

Collapse 771

Chapter 771 Gugu Flying

"It hurts, it hurts, it hurts..." Fatty's screams echoed all around the seventh and eighth floors, mixing with a distinct scent of roasting meat.

The smell of meat was strongest in Room 708.

By now, the corpse in Room 708 had happily put its face back on. Not far away lay Fatty, continuously wailing in pain on the ground.

His back wound had been carefully cauterized by 007 and Keke. Some parts were even charred. Luckily, this was no barbecue joint; being overcooked here didn't affect much.

"The bleeding's almost stopped." 007 shook her hands, which had turned bright red from the heat. The axe head, now scalding hot, had unavoidably burned her where she'd had to handle it, causing several large blisters.

Keke nearby was no better off; her hands were similarly scalded.

At that moment, Keke was tying strips of cloth, cut from Fatty's discarded clothing, around his wound. "There's still a bit of blood seeping out, but not too much," she said. "It's not life-threatening once it's bandaged."

The blisters on her hand were bothersome, so 007 reached out to pop them. She then looked at Fatty, who was writhing in pain on the ground. "Cauterizing the wound this way runs the risk of infection and death," she said, "but we only have a few more hours before we can exit the instance. Even if you do get infected, it wouldn't kill you that quickly."

A large patch of skin had been torn from Fatty's back, and the exposed meat was then cauterized. The excruciating pain made him wish he were dead.

While he was moaning in agony, a message on the nearby screen announced that the players on the fifth and sixth floors had completed another task.

[Mr. Room 504 warmly hosted and issued a challenge to the players of this floor. Amidst the proceedings, the players' courage, wisdom, and strength wholly won him over, thereby unlocking access to four corpse locations for all the players on that floor.]

"The players on the lower floors have completed another task. This is the third one they've managed to solve," 007 said, covering her palms with her clothes.

The newly unlocked four corpse locations appeared after the previous message vanished from the screen.

These were the Drowned Corpse in Room 605, the Headless Corpse in Room 804, the Binge-eating Ghost in Room 408... and the Dismembered Ghost in Room 604.

"There it is!" Fatty also spotted the Dismembered Ghost in Room 604, the very type they needed on their floor.

He excitedly tried to raise himself for a closer look, but the pain from his wound made him scream aloud.

"The Dismembered Ghost for the lower floors has already appeared. We need to let the people downstairs know that we need this type of corpse." Keke finished bandaging Fatty's wound and tied a tight knot to prevent it from unwrapping.

The bandage was tight, and Fatty inhaled sharply. "However, the Dismembered Ghost on our floor hasn't been unlocked on the screen yet. If it were, we could parade our corpse around to indicate what we need. Since it hasn't been unlocked, it's going to be difficult..."

Suddenly, a crude plan popped into his head. "Four corpse locations have been revealed on our floor! We can place all four of those corpses in the room directly above Room 604, right over their Dismembered Ghost. Perhaps if we move them around a lot up there, the people downstairs will understand."

"We'll move the existing corpse out of Room 704 and place our floor's Dismembered Ghost in there, to line it up vertically with the one in Room 604 below. And then..."

"No." 007 interrupted Fatty before he could finish.

Fatty looked up at her, puzzled.

007 stared intently at the unlocked corpse locations displayed on the large screen. "We only know that there's a Dismembered Ghost in Room 604 downstairs, but we don't know the corpse type in Room 504, which is below Room 604. What if the corpse there also happens to be a Dismembered Ghost?"

Fatty blinked in surprise. "Then, once we drag our Dismembered Ghost into Room 704, it will form a vertical three-in-a-row, and the three corpses will be eliminated simultaneously!"

"But there might be more than two Dismembered Ghosts downstairs; there could be three or four. If we directly eliminate two of them, they might be left with extra corpses they can't eliminate themselves. We can't be absolutely sure that it's Gu Mian downstairs. If it's someone else, they would be in danger," 007 said.

After staring at the screen for a moment longer, 007 continued, "We'll place our Dismembered Ghost in Room 804. Then, we'll move the four corpses whose locations are already unlocked on our floor into Room 704. We'll continuously move these four corpses between Room 704 and Room 703, waiting for the people downstairs to respond."

Of course, responding by shouting was out of the question.

In fact, when they first entered the instance, Fatty had tried calling out to the people downstairs, testing if his voice could penetrate the floorboards that seemed to block even ghostly sounds. After several minutes of shouting with no response, he had given up.

007 looked away from the screen. "Voice transmission won't work, and special items are disabled. The only way to communicate is through this screen. We'll use the corpse locations to send messages, and I expect the people downstairs will do the same."

"If the people downstairs also start moving the Dismembered Ghost in Room 604 back and forth, then they've likely understood what we mean and are prepared for the elimination. At that point, we'll move our Dismembered Ghost into Room 704 and clear the other corpses from the room."

"If there's no response from downstairs, we'll hold off for now and see what happens when more corpse locations are unlocked."

"Let's go and move the corpses then..." Fatty struggled to get up.

Keke held him down. "Your back wound could split open if you move. Just lie here for the remaining few hours. 007 and I will go."

「Meanwhile, Gu Mian」

Gu Mian was wandering from room to room, waiting for the next task. I didn't expect the challenge mechanism in this instance to be so lenient, he thought. He had just secretly thrown most of the food under the table. The moment he discarded the last roast goose, the instance immediately judged him the winner of the match—even while the ghost across from him was still gnawing on a piece of goose skin.

While he was waiting for the next task, he suddenly noticed that the adjacent screen was continuously changing. He looked up.

There were originally four unlocked corpse locations on the seventh and eighth floors, each in a different room.

But now, these four corpses had all been dragged into Room 704. Moreover, one of them was still being moved back and forth between Rooms 704 and 705.

At first glance, one might think the players upstairs had gone insane, dragging corpses around for fun. But Gu Mian quickly understood their true intention.

The people upstairs have piled all the corpses visible on their floor into Room 704, aligning them with the Dismembered Ghost in my Room 604. Are they hinting that they lack a Dismembered Ghost?

This approach is certainly wild, just like Fatty, he mused.

Gu Mian recalled that Room 603, right next to Room 604, also contained a Dismembered Ghost. He had a total of four Dismembered Ghosts on his floor. I wonder if the team upstairs is short one or two.

If they only need one, I could actually place two of my extra Dismembered Ghosts in the room directly above 604, which would eliminate them directly. However, the people upstairs are probably being considerate. They might be worried that a direct elimination could leave an excess of Dismembered Ghosts on the fifth and sixth floors, so they moved their corpses in advance as a signal. I should first figure out how many they're short.

Of course, Gu Mian couldn't just shout upstairs to ask; he could only communicate by moving corpses.

He thought carefully. Then, he packed up the Dismembered Ghost in Room 604, moved it back and forth a few times between Rooms 604 and 605, and finally returned it to Room 604. This was his way of signaling to the people upstairs that he understood.

After Gu Mian moved the Dismembered Ghost, the corpse in the upstairs room stopped moving, seemingly understanding his message.

Soon, the people upstairs cleared Room 704, presumably to drag in their Dismembered Ghost. However, since the location of the upstairs Dismembered Ghost hadn't been unlocked on the screen, Gu Mian wouldn't be able to see it even if they moved it into the room above. He could only wait silently.

After about seven or eight minutes, the Dismembered Ghost in Room 604 had yet to be eliminated.

If they had two Dismembered Ghosts upstairs, this waiting period would have been enough time for them to place both into the rooms above, Gu Mian reasoned. Since there's been no activity for so long, they probably only have one Dismembered Ghost. They likely need me to move another one of mine to help them achieve an elimination.

Gu Mian went directly to Room 603 next door, which also housed a Dismembered Ghost.

He packed up the corpse in Room 603 and moved it into Room 504. This formed a vertical three-in-a-row of the same type in Rooms 504, 604, and 704. However, Room 504 still contained its original Binge-eating Ghost, so he had to drag that extra corpse away.

The moment Gu Mian finished dragging the two-hundred-jin Binge-eating Ghost out of Room 504, the Dismembered Ghosts in Rooms 504, 604, and 704 all vanished simultaneously.

"It's eliminated!" Fatty, who had been closely watching the large screen, exclaimed excitedly, his eyes wide open.

The extra Dismembered Ghost had been their only threat. They couldn't believe it had been eliminated so easily, leaving them in no danger at all. It felt like a dream.

"Now, the remaining corpses on our floor are all in sets of three, so they can be eliminated automatically!" Fatty exclaimed. He felt his backache lessen slightly now that the Dismembered Ghost was gone.

However, they didn't immediately eliminate all the remaining corpses, deciding instead to wait and see if the floors below would need their help.

But before the lower floors could make a move, the players on the third and fourth floors initiated a new action.

Chapter 772: Meiren Chu Captured on the Way_1

"Floors three and four did the same as us; they also moved all the corpses from the unlocked locations to one room." 007 stared at the screen, which displayed squares representing the third and fourth floors.

The players on the third and fourth floors first moved the two revealed corpses from the third floor to room 406 on the floor above. Then, they moved the remaining revealed corpse from the fourth floor to room 406 as well.

Fatty curiously watched the movements of the corpses on the third and fourth floors. "They did the same as us," he wondered. "Could they also be hinting to those on the fifth and sixth floors that they need corpses?"

However, the corpses on the third and fourth floors were piled up in room 406, and the corpse in room 506, directly above it, was not unlocked.

"But room 506 on the fifth floor, which is next to 406, hasn't revealed what type of corpse it contains either. Could it be that the players on the third and fourth floors have X-ray vision and know what kind of corpse is in room 506?" As Fatty spoke, he began to pout. "But the people on the third and fourth floors are likely those from Renle Mountain. In that case, Brother Chu would be on the first and second floors, and there aren't any Doctors to help on the first and second floors..."

Before Fatty could finish, 007's voice suddenly rang out, "Chu Changge is most likely not on the first or second floors."

Fatty was momentarily taken aback. He then used his rarely used brain to think but couldn't figure out how 007 had reached this conclusion. Consequently, he asked his usual question: "Why?"

"We saw earlier that the location of the Burning Death Ghost in room 403 was revealed. To eliminate the Burning Death Ghost on their own floor, the people on the first and second floors *directly* moved the Burning Death Ghost from room 201 to 203." 007 emphasized the word "directly."

Keke, quicker on the uptake than Fatty, immediately understood 007's meaning. "Chu Changge isn't stupid," she said. "We thought earlier that there could be two dismembered corpses connected vertically on the lower floors. So, when we moved the dismembered corpses, we purposely moved them to 804 instead of placing them next to 604, which had corpses of the same type. We were afraid of directly eliminating the corpses below and causing surplus corpses to appear."

"But when the people on the first and second floors moved the corpses, they didn't think of this. They directly put the charred corpse they wanted to eliminate into room 203. They didn't consider that the corpse in room 303 above might be the same charred type as the one in room 403; moving it there could lead to its direct elimination."

"And there might be more than two charred corpses on the third and fourth floors. If two of them are directly eliminated and the remaining ones can't form a set of three, they would be in danger."

"They didn't consider the floor above at all and just dragged the charred corpse from room 201 to room 203. The person who did this either lacks some brain cells or simply doesn't care about the lives of others," Keke summed up.

"Brother Chu is not dumb," Fatty immediately spoke up. After saying the first part, he thought for a moment and continued, "but he can be pretty cruel sometimes... He definitely wouldn't disregard our lives, though!"

007 stared at the large screen. "So, Chu Changge is not on the first or second floors. It's highly likely those players are from Renle Mountain."

By this time, Fatty's pen and paper were already in Keke's hand. As she recorded on the paper, she said, "So, it's almost certain that the people on the first and second floors are from Renle Mountain. In that case, Chu Changge must be on the third and fourth floors. There's a ninety-nine percent chance Gu Mian is on the fifth and sixth floors, and the three of us are on the seventh and eighth floors..."

Soon, a crude map showing personnel distribution by floor was drawn.

"This also clearly explains why those on the third and fourth floors didn't help those on the first and second floors just now," Keke said, pointing to the floor distribution map in her hand with her pen. "When the people on the first and second floors finished moving the corpses, Chu Changge, on the third and fourth floors, immediately inferred that the people below weren't any good—likely from Renle Mountain—so he didn't react."

"Brother Chu is really sharp," Fatty sighed in admiration. "We had to wait until the first and second floors showed their true colors before we realized they weren't good. The third and fourth floors are great; they can even get help from the Doctors... But why would Brother Chu pile all the revealed corpses into room 406? It doesn't seem like he's hinting at anything to the Doctor on the floor above him."

"I guess he not only piled up the revealed corpses in room 406 but all the corpses," 007 speculated.
"He's keeping all the corpses away from the first and second floors, guarding against the people below eliminating them unexpectedly."

"Why do we have to pile all the corpses into room 406?" On the third and fourth floors, a player named Old Liu of Victory Hardware Store was panting as he dragged a corpse toward room 406. He asked the expressionless, bespectacled young man next to him. When the young man didn't respond, Old Liu could only shrug and continue dragging the dripping corpse.

Although he was dragging the corpse, he didn't dare look down at it.

In fact, when this young man had instructed him to haul all the corpses into the same room, Old Liu had been somewhat reluctant. But when the young man threatened that if he didn't do as told, he would die, Old Liu had no choice but to obey.

He wasn't very clever. After the death protection mechanism in the instance was canceled, he met a few people, including Renle Mountain and Little Saint Qi Tian, and naturally teamed up with them.

Actually, they had quite a number of people at the beginning. Every now and then, their team would lose a few people. Some left, some died, but new ones would quickly replace them. But there were always fewer newcomers than departures, so their team had gradually dwindled to just the three of them.

A few times, he had only been able to pass the instance thanks to Renle Mountain. Otherwise, it was questionable whether he would still be alive. For this reason, he greatly admired Renle Mountain and did whatever Renle Mountain told him to do.

Later, they kidnapped the little fellow in the green jacket but were subsequently tied up by their enemies and locked away. He originally thought he would die in that small, unventilated room. But today, they had ended up in a special instance. He wondered if he would still be in that locked room after leaving the instance.

Lost in thought, Old Liu had already dragged the last corpse into room 406. By this time, the room was filled with corpses. He didn't dare to look anymore, simply dropping the dripping corpse from his hand onto the floor and quickly retreating.

After leaving room 406, he saw the young man from his team standing in front of the large screen in room 405, seemingly deep in thought.

He had never met this young man before. He was startled when he saw his nickname was "Meiren Chu," as it reminded him of a horror film from his childhood that had scared him to the point of wetting his pants.

Fortunately, although this young man's nickname was somewhat terrifying, he was reliable. They had been able to complete the tasks issued by the instance earlier thanks to him.

Since Old Liu hadn't been assigned to the same floor as Renle Mountain, whom he relied on, he transferred all his dependence onto this young man with the scary name. He did whatever the young man told him to do.

After moving the corpses, the old man wiped the water from his palms onto his trousers and nervously walked toward Chu Changge. "All the corpses have been dragged into room 406," he said. "What do you think we should do next?"

Chu Changge didn't answer him; he just kept looking at the large screen in front of him, which displayed a chart.

Old Liu swallowed, feeling a little anxious. He was used to being ordered about, and now that Chu Changge wasn't giving him any orders, he felt a sense of unease.

Seeing that Chu Changge wasn't speaking, Old Liu hesitated for a moment before trying to ingratiate himself with the young man. "Where are you from?" he asked. "Did you enter the instance with your teammates?"

Gu Mian hadn't been present on the day Old Liu was captured, so he didn't know that Chu Changge and Gu Mian were together. He assumed the young man had unfortunately been passing by and was captured.

The indifferent young man still didn't speak to him, making Old Liu feel a little dejected as he walked off to the side.

He had only taken a few steps when he noticed words appearing on the young man's screen: someone on the floor above had completed another task.

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Gu Mian suspected that the person who created this ****instance**** must be a wicked capitalist, exploiting him like a workhorse and giving him no moment of respite.

Shortly after he completed the Binge-eating Ghost task and helped his upstairs teammates solve their problem, the building eagerly assigned him a new task.

Luckily, the corpses here were quite understanding. They turned a blind eye when Gu Mian cheated, their eyes seemingly only there for show.

Of course, they would also cheat when necessary.

Therefore, Gu Mian easily completed this new task.

[Upon seeing the visitor, the lady in Room 607 was overwhelmingly overjoyed and invited the players on that floor to play a wonderful game of 'Guess My Sketch.' Eventually, the players on that floor, with their clever minds and keen eyes, correctly guessed... the word that Miss 607 depicted on the drawing board. Congratulations, congratulations...]

[The joyful lady in Room 607 will unlock the locations of five corpses for all players on their floor.]

These five bodies were the Strangled Ghosts in Rooms 108 and 202, and the Binge-eating Ghosts in Rooms 406, 502, and 807.

The types of corpses unlocked this time were quite monotonous: three Binge-eating Ghosts and two Strangled Ghosts.

"Another task has been completed downstairs," Fatty said, leaning forward to look at the large screen displaying scrolling text. "This means a total of twenty corpse locations have now been unlocked."

With three hours and twenty-one minutes remaining on the countdown, they had already unlocked the locations of one-third of the corpses in the building.

At this pace, it would be no trouble to unlock all the corpse locations before the countdown finished.

In fact, their floor was already safe. The remaining corpses could all be eliminated autonomously.

"The newly unlocked corpse on the third and fourth floors is also in Room 406," Keke said, looking at the grid on the screen. "It seems we guessed right. The people on the third and fourth floors, to guard against those from the first and second floors, moved all the corpses to Room 406."

Listening to Keke's words, Fatty straightened up unintentionally. The tearing pain from his back made him suck in a sharp breath. "Based on what we just discussed, Brother Chu is on the third and fourth floors, and that Renle Mountain is on the first and second. Now that Brother Chu is starting to guard against Renle Mountain below, if the first and second floors need any corpses and Brother Chu doesn't give them, they're out of luck, right?"

They can't completely refuse to provide them, 007 pondered. "The first and second floors need the third and fourth floors to provide corpse connections, and the third and fourth floors may also need the first and second floors to provide corpses. Although the fifth and sixth floors are right above the third and fourth, there might be situations where the fifth and sixth floors can't provide the corpses the third and fourth floors need."

"If you look at the types of corpses currently shown by the fifth and sixth floors, there are only burnt, Binge-eating, drowned, and dismembered corpses. We don't know if the fifth and sixth floors have Strangled and beheaded corpses. If the fifth and sixth floors don't have these types, but these are precisely what the third and fourth floors need, then the third and fourth floors will have to ask for help from the first and second," 007 said, nodding in agreement. "I think there's a very good chance of this."

"...Three Strangled corpses, four burnt corpses, three Binge-eating corpses, three drowned corpses, as well as one dismembered corpse and two beheaded corpses. None of them have been eliminated." Chu

Changge was meticulously arranging the corpses in Room 406, grouping together corpses of the same type.

Old Liu stood at the door, his heart pounding as he looked at the corpses scattered all over the floor, afraid to step inside. "Hey, young man," he said, "why are you moving all these corpses into one room? When it comes time to eliminate them, moving them around again will be such a hassle. We can eliminate most of the corpses on our own, except for a dismembered one and two beheaded ones. When the time comes, we can just see who has them upstairs or downstairs and move the corpses over, right?"

Gu Mian, who is on the fifth and sixth floors, might be able to help, but what he has might not be what we need, Chu Changge thought, glancing at the three extra corpses in the corner.

From the start, there haven't been any beheaded corpses on Gu Mian's floor. I suspect he doesn't have any. We might have to cooperate with the first and second floors to gather three for elimination, Chu Changge mused.

A dismembered corpse did appear on Gu Mian's floors, as shown on screen, but it was used to help the seventh and eighth floors complete a three-in-a-row elimination. I'm not sure if Gu Mian has any other dismembered corpses.

If we're unlucky, we might need to cooperate with the lower floors to eliminate these two types of corpses we need.

Chu Changge didn't trust the people on the first and second floors. He looked at the two lines of the grid on the screen representing the first and second floors. Renle Mountain...

"Bro, it seems like the people upstairs have moved all the corpses to the fourth floor. Earlier, we moved that burnt corpse, hoping they'd help us complete a three-in-a-row elimination, but they didn't pay it any mind. I don't know if they didn't get it or just weren't willing to help." In Room 203, Little Saint Qi Tian watched the screen with a worried expression.

All the corpses displayed on the third and fourth floors were now in Room 406. It was clear the people upstairs had moved all the corpses from both their floors over.

All the other corpses on the first and second floors, where they were, could be eliminated on their own. Only two burnt corpses needed help from upstairs to form a set of three.

As long as they could eliminate these two burnt corpses, they would be safe.

So when the burnt corpse in Room 403 was unlocked, Renle Mountain immediately placed his floor's two burnt corpses in Rooms 103 and 203. The burnt corpse in Room 203 could be seen on the screen. The people on the upper floors should understand their intentions when they saw they had dragged the burnt corpse to Room 203, which was in the same vertical column as Room 403.

But instead of responding, the people on the upper floors moved all their corpses to the fourth floor, as if purposely distancing themselves.

At first, Renle Mountain was confused. To eliminate all the corpses on his floor, he had to cooperate with the players on the adjacent floors. However, the people on the third and fourth floors had not only rejected cooperation but had also moved all the corpses away from them, as if guarding against thieves.

But he quickly realized. "The person upstairs is clever," he muttered. "It seems she already knows that we are on the first and second floors."

"Huh?" Little Saint Qi Tian was a little confused. "But there are no names written on each floor. How can the person upstairs know that we're on the first and second floors? I don't even know who is on the upper floors, let alone which floor Old Liu is on."

"It's my fault for being too hasty." Renle Mountain's face darkened. He had considered the possibility that the corpse in Room 303 might also be a burnt corpse when he moved the two burnt corpses. If he had moved one to Room 203 first, it might have automatically formed a set of three and been eliminated, leaving them with no solution for the remaining burnt corpse.

He had been careful, placing the first burnt corpse in Room 103 before moving the second one to Room 203. If the corpse in Room 303 was also a burnt corpse, this would form a four-in-a-row elimination.

But he had overlooked something in this process.

"It's my fault for only thinking about myself and disregarding others." Renle Mountain's glasses glinted. "And the person upstairs noticed."

"She's really smart, realizing this immediately and starting to guard against us." He looked up at the ceiling, as if trying to see through the wall to the people upstairs.

Who is upstairs?

That Fatty? No, he doesn't seem that smart.

The Doctor? He seems more like a man of action than a thinker.

An image of 007 flashed through Renle Mountain's mind. Is it her? So different from her foolish father.

Qi Tian, standing to the side, listened with a puzzled expression. "Bro, what should we do next?" he asked. "It doesn't seem like the people upstairs are going to help us."

Are they planning to eliminate all the extra corpses on their floor with help from just the fifth and sixth floors? Renle Mountain's expression darkened further. But the fifth and sixth floors might not have the corpses **you** need. In the end, **you** might still need **our** help.

Let's see who needs whom more.

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Then, all floors fell into relative silence.

Fatty, 007, and the remaining bodies on Keke's floor could obliterate on their own, but they took no action for now, planning to destroy the bodies on their floor just before the countdown ended.

Once Chu Changge had directed Old Liu to move all the bodies to Room 406, he didn't continue to transfer bodies. Instead, he went to execute the newly released task.

They now had to complete tasks as quickly as possible to unlock the locations of all the bodies in the building.

Renle Mountain was also well aware of this. They needed to know what the upper floors required; only then would they have a bargaining chip. With this in mind, he began researching the new task assigned to his floor.

The bodies in the building were no longer being moved. During this period, everyone's priority was completing tasks.

However, they found that as time went on, the frequency of receiving tasks decreased, and the tasks became increasingly challenging.

Oddly, players on the fifth and sixth floors seemed to have no bottleneck, completing tasks with relentless speed.

"What's going on with the fifth and sixth floors?" Renle Mountain had long noticed that the pace of task completion on the fifth and sixth floors was off. "They're receiving tasks at such a high frequency."

The instance was issuing tasks to the players on the fifth and sixth floors at an outrageously fast rate, as if it didn't want the people on these floors to have any rest at all.

At this point, the countdown had only one hour and twenty minutes left, and the locations of 44 bodies had been unlocked in the building.

Of course, the vast majority of tasks were completed by the players on the fifth and sixth floors.

Funnily enough, the minor tasks in this instance were quite childlike. Gu Mian was assigned games like playing house, hide-and-seek, and rolling dice, as if he were being transported back to his childhood.

Because of his ill fortune, he had hardly experienced any group games as a child.

In fact, he had once played hide-and-seek in the orphanage when he was very young. That time, Chu Changge, dressed in a small floral skirt, had been in charge of seeking.

Back then, the moment Chu Changge covered her eyes and started counting, Gu Mian happily darted off with the other children to find a hiding place.

With hide-and-seek, of course, the more secluded the hiding spot, the better.

Unfortunately, Gu Mian ventured down a remote alley and, missing his footing, fell into a well whose cover had been removed.

Another child fell in with him.

Presumably, because he had chosen too remote a place, they remained in the well, their cries for help going unanswered for a long time.

The sun outside gradually slanted westward, and the sky grew darker and darker, until the round moon rose high above them.

The child who had fallen in with Gu Mian was already weeping so much he could barely speak, his shoulders still heaving with sobs.

Just as Gu Mian's stomach was grumbling with hunger and he thought, Damn it, I'm going to starve to death here, a shadow suddenly loomed over the well opening.

He looked up and saw Chu Changge's head appear at the rim of the well, perfectly silhouetted against the moon.

Chu Changge's head blocked the screen, forcing Old Liu to move a few steps to the side to see the obstructed area.

Old Liu felt uneasy. Brother Chu has been standing in front of the screen for quite a while, and I have no idea what he's thinking.

Old Liu worriedly counted on his fingers. "We're missing two mutilated bodies and one beheaded body. The beheaded one isn't a problem; we have one downstairs. But the mutilated ones..."

They didn't have any.

Chu Changge stared at Gu Mian's location on the fifth and sixth floors.

So far, twelve bodies had been unlocked on Gu Mian's floors. But among these, none were the beheaded or mutilated corpses Chu Changge needed.

Previously, when the seventh and eighth floors had asked Gu Mian for help with mutilated bodies, Gu Mian must have used two such corpses to form a tri-link with them. However, one of those two mutilated bodies had not been unlocked on the screen.

Excluding that one mutilated body, which was eliminated without being unlocked, only three corpses remained on Gu Mian's floors that had yet to appear on the screen.

Unless these three bodies turned out to be two mutilated ones and one beheaded one—a perfect match for their requirements—they would still need to cooperate with the people on the first and second floors.

Chu Changge hadn't interacted with Renle Mountain before but had heard about him from Fatty. He was fairly certain that this Renle Mountain was on the first or second floor.

However, Chu Changge couldn't be sure if there were other people with Renle Mountain on the first or second floors.

007 and Keke are quick-witted, Chu Changge thought. If they were matched with Renle Mountain on the same floor, they would definitely have prevented him from moving the bodies initially.

Only an idiot would have foolishly allowed Renle Mountain to move the bodies around.

So, the person on the same floor as Renle Mountain is likely his other follower... and Fatty.

Chu Changge walked over to a charred corpse and said to Old Liu, "Move this charred body to Room 403."

Old Liu was taken aback. "Move it to Room 403? Why not to Room 303 to directly form a tri-link with the ones downstairs?"

Moving it to Room 303 would form a tri-link and eliminate it immediately, Old Liu thought, confused. He couldn't understand why Chu Changge didn't want to do that.

"No," Chu Changge said without further explanation.

Old Liu grumbled under his breath. I've never been very bright, he thought. Oftentimes, even when people explain things at length, I still don't get it. Over time, he had become a quiet executor, simply following orders without questioning why.

He approached the charred body, squatted down with his back to Chu Changge, and began dragging it towards Room 403.

He used to do heavy manual labor in a factory, so dragging a corpse wasn't too difficult for him.

Little Saint Qi Tian had worked as a steel carrier in the same factory. After Global Gaming started, Little Saint Qi Tian once asked him, "Old Liu, we both used to do manual labor in the factory, right? It had nothing to do with a hardware store. Why did you pick a name like that?"

"Ha! Back when there was no work at the factory, I'd ride my tricycle—the one missing a side mirror—around, looking for odd jobs. But I'm getting old, and they only wanted young, strong lads for temporary work. I'd be up at five in the morning, searching for anything. Sometimes, I'd look until noon and still find nothing. Out of desperation, I'd pedal from one market to another.

"The midday sun was brutal, practically peeling a layer of skin off me. My shirt would be soaked through with sweat. I'd have drunk all the water in my bottle long ago and be dying of thirst, but I still couldn't bring myself to buy a one-yuan bottle of water from a roadside stall.

"Then one time, I passed by a hardware store and saw the owner. He looked about my age, sitting comfortably on a lounge chair in front of his shop, fanning himself with one hand and holding an ice lolly in the other. He looked so content, just blissful.

"That's when I thought, Wouldn't it be wonderful if I had some spare cash to open a hardware store too? I could enjoy life just like him."

From that day on, opening a hardware store became his most cherished dream.

Afterwards, every time he passed by that hardware store, no matter how tired he was, he would stop and watch for a while, imagining himself sitting by the entrance, leisurely fanning himself.

At those times, a wistful, foolish grin would always spread across his face.

Later, when Global Gaming began, as he was choosing his nickname, he instantly recalled that image of himself fanning away and eating an ice lolly. With a heart full of simple yearning, he depicted his dream:

"Old Liu of Victory Hardware Store"

Chapter 775 Hi, your wife, no, it's your wife_1

"Big brother, the people above are making a move," Little Saint Qi Tian said, having immediately noticed the change in the position of the corpses on the third and fourth floors. "They moved the charred corpse to room 403, but they didn't directly move it to 303 to help us eliminate our two."

Renle Mountain observed the movements on the third and fourth floors. "They're conceding. It seems they don't have the corpses they need on the fifth and sixth floors."

At this moment, the activity on the third and fourth floors didn't cease.

Two headless figures were constantly moving, finally stopping in rooms 304 and 404.

The implication was clear: the third and fourth floors needed headless corpses. They wanted Renle Mountain and his team to move the headless corpse from room 104 up to their floors to form a three-in-a-row.

"It seems the people above need headless corpses. Why don't we move the one in room 104 up and help them eliminate their corpses first?" Little Saint Qi Tian suggested to Renle Mountain.

Renle Mountain, gazing at the screen, remained unmoved. "No."

"They need us, and we need them, so why should we be the ones to compromise first? The third and fourth floors showed hostility towards us earlier. If we help them eliminate their corpses first, they might not help us after theirs are gone," Renle Mountain said to Qi Tian. "This is a negotiation. Whoever gives in first will be at a disadvantage."

The current situation was extremely awkward.

Fatty was intently watching the screen, paying close attention to the situations on both Chu Changge's and Renle Mountain's sides.

He could tell that both sides needed each other: Chu Changge needed Renle Mountain's headless corpses, while Renle Mountain needed Chu Changge's charred corpses. But neither side would loosen their grip on their "hostages," resulting in a stalemate.

Fatty, who had watched plenty of soap operas, imagined a scene:

Chu Changge and Renle Mountain, each holding the other's wife hostage, stood face to face on a cliff edge.

Chu Changge, holding a Tetanus Blade to the neck of Renle Mountain's charred wife, declared, "Your wife is in my hands! Release my wife!"

Renle Mountain, however, merely smirked coldly, pushing Chu Changge's headless wife closer to the cliff edge. "Your wife is also in my hands. You go first."

"You go first!"

"No, you go first!"

"I'll count to three, and we release them at the same time!"

That's generally how it played out in TV dramas.

Unfortunately, Chu Changge and Renle Mountain were separated by a floor so solid that not even a ghost could penetrate it. They couldn't communicate, let alone act out the "release at the same time" scenario.

Right now, both sides considered the other deceitful and untrustworthy. It was a contest of patience to see who would crack first.

Brother Chu isn't an impatient person, and he's next to the Doctor. Maybe there's a headless corpse on the Doctor's floor that could help Brother Chu, Fatty clung to this hopeful thought.

Suddenly, 007's voice came from the side. "There are no headless corpses where Gu Mian is."

Chu Changge had arranged the two headless corpses upright in a pair, the message "I need headless corpses" practically written all over his face.

If there were any headless corpses among the three unrevealed bodies on Gu Mian's floor, Gu Mian would have moved them long ago to help Chu Changge.

But since the two corpses remained, it meant Gu Mian's floor didn't have the corpses Chu Changge needed.

Little Saint Qi Tian, unaware of the relationships between the others, hesitated as he looked at the screen. "But Big Brother, aren't there still three corpses unrevealed on the fifth and sixth floors? What if someone completes another task, and a headless corpse appears there? If the third and fourth floors see it and decide to cooperate with the fifth and sixth floors, what will we do?"

They would be abandoned at that point.

His words had barely left his mouth when, as if to confirm his fears, the screen showed that a player from the fifth and sixth floors had completed another task, unlocking six more corpse positions.

Qi Tian's eyes widened as he stared intently at the screen, afraid his prediction had come true.

No way... It's impossible for a headless corpse to actually appear on the fifth or sixth floor.

He swallowed nervously, his heart pounding, as he scanned the newly unlocked corpses one by one.

"'802 drowned, 805 strangled, 701 died from overeating...' The remaining three unlocked corpses were all in room 406, and like the first three, were drowned, strangled, and died from overeating, respectively."

None of the six newly unlocked corpses were from the fifth or sixth floors.

Upon seeing another six corpses appear, Renle Mountain's heart had lurched. But after reviewing these new corpses, he calmed down. Looking at the third and fourth floors on the chart, a faint smile touched his lips. "It seems you still need me."

"They haven't moved below. It seems they don't intend to make the first move," Chu Changge mused after watching the screen for a while, then looked back at the pile of corpses. "We're short two dismembered corpses and one headless corpse."

He wasn't in a hurry to eliminate the headless corpses; as long as the dismembered corpse was removed, dealing with the headless ones would be straightforward.

But no dismembered corpses were displayed on the floors above or below, nor even on his own. This meant he couldn't emulate the players on the seventh and eighth floors, who had hinted to others by carrying a dismembered corpse back and forth.

Chu Changge quickly scanned the situation on the first and second floors. If there happened to be two dismembered corpses lined up vertically below, he could directly connect his own floor's dismembered corpse to theirs for elimination.

Unfortunately, the first and second floors didn't show any dismembered corpses. Instead, they showed two strangled figures lined up, but Chu Changge could eliminate the three strangled corpses on his floor independently, without needing any corpses from below.

With this in mind, he stepped back several paces to the wall, pointing at one body and addressing Old Liu, who was waiting for orders nearby, "Move this one to 408."

Old Liu grunted in acknowledgment, then crouched by the corpse to lift it.

Chu Changge walked past the crouching Old Liu to the front of the screen, his gaze fixed on the first and second floors. To be in such a standoff with me... it seems unlikely Fatty is on the lower floors.

Damn it, only forty-six minutes left! Look at these two, neither moving an inch. They'll both be doomed at this rate! Fatty anxiously monitored the situation below. The standoff between the groups on the first and second floors and those on the third and fourth floors remained unbroken, with both sides waiting for the other to concede first.

Fatty was so anxious, he felt like he was about to lose control of his bowels. Time was running out, and they urgently needed to eliminate the corpses on their floor.

Even as Fatty dragged the bodies, he kept an eye on the situation via the screen. The two sides were still locked in a stalemate, and in what felt like no time at all, only forty minutes remained.

Chu Changge was looking at the forty-minute countdown.

The people on the first and second floors seemed to be growing impatient, repeatedly shifting the charred corpse downstairs. This was a clear indication that they wanted Chu Changge to first help them eliminate the charred corpse. Only after that would they help Chu Changge eliminate the headless corpses.

But Chu Changge wasn't in a hurry to dispose of the headless corpses.

The headless corpses... it doesn't matter whether the people downstairs help or not. The real problem is this dismembered corpse. Chu Changge stood by the foot of this dismembered corpse, his brow furrowed. There are still three corpse types unrevealed on the fifth and sixth floors, and two unrevealed on the first and second floors. The two dismembered corpses I need... are they on the upper floors or the lower ones?

"Shouldn't we do something?" Old Liu asked, growing unsettled by the decreasing countdown numbers. "At least let's eliminate the corpses on our floor that we can deal with ourselves first. We're running out of time!"

Just as Old Liu spoke, there was a change on the screen.

It was the players on the fifth and sixth floors; they had completed another task, unlocking six more corpse positions.

Will there be a dismembered corpse this time?

Chu Changge immediately looked at the screen and spotted what he needed.

A dismembered corpse, in room 607.

The dismembered corpse I need is on the fifth and sixth floors!

The others were a charred corpse in 808, drowned corpses in 602 and 207, a headless corpse in 102, and a charred corpse on his own floor, 406. These five weren't important.

Chu Changge quickly came up with an idea to signal Gu Mian. "First, move the dismembered corpse to 407. Then, take any corpse whose position is displayed on the screen and move it up and down between 407 and 307."

The charred corpse on their floor wasn't unlocked on the screen, so they could only use another unlocked corpse as a signal to Gu Mian.

"All right." Old Liu quickly picked up a strangled corpse, preparing to move it.

Chu Changge, however, stopped him and pointed to a nearby Binge-eating Ghost. "Use this one."

Old Liu was a bit puzzled, not understanding why they were opting for the heavier corpse instead of the lighter one, but he scratched his head and did as he was told.

Soon, Gu Mian noticed that right below the dismembered corpse in 607, a chubby little figure was continuously moving up and down between the third and fourth floors.

It was clear that the person below was moving this corpse with great difficulty, and their speed was very slow.

He quickly scanned the types of corpses on the third and fourth floors. They're constantly moving a Binge-eating Ghost up and down, but the third and fourth floors already have three Binge-eating Ghosts displayed; they can eliminate them on their own. They don't need another Binge-eating Ghost. This movement started only after the Dismembered Ghost in 607 appeared on the screen. And it's moving directly below the Dismembered Ghost. Could it be that they, like the seventh and eighth floors, are also short of Dismembered Ghosts?

There were only thirty-five minutes left at this point.

Gu Mian didn't hesitate and immediately went to drag another dismembered corpse that wasn't displayed on the screen.

"Do you think the people upstairs will understand what we're trying to say?" Old Liu asked, panting heavily as he carried the big-bellied corpse down the ladder from the fourth to the third floor.

As soon as his feet touched the ground, Chu Changge's voice came from above. "No need to continue."

"Huh?" Old Liu, caught by surprise, quickly realized what had happened. The people on the upper floor must have understood their message and helped them eliminate the Dismembered Ghost.

Just as he was about to drop the corpse he was carrying and take a break, he heard Meiren Chu instruct him to bring that Binge-eating Ghost back up.

"Fine." Old Liu had no choice but to, GRUNTING WITH EFFORT, hoist the corpse and climb back up.

Once he reached room 407, he saw that, sure enough, the dismembered corpse they had placed there earlier was gone. The people upstairs had indeed helped them eliminate it.

As soon as he entered, Old Liu dropped the corpse and sank to the floor, catching his breath. "Phew, that dismembered corpse is finally dealt with. Brother Chu, what about the two extra headless corpses? The people downstairs still haven't helped us."

This Brother Chu doesn't seem worried at all, Old Liu thought, as if it doesn't matter whether the people downstairs help or not.

"I have my ways." Chu Changge glanced at the countdown. Only thirty minutes remained. With the dismembered corpse eliminated, the other two extra headless corpses were no longer a major concern. "Let's first eliminate the corpses on our floor that we can deal with ourselves."

"You got it!" Although he didn't know what Brother Chu's plan was, Old Liu trusted him.

Agreeing, he patted the dust from his pants and stood up, ready to carry out Chu Changge's instructions.

Just then, he noticed a piece of folded white paper on the ground where he had just sat.

"Hey!" He instantly recognized it, bent down, and carefully picked it up and unfolded it.

Chu Changge looked over. It wasn't a piece of paper, but a photograph. Three people were in the photo, all posing with professional smiles for a family portrait.

Old Liu tenderly traced the creases on the photo, gently brushing away the dust. "It must have fallen out when I sat on the ground earlier. Sigh, and I even creased it..." he lamented, his heart aching.

He carefully cleaned all the dust off the photo and, as if it were a precious treasure, tucked it back into his pocket.

"Alright, Brother Chu, I'll go eliminate the corpses on our floor that we can handle ourselves now." Remembering Chu Changge's instructions, Old Liu carefully put the photo away and then hurried towards the other rooms.

Just as he was about to step through the doorway, Chu Changge's voice came from behind him, "...Actually, hold off on that for now."

Chapter 776 Protagonists Who Often Kill People Know_1

Old Liu turned around. "Ah? Aren't we going to deal with the bodies? We're running short on time..."

Without much ado, Chu Changge turned towards room 408. "You go to room 403 and follow my instructions. When I tell you to, throw the charred body in room 403 down to room 303."

Listening to Chu Changge's instructions, Old Liu glanced at the screen. If he threw the charred body to room 303, it would create a trio with the charred bodies in rooms 103 and 203, and they could be eliminated.

This young fellow didn't seem to plan on helping those below before; I have no idea why he suddenly changed his mind. But why doesn't he come to room 403 with me? If he were closer, I could hear his instructions more clearly... Old Liu thought as he headed towards room 403.

Renle Mountain, who had been keeping a close eye on their actions, quickly grasped the situation. "So, the third and fourth floors are not only short on headless corpses but dismembered ones too," he mused. "And the people on the fifth and sixth floors are quite generous, giving the third and fourth whatever they ask for."

The occupants of these two sets of floors seem to have guessed each other's identities, and they appear to get along quite well. But that doesn't matter. The people on the fifth and sixth floors are smart. They would have deduced from the previous behavior of the third and fourth floors that they need headless corpses, yet there has been no action from them. This indicates that the fifth and sixth floors don't have any headless corpses the third and fourth floors need.

Thinking of this, a wicked smile naturally appeared on Renle Mountain's face. It seems the third and fourth floors really need me now, he thought.

Little Saint Qi Tian, who was already anxious, grew even more worried seeing Renle Mountain's self-satisfied smile. "Brother, the countdown has only thirty minutes left! Aren't we going to act? Dragging bodies for elimination also takes time!"

Renle Mountain reined in his smile and glanced at the countdown. "Only thirty minutes left, huh."

If they didn't move the bodies for elimination then, time would be tight.

He pondered for two seconds. "Retain all the headless corpses, and eliminate any others that we can do on our own."

Following the instruction, Qi Tian eagerly scanned the big screen, seemingly contemplating which bodies to eliminate first. Once he had a plan, he immediately rushed to the neighboring room to move a strangled body.

There were four strangled bodies on their floors altogether, located in rooms 202, 105, 108, and 208. He decided to eliminate these four first.

Just as he threw the strangled body from room 202 into room 102 and was about to climb down the ladder, he suddenly heard a noise from the next room.

Qi Tian turned his head towards room 203 to see Renle Mountain standing there, seemingly dumbfounded.

The charred body that had been placed on the floor was now gone.

Gone?

His mind went blank for a few seconds, then he immediately turned to look at the screen.

The charred figures that had been in rooms 103 and 203 had disappeared, as had the one previously in room 403.

It seems the people upstairs acted first and helped us, he thought.

A wave of joy surged in Qi Tian's heart. Our floors only had those two extra charred bodies; the rest we could handle on our own. Now that those two are gone, we're safe! What fantastic news!

"Brother, brother!" Qi Tian dashed excitedly over to Renle Mountain and tried to get his attention. Renle Mountain finally snapped out of his daze.

"The people upstairs helped us eliminate the charred bodies! We should also help them and eliminate their two headless corpses. Time is running out," Qi Tian said to Renle Mountain, but noticed that he was just staring at the screen and ignoring him. He called out again, puzzled, "Brother?"

Renle Mountain didn't say a word, only turned to him with an eerie smile.

"You have a nice head, quite well-rounded," Gu Mian said, touching the head of the corpse in front of him and nodding in satisfaction.

He had noticed early on that the floors below needed a headless ghost, but there were none on his floors.

Upon a sudden spark of inspiration, Gu Mian hatched a brilliant idea.

He had neatly arranged the three Strangled Ghosts from his floors before him. The Binge-eating Ghost is too fat, and the Drowned Ghost is too bloated; their heads wouldn't be easy to saw off. The Burning Death Ghost is so fragile a touch would make it crumble, so I'd better not touch it. The Dismembered Ghost is already in pieces and hard to work with. You three are the best, he thought.

The three corpses were neatly laid out with the Dismantling Axe borrowed from the Dismembered Ghost beside them.

As Gu Mian looked the corpses over, he could've sworn, despite their scant clothing, that the three Strangled Ghosts were synchronously shivering.

He reached out to drag over the corpse he'd chosen, planning on turning it into a headless corpse.

Gu Mian dragged his chosen corpse beside the axe, speaking soothing words to it before beginning: "Don't worry, your head will be off in the blink of an eye."

Perhaps his reassurance had an effect; the chosen corpse seemed rather thrilled, as if it was about to cry tears of gratitude.

Just as Gu Mian was finding the right place on the corpse's neck to make the cut, he caught sight of some changes on the screen out of the corner of his eye.

He let go of the Strangled Ghost and turned to look at the screen.

The previous standstill between the first and second floors and the third and fourth floors had been broken.

Bizarrely, it was the occupants of the third and fourth floors who had initiated the action, helping the first and second floors eliminate the charred bodies first.

Gu Mian rubbed his chin. That's certainly not Chu Changge's style. Is he cooking up some new scheme? This is always how it goes in TV dramas. When a cunning and deceitful person actively offers help, they're definitely hatching a massive plot—it's an ironclad rule. Of course, TV dramas usually have another rule: never turn your back on an enemy who appears to be dead. Protagonists who kill often know their backs are miraculous things. Whenever a protagonist turns their back on a seemingly dead enemy, a medical miracle occurs. Seeing that holy, glowing back, an enemy who couldn't be deader will often spontaneously revive and fiercely stab the protagonist in the back. Usually, a beautiful woman then jumps out to take the blow. Beautiful woman or not, corpses feigning death is certainly a thing.

Behind Gu Mian, a ghostly hand had already gripped the rough axe handle.

Since the third and fourth floors had helped the first and second, would the first and second reciprocate as promised and help the third and fourth in return? Gu Mian watched the screen. If the first and second floors also helped the third and fourth, it would save him the effort of creating a headless corpse.

Just then, Gu Mian heard a noise from behind him.

Turning around, he saw the glint of the raised axe. The one hoisting the axe was the very corpse he'd chosen.

Gu Mian: "..."

SWOOSH! A head was sliced off. It spun freely in mid-air for a moment, rotated two and a half times, then fell to the ground and rolled about.

Gu Mian: "..."

After completing this, the corpse examined the headless body on the floor with satisfaction. It then tossed the axe aside and joyfully lay back down on the ground, a serene and peaceful smile on its face.

Gu Mian looked at the ground. His chosen corpse had chopped off the head of one of the other corpses lying beside it.

He hadn't even done anything, yet his chosen corpse had already sneakily lopped off the head of another.

We're all colleagues here; there's no need for such violence, right?

Chapter 777 Qi Tian's Mealbox in Preparation

This corpse is too violent; if it's locked up with the others, they'll probably start a mass brawl.

Gu Mian casually tossed this corpse, the one who had bravely hacked off his colleague's head, into the empty room 503 next door, so it wouldn't suddenly corpse-jump back up and run around hacking people again.

After finishing all this, he glanced at that unlucky Strangled Ghost who'd lost its head, then turned to look at the big screen.

On the screen, there really was a change: the little cartoon figure whose neck had been strangled by a rope had now turned into a little headless figure.

Now it could help the people downstairs make a three-in-a-row.

But the situation on floors 1–2 and 3–4 was too exciting; everyone's attention was on that side, so for the moment nobody noticed this tiny change on Gu Mian's floor.

"We've already helped the people downstairs clear their burned corpses; now the folks downstairs should move those headless corpses up to help us clear ours." At this moment, Old Liu was staring at floors 1–2 on the screen, staring at those headless ghost corpses on 1–2.

Sure enough, after just a few seconds, one of the headless corpses on floors 1–2 started to move—specifically, the one in room 104.

The headless corpses on floors 3–4 had been placed in 304 and 404; as long as the one in 104 moved up one room, it could link up with their two headless corpses and be cleared.

Very simple—just move that headless corpse up...

Old Liu stared at the screen, his eyes growing wider and wider.

He saw that the people below had absolutely no intention of moving the headless corpse upstairs.

All the corpses on floors 1–2 were displayed on the screen; there were four headless corpses downstairs in total. Old Liu watched helplessly as the people below kept shifting those four headless corpses around, eventually lining them up into a four-in-a-row on the first floor and clearing them.

The instant those four headless corpses vanished, Old Liu's head buzzed; a deep, suffocating sense of despair surged up in his chest.

For a moment, he didn't even think about why the people downstairs hadn't helped them; his mind was filled only with the thought that he was done for.

It took him several seconds to recover enough to think of anything else: "Why... why wouldn't they help us, when we clearly helped them..."

He rubbed his eyes hard and stared at the corpses on floors 1–2, hoping he'd miscounted earlier, hoping there was still one headless corpse left on floors 1–2.

But after checking three or four times, he still couldn't find what he wanted.

"It's over, this time it's all over." Old Liu couldn't stand anymore; he collapsed onto the floor with a thud, his face full of despair.

"Hahahahaha—" Renle Mountain hadn't laughed like this in a long time. He clutched his stomach, feeling it twitch from the laughter.

Qi Tian, beside him, looked at this Renle Mountain who seemed like a different person from usual and didn't dare say a word for the moment.

Only after he'd laughed enough did Renle Mountain straighten up and look mockingly at the screen. Go against me? No matter who's up there, they're all gonna die.

As he stared at the screen, he suddenly felt that something was off.

A wave of unease surged up in his chest.

Renle Mountain quickly swept his eyes over the entire screen and immediately found what was wrong.

His eyes widened slightly, fixing on the squares representing rooms 108 and 208, which were now completely empty.

There were supposed to be two strangled corpses in those two rooms.

He immediately bolted toward those rooms.

By the time he staggered to 108, he discovered that the corpse that should've been inside had vanished at some unknown point.

Renle Mountain, unwilling to give up, climbed up the ladder to 208, only to see that the strangled corpse in this room had also disappeared.

Now even an idiot would understand that he'd been screwed over by the people upstairs.

"They were cleared... cleared by the people upstairs..."

The people upstairs had been prepared all along. When they realized he wasn't planning to help them, they placed a strangled corpse they'd prepared earlier into 308 and cleared it together with the corpses in 108 and 208.

And the one they used upstairs was a strangled corpse that hadn't been shown on the screen, to avoid arousing his suspicion.

Renle Mountain gnashed his teeth in hatred.

His floor had originally had four strangled corpses that could've been self-cleared; now, after the people upstairs cleared two of them, he only had two left, not enough to make a triple to clear themselves... These two couldn't be cleared; once the countdown ended, they'd probably turn into Evil Ghosts.

Qi Tian also understood the situation now; he blurted out anxiously, "Big Bro, I see there are still two strangled corpses upstairs, and we've got two here. We can connect them up and make a four-in-a-row between floors!"

If the people upstairs were still willing to help them, they'd still have a way to live. The words were about to leave Qi Tian's mouth when he swallowed them back down. Why on earth would the people upstairs still help them?

If they hadn't just cleared those four headless corpses, that'd be another story. Maybe they could've cut another deal with the people upstairs—first provide the headless corpses the upper floors needed as a goodwill gesture, and the people upstairs might've been willing to provide the strangled corpses they needed.

But now the headless corpses were gone; they had nothing left to offer as a gesture of goodwill.

Qi Tian was completely dumbfounded. He knew that because of them, the people upstairs had been forced into a corner; there was no way they'd help them again.

As if to prove his guess, they saw the people upstairs quickly move those two strangled corpses into rooms 403 and 303, then clear them together with the strangled corpse in 503, without a shred of hesitation.

Qi Tian slumped to the floor, his expression dazed, unable to say a single word.

Just moments ago, he'd been overwhelmed with joy, thinking he'd managed to survive this terrifying special instance; yet within just a few minutes, he'd fallen from the clouds straight into the abyss.

"We're not gonna make it... we're not gonna make it..." he muttered.

There was absolutely nothing they could do.

Renle Mountain, beside him, didn't react as dramatically as Qi Tian; instead, bloodshot veins spread through his eyes, and his hands hanging at his sides clenched tightly into fists.

"So you played me once? Fine. I've got two extra strangled corpses left here, but you've also got two headless corpses you can't clear. Floors 5–6 can't help you. Even if you screwed me over, when the time's up you still have to die with me." Renle Mountain didn't want to die, but at this point, self-comfort was all he had.

But that self-comfort didn't last long; soon, he was just as dumbfounded as Qi Tian.

They saw that, at some unknown point, floors 5–6 had actually produced a headless corpse out of thin air.

"Th-then... where did that corpse on floors 5–6 come from? It clearly wasn't there before!" Qi Tian had also noticed that extra corpse.

During this time, nobody had completed a task, yet a headless corpse had suddenly appeared on the display for floors 5–6 out of nowhere.

And that headless corpse was currently being moved; Renle Mountain watched as it passed through room after room, finally arriving in 504, where it linked up with the two headless corpses on floors 3–4 to make three in a row, and was cleared together with them.

Watching the headless corpses upstairs get cleared, the mental state Renle Mountain had barely been holding together finally snapped. "Impossible!"

He rushed up to the screen and stared fixedly at the spots where those two headless ghosts had originally been on floors 3–4, practically boring a hole into the display.

But no matter how he looked, those two corpses were gone; they'd been cleared by the headless ghost that floors 5–6 had conjured out of nowhere.

Now he was the only one left who would die.

Behind him, Qi Tian was already half-mad. "What the hell is going on! Floors 5–6 suddenly got an extra beheaded corpse that wasn't there before—how the hell did he pull that off... If he can do that, then we definitely can too; maybe we can also conjure a strangled corpse out of thin air;

"How did he do it? How the hell did he do it!"

Qi Tian clawed at his own hair in agitation, occasionally looking up at the countdown that was steadily ticking down.

Less than ten minutes left. In less than ten minutes, they were going to die.

Renle Mountain forced himself to calm down and seriously analyze the situation.

Right, nobody had completed any tasks during this period, yet floors 5–6 had suddenly gained a headless corpse out of thin air.

It had to mean that someone on floors 5–6 had discovered a clue that no one else had noticed; he'd found another route to clear the instance.

What exactly had he discovered?

Renle Mountain's brows furrowed tightly.

A corpse suddenly appearing out of nowhere—how had he done that... how could you produce an extra corpse...

A cold chill suddenly shot down Renle Mountain's spine. He seemed to understand something, and his bloodshot eyes shifted to look at Qi Tian, who was sitting on the floor.

Chapter 778 Haha, Here Comes the Boxed Lunch

"Brother, have you really thought of a way to eliminate those two corpses?" At this point, there are only five minutes left in the countdown, and Qi Tian is panting heavily while moving corpses with Renle Mountain.

"I have my ways," Renle Mountain said as he looked at Qi Tian's back. "After you eliminate this drowned corpse and the other two, we'll go move the strangled bodies."

Qi Tian dragged the drowned body and struggled to move towards the room ahead. He had already positioned the other two drowned bodies in a neighboring room, and once he dragged this one to the front room, he could eliminate them together.

Once these three drowned bodies were eliminated, the only ones left on these two floors would be the strangled corpses.

Soon, Qi Tian dragged the corpse exhibiting the giant view into the designated room, and the three corpses disappeared in an instant.

After finishing his task, Qi Tian bent over, holding his legs and gasping for air. Renle Mountain had him eliminate drowned and overstuffed bodies, which were hard to move, and it took him quite an effort to deal with them.

Only the two strangled corpses were left now.

"Let's go," Renle Mountain's voice came from above, "Let's head to room 105 and move the corpse inside to room 203."

One corpse was in room 105 and the other in room 202; they needed to be placed in adjacent rooms.

Time was running out, so Qi Tian dared not delay and quickly rushed to room 105, lifted the corpse in the room, and climbed up the ladder.

Renle Mountain helped hold the corpse on Qi Tian's back from behind to prevent it from falling.

As Qi Tian climbed up, he said, "Hey, brother, the rope around this corpse's neck seems to be missing."

Renle Mountain's deep voice came from below, "It must have accidentally come off while moving other corpses, don't worry about it. There's only three minutes left, hurry up."

Time was scarce! Hearing this, Qi Tian mustered all his strength and quickly climbed up to the second floor.

Then, he jogged towards room 203 with the corpse on his back.

When he placed the corpse in room 203, the countdown had only two minutes left.

He felt anxious as Renle Mountain hadn't mentioned any method to eliminate these two corpses.

In two minutes, they'd turn into Evil Ghosts!

He panted heavily, looked back anxiously at Renle Mountain, and said, "Brother, what's the solution you have in mind? There's only two minutes left now."

But Renle Mountain just stared at him intensely, "I have a way, I have a way..."

And suddenly came close.

Qi Tian widened his eyes, finally understanding Renle Mountain's method.

During the final few seconds of the countdown, Gu Mian saw on the screen that the two strangled figures on the first and second floors had disappeared.

"Doctor, how do you think Renle Mountain managed to eliminate those two corpses in the end?" Fatty was sitting in Gu Mian's living room, stuffing buns into his mouth, and persistently asking Gu Mian. He didn't stop there and turned to Chu Changge beside him, "Brother Chu, do you know?"

Chu Changge sat silently on one side.

At this point, they had left the instance, and the group was doing a review at Gu Mian's house.

After exiting the special game instance, Gu Mian immediately checked the room where Renle Mountain was locked.

The lock on the utility room door was still fine, but the person inside was gone.

He probably escaped during the instance, and during the transmission out, he took the chance to flee.

Gu Mian didn't expect an escape method like this.

"Also Doctor, where did that headless corpse in your room come from," Fatty said, struggling to swallow the bun in his mouth, speculating, "Did someone cut off another corpse's head?"

"And when the countdown ended and the corpses were resurrected for ten minutes, we saw on the screen that all the ghosts in your room ran off to the corner room, but one drowned ghost didn't follow. Not long after, we received alerts about system loopholes and escaped convicts. Doctor, please tell us what happened, I've been dying of curiosity." Fatty seemed to have endless questions, and before Gu Mian could answer the previous one, he asked another string of questions.

Others seemed equally curious about this.

Keke seemed ready to hear the explanation, and Xiao Qiao beside him perked up his ears. Although he didn't enter the Match Three instance, he still eagerly followed Keke up.

Gu Mian remembered before entering the instance, he planned to borrow something from Xiao Qiao.

Fatty was already scratching his head impatiently, so Gu Mian set aside the borrowing issue and began recalling the ten minutes after the countdown ended when all the corpses were resurrected.

Gu Mian certainly hadn't eliminated the corpses on his own level, so when the countdown ended, all the corpses on the floor became ghosts.

In theory, they should have roamed those two floors for about ten minutes, killing anyone they saw without hesitation.

But maybe they thought the task was too daunting, so they all rushed to the most secluded room to slack off.

When Gu Mian went to check, he found these ghosts were in the room, hugging each other fearfully, probably because of the cold.

Meanwhile, Xu Xingcheng's corpse finally resurrected after half a day.

Before Gu Mian went to find him, Xu Xingcheng had already started eagerly searching for Gu Mian.

"Where's Gu Mian? Where's Gu Mian gone?" — Just a few seconds after the countdown ended, Gu Mian heard these words from Xu Xingcheng's room.

The corpse replica of the Evil God must have come alive, but why does this replica have an accent?

Gu Mian thought as he quickly walked to room 605, where Xu Xingcheng's corpse was.

When Gu Mian entered the room, he saw the soaked Xu Xingcheng dragging his enormous body, and his head, swollen like a balloon, kept twitching, his eyes glanced around.

Soon, his mushy eyes spotted Gu Mian.

The soaked Xu Xingcheng excitedly approached Gu Mian, "I finally found you."

It was only upon getting closer that Gu Mian realized this figure wasn't accented; its swollen neck probably affected its speech.

"I've sent so many game consoles to your home, finally someone came." he said, making Gu Mian recall that right before entering the instance, Fatty had bought Xiao Hong a bare-bones game console, which was indeed simplistic, only playing simple pixel games.

This seemingly included Match Three.

The methods of triggering special game instances are varied.

Back in the slaughter game, the instance was triggered by a unique item, Metamorphosis instance was activated just by mentioning the word "Metamorphosis," while the Circus instance required wearing a specific clown mask.

Likely, the trigger condition for the Match Three instance was playing the Match Three game on the console.

Unexpectedly, this time the instance was meticulously arranged by Xu Xingcheng to bring them in.

Indeed, this Evil God really trusts that they're fearless of dying in the special instance.

"So we're in the Match Three instance because of him," Fatty said, thoroughly engrossed in the story, "But why would he drag us in?"

"Because of this." Gu Mian extended his hand; in his palm lay a palm-sized door frame.

Chapter 779 Happy Yuan Festival to Everyone

This is...

Fatty looked left and right, arriving at a conclusion.

"A dog hole?"

"What dog, it's a key," Gu Mian pushed Fatty to the side.

"Huh?" Fatty was a bit dumbfounded. What Gu Mian held in his hand was made of three wooden strips, shaped like a rectangular frame missing one short side.

No matter how you looked at it, it was a dog hole, had nothing to do with a key.

Beside him, the clever Keke had already reached out to touch the frame in Gu Mian's hand. After touching it, she paused for two seconds before speaking, "It's a special item."

Upon hearing this, Fatty also reached out to touch it, and sure enough, a special item prompt panel popped up—

[Key #108 from the Mysterious World (Long Aotian version)]

Gu Mian remembered he had seen this numbered key from the Mysterious World somewhere before; it's likely a series of special items, but what's up with this 'Long Aotian version'?

[Description: A crudely made key rushed into production by someone, looks similar to a dog hole, didn't even have time to engrave the number]

This "someone" was likely referring to the Evil God, Gu Mian speculated that the series of keys from the Mysterious World were all created by the Evil God, tossing special items around haphazardly totally fit his style.

[Usage: Recite the words 'Good, you have successfully provoked my wrath, accept my fury! Haha, your era is over, the next era belongs to me!']

"Haha, you have successfully provoked my wrath..." Not waiting to finish reading, Xiao Qiao next to him was already role-playing by herself.

Keke, quick as a flash, covered her mouth to prevent her from finishing this lengthy line.

"It's okay," Fatty turned to look at Xiao Qiao, who was struggling to breathe under Keke's hand, "she got the line wrong."

As expected from the Long Aotian version; this lengthy line was too embarrassing. Fatty had seen similar lines in many Long Aotian and domineering CEO loves me novels.

He couldn't help but think of the classic line from the domineering CEO—Woman, you have successfully attracted my attention.

Fortunately, it wasn't that line; he couldn't imagine Gu Mian's expression while saying it with a straight face.

He wondered what was in the mind of the person who designed such lines, truly bad. Fatty was starting to look forward to it a bit, already imagining the thrilling scene of Gu Mian using this dog hole in his mind.

Gu Mian didn't express any opinion on this embarrassing line, only thought that this long string was too lengthy, good thing it wasn't a big move or anything.

If he had to give such a lengthy Long Aotian speech before sawing ghosts, the ghost would have run two miles away by the time he finished.

He continued to read downwards.

After explaining the usage, below was the function.

[Function: After reciting the specified line, the key will transport all creatures within a range of five hundred meters into the 'Paradise' world; performing the above actions again in 'Paradise' can transport the creatures back to the original world]

"It can transport us into the Paradise World, a special item," Fatty became excited, "now we don't need to search everywhere for Dungeon Entry Ticket to the Paradise World, but how did the Evil God know we wanted to go there?"

Previously, Gu Mian was worried that by the time they managed to get the Paradise Entry Ticket, Lu Yi's corpse would have cooled down, unexpectedly, the Evil God had already sent them the portal.

It's truly like delivering a pillow when you're sleepy, almost as if he had a visual and audio surveillance camera installed at home.

Hmm, visual and audio surveillance camera...

"Where's Mr. Green?" Gu Mian suddenly looked up and searched around.

Mr. Green wasn't here.

"Probably taken away by Xiao Hong to play around again." Fatty didn't care much, then suddenly remembered something, "Doctor, this thing says it can pull all creatures within five hundred meters into the Paradise World, do you think Mr. Green counts as a creature?"

Evidently, he does.

If Mr. Green was here now, he'd surely be overjoyed, might even immediately find a statue of the Evil God to worship.

"However, there is an additional note saying the destination is uncertain." At this moment Fatty was reading the next line.

[Additional: Since this item is crudely made, it will be scrapped after one round trip to the 'Paradise' world; its destination is random, using by multiple people has a high chance of dispersal]

Using by multiple people is likely to be dispersed?

This means if ten people enter the Paradise World together, they might be dispersed into ten different locations.

Other worlds are alright, but in the Paradise World the survival environment for lower-class people is worse than dogs, and their looks mean they would certainly be lower-class people in the Paradise World, might even get caught and put in a dog cage by upper-class people as soon as they enter.

Fatty pointed out a bigger problem from the side: "What if the doctor, me, and Brother Chu all enter Paradise World together and we disperse once we're inside? If the doctor never finds me and only reunites with Brother Chu to use the dog hole to return to the real world, would I be left there forever?"

Saying this, Fatty genuinely felt emotional, a trace of melancholy appeared in his expression as he looked at Gu Mian.

"That's why we can't take someone as weak as you when teleporting." Gu Mian ignored Fatty's grievance and continued speaking on his own.

Upon hearing this, Fatty's expression became even more despondent, almost sobbing as he was about to leave.

"And the fewer people, the better, and the timing needs to be planned carefully. Right now, Lu Yi hasn't even finished setting up the stage for the variety show; going in too early means we might have to stay in Paradise World until the stage is set and the show starts to see Lu Yi. We might end up staying in Paradise for a long time." Gu Mian pondered, "But if I go into Paradise by myself, it won't matter how long I stay."

Before being kicked out of the instance, Xu Xingcheng had given him another special item—a moustache sticker shaped like the number eight.

[Holy Disguise Item - "Eight Characters" Moustache]

[Usage: Stick it on your face]

[Function: The "Eight Characters" moustache, a magical disguise technique. Just like in most TV dramas, once you put on a fake moustache, everyone suddenly seems to have amnesia and can't recognize you]

After Xu Xingcheng's corpse provided him with key 108 and the "Eight Characters" moustache, it struggled with swollen hands to dig into its pants, as if there was another good item to give him.

Unfortunately, Xu Xingcheng seemed to have smuggled himself into this instance, and before he could grab the third special item, the system promptly reacted and cruelly separated Gu Mian and Xu Xingcheng with the announcement of "system loophole, capturing fugitives".

Thinking about it, Gu Mian took out the "Eight Characters" moustache from his pocket and stuck it on his face to test its effect.

He stuck the moustache on his eyebrows and looked up at Fatty.

Fatty was sitting on the side in grievance. When he noticed Gu Mian looking at him, he turned his head to look back.

Upon seeing the person beside him, he nearly jumped off the sofa: "Who are you? Where's the doctor? He was just sitting here."

Gu Mian took out a mirror from beneath Fatty's bottom, which had been pressed into three pieces—this was Xiao Hong's usual vanity mirror grabbed from Xiao Qiao; not long after, Fatty's weight had crushed it into three segments.

Gu Mian held up the broken mirror and scrutinized his own face in it—no changes, still the same face, yet just by sticking on a moustache, others couldn't recognize him; it truly was magical.

He then tore the moustache off his eyebrows, and Fatty's expression gradually shifted from vigilance to confusion: "Doctor? Was that you earlier? Since when did you learn to disguise yourself?"

"It's a special item given by Xu Xingcheng," Gu Mian put the "Eight Characters" moustache back in his pocket, "Probably considering my face is loved by everyone in Paradise World, it easily attracts crowds, so he prepared a special item that can alter my appearance."

It was quite thoughtful; with this, he could change his image and use a new identity to excel in Paradise World.

Gu Mian wondered when the variety show on Paradise's side would start.

He needed to enter Paradise World before the show started, since the key didn't have a set destination; after entering Paradise, he'd need to find the location for the show's venue himself.

"Where's the Fortune-teller?" Gu Mian began searching for the Fortune-teller's presence, "Have her call Carnival Wharf again to ask when the variety show will start."

"She's on the first floor helping 007 divine the location of Renle Mountain." Keke glanced out the window; it's already late at night, and it's pitch black outside.

After escaping the Match Three instance, several people from Renle Mountain had broken out, and Gu Mian immediately looked all around, planning to catch them before they ran far.

He even summoned "Mom" to help find them, yet by dusk, Renle Mountain's figure was nowhere to be seen.

007 also knew returning them would be difficult now, and staying outside after dark wasn't safe, so she suggested going back to the apartment to have the Fortune-teller help divine if they could find the location of Renle Mountain.

Now, both were still researching on the first floor.

"Speaking of Renle Mountain," Fatty scratched his head, "I still can't figure out how he made those two strangled corpses disappear; he couldn't have conjured a corpse out of thin air, right? Brother Chu, you're smart, explain to us how Renle Mountain did it."

Chu Changge adjusted his glasses, saying nothing.

"Little Saint Qi Tian is missing." In a room on the first floor, the Fortune-teller feebly slumped on the sofa, a bowl of water placed on the table in front.

007 sat next to her, silently staring at the bowl of water.

Just now, the Fortune-teller used her professional skills trying to display Renle Mountain's location for 007 with the water bowl, but her skills weren't proficient, and after a long while only two blurred figures appeared in the water bowl.

It was Renle Mountain and Old Liu of Victory Hardware, but the player called Little Saint Qi Tian wasn't beside them.

They saw the two seem to be in a dark warehouse now, unable to discern its location.

The scene in the water bowl only lasted for a few seconds before disappearing.

After the scene faded, the Fortune-teller's energy was depleted; she lay down on the sofa and spoke wearily: "That's all I could see, nothing else."

007 still stared at the water bowl void of images, recalling the final moment in the instance when suddenly another strangled corpse appeared at Renle Mountain's side completing the three-link elimination.

She roughly understood how Renle Mountain managed to supply the corpse.

Chapter 780 Have a Bite of My "Coo-Coo"

"The Save Lu Yi Plan class is in session! Thanks to the generous support of Evil God Mr. Xu, we now have a key to enter Paradise World;

"Furthermore, Evil God provides us with round-trip tickets, solving our after-sales issues. After saving Lu Yi, we can use the key to bring him back to the real world, so he doesn't have to keep running from the Upper Class People's pursuit in Paradise World;

"Now we must prepare thoroughly and first formulate a foolproof plan to save Lu Yi."

It's been a few days since leaving the Match Three instance, and Fatty somehow found a small blackboard and set it up in Gu Mian's living room. He even broke a branch from the roadside greenery to use as a pointer, tapping on the blackboard.

Gu Mian sat on a small stool in front of the blackboard, looking up at Fatty, feeling he had quite the demeanor of a teacher from back in the day.

Sitting on the small stool to Gu Mian's right was Chu Changge, who actually had no interest in Fatty's planning class and was forcibly pressed onto the stool by Fatty.

To the left sat 007, and she was much more focused than Chu Changge on the right; her eyes were fixed on the small blackboard.

A row of people sat behind them, including Xiao Qiao with her mouth full of food, the drowsy Fortune-teller, and the passionately attentive Mr. Green.

Nobody expected Mr. Green to be so enthusiastic about learning, staring intently at Fatty's blackboard, probably eager to return to the game world.

"First, we need to confirm the list. I previously asked Miss Keke and Miss Liu Ruyan, and they both said they don't plan to go to Paradise World. Now, the confirmed people going are the doctor, Brother Chu, and me."

Fatty said as he wrote names on the blackboard. After writing Gu Mian's and Chu Changge's names, he added a big "me" afterwards.

After finishing, Fatty turned to the others: "Anyone else want to go?"

"Me, me, me!" Mr. Green in the back row shouted impatiently, looking truly eager.

Fatty casually wrote "Xiao Lv" on the blackboard, then 007 raised her hand: "I'll go too."

Fatty neatly added the three numbers of 007 on the blackboard.

Xiao Qiao saw this and quickly jumped in to join the excitement, tossing her food aside and raising her hand to sign up.

Gu Mian swiftly pressed her hand down as soon as she raised it.

It's unimaginable what kind of spectacle Xiao Qiao would display in Paradise World, likely punching and kicking Upper Class People in broad daylight, only to be besieged.

At that point, besides saving Lu Yi, they'd also need to rescue besieged Xiao Qiao.

For Xiao Qiao's personal safety and his own mental health, Gu Mian thought it best not to let her sign up.

"I'm not going," Fortune-teller yawned, "that world looks dangerous in every way, better not wade into this muddy water."

She also had foreseen it, and the result showed it was better not to go.

"Alright," Fatty knocked on the blackboard with the branch, "the list is set to have the doctor, Brother Chu, me, Miss 007, and Mr. Green, the five of us going into Paradise World."

"Next is the start time for that Paradise show; yesterday Miss Fortune-Teller helped us call the dock again, and the dock people said the stage setup would take at least a month, and the show's preparation would take half a month, so it means the show will start in a month and a half;

"So we don't need to go too early. Just have Miss Fortune-Teller inquire about the situation periodically, and head to Paradise World a few days before the show's start."

Hearing this, Gu Mian looked back at the Fortune-teller: "Is it still Old Xu picking up the calls?"

The Fortune-teller was yawning repeatedly, and Gu Mian suddenly turning back startled her, swallowing her incomplete yawn. She recollected for two seconds: "Yes, by the voice, still him, why?"

"Nothing." Gu Mian said nothing more and turned back.

The Fortune-teller stared at the back of Gu Mian's head, feeling a bit puzzled, but soon the fatigue rolled in again, and she miserably pinched her dizzy head.

"The trickiest part now is that after entering Paradise World, people will be separated, and each person's location is uncertain." On the right, Chu Changge suddenly interrupted, "However, we have this special item 'Ten-member Group Chat,' where we can report our locations."

The [Ten-member Group Chat] is Xiao Qiao's special item; once entering the game world, the friend chat system stops working, but Xiao Qiao's group chat remains unaffected.

As long as the holder is alive, the group members can chat at any time.

007 has long been added to this group chat.

"Even if we know everyone's location, if the distance from Gu Mian is too great, it'll be hard to meet up," 007 raised concerns, "for instance, if from the South Pole to the North Pole distance..."

"That's too absurd!" Fatty's face twitched upon hearing South Pole and North Pole, unable to fathom how they would meet up over such a distance.

"It's indeed possible, so fewer people going into Paradise World is better; the fewer people, the smaller the dispersal area." Gu Mian said, standing up next to the blackboard, then erasing the "me" after Chu Changge's name.

Fatty watched as "me" was erased, just about to speak to salvage his position when Gu Mian clapped away the chalk dust and continued: "People like you, large-bodied with slow actions, are particularly unsuitable for long-distance migrations in harsh environments."

Fatty's throat choked, unable to produce a rebuttal for quite a while.

Ultimately, they decided to let only Gu Mian, Chu Changge, and 007 enter Paradise World. 007 possessed a child's rocking car as a transport tool, which she could drive to pick up Chu Changge and then meet up with Gu Mian.

As for Mr. Green, he didn't count as a person, so once in Paradise World, they wouldn't have to worry about him.

007's rocking car was of excellent quality and considerable speed. Even with the South Pole to North Pole distance, it wouldn't be a problem as long as there's money.

Fatty and Chu Changge prepared in advance by transferring most of their Game Coins to 007, to prevent 007 from being penniless in Paradise World.

Gu Mian even specially borrowed Big Data Search from Xiao Qiao and gave it to 007 to search for their locations when needed.

"The show won't start for over a month; you're starting preparations so early?" Gu Mian went to borrow Big Data Search from Xiao Qiao, and Liu Ruyan was also in the room as she lived with Xiao Qiao.

"Xie Bi'an from the fourth floor is originally from Paradise World; he must know it well. If you want to know anything, you can ask him, though his relationship with Chu Changge isn't great, so you'd better not bring Chu Changge often to him." Liu Ruyan said, not minding the situation escalating.

Gu Mian knew Xie Bi'an and Chu Changge have always been at odds. Recently, Gu Mian wanted to approach Xie Bi'an about Paradise World matters, but Chu Changge immediately said, "Don't trust Xie Bi'an."

After the Match Three instance ended, Xie Bi'an even came to Gu Mian's house and said in front of Chu Changge that he wasn't any good.

When he said that, his tone carried deep resentment, and Gu Mian had automatically visualized a dramatic scenario of a jerk and a lovesick girl.

Who knows what grudges they actually have; certainly, it needs a good examination sometime.

Gu Mian pondered this while heading to 007's room with Big Data Search.

Passing the apartment gate, Gu Mian saw a cloaked figure walking off into the distance, disappearing in the blink of an eye.

It was Xie Bi'an.

No one else would wear such a bizarre outfit.

Where was he going?