

# Golden Eyes

## Chapter 5: Double Pupils (Part 1)

The train sped forward, and the scenery outside the window quickly flashed past, like walls rapidly receding backward. The desolation of winter meant that everything **Zhuang Rui** saw was bare.

After watching the scenery outside the window for a while, **Zhuang Rui** felt rather bored and lay down to sleep. After an unknown amount of time, a huge roar startled **Zhuang Rui** awake. He looked out the window and saw that they had arrived in **Nanjing** and were crossing the Yangtze River Bridge. **Zhuang Rui** also noticed that snowflakes had begun to fall.

In a short while, the vast open land before him turned white. Although the compartment wasn't cold, if he breathed a warm breath onto the window, it would still fog up. **Zhuang Rui** habitually shrugged his neck.

**Yang Wei** had booked a two-person soft sleeper for **Zhuang Rui**. Tickets for this type of soft sleeper are generally not sold to the public and are mostly for travelers with special status. **Zhuang Rui** didn't know what connections **Yang Wei** had used, but he managed to get two tickets. Even the train attendants, as they walked back and forth, would glance at **Mother Zhuang** and **Zhuang Rui**, who were dressed ordinarily, and their service attitude was exceptionally good, a world of difference from the treatment **Zhuang Rui** had experienced when squeezing onto trains during past summer and winter holidays.

**Zhuang Rui** was incredibly grateful for his boss's care at this moment, because at every platform, seeing the ant-like crowds, **Zhuang Rui** couldn't help but feel his scalp tingle. The crowds coming out after checking tickets rushed like sheep—all passengers swarmed towards the newly stopped train, with incessant shouts of "Please move aside" and "Let me go first"… There were too many people returning home for the Spring Festival travel season. Many couldn't even wait to board through the doors and climbed directly through the open windows. It was imaginable that the ordinary carriages now must be like sardine cans, packed tightly with people, and the smell surely wouldn't be pleasant.

Withdrawing his gaze from the window, **Zhuang Rui** looked at his sleeping mother. His mother had suffered during the time he was injured. The loud sound the train made while crossing the Yangtze River Bridge hadn't even managed to wake his deeply sleeping mother.

**Mother Zhuang**'s face was even more aged and haggard than when **Zhuang Rui** had last returned home. She was already an old woman nearing sixty. **Zhuang Rui** couldn't help but secretly blame himself in his heart. He had been working for over a year, rarely called home, yet when something happened, his mother had to worry and toil. He truly was unfilial.

Gently pulling the quilt up for his mother, **Zhuang Rui** slowly straightened his legs, which had gone numb from sitting for too long. Leaning against the bed, he began to ponder the events that had occurred recently.

The robbery incident was considered concluded. Although he suffered a bit, it was worth it. The **Pawnshop** was a subsidiary of the municipal investment company. If he became a manager there, not only would his salary increase, but most importantly, he could enter the government's personnel system. Although **Zhuang Rui** had no intention of entering politics, the benefits brought by this system were numerous, such as convenience for housing loans, moving his household registration to **City Name**, and his children's future schooling, among others.

Thinking of this, **Zhuang Rui** couldn't help but laugh at himself. He was thinking too far ahead. Growing up, he had only dated one girlfriend in college. That girl was the class beauty, with a gentle personality. He didn't know why she took a liking to him. At the time, his boss and the others were incredibly envious. But just as their relationship progressed to holding hands, the girl's father, due to an investment in a mining business, immigrated with his whole family to Austria, and she also transferred to study abroad. This relationship naturally ended without a hitch.

Although **Zhuang Rui** was not exceptionally handsome, his features were well-proportioned, and his height of 1.8 meters made him appear steady and reliable. His academic performance was also among the best in his class. However, in today's society, talent is not as good as wealth, and appearance certainly cannot feed you. After **Zhuang Rui**'s college relationship ended in his second year, he never dated again. However, he was not unfamiliar with matters of men and women; he certainly didn't learn it in middle school health class, but rather from his boss's computer, which was filled with various races, skin colors, and languages, and was hailed as a physiological learning machine.

After graduating from college, **Zhuang Rui** unexpectedly returned to **City Name**, and after three years of working at the **Pawnshop**, he could enter the government's institutional staff. This point actually garnered the favor of a few female classmates from **City Name**, but **Zhuang Rui** had always kept his distance from these female classmates who used to look at people with the corner of their eyes; he wouldn't cater to these Young Misses.

Thinking of women, the scene from the hospital morning reappeared in **Zhuang Rui**'s mind.

"A hallucination? I'm not so desperate that I'd start thinking about women, even neglecting my eye injury."

**Zhuang Rui** thought about the cool Qi in his eyes since the injury. After that ambiguous scene happened in the morning, the Qi surrounding his eyes seemed much weaker. Could it be... He rummaged through his backpack, found a palm-sized mirror, and looked into it. Aside from his slightly pale complexion, there was nothing different, but his eyes seemed brighter than before. **Zhuang Rui** brought the mirror closer, and as he focused on his eyes in the mirror, a familiar scene unfolded.

As **Zhuang Rui** focused intently on the mirror, he felt the Qi that had been dormant around his eyes begin to circulate again. At the same time, a greenish light flashed before his eyes, and then the Qi in his eyes shot towards the mirror with his gaze.

Just as that Qi shot out from his eyes, **Zhuang Rui** saw very clearly that his dark pupils instantly split into two. Although it was a fleeting moment, extremely brief, **Zhuang Rui** believed he

hadn't seen wrong. This was absolutely not an illusion; he had indeed seen the two pupils in his eyes become four within a fraction of a second at that moment.

What is going on? **Zhuang Rui**'s scalp tingled for a moment, and he hastily threw the mirror onto the bed. Such a bizarre thing happening to him, anyone would find it hard to remain calm.

Fortunately, **Zhuang Rui** usually didn't believe in ghosts or gods, nor did he worship heaven and earth. After staring blankly for a few minutes, **Zhuang Rui** took a deep breath and slowly calmed down. Because of his panic earlier, he hadn't noticed any changes after the Qi flowed out of his eyes, so he picked up the mirror from the bed again, preparing to observe once more.

This time, being prepared, after the Qi shot out of his eye socket, **Zhuang Rui** could clearly feel that the Qi seemed to still have some connection with him even after leaving his body. He could clearly sense its presence, and also, the greenish light he saw in his eyes did not appear in the mirror. This meant that the color appeared directly in his eyes.

"Come back..."

**Zhuang Rui** had grown accustomed to the cool Qi in his eyes these past few days, and he was genuinely afraid that this Qi would leave and never return. He couldn't help but silently call out in his mind, and to his surprise, the flowing Qi really contracted back with his thoughts and once again lay dormant around his eyes. However, this time there was no stinging sensation in his eyes, and the Qi didn't seem to have diminished much.

"I never noticed myself having double pupils before. Did it only happen after this injury? But when I looked in the mirror, besides that cool Qi escaping my body, I didn't see anything special. Could it be..."

**Zhuang Rui** seemed to grasp something in his heart, but he wasn't entirely sure. He shifted his body, raising his right arm, which had been half-leaning on the bed and was now a bit sore and numb, and held his forearm level in front of his eyes, then focused his gaze.

A greenish light still flashed first, but the scene that followed shocked **Zhuang Rui** to his core.

**Zhuang Rui** was wearing a thick down jacket, and inside, a thermal undershirt. But just as the green light flashed and the Qi escaped from his eyes, he found that in his sight, the down jacket and undershirt on his forearm seemed to atomize, first becoming somewhat blurry, then disappearing. The skin on his arm was clearly visible before him, as if he were looking through a magnifying glass. **Zhuang Rui** could even see the pores on his skin with extreme clarity.

"The scene that happened in the hospital this morning was indeed real!!!"

Forcibly suppressing the shock in his heart, **Zhuang Rui** was about to shift his gaze to other parts of his body when his eyes suddenly felt a burning sensation, followed by a stinging and scorching feeling. His tear ducts seemed to open like floodgates, and tears flowed uncontrollably. It was the same sensation as in the morning, but the stinging was much milder. At the same time, the Qi seemed to sense something and retreated back into **Zhuang Rui**'s eyes. Instantly, the cool sensation dispersed and alleviated the increasingly strong stinging and scorching.

"It's much less again, huh?"

After the cool Qi returned to his eyes, **Zhuang Rui** could clearly feel that it had weakened considerably again. However, since it was directed at his own body, he knew that the escaping cool Qi had actually drilled into the skin of his arm. Moreover, his forearm, which had been somewhat sore and numb, first felt a little itchy when the cool Qi entered his body, and then immediately became comfortable, as if filled with strength. **Zhuang Rui** quickly rolled up the sleeve on his forearm, but found no abnormality on the surface of his arm, yet he could clearly sense the changes within it.

"What exactly happened to me...?"

Looking at the heavy snowfall outside the window, **Zhuang Rui** fell into deep thought.

FS: Brothers, the new book has no recommendations, it's like running naked! If you see this, please throw a few recommendation tickets to Big Eye, and, by the way, add it to your collection, please... There's another chapter tonight.