

Iyashikei 731

Chapter 731: Han Fei's City

731 Han Fei's City

The addition of Mad Laughter pushed the war to the end. The memory world couldn't sustain so many people at once.

Han Fei's situation was not optimistic. After Dream's plan was destroyed, it turned angry and wanted to bury everyone with it. Venomous cancers inside the first-generation ghost spread. Dream used this body as a medium and spread poison across the memory world.

Human and Me sensed the change in Dream. The Dream they were facing was not the Dream in the original memory world. It was something more evil and scary. The first-generation ghost was buried underneath the theme park. It was connected to the theme park, so the first place to be affected by the cancerous cells was the theme park. The ground cracked, and dirty blood flowed out. Everything touched by the blood would dissolve into dust. Their memory would ignite as black flame, and they'd combust. This power was beyond the limit of Pure Hatred. Only Unmentionable could damage a memory world like this.

"Kill it! Now is the perfect chance!"

"The poison Dream hid inside the body is suspicious!"

The two managers had differing opinions. Human wanted to kill the first-generation ghost, but Me wanted to stop Dream. While the two hesitated, Mad Laughter came to the first-generation ghost. He didn't show any fear toward Unmentionable. He radiated an indescribable madness.

"This is my theme park. They once planned to turn me into the new first-generation ghost. They fed my body with despair endlessly so that I'd experience all the pain in the world. They even gave me temporary bliss so that they could destroy it before my eyes. To complete their goal, they even had me kill everyone. They wanted me to be corrupted by guilt and blame..." The maddening laughter was mixed with children's screams. There was even an undercurrent of a children's lullaby. It was a song mixed with sin and gore. Mad Laughter's power level couldn't be described using the normal delineation. He was not Pure Hatred or Unmentionable. He was a twisted existence. When he first

entered the memory world, he might just be slightly stronger than Han Fei. However, with enough time, he had spread madness through the city.

Dream, Me, Human, Mad Laughter, these four 'monsters' were powerful enough to manipulate the altar. They didn't hold back. Han Fei, at the core of the first-generation ghost, couldn't resist. He couldn't remove Me and Dream's influence on the body, but Han Fei had his own solution. It was a very medieval solution, which was to cast off the infected parts. If the liver were poisoned, then he'd remove it.

While the five forces fought, the sky bled, and the night was shattered. However, the passage in the first-generation ghost's heart was not destroyed. Dream's poison spread through the city. Endless black mist rolled out of the passage. The cryptic world was not sealed off, but it joined more seamlessly with real life.

Han Fei didn't appear as a savior. The memory world descended into extreme chaos because of his choice.

"Is this the future you want to see?" Deep inside the maze, a dying young man collapsed on the ruin. The smiling mask was shattered to reveal his bloody cheek. F scanned the ruined city. His face carried a complicated expression. "Now, do you understand why I chose to open the front of the black box?" Weak breathing came from his mouth. He shouted at the first-generation ghost. "Close the channel, Han Fei! The world looks like it presents you with many choices, but that's an illusion. The path you're on leads to a dead-end!"

When Dream stopped hiding, Fu Sheng finally appeared. As the owner of this altar, he had enabled Han Fei to see everything he wanted to. Now it was time for Han Fei to make his choice.

"Dream is not dead. It has been targeting you. If you were the one inside the first-generation ghost, then its poison would have taken over your memory fragment." Han Fei was very clever. He saw through Dream's plan. Fu Sheng knew what Dream was up to, and Dream knew how Fu Sheng would respond. The two fought on the surface and under it. They used the smallest factor to change the result. The two Unmentionables represented two completely different paths. When Han Fei died for the 99th time, he chose the top side, but that was only a preparation for this last life.

"Since I'm at this step, I want to see how the city will be like once the real and cryptic world unite." Han Fei ignored F and made his final choice. He unleashed all shackles. He gathered all the energy he could and tore open the blood vessels around the channel. He used the first-generation ghost's blood to

cultivate the passage. The first-generation ghost's large body started to shrink. The accumulated despair and negative emotions became a sacrifice. The black flame burst around the channel. While Me and Human were stopped by Mad Laughter, Han Fei manipulated fate and fully opened the channel. Black mist instantly filled up the city and covered up the sky. Han Fei, who was seen as hope by many, didn't lead everyone to see the sun but dragged the city into an endless night.

"Sigh..."

The black mist inside the tunnel faded away. Han Fei looked inside. The channel didn't lead to the cryptic world but to an old altar. It had a faceless figurine inside.

"This figurine would have imprinted your face."

Bloody lights shone from the city to the figurine. They included the first doctor Han Fei saw, the orphanage's director, the paper craftsman, and so on. The consciousness scattered around the city returned. F also slowly disappeared. The figurine slowly took on Fu Sheng's resemblance. The theme park's altar finally appeared. It was not the cryptic world at the end of the tunnel but Fu Sheng's altar. Everything in the memory world was based on Fu Sheng's memory. The destiny being changed and the tunnel being torn open never did happen, and Fu Sheng would not allow that to happen. "You're really stubborn. You could have own everything but you have to choose the hardest path." Fu Sheng's voice came from the altar. His eyes were filled with sadness. He looked at the city with pity. This was the real Fu Sheng.

"You could have reborn using my body, but you didn't do so. Actually, you also wanted to try the other options and see whether the other paths can be taken, right?" Han Fei's consciousness was inside the first-generation ghost. Once the assimilation was complete, Han Fei would stop existing.

Fu Sheng didn't answer. He only stared at Han Fei quietly.

The sky and earth collapsed. The city was a mess. Everything was ruined. Fu Sheng wanted to use these to inform Han Fei of the consequences of his choice. He succeeded, but he failed to change Han Fei's mind.

While Han Fei and Fu Sheng were at odds, voices came from the distance.

“The source of the tragedy is the theme park! We can’t let him suffer this alone! Let’s go!”

“Han Fei!”

“Xiao Yu’s mother said that’s where they are! Call everyone!”

“Charge!”

“I’m not afraid of death, so why would I be afraid of you?”

“These mad people want to stop us. Let me tell you when normal people become crazy, we’ll be crazier than you!”

The land at the end of the theme park trembled. The cars flew over. They rushed over the cracked land. Endless people and ghosts rushed towards the theme park. They carried their unique kindness and unleashed their roar at this apocalypse!

Since there was no exit, they would resist. Since the sun wouldn’t rise again, then they’d become the torch in the dark!

“Time will prove who is right.” Han Fei and Fu Sheng saw the new crowd. Humans and ghosts melted into a pool of light and shot at the center of the tragedy. “Since the path you chose led to a dead-end, why not try another path?”

Han Fei controlled the first-generation ghost to reach the altar. When he became the altar’s new owner, everything would be over.

Dream had the same thought. It scoured the memory world but couldn’t find the altar. In the end, the altar was hidden right under its eyes. It was furious and directed all the poison to the heart. Fu Sheng didn’t panic even as the poison threatened to pollute the altar. His eyes were still on Han Fei like he was making the final decision in his mind.

“After I gained the black box, I left Happiness Neighborhood for the first time at level 20. But you saw me and passed all the challenges I gave you at level 21.” Fu Sheng looked at Han Fei. “Perhaps you’re more suitable for this place than I am.”

The color of the figurine faded away, and Fu Sheng’s face became blurry. “After everything you’ve experienced, you still have some hope and kindness left. However, you will have to face the most twisted humanity and darkest malice on your own. There are many things scarier than ghosts.”

“No matter what, I will not surrender. Because many people, in both the cryptic world and the real world, have placed their last hope on me.”

Fu Sheng’s expression softened. His eyes finally moved away from Han Fei to look at the destroyed city.

“Perhaps you can move further than I did. I hope that you’ve picked the right path.” The face blurred. “Live well. When this altar is destroyed, you’ll be the only one left who knows I’ve once existed.”

The figurine raised his arms. Han Fei’s main consciousness was dragged into the altar.

Chapter 732: Hero Or Sinner

732 Hero or Sinner

The old man, who personally handed the black box to Han Fei, didn’t choose to be reborn with Han Fei’s body. He showed his past to Han Fei, how he morphed from a child to an Unmentionable. Looking back, the period he missed the most was from before he owned the black box.

Guided by the altar, Han Fei hidden deep inside the first-generation ghost’s brain slowly approached Fu Sheng’s altar. The young man slowly accepted the glowing candle from the old man. When Fu Sheng’s face blurred, Han Fei’s features appeared on the figurine. This represented a kind of inheritance and the turning of two eras.

The old man who held the world on his shoulder would disappear, and Han Fei would take over. To be a ghost of a million sins or to be the hero of the real world was up to Han Fei. Fu Sheng’s test for Han Fei was over now. Han Fei had to rely on himself from now on. There would not be any hope and kindness in the future memory worlds and altar missions. Han Fei would start to face true darkness.

“Fu Sheng, you’re not dying that easily!” A chilling voice came from the decayed cocoon, spreading cancer and all the sacrifices. Dream finally made its move. It activated all the traces it had left in this memory world. It was the disease of this memory world. It was in hibernation, waiting for this explosion.

Fu Sheng’s memory world had been scoured by Dream, but Dream hadn’t found the thing it wanted so it didn’t damage the altar. But things were different now. It wouldn’t allow others to have things that it couldn’t get. Therefore, it’d rather destroy the altar than allow Han Fei to gain Fu Sheng’s memory.

The poisonous cancers were summoning the real Dream. A scary presence came from the poisonous boils. It had no shape, just a voice. But it was extremely powerful.

“Fu Sheng!” The voice traveled for miles as it forced its way into the altar. The dark sky above the theme park was torn apart. Bloody stars appeared in the sky. They connected to form a pair of giant butterfly wings. When the giant butterfly appeared, the altar world started its irreversible collapse. The skyscrapers crumbled. The giant butterfly flew at the altar inside the heart. The theme park was covered under the butterfly’s wings. The real ending had arrived. The night sky no longer belonged to Fu Sheng, but he didn’t react. It was like he couldn’t see it. He was saying his final goodbye.

“There are some living people’s consciousnesses in my memory. They don’t know that they’re dead. I hope you can treat them well.” The buildings, monsters, and ghosts blurred along with Fu Sheng’s face. However, there were some people who were not affected. As Fu Sheng said, they were not created from his memory. Fu Sheng had dragged them into this world and created a white lie for them.

The blond kid, Xiao Jia, and Lee Guo Er’s bodies disappeared. In the crowd, only the wife and Little Eight stood there. The woman looked at Fu Sheng melting into the black mist, and she slowly remembered something.

“So...” The wife’s face aged, and her skin wrinkled. She could no longer retain her image in Fu Sheng’s memory. She reverted to how she looked when she died.

“The kid has left me in his mind.” The wife was Fu Sheng’s stepmother, but she treated him very well. If Fu Sheng really wanted to revive someone, it wouldn’t be himself but Fu Tian’s mother.

The night fell from the sky. Everything in the city was targeted by Dream. If no one stopped it, everyone would die. But the problem was no one was able to stop this Unmentionable.

Even Fu Sheng couldn't protect everyone. The only thing he could do was to send the living souls in his mind out. Before they were destroyed, he tried to find new hope for them.

"It's over now. I've received the black box in despair. I'll be buried in the cryptic world with regret. I'll pay the price of being forgotten by everyone to trade for a small hope.

"Han Fei, you'll have to walk the rest of the road on your own.

"In the end, I want to apologize to you on Fu Tian's behalf. Mad Laughter's tragedy was an accident. Your appearance was another accident. If you want to treat Mad Laughter, you first have to treat yourself..." Fu Sheng's face on the figurine fully disappeared and it was replaced by Han Fei's face. When he took over the figurine, endless souls in the city morphed into white light and shot at the altar. They crawled into the altar before the butterfly closed its wings. Me and Human disappeared from the theme park. Mad Laughter was forced to enter the altar and reunite with Han Fei so that he wouldn't be destroyed.

In the end, other than Han Fei, there was only one soul who didn't enter the figurine. The wife crawled on the first-generation ghost's body. Everyone feared this monster, but in her eyes, he was an unruly child. She picked up the broken altar with difficulty and slowly moved to guard beside the altar. Han Fei inside the figurine shouted for the wife. The wife only waved at him and smiled. "Lead everyone to safety. I'll stay to accompany Fu Sheng. He's my life's pride. I will not leave him alone." The wife hugged the pieces of the altar and leaned beside the altar. She looked up at the endless butterfly and seemed to be admiring it with Fu Sheng. "He could be a sinner or a hero in your eyes, but in my eyes, he's always my child."

Han Fei didn't expect that Fu Sheng's final request was not to kill Dream, make a choice with the black box but to protect these souls that he had saved.

The butterfly wings fell. The altar was shattered. Han Fei heard the system notification.

"Notification for Player 0000! You've used 99 deaths to find yourself. You've welcomed a new life!

"Notification for Player 0000! You've completed Grade D Inheritance Mission—Fu Sheng! You've completed the mission on the greatest difficulty. Obtained triple EXP!

“Congratulations for gaining the altar owner’s approval and successfully inheriting the fully damaged Level 7 Altar—Resurrection.

“Resurrection: Level 7 Altar’s unique power, revive the dead!

“The altar’s ability might change in the future due to the figurine’s changes. Please check after the altar is restored!

“Notification for Player 0000. You’ve rectified part of the altar owner’s regrets. The former owner will fulfill one of your wishes. Please pick one of the following.

“Increase level by 1 (Limited to players below level 40); 4 random increases in attributes; fully heal a soul under Pure Hatred without conditions and increase their friendliness level towards you by 15; awaken a Grade E talent you had inside the altar world; bring one item or ghost (under Pure Hatred) out of the altar world.

“Notification for Player 0000! The hardest character to play is yourself. In the memory world, you’ve used 99 deaths to understand yourself. Your masterful acting has risen to level 4.

“Notification for Player 0000! Fu Sheng has gifted you 1000 Afterlife Karma.

“Notification for Player 0000! You’ve obtained all the souls protected by Fu Sheng’s lingering memory fragment! This is Fu Sheng’s most precious treasure for you! “Notification for Player 0000! You’ve reached level 25 and obtained 1 free attribute!”

The thunder exploded. Han Fei saw Fu Sheng’s altar being crushed by Dream’s butterfly. As the altar fell, the memory city that recorded Fu Sheng’s past disappeared. The holes in the sky tore open to expose the permanent night in the cryptic world. When Han Fei opened his eyes again, he had escaped from the altar world. He fell heavily to the ground. He had 99 scars and was at the edge of death.

Han Fei added all the free points into stamina. He was level 25, but he had 42 stamina points. Han Fei had another breakthrough. When he climbed up from the ground, he felt an endless pool of energy within him. As long as his mind didn’t break, his body wouldn’t fall.

The thunder didn't spot because he had left the altar world. Han Fei looked around. He was at the highest spot in the theme park. There were altar and figurine pieces around him.

"Han Fei!"

"What happened?"

The familiar voices came from the theme park. Han Fei saw the worried faces of his neighbors. Their bodies were almost transparent. Many things had happened in the cryptic world's theme park when he was inside the altar.

"Get down! Get away from there!"

An indescribable pressure pressed down. Han Fei looked up. The night sky became so colorful. It was a dreamlike butterfly.

"Dream's consciousness?" The giant butterfly slid past Han Fei and slammed at the maze! The maze collapsed. A path made from endless life chains appeared before them. The path was connected to the cryptic world on one end and the layers of dream on the other.

With the butterfly's constant slamming, the maze was punctured by Dream. The people on the other side of the tunnel managed to see the scenery on this end.

"The path in the maze is connected to the surface world. Dream has fully opened the path!"

Han Fei immediately reached into his backpack to put on the beast mask.

On the other side of the tunnel, the players in the theme park looked over. They all locked their gazes on Han Fei.

"Is that a hidden map?"

“Who is that man in the strange mask? Is he a player too?”

“Why does he look so familiar?”

“Is the former director’s treasure hidden here? Brothers, let’s go!”

The news of the professional players missing in the maze couldn’t be hidden anymore. Therefore, many players came to the theme park maze every day. At this moment, they were all witnesses as the two worlds overlapped.

The players attempted to enter the path, but once they did, they would be killed by the monsters still residing inside the maze. They’d die before they even realized what had happened.

“Dream is a master manipulator. It used its energy to open the path so that the normal players would see me and make me into the eternal sinner.” The path to the cryptic world would bring endless tragedy. Han Fei on the highest platform was the only living person the normal players on the other side could see. His image had been imprinted in everyone’s minds. With Dream’s manipulation, Han Fei couldn’t easily be painted as everyone’s mortal enemy.

Han Fei chose to open the black box from both sides. In a way, he was different from Fu Sheng. Dream was going to use that to ensure that Han Fei was betrayed by those he wanted to protect so that he’d fall into darkness.

Forcing the path to the cryptic world was just the first step. Dream still had plans for Han Fei.

“I need to find a way to close the path.”

Many players died. But more players gathered. The news spread. Eventually, people knew a path had opened inside the maze. The theme park had been destroyed by Dream, and Fu Sheng’s altar was crushed. This was very dangerous for Han Fei. One wrong step, and he’d bury himself.

He picked up the remaining half of the figurine and jumped down from the platform. His voice couldn't pass through the path, and he couldn't stop the other players. So he had to leave first.

He reunited with his neighbors, and he knew from them what happened after he entered Fu Sheng's altar.

Xu Qin and Youfu entered the altar with Han Fei. The falling woman and the painter got into a serious conflict with the clown at the park. They were still fighting when the night turned colorful. Dream's consciousness flew out of the deepest part of this world and marked the theme park.

There were many other smaller stories, but Han Fei didn't have the time to listen to them. The most important thing was to deal with the open path.

"A lot of players have seen me. I need to create an alibi for myself." Han Fei entered a room and had Zhuang Wen guard the door. He then used Spiritfarer.

The ghost door opened. Han Fei summoned Bai Xian to the cryptic world.

"Han Fei? What's wrong with you? Why are you so heavily injured?"

"Brother Bai, I need a favor." Han Fei removed his beast mask and handed it to Bai Xian. "Can you play a role for me?"

Chapter 733: Storm

733 Storm

"You want me to play a role here?! At this place?" Bai Xian had just been dragged to the cryptic world. His mind was blurry.

"Someone wants to expose me and condemn me in real life, so I need you to play me."

“Play you?” Bai Xian was stunned. This should be his career’s biggest challenge. Han Fei was not an easy character to play. He had a balance of madness and rationality. Most importantly, his sharp presence honed from living at the edge of death was not something that could be mimicked.

“There’s no script and lines, so you have to improvise everything.” Han Fei told Bai Xian his usual habits and knowledge. He left Bai Xian to get into character while he left the room.

“Zhuang Wen, I need you to guard this room and don’t let anyone enter.” Han Fei dragged his tired body back to his neighbors. His 99 wounds hadn’t healed. The divine patterns on the altar had turned into his wounds.

On the other end of the maze, the fearless players were still attempting an entry. Many were lost in dreams. But a small portion survived the dreams and got closer to the cryptic world.

“Do any of you know how to close this passage?” Han Fei found the painter among the crowd. This unique Pure Hatred stood in the middle of the theme park. Under his feet was a colorful monster who occupied one-fifth of the theme park’s size. The monster looked a lot like Orphan No. 4. The painter slowly shook his head and then looked up into the sky. After Dream’s consciousness shattered the maze, it slowly dissipated. The night slowly returned to normal.

“Fu Sheng left this passage behind. It has always been sealed by Fu Sheng’s altar. Now that the altar is ruined, the passage won’t be closing for the foreseeable future.” A chilling smile came from the shadows. A clown with a tear stain on his face sat on the merry-go-round.

“Huang Sheng?” The clown was Orphan No. 11. Han Fei had helped him in Fu Sheng’s memory world and knew about his past.

“Since you know my real name, it means that you’ve gained my approval in the memory world. Unfortunately, even I can’t help you now.” The clown was smiling, but because of the tears, he was also crying. His body flickered like he had been severely injured. “If you want to close the passage, you need to fix the altar. As Fu Sheng’s successor, you still have a long way to go to fix a level 7 altar. Before the altar is fully fixed, this passage will remain open.”

“Is there no other way?”

“Perhaps you can think of it like this. Fu Sheng probably has envisioned this. So why would he leave this path open?” The clown smiled, “The world on the other side is happy. Perhaps the happiness over there can sustain the despair over here. Maybe Fu Sheng has planned this. Dream merely accelerated the process.”

“You sure are optimistic.” Han Fei looked at the half figurine he was holding. Fu Sheng’s most important altar had been crushed. As his successor, he obtained this severely damaged half of a figurine, “What about the others inside the altar? Why aren’t they here?”

“Look at the figurine you hold. Their names are all on it. To release them, you need to be the altar’s real owner first.” The clown and No. 4 were managers left behind by Fu Sheng to manage the theme park. They were once orphans at that orphanage like Han Fei. However, they died when they were young, and they were dragged into the cryptic world by Fu Sheng.

“What do I need to do?”

“Follow me.” The clown jumped down from the wooden horse and asked Han Fei to follow him into the maze. The duo looked like the final bosses in a game. One wore a beast mask, and the other radiated creepiness.

The players on the other side cheered. They took out their phones to take pictures and videos. Han Fei couldn’t care anymore. The two worlds had never been so close before. They were fully inverted worlds.

“Fu Sheng has left an empty altar inside the maze. Its main goal is to prevent accidents to the passage. When you place that half into the altar, if everything is successful, we should be able to activate parts of the altar’s power. Then, we can release the souls from the figurine.” The clown led Han Fei to a secluded corner of the maze. After they went through several secret doors, an undamaged empty altar appeared before Han Fei.

“Go on.” The clown’s eyes flickered with black flame. “Go herald in your own era.”

“I just want to live.” Han Fei held the figurine and walked to the altar. This was not his first time activating an altar, but he was very nervous. Based on what the clown said after the altar was activated, everyone trapped inside the figurine would return. Xu Qin, Little Eight, and Spider would return. The souls trapped by Fu Sheng in his memory world would appear too. Mad Laughter would return as well.

Other than Fu Sheng, Mad Laughter also wanted to use Han Fei's body to be reborn. Trapping him inside the figurine was not a bad idea. Han Fei studied the names on the altar. He slowly opened the doors and pushed the figurine in.

"Notification for Player 0000! Would you be willing to be Level 7 Altar—Resurrection's altar? The altar has been heavily damaged. It'll have an unknown influence on you. It might even change your destiny."
"I would!" After Han Fei agreed, his Life Points immediately dropped to one. His reputation and afterlife karma were sucked clean. His 99 wounds also oozed with black blood. He was consumed by the altar. He had experienced this before. To counter this, he opened his inventory and took out the pig's hearts and meat cooked by Xu Qin.

The players on the other side looked at Han Fei curiously. They were scared. Han Fei was like a demon that feasted on human flesh. As Han Fei lost his Life Points, blood vessels grew on the figurine. The inanimate object appeared to come alive. His expression became slowly like Han Fei's. The figurine's shell fell, and the cracks healed. The names on the figurine lit u one after another.

The brightest name belonged to Big Sin. This creature was the altar's natural nemesis. Its name soon disappeared from the altar. At the same time, a thunderous roar erupted beside Han Fei. Big Sin, which was more than 5 meters wide, crawled out of the figurine. It trampled the ground angrily, causing the passage to shake.

"What monster is that?"

"A demon! That masked man is a cultist!"

"Stop afking! Come look at the monster!"

"Who among you is a fighter? Go and fight it!"

Big Sin's appearance attracted everyone's attention. No one had seen something so ugly in the game before. It was the most imperfect thing in Perfect Life.

Han Fei chewed on the meat and studied the figurine. After Big Sin, another name lit up—Xu Qin.

The curse was like threads of love. Endless curses burst out of the figurine. They crawled all over Han Fei before all the curses burnt with black flame. Finally, a woman was reborn in the flame. She was deathly beautiful. 13 table knives were stuck in her body. The moment Xu Qin appeared, Han Fei turned around to grab the knife stuck in her heart. He held the human doily and pulled. In Fu Sheng's memory world, Xu Qin died 99 times with Han Fei. They had been through a lot.

"What is that?!"

"She is so beautiful, but why are 13 knives stuck in her? That's so cruel!"

"Is she the sacrifice given to the monster? What a horrid cultist! We need to kill him!"

"I'm willing to be her dog."

The curse spread and twisted the dream. Once the players touched it, they would die. However, Han Fei couldn't confirm if the death was permanent. Based on his observation, as long as they hadn't fully entered the cryptic world, the death of their in-game character wouldn't affect their souls and brains.

Xu Qin's eyes returned to normal after the knife was pulled out. Her hatred weakened.

The person who followed Xu Qin was Little Eight. All the human jigsaw victims were shoved into her stomach. When she appeared, she was carrying a flower pot filled with human bones.

Then a shadow materialized. Spider slowly walked out. Before he left, he bowed slightly at the altar. Fu Sheng didn't select him, but he still respected him. "I have no idea how long I can remember you. At least before I forget you, I'll try my best to rectify your regrets."

Many figures appeared from the altar. Some were large, and others were small. All the souls walked out of Fu Sheng's memory.

Finally, only one name was left—Han Fei.

A peal of light laughter came from the figurine. Then the expression turned ghastly. The laughter became more unhinged. Han Fei knew that Mad Laughter was coming. He didn't resist it but actively placed his hand beside the figurine's head. He didn't like Mad Laughter or even feared him, but after this mission, Han Fei realized something. He couldn't allow Mad Laughter to suffer all the pain and despair. Mad Laughter had a healing persona, and he had healed many people. Han Fei had the same persona, but his goal was to heal Mad Laughter.

"The locks on the red orphanage are broken, so you can come out anytime you want. I will not imprison you again. Actually, I don't think I have the memory to do that either. I don't think we should be enemies. We should be inseparable friends. I'll help you take revenge. We'll have those who spread despair suffer the same as we did."

The figurine grinned wickedly. The red blood flowed along Han Fei's arm to his brain. The blood waves churned in his mind. The painful memories almost broke Han Fei. He had to use his new ability, Immortal Persona.

Han Fei grabbed the wounds on his body. He had to resist the pain silently. A

By then, there were innumerable ghosts and monsters around Han Fei. The players on the other side were stunned.

"What map is this, and who is that masked man? Is he the final boss who will destroy the world?"

"Is this a new patch by Perfect Life?"

"Is this thing a virus?"

When Mad Laughter returned to the red orphanage, Han Fei recovered. He also received a string of notifications. Fu Sheng had collected 100,000 souls inside his altar. In the end, Han Fei only managed to save 10,000 souls. Most of them were normal people. Fu Sheng didn't need much from them. Han Fei once thought Fu Sheng wanted to kill all the ghosts, but his expression of him changed. Destroying the cryptic world was his final goal, but before that, he'd save as many innocent souls as he could. "I need your help to fix this maze to prevent the players from coming here."

The 10,000 souls were mostly Lingering Regrets, but there were so many of them that Han Fei could build his own city already. Now, the theme park, the plastic surgery hospital, and the Ziggurat had been joined together. A normal Pure Hatred couldn't harm them anymore. Han Fei reached into his pocket and took out the altarpieces, and placed them inside the altar. The broken figurine absorbed something from the pieces and slowly recovered. "Fu Sheng's altarpieces can help the figurine recover. I need to return to the high platform to retrieve the other pieces."

This altar was essential to seal up the path. It couldn't be moved. Han Fei had to come here to fix the altar. After that, Han Fei reached his limit. His brain felt like it had been torn apart. If he didn't leave the game, his brain might receive permanent damage.

"I can't leave yet."

Han Fei silently left the maze. He had his neighbors find Qiang Wei and the other players. Then, he led Bai Xian and all of them to the plastic surgery hospital's altar.

"Brother Bai, I've found a few extras to help you." Han Fei planned to edit all the players' memory to have them cooperate with Bai Xian.

"I... am just an actor. What if..." Bai Xian was very nervous. He knew how serious this was.

"You're the best actor I've met. You know me the best too." Han Fei held his hand. "Brother Bai, don't worry. You can do this. You are the best."

Chapter 734: Questions

734 Questions

After experiencing 99 deaths, Han Fei's acting skills had reached masterful level 4. He had understood family, love, and self. In terms of acting, he had reached a state that a normal actor wouldn't be able to reach in their lives. After all, not every actor would be able to survive his training.

With his patient guidance, Bai Xian slowly entered the state. He studied everything about Han Fei closely, from his most common habits to the emotions in his eyes. To help Bai Xian get into character, Han Fei didn't hide any secrets from him. Bai Xian finally understood why Han Fei had that unique presence after hearing about his movie-like life. Han Fei was living in a horror movie.

“I’ll try my best.” Bai Xian liked to challenge different characters. He was lacking the award for best actor, and for that, he had been working hard.

“Relax. Find your zone. After I log out, you’ll be me.” Han Fei took out his favorite ‘snacks’ from his inventory. “Take these pig’s hearts. You can munch on them if you’re hungry. My friends and neighbors will cooperate with you.” He waved his hands, and the ground started to tremble. Soon, Big Sin ran over excitedly. “This is Big Sin. It’s my little pet. Can you touch it?” Han Fei introduced his family to Bai Xian.

“Me? Touch it?” Bai Xian extended his hand, but it stopped above Big Sin’s spiky head. He was a professional actor, but at that moment, even he was hesitant.

“Touching it will help raise your resistance to soul poison.” Han Fei moved to demonstrate. However, considering he only had 1 Life Points left, his palm didn’t fall. “Never mind. You should try to connect with it. I’ve ordered it not to randomly kill you.”

“Are you sure?” Bai Xian didn’t know what to say.

“It might cause some accidents, but you can rely on the others. You can turn to them if there’s a problem.” Han Fei introduced Wei Youfu and Xu Qin to Bai Xian. Everything knew the situation Han Fei was in and they were all ready to help.

When Bai Xian communicated with the neighbors, Han Fei used the plastic surgery hospital’s altar to edit the memory of the players who had entered the cryptic world. After he was done, Han Fei was at his limit. He gave Bai Xian his coat and mask. Then, he found a quiet corner and logged off. The world turned. The city became red. The person who stuck behind Han Fei didn’t disappear, but he had weakened a lot. He looked down the distance, and at the edge of the city, the dream swamp was spreading towards the Ziggurat.

Han Fei opened his eyes. He felt like his body was about to break. This Inheritance Mission was the hardest mission he had ever attempted. 99 deaths exhausted his mind and body. He almost wouldn’t be able to return. “I can’t sleep yet.” He wanted to crawl out of the gaming hub, but he didn’t even have the energy to lift his arm. The pain pulsed all over his body. In that extreme pain, Han Fei fainted.

After who knew how long, Han Fei felt chills on his body. When he opened his eyes, his mental state was more stable, and his body had recovered somewhat. The nutrient cocktail in the gaming hub had been exhausted. Han Fei pushed the door open and crawled towards the fridge. He took out the meat he had prepared. Han Fei started with small bites. As his strength returned, he started to feast. He ate for half an hour before the pain and tiredness receded. Han Fei collapsed to the ground. His pupils focused again, but his arms and body were still shaking uncontrollably.

“Fu Sheng’s Inheritance Mission almost killed me.” Han Fei then looked around. He noticed that his room had become very different. More accurately, he could sense many people outside his room. He could even hear their breathing. “Have I been exposed?” Taking a deep breath, Han Fei picked up his phone that had shut down on its own and switched it back on.

The 99+ unread messages and unanswered calls made him frown. With his small friend list, he didn’t think this would ever happen.

“Something big has happened.”

Han Fei opened the computer. He didn’t even need to search for his name because it was on the front page.

“Perfect Life’s biggest hidden map is exposed! The grave guardian is a horror movie actor, Han Fei?!”

“Actor or killer?”

“Thousands of players were killed. We need Perfect Life to give us an explanation!”

“The final boss is allegedly Han Fei. The walking evil king!”

“The players are angry! The final duel is in the theme park maze. Come and help us kill him!”

“Even if we’re just gardeners, farmers, and veterinarians, we’ll protect our happiness and preserve the joy that is Perfect Life!”

Han Fei felt a headache from reading the posts. The real trouble wasn't these players but the two giant conglomerates, Immortal Pharma and Deep Space Tech. They wouldn't allow a virus-like character to exist in their games. The video of the maze path had been shared on the internet. Thankfully, the path was extremely unstable due to the collision of different forces. None of the videos was clear.

"Earlier, I was the hero, but now I'm the final bad guy, a cheater, and a super hacker." Han Fei looked at the rumors. The path to the cryptic world had a long-lasting effect, and everyone wanted to be a part of it. "These people are too crazy. Are they trying to make me into everyone's enemy?" There were many videos from 'experts' on the internet. They said that Han Fei's actions in real life were merely a disguise. He was actually an extremely wicked devil. These experts sounded so confident in their analysis. At least Han Fei could jot down their names.

"The headache is returning. Dream sure is evil. It has fully manipulated the human mind. It only needed one reason to knock me off the pedestal."

Han Fei's fingers tapped the table. He hadn't been so anxious for a long time already. There was a buzzing. Han Fei had just switched on his phone, and the messages surged in. He hadn't even gotten the chance to read the messages, and Li Xue's phone came. At the same time, Huang Yin also sent a video request to Han Fei. Everyone was looking for him. Han Fei adjusted his breathing. He used the encrypted number to call Huang Yin.

"Han Fei! What's with that path? Are you crazy?" Huang Yin sounded more anxious than Han Fei.

"Something happened. It's hard to explain it."

"What do you need from me?"

"You are Perfect Life's top player. This crisis is the best chance for you to gain reputation, so don't miss out on it." Han Fei told Huang Yin about how he had edited parts of the players' memory. Bai Xian would play him in the cryptic world. With Huang Yin's help in the surface world, they could survive this hurdle.

"Even at a time like this, you're still thinking about reputation?"

“Things have already happened, so we have to take advantage of it.” Han Fei told Huang Yin many things and told him to head to the theme park maze too. Han Fei had just hung up when Li Xue’s call came. She hadn’t stopped calling.

“Actually, I haven’t done anything illegal, so I don’t need to be so worried.” Han Fei answered Li Xue’s call. Before he could say anything, Li Xue asked, “Is that you in Perfect Life?”

“It’s not me. It’s a misunderstanding.” Han Fei answered calmly. His mental constitution and masterful acting could trick even the polygraph.

“I’m asking for my teacher. You have to answer honestly. Are you the one who has used unknown methods to destroy Perfect Life?” This was very crucial to the police. Li Xue needed a confirmation.

“No.”

“Okay. Open the door now. We’re outside. We’ll lead you to the station.”

“The police are outside my door?!” Han Fei glanced at the door. “Is it that serious?”

“Don’t communicate with anyone on the way. We’ll discuss this at the station.” Once Li Xue hung up, there was a knocking on the door. Han Fei didn’t hurry to open it. He knew that once he left the room, he wouldn’t be able to return so soon.

“I have to log in again within 24 hours of logging out, or else the black box in my brain will explode.” Han Fei was now the black box’s real owner. Fu Sheng’s memory imprint had been wiped, so he had no idea if these limitations still existed or not. Han Fei didn’t have the courage to test them out. Han Fei adjusted his emotions and submerged into masterful acting. He drank some water and stood up to open the door.

“Back away. Don’t stay too close to the door.” Five fully-armed officers entered the room. They had on different uniforms than normal police. One of them immediately removed his uniform and equipment once he was inside the room. He placed them before Han Fei. “Put them on and come with us.” Han Fei was Butterfly’s target. Before Butterfly was captured, the police would continue to protect him. Han Fei’s face was fully covered by the helmet. He looked very professional.

“Are you ready?”

The team leader had Han Fei stand in the middle of the group, and they walked down the stairs. Since it was time for shift change, Han Fei’s team left the building naturally. It was okay in the neighborhood. There was no outsider. There were some tenants staring at Han Fei’s building strangely.

Han Fei only understood the police’s intention after he left the neighborhood. The whole street was packed. They were all there to find Han Fei!

The cameras were like stars. Han Fei felt his eyes going dizzy. “It looks like I have to find another place to live.”

With the police’s help, Han Fei sneaked out of the neighborhood. The police drove the superstar to the station.

They walked down the corridor and entered the deepest room at the station. The door opened. The officers moved away to guard the door. They signaled for Han Fei to enter alone. The room had no windows or surveillance. Every three meters, there was a light to ensure there was no shadow.

“In the past, I’ve always been to the branch. I’ve never been here before.” Han Fei looked into the room. An elder was seated in a wheelchair. Two middle-aged officers in white shirts sat beside him. Li Xue and the other officers were all standing to the side.

“Actually, he looks quite fitting in this gear.” The man in the wheelchair was Li Xue’s teacher. His physique had weakened, but his expression softened. A fleeting smile hung on his face.

Han Fei knew that silence is gold. After he entered the room, he planned to stand with the other young officers. However, the others all moved away when he got close. Only Li Xue didn’t abandon him.

“Everyone, please sit down. Since Han Fei said that person is not him, then he is not that person.” The elder eliminated the tension. “We’ve trusted him so many times, so why not this time?”

“The people from Deep Space Tech and Immortal Pharma are here. This loophole has caused them great damage. It is more than several million. They hope we can openly interrogate Han Fei and push all the blame on him.”

“So they want to find a scapegoat? Do they want to use a young man’s whole life to cover up their own incompetence?”

“If Han Fei is framed, then we should help him clear his name; if he really did all those things, we could find a place that suits his talents.”

Then, everyone turned to the elder again.

“Why are you looking at me? I can’t care less about Deep Space Tech and Immortal Pharma. I don’t care about Perfect Life either. I just want to capture Butterfly and answer the families of his victims.” The elder mumbled, “The colorful sky on the other side of the path is just a butterfly that flutters fearlessly in the dark. This is the thing we should worry about.”

Chapter 735: Innocence

735 Innocence

The elder in the wheelchair stated it clearly. Han Fei was a crucial witness in capturing Butterfly. Nothing could happen to him before Butterfly was caught.

“No matter how big the loophole in Perfect Life is, that is between those two companies. We can cooperate with them, but if they want us to do things beyond the scope of the law, I’m sorry.” The officer in white surmised everyone’s opinion: before the Butterfly was caught, they would protect Han Fei.

“Then, how are we going to answer the people from Immortal Pharma?” A young officer standing to the side asked. Everyone turned their gazes to Han Fei again.

The elder in the wheelchair asked, “Han Fei, I’ve seen the video from yesterday too. Is that you in the mask?”

"I've seen the video as well. Honestly, I don't get why everyone thinks that person is me." Han Fei said helplessly. His acting was very natural.

"There's an online force trying its best to pin the fault on you. You're now the public enemy after just 12 hours. I refuse to believe there's no one manipulating this." The middle-aged officer in white was really rational. "Think. Have you offended anyone recently?"

"The bosses from my previous agency and some crazy murderers."

"Some?"

"Other than the Butterfly, most of them have been captured already." Han Fei was telling the truth.

"Then, it looks like this is Butterfly's doing." The elder leaned against the back of the wheelchair. "He found someone who had your frame to destroy Perfect Life and then pin the fault on you. That's how you became the enemy of two giant companies and millions of players. Then, he'll slowly whittle down your mental defenses. Yes, this does feel like Butterfly's handiwork. He never kills with his own hands but loves to use tactics like these."

Li Xue's teacher fought with the Butterfly for half his life, so he knew him very well.

"To destroy Butterfly's plan, we first have to clear Han Fei's name. We can create an alibi for him." The middle-aged man glanced at Han Fei. "Before the masked man reappears, we'll monitor you for 24 hours so that you wouldn't have any outside communication. Then, we'll broadcast it to the world." Han Fei didn't think that was a good idea, so he didn't agree immediately.

"That's the simplest method. If you think it's too inconvenient, we can try something else." The elder didn't force Han Fei. His eyes of wisdom looked at Han Fei. It felt like he had seen through many things, but he didn't point them out.

"What if the masked man doesn't reappear?"

“Publicizing your private life will temporarily quell the public ire and prove your innocence. However, we will not place our hope on the enemy. While you’re attracting the public’s attention, we’ll launch an investigation to find all the culprits!”

“Okay, I agree.” Han Fei sighed. In actuality, he was preparing for his plan. Bai Xian would play Han Fei in the cryptic world, Huang Yin controlled the players in the surface world, while Han Fei stayed in the real world. They each had their own role to play. Han Fei had just said yes when rapid footsteps came from outside. Soon, someone knocked on the door. The two middle-aged officers seated at the table frowned.

“The representatives from Immortal Pharma and Deep Space Tech are here. They want to talk to Han Fei.”

“How did they know he’s here?”

“Not sure.”

“We’ve confirmed a solution. Get them to cooperate to help our investigation of Butterfly.” The elder whispered something to the officers beside him. He didn’t leave the room but had Li Xue accompany Han Fei. Han Fei was led to the station’s largest conference room. There were seven representatives from the two companies. Six of them were in suits. However, the person who grabbed Han Fei’s attention the most was the young man standing in the middle. He looked a bit similar to Fu Tian. Normally speaking, an experienced person would handle a crisis of this scale, but the two big companies had sent over a young man to handle it. When Han Fei entered the conference room, the young man’s eyes moved to Han Fei too. He might look like Fu Tian, but he didn’t have Fu Tian’s kindness. His eyes were cutting. He was like an eagle, waiting for a chance to strike.

The police and the two companies started to negotiate. The young man sat opposite Han Fei. He didn’t participate in the communication. His job there was only to observe Han Fei. Earlier, the police had reached a consensus, and they believed Han Fei was framed. This was an answer the two companies wouldn’t accept. They requested the police dig up everything about Han Fei. That was the point of conflict. Han Fei had helped the police solve many cases. His background was linked to too many people. Furthermore, Butterfly was still free. If they revealed Han Fei’s info, they would basically lose the chance to capture the supercriminal. Of course, the police were not obliged to help the two companies.

Immortal Pharma’s representatives knew that too. They negotiated for a long time before following the police’s suggestion. They would broadcast Han Fei’s private life on the internet until the masked man in

the tunnel appeared. Han Fei was not someone who was easily bullied. He stressed that he was framed and he was being harassed by Immortal Pharma and Deep Space Tech. When the truth was out, he would use legal means to protect himself.

The representatives didn't care about the threat from Han Fei. They blew Han Fei off by saying that they'd give him compensation. However, the young man was jotting down something on his phone while all these were going on.

After the previous Immortal Pharma director passed away, a few different voices appeared within the company. Fu Tian's children and trusted aides had differing views. The large company was no longer that united. Han Fei could see that clearly.

Some of them wanted to go along with the flow and use Han Fei as the spokesperson and package this as Perfect Life's latest update. If Perfect Life were a simple game, this was doable. However, a small portion of people inside Immortal Pharma knew that things were not that simple. They had to capture the culprit and then seal up the path permanently. In the end, the latter voices overwhelmed the former, but it had left a weakness in the company too.

"It is now 11 am. We'll announce this news to the public around 1 pm." The police set the time. It was not until then that Han Fei realized he had spent two days and two nights inside the game. Fu Sheng's inheritance mission was longer than any of the previous missions. No wonder the nutrient cocktail was exhaustion.

"Since you've decided the time, then let us provide the equipment and location." The young man suddenly said. "We've created a giant city screen above the Deep Space Tech building in the intelligent city to promote the game. The screen will broadcast everything inside the building. Before the masked man appears, Han Fei can live there. We'll provide him with the best food and service. We'll pay him daily too. As for security, the whole world will be watching him, so I don't think we need to worry."

The young man looked permissible, but this aroused Han Fei's suspicion.

"I don't trust them. I want to stay with the police." Han Fei stood up and said directly.

"Of course, you'll have police detail. They'll protect your safety." The young man was unfazed. He knew the police wouldn't reject his proposal. A few minutes later, the leading negotiator from the police

received a call. Their superior said that they'd accept this generous arrangement from the two big companies.

"Let us depart."

Both parties were very effective. The police and the people from the two companies drove to the intelligent city. They arrived at the building with the big screen at 11.40 am. At 50, Han Fei and two officers were welcomed into the building. The building wasn't that big. It was previously used to show virtual personas in the game, but now it was a hospitable home. The two officers' rooms were adjacent to Han Fei's room. Han Fei's new room was installed with endless cameras. Other than when he was in the bathroom, he had no privacy at all.

"You're an actor. It's your job to live before the cameras." The young man personally led Han Fei out of the car. He had been observing Han Fei like he wanted to confirm something. "You should change first. Other than logging into Perfect Life, you can do anything you like inside the room."

"What can I do when everyone is watching my every move?" Han Fei sneered. He opened the door and walked in.

"I hope you can get used to living here. You will spend a long time living here." The young man turned around and locked the door. He handed the key to the police.

"Why would I live here for a long time?" Han Fei looked around, and his pupils shook slightly. The room was decorated as Fu Sheng's home in Happiness Neighborhood!

'This used to be a virtual persona showcase room. They have recently upgraded it into a living area... they are testing me. The people at Immortal Pharma have already known something.' Han Fei stepped into the room like he had seen it for the first time. His masterful acting skills came into play again. In contrast to his calm appearance, his brain was spinning. Immortal Pharma and Deep Space Tech agreed with the police, but in reality, they wanted to use their own method to make Han Fei commit some mistakes. The room was brimming with cameras. Han Fei's smallest action would be recorded and analyzed by experts. His situation was very dangerous.

At 12 noon, Xin Lu Police and the two companies announced the news. They said that Han Fei was willing to livestream his life for 24 hours to prove his innocence. The rumor mill had been turning. Most netizens had believed that the culprit was Han Fei. However, they didn't expect this to happen.

Some of them started to defend Han Fei. He was an expert horror movie actor. Where would he find the time to train to become the world's top hacker?

In any case, the event blew up. Many people were not that reasonable. Some even demanded Han Fei compensate them for their in-game characters who died.

Han Fei ignored these voices and lived as he normally would. His new room was filled with traps. There were many things that only those who had seen the black box and cryptic world would recognize.

All the cameras were activated at 1 pm. Han Fei's life was shown before the world.

Han Fei glanced at the cameras while lying on the couch. After spacing out for some time, Han Fei did the first time he did after he entered the room. His action was broadcasted all over the world on video platforms. Everyone was looking at this beastly devil, King of Ghosts, and Perfect Life's biggest cheater.

Han Fei entered the bedroom and grabbed the bedspread. He then crawled into bed and slept.

"Wait. Is he sleeping just like that?"

"It looks like elites like to nap too."

"I'm watching this on HD?"

Millions logged on to watch Han Fei sleep. Han Fei was very tired. He slept until night fell. When he was asleep, a new change came to Perfect Life. Millions of players moved toward the theme park maze. The first-place player, Huang Yin, also showed up in person for the first time.

This coming night was destined to be one none of the players was going to forget.

Chapter 736: Huang Yin's First Showing

736 Huang Yin's First Showing

What would be the first thing a horror movie actor did after waking up? Check their popularity online? Check their box office? Or learn about murders and law?

At 8 pm, Han Fei sat before the computer with a pen and paper. As he tuned into the livestream of Perfect Life's maze, he started to analyze the cases. Everything looked so normal that the netizens felt nothing was out of place. Han Fei was not the child of Death. He merely used the time others used on entertainment to study murder cases.

Different from the peace at Han Fei's place, Perfect Life was a mess. The managers, players, and all kinds of AI NPCs gathered at the theme park maze. They were all discussing how to level the 'cryptic world'.

Han Fei looked at the livestream and felt sorry for these players. As long as they didn't really step into the cryptic world, even if they died inside the path, only their in-game characters would die. Their brains wouldn't be affected. However, the death penalty in Perfect Life was very serious. One would lose everything. It was no different from starting a new account. This was the reason why so many players who died in the path felt so angry. Their hard work since the beta was gone just like that. They turned their anger on Han Fei. However, as Han Fei started his livestream, the players turned their anger back to the path. Everyone was waiting for the masked devil to appear. Many players waited outside the path.

"In the past, I saw in Fu Sheng's altar that the first-generation ghost is sealed under the theme park. The managers used humanity's happiness to wear down the first-generation ghost's negative emotions. Fu Sheng and Fu Tian had brought that idea further. They built Perfect Life, this ultimate theme park, and tried to use all the players' happiness to heal the scar of the cryptic world.

"The idea was good, but the overlapping of the two worlds was inevitable. However, it can't be now because the players still can't fend for themselves. Opening the path now will only bring more despair."

After Han Fei was done analyzing the cases, Han Fei glanced at Perfect Life's official livestream. Deep Space Tech and Immortal Pharma were dealing with this too, but they hadn't provided a reasonable explanation. The big companies had professional PR teams, but there was a crack on the inside too.

At 8.30 pm, the managers of various player communities appeared at the maze. They led their most elite players and held the best position. The few bosses greeted each other. Each guild would handle a different section of the maze. However, after they were done, there was still the east side of the maze, which was left open. The normal players had no idea what the bosses were planning, but they seemed to have agreed to leave that place open.

“Aren’t we going to make a move yet? There are so many of us. Even if we just spit, we can drown out that masked devil.”

“Don’t rush. Even the bosses haven’t made a move yet. They seem to be waiting for someone.”

“Who is the VIP that they have the top bosses waiting for them?”

“Perhaps it’s him...”

No one moved until it was 9 pm. The temperature in the game seemed to drop. The clouds covered the moon. The mist was torn apart, and a figure appeared down the horizon. He came alone. All the elite players looked down the east direction to look at the living legend. The top player in five rankings—Huang Yin!

His black cape had obscured his attributes and abilities. Level 33! The monster in Perfect Life that had three hidden professions!

A lot of players crowded the theme park but they left the eastern part empty for Huang Yin. When the bosses saw him, they sighed secretly in relief. With Huang Yin there, they felt better. All the top players had held an emergency meeting before. They even communicated with Deep Space Tech’s representatives before. The reply was that the super photon computer was acting normal. In other words, this hidden map could be something personally designed by the former Immortal Pharma director. Compelled by the black box and the director’s will, the big bosses couldn’t wait anymore. They started to form groups to explore the tunnels. Many ghosts called the path home. No matter what the players tried, they would die mysteriously once they ventured more than 50 meters into the tunnel. Seeing their elite players being eaten by the abyss, the bosses felt heartache. However, they had no better choice. This was their chance to gain a reputation and fame. As long as they could cross the path, it would make history among gamers. This ‘hidden map’ was the perfect chance for the guilds to flaunt their muscles and make their names.

“Is 50 meters the limit for current players?”

“What is on the other side of the path? How is this map so difficult?”

“How can we challenge the boss if we can’t even cross the entrance?”

“This fits the reward of the former director. Do you think the original share of Immortal Pharma is so easy to claim?” The players discussed happily. However, only a small portion dared to venture further.

“Let us try.” One of the five founders of Absolute Truth walked out of the crowd. Their guild originally held 20 posts on the top 100 players, but since their players had gone missing in the maze, they only had 9 players left on that ranking. Technically speaking, Absolute Truth hated the maze the most.

“All light will be swallowed, and all flames will be extinguished when they enter the path. A normal explosive will only destroy the theme park on our side. We’ve tried poison gas, flooding, and so on. We’ve reached a conclusion.” The founder didn’t hide the secret, “Only supernatural-type power would be able to affect the world on the other side.” He raised his hand, and 9 players walked out. The players didn’t have high levels. They didn’t look like professional players either. “They are players with supernatural talents that I’ve tried so hard to find. Every one of them has a rare talent. Absolute Truth might not clear the path, but I hope everyone can remember our contribution.” The founder then signaled for the 9 players to enter the path. “Go ahead. If your account is gone, I’ll compensate you with the price we have agreed upon.”

The nine players moved. What they needed was not courage but money. The path led downwards. It looked only a few hundred meters long, but once the players stepped into it, their senses would be distorted. The nine players looked normal at first, but when they were about 10 meters in, one of the players screamed. He pointed at an empty shadow, and his face was pale. “Who are you?”

No one responded to his scream. Then, he grabbed his head, covered his eyes, and collapsed to the ground. “Impossible! You died three years ago! How can you be here? Is this why you’ve been haunting me? Are you waiting for this moment?” The player rolled around in pain. The other players looked at each other. “You should have stayed under the garden! You should still be there!” He screamed and crawled back out the path. He didn’t even notice that his hands were bloody.

“What’s wrong with him? He used 3 minutes to walk 10 meters but ran back using only 5 seconds.”

“Is there something wrong with his head?”

The people around gossiped. The founder of Absolute Truth felt ashamed. He wanted to check on the guy, but the person went offline the moment he escaped the path. He had something important to check.

“Don’t be influenced. If you can reach the other side of the path, I’ll pay you twice the money.” Once the remaining eight heard that, they didn’t feel fear anymore. After all, if they died in-game, they wouldn’t die for real. Soon, they reached the 50 meters mark. The tunnel became darker. Four of them held each other’s hands, mumbling something as they protected an old oil lamp between them. The light of the oil lamp flickered. The black smoke appeared to form a smiling face.

“Be ready.” The light chased away the darkness. One of them took a deep breath and moved further. Before his shoe touched the ground, something wound around his ankle from the dark. Before anyone saw anything, the man was dragged into the darkness. There was not even a scream.

“Don’t be scared. You won’t die in-game if you die here. However, we’re going to get real money once we get offline.” A man in a patient’s clothes picked up the man’s equipment. “I can store his stuff in my inventory. It looks like he’s really dead.” The other players were not as optimistic as he was. They hesitated for a long time before they started to move again. The players went past the 50 meters mark. The players outside the path also watched them closely. The light from the oil lamp became everyone’s hope.

“Do you feel the temperature dropping?”

“Shush. Keep praying.”

“What God is useful in this situation?”

“Shush. Look!”

When they were at the 59th meter, they noticed a human shadow inside the path. The person stood facing away from them. The person was very thin.

“Was that a player too?”

“Ignore him! Our goal is to go deeper! Don’t waste time on these uncertain dangers!”

“Boss, there are several million people watching. Is it okay for us to be so cold-blooded?”

“I’m trying to save you.”

The path became steeper. They avoided the figure, stuck close to the wall, and continued to descend. They looked around, and the path became stranger. The walls started to populate with outlines of tourists playing. They were all facing away from the players. Their bodies twitched and convulsed as they played various cruel games.

“Why would such a place exist in an Iyashikei game?”

“Midnight Theme Park is a horror-themed locale. It’s normal for it to have a hidden map like this.”

“Tie your safety rope. We’re entering the 60th-meter mark!”

The darkness felt like it could consume the flame. With the oil lamp’s protection, they reached the 60th-meter area. The surroundings became very different from the surface world. Marks of despair were everywhere. The tourists’ games became more gory and crazy. They were more like death displays.

“This feels so real.”

“I feel like I’ve dreamed of this scene several years before. This is so strange.”

“Do you hear crying?”

“How deep is this path?”

60 meters, 70 meters, 80 meters...

Absolute Truth’s unit broke all the players’ records. However, their state wasn’t so well. When they reached the 80th meter, the flame of the oil lamp looked like it was about to go out.

“Are we going to continue?”

“Why not? If we die on the path, we can get a lot of money, and we’ll light the way for the other players.”

“Indeed. At least our deaths will have meaning then.”

At that moment, the oil lamp went out. Darkness swallowed them instantly. Screams echoed inside the path. The players appeared to have experienced the most despairing events of their lives. The players outside shivered just from hearing their screams.

“Only 81 meters?” The founder looked disappointed. He had spent a lot to form this unit, but they only ventured 31 meters more than normal players.

“Don’t give up. At least they’ve moved further than most players.” The leader of another guild walked over. “They will not sacrifice for no reason. Humans have been progressing using the sacrifice of their predecessors, right?”

“A small guild like us can’t compare to the Merchant Union.” The founder of Absolute Truth retreated. The man from Merchant Union smiled and then made a call. “We do not have any supernatural talent players, but I believe money can move even ghosts. Money can solve all the problems in this world.”

A large group of players rushed into the maze. “And today, I’ll solve this problem.”

The man gave the final order. With large guilds as the leaders, the players entered the path from eight different directions. They were not afraid of death and darkness. When one fell, another would take their place. Merchant Union was a union of more than 10,000 business guilds. They ran the economy of Perfect Life. They had a lot of members, but the army this time was made up of mostly newbies.

“Let’s see if this hidden map kills people faster, or I can buy new accounts faster.”

The players logged in batch after batch. Merchant Union planned to use human lives to brute force their way through the path. This shocked most players. Darkness was scary, but the spirit was uplifting. Some of the players voluntarily joined the army. Merchant Union used money and pushed the safety zone forward for another 10 meters. One among ten players would move another meter forward. Before they died, they would leave behind their light. With the assault of the endless players, they started to see the killer in the path.

“Pay attention to the paintings on the walls!”

The figures on the walls turned around. They looked at the players with cold gazes.

“Charge! Destroy them!”

There were some players who still hadn’t lost their mind when they reached over 60 meters. They used their tools to destroy the wall. However, even if they hacked down the wall, the tourists were still imprinted on them. They were not paintings but ghosts standing inside the wall. The deeper they went, the scarier things were. It was not easy for light to survive there. The hidden map extinguished the light and hope easily.

Half an hour passed, but no one managed to pass the 70th-meter point. The players died and fell, but the path didn’t seem blocked. The path appeared to be connected to an endless sky.

The confident man started to sweat. The army dwindled in size. It was not that he ran out of money but because his people told him that once a player died for the third time, they started to show signs of mental instability.

The man didn't expect the path would impact the players in real life. When a player reached the 80th-meter point, the man called for the army to stop. He knew when to fold. "Millions of accounts are gone, but we only manage to push to 80 meters. This path is more than several hundred meters long. It is really an endless hole." The boss of the Merchant Union communicated with the other bosses. They reached a conclusion. They all agreed that current players were unable to break through this path. This path was a mistake of the two giants.

After that, a few big guilds also gave it a try. After paying a lot and sacrificing a lot, the players reached the 90th-meter mark, but that was their limit.

"97 meters. The player with almost maximum luck only manages to reach that point. There's really no hope anymore."

Then everyone turned to the east side to look at the man standing there.

"Huang Yin, it's your turn." The man from Merchant Union and the founder of Absolute Truth said. This simple name grabbed everyone's attention. Even the people outside the game sat up straighter.

No one had seen Huang Yin in action before. Huang Yin was the most mysterious player in Perfect Life.

He would prove once and for all if he could live up to his mystery that night.

"You've done very well already." Huang Yin walked to the maze alone. He stood beside the abyss, opened his arms, and fell.

Chapter 737: Making Waves

Over ten thousand players were present, and more than a million netizens were watching. Huang Yin's leap caught everyone's heart. No matter the result, Huang Yin's name would go down in history. He jumped into the abyss without hesitation!

"The fuck! He jumped just like that?!"

"That's a hole with more than ten thousand dead bodies!"

“Will he fall to his death?”

All the bosses widened their eyes too. To explore the path, they had done a lot of preparation. They knew how strange and scary the path was. They all moved forward and took out their cameras. They wanted to record this legendary moment, but the curtain was only rising.

Super high attributes, unknown hidden professions, and top equipment had made Huang Yin very strong. He landed safely on the 50 meters deep platform. There was still some light here. They were left behind by the previous players. This level was still safe. But beyond that, it was the true abyss. Everyone wanted to see what weapons Huang Yin would use, but Huang Yin only raised his arm.

“Nightmare!” The skin under the coat leaked with blood. The dream in the path dispersed according to Huang Yin’s will, and the nightmare became his step!

Huang Yin, who had been killed more than hundreds of times by Butterfly, obtained the grade A talent, Nightmare. He was born in a nightmare. How would he descend? Step by step.

60 meters, 70 meters, 80 meters...

The players outside the tunnel were dumbfounded. They knew Huang Yin was amazing, but no one could expect he’d only use 3 minutes to reach the human’s current limit. Absolute Truth’s founder’s eyes filled with shock. Merchant Union’s boss looked embarrassed. “This makes me look so stupid.” The players all looked at Huang Yin with different expressions.

90 meters, 95 meters, 99 meters!

The limit in the players’ eyes was only the beginning for Huang Yin. The ghosts on the wall howled and the shadows in the dark twisted in pain. Huang Yin ignored them. He had his mission. He took out an oil lamp from his coat. This oil lamp was different from the one used by Absolute Truth. His oil lamp burned with cryptic world’s body wax, and the flame was a ghost flame.

“What item is that?”

“I can’t tell. Huang Yin’s coat is special equipment that can prevent any kind of probing. Just how many valuable items does this man have?”

The players outside the path had no idea that Huang Yin only took out the oil lamp so that they could see him. Huang Yin became the first player to reach beyond the 100 meters point. He could sense the fractured dream around him.

The person who opened the tunnel was Dream, and Huang Yin’s power was related to Dream. Even without Han Fei’s help, Huang Yin could enter the tunnel. After the 100th meter mark, the ghosts and monsters appeared more often. Huang Yin, with his oil lamp, was like a traveler in hell. He avoided all the dangers and reached 150 meters underground. More curses were carved on the wall, but Huang Yin felt very familiar. “I’m reaching the cryptic world.”

Back then, Han Fei dragged Huang Yin into the cryptic world to lower his Happiness Point. He had experienced the ‘best’ cryptic world had to offer for one night. He would never forget it.

“Help... There are still many people in the underground maze...” A wispy voice came from the crack in the wall. Huang Yin saw a living player bound in a cocoon.

“My name is Worm. I’m from Absolute Truth... We entered the maze and ran into ghosts!”

The players used their last strength to plead for help. Huang Yin looked down the path. More players were encased in walls. They were covered in curses and bound with life threads. A monster’s saliva dripped all over them. “Rest. I’ll lead you out.” Huang Yin took out a butcher’s knife from his coat. The knife was old and broken. It had the name the Way of the Evil Ghost on it. The butcher’s knife cut through the life threads, and the ghost fire burned away the cruses.

Huang Yin tossed out the precious healing items and moved forward without looking back. He reached the underground 200 meters. This place was no different from the cryptic world. The nightmare was palpable, and it radiated despair.

“Don’t go any further.” A weak voice traveled into Huang Yin’s ear. There was a unisexual man trapped inside a hanging coffin. He was heavily injured, and his neck was almost snapped.

“Are you a player who is lost in the maze?”

“Me? Of course...” The man’s neck snapped and then he looked at Huang Yin from a strange angle, “Not!” The ghost screamed, and it radiated misfortune. Huang Yin reacted quickly too. He avoided the attack and aimed at the ghost’s stomach. The players outside watched Huang Yin closely. He was the first to attack the ghosts. The stomach was cut open. Huang Yin was the first player to really harm the ghost. “So they are not invincible.”

“What is that rusted knife?”

“No! Look at that ghost’s stomach!”

Some of the players noticed the problem. After the thin ghost’s stomach was sliced open, a rotund ghost crawled out and pounced on Huang Yin.

“Do you want to die?” The ghost’s ambush didn’t get Huang Yin. Huang Yin responded with a fatal blow. Nightmare collected on the broken blade. The old butcher’s knife suddenly glowed sharply. The blade easily cut through the ghost’s neck and pinned it to the coffin. As the coffin fell, the real terror was triggered. Endless ghosts crawled out of the darkness. Even the netizens broke out in cold sweat for Huang Yin. Huang Yin had the top account. If he died, everything would be gone. Facing the unknown danger, Huang Yin didn’t retreat. He stood there alone, holding his butcher’s knife. Using his priceless account as a gambling chip, he would help the players cut through the darkness.

“He tossed out priceless healing items to help the players and stood at the front when facing unknown danger. When everyone is helpless, he ventures alone into the abyss. So that is Huang Yin, the top player of Perfect Life!”

Huang Yin didn’t know about the comments. He put down the soul lamp and took out another butcher’s knife. The massacre was about to begin. The ghosts surged at him. Huang Yin seemed to dance in the storm. If he was touched, he’d die, but he managed to avoid all the attacks.

The combat was terrifying. The players had no idea how Huang Yin became so powerful in an Iyashikei game. He was worthy of being the top player.

The torn souls fell like leaves. Huang Yin planned to move further down. When he planned to enter the 200 meters area, all the ghosts in the path suddenly slithered away. A song began, and a giant shadow of more than 5 meters crawled out of the abyss.

“Big Sin?” Even though he was prepared, Huang Yin’s legs still weakened. He leaned on the wall to focus. The monster before him was different from the other ghosts. If he was not careful, he’d really die.

Big Sin’s appearance solidified the Yin energy in the path. The thick misfortune lapped like waves.

This was the first time the players got to witness the horror of the cryptic world. Just Big Sin alone could bring unimaginable despair and tragedy.

Huang Yin broke the oil lamp. The ghost flame danced in the dark. Then he took out many items to deal with Big Sin. The ghost flame surrounded Big Sin, but it couldn’t harm it. Big Sin had no idea what Huang Yin was doing. But it felt a familiar scent from the ghost flame. Han Fei once told him not to harm anyone who had this scent. It was deeply conflicted. It wanted to ram into this annoying man but it remembered Han Fei’s order.

If this was Big Sin before entering Fu Sheng’s altar, it would have lost its rationality already. However, Big Sin had combined with other things inside Fu Sheng’s altar. It was different from any other pet. Big Sin trampled angrily. It was angry and crazy as it moved towards madness. Huang Yin looked at Big Sin in fear. However, for the players outside the tunnel, Huang Yin was containing Big Sin. The more the monster struggled, it meant that the more powerful Huang Yin was.

‘Shouldn’t Big Sin guard on the other side of the cryptic world? Why is it here when he’s not here?’ Huang Yin thought he should retreat already, but the main character was not there yet.

As Big Sin was about to spiral out of control, the song of soul-summoning suddenly grew louder.

‘Is he coming?’

All the ghosts on the wall turned around as if they were afraid.

Despair started to boil in the dark world. Giant hatreds surfaced. Standing in the middle was a man in the beast mask. 99 bloody wounds were marked on him. Even though the mask had hidden his face, no one could miss his eyes!

There was rationality with endless madness, like flames in an icy ocean!

Chapter 738: Detention

“Han Fei? No! Isn’t he on livestream?”

“Is it really not him?”

“I’ll never forget that gaze! Are there two crazies who are so alike?”

The man in the beast mask stood among the Pure Hatreds. When he appeared, all the players, inside and outside the game, sucked in a cold breath. The terror he radiated crawled into people’s hearts.

“Is that thing still human? He doesn’t look human to me.”

“Everyone on standby! The new players back away! Repeat! Players under level 10 please back away!”

“The target has arrived! Contact Deep Space Tech! It’s time for them to fulfill their promise!”

Deep inside the path, Huang Yin’s hand that held the knife trembled. Even if he knew the truth, he still thought this man was Han Fei. They were too similar, especially those eyes.

“What did he experience in the abyss? He seemed to scratch out the 99 wounds himself. They are mixed with dried curses and resentment.”

Huang Yin and Bai Xian didn’t know each other in the past. They cooperated for the sake of Han Fei. Huang Yin didn’t really know him, but at that moment, he had a new understanding of Bai Xian. The man

did more than was necessary. He really tried his best to play this character to help Han Fei. “Those wounds and curses must have hurt.”

The normal players only thought the man was scary. Only Huang Yin and Han Fei knew the pain Bai Xian was in. The 99 wounds and curses were not sustainable by normal humans. However, Bai Xian volunteered to be injured by Pure Hatred to fully replicate Han Fei.

“Bai Xian has arrived early, because he’s worried that Big Sin might accidentally injure me. I mustn’t disappoint him.” Huang Yin turned and escaped. The players outside the tunnel understood him. Only crazy people wouldn’t run from an unwinnable battle. Pure Hatreds followed him. Huang Yin was dying. The show was reaching its climax. The final scene was a chase. Huang Yin and Bai Xian knew that both parties were at their limits. They couldn’t carry on for long.

“Quick! Be ready to help Huang Yin!”

“Gather up! Team 1 go and attract the ghosts! Team 2 will rescue the injured people inside the path. They should know about the world on the other side! Team 3 will clear the path for Huang Yin!”

“We’ll go with you!” The players showed unseen before determination. They took up their flower pots, woks, and so on to fight against the ghosts. Huang Yin had inadvertently become a symbol of hope for the players. In the normal script, justice would always prevail, but that was not the case in Perfect Life. The players understood how scary the malice from the cryptic world was. Pure Hatred was categorically different from normal ghosts. Once they made a move, the living would wilt with a touch. The curse spread everywhere. Even if the player touched a stone seen by Pure Hatred, their Life Points would drain rapidly. They had no chance to survive. The players in the surface world couldn’t win a Pure Hatred even if they gained another 10 levels. The slaughter was one-sided. Despair and negative emotions influenced more layers. Some started to flee. They were not afraid of death, but they were afraid of dying.

“Run! Don’t look back!” Huang Yin shouted in the abyss. He wanted to lead Worm and the other Absolute Truth players out of the path. These players were different. They had stayed too long in the cryptic world. If they died in the path, their bodies might be affected in real life. Huang Yin heard from Han Fei that death in the cryptic world might mean death in real life. Therefore, he had to save all the players in the path no matter what. The healing potions he gave worked. Out of the fear of the abyss, most players started to escape once they awakened. However, there was one exception.

Stuck between the wall, Shen Luo rubbed his heavy head. This was his second persona surgery. He felt like he had survived a very long dream. After he woke up, he had forgotten many things. However, his arms had gained unknown tattoos. They were colorful and looked like two broken butterfly wings.

“If the dream is fake, then why do I have this tattoo? My memory and my experience are different. Should I trust my brain or my instinct?” Shen Luo felt like his brain was lying to him. It was not a good feeling. “A broken butterfly wing?” Shen Luo had fractured memories in his mind. He had been protecting a kid who loved to cry in a murderous theme park. However, the kid was actually the scariest murderer. He was controlling at least 1/5 of the murderers. The shattered butterfly tattoo was left there by the kid. “The kid appears to want me to find people with butterfly tattoos and then join them. This broken butterfly tattoo is some kind of symbol.”

Mad Laughter had crushed the butterfly in the red orphanage. He didn't waste the butterfly dust. He painted a new butterfly on Shen Luo. As for why he had chosen Shen Luo, Shen Luo didn't know either. “Why would I be picked by that monster? What's so special about me?”

At that moment, Huang Yin ran past. Behind him was a Pure Hatred.

“Go!” Huang Yin recognized Shen Luo easily. Honestly, he didn't want to save Shen Luo. He had heard many things about Shen Luo. However, he couldn't do that with so many players watching. He grabbed Shen Luo. Then he stabbed himself with a syringe. His speed increased again. As a Blood Doctor, Huang Yin had many ways to improve his body. He had even evolved his body in certain ways.

“Come!” Shen Luo was carried by Huang Yin. Strangely enough, once Shen Luo was picked up by Huang Yin, the night sky on the other side of the cryptic world was torn open, and a scary presence flowed into the path. This presence was different from the other Pure Hatreds. It didn't target the other players but only Huang Yin and Shen Luo.

“What is hidden in you?” Huang Yin sensed it. There was something in the cryptic world that wanted to stop Shen Luo from leaving.

“I don't know!” Shen Luo glanced at his arm. “Could it be this broken butterfly tattoo? But I don't even know how I got it!”

Huang Yin didn't have the time to study it. He took out the broken butcher's knife. "Do you want to chop it off, or do you want me to?"

"Don't!" Shen Luo was shocked. Wasn't the hero supposed to be helping people? Why would this man think about chopping his arm off? Shen Luo was thankful that he didn't share the dream fragments he still had in his mind.

While they talked, they soon reached the 150th-meter mark. The path changed, being affected by the presence of the cryptic world. The rocks turned pure black. The dead path started to move like the intestines of a monster.

"Is this path the body of some Unmentionable?"

Huang Yin dragged Shen Luo with all his might. Many players rushed to help. Bai Xian, at the bottom of the path, was at his limit too. His blood flowed, and his body was consumed by curses. There was a price to pay for choosing the night. Bai Xian finally understood the pain Han Fei had to suffer every day, but he couldn't stop now. A normal shoot could allow NGs, but he had to finish this performance in one go. Bai Xian finally understood how Han Fei trained his acting skills. He couldn't fail because if he did, he'd die. The chase in the path was at the most exciting moment. Everyone's attention was drawn to the path. However, the Boss of Merchant Union suddenly led his core team and retreated.

Be it online or offline, everyone's focus was on Huang Yin inside the path. Everyone wanted to know if the first player would survive.

Han Fei noticed something was wrong. "This is not right. Why is Merchant Union's boss leaving already? Did he receive any news?" Han Fei's intuition was trained in the cryptic world. It was very sharp. "Deep Space Tech and Immortal Pharma haven't made any move. They have other arrangements!"

Han Fei and Huang Yin were both tools for the two giant companies to distract the players.

When the masked devil appeared in the path, Han Fei had already proved his innocence. He walked to the door. "I want to leave!" Bai Xian and Huang Yin were his best friends. He couldn't see them die in the game.

“Han Fei, you need to stay here some more. The situation is still not clear enough.” The worker persuaded Han Fei through the door. Han Fei’s response was very direct. He kicked at the door.

“After framing me, do you want to imprison me illegally? Do you think I have no temper?” The officers in the adjacent rooms were jolted by the commotion and came to support Han Fei.

“I’ve cooperated with you. Many people can see that the person in the abyss is not me. What else do you want from me?” If Han Fei really didn’t hold back, not that many people could stop him.

“Please don’t make things difficult for me.” The worker frowned. He was scared of the angry Han Fei.

“I’m making things difficult for you?” Han Fei studied the worker. He could sense something wrong with the man’s mannerism and tone. The higher-up of Immortal Pharma didn’t plan to let him go.

“I didn’t want to do this, but you seem to have the habit of trampling on normal people’s dignity.” Han Fei’s gaze changed. He placed his arm on the worker’s shoulder. “Bring me to your superior.” The worker shivered. It felt like it was not a human who grabbed his shoulder but the devil.

“Okay...” The worker moved out of the way and jogged to find his superior.

Han Fei and the officers followed him. They took the elevator to the 4th floor. They stopped outside a room. At that moment, a phone inside the room rang. The worker wanted to ask Han Fei to wait, but Han Fei opened the door and walked in.

The superior seated at the table clearly didn’t expect this. He had just accepted the call. The virtual image of a young man appeared above the table. He ordered, “Han Fei has left the livestream room. He can’t leave. He has something my grandfather has left behind. Find a way to detain him.”

Han Fei heard everything the young man said.

“What is it about detaining me?” Han Fei walked to the table. The young man was the one who negotiated with the police. He was the one who had been studying Han Fei. Hearing Han Fei, he didn’t

panic. He smiled politely at Han Fei. "We just want to know more about you so that we can have further collaborations."

"You sure are a good actor."

"You are the better actor." The young man smiled fakely. "I heard that you've met Du Jing at the theme park. I'm curious how about you became my grandfather's friend. If you're willing to tell, you can come to the 11th floor to find me."

"You're still too young." Even in the cryptic world, not that many ghosts were willing to give Han Fei their address.

Chapter 739: Suspicion Cleared

The number on the elevator panel turned 11. The police dragged the superior to the 11th floor, accompanied by the two officers. The transparent elevator door opened. The workers stood inside the modern lobby. "Where is he?" Han Fei looked around, but no one dared to meet his eyes.

"I'm here." The young man who 'invited' Han Fei over was seated inside the single room deep within the lobby. Outside his room was the giant screen. The news that was broadcasted here could be seen through the entire intelligent city. The young man didn't even move to stand. There was an arrogance that radiated from within him like everyone had to bow to him. 'So rude. I wish to tell him that even father has to be polite to me.' Han Fei walked to the room. The virtual screen in the lobby was playing the image from Perfect Life. Huang Yin and the monster were still playing the heart-pounding chase scene. The battle didn't even draw the young man's attention. As the real insider at Immortal Pharma, they seemed to have found the true solution and were waiting for the perfect timing.

After entering the room, Han Fei said directly, "Isn't it clear that I'm not the monster inside the path? So why are you still doing this to trap me here?"

"There's no need to be so angry." The young man sipped the drink in his hands. "At first, we really did think you're the masked man inside the path. The higher-ups even selected you as the prime suspect. They think that you're disrupting Perfect Life, and you're being supported by a huge hidden organization?"

“Me? Supported by a huge organization?” Han Fei was not acting. He was really confused that these people would have that idea.

“You’ve solved so many cases and captured the murderers on Grade A wanted list. You’ve single-handedly challenged supercriminal Butterfly and turned the internet’s impression of you. You even won the best actor award during the Movie Festival. I refuse you believe there’s no one helping you.” “So, what have you found?”

“Other than the police, you rarely interact with others.” The young man frowned. This was the thing that confused him the most.

“So, are you saying Xin Lu Police are attempting to destroy Perfect Life?”

“I didn’t say that!” Even if the young man did think that he wouldn’t say it.

“Then, how do you plan to deal with this mess?”

“Since you’re not the culprit, the company will not waste any more time on you. We’ll use the backdoor left behind by grandfather to force the supercomputer to wipe out the bug.” The young man didn’t hide anything from Han Fei. Perhaps he thought soon everyone would know about this or this was another test for Han Fei.

“I thought the game had been handled by the computer since it entered OB.” Han Fei instantly had a bad premonition.

“That’s why it’s called a backdoor.” The young man watched Han Fei’s face. “You seem to care a lot about this... Are you worried about the monsters inside the path?” The young man stood in the room. Above them was the giant virtual screen. By then, Han Fei was sure that the young man was baiting him. He still hadn’t given up. Even though there was no visible camera in the room, with Deep Space Tech and Immortal Pharma’s power, they could have installed invisible cameras. Perhaps the surveillance on Han Fei hadn’t really stopped.

At that moment, screams came from the screen. The path inside the maze changed. The path near the surface world suddenly collapsed. The players near the edge fell into the abyss.

“Changing the terrain is your backdoor?” Han Fei desperately wanted to know these things. Fu Sheng had opened the front of the black box, and he wanted to destroy the cryptic world. Therefore, the surface world was his final shield. Fu Sheng had given that power to his younger brother, Fu Tian. Therefore, Han Fei was not surprised that Immortal Pharma could impact the cryptic world. He just wanted to know how powerful Immortal Pharma was after Fu Tian died.

“This bug is related to the black box grandfather left behind. The deleted world had a large impact. Therefore, the internal committee of the company reached a consensus to use the backdoor to directly influence Perfect Life.” The young man clicked the icon on the table and many codes Han Fei didn’t understand appeared. “There is a limited number of backdoors, and the photon computer will restore them once used. After all the backdoors are restored, the computer will really take over humans to be the core of Perfect Life.”

“I don’t get it. Why are you doing this? Isn’t it better for humans to remain in control?”

“As long as humanity is around, there will not be pure justice and a perfect world.” The young man smiled coldly, “The computer has been collecting the data from the players. Even if there’s not a player left, the computer can create endless NPC with happiness and joy. They will be left inside the game and have the perfect lives.”

“I still don’t get it.” Han Fei had grasped the main idea. Fu Tian wanted to use the photon computer to replicate human emotions to inject the cryptic world with happiness. This would balance out the despair there.

“Do you really don’t get it, or are you acting?” The young man’s smile disappeared. He swiped his palm across the table, and the screen changed. Endless info about Han Fei appeared. “Grandfather was the designer and creator of Perfect Life. He’s the god in the game, but he didn’t tell us all of his secrets, and the most important among them is the black box.”

“So you also don’t know where it is?” Han Fei played his role to perfection.

“Grandfather once said that Perfect Life only existed because of the black box. The black box is also the reason Deep Space Tech and Immortal Pharma can have such advancement in biological and AI science in the past decade.” The young man pressed the virtual image, and it stopped at a particular moment in Han Fei’s life. “Now, do you know how important the black box is to us?”

The moment stopped at the time Han Fei first went to buy the gaming helmet!

He entered the street alone, and he was captured by the camera. Soon, the whole street was consumed by fire. In the next image, Han Fei was already at home. At first, the police had also suspected Han Fei was the arsonist. However, they quickly eliminated that possibility. That was also the first time Han Fei interacted with the police. The police also experienced the giant change in Han Fei the most.

“Is there anything you want to say?” The young man walked to the projection. “Through our investigation, we can be sure that you’re the last person to leave this street, and this street is among grandfather’s will.” “What can that prove?”

“If you’re just a normal person, of course, we won’t suspect you, but don’t you think your life has changed too much?” The young man looked through the virtual projection of Han Fei’s life. “Your whole life is here, and the change can be traced down to that moment.”

Han Fei’s expression didn’t change. He looked at the young man like he was dumb. Han Fei was certain that the projected childhood was different from his real childhood. “Even such a large company can’t figure out what really happened to me. I’m quite disappointed.”

“It doesn’t matter if you don’t tell us. The black box is hidden in the world on the other side of the path. We will discover your connection with it.” The young man glanced at his watch. “It’s time.”

He lifted his head to look at the large screen. Huang Yin carried Shen Luo and ran as fast as he could. All the players were staring at them. They didn’t notice that Merchant Union’s boss had already retreated, and many NPC had infiltrated the crowd. Different from normal NPC, these people had no soul. They were controlled by a voice. When the Pure Hatreds and masked man approached the entrance, the NPC fainted. The theme park map blurred. A lot of NPC went out of control, interrupting the supercomputer’s control of this area. At that moment, the pictures of the ghost tourists on the wall disintegrated. A mysterious power was healing the path on the surface world. This path was like a scar, and the force was closing it.

Han Fei thought he was summoned there to watch it, but to his surprise, when Immortal Pharma used the backdoor, an intense pain came from the back of Han Fei’s head. It felt like someone was hammering it with a nail. A normal person couldn’t stand this pain, but Han Fei had died 99 times in the game. He had experienced more deaths than a normal person could imagine. Han Fei smiled, scratched

his nose, and continued to watch. The intense pain continued. The players on the screen screamed because Huang Yin and Shen Luo were still inside the path. When the path was about 90 percent closed, the blurry image turned clear again. A giant eye opened in the dark sky, and all the mist was blown away.

In real life, there was a loud boom underneath the building where Han Fei was. It sounded like something had exploded. At the same time, the pain at the back of his brain disappeared.

“It didn’t close fully?” The young man’s expression shifted. He couldn’t maintain his composure anymore. A creepy shout came from the tunnel as Huang Yin and Shen Luo made their narrow escape. The ghosts inside the hidden map didn’t chase after them. However, they had buried the seed of terror inside all the players. The whole player base now saw that masked man as the final big boss. The players inside the game cheered. They saw Huang Yin as the hero. He was the first player who managed to enter and leave the path alive. His existence was the player’s hope.

In real life, Immortal Pharma faced a huge problem. No one expected that the backdoor wouldn’t fully close the path.

“Is this your solution? You purposely left it a little bit open so that the players would always feel a sense of danger?” Han Fei sighed in relief when he saw that Huang Yin was safe. He was most worried that Huang Yin and Bai Xian would get hurt because of him. Now that Huang Yin was safe and the path was close, Bai Xian didn’t need to carry on anymore. This was a good ending for everyone. The young man clearly didn’t have time for Han Fei’s comments. He immediately called his people to discuss the next step of the repair.

“If there’s nothing else, I’m going home.” Han Fei walked to the table and scanned everything on the surface to memorize them. He patted the young man’s shoulder. “Remember to pay me for the loss I’ve suffered today. I was supposed to shoot a movie this morning, but because of you, I can’t work properly for the next month.”

The young man waved his arms impatiently. The worker beside him immediately led Han Fei out.

“There’s no need. I know how to walk out on my own.” The worker looked at the police. Finally, Han Fei left. After ensuring Han Fei had left, the young man pressed a switch on the table. The original wall rippled like water. The image outside the window disappeared to reveal the room’s true form. There were various cameras in the room. The room was more like a stage. Around the stage sat many higher-ups from Deep Space Tech and Immortal Pharma.

“Fu Shuang, you’ve done well.”

“He probably doesn’t have the black box. Based on Fu Tian’s will, when the power of the backdoor is activated, the people with the black box will suffer intense pain. However, he didn’t look like it.”

“But the problem is the path is not closed fully. What should we do now? Use the backdoor again?”

“We don’t have many opportunities left. We can’t waste them before we find the black box.”

“What shall we tell the police?” “What is there to tell? We haven’t broken the law. But the days after this will be more difficult.” The group discussed heatedly. Other than small fries, only an old lady sat there, not talking. She placed the id with the name, Du Jing, into her pocket and watched the direction where Han Fei had left.

Chapter 740: Our City

“Why would I receive two completely opposite wills? Other than Fu Tian, who would know about our past?” Han Fei’s figure appeared in the old lady’s mind, “I think I have forgotten about someone. That man is very similar to him, walking alone in the dark...” While the other higher-ups were busy discussing, Du Jing silently stood up. She didn’t notice the others and took the elevator door. The old lady exited the building and scanned the crowd, but she couldn’t find Han Fei. “Han Fei, what a familiar name. I’ve heard mom mention it many times in my dreams...”

...

Han Fei was escorted by the police back to his place around 11 pm. Ever since this incident, the police had a heavier security detail on Han Fei. They believed the Butterfly was about to strike again. Han Fei exchanged clothes with one of the officers and then watched the officer leave his home.

Han Fei’s expression didn’t change after the door closed. He walked to the sink. Through the mirror, he examined every corner of the room. Han Fei had a photographic memory. He left behind many small marks in his room. He would know if his room were searched. “The police didn’t check my room. They do trust me.”

Han Fei washed his face and then walked around the room. He examined every inch to check if there were any cameras or hidden mics. Han Fei took half an hour to check everything. The expression on his face relaxed, and he sighed in relief. He just had a torturous day. He almost exposed himself inside that Deep Space Tech building. Not anyone could survive the pain of head-cracking. 'The black box is my biggest secret. I can't let anyone find out.'

Han Fei's heart relaxed, and fatigue came. He opened the fridge and started to eat. After he was done, he crawled into the gaming hub. There were still many things he needed to do in the cryptic world. Plus, he needed to send Bai Xian back to the surface world as soon as possible. The man had mutilated himself to perfectly mimic Han Fei. Even Han Fei believed the movie festival owed Bai Xian a reward for his professionalism. Han Fei put the gaming helmet on.

His eyes were covered in red. Han Fei felt like the bloody person behind him had weakened. He wanted to turn back to look, but whenever he was about to see the person's face, he would log into the game. Han Fei opened his eyes. Weep hugged his urn and was waiting for Han Fei's return.

"How's the situation at the path?" This question was probably too complicated for Weep. The child didn't know how to answer. He grabbed Han Fei's hand and led him out. Han Fei ran because he could sense the desperation in Weep. The high platform in the middle of the theme park had collapsed. All the altarpieces had been moved into the maze. The spotted butterfly patterns in the sky had also disappeared. Dream's consciousness had dispersed.

"Is this the maze?" Han Fei couldn't believe his eyes as he studied the large hole. When he left, the nightmare was weaving inside the deep hole. All the buildings had been destroyed. Only a day had passed, but new buildings were already forming inside the hole. Some of the buildings had even repaired themselves. Hearing Han Fei's voice, endless curses gushed out of the hole to form the shadow of a woman. After Xu Qin, the neighbors from Happiness Neighborhood and Ziggurat appeared. The pale-faced and weak Bai Xian was among them too.

"You better bring him and leave first." Wei Youfu approached Han Fei and whispered, "You have a really good friend. To perfectly replicate your presence, he had Xu Qin tattoo his skin with curses and cut himself with wounds."

Han Fei rushed to Bai Xian, "Brother Bai, thank you. If not for you, I would have become the enemy of all the players."

“It’s not a question of would. You are already the common enemy of all the players.” Bai Xian handed the beast mask back to Han Fei. “Don’t wear this mask if you can. I can feel the hatred from the players towards the wearer of this mask. It has become a symbol of the devil and misfortune.”

“Is it that serious?”

“You really lack self-awareness! We’re playing the same game, but somehow you’ve managed to turn yourself into the ultimate final boss. I’m quite impressed.” Bai Xian rambled. “But don’t find me for something like this again. I don’t think my heart can stand it!”

“Brother Bai, thank you. Speaking of, I feel like your acting skills have improved leaps and bounds in those few minutes.” Han Fei patted Bai Xian’s shoulders. “You are definitely one of the few master actors of our generation.”

“Really? Then, I should fight for best actor next year.” Even at that moment, Bai Xian still didn’t forget about his goal.

“It’ll be no problem.” Han Fei led Bai Xian to the room next door. He planned to use Resurrection to send Bai Xian back. “Brother Bai, you’ll return once you push open this door.”

“Is it really that simple?” Bai Xian held the doorknob and then remembered something. He turned to Han Fei. “Erm... Han Fei, can I ask you for a favor?”

“Sure.”

“Can you not fight for the best actor award next year? Give me a try for another year.”

“Don’t worry. Before you get your deserving award, I’ll not compete with you.” Han Fei patted Bai Xian’s shoulders and sent him back to the surface world. Looking at the empty room, Han Fei sighed. “It looks like I’ve exhausted all of my good luck on finding these wonderful friends.”

He exited the small room. With his neighbors as a company, Han Fei entered the path again. Due to some reasons, he couldn't use the normal gaming hub to log into the surface world. However, he could use this tunnel to reach the surface world. "Will I turn into a ghost if I move over there?"

The deeper Han Fei went, the stranger he felt. The path appeared to be alive. The wall moved and gave off the smell of blood. The path could even fix itself. It was trying its best to close the distance between the two worlds.

"We've come to inspect this place. To create a path that connects the surface and cryptic worlds, we need the body of an Unmentionable." Wei Youfu said as he touched the wall. "This is similar to what we saw in Fu Sheng's memory world. The path underneath the theme park was buried inside the first-generation ghost's heart."

"Why is it that the body of an Unmentionable can connect the two worlds?"

"I'm not sure." Wei Youfu shook his head. "That's a name we don't even dare to mention. Perhaps the answer will come when one of us reaches that level."

"Then, you have to work hard," Han Fei liked to chat with Wei Youfu. He could sense the change in Wei Youfu. He became more like a human.

"The old building manager and his three kids are Unmentionables. Unfortunately, all of them have ventured deep into the cryptic world. Only the youngest Singer has managed to escape back here. The enemies we need to face are very scary." Wei Youfu couldn't afford to be optimistic. After what he had experienced in Fu Sheng's memory world, he couldn't help but worry.

"We'll take it slow."

"I don't think we can. Dream has already known about our presence. Its real self might come at any moment. We need to be prepared." Wei Youfu touched his chest. The other victims of the human jigsaw case were hiding inside him. "I can confirm that Dream is also looking for Little Eight. I need to protect her."

With the accompaniment of his neighbors, Han Fei ventured deep into the path. When he was halfway through, the system cried out. "Notification for Player 0000! The unknown consequences will occur if you continue to move forward! Please be careful!"

Han Fei stopped and frowned. "Can't I go any further?"

"Even you can't do it?" Wei Youfu was surprised. They couldn't move further because they were residents of the cryptic world, but Han Fei was 100 percent still alive.

"What is the meaning of this? The residents of the cryptic world can't use this bug to cross over to the surface world?"

"All the ghosts are bound by some kind of power. Crossing the worlds is possible, but the price to pay is heavy." Xu Qin pressed her hand on the wall. Curses flowed through her fingers into the path. However, the curses soon disappeared as they entered the path. "I was considering possessing someone to leave this place."

"That is not bad news."

"Don't be too happy. As the path slowly recovers, the binding on the ghosts will weaken. Eventually, ghosts can use this path freely."

"At least there's still time." Han Fei needed downtime. He couldn't handle more chaos. "I've taken out around 10,000 souls from Fu Sheng's altar. I want to build a city where ghosts and humans can coexist with them. When this city is built, we can slowly invite some 'lucky' players over to direct the hope and happiness from the surface world into this world."

After Han Fei finished Fu Sheng's altar mission, he gained a lot of rewards that he hadn't even had the chance to use yet.

"Now, we have three areas, the theme park, plastic surgery hospital, and Ziggurat. That's large enough to turn into a small city." Wei Youfu agreed with Han Fei. "However, I think we should discuss this with the other Pure Hatreds like that clown. I can't read his thoughts at all. I still can't tell if he's on our side."

They returned to the surface, but they couldn't find the painter and the clown.

"Never mind. Leave them be." Han Fei climbed to the high platform. He scanned the souls he had saved. Many of them didn't realize that they were dead. Their memories were stuck in the altar world.

"You Yi, Xiao Jia, Uncle Ying..." The familiar faces appeared before Han Fei. The special citizens in the altar worlds were basically the unique souls sheltered by Fu Sheng. They were kind and brave. They were beacons of hope.

"With their help, we should be able to build the city of our dreams."