

Iyashikei 881

Chapter 881: Loyal Persona

“Dong Quan, 34 years old. He has the loyal persona. He was once a captain of the transport team.”

Han Fei put down the document and looked at the unsmiling man before him. “Loyal persona? Can you tell me the exact details about your ability? Don’t misunderstand me. As the leader, I just wish to know all my members.”

“Never betray and never give up.” Dong Quan stood very straight.

“I like your personality but I hope you won’t intervene in my business. After all, you’re not my match.” Han Fei was very direct. He walked past Dong Quan and sat on the office chair. After the team 13 expansion, the center gave Han Fei an office. This was just a trial team, but it was now the strongest combat team within the center.

“Doesn’t the center trust you? Why would they send someone to monitor you?” Yan Lan’s metallic spine cracked. She only moved her muscles, but it made the members very nervous. Honestly, Yan Lan was a charming woman, but her charm was not the soft kind.

“I have the same ideals as the center, but my style of doing things is rather extreme.” Han Fei didn’t expect Yan Lan to join Team 13. She seemed to have found some secrets in the headmaster’s black box, and this was her chance to move around the center freely.

“The center members have come back from the Village of Longevity. They said no villagers have survived.” Crow wore a pair of glasses. His persona required his eyes to trigger. To avoid trouble, he put on glasses. “They told you to investigate the village, and you killed the whole village. Is that how you handle things?”

“Everyone there has been taken over by Pure Hatred. I had no choice.” Han Fei shrugged. He noticed that his members would openly go against him.

“I can vouch for him.” Ah Nian was firmly on Han Fei’s side. “Under the threat of death, humans would be chained by ghosts until their values are emptied.”

“Alright. You should get to know each other. In the future, we’ll be going out on missions together.” Han Fei opened the city map on the table. “With our ability, it’s no issue for us to take down a normal Black Building. We’ve already taken all the missions related to Black Buildings the center has.”

Dong Quan, “...”

Crow, “...”

Ah Nian, “What is a black building?”

“A black building is a building taken over by Pure Hatred.” Han Fei explained it patiently to Ah Nian. After all, Ah Nian was the only one supporting him. “Not all Black Buildings are as scary as Third Mental Hospital. There is variance in Pure Hatreds too. Some Pure Hatreds don’t even have a black flame, so we don’t need to be afraid.”

“Leader Gao, do you know what you’re talking about?” Dong Quan couldn’t stand it anymore. His job was to look over Han Fei so he wouldn’t do anything too dangerous. Ah Nian’s memory was too important to the center.

“Do you think I’m crazy?” Han Fei revealed a cruel smile. Black mist rolled behind him. “To awaken the greed persona, I need to eat more ghosts! With each Black Building, I can consume at least one Pure Hatred, to make them part of me. In the past, I wasn’t strong enough, but now, it’s different. I will make these ghosts feel fear.” Han Fei’s voice echoed in the room. The members didn’t think Han Fei was crazy, but they thought the world was crazy.

“If I hadn’t met the other members of the center, I would think this place is an evil organization aimed to destroy the world.” Ah Nian joked. He admired Han Fei.

“Are you serious?” Dong Quan’s eyes twitched. He realized Yan Lan and Crow both accepted Han Fei’s thoughts. “Both of you are fine with this? Are we going hunting Pure Hatred at Black Buildings?”

“He has done crazier things than that.” Yan Lan pointed at the black mist. “I’ll give you a reminder. The last superior who stopped him is now lying in his abyss.”

“I’m not that cruel.” Han Fei quickly explained himself. “The headmaster became a monster. That was why I had to eat him.”

“So you admitted it.” Dong Quan frowned. He was a very principled person.

Han Fei smiled politely and then changed the topic. He circled a black building between Zone C and B. “Wan Jia Mall, this Black Building has a lot of supplies. There are signs of survivors around it as well. Due to its distance from the center, the center hasn’t done any in-depth investigation into it. Our target is this place.”

Han Fei wasn’t discussing this with the team. He was informing them. “I’ll give you twenty minutes to get ready. We’ll meet up downstairs.” Han Fei grabbed ghost blood, put away the map, and walked out of the office.

The other members looked at each other. Han Fei had just escaped from a Strange Building that morning. His wounds hadn’t even recovered, but he was already going hunting at a Black Building.

“You still have 18 minutes left!”

Soon, the sound of the engine sounded inside the center. Han Fei drove his members away from the safe zone. They headed to the Black Building. Dong Quan received messages from the center’s higher-ups. The higher-ups sent him over to stabilize Han Fei, but his arrival appeared to push Han Fei further into madness. While Dong Quan communicated with the higher-ups, Yan Lan, in the passenger seat, handed a list to Han Fei, “The night before last, Crow and I opened the headmaster’s black box. It’s surprising, but he has a connection to Hope City too.”

“I know some people at Hope City have dealings with ghosts.”

“It’s more serious than you think. Pure Hatred has infiltrated the top management layer. They plan to turn Hope City into a large altar and use the whole citizens to sacrifice to God.” Yan Lan said solemnly. “The ritual needs many things. The people have been collecting them. Most of them are kept in Black Buildings. They’ll move them to Hope City on God’s birthday.”

“The ritual is happening on God’s birthday?” Han Fei’s pupils trembled. He didn’t have much time left. Han Fei might be getting stronger, but he was still no match for an Unmentionable.

“This has been going on for some time already. The center higher-ups should know about this,” Yan Lan lowered her voice. “But the strange thing is the center doesn’t mean to stop them.”

“Perhaps they’re doing work behind the scene.” Han Fei knew that Li Xue and part of the center members had gone to Hope City. The center wanted to cover up Li Xue’s absence by forcing an attack on a Black Building.

“The tragedy is not yet over, but humans fight with each other. This is sad.” Ah Nian heard the conversation, shook his head, and looked out the window. Team 13’s car came to the edge of Zone C. They had entered the ghost’s territory.

“Some unique Lingerings are worth eating. We won’t ignore the Red Buildings around Wan Jia Mall.” Han Fei found a parking spot. No matter what, he wouldn’t park the car right before the door of a Black Building. The other members were highly alerted. They had great fighting experiences. They didn’t need Han Fei’s reminder. Han Fei was about to park when there was static on the black band. There were many signal disrupters nearby.

“This is the work of human disturbance!”

The ground trembled, and a black truck came over from the mall.

“It’s the symbol of Hope City’s patrol teams. Why would they be here?” Dong Quan was confused. Normally, when a large base attacked a black building, they would announce it. After all, every battle would be a chance to raise morale. The people in the truck didn’t know why Han Fei’s group was there either. They had a standstill on the road. Ten minutes later, another modified car from Hope City paused behind Han Fei. They pinched Han Fei’s car in the middle. The truck door opened. A man with an eye patch walked out. His uniform was still stained with live human blood.

“You sure are courageous. A single investigation team dares to enter deep into the city. Aren’t you afraid of being killed?” The man dropped his gloves. He seemed to be warning Han Fei.

“Get down of the car. We won’t trouble you. We have the same goal even though we’re from different bases.” Another man came out of the car from behind. His skin was pale. A picture of a scale was painted on his shirt. This person appeared to be a member of the judges in Hope City. More people from Hope City descended. They were stained with blood. It was clear that they had just butchered their own kind.

“We’re quite lucky. At least we don’t need to go to Hope City to smoke them out.” Han Fei scanned the people. He soon had something after comparing them to the ghost card case.

The single-eyed man and the pale man were both on the cards. The single-eyed man was Red Eye. He was once a gangster. He killed multiple people and finally disappeared into the forest; the young man came from a family of lawyers. He was called the Flower Lawyer. His family was very influential. His parents had high demands for him. He was a kind person on the surface, but he loved to torment others. He later became a chesspiece of a criminal organization. Flower Lawyer was unimportant in the ghost cards, but the person who led him down the criminal path was a very dangerous madman. He was called the Judge. He liked to kill the innocent.

“We’ve received a rescue signal, so we came here at first notice.” Han Fei used masterful acting. He looked so naïve and innocent.

“Thank you, but the danger has been solved.” Red Eye exchanged a look with his people. “Which team are you from? Your team is small, and this place is close to a Black Building. You need to be careful!”

“We are a temp unit. There are only five of us.” Han Fei acted as if he had just noticed the danger. He immediately wanted to turn around.

“Don’t leave in such a hurry!” Red Eye showed the desire for blood. “We need more sacrifices. You are the perfect addition!”

The eyepatch fell. A black ghost arm reached out of Red Eye’s missing eye. It wanted to grab Han Fei’s neck. However, when it got close, it was cut off. Han Fei looked at Red Eye in shock. “This is such a coincidence. I’m looking for sacrifice too.”

Yan Lan got out of the car. The metallic tattoo on his back cut into her spine. “Do we need anyone alive?”

“We don’t. I’ve recorded their memories.” Ah Nian held his chin. The people he saw started to collapse mentally. He had seven awakenings. He was strong enough to be a team captain, but he was only the vice-captain of Team 13.

“Don’t think about escape.” Crow removed his glasses. He sighed. “Even I’m afraid of my teammates, so you should just commit suicide.”

Dong Quan followed Crow down the car. He was even more silent than before.

Chapter 882: Big Sin's Eyes

Flower Lawyer received the order from the Judge to check on the sacrifice. He didn’t think he’d run into a battle unit from the center. In his impression, he could eliminate a whole team easily. The plan was perfect, but something was wrong with the execution. From the moment the female center member raised the heavy truck, things were getting strange.

“A persona user with sixth awakening?”

The fearless Yan Lan crossed the battlefield. The Hope City patrols who came close to her exploded like bloody fireworks. If there was only Yan Lan, it might be okay, but Ah Nian soon made his move as well. The murderers started to attack one another.

“What monsters are these?” Flower Lawyer’s face was pale. “Based on the info, those with three awakenings can already be team leaders. How come this team is so special?” This was not a battle but a massacre. Flower Lawyer ignored others and silently retreated.

“Where are you running to?” Han Fei charged at Flower Lawyer.

“It’s a misunderstanding!” Flower Lawyer ran away in a hurry. However, he had to pause. An abyss appeared before him. There were layers of ghost territory inside it! He sucked in a cold breath.

“Answer me honestly, and I’ll give you a quick death, or you’ll end up like that man.” Han Fei lowered his hands, and the black water boiled. The flower of resentment spat out the almost-digested Brother Chou.

“Kill me, please kill me...” Brother Chou repeated the same sentence repeatedly. Flower Lawyer couldn’t imagine what a murderer had gone through to become like this.

“Are you curious about what happened to him? How about I have him describe it to you?” The endless abyss appeared behind Han Fei and tore open the ground. Flower Lawyer’s body trembled. Han Fei was totally different from a center member. All the good values of humanity couldn’t be seen in him. Flower Lawyer only saw cruelty, evil, and greed!

Black mist rolled like waves and swallowed Flower Lawyer and his friends. “Quite stubborn.” Han Fei turned around. His teammates had cleaned up the scene. Dong Quan frowned as he looked at the blood on the ground. “You didn’t even give him a chance to answer you. If you ask me, you were just looking for an excuse to eat him.”

“You really have misunderstood me.” Han Fei got into Flower Lawyer’s car and found many secret documents about Hope City. “We can use this lawyer as our opening.”

The black mist dissipated. Han Fei’s group entered the empty truck. They pretended to be patrols and entered Wan Jia Mall.

This was not the first time this group had been here. When the Pure Hatred sensed the special power from the altar in the truck, the ghost territory opened and allowed the truck entry.

“The mall is now open.” Han Fei lowered the rim of his hat. His expression was calm. Dong Quan silently put on his gloves. Normally, a large team would be required to take down a Black Building. Dong Quan looked around. None of his teammates looked scared. If anything, they were excited.

“The ghosts around here seem to know this truck. They don’t even intend to check it.” There are a lot of low-level Lingering Spirits trapped inside the mall. They became tireless workers and guards. Even though it was still day, the inside of the mall was dark. This place was different from the other Black Buildings. There was no strange smell in the air. The shelves were even and neat. The owner appeared to be some neat freak as they forced the lowly spirits to clean the place over and over.

Han Fei followed the sign to the underground warehouse. This place appeared to be taboo because there were fewer ghosts.

“The presence is stronger. The mall owner is just ahead.”

The headlights twisted. Han Fei saw that the walls of the underground tunnel were carved into many drawers. It looked very strange. The drawers were embedded into the walls. It was hard to tell what was inside them.

“No. The presence comes from all sides. It feels like we’re inside Pure Hatred’s body!” Ah Nian was the first to notice something was out of place. Then, there came the sound of the drawers being opened. The headlights went off, and a large figure appeared before them. It was a woman who was as white as snow. Her eyebrows, lips, and eyes were all white. White hair about 10 meters long floated behind her, and the hair connected with each drawer. She appeared to be a part of all the drawers. The drawers contained her secrets.

The woman was confused, perhaps because this was her first time seeing them. Normally, it was not these people who came to deliver the stock normally.

The woman didn’t move for the kill due to the altar. She tried to communicate with Han Fei.

“Move out!” Black mist rolled out of the car window. Time and memory froze. Deep sea fishes swarmed out, and Fear Demon charged at the white-haired woman.

Dong Quan had to engage too, since everyone else had done so. He remembered his mission of being arranged into Team 13, but somehow things had reached this stage.

“Brother Quan, you can’t hold back simply because she’s beautiful!” Dong Quan’s face twitched hearing that from Han Fei. The Pure Hatred hidden underground didn’t expect someone to disguise themselves as disciples of the evil God. She also didn’t expect he had two Pure Hatreds. The white hair pulled open the drawers. Fresh blood and broken limbs poured out. The white-haired Pure Hatred was as pure as snow. That was because she had hidden her dirt away in the drawers. A normal person would be shocked by the things that had happened but that was nothing compared to the things inside the abyss. Black water rolled back. Negative emotions boiled. Han Fei tossed the dirt Gao Xing used to torture Gao Cheng on the white-haired Pure Hatred.

Han Fei was quite sad seeing the woman being bound by despair, so he wanted to end the battle as soon as possible!

Crow, Dong Quan, and Yan Lan were already enough to stop a normal Pure Hatred, much less when there were also Han Fei and Ah Nian.

The white-haired Pure Hatred was forced into passivity. The ending was already written. After Fear Demon tore off all the white hair, Han Fei yanked the woman into the greed abyss.

“Notification for Player 0000! You’ve successfully trapped Pure Hatred—White Snow.

“White Snow: She once had a cleanliness obsession but was killed in the dirtiest way during the tragedy. Her resentment grew until she became a Pure Hatred! She kept the dirt away in the drawers, but her resentment kept adding dirt to her body. She poured her hate into more drawers until her own obsession was kept in the drawer as well.

“Heart Box: There’s another drawer in her broken heart. It contains all the despair.

“Ghost’s Territory: Can cleanse all the negative emotions and keep all the dirt inside the heart box.”

Dong Quan, who saw the entire process, was numb. The worst ghost he had encountered was kinder than Han Fei. “Human greed is the scariest.”

“Clean up the scene! Carry away all the sacrifice! Do not leave behind anything that might expose our identities!”

Han Fei surprised the members with how good he was at this. Without years of being a criminal, he wouldn’t be so experienced.

“What was your previous occupation?” Dong Quan had to ask.

“Educator.”

Han Fei didn't have time to waste on talking. After he knew the drawers were part of the white-haired Pure Hatred, he used the black mist to consume everything in the underground basement.

After opening a few hidden doors, Han Fei found something important. Wan Jia Mall was where the disciples kept Gao Xing's sacrifice. Other than normal sacrifices, there were other things as well.

"Notification for Player 0000! You've noticed a unique sacrifice: Big Sin's Eyes!

"Big Sin's Eyes: This pair of eyes is exceptionally beautiful. The pupils contain endless tragedies. God will definitely love it!"

Chapter 883: How Dare You?

When he heard the system notification, Han Fei's expression froze. His joy was gone. He looked at the eyeballs inside the black box, and black mist gathered like a storm.

The black flame broke the box. Two eyeballs soaked in curses appeared before Han Fei. He was so familiar with that pair of eyes. They were cruel and evil, but they were also innocent and curious about everything new.

The eyes appeared to feel something as well. It turned in the curses. When they saw Han Fei, they bounced like two black goldfish as they tried to get close to Han Fei. Even though Big Sin only had two eyes left, it always loved its master. No one could replace Han Fei in its heart.

"Why are you here as well?" Han Fei's heart hurt. Big Sin was a pet he raised. Even though Big Sin was sometimes rather naughty, Han Fei understood that was how it showed its love. As the manifestation of tragedy, everyone was scared of Big Sin. Only Han Fei saw it as a real partner.

"I should have found you sooner." The healing starlight shone on Big Sin's eyes. Han Fei helped Big Sin lower the pain. Big Sin liked to eat altar sacrifice, but this time, he failed. Something happened as it tried to sneak into this altar. Han Fei looked at the wounds in Big Sin's eyes. No matter how Han Fei had changed, it could still recognize him at first glance.

"No matter who did this to you, I'll take revenge for you. An eye for an eye, that's the principle of Happiness Neighborhood." Big Sin appeared to understand Han Fei. The two eyes blinked. It wanted to get close to Han Fei.

“Work together to tear away the curses trapping it.”

Resentment and hatred swirled around. Han Fei didn't care about his rapidly rising mental corruption. The other members were shocked to see this. From their perspective, Han Fei was winking non-stop with a pair of eyes. It was terrifying. They didn't know Han Fei's connection with Big Sin, but they could sense the change in him. It was like a father reunited with his long-lost son.

“So this is his preference.” Crow signaled the others to get to work. “Everyone is under pressure after the tragedy. It's normal for people to develop some kinks. For example, I like women with long hair. This is normal. We have to learn to respect it.”

The team members went around scavenging for everything useful. Han Fei removed the curses trapping Big Sin. However, Big Sin still needed a lot to recover. There was a trace of Unmentionable in its eyes. After gaining freedom, Big Sin rolled on the ground as if it wanted to lead Han Fei somewhere.

The unassuming jars were broken, and vicious curses flowed out. The power of different Pure Hatreds clashed with each other. “This is...” Every jar had a pair of eyes. They were sealed by curses. Some of them came from persona users, and others came from children. They were presents for Gao Xing to welcome his return. “They sure know how to please him.”

The eyeballs were not scary. They were like dim stars. “Gao Cheng should be able to use the things meant for Gao Xing. I should reserve these things for Gao Cheng.”

Han Fei had been preparing for the Super Pure Hatred at Deep Sea Aquarium. He was gaining confidence. Han Fei swallowed all the sacrifices into the abyss. Gao Cheng's abyss was very simple, but after Han Fei took over, this became more like a greedy world. It had everything. Han Fei also started to build his altar world. After they made sure they had everything, they drove the truck and left.

“2 hours and 18 minutes.” Ah Nian didn't look at any watch but dropped a time.

“What do you mean?”

“We’ve taken that long from we arrived at the mall and left. Based on this speed, we can take back Xin Lu in half a year.” Ah Nian said optimistically.

“If there’s only Pure Hatred in the city, we can do that in less time, but we’ll face something scarier than Pure Hatred.” Han Fei carried a new jar. No one could read his expression. “If we can’t kill it, then we’ll become it.”

“Where should we go next?” “You guys can clean up the Red Buildings. I need to go deliver something.” Han Fei didn’t follow them. He took the car from Hope City to An Kang Pharmacy. Mad Laughter was Han Fei’s biggest secret. The fewer people who knew about it, the better. After separating from the rest, Han Fei summoned Kong Tiancheng. “You’ve been in my mind, so you should have seen everything I did, right?”

Kong Tiancheng nodded. He admired Han Fei a lot. “Do you have any impression of Ah Nian?” “He’s not lying to you, but there are some things that he didn’t know he knew.” Kong Tiancheng pointed at his brain. “The tragedy started at Immortal Skyscraper. If you want to know what happened on that day, the best solution is to ask the survivors.”

“Stop taking in riddles.” Han Fei stepped on the pedal.

“Ah Nian was underground. He is the witness, but he’s not the planner.”

“I knew that.”

“He didn’t have access, but his teacher did.” Kong Tiancheng pointed out the problem. “Ah Nian’s teacher didn’t die. He became a Pure hatred at Immortal Pharma. I am 99 percent sure that he was one of the people who planned the tragedy.”

“It’s him?”

“Actually, Ah Nian should know this,” Kong Tiancheng sighed. “He’s very similar to me. I didn’t want to expose him.”

“He wants to rebuild Immortal Pharma, and you want to sneak into Deep Space Tech. Seeing you two, I suddenly feel like this might not be the worst future. At least, people still have hope.” Han Fei felt better. He chatted with Kong Tiancheng some more before the latter returned to the abyss.

The black merchant led Han Fei underground. Han Fei started to place the sacrifices on Mad Laughter’s altar.

“Notification for Player 0000! You’ve completed the third sacrifice! The sacrifice is Pure Hatred level! You gain all the EXP for yourself. You got a chance for a wish!

“Wish 1: Double the EXP

“Wish 2: Gain a random talent given by God!

“Wish 3: Give up your wish so that God can awaken faster.

“Notification for Player 0000! You’ve reached level 29! At level 30, you can choose your third profession.”

After Mad Laughter sacrificed himself, Han Fei finally had a normal gaming experience. “Even though you’ve given me a lot of trouble, I’d still choose Wish 3.”

Normally when disciples sacrificed something to God, they would want something in return. However, Han Fei didn’t want that. He just wanted Mad Laughter to wake up. The twinflower didn’t fight each other. One sacrificed himself, and the other tried to bring him back. The figurine on the altar glowed. All the sacrifices became his power. Han Fei didn’t wish for everything, but a faded light shone into the jar that held Big Sin’s eyes. The figurine helped cleanse the presence of Unmentionable in Big Sin’s eyes. Big Sin, that was revived immediately, jumped onto Han Fei’s shoulders. It hid inside Han Fei’s clothes. If a normal person saw this, they would be spooked.

“I should be able to communicate with Big Sin now.” Han Fei held the giant eyeballs. “Big Sin, where is your body? Who did this to you?”

Big Sin was excited since he knew Han Fei was going to take revenge for him. Human images appeared in his eyes. There were many higher-ups from Hope City. They worked together with ghosts to dismantle Big Sin's body. Big Sin was unique. Part of its body was still at Hope City, enduring many torments and tests. "I need an explanation from them."

Han Fei gripped his fists as he watched the images.

"Hope City is rotten from the inside out. Leveling it might not be a bad idea." Han Fei knew the Center wouldn't support this, so he summoned the black merchant to contact the ghosts hidden inside the city who didn't support Gao Xing. "There are some human bases inside the city. Perhaps I should get their support to rebuild a new city."

Han Fei's way of thinking was different from others. He had experienced the tragedy of the past in Fu Sheng's altar world, and now he saw the worst future in Gao Xing's altar. Instead of the two extremes, he wanted to find a middle path.

Chapter 884: Conflict

"Big Sin's body is still being tortured. No matter what, I have to save its body." Han Fei knew how powerful Big Sin was. It was hard to dismember it, so the people at Hope City couldn't be underestimated. With the black merchant's help, Han Fei communicated with the straggling ghosts. He decided to steal Big Sin's body in the most direct way so he couldn't expose his identity as a member of the center. The best solution was to disguise himself as a ghost.

"The people in the city are the most afraid of ghosts, but they have no idea many humans are ghosts in disguise." Power was alluring. Once they had power, they could control many things.

Han Fei didn't return to the center. When the sun sank below the horizon, the broken figurines around the city lit up.

"I'm the criminal and the judge. I can't be bound by the rules if I want to survive in this chaotic world." The black eyes opened behind Han Fei. Big Sin could sense the location of its body. It was split into five parts and kept in the labs around the outer ring of Hope City. A lot of professional members studied Big Sin's body endlessly.

“The limbs, shell, torso, heart...” Han Fei memorized the location of all the buildings. He looked at them in the dark. “Hope City is heavily corroded. There are admins dealing with ghosts. The peace is only temporary because they are planning to sacrifice the city on God’s birthday!”

Han Fei stood up, and black mist exuded from behind him. “Today, I’m going to tear through the false image and wake people up from their sweet dream.”

There was a balance among the admins of Hope City. One side wanted to negotiate with the ghosts, while the other planned to fight the ghosts to the bitter end. When Hope City was first built, the latter had the majority, but as time passed and peace reigned, people forgot about dangers and became complacent.

Han Fei wasn’t familiar with the infighting, but he planned to give the fighting side a big gift that night. They needed to stand up so that they could protect the city when God’s birthday arrived.

“I didn’t want to do this, but there’s no better choice.” Unfamiliar Pure Hatreds rapidly approached. Han Fei’s gaze sharpened. He had the black merchant use the broken figurine to lure two Pure Hatreds closest to Hope City out of their Black Buildings. Then, they would have a conflict with the city patrols. When most of them were distracted, Han Fei would sneak into the labs. The broken figurines had the presence of an unfamiliar Unmentionable. This was highly alluring to Pure Hatreds.

“Be ready!”

After the altar world entered the second stage, Pure Hatreds could move freely. Han Fei walked out of the shadow. He took out a paper mask he had prepared earlier, and his body was enveloped by the paper doll. “In the future, the red paper doll will be Hope City’s nightmare...”

Hope City was familiar with the Pure Hatred around it. They had practiced this a lot. The patrols soon congregated. The citizens were being moved away. The barriers were set up. Everything was progressing neatly. However, they didn’t expect someone who could sneak ghosts past the perimeter. As long as he didn’t open the greed abyss, the devices couldn’t detect the ghosts Han Fei had.

“The center has several survivors with 8 awakenings. Hope City is much bigger, so they should have quite a number of powerful persona users as well. Two Pure Hatreds are not much of a threat to them.”

Han Fei heard the sound of fighting and immediately made his move. "I can't wait any longer. I need to save Big Sin before the reinforcement arrives."

Han Fei entered the lab building closest to him. The place was covered in talismans. To resist ghosts, humans used all kinds of methods.

"Big Sin, where is your heart?" The black eyes stared at the top floor. Big Sin was like a bullied puppy.

"Don't worry. They'll pay."

Han Fei switched on masterful acting. With the buff from hide-and-seek, he easily approached a researcher on duty. He was wearing a protective suit. When he noticed Han Fei, the knife was already on his neck. "Bring me to the top floor and open the door of the innermost lab." Han Fei's voice was cold.

"I don't know your goal, but I advise you to leave. This is not where you should be. If the test subject leaves the area, the siren will ring. You won't be able to bring away anything!"

"Thank you for telling me that." Han Fei said coldly. "Lead the way."

They evaded the cameras and steadily moved up. The researcher opened all the doors for Han Fei. He was confident that Han Fei wouldn't be able to do anything. That was why he was so cooperative.

"Give up now. No matter which forces you come from, you'll be hunted down. Hope City is humanity's largest base. It contains power you can't even imagine." The researcher kindly advised. From his perspective, Han Fei was a normal person. He was powerless. Only a failing force would hire a desperado like Han Fei.

"The haven for survivors has been corrupted by rats and maggots. You are proud of the city, but it only treats you as a sacrifice for God." Han Fei walked out of the corridor. Several cameras aimed at him. There was no place he could hide.

"I don't know if that's true or not, but I know you definitely can't escape now." The researcher sighed. As he said that, several spotlights shone on Han Fei. Unfamiliar male voices came from the cameras,

“Put down your weapon now and stop resisting! You’ve violated Law 147 of Hope City by trespassing into the Level 4 lab and intending to steal confidential documents!”

“You’ve misunderstood something.” Han Fei smiled. “I’m not here to steal. I’m here to take back what is originally mine.”

Black mist opened behind Han Fei like a pair of devil’s wings. Many eyes opened up in the abyss. Several Pure Hatreds cut through the night. Han Fei shattered the peace that had reigned in Hope City for years!

“Bring everyone you can see into the abyss!”

Han Fei opened the last door and saw a crystal materialized in tragedy. It was Big Sin’s beating heart. It also looked like a newborn.

“Your heart... is hidden inside another you? If your actual self dies, it will be reborn in your heart?” This was Han Fei’s first time seeing Big Sin’s heart. The presence of tragedy was so strong that even seven layers of protection couldn’t filter it out. The ghosts inside the heart were excited. No matter how much Big Sin had changed, it was still close to Han Fei. After all, only Han Fei could bring that near-death experience often.

“Only Unmentionable can fully kill you, you little monster.” Han Fei touched Big Sin’s eyes. His conversation with Big Sin shocked the researcher. There were survivors who kept pets after the tragedy, but the researcher hadn’t met anyone who kept eyeballs as pets.

“Come out. We’ll go and find your other body parts.” The blade cut through the protective layers. The heart jumped at Han Fei anxiously.

“Since the abyss is open, there’s no need to hide anymore.”

The giant axe cut through the roof. The mist poured down and enveloped the whole building. Everything that saw the abyss was eaten.

Standing on the rooftop, Han Fei looked at the city that had been sunken into chaos. As the siren rang, he leaped downwards!

The black mist was like the ocean. Big fish carried Han Fei's body. As he moved to the next building, the group of black merchants was ready! They split into three teams and swore to rescue Big Sin's dismembered body!

"The powerful persona users from Hope City should be here. However, even Fu Lie can't stop me now, much less the others."

Han Fei moved in the mist. The headmaster, the girl, Fear Demon, and the white-haired woman floated behind him.

Chapter 885: Brutal Persona

The siren kept ringing. Hope City encountered the biggest danger of the latest three years. Pure Hatred infiltrated the city for reasons unknown!

The balance shattered, and the former fear descended again. Crying came from the buffer zone. The complacent patrols became scared. Different from the center, there were some persona users at Hope City who didn't know how to battle. They joined the patrols only for their benefit. They could struggle, perhaps against normal ghosts, but they ran faster than normal people when they met Pure Hatred. A weak battle spirit, a corrupted admin, tore apart the defense easily. The illusion of safety was torn apart.

"Make chaos. Only pain will wake them up." The buffer zone had a lot of labs. There were many rare ghosts like Big Sin. These ghosts were priceless to Han Fei, so naturally, he wouldn't let them go. Since he was there, might as well go for them.

"I need to destroy more labs to confuse Hope City." Han Fei had found an excuse for his actions. He led the black merchants and started to ransack the place. Actually, Han Fei was doing a good thing. He didn't let the ghosts wander away because that would harm the innocent citizens. Eating them was the best choice.

"Heart, skin, other organs..." When Han Fei wanted to go reclaim the rest of Big Sin's body, the gate of Hope City's central area opened. Vehicles with Deep Space Tech's symbol rolled out. They were much stronger than the patrols. "Are they going for real this time?"

The elite force of Hope City was used to protect the people of the central and inner zones. The outer city and buffer zone were test zones. Only those who survived could rise to the middle city zone. "These monsters are failing to follow the rules less and less. I've long said that they can't be treated as humans! They are not humans, so they have to be killed! We cannot retreat. We need to kill all of them!" A crazy howl came from a distance. A man in bloodred patient's garb stood on a bloodred truck. His hands and face were bandaged. He was like a crazy beast.

"Many ghosts are formed from human obsession. They can be understood as another form of human beings. Ghosts feast on negative emotions. They never want to fully vanquish usual." A man in a white suit sat across from the bestial man. He held a scale.

"Wu Nian, do you hear yourself?" The man grabbed the other by his white collar. "It's because there are too many like you that Hope City becomes like this!"

"Democracy, fairness, and freedom, aren't these the difference between humans and animals?" Even with his collar being held, the man in the suit didn't change his mind.

"I wish to break your limbs and throw you to the bases where the ghosts fester so that you can experience the lives of those on the bottom layer of the society." The patient's eyes were scarily red.

"I know your history as a livestock, but you need to consider those to be necessary sacrifices."

"Sacrificing some humans for hope, that is not hope. Stop lying to yourself." The patient let go. He planned to enter the still-expanding ghost territory, but the man in the white suit stopped him. He pushed the patient towards the black mist instead.

"I'm familiar with the Pure Hatred around Hope City. Leave them to me." Before the patient could say anything, the man had already walked to the ghost territory.

"You coward! How can someone like you have eight awakenings? There is no fairness in this world!" The patient charged into the black mist. "What ghost territory is this? Why can I feel the presence of different Pure Hatreds?" The bandages fell. The patient's body changed. "Never mind. It doesn't matter. No ghost can stand up against the brutal persona!"

The patient seemed to see something. The rationality in his eyes faded away. "Do you like to play hide-and-seek?"

A giant fist moved at the patient from the mist. The patient didn't even try to evade. He focused and punched back! Part of the mist was pushed away. The patient's arm cracked. Another person would have surrendered, but the man only smiled. The greater the pain, the happier he was. The broken bones were snapped back into place. His blood rapidly healed his body. "The brutal feast is about to start!"

The patient went down on all fours like a dog. His shirt was torn apart, exposing the different brands left behind by ghosts. This man had been kept as livestock by different ghosts. He was no longer human. Different curses and stuff had been injected into his body. Through accident, he obtained supernatural self-recovery power. After confirming the headmaster's location, the patient's body started to mutate. His flesh and blood could injure ghosts. The more he was in, the more active the bugs hidden in his blood were.

"Die! Die!"

The patient crawled onto the headmaster. No matter how the headmaster tried, it couldn't shake him off. The madman tore apart the headmaster's soul. He wanted to crawl into the headmaster. "You're not even a Pure Hatred and you dare to fight me?"

In response, a strand of white hair slowly approached and pierced through his body.

"There's another Pure Hatred?!"

The ghost territory opened around the patient. The patient's body started to crack. His body was made into drawers. The drawers contained his memory and life. They were the reasons he could survive through the darkness. But now, the Pure Hatred wanted to go for his memory.

"Unforgivable!"

The patient grabbed the white hair. The white hair easily cut through his body. The intense pain caused the patient to laugh. He looked at his sliced fingers and cackled. "Being brutal means being brutal to oneself too!"

To everyone's surprise, the white hair was affected by the patient's broken flesh. The unknown bugs living in his body feasted on the white-haired woman's soul.

"The greater the pain, the happier I am!" He had been kept for too long. He was immune to most curses. "Can you feel fear too? I used to be a normal person. You made me into this! The venom in my blood is there because of you!"

The patient howled. The bugs would eventually corrupt the headmaster and the white-haired woman. At that moment, a lick of black flame burned in the sea. A giant whale leaped out of the water. The flame burned through the bugs on the white lady. The bugs struggled before they turned into ashes.

"A third Pure Hatred?" The patient hesitated. The black flame could burn through his worms, and there could be more Pure Hatred in the black mist!

The mist appeared to be connected to hell. No one could see the truth. The patient felt like retreating for the first time. However, Han Fei wouldn't let him go so easily.

When Han Fei saw this man with eight awakenings walk into the black mist alone, his greed persona expanded. He wanted to keep the patient for himself.

When the little girl appeared, fear demon materialized behind the patient. They attacked the patient mentally and physically. No matter how strong the patient was, he was no match for two Pure Hatreds. The black mist swirled around the patient. Han Fei tried to drag the patient into the abyss, but he failed. Gao Cheng's greed abyss could only trap ghosts. Even at a higher level, that wouldn't change. To consume the patient, Han Fei had to kill him first. Gao Cheng's memory looked at Han Fei silently. Compared to Han Fei, he was quite selfless.

"The persona can't eat living humans. I can understand that."

The patient was dying but Han Fei let him go. He wouldn't kill for no reason. When it was God's birthday, Han Fei needed the patient to help him fight Gao Xing. After Han Fei got the rest of Big Sin's body, he decided to leave.

He tossed the souls of the ghost card criminals before the patients.

“There are people inside Hope City colluding with Pure Hatred to prepare for God’s birthday. They want to sacrifice the whole city. I’m here to warn you.” Han Fei said.

The patient was shocked. He knew there were problems with the higher-ups, but he had no idea the problem was so serious.

“You’ve been too complacent and forgot the fear. I hope my appearance can remind you of the cruel past.”

The patient was from the fighting camp so he understood Han Fei.

“Who... are you?”

“I’m the person lighting the way for you with the flame.” The mist faded away. Han Fei escaped. This felt surreal to the patient. Moments ago, he was attacked by four Pure hatreds and was about to die. However, he was suddenly rescued and heard shocking news.

Looking at the ruins and the damaged labs, the patient was shaken.

The Pure Hatred retreated just like that. They didn’t harm the normal citizens. They only destroyed the labs that contained rare ghosts.

“Who is that person?”

Chapter 886: Snatching God's Eyes

Using greed persona for too long collapsed Han Fei’s body. He spat out a mouthful of blood. The giant eyeballs stayed beside Han Fei like a wronged puppy.

“Your body parts are still fresh. We need to find a way to piece them together. Stop acting cute.” Han Fei patted his chest. “Don’t worry. This body is tough. It can still survive for a long time.” Han Fei had no idea how Gao Cheng would feel hearing that, but Big Sin was happier. The attack on Hope City was good

for Han Fei. Getting back Big Sin's body was one. A lot of rare ghosts and Deep Space Tech devices were valuable loot too. Of course, most importantly, he shared the info he knew with the person with eight awakenings. At any place, a persona user with eight awakenings would be valued.

"Unfortunately, I'm still too weak. Or else, I can just consume Hope City. When I can swallow the Pure Hatred at Deep Sea Aquarium, then I'm as strong as a Strange Building." Han Fei consumed a lot of flowers of soul at the Old Folk's Home. They bloomed in the abyss, giving more colors to this dark world. The soul flowers and healing persona were complimentary. The flowers were cleansed by the healing persona, and the human's light shone in the abyss to aid the healing persona. As the healing persona became stronger, Han Fei had more confidence to trap God's eyes.

"I need to recover Big Sin and then go to Deep Sea Aquarium!"

The three human bases could stand strong in the tragedy because they had 'unique weapons' to fight against Top Pure Hatred. If Han Fei could control the Pure Hatred under the aquarium, he could create the fourth human base. Suddenly, Han Fei heard the sound of the roof collapsing. He turned around. Big Sin's body cracked and collapsed the house beams.

"Can't you recover by yourself?" Han Fei chuckled sadly. He tried to shine the healing starlight on Big Sin, but the effect was not that good. Han Fei drank a bottle of ghost blood. When he recovered slightly, he opened the abyss and enveloped Big Sin's body with the black mist. "You have Unmentionable's curse on you. I'm not strong enough, but Mad Laughter should be able to help." Han Fei found his car and returned to An Kang Pharmacy with the black merchants. "Thankfully, I've reaped some souls. That should invoke Mad Laughter some more."

Han Fei placed the new sacrifice on the altar. He pressed the figurine's hand lightly. He didn't need to use any words. The figurine's eyes tried to open. Blood vessels climbed on Big Sin's body and tried to cleanse the curse on the wounds. "This is strange. There is another person in this world that is my twin. The presence of a twinflower is in itself a miracle." Sacrifices were soon exhausted. The figurine used its power, and slowly, Big Sin's heart started to beat again. The dismembered body parts were pieced back together. The presence of tragedy expanded underground. Even the black merchants and Han Fei couldn't stop it. The presence of tragedy alone could tear open the floor. The large body expanded, and a bloodred star lit up in the sky!

It was not Pure Hatred, but it was more destructive!

“We can’t stay at the pharmacy anymore. Move the figurine to another place. We’ll build a new base there. I’ll also find a way for ghosts and humans to coexist there.” The underground altar was moved by the black merchants.

“It’s time for us to go too.”

Han Fei waved at Big Sin. The giant monster, more than 5 meters wide, lay down before Han Fei. It pushed Han Fei’s car aside as if it was trying to get Han Fei to ride it.

“If I go with you, we’ll scare the others.” Han Fei looked at Big Sin helplessly. Big Sin rolled on the ground like a pet. It caused the ground to shake. “You’re not afraid of me at all. I need Xu Qin to help discipline you.” Big Sin instantly became obedient when Xu Qin’s name was mentioned. Han Fei had no idea why Big Sin was so scared of Xu Qin. The mist ate Big Sin. Han Fei drove back to the investigation center. With the lesson from last time, he didn’t drive the car to the center but parked it far away. Han Fei received the news as he approached the center. The day before, several Pure Hatreds attacked Hope City. The higher-ups at the center saw this as very important.

Han Fei felt rather guilty when he saw this news. The people at Hope City might not know anything, but his mates at the center might know something when they saw the black mist.

“Team leader, where did you go after you split from us yesterday?” As Han Fei entered the office for Team 13, he saw all the members standing there as if they had been waiting for him.

“I’m the leader. Do I need to report to you?” Han Fei closed the door and sat on the chair. “If there’s something to report, say it now. If not, the meeting is adjourned.”

“Yesterday night, Hope City’s buffer zone was attacked by Pure Hatred. A few of them hid in the black mist to avoid detection by Hope City. This scared everyone at Hope City.” Dong Quan looked at Han Fei. “I’m not going to beat around the bush. In my impression, only you can do something like this. Based on the witness's description, the black mist is similar to yours.”

“What are you talking about? Why would I do something like that? That’s a city! I’m just a single person. I wouldn’t try to attack humanity’s largest bases!” Han Fei argued, but everyone thought he would do something like this. “Don’t look at me like that. Why would I do this? What is my motive?”

“Perhaps it’s cause you don’t like them?” Yan Lan cracked her knuckles. “No matter if it’s you or not, consider bringing me next time.” “It’s really not me.”

“It’s fine.” Ah Nian smiled. “When the higher-ups came, we said you were with us, so you have the perfect alibi.”

“Is that why you’re here so early today?” Han Fei picked up the form to study the food served in the canteen.

“We’re here to ask you which Black Building are we taking down today?” Dong Quan stood straight. “With each Pure Hatred we hunt, the ghosts will be weaker, and we’ll be closer to hope.” After a day of interaction, Dong Quan was much better than Han Fei. Even though Han Fei might act crazy, he was sure Han Fei only wanted the best for humanity.

“Don’t be rash. I plan to do something big.”

Han Fei led the team member to find the highest leader, it was Li Xue’s old captain. He explained his plan to swallow God’s eyes. To persuade him, Han Fei even found Xue Ba to design the tactical plan.

Hunting a Top Pure Hatred was something very dangerous. If the mission failed, the whole base might be wiped out. Even if they succeeded, the center would lose a lot of people. They would have issues defending themselves. Han Fei saw the hesitation on the leader’s face. He explained it seriously, “This is not a simple hunt but consumption. If we succeed, we’ll gain the power of a Top Pure Hatred. How will that future look like?”

Normally, the center wouldn’t go after Top Pure Hatred because it would mean a net loss, but Han Fei had offered something that might benefit the center.

“I can swear on my life, and you can use the curse to control me. After I consume Pure Hatred, I’ll help the center with three things unconditionally. Even if you want me to enter the deepest Taboo Building inside Zone A.” Han Fei said seriously. “The key to the tragedy is hidden inside Taboo Buildings. The door where ghosts used to come to the human world might be there. If we can get God’s eyes, I’m willing to enter the Taboo Building and close that door for humanity!”

Strange Building was already dangerous, and Taboo Building was even more dangerous. Until now, there was not only a persona user who managed to exit Taboo Building alive. That was where the name came from.

“If that’s your goal, I can try to convince the other admins for you.” The old captain’s eyes turned determined. He spoke into the black band. “Contact the leaders of all the tactical teams. From now on, the center is entering Grade 1 battle status!”

Chapter 887: Same Date

When the fighting force of the center received the news from the old captain, their expressions changed. Level One battle preparation only occurred when great danger happened. Other than the main director, only the great captains had the right to do that. After the order was given, there had to be agreement from seven captains and the support of over half the admin to work.

“Bring the other members of Team 13 and come to the conference room with me.” The old captain said seriously, “The center hasn’t taken on a new Strange Building in five years already. This is something big for us, and we need cooperation from all the departments.” Third Mental Hospital was just a black building, and they had already lost a lot of people. Not a long time had passed since then, and they were going after a Strange Building.

...

The conference room in the middle of the center opened. The captains took their seats, and they looked at Han Fei beside the old captain. After Han Fei joined the center, several meetings were called because of him.

“Gao Cheng, tell everyone your plan.” The old captain signaled Xue Ba and Han Fei to move forward. Both of them shared Li Xue’s initial plan. Consuming the Unmentionable’s eyes and claiming the Top Pure Hatred as an ally was crazy. Everyone was hesitant. To convince everyone, Han Fei opened the greed abyss and controlled the Pure Hatred trapped inside.

The headmaster, the girl, fear demon, and Tong Xin appeared. They opened the leaders’ eyes. They knew that Han Fei could trap ghosts, but they had no idea Han Fei had already controlled four Pure Hatred!

Some were shocked by his growth, but some showed fear.

“The amount of Pure Hatred I can control simultaneously has reached the limit. To grow stronger, I need to consume stronger Pure Hatred.” After Han Fei ate the white-haired woman, he noticed something. A normal Pure Hatred couldn’t level up the greed persona anymore. Yesterday night, when he fought the people from Hope City, he noticed his max limit was four Pure Hatreds. If he released more, he would collapse mentally. To change that, he made to eat ghosts beyond the level of normal Pure Hatred. Han Fei could feel Gao Cheng’s ambition. Instinct told him that once he ate the eyes, he would awaken the eighth time.

“The risk is too high. The Tragedy Investigation Center is humanity’s last hope. How can we risk that?” One of the captains shook his head. “I am against this no matter the reason.”

“Don’t forget the initial goal of this place! We want to investigate the source of the tragedy.” The old captain opened the map and pointed at Zone A. “The center has been here for decades, but we haven’t even established ourselves at Zone C. We’re still a distance away from Zone A. However, we don’t have much time left.” The old captain didn’t agree with Han Fei was no reason. After the conference room was locked, many confidential documents were brought out.

The center knew about the corruption of Hope City and the blood sacrifice that was going to happen. They even had the connection of the several Pure Hatreds and God down. “Whenever God’s birthday approaches, all the Pure Hatreds will become active. They will kill everyone to prepare gifts for God. In return, they will get God’s blessing. Did you not realize that there will be new Pure Hatreds in the city after God’s birthday? And the existing Pure Hatreds would get stronger.”

All the Pure Hatred held up God’s world. As Gao Xing got stronger, so did the ghosts who worshipped him. If not for Han Fei’s arrival, there was no hope for this worst future. The ending for most people would be to be pets for ghosts. “The ghosts have gotten stronger over the years. They have been rearing living humans. They no longer view us as a challenge.” The old captain’s words were harsh but realistic.

“After many investigations, we can now confirm that the source of the tragedy is under Immortal Skyscraper at Zone A. In other words, that’s where the first ghost came from.” The old captain paused and looked at everyone there. “But Immortal Skyscraper is a Taboo Building. No one has been able to enter and leave it alive. Ever since Qi Ming, the explorer persona with eight awakenings, left for the building, we have been fooling ourselves that everything is fine.”

“There are only a few persona users with eight awakenings. Before we know what is inside that building, sending people there is no different from suicide.” The captain of the logistic department was very steady. He didn’t like to take risk.

“If we don’t take risk, we’ll never know the truth! And end this tragedy!” The old captain said firmly.

“We understand that but who would go on this suicide mission?” The captain of the patrols also said.

“I’ll go.” Han Fei raised his hand. “I’ll go there after consuming the Pure Hatred underneath Deep Sea Aquarium!” Everyone was quiet. Han Fei was more extreme than most of the people there. Plus, he was getting so much stronger so quickly that some became worried. But if he was willing to go to the Taboo Building, the worry became nothing. No one managed to leave the Taboo Building alive. If Han Fei died there, he would have given his last contribution to humanity.

“I still disagree.” The captain of the logistics department stood up. “You have the most potential of the younger generation. You are a great wealth to the center. Even if we need to go there, it should be antiques like us leading the way for you.”

“We’ll do a vote.” The old leader raised his hand. “We’ll attack the Strange Building to help Gao Cheng suppress the Top Pure Hatred at the aquarium. Then, one year from that, we’ll help him get into the Taboo Building!”

The old captain knew that time was tight. More people raised their hands. Soon, more than half of them agreed, but only five captains were on board.

“I still can’t make the decision now.” The captain of the judging department looked at Han Fei. He was like a man who had no emotions. “I hope you can contact the center director. If she says yes, we’ll all support this.” Then, he stood up and left.

“We should do that.” The old captain also nodded. “Tonight, every team will be ready at the center safe zone. Once we get the order from director, we’ll depart tomorrow morning!”

The meeting ended, and everyone left. Hunting a Top Pure Hatred was huge and everyone needed to contribute.

“This result is much better than I expected.” The old captain pushed the documents to Han Fei. “Your stage will be ready tomorrow.”

“Understood.” Han Fei memorized all the info in the documents and left the room with Team 13.

“Gao Cheng, are we really going to hunt a Top Pure Hatred?” Dong Quan felt so surreal. He heard from his friends the Pure Hatred inside the aquarium. The Pure Hatred could use endless bodies to create a giant monster more than several meters tall. Its eyes contained the presence of an Unmentionable.

“Are you scared?” Han Fei asked. “Hunting it is just the first step of my plan?”

“What else do you plan to do?”

“The old captain said he’d give me one year but I can’t wait for so long.” Han Fei said seriously, “You might think I’m being reckless but I need to tell you something. We only have about 10 days left to live. We need to finish everything before God’s birthday!” Han Fei didn’t explain further and hurried away.

Everyone was prepared for the mission. Midnight fell, and several captains received the order from Li Xue. It was at that moment that the war machine that was the center started to mobilize!

...

The ray of the early sun cut through the layers of clouds. As dawn came, the three gates of the center opened. The center’s modified vehicles rolled out.

“Judgement Team 1 entering the designated location.”

“Transportation protection Team 1 to 3 are ready!”

“Patrol Team 1 to 9 are ready!”

“Logistic Team 1 to 5 are ready!”

“Investigation teams ready!”

The battlecry echoed in the silent city. The survivors rose again. Their voices reverberated in the city. They were not afraid of being heard by ghosts.

Han Fei gained more confidence. “Fate is a cycle. This time, Gao Cheng will snatch back Gao Xing’s eyes! Eventually, Gao Xing’s date of birth will be his date of death!”

Chapter 888: Sun

The survivors hadn’t felt so free in a long time already. The ghosts hidden in the buildings didn’t dare to come out. Humans regained control of the city. After five years, the center finally launched another mission on a Strange Building.

“Turns out they know fear too.”

The cars rolled through the city and stopped around Deep Sea Aquarium. The survivors who had been living in fear surrounded Deep Sea Aquarium. Humans appeared so small before the large ghost territory, but no one retreated. Various devices were placed on the streets around the Strange Building. Everyone was in place. They faced the sea, and the sun shone on them. The road to the front door of the aquarium was cleared away. The center didn’t plan to do anything sneaking. They were going to push from the front.

Sunlight shone on a Taoist robe. A lone figure walked towards the aquarium. The elder looked over 100. However, his figure was straight and he held a large axe.

“I don’t think I’ve seen him before.” Han Fei exited the car.

“He’s the vice-captain of the judgement department, Zhu Xie. He has meditative persona with eight awakenings.” Dong Quan looked at the man with respect. “I hear he’s the person closest to the ninth awakening in the center.”

“Meditative persona?” Zhu Xie wore a taoist robe, but he didn’t look like a Taoist at all. He felt more like a murderer. The sun shone behind him. The elder stood alone before the aquarium front door and closed his eyes. His beard and hair fluttered in the wind. When the sun rose fully, the eight streets around the aquarium roared with the sound of cockerels. The elder’s eyes flew open. A white horse that represented his consciousness crashed into the sky.

The sharp axe chopped the front door. The wooden splinters were lit up in the air and became embers. The elder’s consciousness influenced real life. The things he thought became realized.

The other members lit joss sticks, lifted the altar, and palanquin, and tossed the sacrifices into the air. The fire rose into the sky.

“Karma will come around.” The presence on the elder expanded. He looked at the endless sea and slowly raised his axe.

His mind combined with his religion. This was the God he served. This was the God that gave him the bravery to face the ghosts.

The clouds that forever covered the city were torn apart. Thunder roared. The elder stood in the howling wind. He stood facing away from humanity and had a condescending smile on ghosts on his face.

The elder focused his attention on his hands and slashed the axe!

The ghost territory was torn apart. The black sea was cut through. He turned back to look at others. Then, he walked towards the aquarium. “The ghost territory has been cut open! Attention to all battle units! The hunt starts now!”

The sound of the engine overwhelmed the sound of waves. The members followed the elder and entered the ghost territory.

“The elder is impressive!” Han Fei also didn’t expect someone could tear apart a Top Pure Hatred’s ghost territory.

“He is.” Dong Xuan looked at the elder with respect. “Some Taoists stayed on the mountains but his temple came down at the first sign of trouble. The elder’s 36 disciples were all killed by ghosts. He’s the only one left of his temple.”

“No wonder his presence of murder is so strong.”

“You’re wrong. He only targets ghosts. Normally, he’s a very kind elder.” Dong Quan was ready to fight. “Actually, you can see that from his meditated God. He respects heaven and earth. That’s why he’s the vice-captain of the judgment department. He’s always fair.”

“Stop chatting. It’s time for you to go.” Xue Ba sent a truckload of devices to Han Fei. “You have to succeed. There is no other choice.”

“I’ll try my best.”

Team 13 gathered and entered the Deep Sea Aquarium. Ever since Han Fei took away Gao Cheng’s memory, Gao Xing’s eyes which were made from his memory spiraled into madness. The ghost territory almost lost control. It was five times larger than before. The inside of the ghost territory was even scarier. Mutated ghosts wandered everywhere. They were extremely hard to kill. If they touched the black water, they would be healed. If they didn’t deal with God’s eyes, the aquarium would kill everyone.

“All patrols are ready!”

“The transportation teams have set up all the devices!” “Investigations teams are ready!”

“Logistic teams have finished examination! All the devices are working fine!”

Reports came from the black band. After the experience at the mental hospital, the center was prepared this time.

“Start the movement now!”

The special black vehicles opened. A pair of twins walked out. They looked similar and they were both persona users with seven awakenings. When one was asleep, the other could borrow their power to temporarily reach the eighth awakening. Alongside Zhu Xie, Fu Lie, and the vice captain of the logistics department, the center had sent out four persona users with eighth awakenings. That was their limit. The four stood at four corner of the aquarium. Each held a special chain. The end of the chain was a platform floating on the water. The platform was prepared for Han Fei. The plan was made for Han Fei's sake. He needed to consume Gao Xing's memory. Before then, the center would do everything to suppress Gao Xing's memory. The plan was simple, but if they made one mistake, they would all die.

"Be careful. We'll wait for your return." Yan Lan and Tou Qi were worried. Han Fei wasn't worried.

He stepped on the chains and walked over the black water. Standing on the middle platform, Han Fei sank into his mind. He looked at the boy who sat between the starlight and the abyss. Brother Chou's soul had disappeared. His dominating persona was taken over by Fear Demon and became part of Gao Cheng.

"Are you ready?" Han Fei walked to the boy. "It's time for your turn. Give him back the despair he has given you!" Holding the boy's hand, Han Fei walked under the healing starlight. He stopped hiding Gao Cheng's presence. The greed abyss opened. Gao Cheng's painful memory was the best lure. The giant monster hidden underwater was instantly attracted. The black water boiled. The shadow quickly approached.

"It's coming!"

The waves rose. God's eyes focused on Gao Cheng's memory. It wanted to torture the boy that stole his fate!

Endless ghosts combined to form a large body. It swallowed the platform and Han Fei in one gulp. The four chains tightened and stuck in the Pure Hatred's mouth. The devices were all activated. More than 100 persona users attacked the eyes. Everyone saw Han Fei being swallowed. They understood Han Fei was risking his life to do this. They had lost too many people. They couldn't lose more.

"Kill him!" Fear was a strange emotion. Most of the time, it would hold people back, but sometimes, it would trigger people's potential. The persona users held the end of the chains. They did everything to prevent the eyes from sinking back underwater. No one dared to hold back.

Han Fei used the paper doll to protect his body. He opened the abyss inside God's body. He used the other Pure Hatred's ghost territory to fight this one.

"We're almost there!"

Han Fei crawled to God's eyes. The purpose this time was to help Gao Cheng take back his eyes.

"Fate is back at the crossroads again."

Four Pure Hatreds led the way. When Han Fei touched God's eyes, he released Gao Cheng's memory. He used the starlight to light the way to send Gao Cheng's memory and dominating persona into God's eyes. The giant ghost howled.

Han Fei subconsciously wanted to pull his arm back but a giant force yanked him into God's eyes too.

Gao Xing's memory formed a storm. They cut Han Fei. He tried his best to stay calm as he kept an eye on Gao Cheng, who was moving ahead. Part of the memories in God's eyes came from Gao Cheng. They returned in time.

Somewhere inside the aquarium, two boys sat on a bench.

One of them was blind but had the best outfit. He listened to the laughter of people and the sounds of waves. His face was filled with envy.

The other boy was ashamed. He hid his dirty shoes away and looked at the boy beside him with jealousy.

Chapter 889: The Moment

People always desired the things they didn't have. After gaining it, they would miss the things they had lost. The two boys sat close to each other. The tourists bustled by but they stayed in the same place. Gao Xing was the eyes of his parents. His family rarely came to crowded places like this. His bright eyes hid a trace of anxiety. The sound of the visitors scared him. Holding the bench, he stared at the aquarium shop. His blind mother was buying penguin ice cream for him. This had to be a special day because his parents wouldn't buy something like this for him. His blind mother carefully walked out of

the shop with the ice cream. She couldn't see, so she had to use her hands to guard the ice cream for her child. Her body was bent over as she tried to shield the ice cream with her body.

His mother's world was dark. Only his voice was her guidance.

Gao Xing was about to call his mother when another woman walked out with two ice creams. She was confident and beautiful. She was glowing. When the two mothers stood together, the contrast was great.

The woman was very polite and kind. She helped the blind mother with a smile as they moved toward the bench. Gao Xing would remember this sense forever. 'If only she's my mother...'

Gao Xing looked at Gao Cheng beside him. The blind boy couldn't see anything, but there was no fear on his face. He seemed to know that his mother would come to fetch him.

The blind mother kept thanking the other lady and handed the ice cream to Gao Xing. The ice cream had melted and dripped on the mother's fingers, but she didn't mind. She licked it off. She wouldn't splurge on luxury like this herself, but she would buy it for Gao Xing. However, Gao Xing was ashamed as he lowered his head. He watched the woman take out a paper napkin and share the ice cream with the blind boy.

Because Gao Cheng was blind, the woman patiently explained everything in the aquarium to him. The world described by the woman was so beautiful and colorful. After finishing the ice cream, the woman carried her boy's hand and left.

Gao Xing bit through the ice cream and stood up involuntarily. He walked towards the lady.

"Are you done?" Gao Xing's blind mother heard the movement and stood up too. "We should walk around some more since the ticket is so expensive."

"Okay..."

Gao Xing held his mother's hand and followed the other lady from a distance. He didn't know why he was doing this. Perhaps it was a yearning for something better. They passed through the underwater tunnel and watched the dolphin performance. It was the best day of Gao Xing's life. Gao Xing didn't know what would happen next. He just felt happy. He temporarily forgot about his blind parents, his poor family, and his bullies. He enjoyed a few hours of being a normal kid.

Gao Xing still didn't want to leave even when the aquarium was about to close. He and his mother were ushered out when the speakers requested all the guests to leave. Gao Xing saw his blind father once he left the aquarium. To save the price of another ticket, his father didn't enter the aquarium. He stayed at the bus stop for several hours. The joy in Gao Xing's heart was replaced by something else. No matter how many times he visited the aquarium, that feeling would always remain stabbed in his heart. As they returned to the bus station, Gao Xing's father smiled and didn't have a word of complaint.

The sun set. The bus didn't arrive. Suddenly, a very expensive car stopped before them.

"Aren't you the boy who had been following me in the aquarium?" The woman's familiar voice came out of the car. She smiled. "It's almost dark. Where do you live? Why don't I send you home?"

Gao Xing didn't expect the woman to know that he had been following her. He was embarrassed and stood there, not moving.

His blind father's reaction was strange. He seemed to recognize her voice. "Were you at Third Mental Hospital?"

"Yes. My son was born with blindness, so I often bring him to the hospital." The woman was very polite. She opened the car door and planned to have her son take the passenger seat. However, Gao Xing didn't know that and walked toward the passenger seat.

"Move. Don't stand between my mom and me!" Gao Cheng bumped into Gao Xing since he couldn't see, but he didn't plan to apologize.

Gao Xing didn't say anything. He was always a coward. However, his normally shy blind father suddenly jumped forward to grab Gao Cheng's arms.

“What are you doing?” Gao Cheng was shocked because he couldn’t see.

The blind father raised his arm, and he almost slapped Gao Cheng. “In this world, only you can’t bully him.” The blind parents couldn’t see, but they knew very well that Gao Cheng was their real son. It was why the father was so rough with him.

“Only he can’t bully me?” Gao Xing was confused. Before he had the time to think, his father grabbed him and his wife and walked away. Fate gave Gao Xing a hint. There was a cross in their paths.

Gao Xing and his parents arrived home after the sky was fully dark. The narrow room and the horrible smell pulled Gao Xing back to real life. “Yes. This is my home, my life.”

Gao Xing helped with the housework like usual and returned to his small room. Too many things had happened that day. He couldn’t sleep. He sat up in his bed. Gao Xing heard his parents arguing. He didn’t switch on the light and opened the door. Gao Xing’s home only had one bedroom. His blind parents gave him the room, and they slept in the living room.

“Are we really going to do that?”

“The most suitable eyes are Gao Xing’s eyes. If he’s willing to donate, then our boy will have a normal life. The wife will also give us a lot of money, and our lives will change too.”

“But this is too unfair to Gao Xing.”

“I know. We’ve already owed that child too much.”

The couple stopped talking. Their hearts were tormented.

“Shall we sign the agreement?”

“I don’t know...”

The two discussed in a very low voice. They couldn't sleep, but they had no idea Gao Xing was standing at the door, and he had heard everything.

"Our boy? That child? Am... Am I not their child?" Gao Xing's face started to twitch. His fragile body twisted. He stood there until his parents fell asleep. He walked to the other side of the living room and looked through his parent's clothes. Finally, he found the document in his father's pocket. The hospital hoped that his parents would 'donate' Gao Xing's eyes to Gao Cheng.

His parents were hesitating, not because they were worried about him but because they were considering giving his eyes away.

"Why? Why should I give my eyes to another person? Am I not your child? Didn't you say I'm your eyes? Why would you give your eyes to another person? Why would you want me to live in the dark like you?"

Gao Xing's face and body rapidly mutated. The memory changed. Everything started to grow ugly faces. The tables, chairs, walls, and beds, the familiar objects turned into grotesque human beings. They were bound like rope, weaving a suffocating web. Some of them had sticky skins. They were like fish caught in a net. Some drown in the net, while others climb higher. This was the real world in Gao Xing's eyes.

The weak Gao Xing struggled in this scary world. Not far away, the blind Gao Cheng was begging for help too.

In this memory, other than the two boys, only Han Fei didn't turn into some sort of monster.

Chapter 890: Tragedy

The human ropes swallowed Gao Xing. An innocent child couldn't get adapted to such a suffocating environment. There was no lifeline for him to grab. All the ropes wanted to strangle him to twist him. More ropes tied around his body. The human ropes turned Gao Xing insane. His presence grew. He turned from a living human to a ghost and finally, Pure Hatred. "This is Gao Xing's memory at the aquarium, the beginning of his turn." Han Fei took out Rest in Peace. Normal tools couldn't destroy memory. Gao Xing was still sinking. No one helped him or chose to help him. People called him a demon, but most demons were birth in hell.

People climbed on the ropes until no one could move. Some were pressed on the very bottom. Some moved upwards by stepping on others. This was a very scary nightmare.

“To have Gao Cheng take over God’s eyes, first, I need to make him be able to accept corresponding pain.” Gao Cheng and Gao Xing mutated in the ropes. However, Gao Xing mutated much faster than Gao Cheng.

After a quick calculation, Han Fei swung the blade. Humanity’s goodness cut through the muscle ropes. He risked the possibility of being trapped there and approached Gao Xing.

The blade flashed, and the rope that bound Gao Xing was cut through by Han Fei. Gao Xing’s mutation slowed down.

“Did... you save me?” The thin boy was twisted until he was misshapen. The tragic life changed his appearance and turned him into a monster. Han Fei couldn’t answer Gao Xing’s question. Fate played another trick on Gao Xing. The person he thought was there to save him actually wanted to kill him.

“You want to save me, right? Why aren’t you speaking?”

Tragedy and malice were cut through by Han Fei. This time, Gao Cheng mutated faster than Gao Xing!

Gao Cheng gritted his teeth and accepted the pain of losing everything. Once he gave up, then he and Han Fei would be torn apart by Gao Xing’s memory. To usurp God, one had to be able to sustain God’s past.

“You’re here to help me, right? Who are you?”

Gao Xing pressed. His life was dark. No one had offered him a helping hand before. He was the only person to have helped himself. Han Fei fought back the muscle ropes silently. He wanted to kill the Unmentionable, Gao Xing, and not the child, Gao Xing.

With Han Fei’s aid, Gao Cheng became a fearful monster before Gao Xing. If the blind parents didn’t change the two kids’ fates, perhaps this was how Gao Cheng should have ended up. The ropes wanted to strangle Gao Cheng, but in the end, they became part of Gao Cheng. Gao Cheng grabbed the ropes and ate them. Gao Cheng tore apart the web. He ignored law, morality, and boundaries. He expanded. This process was very dangerous.

“That monster looks like me. It’s eating my world!” Gao Xing noticed the problem. Han Fei wasn’t helping him. He just didn’t want Gao Xing to turn into a monster.

“If being human means that I’ll continue to be bullied, then... I’d rather be a monster!”

While Han Fei was not paying attention, Gao Xing, behind him, lunged at the muscle ropes like a hungry dog. The still-growing teeth bit on the ropes. It gorged itself on the human faces. Its attitude turned from initial repression to excitement. Gao Xing was transforming before Han Fei. The clashing of fates expedited the transformation of the two monsters. They killed everything around them, but it was to protect the thing they treasured the most. Soon, Gao Xing’s memory was shared by two monsters. However, due to Han Fei’s interruption, Gao Cheng’s mutation was more complete. No one knew how ugly humanity could be.

Han Fei had seen many ugly monsters in the altar world, but they were nothing compared to the two giant monsters before him. Gao Xing’s real-life memory also reeked and was wrapped in sin. The negative emotions coalesced into scabs.

The two monsters were fighting in the most native ways. They used everything they could to wound the other. Bloodflowers bloomed. Han Fei witnessed this shocking world. He appeared to be two flowers. Their roots were bound together. Only by killing the other could they bloom.

“Twinflower...”

With Han Fei’s help, Gao Cheng changed his fate. He ate Gao Xing’s fate and took over his pain. The meat rope eaten by Gao Cheng turned into blood vessels and spread out. When the world was taken over by the vessels, Gao Cheng opened his eyes. Blood crashed like waves. The sky appeared to open a gap. As Gao Cheng roared, the sky opened!

All the illusions disappeared. Han Fei then realized he and Gao Cheng were inside God’s eyes. The large blood vessels were the capillaries in the eyes. Under Gao Cheng’s influence, Han Fei was sent out of the eyes. He stood at the top of the Fear Demon and looked down at the battlefield. God’s left eye was taken over by Gao Cheng. The body that was made of thousands of carcasses was collapsing. The four persona users pulled the chains and tried to keep the monster underwater. The center did everything it could to help Han Fei. They tried their best to weaken the Top Pure Hatred. Technically, God’s eyes hadn’t even used its full power. It didn’t have the chance to use its special power before it was ambushed by Han Fei and Gao Cheng. Even so, God’s eyes weren’t fully under control. Gao Cheng only managed to take over one left eye.

“Teacher Gao! Try to consume it! We can’t hold on much longer!”

“We’re at our limits!”

The persona powers complemented each other. If the four persona users were the hammer, then the other members were the cogs of the battle machines. Gao Cheng took too much time to take over Gao Xing’s memory.

“If we don’t succeed this time, the center won’t be able to help me the second time. When God’s birthday arrives, everyone will die!” Han Fei knew that time was running out, and this was his only chance!

The black mist came out from behind him. The greed abyss was like an unhealable wound. His ambition and greed burned on the black water. All the mist turned into flames.

“I have no other choice. I have to eat it!”

All the center members saw this horrifying sight. The abyss behind Han Fei yawned. It bit at God’s eyes. The eyes sensed the danger and tried to struggle. The four chains rattled. The chains were shattered, but the power of the persona imbued in them was not shaken. The members used their power to bind God’s eyes!

No one dared to retreat.

“Eat it! Eat it!”

Han Fei shouted. There was another shadow standing behind Han Fei. Whenever Han Fei lost his mind, a person would stand beside him. The abyss was expanded to its maximum. The eye dominated by Gao Cheng voluntarily entered the abyss. The other eye was forced into the abyss by the center. The black water rose to the sky. The despair underwater floated to the surface. However, Han Fei ate everything. Mental corruption colored his mind. Han Fei’s eyes were red. His cornea almost exploded. He triggered both personas. With the power of the two personas, the other eye was dragged into the abyss as well!

The four chains collapsed instantly. The black water of the aquarium surged everywhere. The two giant eyes opened behind Han Fei!

One foundation of the city was taken apart. The deep sea ghost's territory burst like a bubble. All the sin and evil were sucked into the greed abyss. Gao Xing's eyes contained far more despair than Han Fei could contain. Now, he could only place his hope on the healing persona.

Han Fei couldn't digest a Top Pure Hatred. His consciousness flickered. He stayed on due to determination. The battle of attrition between Han Fei and God's eyes was just beginning. Han Fei became an object that radiated mental corruption.

"Captain Zhu, can you get close to him?" The vice-captain of the logistics department was worried about Han Fei, but whenever she got close to him, her persona would be corrupted.

The Taoist elder shook his head. "He has to rely on himself to overcome this ordeal." "Then, how are we supposed to move him back to the center? We can't leave him here, right?" The people from the transportation department came as well. They were used to transporting cursed items, but Han Fei was in a completely different category.

"Pure Hatred has started to move freely. Considering what has happened here, they will move here soon." Fu Lie frowned. "If we don't leave before dark, we'll be surrounded by Pure Hatreds. They have been meaning to take down the center."

As the center members discussed this, a monster that radiated misfortune appeared beside Han Fei. Everyone got ready to fight.

However, something unexpected happened. The monster gently placed itself over Han Fei to protect Han Fei with its body.