”

“Is the cameraman part of the ten members who will be following you?” Chen Ge noticed that the cameraman was very muscular and looked quite fierce.

“Of course, I am not one to bend the rules. If I am to win, I will win fair and square.” Liu Gang and the person from the futuristic theme park walked at the front. Next to them were the cameraman and someone who seemed to be Liu Gang’s assistant. He carried a phone and had been watching Liu Gang’s streaming platform. Other than those four, there were seven other people in Liu Gang’s team. It was hard to tell from their appearance, but they should come from different backgrounds. Who knew how Liu Gang had gathered them?

“Uncle Xu, give the eleven of them tickets to the School of the Afterlife.” When Uncle Xu gave the tickets, Chen Ge yelled at the queuing visitors, “The new scenario is very big. The more visitors, the less scary it’ll be. Are there any visitors who have challenged three-star scenario wish to challenge it?”

When the strategy team at the resting hall heard this, their interest was rather piqued. The seniors from the medical university discussed among themselves and finally decided to have two new students join them. Those new students often used Boss Chen’s Haunted House to joke about at school. This would be the perfect chance to teach them a lesson.

“Can you move it faster? We have booked an afternoon plane ticket. We need to wrap up here and rush back home,” the man who appeared to be Liu Gang’s assistant urged.

“This is the first time the new scenario has been open. Naturally, there will be more visitors to handle. If you really can’t wait, you can go in first.” Chen Ge had Uncle Xu handle the second batch of visitors while he led Liu Gang and Bai Buhui into the Haunted House. Pulling back the thick black curtain, it was as if they had entered a different world. “Please sign these disclaimers and then scan the code to obtain your triangulation band.”

Chen Ge handed the disclaimers to each of them and enjoyed their scornful looks. After confirming that everyone had signed, Chen Ge placed the documents in the cupboard and locked it with a big padlock.

Among the crowd, a short fella started to complain impatiently. “Can you please move faster? Why waste time on nonsense like this? I’ve been to so many Haunted Houses, and yours is the draggiest.”

Chen Ge smiled, completely unaffected. “The scenario that you’re going to visit is called School of the Afterlife. It is filled with ghost stories related to schools and is hidden with endless ghosts. Even though there has been some conflict between us, as a responsible operator, I have to tell you that this new scenario is very dangerous, and if you’re not careful, you might not be able to return.”

“Yes. Yes. Of course.” The shorty groaned.

Liu Gang livestreamed the whole process, so Chen Ge had to go through the motions clearly and precisely. It would not take long for the viewing users to realize how hardworking and honest Chen Ge was and develop a good impression of this Haunted House owner.

“Okay, you have come to accept my challenge, so I will not purposely make this difficult for you. The new scenario consists of five main quests and many side quests. As long as you can complete one of the main quests, I will admit defeat.” Chen Ge looked like a fair and honest person. “Since you are livestreaming the whole process, I will not purposely scam you. Of the five quests, there are easier quests, and some are harder. They are all inside this wooden box. Draw one yourself.”

Chen Ge took out the box that he had made the previous night from the counter and placed a taped ballpoint pen inside the box. He raised the box and wrote the following on the surface.

“Quest 1: Find thirteen oil paintings in the School of the Afterlife and place all of them in the art club’s painting room. Time limit: one hour.

“Quest 2: Discover the secret of the revived soul, locate the phone of the missing Lin Sisi, and help him complete his wish. Time limit: one hour.

“Quest 3: The headmaster of the School of the Afterlife has always been a mystery. His office is hidden at the deepest despair of the school. Time limit: one hour.

“Quest 4: Explore the seven biggest mysteries of the school! Replication of the classic! The past of the seven Specters!

“Quest 5: Blood fog floods the corridors—the inverted mirror is the only exit.”

Just from wording, the first quest seemed the simple. There was no puzzle solving or taking risks—one only needed to search. The other quests were either related to ghosts or had very vague descriptions.

“There are paper notes with numbers inside the box. The number will decide which quest you will take.” Chen Ge then presented the box to Liu Gang. The few looked at each other; the drawing of the mission would directly affect the difficulty of the scenario.

“I’ll do it.” Liu Gang reached into the box and pulled out a note. Scribbled on it was the number one.

“Quest one!” Liu Gang sighed in relief as he stole a look at Chen Ge. He noticed that Chen Ge’s brows were slightly creased. “If not due to the time limit, it would have been nice to complete all the quests. This is such a shame.”

“You drew the quest yourself. That was your choice,” Chen Ge said expressionlessly with a slight tone of regret. In reality, he did not mind the result. The box was full of white paper. No matter which Liu Gang drew, Chen Ge had told the pen spirit to write down one on it. He was worried that other visitors might join the group, so he did not write one on all the notes but used a method like this.

“Now, can we start the visit?”

“There’s a third thing.” Chen Ge placed the box back on the counter and led everyone to the Specter’s Changing Room. “Normally, the visitors are required to change to explore the new scenario, but since this is your first time here, I’m not going to enforce it. However, take your student ID. Remember, no matter what, do not lose it. Only by having your ID will you not get lost.”

After everyone got their IDs, footsteps came from the front counter. Another five visitors entered. Two of them were students from Jiujiang Medical University, and the other three stood at the back to ensure that they would not be caught on the cameras. The five signed the contract and drew the quest. They ‘luckily’ got the fifth quest.

“Come here.” When everyone was ready, Chen Ge led them underground. Yellowed paper fluttered on the ground, and the visitors’ screams echoed in their ears.

“Follow me.” Chen Ge led the sixteen visitors underground and stopped between Mu Yang High School and the underground morgue.

“This is the School of the Afterlife?” Liu Gang silently wiped away the sweat from his forehead.

“That is the two-star scenario, Mu Yang High School. The scenario that you’re going to visit is here.” Chen Ge pushed open the rusted gates, and screams floated out from within. Chilly wind crawled into their clothes, and a feeling of being observed appeared.

Liu Gang retreated subconsciously. His body told him to run. If not for the livestream, he would have escaped already.

“The time limit for the first quest is one hour, but if you wish to leave earlier, just call for help. The time starts now. Enjoy.” From beginning to end, Chen Ge maintained a smile, so no one could find any fault with him.

Bang!

The gates of the School of the Afterlife closed heavily. The chains were tied, and the only exit was sealed. Walking out from the underground, Chen Ge entered the main control room. He switched on Black Friday and Wedding Dress, and the familiar rhythm rang in his ears.

Chapter 917: We Are a Team

“Did you notice that the background music has changed?” Bai Buhui looked at the rowdy visitors. This was the first time that he had spoken, and his voice was cold and detached like he did not care about anything or anyone.

“This means that the game has started, right? We have limited time. Let’s not waste time at the entrance anymore and go find those oil paintings.” The anxious shorty walked ahead. There was only curiosity in his eyes but no fear.

“Buhui, don’t mind him. This buddy of mine is a straight shooter.” Liu Gang stood in the middle of the group. The many visitors gave him a sense of security. “You can call him Little Ghost. The tall, thin one next to him is called Big Ghost, and the girl in short dress is Sister Ghost. The trio are outdoor livestream experts on our platform. It’s an everyday thing for them to spend a night at graves and morgues.”

“Outdoor livestream?” Bai Buhui glanced at the shorty and nodded. “I seem to have scrolled through their livestream when I was bored. Yes, it was very boring. What about the rest?”

“All the friends that I have with me are very special.” Liu Gang made a simple introduction to Bai Buhui.

“The cameraman is nicknamed Muscle. He used to be a cameraman for a survival series. He’s not afraid of tigers or bears, much less a small Haunted House.

“The one with the phone is my assistant. Even though he’s not that brave, he’s my closest friend—we’re always together.

“The bald one is called Liu Guangming. He is the most courageous one among our company’s security group, and the man is damn lucky. He has brushed past death several times. The people around him were all injured, but he was fine.

“The three students are all supernatural aficionados. They might look young, but they have participated in several courage trials video competitions. They are popular online and know ghost stories about school like the back of their hand. There’s basically nothing that can scare them.”

Liu Gang introduced his team until his brows went flying, but the more Bai Buhui listened, the deeper his frown. In the end, before Liu Gang named the three students, he cut him off. "You only brought the few of them for a livestream challenge?"

"Is that not enough? They are all professionals." Liu Gang was proud. He kept the smile on his face and ensured that he looked confident before the camera.

"Professionals? These people?" Bai Buhui's lips twitched. He wished to tell them about when people from the futuristic theme park visited Chen Ge's Haunted House. Some of them were still lying at the hospital. But considering the whole process was livestreamed and mindful of Liu Gang's face, Bai Buhui did not say it directly but uttered in a roundabout way, "Just ignore the quest. His haunted house is quite boring. We will just walk around, and the one hour will soon be over."

Bai Buhui was the representative from the futuristic theme park. The reason they had chosen to accept Chen Ge's challenge was because Chen Ge had pushed them too far. As long as one of them could function normally at the end of the tour, and even if that person lied, saying that the Haunted House was not scary, they would have won. After all, lying was such people's second nature; how could Chen Ge control what they said?

Challenging the scenario with eleven people at the same time, the futuristic theme park thought that there was no chance of losing.

"Buddy, are you kidding? We're here to undermine his business. If we do not complete the quest, the internet users will riot." Shorty looked down on Bai Buhui. He felt that the man had a less than manly way of speaking.

"You have no idea..."

"Little Ghost is right. If we don't complete the quest, why are we even here?" The woman in short dress interrupted Bai Buhui. She had a good figure and dressed lightly. She kept consciously and subconsciously walking to stand before the camera, like she was careless about being seen by Liu Gang's viewers.

Little Ghost had an anxious personality, Sister Ghost liked to show off, and Big Ghost did not like to speak, keeping quiet. Bai Buhui had his own plan, but no one was listening to him, so he had to turn to Liu Gang for help. "Liu Gang, we have to be steady. No matter what, we have to survive this one hour as safe as we can."

"Okay, we'll listen to you." Liu Gang's attention was now on the number of viewers. The number of online viewers was close to a hundred thousand—his heart was blossoming with flowers. At his level, it was hard to push for an increase in followers, but this challenge had brought him hope. The endless chant of "Brother Gang is a real man" refreshed the chatroom. He really felt like he was not afraid of anything, and nothing could scare him.

"We're here to challenge, so it's necessary that we do the quest, but we can't be too rash lest we're led away by the boss." The three students from the back of the group walked over. The leader was about 1.8 meters tall and wore black-rimmed glasses. "Let me introduce myself. My name is Lan Dong. I'm a cryptology enthusiastic, and I love to study..."

“No one asked for your input, and I do not wish to know.” Bai Buhui was in a bad mood. Looking at his teammates, he felt angry. “I shouldn’t have trusted Liu Gang. I should have brought my own team. No, the entire team should be people from our theme park!”

“Fine, then I shan’t waste time and explain the plan in simple ways.” Lan Dong changed his tone. “We need to find these thirteen oil paintings in one hour. This scenario is gigantic. If we wish to complete the quest, we’d better split up.”

“No!” Bai Buhui almost cursed. “The bigger our group, the safer it is. We mustn’t split up; we have to stay together!”

“I just gave a suggestion. There’s no need for such a big response.” Lan Dong felt insulted and gave Liu Gang a side-eye. “Brother Gang, your friend seems to know everything, doesn’t he?”

Before the exploration began, Liu Gang’s team was already arguing. They did not give off a reliable feeling. The five visitors who walked at the back came over after a long discussion.

“We heard that this Haunted House is very scary. Can we join you? There are five of us,” the senior from Jiujiang Medical University said softly. He was also a student like Lan Dong, and the youths could communicate easier among themselves.

“Of course, there is no problem. But honestly, you’re just scaring yourself. This Haunted House...”

Liu Gang acted like a gentleman before the camera, but before he could finish, Bai Buhui cut him off again. “No, we need to lose them!”

“Didn’t you say, the more the better?”

“There might be Haunted House workers mixed among them. It’s not safe to go with them.” Bai Buhui was one of the designers from the futuristic theme park. With the information from his colleagues, he knew about the tricks at Chen Ge’s Haunted House.

“There’s no need to have such attitude even if you don’t want to bring us.” One of the middle-aged men grabbed the hand of the woman next to him. “Yue, let’s go. Do they think we want to follow them?”

The middle-aged man led his girlfriend away. As unwilling as the two medical students were, they did not stay with Liu Gang but left with the middle-aged man. Of the five, now only one remained. The man wore a thick jacket and long pants even in the summer. He had his hands in his pockets. He did not follow anyone and walked away on his own.

“Buhui, relax. So what if they are the worker here?” Liu Gang acted carefree before the camera, but there was dissatisfaction toward Bai Buhui in his tone. After saying that, he turned to the camera. “This buddy of mine is easily scared, and this is an online livestream, so he’s nervous. Please forgive him, everyone.”

Chapter 918: Starting

“Stop wasting time, we’ll start the exploration now. There are only a few ways a Haunted House can scare its visitors. As long as you trust that nothing is real, nothing can scare you. When you see the workers, you won’t feel scared but think they’re acting funny.”

Liu Gang ignored Bai Buhui and moved ahead. The team of eleven officially entered the School of the Afterlife. Semi-present crying came from around the corner, and the whispering of children floated on the wind. This used to be a heaven, but now it was only an empty corridor. The half-open wooden doors creaked, and there were small prints left on the wall. They carved down the good memories that the students had once had.

“This feels so real. Last year, we entered the biggest abandoned school in Xin Hai for a courage contest, and this place gives off the same feeling.” Lan Dong took out his phone to snap some pictures. “The place doesn’t look like it’s purposely made old; it’s as if the scenario is designed like this. Look at the dust in the windowsill and the burn marks on the wall.”

His fingers peeled on the wall, and the dusty white paint hide a layer of burnt cement. “To create this effect, one has to burn the wall once before painting on a new layer. The boss has considered even details like that?”

There were two students next to Lan Dong. One was called Ah Li, slightly overweight. He looked honest. The other was a girl, very quiet and did not like to speak.

“Perhaps the boss moved some burnt walls from outside underground and redesigned them.” Liu Gang did not wish for his audience to see any good things about this Haunted House, so he tried to lighten the mood to decrease the sense of fear. “By the way, we have been in here for five minutes already, but we haven’t seen even an actor. The workers here are so unprofessional.”

“Perhaps they’re waiting for a chance.” The male assistant laughed in relief. He was about to walk forward when Big Ghost and Small Ghost, who led the way, suddenly stopped.

“Did you hear that weird noise?” Big Ghost, who had been silent thus far, asked. He looked left and right before turning to look behind them. “It seems to come from behind.”

“What noise? How come I didn’t hear anything?”

“It sounds like a faucet hasn’t been tightened, and water is dripping.” Big Ghost took several steps back and pushed open the door next to Liu Gang. It looked like a normal toilet, and there were five cubicles inside.

“Be careful. The workers might be hiding inside a cubicle.” The spine-tingling background music crawled into their ears, and Big Ghost and Small Ghost entered the toilet while the rest stood at the door.

“What are you so afraid of? There are so many of us. Watch me pull the actor out for everyone to see.” Small Ghost burst into the room. He noticed that the camera was on him, and he acted proudly. He pushed the first cubicle open with much ceremony. There was nothing inside the small space, so he continued to open all the other cubicles before stopping at the fifth cubicle.

“Wasted so much energy to build an abandoned toilet. There must be a scare point here. The water sound came from the toilet. Something must be wrong with this last cubicle.” Big Ghost and Small Ghost stood at both sides of the door and pushed the door open.

The door slammed into the wall. There was no one hiding in the last cubicle, but there was a broken diary.

“Looks like we scared ourselves for no reason.”

The others entered the toilet while Big Ghost and Small Ghost picked up the book from the ground. It had some sentences written on it.

“Do not enter the dripping toilet alone. The four corners might be hiding scary spirits.

“Do not walk with your head lowered. Cold hands will press down on your head.

“Do not stay too long in the room with all the posters. They can’t get out, so they will make you stay.

“Do not bite your fingers. Your fingernails will be taken away.

“Do not stare at shattered mirrors, or you might see a different you in it.

“Do not pick up and read this diary. You have read his past and will become the next him.”

Small Ghost closed the tattered diary and scoffed. “If I trusted these things, I wouldn’t have gone to sleep at a graveyard. Boring...”

He tossed the diary into the dirty toilet, and when the diary touched the water, the door of the first cubicle suddenly slammed shut. With a shiver, Small Ghost glared at the other people in the room.

“Who shut the door? Are you mad?”

“No one touched it.” Bai Buhui stood at the back of the group. After some hesitation, his palm fell on the door of the first cubicle, and the camera turned to him. Pushing it open, there was still nothing inside the first cubicle.

“The axle doesn’t have any mechanism installed on it. Why would it close then? Was it the wind?”

“Something’s wrong!” The male assistant suddenly screamed, and that gave Liu Gang a jolt.

“Don’t do that. What did you discover?”

“Perhaps I saw wrongly.” The male assistant forced a smile. He silently whispered into Liu Gang’s ear, “I have been watching your livestream. Earlier, the camera was on Bai Buhui. When he opened the door, there seemed to be a child on the image, and he was squatting inside the first cubicle.”

“If you weren’t mistaken, the chatroom would have exploded.” Liu Gang glanced at the chatroom. It was normal, so it was clear that the assistant was mistaken. “I knew I shouldn’t have brought you. Don’t scare yourself. We’re livestreaming. If you continue to do this, we’ll lose face.”

After Liu Gang had the camera on him, he put his calm demeanor back on. “Alright, there is nothing to be seen inside this toilet. Let’s go looking for the oil paintings and try to finish the quest in less than half an hour.”

“Ok.” Bai Buhui felt that something was wrong, but he could not pinpoint it. The group walked out of the toilet. Only the male assistant was confused. He lowered his head to look at the livestream on his phone and shook his head. “Perhaps I was really mistaken.”

As he was about to move outside, he felt a chill on his neck like a small hand was pressing down on him.

“Who is it?” Whipping his head around, the male assistant saw a pair of gray legs run past the fifth cubicle.

“What was that?” He did not have the courage to check it alone. He rushed after the rest and did not stay in the toilet alone.

Drip, drip...

Red liquid dripped out from the tap, and faded stains that looked like human faces started to appear from four corners of the toilets. The male assistant held the phone tightly. He squeezed next to Liu Gang, wondering whether he should tell him what he had seen earlier. He was very anxious, and the anxiety could not be dispersed even if he was in a crowd.

He kept turning to look at the toilet. The strange background music crawled into his ears, and the footsteps had a strange echo to them like there was something following them.

Chapter 919: Non-Existent Art Club

“Let’s move on. Stop looking around.” Sister Ghost leaned close to the male assistant, much closer than necessary. “Did Brother Gang inform you of the real purpose of this visit? Why is your heart beating so fast, and why are you sweating so much? Are you not feeling well?”

“I’m fine, I’m fine.” The male assistant pulled back his gaze. Holding his phone, his face was extraordinarily pale, and he softly grumbled, “The footsteps are uneven, but the numbers are correct, thank goodness...”

“You are a strange man.” Sister Ghost wanted to ask him something, but seeing his state, she cancelled that thought.

“Little Sister, you and Little Ghost had better be more careful. This Haunted House is very uniquely designed.” Big Ghost silently moved to Sister Ghost’s side.

“Did you hear something?” Sister Ghost was curious.

“Someone is calling for help. It comes from beyond the wall. I closed my eyes, trying to pinpoint the source, but it seems to come from all asides like the loudspeakers are placed everywhere.” Big Ghost was not good with words.

“Big Ghost, this is just a Haunted House, stop scaring yourself. Also, you’d better go for a check with the doctor. If you ignore it, I’m afraid the illness will become more serious.” Sister Ghost’s voice would only turn normal when she was talking to Big and Small Ghost.

“Ok.”

The group reached the end of the corridor and came to the first split in the road.

“There are markers on the wall. The club activity room, the data filing room, gymnasium, library, and swimming pool are on the left; the right has the education block, lab building, and staff office.” Small

Ghost was at the front. He looked at the words on the wall and reached out to touch them. "They are carved with a knife, and there is some paint left in the grooves."

A faded red color lingered on his fingers. If he smelt it, he would have smelt a light scent of blood.

"Our goal is to take thirteen oil paintings back to the art club. That is related to club activities, so I suggest we go to the left. We might be able to find some clues." Lan Dong's black-rimmed glass hid his excited eyes. This child seemed to treat this visit as an exploration game.

"The oil paintings are related to the art club. That is common knowledge, so the Haunted House boss will use that to place various traps on the left corridor." Small Ghost pointed at the right corridor. "Therefore, we should apply reverse psychology and take his path. We will fluster him that way."

"My little brother has a point. If we sink into the other person's tempo when we're inside a Haunted House, we'll end up being the passive party." Sister Ghost supported Small Ghost no matter what, and then he nudged Big Ghost.

Big Ghost seemed to be spacing out; he was not paying attention. With a nudge from Sister Ghost, he said as if on autopilot, "The crying is getting closer. They are just around us."

This sudden declaration caused the atmosphere to turn weird.

"The Haunted House's workers might be coming. The best solution is to retrace our step. No matter what we see, do not turn back. We will all wait at the entrance for time to run out," Bai Buhui proposed to them again.

"Cough." Liu Gang coughed drily. "Why are the two of you helping the Haunted House raise its atmosphere? This livestream is to show the viewers how fake this place is. If we retreat, how am I going to answer to my viewers?"

"Ignore them," Lan Dong said with a smile. "I've seen Big and Small Ghost's supernatural show before. Going to sleep in a graveyard is not that impressive. Many so-called supernatural effects in the show are their own doing."

Lan Dong was young and had no filter. He said all that while the livestream was rolling. Even though the camera was not on him, his voice was heard by the viewers.

"F*ck you!" Small Ghost had an explosive temper. He rolled up his sleeves and prepared to argue it out with Lan Dong.

"The three of us have played many supernatural games before and have been to many places to test our bravery, to search for the presence of ghosts. Unfortunately, we have not yet run into anything too scary. All supernatural phenomena can be explained away by science." Lan Dong was a studious person. He looked down on Small Ghost's belief in ghosts and walked directly to Liu Gang. "Brother Gang, look closely this time. The three of us will explain everything about this Haunted House to you from a scientific perspective."

"Brother Gang..." The male assistant wished for Lan Dong to explain the presence of those gray legs that he saw, but Liu Gang did not give him the chance.

"I understand that you wish to make the livestream as exciting as possible, but that is not necessary." Liu Gang told the camera confidently, "We're here to expose the truth. We do not rely on these tricks to attract attention."

"You have a point. No wonder Brother Gang is a streamer with several million followers. This attitude is worth learning."

"Let's go. We'll take the left path."

Since Liu Gang had made the decision, even if the others were not satisfied, they had to keep their comments to themselves. The light dimmed, and the people at the front of the group had trouble even seeing the faces of the people at the back.

"Try to keep up!" The corridors were convoluted. Even though there were maps on the wall, the legends were muddled by red paint like they had been ruined by ghostly hands. They entered a few rooms, and they did not find any oil paintings, but they did find a lot of torn homework and diaries. They were filled with spine-tingling words. This school seemed to be filled with taboos. Once you did something bad, misfortune would befall you.

Bang!

Lan Dong pushed open the door at the corner. The wooden plaque that named it as the club activity center dropped to the ground. It appeared like the room had been vacated for a long time. There was a mildew-like scent, and the tables had a layer of dust on it.

"Club Activity Records?" The bald security guard, Liu Guangming, found a yellowed book on the table. It was filled with information from various clubs, but there was no art club. "Why isn't there a record of the art club?"

"We've been in here for ten minutes. Theoretically, speaking we should have found some clues already." Lan Dong grabbed the book without permission. Before each club, there would be a black and white picture of the club members. When he reached the end, he frowned.

The last page was for a supernatural observation club. For the picture of this club, all the members wore red clothes.

"Of all the pictures, only this club picture is different. The art club should be related to this club! If we wish to complete the mission. We'd better actively go and find the club members. They should give us some clues." Lan Dong memorized the information about the Supernatural Observation Club. "The club doesn't have an activity room, but the responsible teacher is Mr. Bai, and all the information about him will be in the staff dormitory."

"Brother Dong, more than ten minutes has passed, and we haven't found even one painting. This makes the quest impossibly hard," Ah Li whispered. "I suggest we split up. One group can look for the paintings while the other focuses on solving the art club's mystery. That is the most efficient way to complete the quest."

"Looks like that is the only solution." Lan Dong turned to Liu Gang. "Brother Gang, you're the leader—make the choice."

“Don’t even think about it.” Bai Buhui blocked the door. “I’ve seen many horror movies. We’ll be fine if we stay together, but people insist on splitting up due to various reason. I’ve always wondered why those people insist on searching for death!”

Chapter 920: Three Mini Games

“The information for the supernatural observation club is in Mr. Bai’s room, and the room and the office are down the same path. The design is purposely for us to split up.” Bai Buhui was very calm. “When all of us stay together, even if we run into the actors, we won’t be afraid, but once we are separated, we will be taken down one by one.”

“Taken down one by one? This is just a Haunted House. All of us have phones. If there’s anything wrong, we can just call each other.” Lan Dong thought that Bai Buhui was being too careful. He looked more like he was betting his life with Death than visiting a Haunted House.

He’s too into this. Lan Dong silently labelled Bai Buhui. He did not know about the man’s identity; Liu Gang did not tell them about the futuristic theme park.

“When a person is shocked, the brain will be temporarily flustered. We will set each other’s numbers as speed dial. That way, when we run into trouble, we’ll be able to contact the others immediately.” Ah Li took out his phone to make the example. “We often do this when we are out exploring. There are many other self-protective skills. If you want to learn, I can teach you.”

“Professional.” Liu Gang was satisfied with Lan Dong and Ah Li. “We’ll follow Xiao Dong’s suggestion. The three of them plus me, the cameraman, and my assistant will go to the other path, and the rest of you can continue exploring this place.”

Since Liu Gang had spoken, the others did not voice dissenting opinions, and Bai Buhui had trouble countering him before the viewers.

“Let’s not waste time. The boss gave us sixty minutes, but we will try to clear his quest in under forty minutes. I have to see the look on that man’s face at the exit.” Liu Gang then led Lan Dong’s trio and retraced their path. “We’ve been here for so long, and we haven’t seen anything. Even if the viewers aren’t bored, I am.”

The cameraman followed Liu Gang closely, and they soon disappeared around the corner.

“That Lan Dong may be young, but he is a cunning little thing. The chance to expose ourselves before millions of people was taken away just like that.” Sister Ghost rolled her eyes. She pointed at Big and Small Ghosts, “You two, say something! The reason we’re here is to borrow the popularity of Liu Gang to promote our own livestream, but welp, look at us now.”

Without the camera, they did not need to act like they were walking on eggshells anymore, and they spoke what was on their minds.

“Then should we continue the exploration?” The bald security guard, Liu Guangming, was an honest man. He was the most innocent of the group. He listened to the orders closely and did not think much when he was called to come visit this place.

“Of course. If we locate more oil paintings than Lan Dong, the viewers will give us more approval.” Sister Ghost smoothed down her clothes. “Sigh, wasted the time I have spent dressing up for the occasion.”

“Don’t worry.” Bai Buhui stopped Sister Ghost. “We will return the way we came and follow behind Liu Gang. If they run into anything scary, we can jump out to rescue them immediately.”

“That’s a bit too...” Even Sister and Small Ghost thought that was inappropriate.

“Liu Gang is livestreaming the whole process, and the camera is now on them. You are dressed so sexily today. Don’t tell me you plan to show yourself to the ghosts?” Bai Buhui’s words cut into Sister Ghost’s heart. “The three of you are after popularity, so the best choice is to follow Liu Gang. It’ll be fine if we’re not discovered.”

Bai Buhui was a clever man and he knew how to toy with people’s desires. “Furthermore, those three kids aren’t reliable. When they are scared to the point they pee their pants, don’t you think our appearance will be very much welcomed?”

“That’s right. We’ll turn back now and hurry, or else we might lose them.” The trio was convinced, and Liu Guangming had to follow. The five exited the club activity center. The outside corridor was empty, and Liu Gang’s group was gone.

“Don’t let them discover us and pay attention to your surroundings. The boss has been waiting for us to split up. Looking at the time, it’s about time for him to make the move.” Bai Buhui and the four retraced their steps, but after turning the corner, they still did not see Liu Gang. However, they could hear footsteps not far away.

“We’ll maintain this distance.”

In the dim light, footsteps echoed down the corridor. With those footsteps leading the way, Bai Buhui’s group was slowly led down the corridor.

...

“Achoo!” The male assistant sneezed. He clenched his phone and kept turning back. “Brother Gang, Muscle, did you hear the footsteps coming from behind us? It sounds like someone’s following us.”

“Then let them follow. We’re just at a Haunted House. What’s the worst that can happen?” Liu Gang was focused on his livestream to pay attention to his assistant. They returned to the split, and when they planned to head right, the assistant suddenly stopped.

“What now?”

“When we were here earlier, I remember that the doors on the corridors were all open, and we went inside the toilet. I was the last to come out, and I remember clearly that I didn’t close the door...” The assistant’s eyes moved, and his face paled. “Brother Gang, look at the ground.”

The dusted ground had hand and footprints and trails of balls being rolled across it.

“There are things following us. They are following us!”

“Stop panicking! We are inside a Haunted House. Isn’t it normal for the actors to follow us? This is all fake. There are no real ghosts.” Liu Gang used his feet to step on the rolling trail. “This is a clear prop. Do you think a real ghost would use his head to roll on the ground? Is there a ghost as dumb as that?”

“Perhaps something was wrong with the prop. It’s expected for a small Haunted House like this one.” Lan Dong smiled. “The size of the footprints and handprints are all different. They should come from models. If they are from actual humans, the Haunted House’s accounts will be in the red.”

With the comfort given by Lan Dong, the group ended the left corridor. After passing a few empty classrooms, with the guide from the signs, they found the male dormitory.

“Why is there a staircase? There’s a basement?” The doors of the first sub-level were all closed. They went down to the second-floor basement and found a torn diary inside the first room around the corner.

“X Year, X Month, X Day, I lost a bet with my friend, so I came to this school to test my courage. The three of us had to play three mini games. Guess the Person Behind the Door, Sitting in the Row, and Flipping Over.

“My two friends played the previous two games, and they were fine. Finally, it was my turn. But halfway through the last game, I bent over and looked around the room in an inverted manner. I then realized that the faces of my two friends were weird, just like, just like they are dead.”