

## Iyashikei 441

### Chapter 441 1000 Good Deeds

“You haven’t seen him? He has to still be here!” Lee Daxing’s lost control of his emotions. He gripped his flashlight and moved towards Han Fei and Lee Long. “I have been talking to him when we were on the 5th floor but suddenly he stopped replying to me. However, the strange thing was his footsteps echoed constantly behind me so he should be following me! So how did he disappear? When I eventually turned around, the footsteps stopped and the man was gone.” More blood leaked out from Lee Daxing’s mouth. His face was eerily pale.

“We stayed on the 3rd floor, we haven’t been to the 5th floor...” Lee Long tried to communicate with Lee Daxing but he was stopped by Han Fei. “Don’t go over there, didn’t you hear him? The footsteps were there until he turned around. He couldn’t see his partner anymore so that means his partner has been hidden away at a place that no one could find.” Han Fei stared at Lee Daxing’s stomach. He didn’t want to imagine that possibility but Lee Daxing was acting too strangely. Lee Long followed Han Fei’s gaze and understood Han Fei’s meaning immediately.

“You think he has eaten his partner?” Lee Long was startled and then moved away from Han Fei. Lee Daxing was acting abnormally but Han Fei’s way of thinking was not much better. Stuck between Han Fei and Lee Daxing, Lee Long’s face twitched. Now he understood why his seniors told him to stay away from the mall.

“I need to find him! You have seen him right? Tell me where he is! Tell me! I really need to see him!” Lee Daxing opened his mouth wide, it was filled with wounds and blood. He waved the flashlight and charged at Han Fei. Just as he was about to reach Han Fei, his expression changed like he had seen something. “Why are you all here? Why are you all back here!” Mumbling nonsensically, Lee Daxing turned to run back into the mall.

Lee Long used his remaining hand to wipe away his cold sweat. The events that transpired that night were too much for him. “Are there no normal people at this mall?” Then Lee Long turned back and saw a family of 3 standing at the entrance. Lee Daxing escaped after he saw this family. ‘When did they arrive?’

The family of 3 didn’t seem to be freaked out by Lee Daxing, they walked right into the 2nd hand shop. “Stay here, I’ll have to attend to the customers!” Han Fei left in a hurry. The loanshark noticed the trails of water and mud on the ground and he was confused. The family of 3 was drenched like they had just been salvaged from the water. Their skin was bloated and their eyes were protruding like goldfish.

“Kid, we meet again.” Han Fei told the boy as his eyes slowly moved to the people behind the boy. Behind the boy stood a pair of couples. They loved each other so much that it appeared part of their bodies had joined together.

“Uncle, I want to buy back my toys.”

“I’ve kept them for you. Here” Han Fei took out the paper box from under the counter. The boy’s toys were all inside.

“Thank you uncle!” The boy took out several wet notes from his father’s pocket and then pulled out a small wooden puppet from his own pocket. “Uncle, these are for you!” Han Fei placed the wet notes on the counter, he cared more about the puppet.

“Now we don’t owe each other anymore.” The boy smiled happily. He carried the box of toys and bounced out from the shop. His parents followed behind him silently. The family left ‘happily’, Han Fei concluded his first business transaction in the memory world. After logging in the transaction, Han Fei placed the puppet the boy left him in his pocket. The money was for the boss and the puppet was for Han Fei.

‘What does the boy mean by we don’t owe each other anymore?’

The door chimed and an old lady appeared at the door. Han Fei had seen this old lady yesterday. She wanted to donate some clothes but the sack was filled with bloody feathers and animal skins.

“Granny?” Like yesterday night, the old lady left the sack by the door. She walked around the shop before shuffling to the altar. “Why do you come so late at night? It’s too dangerous for you to walk around alone at night.” Han Fei felt there were more stories about the old lady. He accompanied her. “Granny, the sack that you donated last time, our worker has already cleaned it for you.”

The old woman turned around. She stared at Han Fei’s face for a long time before she suddenly raised her arm. The smell of mold entered Han Fei’s nostrils. The old lady’s hand slowly approached, but Han Fei didn’t evade. The pair of callused hands stopped before Han Fei’s eyes. The old lady’s eyes filled with tears. Her mouth opened like she was trying to call a name.

“Granny, what is it that you want to tell me?” Before Han Fei could react, the old lady suddenly turned towards the altar, she wanted to knock it over.

“Granny, wait!” Han Fei stopped the old lady, he was much stronger than her but he didn’t dare use too much force lest he injured her. The old lady didn’t say a word. She scratched at the nailed doors with tears on her face. She kept making this guttural sound, she didn’t care if her fingers were bloody from the nails. After a long time, Han Fei finally managed to get the old lady to calm down. He picked up the black cloth and covered the altar back up.

“There is really no one normal at this shop, be it the workers or the customers.” Lee Long stood at the door. He stared at the old lady but didn’t dare to enter the shop. “I do remember this crazy old lady. Her son used to work here.”

“Her son? But Huang Li told me that the old lady has no children.”

“She’s not wrong. The old lady’s son was one of the earliest employees of this 2nd hand shop. He died from an accident and the old lady lost her mind. She believes that her son is trapped inside the altar. Only by doing 1000 good deeds could she help her son.” Lee Long walked the streets so he knew about these things.

“1000 good deeds? Who told you about that?” After the old lady calmed down, Han Fei let go of her. He went to prepare a glass of warm water for her.

“A senior who has already retired. We call him Brother Snake, it was him who told us to stay away from this mall and be careful of the boss.” Lee Long didn’t have a good impression of Han Fei initially but from the way he acted, Lee Long realized Han Fei was not a bad person. While Lee Long and Han Fei conversed, the old lady shuffled out of the shop. The old lady was already very old but she still insisted on doing 1 good deed per day. The sky was dark but it didn’t seem to affect the old lady. With her walking stick, she disappeared into the night. ‘She can walk through the darkness freely?’ Han Fei frowned. ‘Is the old lady’s son really trapped inside the altar?’

Han Fei had many questions. Why would the old lady’s son be trapped inside the altar? And how did she know that doing 1000 good deeds would free him? ‘When I pulled back the cloth on the altar in the storeroom, several voices came from behind me. Could one of them belong to the old lady’s son? Did they die because of the altar or they have accepted some kind of deal with the altar so their souls have

been sold?' The altar at the shop was just a decoration, the real altar was underground. Han Fei adjusted the black cloth and moved to the front of the shop to sit down. 'It is dangerous outside the mall and it is hell inside the mall, what is the solution to this world?'

Han Fei tried to make himself calm down, to raise his mood points. Lee Long also relaxed as Han Fei acted more normal. Lee Long opened up the newspaper and the two of them sat in front of the 2nd hand store, neither disturbed the other.

"Do you want some sunflower seeds?"

"No thanks."

At 3.50 am, Han Fei's mood point finally returned to 50. He looked outside and the sky was brightening. "Lee Long, I'm going to the hospital. Are you going to stay here or come with me?"

"I'm here to demand money from you. Stop asking me things like that."

"Then come with me, it's too dangerous here." Han Fei helped Lee Long up from the ground. He wasn't going to abandon such a wonderful 'partner'. After locking up the shop, Han Fei moved towards the hospital according to Lee Long's direction.

Third People Hospital wasn't that far from the mall. Perhaps it was almost dawn or it was the boy's puppet, Han Fei didn't run into any scary things along the way. When they arrived at the hospital, they saw Lee Hu in the lobby. The fatty in the suit looked quite despondent. He was the only person in the lobby.

"How is Huang Li?"

"I don't know, I don't speak medicine." Lee Hu led Han Fei to find the doctor, but they were stopped by the nurse.

“Which of you is the patient’s friend?” The nurse saw Lee Hu and Lee Long with the scars and tattoos. She didn’t dare to let them into the ward. Eventually it was Han Fei who said, “I am Huang Li’s colleague. How is she?”

“Basically she is out of the danger zone but her brain was severely traumatized. She is in a deep coma, we can’t say when she’ll wake up, it could be tomorrow or it could be several months later.” The nurse was more willing to converse with Han Fei because he looked proper. “Which of you is going to handle her medical fees? There are ward fees, ambulance fees, as well as the following expenses.” Han Fei stopped when he heard that. “Can’t you contact her family?”

“We have contacted the manager of the mall but he still hasn’t arrived. Based on what the man said, Huang Li’s mother is dead and her father has Alzheimer’s. Not too long ago, she got a divorce due to domestic abuse. If her ex-husband found out about this, he would do everything to suck the patient dry, much less take care of her.” What the nurse said reminded Han Fei of something. When he borrowed Huang Li’s phone to call the deliveryman’s father, he did look through Huang Li’s phone records. There was a man called bastard who had been threatening Huang Li.

“Doesn’t this count as a work injury? Can’t she claim insurance?” Han Fei asked.

“We have already asked Zhu Wei, the manager of the mall. The man showed us the contract, it said that Huang Li already quit her job 3 days ago. She only stayed because she needed to show the ropes to a newbie.” The nurse was losing her patience. “She might wake up tomorrow morning, so can you please pay her bills? That way we can continue with her treatment.” Normally, the patient’s guardian had to pay before the patient could receive treatment but Huang Li’s situation was unique because it was an emergency. Now that she was rescued, the hospital needed someone to pay her bills.

The two loansharks took a step back. Han Fei held the 20000 RMB he just borrowed. He licked his lips. “How much is it?”

“The emergency treatment costs 3000 RMB. Please turn left on the first floor to make the payment.”

“And that is just for the emergency treatment?” Han Fei moved his feet, everything felt too coincidental. Ever since he borrowed the money, Huang Li got into this accident. ‘Is this one of the random missions? Has the owner made his choice too?’ The altar owner was forced to sign a loan contract so he probably wouldn’t use his own money to help Huang Li. ‘The altar owner didn’t help Huang Li so she died? If that was the case, then the correct choice is to help Huang Li.’

Han Fei handed over the money but he didn't receive any notification. Dawn was coming but there was no progress with the mission. 'Money can save a person's life and I'm at the hospital. The mission's name is choice. Other than saving Huang Li or not, is there another choice? Could it be related to the owner's mother?' Han Fei twisted his brows together as he thought back to the mission description. Seeing Han Fei in this state, the two loansharks didn't disturb him. They assumed Han Fei was troubled because they knew he needed the money to save his own mother.

"This kid is a real dummy, if he doesn't owe us money, we might be brothers." Lee Hu's eyes softened. He didn't really blame Han Fei for breaking his bones, after all, it was his weakness that led to that result.

"He is a good man but that is all he has left."

The 3 men stood at the payment booth. Soon the elevator opened. A man with a human skull tattoo on his neck walked out from the elevator. He wore a nurse's outfit.

#### Chapter 442 Mother's Blessing

"Excuse me." The nurse walked past Han Fei, his voice was cold and his expression aloof. He didn't care about the feelings of the people around him because they were all fake anyway.

"What does this guy do here anyway? He smells so strange." Lee Long frowned. The nurse didn't care. He pushed his cart into the room at the end of the corridor that didn't have its lights on.

'Is he looking for something at the hospital?' Han Fei memorized the stench on the man. 'Is it related to my mission?' Han Fei knew that for the nurse, all the locals of this world were just part of the background. Other than the altar owner, everyone else was built from memory so he would not waste any time on them. Of course it was also possible that Ten Fingers had 'inspected' all the locals but couldn't find anything on them so they ignored them. Han Fei left the payment booth and intended to follow the nurse when a series of rapid footsteps came from the front entrance.

The hospital door opened and the cold wind blew into the hospital. 4 large bodyguards shielded a man about 50 as they entered the hospital. The old man suffered from muscle atrophy, his exposed skin had rotting wounds. When the nurses saw the man, they immediately called a number and ran over to him.

"I heard from the mall manager that one of the workers at my shop is in a coma?" The man coughed when he spoke, his physical condition was weak.

"CEO Gu? You've come in person?" After getting the nurse's call, the doctor on duty walked out. He appeared to be napping earlier but he was pretending like he was hard at work.

"You know me?" The senior was surprised. He stood among the 4 guards, his voice incredibly weak.

"I was lucky to have met you once." The doctor said with a big smile. "An elder from your shop passed away from an accident, he was my patient too." The doctor was strangely happy as his eyes shone with anticipation.

The man nodded. "How is the patient now?"

"She is already out of the danger zone but she is still unconscious. I'm afraid she'll have to be prepared for prolonged treatment. Her colleague has already paid for her emergency treatment but the fees for her extenuating treatment..." The doctor's face glowed like he was looking at the God of Money.

"Her colleague?" At that moment, the man finally noticed Han Fei. However, there was no surprise in his eyes like he had already expected Han Fei to be there. Han Fei noticed this but he didn't show it on his face.

"CEO Gu, you have such an eye for talent. Your employees are all good people. When we told him the situation, the kid immediately volunteered to foot the bill." The doctor sounded like he was praising Han Fei but his every statement revolved around money.

"Fine, I understand. Bring me to see the patient first." The old man entered the ward with his 4 bodyguards. He walked out about 10 minutes later. The old man paid the rest of the fee and even demanded the bill Han Fei had paid from the doctor.

"CEO Gu, Huang Li has already resigned. Technically speaking, she is not our employee anymore." After knowing CEO Gu was at the hospital, Zhu Wei who was supposed to be here 30 minutes ago finally arrived.

“Regardless, it doesn’t change the fact that she has worked for me for a very long time. She is now in a coma, how can I just let her be?” The old man was physically weak. Just saying a few words took a heavy toll on him. Holding the money, CEO Gu walked towards Han Fei. The bodyguards made to follow but the old man waved for them to stay.

“Kid, you’re a kind person. I knew I made the right choice.” CEO Gu handed the money to Han Fei. “This is the money you’ve paid for Huang Li. I know you have a mother who needs your care. You’re working several jobs to collect money to save her.”

Even though Han Fei had entered the memory world for days already, this was his first time meeting his boss. From the short interaction, his boss was very nice to his employees, caring, he was the perfect boss.

“Thank you, boss.” Han Fei accepted the money and he immediately discovered something was wrong. “You’ve given me an extra 1000.”

“Good people have good karma. You deserve it. I’ve always encouraged my employees to do good deeds.” The boss looked at Han Fei as if waiting for him to make a choice.

“It’s okay, I’ll only take the money I deserve, I won’t take those that I don’t.” Han Fei handed the 1000 RMB back to the old man. Seeing that, the boss and the 2 loansharks were stunned.

“It’s wonderful you have such strong principles.” CEO Gu smiled for the first time but his smile made Han Fei strangely uncomfortable. “I remember your mother also stays at this hospital, let’s go visit her.”

With the doctor leading the way, they came to the ward for the altar owner’s mother. Through the window, one could see a woman who looked much older than her actual age lying on the single bed. Her body was thin and frail. Pain made it so that she couldn’t rest and she had to rely on sedatives.

“His mother will have her surgery next week and the success rate is only 5 percent.” The doctor told CEO Gu outside the ward.

“If all the equipment is traded for the best kind, will the surgery have a higher success rate?” The old man’s eyes stared at the woman in bed. His eyes were cold like he was the one being tortured by sickness.

“No.” The doctor shook his head but he noticed CEO Gu was still looking at him. After some hesitation, the doctor changed his tune, “If everything is updated to the latest model, the surgery’s success rate might increase by 1 percent.”

“1 percent is better than nothing.” CEO Gu thought for a long time before he turned to Han Fei. “I have no idea your mother’s situation is so dire. How about this, I’ll help you upgrade your mother’s services for free, her life is more important.”

“For free?” Han Fei was confused. The altar owner’s biggest wish was to collect 50000 RMB within 30 days to help his mother with her surgery, but now this hardest wish became the easiest to complete. The moment he said yes, Han Fei didn’t need to worry about the money anymore. Honestly Han Fei was tempted. From the altar owner’s perspective, he should be at the edge of a mental breakdown. He couldn’t ensure the basic quality of his own life, he owed the loansharks money, he worked all day and most importantly he had accidentally killed a man. All these added to the pressure on him. He was a child who was told by his mother that good people would have good karma but his good intention had led him to kill a man.

“I...” Saying yes would solve many things. Han Fei’s lips opened but he couldn’t utter the words. A detail flashed across his mind. Before CEO Gu arrived at the hospital, he seemed to have already realized Han Fei would be there. He was not shocked when he saw Han Fei at the hospital. The boss of the mall came to visit his former employee at the hospital in person, he was indeed a good boss but what if he had an ulterior motive?

Han Fei looked touched but his brain was spinning. He connected all the details that he had encountered in the memory world and he noticed something scary. Tonight when Han Fei first arrived at the 2nd hand store, he heard from Huang Li that the boss requested them to organize the storeroom before dawn. It was because of that request that Han Fei encountered the real altar. If not for his firm constitution, he would have opened the altar and caused unimaginable consequences.

The other suspicion was the black cloth over the altar. When Han Fei entered the storeroom, the black cloth had already been partway peeled back. In other words, someone knew Han Fei would enter the storeroom and this was all a trap!

Lastly, Huang Li had already quitted her job. So she would leave after teaching Han Fei the ropes. She was no longer a useful staff member and coincidentally she had that accident. As the only nightshift staff, if something happened to Huang Li, Han Fei was the person most likely to send her to the hospital. If the boss had planned all these, then he wouldn't be surprised to see Han Fei at the hospital.

However these were not the scariest things. Han Fei had thought further. It was the man with the colorful shirt who introduced Han Fei to the job at the mall. The man with the colorful shirt was related to the loansharks, could the loansharks be related to the boss as well?

The altar owner was the boss' prey, all his misfortune were man-made!

When the altar owner was cornered, he met his boss. At this moment, he wouldn't have rejected his boss' kindness.

Han Fei thought of another detail. The old lady who frequented the shop couldn't speak, her only son once worked at the 2nd hand shop but was said to be consumed by the altar. This incident was not as simple as it seemed. Perhaps the rumors were real and the altar owner was the boss' next target.

'The price of one's soul...' Han Fei's eyes glowed, he already knew what choice he needed to make.

"Thank you but it's okay. I've already collected half of my mother's surgical money." Han Fei rejected the offer.

"Your mother has worked hard all her life, she shouldn't be subjected to this kind of pain." The old man whispered, "Please don't be pressured from accepting my kindness, both of you deserve it."

"It's really fine."

"Why are you so stubborn? Have you not considered your own mother's situation?" The doctor scolded. Everyone surrounded Han Fei. While he was berated by these people, sound came from inside the ward. The mother appeared to be woken up by the commotion. She turned with difficulty and saw Han Fei surrounded by the crowd. She called weakly, she appeared to be calling Han Fei.

“The patient is awake.” The woman wanted to help Han Fei. Even though she was sick, she didn’t want to see her boy bullied. The door opened and Han Fei was the first to walk in. This was his first time seeing the woman but part of the memory in his mind was activated. He acted on instinct and leaned down beside the bed where the woman’s hand could touch him. “Mom, I’ve come to see you.”

The illness drained the blood from the woman’s face. However she smiled when she saw Han Fei. She didn’t say a word but she grabbed Han Fei’s hand and refused to let go. The memory that didn’t belong to Han Fei influenced him. He felt immense guilt. He couldn’t pay the rent, couldn’t find the father who had stolen all of their money, owed the loansharks, even his wounded arms were stained with blood that couldn’t be washed away. “I have made a choice, but I don’t know whether it was right or not, I...”

“It doesn’t matter.” The woman looked at Han Fei silently, “You have already made the best choice.” This was the first time Han Fei saw a smile like that, he couldn’t describe it. Even with his masterful acting he couldn’t replicate it because it was something he had been missing.

“Don’t worry about me. You better go back to work, it’s almost dawn.” The woman let go. After some hesitation, she caressed Han Fei’s cheek. “Don’t leave behind irreparable regret because of me.”

“Regret?” When the woman said that, the system announced, “Notification for Player 0000! You’ve completed the random mission—Money!”

“The choice that you made I can’t make again. You can’t change things that have already happened in the past.”

“You’ve rectified 20 percent of the altar owner’s regret! You’ve obtained a large amount of EXP and mother’s blessing.”

“Mother’s Blessing: Decrease rate of mood points lowers, the mutation speed of the world slows down! Permanent +1 to intelligence!”

Chapter 443 Father

The system notification startled Han Fei, this was the first time he encountered a status that could buff his attribute directly. After all, he had been using curses as blessings and this was the first time he got an actual blessing.

'The drop rate of mood points will be lowered, that's easy to understand but what does it mean by the mutation speed of the world? Is the memory world mutating?' From Han Fei's perspective the memory world hadn't changed but the system provided him with a great warning.

The woman in bed was very weak. After she touched Han Fei's face, her arm lowered weakly. "Sorry for being such a burden. As a mother, all I can give you is a blessing."

"That is already the best present I have ever received." Han Fei had a feeling that the woman could remember more things that she should. He helped her with the bedspread. "Everything will get better. The regrets will cease."

Han Fei didn't stay, he had more important things to do. He needed to figure out what it meant by world mutation and he needed to be prepared for it. Han Fei stood up and left. When he closed the door, he glanced through the window again. Remembering the smile on the woman's face, he understood something. 'For the altar owner, the only regret in this world is his mother. That's why her blessing is so powerful.' From that moment on, Han Fei had gained some kind of approval.

"Well, what is your decision?" The boss and his 4 bodyguards waited outside the door. The man held a credit card, ready for Han Fei.

"Thank you for your kindness but I really can't infringe on it." Han Fei almost 'broke down' carrying so much on his shoulders but he only showed his 'weakness' when he was out of the ward because he didn't want his mother to worry. Using masterful acting, Han Fei played a young man in despair to perfection. He rejected the aid from the boss. The man might act crazy from the rejection. To ensure that the boss didn't suspect anything, Han Fei tried his best to mimic the altar owner. Each microexpression radiated despair. The boss captured all the despair on Han Fei, he had no idea perhaps one day he would experience the same despair.

Even though he was rejected multiple times by Han Fei, the man didn't get mad. His expression never changed. "My offer is always open. If you need it, come and find me." Then he turned to leave. But after a few steps, he stopped like he just remembered something. He turned to Han Fei. "I heard from Zhu Wei that your family actually has collected some funds but your father has stolen all of them?"

Han Fei had a feeling that this man was purposely bringing up all of his sad past. "Yes."

“You should go to the western city downstream from the river. My employee has seen him there.” The boss coughed, his face’s rotten skin bled. Seeing him like this, the guards immediately surrounded him.

“That is all I can do to help you. The area is rather chaotic so if you are going, you better bring some friends with you.”

The boss left with his guard. As he left the hospital, the first ray of dawn showered into the mother’s ward. Han Fei survived the second night. He saw the boss leave and a question surfaced in his mind, ‘Why is he so kind to give me the location of the altar owner’s father?’ Han Fei was very suspicious of the boss, he had a feeling the boss was behind all the tragedies that happened to the altar owner. It was not fate who was toying with the altar owner but this seemingly weak man. ‘After I rejected him, he’s still so kind to tell me the location of my father? That’s just suspicious.’

If the boss really wanted to, he could have told Han Fei the location of the father earlier and not after Han Fei rejected him. ‘I might have missed something.’ Leaning against the door, Han Fei started to think. The old lady’s son once worked at the 2nd hand shop but he was eaten by the altar. However the boss was still alive. Based on the boss’ plot, the altar owner would slowly walk into his trap but in the end, it was the altar owner who took over the altar and became an Unmentionable.

Each Unmentionable was cunning and scary. They were masters at manipulating people’s negative emotions. Pain and despair were the fuel for them to light the black hatred. So how could an Unmentionable be forever kind and pure?

Han Fei lowered his eyes to study his wounded arms. It was stained with invisible blood. If he didn’t change history, the owner would have killed 1 person already. ‘Something big must have happened, changing the altar owner from a kind person to the other extreme, and he consumes the boss instead. This should be his regret too, but I have no idea what this something big is.’

Han Fei was very careful and avoided many dangers but even so, he only rectified 20 percent of the altar owner’s regret. The incident that turned the altar owner into an Unmentionable hadn’t arrived yet.

‘Before becoming an Unmentionable, one has to go through the path of a Pure Hatred. Who is the source of the altar owner’s hatred? The loansharks? The mall guards? The unfair destiny? Or the father?’

Han Fei closed his eyes, he thought back to the things that had happened after he entered the memory world. When he did the Toys mission, he encountered a killer who murdered his wife and child, Han Fei indirectly caused his death; Then he encountered Ten Fingers who was disguised as a hospital nurse, he trapped his wife at home and until now Han Fei had no idea if the wife was alive or not; Lastly, it was Huang Li. Han Fei sneaked a look at her phone record. Huang Li's husband beat her and even after the divorce, he still threatened her.

Han Fei initially didn't connect all these but now that he thought about it, this was the altar owner's memory world. The memory was subjective. Be it the murderer or Huang Li's husband, their existence influenced the altar owner's memory. This was the owner's memory world, there were stories for every single character but not the owner himself. But in a way, wasn't this mutating world the reflection of the altar owner's heart? All the regrets and experience were the answers.

'The boss wanted me to lead me to do certain things but he didn't expect me to reject him.' Han Fei was certain that the boss' plan had been foiled. 'Looks like I need to hurry to this western city.' Han Fei felt like he needed to go see the altar owner's father. 'Just what has a man who believes in light experienced that he gave up on hope completely to embrace darkness?'

Han Fei and the 2 loansharks left the hospital and came to the bus stop. No one dared to get close to them.

"The mall is not far from here, we can walk back there. Are you planning to go home?" Lee Long had a new understanding of Han Fei after what happened at the hospital. His attitude towards Han Fei was softer but he still needed to ask for the debt or else he couldn't answer to his boss.

"Earlier Boss Gu told me that my father was seen in the western part of town. Are you guys familiar with that area?" Han Fei turned to Lee Long and Lee Hu.

"You've worked for a whole night already, aren't you tired?" Lee Hu grumbled. Han Fei was not tired but he was.

"We'll go there first. If we can find my father, I can you return the money instantly!" Han Fei promised.

Hearing that, Lee Long spoke, "The western city is the most backwards part of town. A few years ago, the government started a project there and it has gathered many homeless people and temp workers. It also bred many parasites."

"Parasites? You mean people like you?"

"You can't say that, we're still principled people." Lee Hu grumbled, "Granted that is where our old lair is."

"Bring me there. If we can find the man, I'll return you the money plus the interest." With Han Fei's insistence, Lee Long and Lee Hu decided to bring Han Fei to the western city.

"Other people evade us when they are in debt but you insist on going to the place where our gang is centrally located. If I didn't know the truth, I'd believe you're an undercover cop." Lee Long and Lee Hu sat beside Han Fei as they took the bus to western city. As time moved, more people got on the bus but the last row where Han Fei occupied still had many seats. An old man with a limp got on the bus. Han Fei stood up to surrender his seat but he was pressed back into the seat by the old man.

The bus rode for 30 minutes and they arrived at their destination. Once they descended, Han Fei was hit by the dust. There were construction sites and buildings meant to be torn down everywhere.

"If we run into our colleagues, I hope you can give us some face." Lee Long gave a reasonable request. If others knew they were led here by Han Fei, they wouldn't need to survive on the streets anymore.

"No problem, I will cooperate fully as long as you help me find my father." Han Fei took out his phone to look through the phone album. Han Fei wanted to find a picture of the altar owner's father to show Lee Long but Han Fei had a new discovery. The phone album had the picture of the owner's mother and father but there was no picture of the altar owner. All the group photos had been deleted. There was not even a voice message from the altar owner.

'This is worth noting.' Han Fei sent the father's picture to Lee Long and Lee Hu. After they received the photo, Han Fei became more low profile. "Even though this place has a lot of homeless people, we will still pay attention when there're new faces." Lee Long walked ahead. He led Han Fei through a construction site and entered the alley at the back. Soon they heard sounds of people begging and

screaming. Lee Long told Han Fei to stop, "There's an unlucky chap being caught, we better don't go over there now."

The screaming stopped about half a minute later. Several men holding metal pipes walked out from the alley. The leader among them was as tall as Lee Long but he looked larger than Lee Long. The pipe he was holding was stained with blood. As the group of people came over, Lee Long moved out of the way. Lee Hu was not that satisfied but he too did the same.

"Don't get entangled with them?" Without any reminder from Lee Long, Han Fei moved to the wall. He just wanted to find the owner's father. He thought there wouldn't be any conflict but when the group passed Han Fei, they stopped. The leading man studied Han Fei, "A new member?" Han Fei was flustered. He was very afraid and turned to Lee Long for help. Lee Long said, "He owed Brother Snake money and Brother Snake told us to bring the kid to him."

"Don't worry, we won't steal your stock." The man raised the pipe to point at Lee Long. "The scar on your face sure is ugly. You should let me carve another scar on your face so they'll appear symmetrical."

The people behind the man laughed. Lee Hu wanted to counter but he was stopped by Lee Long.

"Such trash, no wonder you're badly beaten up." Since Lee Long didn't resist, the people lost interest and they wandered away. The man laughed, he didn't realize that when he turned around, Han Fei's eyes changed.

'Human skull tattoo!' Han Fei glared at the back of the leader's neck. There were two lifelike human skulls there. The tattoo was so lifelike, Han Fei could see the faces filling in over the bones, 'He's one of the Ten Fingers?'

Han Fei's plan was forming. He was already deciding where he'd buried this man.

Chapter 444 Caged Beast

"They are so arrogant, I really want to teach them a lesson!" Lee Hu gritted his teeth, he was burning up inside. When the group of ruffians passed them, they showed zero respect to the brothers, one of them even spat on the ground before them.

“We have already moved away from the western city, so we better not get mixed in again.” Lee Long said rationally but his eyes were glinting dangerously.

“Who are those people? They don’t look so old.” Han Fei who hid at the back asked. Based on his innocent face, you wouldn’t be able to guess his thoughts.

“This place used to be Brother Snake’s territory but the mall boss planned to build a mall here because the land here was very cheap. He gathered a group of people, in the day, they spread out flyers but at night, they used violence to chase us locals away. Brother Snake was very angry after he found out. The boss had violated the local rules. The mall boss and Brother Snake got into a fight. In the end, Brother Snake lost a few of his best disciples but the boss also stopped the project at the western city.” Brother Long thought back to the past. “The incident had a huge impact on western city. This place was never so poor, at least on the surface, it looked passable. The boss moved to another spot to build the mall but the ruffians whom he gathered stayed. They have no principles and will do anything to earn money.” Lee Long sighed. “Honestly, I quite miss the days working under Brother Snake. At the time, I was quite young but now I’m in my 30s already.”

“Have you met the leading man before? The one who threatened us earlier.” Han Fei interrupted Lee Long’s memory.

“Looks familiar but I can’t remember any details about him.” Lee Long waved. “Come on, let’s go meet up with Brother Snake first.” Lee Long walked ahead and Lee Hu sidled up to Han Fei. “Why do you care about that man so much? Do you plan to take him down?” Lee Hu was only joking, he didn’t think Han Fei would really do that.

“Not really, I just noticed there are a lot of kids following him, they look not older than 17.” Han Fei shook his head. “Their future is still bright open, it shouldn’t be stained black by bad influence.”

“What do you mean?” Lee Hu was startled.

“I wish to lead those underage kids onto the right path.” Han Fei tapped Lee Hu on his shoulders. “When we meet Brother Snake, help me persuade him to chase those bastards out from the western city.”

“That’s too difficult, they won’t leave so easily.”

“In that case, we’ll just make them stay here forever.” Han Fei said under his breath. The western city was the most chaotic city zone. Making a move here wouldn’t attract too much attention. ‘9 of the Ten Fingers have entered the memory world, I wonder how many can leave.’

They walked through complicated alleys before the lane widened. Lee Long led Han Fei down a relatively busy street. “Follow me.” Lee Long and Lee Hu entered a tea shop. The male waiter was very friendly when he saw them. He led them to the 2nd floor. “Brother Snake is listening to music. Would you like to have some tea and wait or would you like to see him now?”

Lee Long glanced at Han Fei and answered, “We need to see him now, it’s quite urgent.” The door of the private booth was opened. The trio entered. This was Han Fei’s first time meeting Brother Snake. Different from the image of a gang mafia he had in mind, Brother Snake was a very old man. He was casually dressed. He listened to Chinese opera, drank tea and read philosophy books.

“Haven’t I told you two to never come back to western city again?” The old man said without lifting his head. There was a natural presence about him that silenced Lee Long and Lee Hu.

“Brother Snake, we came back this time to find a person.” Lee Long hesitated before he admitted, “This kid’s mother is sick. His family has secured hospital funding but the money has been stolen by his father.” The old man still didn’t lift his head. “So he came to us to loan money. As long as we can find his father, he should be able to return our money.” Lee Long admitted to everything.

“You’re done?” The old man put down the tea cup, “You really think his father would still have the money after he’s entered western city?”

“We have to give it a try...”

“Western city is no longer the same place as it was before.” Brother Snake flipped over the book. “My words have no power anymore.”

Lee Long and Lee Hu were stunned. In the end, it was the male waiter who explained, “Not too long ago, 2 madmen arrived at western city. One was called 7th finger, the other 8th finger. They gathered the local ruffians and started to create a mess everywhere, ignoring the local rules. A few of our businesses have already fallen thanks to them.”

“What? What is their goal?” Lee Long was shocked.

“Those two madmen do not fear pain and they are incredibly strong. Even with a knife stuck in their body, it doesn’t hinder their speed. They do not show any concrete goal either. They mainly go around torturing people. Should our people get captured, even if they managed to survive, they would rather be dead.” The waiter sighed, “You shouldn’t have come back.”

Brother Snake didn’t intend to help find the altar owner’s father. Just as Han Fei planned to give up, chaos came from outside the tea shop. The waiter went out to look but he soon rushed back and ushered Han Fei’s group to the room next door. Footsteps came from the corridor and about 5 people entered Brother Snake’s room. The soundproofing at the tea shop was very good, so Han Fei couldn’t hear what they discussed.

About 5 minutes later, the system suddenly said, “Notifications for Player 0000! You’ve triggered a random mission—Caged Beast.

“Caged Beast: A man enclosed in a cage will eventually become a beast.

“Mission Requirement: Do not get caged in the lightless basement.”

The sudden system notification alerted Han Fei. He hadn’t done anything but the mission was triggered. This could only mean that something bad was happening near him. “Be careful.” Han Fei reminded Lee Long and Lee Hu. Then the door opened. The waiter entered the room. He glanced at Han Fei with pity before asking them to return to Brother Snake’s room.

The fragrance of tea filled up the room, the tea on Brother Snake’s table was splattered all over but no one in the room cared.

“He’s the one we’re looking for?” A middle-aged man about 50 looked at Han Fei as he scratched his pockmarked face. “So he’s right here, good. Save me the trouble of looking for him. Hand the man and the thing over to me.”

“What thing?” Lee Long and Lee Hu were confused. Brother Snake explained, “This young man owes you money right?”

“Yes.”

“Give his loan contract to Wang Quan, from now on, the young man has nothing to do with you anymore.” Brother Snake appeared to have come to some kind of trade with the pockmarked face. The man would take away Han Fei and the contract, while Brother Snake would have some compensation. Lee Long hesitated, he felt something was wrong. “There is no loan contract, we only had a verbal contract.”

“A verbal contract?” Not only Brother Snake, the others also raised their brows. Since when did the loansharks become so civilized?

“So be it. We’re taking the kid regardless.” The man looked at Han Fei with greed. It was like after he brought Han Fei back, he would get a lot of money.

“That doesn’t sound right.” Lee Hu was the only one who stood up for Han Fei. He was quite a good friend. “He owed us money so he should stay with us.”

“Stop wasting my time!” The pockmarked face stood up with impatience. He ignored Lee Long and Lee Hu as he walked towards Han Fei. “Come with us.”

“I didn’t owe you money, why should I go with you?”

“I’d advise you to listen to us.” Wang Quan warned. The male waiter whispered a warning, “They are those 2 madmen’s people. You better go with them. The more you resist, the worse you’ll end up.”

‘Wang Quan is with those 2 Fingers?’ Many things clicked in Han Fei’s mind. First he suspected that he had been exposed but he soon vetoed that idea. Ten Fingers didn’t know he had already infiltrated into the altar or else they would have fought in the alley earlier. Han Fei thought back to the mission requirement. It was the mall boss who told him to come to western city. There were not many people who knew Han Fei was with Lee Long and Lee Hu, the mall boss was one of them. Han Fei hadn’t even gotten to know the people at the western city and Wang Quan already came to find him. Han Fei refused to believe this had nothing to do with the mall boss. ‘The mission’s name is Caged Beast, and it requires me not to enter the basement. If this is one of the owner’s regrets, it meant that he was caged underground before. Just how much torture a man has to go through to become a beast?’

The mall boss appeared kind on the surface but the moment he turned around, he had people come after Han Fei. The old man's heart was probably black.

"Relax, we're only going to bring you to another place." Wang Quan and his two followers approached Han Fei. When one of them tried to grab Han Fei, Lee Long moved to block him. "We are his creditors, we haven't agreed to this."

"You sure? You better think about this." Wang Quan was too lazy to deal with Lee Long, he turned towards Brother Snake. The frowning Brother Snake shook his head at Lee Long, telling him to back down.

"Get out of the way!" The two ruffians pushed Lee Long and Lee Hu away. They reached for Han Fei. Han Fei spoke. "How come no one has asked for my opinion when I'm the one you want?"

"Is your opinion important?" Wang Quan looked at Han Fei like he was a stack of money. "Let me tell you a story. There was a kid who ran away from home and came to western city. He was pampered at home and so he was prone to run his mouth. He took things that he shouldn't so we broke his fingers one by one. He is now an invalid and has to beg for food. Of course, we would take all the money he begged. You remind me of him, do you want me to bring you to meet him?" Wang Quan and his men laughed. Seeing them so happy, Han Fei smiled as well. He took half a step back and bent down his waist. He gathered his energy at his shoulder and then charged at one of the ruffian's chest!

The ribs shattered. The man tumbled backwards. Before the others could react, Han Fei already closed the distance. Thanks to his training with his neighbours, Han Fei's close-quarter combat ability was deadly, they all aimed to kill. His stamina of 30 overshadowed most normal people. Combine that with his wealth of fighting experience, fighting close quarters with Han Fei only had one result, it was to fall, the difference was how long it would take. No one expected Han Fei to counter. They also didn't expect Han Fei to take down the 3 in 10 seconds.

Technically he used 3 moves to incapacitate 3 people, he used the last few seconds to smooth down his employee's outfit. Han Fei had completely renewed the impression of everyone present.

"If you plan to learn from me, I can teach you." Han Fei dragged Wang Quan and sat down across from Brother Snake, he placed Wang Quan's hand on the table.

“What do you want?” Brother Snake couldn’t read the young man before him. He had seen many people but he couldn’t tell anything from Han Fei’s facial expression.

“I heard from Lee Long and Lee Hu that you ruled this place when you were young.” Han Fei suddenly applied force and broke Wang Quan’s pinkie. Wang Quan screamed. “Now you know pain? When you broke that young man’s fingers, why didn’t you feel the same pain?”

“Damn you, ah!!!” Han Fei kicked Wang Quan and then continued to converse with Brother Snake. “You were forced to agree to these people’s demands because you are worried about those 2 new madmen. If I have a way to deal with them, would you consider helping me?”

“You can deal with them?” 7th and 8th fingers were indeed a problem for Brother Snake.

“Of course.” Han Fei broke another one of Wang Quan’s fingers. “Your words will mean something again at western city. If you disagree, then you will not only face endless revenge from those two, I will also do my best to take you down as well. After all, you did plan to sell me for money.”

Brother Snake’s eyes twitched and then glanced at Lee Long and Lee Hu. ‘What kind of demon have they brought with them?’

“I have no reason to disagree.” Brother Snake tapped on the wooden table. A few people walked out. “I’ll give you until dusk to find this boy’s father and bring him to the tea shop.”

#### Chapter 445 Simple Hope

Han Fei already got Brother Snake’s cooperation but the system didn’t say that he had completed the mission. ‘The mission hasn’t been completed? Is there more to this mission?’ The parts related to the actual mission didn’t seem like they had started yet. Han Fei had to be very careful but he hadn’t slept for a whole day already. If he didn’t sleep, his physical condition would worsen. It was impossible to return home so Han Fei decided to rest at the tea shop.

“Be patient, the man you want will be here soon.” Brother Snake was a senior already. He moved his books away so Wang Quan’s blood wouldn’t dirty them. “Before your father is found, I will not leave this place, consider that my offer of sincerity.” Brother Snake volunteered as a hostage. He had the waiter

carry out the 2 ruffians Han Fei beat up and then continued to read and drink tea. Han Fei tore apart Wang Quan's shirt and stuffed them in the man's mouth. Han Fei then picked a corner to rest.

The room became so quiet, only Wang Quan's painful groans remained. Lee Long and Lee Hu chuckled to themselves seeing how Han Fei managed to sleep in this kind of situation. Brother Snake looked at Han Fei with interest, he believed Han Fei was testing him. 'He's young but he's brave.'

Han Fei was simply too tired. He just wanted to rest but after he closed his eyes, he fell asleep. "Even if your heart stops, you can live here forever..." The blurry voice said. He stood beside Han Fei but Han Fei couldn't touch him. Han Fei tried to communicate with the man but he realized he couldn't speak. He looked around in panic, it looked like he was trapped inside a black box. "If you become me then you will stay here forever..."

The sense of suffocation came. Han Fei felt the black box slowly closing in, squeezing his memory and soul. Han Fei struggled but the more he did, the faster the box shrunk. Eventually Han Fei's body was squeezed out of shape and his soul took on another form. Han Fei noticed he had become a figurine inside an altar, he was surrounded by sin and blood debt. 'The changes come little by little until one becomes the owner of the altar?'

When the suffocation disappeared, Han Fei woke up. His eyes flew open and frightened Wang Quan beside him. "I haven't done anything!"

"You breathe too loudly." Han Fei resisted the urge to kick the man. He glanced at the clock on the wall. He didn't think he had rested for that long but he had slept for 4 hours already. Hearing him, Lee Long and Lee Hu woke up as well. Only Brother Snake kept watching Han Fei, he had met many people in his life but this was his first time meeting someone like Han Fei.

Footsteps came from downstairs. Two large men carried a stinky middle-aged man upstairs. "Brother Snake, we've found the man." The two men dropped the middle-aged man to the ground. When Han Fei saw the man's face, an unknown fury burned through him. There was a memory in his mind that coaxed Han Fei to kill this man. The feeling was more than hatred, it was pain that seeped into one's bones. 'The altar owner hates his father that much? What happened between them?' The dream earlier appeared to be a hint, Han Fei had a feeling the turning point in the altar owner's life was coming.

The middle-aged man cowered on the ground but when he saw Han Fei, his expression slowly changed. "It was you who told them to get me? You little bastard, you plan to kill your own father?" Hearing the man's voice, another bad memory was triggered in Han Fei's mind. The man's voice always accompanied

punches and alcohol. Han Fei's body shivered, he realized with shock that he couldn't control the memory in his mind. 'The hatred is so strong.'

The middle-aged man wanted to swing punches at Han Fei but he was held back by Brother Snake's men. Han Fei slowly walked towards the man. He tried to suppress his anger and squeezed out the words through his teeth. "Where's the money?"

"What money?"

"The money for mom."

"I already told you I have not seen it before! Why would you think it was me who took it? The apartment was so old, it must be one of the poor neighbors who stole it!" It sounded more like the man was trying to sell the story to Brother Snake than to Han Fei.

Han Fei's fists tightened involuntarily. The waiter had seen Han Fei in action before, out of kindness, he reminded the middle-aged man, "Better be honest or else there'll be hell to pay."

"Brothers, you got the wrong idea." The middle-aged man smiled. "This kid owes you money, doesn't it? He couldn't return it so you came after me?" The waiter didn't answer. The man was desperate. "You bastard, who told you to loan money from loansharks? You're going to be the death of me! Plus why should I pay for the money you owe?"

Han Fei loosened his fists again. He repeated the question, "Where's the money?"

"You dare to ask me for money after everything that I have done for you?" The man didn't dare to scold Brother Snake so he vented his anger on Han Fei. The hatred and fury melted together. It caused Han Fei's mood point to drop. He took a deep breath. "I'll ask you one last time, where have you taken the money the kind people have gathered for mom?"

"I didn't take it! You are as annoying as that useless mother of yours..."

The fury exploded. Han Fei's leg came flying at the man's head. If the man was hit, his head would be dislocated. Han Fei didn't expect memories which didn't belong to him would influence him that much. To prevent the tragedy, Han Fei snapped out of it at the last moment and the kick landed on the wooden table beside the man. The wooden splinters flew across the man's eyes. The table was shattered into pieces and Han Fei's calf bled.

The room was quiet. "That money is for mom to save her life! Have you no heart?" The words leaked out of Han Fei's lips. The owner appeared to have said the same thing before.

The man was stunned. He collapsed on the ground. He touched his face which was scratched by the splinters and he uttered, "She has an incurable disease, no amount of money is going to help her, instead of wasting it, why not..." Feeling the sharp gaze from Han Fei, the man stopped talking. After a long time, the man finally admitted, "I have hidden most of the money, I'll bring you to go get it."

Seeing the pitiful man on the ground, the anger that didn't belong to Han Fei slowly receded. Even at this moment, the altar owner still treated the man as his father. If possible, he hoped his father could correct his mistake, and he was willing to give his father this opportunity. Sensing that memory in his mind, Han Fei decided to respect the man's decision. He stared coolly at the father.

The man crawled up from the ground. He walked out of the room wordlessly. The altar owner's memory was affecting Han Fei. Every time he woke up, the influence would get stronger, Han Fei had no idea if that was a good thing or not. After the man left the room, Han Fei didn't follow him. Instead he took a deep breath and turned to Brother Snake. The old man asked, "Why didn't you follow your father?"

"I didn't see even a shred of remorse on him." Han Fei glanced at Wang Quan. "We have held him hostage for 4 hours already but no one came to ask for him. That means that they have other plans. I'm afraid the new plan is to lure me out from the tea shop to separate me from your people."

"And I thought you have been blinded by rage already."

"Because of that, it hurts me even more." Han Fei looked tired.

"What are you two talking about?" Lee Hu was confused. Lee Long got it already. "The madmen probably have already reached out to the father and told him to lure his own son out from the tea shop!"

“What? But he is his father...” Lee Hu was shocked.

“Your friend is quite impressive.” Brother Snake picked up the tea pot and tried to pour a cup of tea but the pot was already empty. “Since the tea is already finished, let’s all follow him.” Brother Snake’s eyes were like mirrors. He never believed the father would return the money. Tapping the table, the aged Brother Snake’s eyes sharpened. “Call all our people and follow the pair of father and son from a distance.”

“Brother Snake, are you sure?”

“Of course, we’ve been waiting for a timing and this is it.”

The waiter helped bandage Han Fei’s leg and then Han Fei left the tea shop with Lee Long and Lee Hu. After they left the tea shop, the father was so much better in attitude. He even asked after the mother. He started to pull out the little bits of good memory they shared together. Everything was going fine. The father admitted his mistake. But this time he would help Han Fei and share his burden. The man painted a pretty picture and it was an alluring promise for the altar owner. He had borrowed from the loansharks, accidentally killed a man and he had to shoulder all the pressure alone. Even though his father was not a good person, he desperately hoped for someone to share his burden. He didn’t ask for much, just a helping hand.

The altar owner only had the simplest hope. The middle-aged man led Han Fei into an alley. They walked through the streets and finally they reached a 2 story building with white paint. This was a shop but it had been abandoned for a long time already.

“We’re there?”

“Western city is too chaotic, I didn’t dare to carry the money on me so I hid them here.” The middle-aged man sped up. He led Han Fei into the building and stopped before the basement door. Even though it was daytime, the basement was dark, with no light at all.

“I have hidden the money underground. I need you to help me light the way with your phone and we’ll go take the money together.” The middle-aged man moved towards the basement. When he noticed

Han Fei didn't follow him, he urged. "Come on!" Han Fei studied the man's face. After 10 seconds, Han Fei was disappointed, he couldn't see any regret or remorse on the man.

"He just wanted you to help him with this difficulty in his life, you have done so many bad things but he still wished to forgive you. However, you didn't even give him one last chance." Han Fei glanced into the dark basement. "So it was you who pushed him into the dark abyss."

"What are you talking about? The money is down there, it should be enough to heal your mother." The middle-aged man became nervous. He spoke faster and his sweat dripped to his nose.

"Man trapped inside a cage will eventually become a beast. He'd lost all of his humanity and kindness. But if there's a chance to be a human, who would choose to be a beast?" Han Fei remembered the mission requirement of Caged Beast-- Do not get caged in the lightless basement.

This dark basement before him was the cage that transformed the altar owner into the beast, this was the location that turned the man into a despairing, maddening creature.

Chapter 446 Tattoo

What is the most painful thing you have experienced? Everyone might have a different answer. But for the altar owner, this was an unanswerable question because when he thought he had already experienced the most painful thing in his life, there would be something worse waiting for him.

"Why are you standing there? Hurry up!" The father prompted urgently. He waved at Han Fei. "Don't you need the money to save your mother? We'll go and take it together!" The middle-aged man started to panic. His expression was anxious. "Come, follow me!" His tone became stern and even authoritative. The middle-aged man walked down the stairs very slowly. After taking a few steps, he turned to look behind him. When he saw Han Fei hadn't moved, the anger and anxiety in his eyes grew. "Hurry up, what are you still doing there?!" The father roared. This useless man only dared to raise his voice at his family.

Taking a deep breath, Han Fei took one step forward. He looked into the middle-aged man's eyes. "What have they promised you that you would trade for it with your own child's life?"

"They?" The middle-aged man's eyes darted about. "I don't know what you're talking about. What is wrong with you?"

“Even if you show a shred of remorse, he will find various reasons to persuade himself and let you go but you can’t even give him that.”

Seeing Han Fei’s refusal to budge, the father became desperate. “I told you to go down there! Why are you wasting my time?” The middle-aged man grabbed Han Fei’s arm, aiming to drag him underground. The man was weak, he assumed the altar owner wouldn’t fight back because he was the owner’s father.

Han Fei easily extricated himself from the man’s grasp. He grabbed the father by his collar and pulled that disgusting face towards him. “I didn’t hurt you at all at the tea shop but since you want me dead, then you can’t blame me anymore.”

“You, you unfilial bastard...”

Han Fei slapped the man’s face. He didn’t need to suppress his anger anymore. He punched the man’s stomach and tossed him to the corner. At that moment, noises came from all around the small building. Wang Quan’s people started to gather.

“This old bastard really is from the same gang as Wang Quan! He tries to scam his own son! Is he still human?” Lee Long and Lee Hu guarded behind Han Fei when they saw the ruffians armed with steel pipes and other weapons. Even though they were prepared, they were disgusted when they found out. Wang Quan’s people gathered but Han Fei’s attention was focused on the underground tunnel.

“Be careful, don’t move!” Han Fei’s eyes narrowed. He saw a shadow flash through the basement and then came the sound of the iron door being opened. Two figures walked out. One tall and one short. They carried metal pipes and chains. Human skull tattoos were on their necks. Behind them was a doctor. The man had on gloves and carried a medic kit. He was all scrubbed up like he was ready for an operation. ‘Why would a surgeon be underground? The altar owner has signed the contract to surrender his body?’

Han Fei, Lee Long and Lee Hu retreated. The two men who came out from the basement were interested in Han Fei. “When I saw him earlier, I thought he was new here. Now I can confirm he is unique, he should represent some kind of unique memory.” 7th Finger held the metal pipe and stared at Han Fei with anticipation.

"I've scanned everyone in this world but I have not seen him before. If the memory hasn't changed, then he comes from outside." 8th finger was stout and had wrinkly skin. "It doesn't matter, we'll capture him anyway." Dragging the chain on the ground, when 8th Finger moved forward, the ruffians also moved forward. Han Fei's exit was about to get blocked when footsteps came from the alleys not far away.

Brother Snake had arrived. They were all dressed in black. Among them were locals and workers at western city. 7th and 8th finger were crazy and cruel. They tortured people for joy. The residents at western city couldn't stand them for a long time already. They just needed someone to unite them. Han Fei's appearance had given them an opportunity, an opportunity to riot.

"That's quite a lot of you, but it doesn't matter." Brother Snake had gathered many people. Brother Snake had the number's advantage but 8th Finger didn't panic. He looked at Brother Snake and the other locals. "This is not my first time entering his memory and thus not my first time dealing with you people either, so why can't you learn from the past lessons?" The pale finger raised and 7th finger pointed at Brother Snake. "The last time we killed you it was 30 days ago. Your daughter cried so hard. I love her cries so I took one whole night to kill you. I know you're curious about what I did to your daughter. I put her inside a box and made her into a music box."

Brother Snake's face darkened. Not many people knew he had a daughter, this was his biggest secret.

"And you two brothers. I've peeled off your tattoos and pasted them on the wall.

"And you, what's your name again? Never mind, it's not important. I only remember how you died as well as the spots on your heart."

8th Finger's eyes swept everyone present. He had killed everyone before. "Don't hate me, hate yourself for living at western city. In this memory world, this place is abandoned by the altar owner so we can unleash our resentment here without worry. It will not affect his memory because in his mind, all of you deserve to die."

"Don't listen to this madman! Take them down!" The waiter from the tea shop shouted. They rushed forward. The brawl exploded inside the white building.

After hearing 8th finger, Han Fei understood why Brother Snake called them crazy. This was not the first time Ten Fingers entered the memory world. Every time they failed and were forced out from the altar,

the memory world would reset. Ten Fingers must have killed plenty of people inside the memory world already.

“Resistance is futile, you can’t even kill me. You are just dust on the surface of this world, we can wipe you off with a swipe of our hand!” 8th Finger shouted arrogantly. His voice attracted the attention of the workers at the tea shop. The workers were actually Brother Snake’s closest disciples. When they heard the men humiliate Brother Snake, they were already fuming. They shared a look and when they were 2 metres away from 8th Finger, they moved at the same time and surrounded 8th Finger. The solid wooden clubs fell. 8th Finger evaded the attack easily but when he was not looking, the waiter swung a club right at 8th Finger’s head. Blood flowed, 8th Finger’s skull cracked but strangely enough, he didn’t fall. If anything, he moved faster and crazier!

This man didn’t appear to be human. The injury had no influence on him. The waiter was shocked. Before he could recover, his stomach was punctured. Staring at the dripping blood, he couldn’t believe that chains could pierce through flesh so easily.

The twisted face leaned near him. 8th Finger smiled as he pulled out the chain. “You’re just a shell filled with memory, you don’t really think you can harm me, do you?”

8th Finger didn’t even care about the other clubs landing on him. He dragged the waiter into the basement and turned to find his next target. “I’ll savor your despair later.” Dragging the bloody chain, 8th Finger started to look for Han Fei. He liked to kill new people, the fresh meat made him excited.

“Found you.”

Han Fei stood at the entrance of the white building, he was protecting Lee Long and Lee Hu whose arms were broken. There were too many enemies. He was already injured, the wound on his calf started to bleed again.

8th Finger silently approached. He didn’t mind the injuries because pain would only make him more excited. The closer he got, the more bloodshot his eyes. “Not a rotten memory, I can smell soul on him.” 8th Finger picked up speed. The chain materialized beside Han Fei. As he planned to make his move, the tired Han Fei turned around with a faint smile on his face.

'He knew I was coming?' 8th Finger hesitated. His bloodshot eyes glanced towards Han Fei's hand which was pulling out a bladeless blade. 'A hilt?' 8th Finger was not afraid of the actual blade, why would he be scared of a bladeless blade?

His smile grew twisted. 8th Finger planned to keep Han Fei. He would torture such an interesting prey for a long time. After all, they would have to stay inside the memory world for a full 30 days every time they entered anyway.

When 8th Finger grabbed Han Fei by his neck, Han Fei plunged the bladeless blade into 8th Finger's heart. The sun was blinding. No one realized something was wrong. Even 8th Finger only felt a chill near his heart. Then fire burnt through his chest! He could feel his memory being ignited. The flame on his shell seared through his soul. Han Fei and 8th Finger collapsed but the latter couldn't stand up anymore. All of his sins were severed and his soul was made entirely out of sin.

"How is it possible..." The brawl around them continued. The large 7th Finger appeared to sense something. He snapped out from his madness. He saw Han Fei who was on the ground and the chains that draped across his shoulders. He charged towards Han Fei, the metal pipe attacking everyone that stood in his way. 7th Finger finally reached Han Fei. He grabbed the chain on Han Fei's shoulder and he noticed something was wrong. This chain didn't belong to 8th Finger. It was covered with animal fur, presence of death and curse. When he noticed the problem, the chains came alive. It wrapped around him like a snake. 7th Finger struggled. His heart chilled, he hadn't felt that in a long time already.

"Not good!" Without any hesitation, the human skull tattoo on the back of 7th Finger's neck started to dissolve!

Black hatred scorched the skin and burst through the blood capillaries. They surged towards 7th Finger's heart but they were too late. Before the black resentment from the tattoo could inject into the heart, the sun already pierced through it.

The large body melted under the sun. 7th Finger's left arm swung at his attacker in a last attempt. Even if he was going to die, he would leave a lasting imprint on his enemy. The arm that contained deep resentment squeezed. 7th Finger crushed the plaster around Lee Long's arm. He left a black handprint that couldn't be removed on Lee Long's arm. While Lee Long screamed, Han Fei pulled out Rest in Peace.

'I've already moved so fast but he still had the chance to counter. The human skull tattoos are more than mere decoration, they contain Ten Fingers' power.' Han Fei expected a counter attack but not in this form.

The imprint left on Lee Long could be used to confuse the rest of the Ten Fingers. If Han Fei was imprinted, he might die before he could rectify the altar owner's regret.

Wang Quan's people never had the advantage to begin with. After 7th and 8th Finger disappeared, they lost all fights.

"Those 2 madmen had escaped! They're afraid!" Someone shouted to shake the enemy's morale. Wang Quan's people started to scatter. After the enemies had been taken care of, Brother Snake and the other people moved towards Han Fei. The old fox didn't ask about 7th and 8th Finger. He was only concerned about Han Fei's injuries. Then he announced to everyone that Han Fei's loan with Lee Long had been absolved. To prove his words, Brother Snake found the loan contract between Han Fei and the man with the colorful shirt and burnt it up.

After getting Brother Snake's friendship and clearing all the debt, the system rang.

"Notification for Player 0000! You've completed the mission—Caged Beast!

"Man trapped inside the cage will lose all humanity to become a mud figurine inside the altar. You've rectified 30 percent of the altar owner's regret! You've obtained a lot of EXP. You've obtained the blind red left eye; the punctured right ear; the broken 5 fingers of the left hand; the dead internal organs. Please enter the basement to claim the mission rewards!"

Han Fei noticed that the mission had directly corrected 10 percent of the altar owner's regrets. 'Just what has he experienced in the basement?'

After the mission was completed, Han Fei entered the basement with Lee Long and Lee Hu. They walked down the staircase before they reached the land where the sun couldn't reach. He pulled open the iron door and before them squatted a doctor who was shivering in the dark. "Please let me go, I don't know anything! I have nothing to do with them!" The man knelt on the ground. "They forced me here!"

The basement had been redesigned, the space was huge. Han Fei took out his phone for a light source. The basement was filled with bloody mattresses and chains. A chair was placed in the middle of the room.

When he saw these things, the memory in Han Fei's mind burnt. Different heart-tearing pain tore through Han Fei's nerves as screams echoed in his ears. The memories that didn't belong to Han Fei were torn into different parts, they were imbued into Han Fei's left eye, right ear, five fingers and internal organs.

When Han Fei came to his senses, he was sitting on the wooden chair and his arms were weak.

The world that he saw from his right eye was normal but the world he saw from his left eye was covered in blood mist. Among the mist, some people still looked normal but some had fully mutated but they didn't realize it.

"I am inside the room behind the dresser..." There was a voice that spoke into his right ear. Han Fei stood up to push away the only dresser in the basement. There was a hidden door behind it.

Chapter 447 Me

'There's another door?' Han Fei turned back to glance at the doctor in the surgeon's outfit. 'They probably used this place more than to torture people.' Pulling open the hidden door, they were hit by a strong scent of blood mixed with medicine. The hidden room was very big with various surgical instruments as well as 2 simple surgical tables.

"This is..." While he moved, Han Fei's injured leg knocked against a box. The box toppled over and the content spilled out. There were many bloody one-time use surgical tools. Han Fei looked deeper into the room and it only got more revolting. Covering his nose and mouth, Han Fei silently moved forward. His left eye was bloodshot and something echoed in his right ear. It felt like he was inside a frozen river, the chilling water gushed into his ears, silencing the other sounds.

"When you get this shot of sedative, you will not feel pain anymore, but the price is you'll lose part of your body." The unfamiliar voice began again. When Han Fei came to his senses, he was already lying on the surgical table. The shadeless lights above the surgical table lit up. They were immensely blinding. This was probably when the sedative was injected into the altar owner's body. He could no longer struggle as the light descended over him. Energy drained from his body. Han Fei felt excessive pain

coming from his internal organs, he wanted to scream but there was no sound coming out from his mouth.

The memories that didn't belong to him were torn apart and the pieces fitted perfectly into Han Fei's body, they flowed through his blood, entering his organs.

"Notification for Player 0000! You've gained dead internal organs, your physical recovery speed increases, stamina permanently +1!

"Notification for Player 0000! You've triggered a random mission—Me.

"Me: After I have killed all of my kindness, am I still me?

"Mission Requirement: There are 2 mirrors in the room, one will reflect the truth, the other will reflect false hope, please make the correct choice."

Han Fei opened his eyes blurrily. He tried to move his arms and control his body. He wanted to crawl down from the surgical table but as he turned over, he fell directly to the ground. His body was too numb to feel any pain.

Blinded by the light and darkness, he couldn't see the exit but he did see 2 mirrors hanging on the wall. Han Fei stumbled towards them. The two mirrors hung on the wall but the reflections were completely different.

The left mirror showed a clean and proper surgical theatre. The doctor rejected Wang Quan's demands. The altar owner's father was in the room. He knelt down beside Wang Quan, his eyes filled with remorse. He begged Wang Quan to not harm his son. Wang Quan finally surrendered to the doctor and the father's request. He groaned and told the doctor to put his instruments away.

The surgical theatre in the right mirror had flickering lights. When the lights came on, one could see a room covered in blood. In this room, there was no doctor, Wang Quan and the father. Only a young man leaning before the mirror. He was abandoned here. His face was ruined and his hand touched the mirror. His blood and tears leaked into his mouth, no one could hear his cry for help.

'This is so cruel.' Staring at the mirrors, Han Fei finally placed his hand on the right hand. He reached out to touch the palm of the young man in the mirror.

"Notification for Player 0000! You've completed the mission—Me.

"Thank you for finding the real me. Many years ago, I abandoned him inside the surgical theatre mirror and from that day onwards, I wasn't me anymore.

"You've rectified 35 percent of the altar owner's regret! You've obtained a large amount of EXP and the preliminary approval of the altar!"

When the system chimed, all the strange mutations disappeared. Han Fei gained control over the memory that didn't belong to him. He didn't feel as influenced by them as before.

"To inherit this evil altar, I have to fulfill various conditions. I'm sure I have not done that so why has the previous altar owner given me his preliminary approval already?"

The shadeless lights returned to normal. Han Fei stood before a single mirror. The mirror faced the surgical table so that the patient could see the operations being done on them. Everything had returned to normal but Han Fei felt like he had bade farewell to an important person inside the mirror.

"Why are you crying?" Lee Hu studied Han Fei with shock. Even when he found out he was scammed by his biological father, Han Fei showed no emotion. But now for no reason, tears trickled down Han Fei's face.

"These are not my tears." Han Fei touched the mirror before him. He turned to ask the rest, "Can I bring this mirror with me?"

"Of course, but why would you want it?"

"As a memento." Han Fei carefully removed the mirror. He studied it again to see if there was anything special about it. Han Fei walked out from the basement. He gave Brother Snake full right on how to

handle Wang Quan and the doctor. He was more worried about another thing. Han Fei had killed 8th and 7th Finger, the other fingers wouldn't forgive him. The next few days would be rocky.

"The world has started to mutate. I have to fulfill the altar owner's regrets as soon as possible to become the altar's new owner!" If Han Fei's failed, he would die, the Mirror God's sacrifice would be in vain, Weep and the red dress as well as the other tenants would die too. "I need to survive until the end!"

Han Fei stood outside the white building. Brother Snake's people were everywhere, western city was controlled by Brother Snake again but the old man had no idea that he had been targeted by something more dangerous.

Members of Ten Fingers could dissolve their tattoo to ignite the resentment within them.

"You've helped us greatly but you need to be careful." Brother Snake remembered what 8th Finger said. At his age, he didn't care about much, his only weakness was his daughter. "These madmen appear to come from another city and they most likely have other teammates."

"It was your people who chased them away, that has nothing to do with me." Han Fei didn't want to stay at western city but his leg was injured and the brawl had exhausted him a lot.

"Well, aren't you clever." Brother Snake scratched his beard and narrowed his eyes. "Your father sneaked away during the brawl, do you need me to find him?"

"Thank you in advance then."

"I'll have my people look for him. You should come back with me to the tea shop." With Brother Snake's invitation, Han Fei carried the mirror back to the tea shop. Brother Snake invited him to a scrumptious meal. After the meal, Han Fei was given a room to rest with Lee Long and Lee Hu. Han Fei knew what Brother Hu was doing, he wanted to know how Han Fei dealt with 7th Finger. He wanted to know Han Fei's secret. But as an acting master, Han Fei was not going to reveal his secret so easily.

Han Fei took the time to rest and had Brother Snake pay attention to suspicious people who might have entered western city. When Han Fei woke up, the sky outside the window was already dark.

“Come on, we should leave already.” Lee Long shook Han Fei awake, “It’s very chaotic at western city at night so we better don’t stay overnight.”

“Has my father been found?”

“No, he probably has already left western city.”

After sharing another meal with Brother Snake, Han Fei, Lee Long and Lee Hu left the tea shop. They walked along the broken city streets for a long time before they reached the bus stop. “No taxi dares to come here so we have to take the bus.” Lee Long glanced at his watch. “There should be one last bus.”

“Actually instead of worrying how to get back, I’m more worried about the 2 of you.” Han Fei turned around to address them. “Our debt is cleared but if you don’t have my protection, you won’t be able to survive those crazy people’s revenge.”

“Your protection?” The brothers were startled. This was the first time they were told something like that but then it was also true.

“Did you notice the tattoo around 7th and 8th finger’s neck? Those are the marks of a very crazy organization. The members are all mentally ill. Now that Brother Snake has offended them, they will do everything to take revenge!” Han Fei sighed.

“There are more like 7th and 8th Finger?” Lee Hu was scared.

“Yes, for the sake of security, you two better stay with me. You can act as my liaison with Brother Snake. Tell me when you get any new update and we’ll work together to overcome this hurdle.” Han Fei had no idea how this memory world would mutate to in the end, so he decided to gather as many allies as he could.

Lee Long in his left and right eyes was already different. In his right eye, Lee Long was normal but in his left eye, Lee Long radiated death.

“Okay...” Lee Long and Lee Hu shared a look. They had been in the loanshark business for years, this was the first time they encountered someone like Han Fei. They had a feeling that if they didn’t agree, Han Fei would borrow another loan from them so that they would have to follow him. While they chatted, the last bus of the day arrived. Han Fei took out the fare. “My treat.”

The bus stopped. Han Fei was the last to get on. There was no one at the bus stop anymore but the driver still didn’t close the door. After about 10 seconds, the driver finally started the engine. He grumbled. “There sure are a lot of passengers at this stop.”

The bus departed. The in the bus rang. Han Fei’s expression shifted because he heard different versions in his ears.

“The vehicle is starting, please sit properly, the next station, River Hospital.”

“The vehicle is starting, please sit properly, the next station, the next station, the next station...” The next station kept repeating in Han Fei’s right ear. The voice also became sharper and sharper like the person’s air was being cut off.

“We better sit close to the door.” Han Fei glanced at his character profile. After he got on the bus, his mood points started to drop.

Chapter 448 Nurse

Bus Route 32, a normal, unassuming bus. No accident had happened on this route for more than 10 years, it was even selected by the public transport company as the bus route with the highest customer satisfaction. But such a normal bus became slightly different that night. It drove out from the bus stop but it was stuck in darkness like it was surrounded by a black mist.

“The vehicle is starting, please sit properly, the next station, the next station, the next station...” The broadcast kept repeating but other than Han Fei, no one realized there was anything out of place.

“If anyone strange gets up at the next station, we’ll descend immediately, understood?”

“But why?” Lee Hu was confused. Since Han Fei whispered, he whispered back. “This is the last bus of this route. If we descend halfway, how are we supposed to get back home?”

“When there’s a will, there’s a way.” The broadcast echoed in Han Fei’s right ear. The bus appeared to have no destination because its next stop could be death. There was no traffic on the road because it was already midnight. Only bus 32 traveled down the road. The driver was used to this. He started to accelerate to reach home early.

“Is there anyone who needs to descend at the next stop? If there’s none, I’m not going to stop!” The driver shouted without even turning his head around. No one answered but then the driver added, “Granny, you need to speak up, I can’t hear you.”

Hearing that, Lee Long looked around in curiosity. He did find an old woman sitting at the corner of the last room. She was hugging a swaddled baby who was soundly asleep. ‘Was she on the bus earlier?’ Lee Long couldn’t be sure. He was too tired to pay much attention. Lee Long shook his head and prepared to close his eyes to rest when the driver said, “The rest of you want to stop too? Why are so many people going to River Hospital? You people don’t look so good, is it food poisoning?”

The inside of the bus was silent. Lee Long and Lee Hu shared a look. They had no idea who the driver was talking to. Lee Hu nudged Han Fei and whispered, “Is there something wrong with the driver? There are only a few of us on the bus...” He glanced to the side as he began and the rest of his words got stuck in his throat.

Numerous passengers had appeared inside the bus. Some of them were playing on their phones, others were resting. They were all acting normally. However their faces were pale and there were blotches of mold on their skin.

“When did they get on the bus?” Lee Hu’s brain was numb. He turned to ask his big brother but he noticed Lee Long’s face was strangely ashen. Perhaps it was the lights or Lee Long was overly tired, Lee Long looked dead like a body at the morgue.

Holding Han Fei by his shoulders, Lee Hu wanted to tell Han Fei about his brother but he soon discovered something even more abnormal.

Han Fei’s left hand grabbed his left eye like he was trying to pull his eyeball out. “The fuck, what is wrong with you people?” The bus moved faster and the inside of the bus became colder. The driver didn’t seem to notice any problem. He grumbled, “Has the AC broken down?”

Finally the next stop appeared down the distance. The silhouette of a hospital could be seen in the dark. This private hospital was built alongside the river. It started as an old people's home for the rich but due to unknown reasons, it became a private hospital.

"We'll get down at this stop!" Before the bus even reached the stop, Lee Hu already started to urge. He nudged Lee Long with his plastered arm. "Brother, please don't scare me!"

"Are you crazy?" Lee Long was confused. "You're the one scaring me! Plus, you need to pipe down, can't you see that everyone is sleeping?"

"Brother...." Lee Hu studied his brother's face. If not for his broken arms, he would grab Lee Long's hands to touch his own face. "Your face seems to be bleeding black fog."

"What nonsense."

Seeing as Lee Long ignored him, Lee Hu turned to shake Han Fei's shoulder. "Brother, let's get down the bus, something's not right here."

"My mood points are dipping drastically, something very special is going to get on the bus at the next bus stop." Han Fei held his bloodshot left eye as he stared at the windshield. Using the lights inside the bus, he saw the reflection of a young man on the windshield. The young man's head, arms, and chest were all bandaged. He was extremely weak and blood was dyeing the bandage red.

'Is that the altar owner? How did he manage to leave western city in that state?' Not one shred of kindness and purity could be seen on the young man's reflection anymore. His unharmed eye was filled with pain and resentment. His teeth were broken. It was hard to imagine what kind of energy had kept him going. Perhaps it was the love for his mother or the hatred for his father.

Han Fei's left eye pulsed with pain as the bus arrived at River Hospital's stop. The wounded young man in the reflection collapsed to the ground. Then Han Fei saw something stranger. Through the windshield, he saw a young woman in a nurse's outfit jump down from the roof of River Hospital. Her body slammed into the wall of the building and blood splattered everywhere. In the end, she landed on the giant signboard of River Hospital and blood turned her white nurse outfit red.

The broadcast echoed nonstop. The nurse appeared to hear the broadcast. Her twisted frame slowly stood up. Teetering on a broken skeleton, she moved towards the bus stop. With each of her steps, the nurse would leave behind a bloody footprint. Han Fei's left eye saw her slowly approach the bus stop.

When the bus entered the station, the woman materialized at the bus stop.

"We need to leave now!" Han Fei stood up as the front and back doors of the bus opened.

"Something really is getting on the bus?" Lee Hu was already tense. When he heard Han Fei, he quickly helped his big brother get up. Since the brothers were injured, they moved slowly. As they left their seats, Han Fei saw the nurse get on the bus. Lee Hu held his breath and Han Fei gripped his hands with anxiety. However, as the woman got on the bus, she morphed into a completely different person.

She was wearing a clean shirt and holding a bag. The bag carried a nurse's outfit. She looked 1 or 2 years younger than Han Fei. She exuded a comforting presence. The light landed on the young man and she saw Han Fei who was near the back door. For some reason, she smiled at Han Fei. She wasn't unusually pretty but she made Han Fei feel at ease. When she smiled, it was like a light at the end of the tunnel.

After paying her fare, the woman carried her bag and walked to Han Fei's side. "Is anyone sitting beside you?"

This was the first time Han Fei heard such a mellifluous voice in the memory world. It was like she was singing. Shaking his head, Han Fei turned to the Lee Brothers, the two also didn't know what to do. 'Aren't we supposed to get down from the bus?'

"Then I hope you don't mind me sitting beside you." The woman sat down. Han Fei studied the girl quietly. He realized the girl didn't exist in his left eye but only his right eye. The bus started again and the temperature slowly recovered. Even the lights became brighter.

Han Fei felt like there were some secrets on this woman but he had too little info to make any speculation.

“How did you injure your leg?” The woman noticed Han Fei’s bleeding leg. “This kind of bandaging won’t stop the bleeding. It only causes the wound to break open again!” Squatting down, the woman placed her bag on the seat. She then pulled out some clean bandage and medical supplies from the bag and helped Han Fei clean the wounds on his leg and arms. Han Fei studied the woman quietly. He didn’t stop her.

To survive in the cryptic world, Han Fei had studied many first aid skills. He noticed the nurse wasn’t that good at it, her skills were barely passable.

“Okay, this should be fine now.” The woman looked at her work with satisfaction. She tied back her bag and sat back down. As the bus continued to move forward, the lights slowly dimmed and the temperature dipped. Suddenly Han Fei felt a nudge on his left shoulder. The woman leaned against him like they were a couple.

With a frown, Han Fei silently reached into his pocket to grab Rest in Peace. But at that moment, the woman silently passed her phone to Han Fei. The screen read—Do you need me to call the police for you? Those two behind you don’t look like good people, are you being threatened by them?

They were leaning so close that Lee Long and Lee Hu couldn’t see the light from the phone screen.

‘This woman seems to have misunderstood something.’ Han Fei didn’t explain. He was more curious about the woman’s identity and how she fitted into the altar owner’s memory. Plus why did she transform so completely after she got on the bus?

As Han Fei studied the woman, he realized the nurse looked a little bit like the altar owner’s mother.

“Can you tell me your name?”

“Lin Lu.” The nurse’s finger tapped on the screen—If it’s inconvenient for you to speak, then you can blink at me. Blink rapidly, I will call the police.

Han Fei wasn’t reading the messages anymore because after the woman gave him her name, another notification came into Han Fei’s mind.

“Notification for Player 0000! You’ve triggered a random mission—Wish 3.

“Wish 3—Love: I have never felt love before, there is not a piece of my memory that is worth preserving.

“Mission requirement: Find the right time, right location and right method to kill Lin Lu.”

Han Fei stared at Lin Lu’s face. ‘Kill?’ Han Fei’s eyes moved to the windshield. The reflection showed a man covered in wounds and blood. He collapsed on the seat but no one dared to come help him. ‘How cruel is the world?’

Han Fei slowly pushed Lin Lu away. He took out his phone. “Thank you for your concern but you seem to have misunderstood something. I accidentally caused the wounds on myself and the two behind us are my friends.”

Lin Lu clearly didn’t believe Han Fei. Then again, it was hard for a normal person to buy the story that an accident would cause injuries as serious as Han Fei’s. She kept making eye contact at Han Fei, offering to help.

“You should get down when it’s your stop, you shouldn’t mind others business.” When Han Fei said that, he realized the landlady had told him something similar yesterday. Lin Lu seemed to realize something and stopped talking to Han Fei. The bus continued to move. When the bus reached the next stop, Lin Lu nudged Han Fei and slipped a paper note into his pocket before she got down. This stop was the Third People Hospital. After Lin Lu left, the temperature inside the bus dipped again. All the passengers felt like carcasses. No one spoke.

Han Fei reached into his pocket and saw the contact number on the paper note. His right eye saw an unknown number but his left eye saw his own number.

‘Before Lin Lu’s appearance, the bus didn’t seem like it would reach the next stop. This is a representation of the altar owner’s mindset. He knew he was dying so he couldn’t ever reach the next stop.

‘Bus 32 was filled with the silent dead. They ignored the heavily-injured altar owner, their heartlessness was heart-piercingly cold.

'The constant temperature drop inside the vehicle should represent the altar owner's body temperature. He was edging towards death, this was a bus heading towards death.

'But everything changed after Lin Lu got on the bus. The temperature slowly rose back to normal. But is Lin Lu even real?

'The woman who jumped from River Hospital slowly made her way to the bus stop and ascended the bus as Lin Lu.

'Perhaps Lin Lu was just the altar owner's imagination. After he witnessed the nurse's death, his desperate desire for survival had cultivated this white angel within his mind.'

Chapter 449 Choice that He Didn't Make

'The mission requires me to kill Lin Lu. Why is the mission called love but I have to ruin the last bit of goodness? And what does it mean by suitable time?' Honestly Han Fei didn't want to kill. The altar owner already had it bad, he didn't want to eliminate the last bit of goodness in his heart.

'But if I don't complete the mission, it'll probably affect my ability to inherit the altar.' After surviving for days inside the memory world, Han Fei finally understood how difficult it was to inherit an ownerless altar.

The bus flew through the darkness. After Lin Lu left, the temperature started to drop again, but Han Fei was about to reach their station soon. If Lin Lu didn't get on the bus halfway and cause the temperature and the other passengers to turn back to normal, Han Fei's group wouldn't survive until the end. This corresponded to the altar owner's physical state. He teetered between life and death but managed to survive.

'Perhaps when he first saw the altar, something had already done something to his body but he merely hadn't realized it.' Before the temperature inside the car dropped down to 0, the bus finally reached the mall. Han Fei's group got down the bus in a hurry.

"I will not take the last bus again." Lee Hu swore to himself. His eyes kept wandering to his brother. Lee Long's face hadn't returned to normal. The death between his eyes thickened, "Brother, are you alright?"

"He'll be fine. You better go back and pack your things now." Han Fei had painted the Ten Fingers as a very scary organization. Worried that they'd be targeted, Lee Long decided to pack and move to a safer place to stay. The two brothers disappeared into the night. Han Fei watched the giant clock outside the mall. He didn't go home but walked into the mall. It was time for work.

He entered the mall through Entrance C. The guardhouse at the entrance was empty. The mall was dark, even darker than usual. Other than the light from the large signboard, the only other light source was the light dim from the 2nd hand store. Dragging his injured leg, Han Fei looked into the shop. Fei Yang was playing on his phone behind the counter.

He opened the door and entered the shop. At the same time, the system rang. "Notification for Player 0000! Your current hunger point is 10. Your physical condition is bad, and your mental condition is rather disappointed. Your mood point is 50. Are you going to start today's work?"

"Yes."

When the doorbell chimed, Fei Yang immediately put away his phone. But when he realized it was only Han Fei, he sighed in relief. "You scared me, I thought it was the boss."

"You're the only one here?"

"Who else? Huang Li is in a coma and you didn't answer any of the calls I made to you so I have to look after the shop alone. Thankfully, there weren't many customers today." After Fei Yang finished the game on his phone, he walked out from behind the counter. "What the! What happened to you?! You got into a car accident?"

"I tripped." Han Fei studied Fei Yang, hoping to see something from his expression. Unfortunately the young man was like a sheep waiting for slaughter, even though he knew the dangers of the 2nd hand shop, he had no intention of putting up a resistance.

“Brother, you’ll need to watch yourself now that we’re the only 2 workers this shop has.” Fei Yang grabbed his jacket and handed the account book over to Han Fei. “I’ve already done the accounts, so you only need to man the counter.” This was rare because Fei Yang was not normally that hardworking. Fei Yang stretched and prepared to leave when he suddenly remembered something. “By the way, the guards didn’t come to work today. I can’t reach Zhu Wei on his phone either. Be careful, you’re the only one at the mall today.” After making a scary face, Fei Yang pointed at a coffee cup on the counter. “I ordered 2 cups of coffee. That one is for you. Bye bye.”

Fei Yang put on his jacket and left.

‘Both of the guards haven’t come to work? Are they dead?’ Through the glass window, Han Fei looked out. The large mall was like a black ocean and the small shop he was in was sinking. Even though Han Fei couldn’t wait for the mall boss to die, he still did his job seriously. Checking the inventory, calculating the account, and inputting the data into the computer, Han Fei respected his job. If he wasn’t a comedy actor, he would still shine in his field of choice.

Soon Han Fei finished his job. He noticed that even though Fei Yang had completed the account, he didn’t restock the empty shelves. ‘Is it because he was afraid to enter the basement to grab the new stock?’

Han Fei also didn’t want to enter the basement if necessary. He stopped at the entrance for a long time until he saw blood stains appear from his left eye. The blood stain appeared to leak out from his stomach. ‘Even in his state of injury, the altar owner still returns to this place?’

Opening the door, the blood in Han Fei’s left eye trailed into the storeroom. He followed the blood trail which ultimately stopped before the altar covered by the black cloth.

“Open it. It is the only thing who can save you now, why hesitate?” There was a gurgling river sound in his right ear. Underlying the sound of the current was a strange man’s voice. His left arm slowly raised but just as he was about to reach the black cloth, Han Fei stopped. “Only I can save myself.”

All the painful memories had gathered here. No one would be able to save him, they would only bring him greater pain. Han Fei’s hand landed on the hammer beside the altar. His fingers closed around the hilt. “You’ve tried your best to strip him of his kindness, is it because you’re afraid that he’ll destroy you after the kindness in his soul finds out the truth?”

The shape of a person appeared underneath the black cloth. He stared at Han Fei quietly.

“Those with twisted minds like to destroy goodness in the world to earn satisfaction. But I am the complete opposite. I like to destroy dirty and evil things, that way I can know that I am truly alive.” Han Fei swung the hammer. “I do wish to get your approval but I do not intend to become the person you wish for me to be.”

An old tool hammer was placed beside the altar but only now Han Fei noticed something. He couldn't see the hammer from his left eye. In other words, the hammer didn't really exist in the altar owner's memory. It was made by the altar owner's subconscious. Just like how Lin Lu represented love and beauty, this tool hammer beside the altar represented the owner's regret.

Even after he had become the devil's puppet, even after he had lost his humanity and kindness to become an Unmentionable, deep inside his memory, there was still the choice that he had missed... placed beside the altar.

Chapter 450 He Has Gone Missing

‘I never would have thought this hammer is part of the altar owner's imagination. In other words, he must have fallen for the boss' trap on the first night and opened the altar.’ Han Fei still remembered what happened yesterday night. He almost opened the altar but at the last minute, he picked up the tool hammer to smash his pinkie and that woke him up. ‘Just how many things in the memory world are made up? Do I need to use them to rectify his regrets?’

Until now, Han Fei still didn't quite understand the nature of the missions. For example, he really didn't want to kill Lin Lu; for example, he didn't want to abandon the hammer even though he knew it was fake.

“Open it, you don't have much time left. Everything you need is inside the altar. Open it and you will become your best self and all your desires will be satisfied.” The voice entered Han Fei's right ear again. Han Fei turned to the shielded altar. Shapes of human faces kept appearing under the black cloth. The lights in the basement started to flicker. Whenever it did, the human faces would change. Sometimes it was an old man, other times a woman or a child.

Han Fei's words had angered the 'divine' inside the altar. As the lights kept flickering, the black cloth united with the darkness around it. It kept growing like a beast that came from hell. ‘I wonder what will happen if I use this hammer constructed by the goodness within the altar owner to smash at the most

evil object in his memory.’ Raising the hammer, Han Fei planned to swing it. This world was too painful, destroying it might be a type of salvation.

Just as the hammer was about to connect with the expanding black cloth, the sound of falling came from inside the mall. The sound appeared to trigger some kind of the altar owner’s memory. The lights stopped flickering and the altar returned to normal.

‘The woman from the dressing room has returned?’ Placing the hammer in his pocket, Han Fei grabbed the stock from the shelf and prepared to leave. However, when he walked up the stairs, Han Fei discovered the hammer in his pocket had disappeared. He turned around and saw that the hammer had returned to its original place. It leaned against the altar, offering a second choice to those lured by the altar.

‘It can’t leave the storeroom?’ Han Fei was quite disappointed but he soon got over it. He restocked the shop and then walked out from the store with his flashlight. Fei Yang said the guards didn’t come to work so Han Fei was alone at the mall. Han Fei switched on the flashlight and headed towards the source of the sound. Soon he realized his mood point started to drop.

Han Fei suppressed his curiosity and returned to the shop lest he ran into any danger. However, at that moment, his left ear heard Lee Daxing greeting him and his right ear heard teeth crunching on bone and meat. Han Fei turned to the sound. The guard that Fei Yang said didn’t come to work that day was standing in front of a restaurant at the corner of the 5th store. He carried something in his hands and his face was incredibly white.

“Lee Daxing?” The distance between them wasn’t that far, depending on the way one decided to cross that distance. ‘Why is he standing alone on the 5th floor without any light? What is he doing there?’

The flashlight cut through the darkness and Han Fei got a better look at the man. However, the flashlight, which just had its battery changed, suddenly frizzed out and the light dimmed. Before his mood point dropped to zero, Han Fei rapidly retreated. He ran at the top of his speed. But after he ran for several seconds, he noticed the shops around him still looked the same. Using the last energy from the flashlight, Han Fei turned to the 5th floor. Lee Daxing was already gone. Han Fei swung the flashlight about, looking for Lee Daxing among the large mall.

Soon his left eye captured the man again. Lee Daxing in his guard uniform dragged something large and stood at the door of the 3rd floor elevator. When he saw Han Fei, his pale face broke into a smile. His mouth split open and all of his teeth were red. Bone chips stuck between his teeth. Lee Daxing waved at

Han Fei. He was running over to Han Fei and at that moment, Han Fei's flashlight died. The surroundings dipped into darkness.

"Notification for Player 0000! You've triggered a random mission—Illusion.

"Illusion: Before one dies, one might see many different types of illusions. If you are killed by those illusions, you might really die.

"Mission Requirement: Overcome the illusions, get used to the illusions."

Han Fei was startled when he heard the system notification but he soon snapped out of it. By this moment, the altar owner should have lost his mind already. The endless waves of stimuli caused him to break down and various illusions shattered his humanity, turning him into a monster. If Han Fei didn't want to be consumed by the illusions and follow the path of the altar owner, then he would have to overcome the illusions!

This was a crucial night. Whether he could continue to remain himself depended on whether he could survive this night or not. 'This mission has no time limit so if I can't overcome the illusions, all the illusions will become real and the memory world will mutate into a scarier place.'

Han Fei had no idea how different the world would be between a normal person and a mental patient but he was certain his worldview was definitely different from the altar owner. This was his 4th day inside the memory world. If things went out of control, Han Fei had no confidence he could survive the succeeding days. No matter what, he had to get used to the illusions and complete this mission. 'The more one is afraid of something, the more one's brain will highlight it.' Han Fei tried to run back to the 2nd hand store for one last time. After making sure he couldn't, he gave up on that idea. Han Fei had his eyes get used to the darkness. He placed his hand inside his pocket and voluntarily moved towards Lee Daxing. 'You are the first to appear and should be the weakest presence at this mall. You might be an illusion but I have the confidence to defeat you.'

Han Fei only took 2 steps when he felt someone tap him on his shoulder. Han Fei turned around but there was no one there.

"Is it you? Is it really you..." The chilling voice sounded beside Han Fei's ears. When he turned around again, Lee Daxing was already standing before him. The guard's face had no color at all. His head was

half-lowered and more than half of his eyes were just white. Han Fei stopped moving, he remembered the man should be on the 3rd floor.

“Daxing, don’t you have to work tonight?” Hiding the hilt inside his sleeve, Han Fei glanced at the man’s neck.

“Work, work...” Lee Daxing slowly raised his head. The white in his eyes slowly spread, his head trembled and he raised his hands. “I remember it now, I am working but my colleague has disappeared. I am looking for him, but I can’t find him. Look, look...”

Lee Daxing said as he grabbed at his shirt. His fingernails punctured into his skin and he tore his stomach open. “See, he has gone missing!”