

Revival 1351

Chapter 1351 The Anomaly Downstairs

Yang Jian, trapped at the crossroad between reality and illusion, hears a familiar sound at this moment.

It's the low growl of the Evil Hound.

However, when Yang Jian looks around, he doesn't see the Evil Hound's silhouette, but this is actually a good sign. At least it confirms that the Evil Hound is here, rather than disappearing without a trace as before.

"Can the Evil Hound help get me out of here?"

Yang Jian is somewhat uncertain at this moment.

Even though the Evil Hound possesses supernatural awareness, this doesn't mean it's invincible. There might be even stronger supernatural powers than the Evil Hound.

If the Evil Hound can't be effective now, Yang Jian feels he might truly be trapped here for life.

"Just wait a bit longer; the confrontation with the supernatural requires time." Yang Jian calms himself and waits.

At least now there's hope, which is much better than before.

At this moment, it's not only Yang Jian waiting; Wang Shanshan and Liu Qi are also waiting, though they lack the patience because this wooden cabin is now showing something strange.

Eerie sounds are coming from the silent ground floor.

The sound is peculiar, like someone running back and forth quickly, urgent yet muffled, or something crawling rapidly on the ground, with the sound sometimes far away and sometimes near. Occasionally it even appears at the stairs, but luckily, the sound doesn't climb along the stairs.

"This sound absolutely cannot be from a living person; it's most likely a fierce ghost that was previously confined within a coffin. Whether due to blood reasons or because I've brought the Evil Hound, this has disturbed the ghost. Now, the ghost is wandering downstairs, ready to come upstairs at any moment."

Liu Qi whispered outside the room.

Inside the room, Wang Shanshan said, "If Yang Jian can wake up, dealing with the ghost downstairs shouldn't be a problem."

"I know, but I can't be sure if we can hold out until then. If Yang Jian doesn't wake up in time, I'll have to handle the situation outside as best as I can. You should stay in the room and not come out. There's also a ghost in your room. If you're lucky, the ghosts inside the wooden cabin won't enter the rooms."

Liu Qi reminded her, asking Wang Shanshan to protect herself first.

After all, Wang Shanshan, being an ordinary person, can't be of much help now, and the room's door shouldn't be opened lightly; who knows what consequences that would cause?

"If there's real danger, I can let the Ghost Child help you. Yang Jian has a Coffin Nail on him, which can be enormously effective," Wang Shanshan said.

Liu Qi replied, "I know Yang Jian has the Coffin Nail, but the supernatural on him is even scarier. Don't act recklessly, lest you're accidentally killed by his supernatural or curse. You should know everyone in the supernatural circle is wary of Yang Jian; no one has ever dared take Yang Jian's weapons, and the reason behind it is worth pondering."

"Alright, I'll be careful. After all, I've been nominated as captain, and this trip to Baishui Town has given me quite a boost; handling the danger here shouldn't be an issue," he said.

"Okay, I'll leave the outside to you then," Wang Shanshan said.

"Don't worry," Liu Qi said.

Meanwhile, during their conversation, the eerie sounds downstairs began again; the fierce ghost seemed to be frantically searching for something in the hall, roaming everywhere, and as time went on, the sounds grew louder, increasingly revealing the ghost's agitation.

Liu Qi stood not far from the stairs, frowning deeply, his inner worry magnifying.

Very soon.

His worries become reality.

A series of urgent footsteps reverberated, surprisingly not limited to the first-floor hall but arrived at the stairs leading to the second floor.

The ghost wandered around for quite a while; whether accidentally or purposefully, it finally found the right path.

A thudding, rapid sound ascended the stairs.

The wooden stairs creaked.

"After all, it's coming," Liu Qi's face tightened, and anxiety grew in his heart.

He hopes the ghost downstairs isn't too fierce, within his scope to handle; otherwise, he might very likely die here again.

"But I previously encountered three ghosts on the road where souls roam. I acquired a portion of the supernatural from those three ghosts, maybe I could attempt to use it now."

Liu Qi's eyes were utterly pale, and his face was bloodless, yet strangely his lips were red.

Like a blood-filled crimson, or as if he applied lipstick.

Besides, his ears were an ash-gray, exceptionally sensitive to sounds.

A combination of three supernatural forces far surpasses any of those three female ghosts back then.

The rapidly ascending sounds continued.

Though it's only one floor, the stairs are long, requiring quite some steps, thus giving him some time to prepare.

Yet weirdly, as the stair sounds drew closer, the footsteps started swiftly quieting down...only moments later, the stair sounds entirely disappeared.

Hmm?

Liu Qi deeply furrowed his brows. Based on his experience, this isn't a good sign. Earlier when the ghost was active downstairs, although the noise was significant, he felt safe. Now, with no noise, perhaps it means danger might be approaching.

Pale eyes subtly moving, he keeps watch at the stairway.

Yet no results, not finding any fierce ghost coming upstairs.

His ashen ears faintly moved, seemingly hearing some sounds, very faint, like ants walking on the floor, making a slight rustling sound.

"There's noise, but can't see the ghost...such situations are rare," Liu Qi heard the sounds continuously approaching him.

This caused an unexplainable unease.

Subsequently, this unease began to expand rapidly.

Subtle noises drew ever closer, presently even reaching beside him.

Liu Qi even attempted to stretch a hand toward the direction from where the sounds came, trying to touch the fierce ghost.

However, this attempt was ineffective; Liu Qi reached out and grasped nothing but air.

"Does this ghost not exist in reality?"

Liu Qi began to speculate, but he was sure the ghost had reached the second floor, possibly right beside him.

Yet he couldn't do anything.

Because he couldn't touch the fierce ghost, nor see it; confronting such unreal ghosts requires a medium, just like reflecting the Evil Hound's image using water earlier.

Just as he was contemplating this.

Suddenly.

A whisper reached Liu Qi's ear, sounding as if someone spoke nearby, yet the sound was disturbed by some interference, unclear about what exactly was being said.

This instantly startled his tense body, retreating several steps.

Liu Qi's eyes flickered, face unsightly, yet nothing gleaned.

Then inadvertently glancing, he suddenly felt a chill run down his spine.

From beneath the wooden stairs, a head covered in thick hair emerged, revealing only half, as if secretly spying on him. Judging by its appearance, it didn't seem to have appeared suddenly but had been there for some time.

After Liu Qi's brief glance, the head under the stairs quickly retracted.

Everything happened too fast, there was no time to observe closely.

"This place can't be stayed in; if I linger any longer, something's bound to happen sooner or later." Liu Qi took a deep breath, trying to calm himself as much as possible.

The supernatural had already invaded the second floor, and he could be attacked by a ghost at any moment.

He glanced at the staircase entrance once again.

The head that had just peeked out swiftly withdrew once more.

This ghost seemed a bit timid.

It also seemed unwilling to appear in people's sight.

As long as Liu Qi kept staring at the stairway entrance, no eerie head would pop out again.

Since that was the case, he simply kept his eyes fixed to prevent the ghost from sneaking onto the second floor when he wasn't paying attention.

However, at that moment, the wooden door behind Liu Qi suddenly creaked open slowly.

It seemed some invisible unknown presence was trying to enter that room.

Yet Liu Qi reacted immediately, promptly closing the door that was about to open.

But this action seemed like a trigger, as if it had enraged the supernatural forces on the second floor.

A violent commotion erupted once again.

It felt as though the entire wooden house was shaking. Then Liu Qi felt as if something struck him, making his consciousness blur, and the supernatural power within him was disrupted. He was directly thrown out, landing heavily on the ground, his vision going black.

But when Liu Qi's sight returned, he found himself unable to move, and his pale eyes saw that he was lying on an old wooden dining table.

Surrounding the table were heads covered in dense hair, emerging from beneath the table, revealing a pair of greedy, sinister eyes.

At that moment, Liu Qi seemed to have become the food on the table, and the ghosts beneath the table were the ones dining.

But in reality.

Liu Qi was paralyzed, lying on the ground, desperately twitching, trying to struggle to stand up, but was powerless, as if his body was no longer under his control.

"Ah!"

A miserable scream pierced the air, as Liu Qi felt sharp pain; he sensed that one of his feet was gone, seemingly bitten, and even terrifying chewing sounds came from beside him.

Liu Qi wanted to use his supernatural power to retaliate, but it was to no avail.

He, on the dining table, seemed like meat on a chopping board, and the supernatural power also sunk into silence.

"Liu Qi, what's going on outside?" Wang Shanshan's voice came from the room.

"I'm being attacked by ghosts, don't come out, this isn't an ordinary ghost."

At this moment, Liu Qi was both frightened and furious, as he saw another terrifying head emerging from the table below. The head, with its disheveled black hair, had an unclear appearance, only revealing a mouth with blackened teeth emanating a rotting stench.

Then this head stretching from under the table extended its neck and bit into his shoulder.

A large chunk of flesh was viciously torn off, shattering the scapula.

Liu Qi let out another anguished scream.

But the scream was futile, as another ghost crawled out from under the table.

At this moment, Liu Qi realized he was lying on an old Eight Immortals table, large enough to accommodate him alone, and his body seemed to be growing together with this wooden table, his flesh adhered to it, making neither the table nor he able to move.

Meanwhile, as the ghosts fed, the supernatural influenced reality.

In reality, Liu Qi bore marks of being chewed, his flesh ripped apart, presenting an unforgettable scene.

If he didn't find a way out, he would soon be torn asunder by the ghosts, his body entirely disappearing from this world.

"I'm not the only one placed on this Eight Immortals table, if I don't find a solution, I'll be entirely consumed by the ghosts."

Liu Qi saw numerous scratches on the wooden table he was lying on, some made by nails, others by teeth, suggesting many unlucky individuals had been placed on this table before.

"Ah!"

Another wretched scream, Liu Qi's palm vanished completely, the wound obscenely mangled.

Because from beneath the wooden table, another ghostly head had surfaced and began feeding.

In the midst of the agony, Liu Qi inadvertently glanced, seemingly spotting someone standing not far from the wooden table. That person was indistinct, unidentifiable, only certain that their attire was old-fashioned, not resembling the modern era, more like someone from the Republic of China Period's older generations.

That person opened their mouth, attempting to say something, but the sound wouldn't carry over.

Until Liu Qi's ashen ear slightly moved, suddenly hearing the voice: You shouldn't have come here, it's too late now...

"Who are you?" Liu Qi bore the pain, attempting to ask loudly.

The mysterious figure not far away merely shook their head slightly, turned away, and gradually departed from Liu Qi's line of sight.

After that figure distanced themselves.

Wang Shanshan heard Liu Qi's screams and puzzling inquiries, and understood Liu Qi's current dangerous situation. If a solution wasn't found, Liu Qi would die, and once he died, the ghosts outside would likely invade the room, and she and Yang Jian might also perish here.

At once, she gritted her teeth and decisively opened the door.

"Ghost Child, follow me."

Wang Shanshan led the Ghost Child out, intending to confront the unknown ghost on the second floor, thereby protecting Yang Jian in the room from disturbance.

Opening the door from inside seemed not to be particularly hazardous.

She and the Ghost Child exited the room, entering the second floor.

At this moment, Wang Shanshan saw Liu Qi lying on the ground, his body mangled as if being devoured, and the ghosts gnawing at him were unseen; it was just clear that his body was disappearing bit by bit. If the situation wasn't reversed, before long he would vanish entirely.

"Can you help Liu Qi fight off the ghost beside him?" Wang Shanshan attempted to give the Ghost Child a command.

However, the Ghost Child only tilted its head, standing still.

Because at this point, the Ghost Child too had no solution.

The ghost attacking Liu Qi was quite unique, needing a medium.

Wang Shanshan, seeing this situation, didn't hesitate and took out the human skin paper again, intending to query its circumstances.

But before she could speak, twisted writing appeared on the human skin paper: "Lie on the ground to see the ghost nearby."

Chapter 1352 - Deadly Information

"Lying down allows you to see the nearby ghosts? Since when has human skin paper been so eager to reveal key information? Could this be a trap?"

Wang Shanshan stared at the line of words on the human skin paper, growing increasingly suspicious that this could be a trap.

Perhaps if she lied down, she would be attacked by the evil ghost and tragically killed then and there.

But if she did nothing, Liu Qi would soon be killed by the ghost.

"Only by seeing the ghost can one deal with the ghost. If I let the ghost child lie down, it could also see the ghost. Then the ghost child could help Liu Qi... But if something goes wrong, both Liu Qi and the ghost child would be in danger."

Wang Shanshan was caught in a dilemma at this moment.

If she did nothing, she would be watching Liu Qi die without helping. If she let the ghost child help, the ghost child might also be in danger.

The ghost child was not a real ghost and could be killed.

The human skin paper was now revealing the correct information, openly harming people as if it were an overt plot.

"Ah!"

Liu Qi let out another painful and miserable cry; a part of his body was missing again, and the gaping wound bled profusely as if it had been savagely bitten off by something.

"Should I act or not?" Wang Shanshan's face wavered continuously.

She wanted to act, but she feared it was a trap.

Because she had been tricked by the human skin paper once before, nearly dying with Yang Jian in the world from three years ago. Now, Yang Jian had not yet woken up. If she trusted the human skin paper again and got Liu Qi and the ghost child killed, the responsibility would be too great for Wang Shanshan to bear.

"If I don't act, only Liu Qi dies. If I act, Liu Qi and the ghost child might die. And I'm a normal person unable to help... What choice would Yang Jian make if he were here?"

Wang Shanshan, feeling conflicted, began to try to think from Yang Jian's perspective.

But she was not a ghost practitioner and couldn't think like one.

"I can't be saved, don't worry about me. Even the supernatural power in my body is suppressed and ineffective. Letting the ghost child act will do no good."

Liu Qi spoke through gritted teeth, "You must figure out a way to wake Yang Jian. He's the most important."

"Liu Qi, don't say that. You ventured into danger to help Yang Jian and me," Wang Shanshan replied.

Liu Qi said, "No, if it weren't for Yang Jian, I would have died long ago and wouldn't be alive now. Besides, I volunteered for this trip; I don't blame anyone. Don't be too hard on yourself. Ghost

practitioners dying in supernatural events is quite normal. I accepted my fate the day I became a ghost practitioner."

"I just didn't expect this day to come so soon. Quickly, retreat to that room and don't come out before Yang Jian wakes up. There's already an evil ghost in this cabin, and you have no way to leave here... Ah!"
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Before he could finish speaking, he cried out in agony once more.

This time, one of his feet was gone, and a ghastly wound appeared on his waist. A large chunk of flesh seemed to have been devoured by something.

Moreover, the frequency of the bites was getting faster. Initially, it would occasionally take a bite, but now, two mouthfuls would be taken in an instant.

In Liu Qi's vision, four eerie human heads had emerged from the old wooden table, and the number continued to increase. He couldn't determine how many terrifying evil ghosts were hiding beneath the table, nor how many hungry ghosts needed to feed.

Seeing this, Wang Shanshan could hardly hold back anymore. She couldn't bear to watch Liu Qi die in vain while trying to help her and Yang Jian. She believed Yang Jian wouldn't just stand by and watch Liu Qi be killed by the ghost without helping, either.

"Liu Qi, I'll have the ghost child help you. If this is a trap, we all die here today. But if we succeed, we can all go back together safely. I know Yang Jian's character well; he wouldn't refuse me doing this."

Then Wang Shanshan made up her mind and ordered the ghost child, "Ghost child, lie down on the ground."

The ghost child, barefoot and bare-bodied, lay down on the floor without hesitation.

Once it lay down, a bizarre scene unfolded.

The ghost child was originally lying on the wooden floor, but in Liu Qi's perspective, an old eight-immortals table appeared beside him. That table was small, much smaller than his own, and at this moment, the ghost child lay on it like a dish on a dining table, ready to be consumed.

"Do you see the ghost? If you do, eat it immediately."

Without hesitation, Wang Shanshan gave the order again, wanting the ghost child to eat one of the ghosts.

Only this way could the situation be turned around.

The ghost child's body struggled at this moment, trying to move toward Liu Qi.

But no matter how the ghost child squirmed and twisted, it couldn't move.

It was trapped, its body stuck to the table along with Liu Qi's, as if they had grown together.

"It's no use. It can't break free from the supernatural bonds. You're too impulsive. Even though the supernatural within me is stronger than the ghost child's, I failed. The possibility of it succeeding is very slim. Wang Shanshan, you acted too rashly. It's not easy for Yang Jian to raise this little ghost. It shouldn't be buried here with me in vain," Liu Qi remarked.

He could see the ghost child's significant value. After all, it was rumored to be the little hungry ghost. If its growth weren't intentionally restrained, the ghost child would surely become ferociously unstoppable by now.

Even so, the future role and potential of the Ghost Child cannot be denied.

"I know, but I still did it, under this circumstance I had no choice, and the situation hasn't reached that terrible point yet, we can still try again." Wang Shanshan said calmly.

Liu Qi opened his mouth at this moment wanting to say something, but stopped at the last moment.

In this situation, Wang Shanshan can't really be blamed.

Just like before, when Yang Jian told him not to enter the wooden house and leave alone, he still came in and chose to help Yang Jian, doing his part.

"Wait, something seems to have changed, the number of ghosts surrounding me seems to have decreased." Suddenly, Liu Qi noticed something.

He saw that originally there were supposed to be five heads coming out from under the table to bite him, but now only three heads emerged, and the remaining two heads appeared under the Ghost Child's table.

This indicates that the number of ghosts is dispersing.

However, no matter how they disperse, the ghost attacks have not stopped. Liu Qi reached out and got bitten three more times, with one bite directly removing his chin, blood and broken bones falling down, the intense pain nearly caused him to faint, but the supernatural within his body maintained his life, keeping his consciousness clear.

At the same time.

The Ghost Child, struggling to break free from the ground, was also bitten twice.

The pale and slightly bluish-black arm immediately had two ferocious bite marks; the Ghost Child appeared to be in great pain, opening its black mouth as if letting out a painful scream.

Two pieces of flesh were forcibly bitten off by the ghost under the table.

However, the bitten area was not large, not as exaggerated as Liu Qi's, as if the Ghost Child's resistance to supernatural attacks was a little stronger than Liu Qi's.

Actually, the Ghost Child is not stronger than Liu Qi; rather, most of Liu Qi's body is that of an ordinary person, with few supernatural parts, whereas the Ghost Child is entirely composed of supernatural elements, making it better at withstanding attacks from vengeful ghosts than Liu Qi.

After being bitten, despite the pain, the Ghost Child seemed angrier. As the Little Hungry Ghost, it had always been the one eating ghosts, having never been eaten by a ghost.

Now being treated as food on the table, the Ghost Child cannot endure it.

It's unclear whether it was Wang Shanshan's command that took effect, or if it was the Ghost Child's Hungry Ghost instinct kicking in.

At this moment, the Ghost Child, its mouth dripping corpse water, actually wanted to eat the head that protruded from under the table.

But the Ghost Child's actions were obstructed, wanting to eat yet unable to reach.

"The Ghost Child has shared part of the supernatural attack, delaying the time it takes for me to be completely devoured by the ghost, but it's still to no avail, unless Yang Jian wakes up, otherwise, neither the Ghost Child nor I will last long before dying." Liu Qi said.

"Yang Jian is not awake yet." Wang Shanshan kept observing the situation inside the house.

Yang Jian still stood there motionless, still trapped.

At this moment.

With no other options, Wang Shanshan could only pin her hopes on the human skin paper again, biting her teeth while staring at the dark brown human skin paper in her hand: "I'll give you one last chance, if you can't save Liu Qi and the Ghost Child, I guarantee the Ghost Child will eat you first; if I die, I'll take you with me."

The human skin paper once again showed black writing: Go downstairs and close the open coffin to temporarily seal the escaped vengeful ghost.

A plan appeared, seemingly indicating that as long as Wang Shanshan followed the instructions, she could save Liu Qi and the Ghost Child.

But Wang Shanshan's face slightly changed, worried in her heart that it might be a trap.

The human skin paper only stated that going down to close the coffin could seal the vengeful ghost, but it ignored the considerable risk involved, and a single misstep could result in dying en route, making it impossible to complete the task.

"Could it be trying to kill us all?" Wang Shanshan pursed her lips, her body shivering with cold.

Now, only she could move, and without the Ghost Child's restraint, once she went downstairs, the human skin paper would no longer face any threats. If she failed, it would mean a total loss.

Fortunately, Wang Shanshan isn't the impulsive and mindless type.

If it were someone else, they might have immediately taken action.

"I'll first have the Ghost Child eat the human skin paper, then go downstairs to close the coffin lid; either we survive together, or die together."

At this moment, Wang Shanshan no longer wanted to be manipulated by the human skin paper; she also admitted that she couldn't play its game.

No wonder Yang Jian stored this thing and hung it on the Ghost Child's neck.

This thing is too terrifying; every piece of information on it is true, yet each one is deadly. The more you believe, the quicker you die, yet, ironically, some information at critical moments is very useful, making it hard to discard.

Taking a deep breath.

Wang Shanshan picked up the human skin paper and quickly walked towards the Ghost Child.

Chapter 1353 - A Series of Traps

Wang Shanshan was ruthless this time, with no hesitation at all. She shoved the human skin paper directly into the mouth of the Ghost Child: "Eat it."

The Ghost Child barely hesitated and cooperatively swallowed the human skin paper in one gulp.

Yes.

That's right, in this special situation, Wang Shanshan really fed the human skin paper to the Ghost Child.

Despite being trapped in a world from three years ago, Yang Jian had mentioned that once the Ghost Child eats the human skin paper, there's an eighty to ninety percent chance it will awaken wisdom. Once the Ghost Child gains wisdom, there's a high possibility it could lose control. The consequences of a runaway Ghost Child are quite predictable because it has been demonstrated before.

The Ghost Child, once it gains wisdom, only needs a few hours to grow to a level where even the old monsters from the Republic era couldn't contend with it.

Precisely because of this, Wang Shanshan previously shared Yang Jian's thought, not keen on feeding the human skin paper to the Ghost Child.

But Wang Shanshan also understood Yang Jian's other idea.

If push comes to shove, then the human skin paper must be fed to the Ghost Child to completely eliminate hidden dangers and control the human skin paper fully. Even facing the risk of the Ghost Child losing control would be worth it.

And now was indeed such a desperate moment.

Seeing the human skin paper already swallowed by the Ghost Child, Wang Shanshan finally let her heart settle and said, "Liu Qi, hang in there a little longer. I'm going downstairs to cover that opened coffin."

"Don't go, it's too dangerous. Doing that is a death sentence. You're just a regular person with no ability to counter ghosts."

Liu Qi, enduring severe pain, rasped, "Take my advice. Go back to the room and stay with Yang Jian. Once he wakes up, everything will end."

"I'm beyond saving now, there's no need to sacrifice another life. Yet the answer you got from that human skin paper is most likely another new trap. Even if it's true, you absolutely can't do it."

He urged anxiously, hoping Wang Shanshan would dismiss that idea.

For an ordinary person to survive in this paranormal place is rare. Facing ghosts is like a fairy tale.

"The ghost is attacking you and the Ghost Child. I might have a chance to act now. While most information on the human skin paper is riddled with traps, the content is true. If I succeed, this paranormal event could end; I could save you."

Wang Shanshan's pale face held only calm and decisiveness.

"Besides, the supernatural is full of uncertainty. It might not be a dead-end for me."

Liu Qi continued to urge, "I don't doubt your determination and courage, but some things can't be done."

"An ordinary person can't fight ghosts, but closing a coffin lid is possible. The risk and reward correlate, and I think it's worth the gamble now. Stop persuading me. I'm acting now. If I die, Yang Jian will sort my remains when he wakes."

Wang Shanshan decided to make amends for her mistakes through action.

She immediately headed straight to the staircase.

The bottom of the stairs was shrouded in darkness, as if enveloped by a shadow.

However, Wang Shanshan paused briefly before quickly descending the wooden stairs without hesitating or delaying.

Liu Qi, sweating profusely, endured excruciating pain but was filled with remorse and regret after Wang Shanshan disappeared from view. The scene reminded him of the past in his hometown, a similar situation, yet that time it was his father who sacrificed, and now it was his former classmate.

"I'm too incompetent..."

Liu Qi believed his inadequacy led to this. If he had pushed harder to obtain more powerful supernatural powers, Seow Yang might not have died, and Wang Shanshan wouldn't have to take such risks.

But no matter how much regret he felt, it remained futile against the supernatural.

Under the old wooden table, the eerie head emerged once more.

"Ah!"

Another painful howl erupted. This time, Liu Qi was gravely injured; a large chunk of his abdomen was torn away, organs missing, and both legs nearly gone. His neck almost bitten through.

If it weren't for the supernatural power sustaining his life, he would have already died several times over.

Listening to the terrifying chewing of the vicious ghost and the crunching sounds of bones breaking, Liu Qi gradually stopped struggling.

He could only be conscious, feeling himself being eaten bit by bit by the ghost.

Meanwhile, Wang Shanshan continued down the stairs.

The staircase seemed only one floor, yet walking down it felt lengthy. It wasn't an ordinary staircase; some supernatural power interfered. While this power was subtle and not entirely awakened, it made Wang Shanshan realize something.

Perhaps this wooden house wasn't as simple as it appeared.

It might be a house entirely constructed by malicious spirits.

Liu Qi, lying on the second-floor board, was perhaps made of a ghost that awakened, while the ghost forming the first-floor stairs still slumbered. Similarly, the surrounding walls and windows might be slumbering ghosts, too. If all these ghosts were to awaken, the terror of this wooden house would be unimaginable.

"There doesn't seem to be any danger."

Wang Shanshan stepped on the old stairs. Though the surroundings appeared gruesome and eerie, she suffered no ghost attacks, gaining a bit of confidence.

Soon.

She reached the first floor.

The spacious lobby on the first floor was still strewn with many coffins, covered in dust and faded in color, possibly unopened for ages.

However, a casual glance from Wang Shanshan revealed a coffin, not far away, with its lid removed and lying to the side, as if something had emerged from the old coffin.

"Is it that coffin?"

Wang Shanshan took a deep breath, daring not to hesitate, and strode towards the opened coffin.

Being an ordinary person, she could only seize the moment to act and had no time to observe or pay attention to the surroundings.

Because now, even if there is danger, she must proceed; otherwise, this adventure will be meaningless.

Wang Shanshan approached the casket alone. She glanced inside and discovered a headless corpse lying in it, and the most horrifying detail was its bulging stomach, rising and falling as if it were feeding.

Moreover, as the corpse fed, its almost withered body started to regain its color, and muscles began to fill out...as if absorbing nutrients to grow.

"It's just like another Hungry Ghost," Wang Shanshan thought with horror. She dared not look further and immediately moved to the side and exerted herself to lift the casket lid.

Although Wang Shanshan was an ordinary person, she did have some Supernatural Power, affecting her physical abilities, and so she had more strength than a normal person, making lifting the heavy casket lid no problem.

But just as Wang Shanshan touched the casket lid.

Suddenly.

An abrupt change occurred.

The headless corpse lying inside seemed to suddenly sit up.

"Has it sensed my presence? Then I must seal this casket before the ghost can attack me." Wang Shanshan was startled, but she dared not loosen her hold, and continued to drag the casket lid forward.

At this moment, any supernatural encounter could kill her, so there's no need to be overly cautious.

Wang Shanshan continued approaching, while the corpse sitting inside the casket made no further movements.

This was because Wang Shanshan did not trigger the ghost's death pattern.

Knowing this, she dared to take this gamble.

Though the danger was terrifying, it wasn't completely hopeless.

"Lie back down."

Wang Shanshan exerted all her strength, and finally gritting her teeth, she placed the lifted casket lid back and forcefully pressed the sitting headless corpse down.

Such reckless and impulsive behavior surprisingly succeeded at this moment.

The heavy casket lid seemingly had some ability to limit supernatural forces, surprisingly pressing the headless corpse back down.

Then the casket closed, and everything seemed to return to calm.

"It's a success."

A hint of a smile appeared on Wang Shanshan's face; although her expression was indifferent, her heart was filled with delight.

As the casket lid closed.

A change occurred on the second floor as well.

The grotesquely bitten Liu Qi suddenly realized that the supernatural assault had stopped. Although he still couldn't move, the situation was much better than before.

At the same time, Liu Qi witnessed eerie Dead Man's Heads rapidly rolling towards the downstairs.

"Could Wang Shanshan have succeeded?" At this moment, Liu Qi could only think so.

Because Yang Jian was still asleep and hadn't woken up, this change could only have been brought about by Wang Shanshan.

"Oh no."

Then Liu Qi realized something, quickly shouting, "Wang Shanshan, the ghost is headed to the first floor, be very careful."

Downstairs, Wang Shanshan heard the shout, but at the moment, she could no longer care about the ghost coming back from the second floor.

Because now she saw many of the caskets within the lobby on the first floor starting to vibrate, with some even shaking violently as if they might topple over at any moment.

And as most of the caskets exhibited abnormal behavior, the wooden house itself seemed to also become peculiar.

The wooden house appeared to be waking up, almost as if it were coming 'to life'.

"Closing that one casket set off the others. Is this the trap from the human skin paper? Seemingly right decisions, yet every step is a huge trap aiming to kill us all, including Yang Jian. Once the ghosts in the wooden house awaken, no one will walk out alive."

Wang Shanshan's body trembled slightly as she looked at the door.

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Rushing out now would certainly allow her to leave before the ghost wakes up.

But she didn't do that because escaping had no meaning.

As long as Yang Jian remained inside the wooden house, the outcome would be the same no matter where Wang Shanshan was.

"Upon reflection, ever since I took out the human skin paper, everything has been a setup. It seemed like I found an information loophole on the human skin paper, but it was actually deliberately left by the paper, succeeding when the Evil Hound was drawn into the wooden house."

Wang Shanshan began to contemplate, pondering the entire sequence of events.

The more she thought, the more terrifying it became.

The only comfort now was that she had stuffed the human skin paper into the Ghost Child before leaving.

"Wait, what if that's also a trap? It might have purposely guided me to feed the Ghost Child." With a start, Wang Shanshan realized something wasn't right.

Though she couldn't pinpoint exactly what was wrong, Wang Shanshan increasingly felt that feeding the Ghost Child the human skin paper was a mistake.

Chapter 1354 The Awakened Cabin

Wang Shanshan is not a foolish person; on the contrary, she is considered quite intelligent. However, her experience in dealing with supernatural events is too limited, coupled with the extremely complex and dangerous supernatural events she is facing this time, making it inevitable for her to suffer losses and be deceived.

Now when she looks back and thinks about it seriously, Wang Shanshan only then understands the terror of the human skin paper.

Clearly, the human skin paper did nothing, yet simply revealed a few pieces of information and managed to kill everyone.

But what worried Wang Shanshan the most was not this, but the fact that the human skin paper seemed to be intentionally eaten by the Ghost Child.

"If all of us are really killed by the ghost waking up in this cabin, then the Ghost Child would also die. At that point, would it be possible for the human skin paper to control the Ghost Child from within its stomach?"

Wang Shanshan suddenly thought of a terrifying outcome.

"Once the dead Ghost Child is controlled by the human skin paper, what happened three years ago in the Parallel World could very likely play out in reality."

Wang Shanshan began to feel horrified in her heart.

In the Parallel World three years ago, she watched the Ghost Child grow up with her own eyes. It was only that time the Ghost Child consuming the human skin paper was still within control.

But if it were the other way around, if the Ghost Child were controlled by the human skin paper, the situation would surely be dire.

At that time, not only would they all die, but they would have also nurtured a terrifying ghost to the extreme. Once this ghost steps out of Baishui Town, it would be a devastating blow to the outside Supernatural World, and if it gets any more serious, the whole world might be doomed.

"Can this be stopped?"

At this moment, Wang Shanshan bit her lip. She never thought of giving up, nor did she think of retreating, but was considering if she could somehow make amends.

She looked at her hand.

There was only a Deceiving Ghost Necklace.

However, the effect this supernatural item could have here was minimal.

The other coffins in the hall were still trembling and shaking, and terrifying supernatural phenomena gradually appeared inside this wooden house.

Everything came too fast and too suddenly, even top-notch ghost handlers would be at a loss when faced with such a situation, not to mention an ordinary person like Wang Shanshan.

She looked at the just-covered coffin beside her.

Without hesitation, Wang Shanshan proactively opened the coffin lid.

An old headless corpse suddenly sat up.

Only this time, the headless corpse was even more terrifying, actually raising its arms to hold onto the coffin, trying to crawl out from inside.

"Rather than letting the human skin paper's scheme succeed, I'd rather die here with Liu Qi and the Ghost Child." Wang Shanshan steeled her heart, determined to minimize the losses.

However, she didn't know if her actions would be of any use, but she knew the situation was already the worst it could be, and no matter how chaotic it got, it wouldn't become any worse.

"Go back to the second floor."

Wang Shanshan began to move again, trying to return to the second floor before all the ghosts on the first floor appeared. If she could make it back alive, she would not hesitate to retrieve the human skin paper from the Ghost Child's stomach.

Without concern for her own safety, Wang Shanshan's speed was very fast.

It took her only ten seconds to step onto the wooden staircase, then head towards the second floor at the fastest pace.

Just like what happened earlier.

Even though the first and second floors were only a floor apart, this stretch of staircase was very long. Even without any danger, for an ordinary person, it was almost impossible to run up to the second floor immediately.

Wang Shanshan had no choice but to grit her teeth and keep climbing the stairs.

She didn't deliberately count how many steps she had taken, only knowing she was still on the stairs without even seeing the shadow of the second floor.

From the intense running, Wang Shanshan soon became breathless.

Despite her body being influenced by supernatural powers, giving her strength beyond an ordinary person, she was still fundamentally an ordinary human. As time went on, her ordinary body became a burden, making even the simplest actions difficult to sustain.

"Use the Deceiving Ghost Necklace."

Wang Shanshan did not forget the only supernatural item she could use. She clutched the seemingly ordinary crystal necklace, invoking the supernatural power within it.

Immediately.

She regained her strength again, as if she were tireless, continuing to move.

But just at this moment.

On her way back to the second floor, she heard a series of hurried footsteps coming down the stairs.

"Liu Qi previously warned me, the ghost from the second floor was coming to the first floor. Judging by this, I am going to run into the ghost on the stairs."

Wang Shanshan did not slow her actions; she wasn't afraid of encountering ghosts, only worried that her actions would be stopped by being killed by a ghost.

"Try using the Deceiving Ghost Necklace to see if it can fool the ghost and avoid being targeted. If it fails, then I will die here."

She was now acting with determination to die, and even the ghost descending the staircase could not stop her progress.

However, if only things were that simple.

As Wang Shanshan continued upstairs, she gradually discovered a terrifying reality, that no matter how far she went, she was always unable to reach the second floor, remaining trapped on the stairs.

Moreover, it wasn't just her who was trapped.

The ghost that came down from the second floor seemed to be trapped as well. Wang Shanshan had heard those hurried footsteps for a long time, yet she still had not seen the fierce ghost come down.

This was clearly different from what had happened earlier.

The only explanation was that the staircase itself was also a ghost. Previously, the ghost representing the staircase hadn't revived, so the supernatural power was weak, allowing them to easily go up and down. But now, all the ghosts in this wooden house were reviving, and the supernatural power on the stairs exceeded what it was before, hence Wang Shanshan was trapped.

"Could the parchment have foreseen even this situation?" Wang Shanshan thought to herself as she continued up the stairs.

She wanted to fix everything, but now she found herself powerless.

Liu Qi's earlier words were not wrong either; some things just cannot be achieved, no matter one's determination or courage.

At the same time.

Upstairs, Liu Qi's situation slightly improved because with the fierce ghost gone, neither he nor the Ghost Child was being devoured anymore. However, Liu Qi, as a ghost master, understood that this situation was temporary and would not last long. Liu Qi also realized that there was something wrong with this wooden house.

Some supernatural phenomena were beginning to appear. An ominous chill spread around... as if something terrifyingly dangerous was about to happen.

"What on earth is happening downstairs?" At this moment, Liu Qi continued trying to free himself from the wooden table's restraint but remained powerless.

The supernatural here was too terrifying, completely beyond his ability to handle. Even though the fierce ghost was gone, Liu Qi still couldn't break free.

The same was true for the Ghost Child nearby.

The Ghost Child was also struggling but still couldn't get up.

"Damn it."

Liu Qi was filled with anger, knowing very well that this was a good opportunity, yet he couldn't seize it due to his lack of ability.

But anger couldn't solve the problem, nor could it stop the supernatural forces emerging from the wooden house.

Soon.

Liu Qi saw strange shadows reflected on the windows of the second floor, their outlines identical: emaciated and shriveled. All the shadows were connected, like a wall surrounding you.

In addition, Liu Qi also discovered that a wooden pillar on the second floor was peeling, and a strong rotting smell permeated the air.

A twisted corpse was gradually appearing inside the pillar.

Even within the cracks of the surrounding wall, lifeless gray fingers were protruding, poking through and prying apart the wooden boards.

...

All the fierce ghosts were reviving.

The true nature of the wooden house was now being revealed piece by piece.

This situation was irreversible; if it continued, everyone would die here, including Yang Jian.

Because Yang Jian was still in a state of unconsciousness, unable to wake up.

In such a state, even if Yang Jian was the Enforcement Captain, the most outstanding ghost master in the supernatural circle, he couldn't possibly confront so many terrifying ghosts.

"There's no doubt that Wang Shanshan's efforts over there have already failed. She merely delayed the time for the Ghost Child and me being killed, but it's all in vain. The only way to turn the tables in this situation is to wake Yang Jian."

Though Liu Qi was physically broken, he was very clear about the current predicament.

"Yang Jian, can you hear me? If you don't wake up, all of us will perish here." Despite his mouth being full of blood and his jaw shattered, he still tried to shout into the room, hoping Yang Jian could hear him.

"Yang Jian, wake up quickly. It doesn't matter if Wang Shanshan and I die here, but you absolutely cannot die."

"There's no time, hurry up, the ghost is going to appear soon, and by then, the ghost will kill you."

"..."

Shouts echoed, marking Liu Qi's final effort and defiance.

Yet, such actions were not in vain.

Because Yang Jian heard it.

Trapped at the boundary between reality and illusion, Yang Jian actually heard Liu Qi's voice.

"That's Liu Qi calling for help." Yang Jian's expression shifted slightly as he looked in the direction of the voice but couldn't see anything.

"It seems like the situation outside is very bad. Liu Qi and Wang Shanshan are likely on the brink of life and death. Otherwise, he wouldn't be calling for my help."

Yang Jian took a deep breath, feeling an urgent rush inside, but he understood that he could do nothing right now.

"Hold on a bit longer. I just need a little more time. Hearing the sounds outside now indicates that the Evil Hound's intrusion has already taken effect. Earlier, I couldn't hear anything, but once the Evil Hound's supernatural influence extends here, I can escape through its power."

However, he was uncertain, as Yang Jian couldn't estimate how long it would take for the Evil Hound to appear here.

It might just take a dozen minutes, maybe only a few, but all of this depended on whether Liu Qi and the others could survive until he got free.

If they died, even though Yang Jian had the power to reverse the past and change the future, it would likely be too difficult.

Chapter 1355 - A Timely Reversal

The situation inside the cabin is already very dire.

The ghost inside the cabin is continuously reviving, while Wang Shanshan is trapped and could die on the stairs at any moment. Although Liu Qi is not currently at risk of being eaten by the malicious ghost, the ongoing paranormal phenomena around them make it impossible to ensure he won't be targeted by other ghosts.

More importantly, Yang Jian is still unconscious. If he were attacked by ghosts, he would have no power to resist.

"Slightly better than before."

At this moment, Yang Jian could slightly see the outside scene. He could now freely walk within the cabin, but in his current state, he was like a ghost, unable to affect reality.

He saw Liu Qi lying bloodied on the ground outside the room, saw the Ghost Child struggling on the ground, but he did not see Wang Shanshan.

"Could it be that lying down will lead to an attack by the malicious ghost? There's something wrong with the second-floor wooden boards of this cabin. They shouldn't be ordinary planks but constructed by paranormal forces."

Yang Jian observed slightly and quickly understood.

Then he glanced at the endlessly peeling wooden column, from which a rotting corpse gradually emerged, and checked the bizarre reflections lined up on the window.

"It's not just the floor; the entire cabin is constructed by supernatural forces—the floor, columns, windows, stairs... each represents a malicious ghost. Earlier, when entering the house, the ghosts hadn't revived, so there was no sense of danger. But now, this place has become a fatal house where anyone who comes will die."

Yang Jian now understood why Liu Qi urgently called for him.

In this situation, even if other captains from headquarters arrived, they would only try to escape, as no one dared to linger here.

Yang Jian, wandering like an apparition, attempted to go downstairs to look.

But upon reaching the stairs, the path vanished. He could only move within the second floor and couldn't leave too far, indicating the paranormal forces were still restricting him.

However, Yang Jian heard the low growl of the Evil Hound getting closer, as if it was beside him, and he seemed about to see the beast soon.

"Just a little more time?"

He was now a bit impatient, because he saw, within the peeling column, a rotting corpse was twisting its head, slowly beginning to move.

Equally trapped on the floor, Liu Qi witnessed the scene.

"The malicious ghosts have completely revived, regained their activity, and now the cabin is entirely occupied by ghosts." Liu Qi was now somewhat desperate.

A rotting smell drifted in.

The corpse extended a leg, and its body twisted, surprisingly walk out from the column.

With the sound of bones colliding, this rotting corpse slowly extended its body, gradually piecing the broken limbs together to resemble normal.

Only then did Liu Qi see the appearance of this decayed corpse; it was a female corpse with long black hair. The clothes on the corpse were rotten and peeling a lot, but from the remaining fabric's style, it was likely from the Republic of China Period, and the entire facial skin was already missing, as if it had been ripped off alive, leaving only a pair of bloody eyes.

It was apparent this female corpse was intentionally sealed inside the wood to serve as a house column and was dismembered before death, with the face skin ripped off.

However, none of that mattered anymore.

Now, this female corpse was a fully revived terrifying malicious ghost, standing next to Liu Qi, poised to attack him at any moment.

Liu Qi dared not speak, not even glance directly at this ghost, fearing being targeted by it. Follow current novels on novel·fire·net

Yet the bloody neck of the female corpse slightly twisted and looked towards Yang Jian, who was standing in the room motionless.

Subsequently, the female corpse unexpectedly walked slowly towards the unconscious Yang Jian.

"Not good, she'd actually set her sights on Yang Jian." Liu Qi widened his eyes, shocked and furious.

Yang Jian was clearly so far away, making no sound at all. Why would the female corpse target him, while she ignored Liu Qi, who was closer?

Or perhaps, being trapped on that old Eight Immortals table prevented further attacks on him?

"Can't stop this female corpse; she truly is moving towards Yang Jian."

Liu Qi felt powerless, able only to watch as the ghost departed. He tried to shout to Yang Jian but got no response, even tried to attract the female corpse's attention, but she ignored him.

Conversely, his shout seemed to trigger some taboo at this moment.

At this point, all the windows in the room on the second floor suddenly banged open, darkness outside, chilling winds continuously invaded, and simultaneously, thin shadows stretched gradually into the house from outside those opened windows.

These thin shadows seemed like Ghost Shadow, yet they were not.

Because Liu Qi astonishingly saw, outside the window stood a thin man, this bizarrely thin person was very tall, his head surpassed the window being obscured by the rafters so his looks couldn't be seen, his old long shirt appeared empty and fluttered continuously in the breeze due to his excessively lean body.

This thin eerie person outside the window did nothing, but the reflected dark shadow on the ground appeared to be active, steadily approaching Liu Qi.

"Now it's coming at me." Liu Qi wasn't afraid; he even hoped that the earlier female corpse also came at him.

After all, the likelihood of survival was slim, so it would be better to draw all the ghosts toward him.

Approaching by the malicious ghosts, an attack was inevitable.

The female corpse had already walked to the door of the room. It seemed unaffected by the paranormal presence in the room, even that desiccated corpse inside showed no movement.

Thus, the female corpse crossed the doorstep and arrived beside Yang Jian.

Yang Jian still couldn't move.

At this moment, the female corpse made a move against Yang Jian. Its body, exuding a putrid stench, pressed against Yang Jian, and then it seemed to melt, merging with Yang Jian like conjoined twins, unable to separate.

Now, Yang Jian's body was also decaying, the supernatural influence corroding him from within.

However, after a brief moment, the female corpse gradually peeled away from Yang Jian.

Yet, the peeled-off female corpse was no longer decaying, the stench vanished, and its state seemed momentarily reversed, becoming fresh again. The only unchanged aspect was the female corpse's face, still bloody and skinless.

But all this came at a cost.

All the signs of decay had transferred to Yang Jian; he bore the terrifying curse of the female corpse.

At that moment, Yang Jian's body was rapidly deteriorating, chunks of flesh losing vitality, peeling away from his body, even exposing the ghastly white bones, which also quickly blackened and fractured over time... At this rate, he would soon become nothing but a pile of sludge.

Conversely,

The female corpse's body became whole, with even a trace of rosiness on its pale skin.

It was still detaching from Yang Jian.

Once fully detached, the female corpse would take away Yang Jian's health, vitality, life, and everything else, even wrench away the supernatural powers Yang Jian commanded... This was because a ghostly eye was growing on the female corpse.

It was a Ghost Eye.

A Ghost Eye had actually been stripped away by the female corpse.

If this continued, other supernatural powers would keep being extracted, leaving Yang Jian with nothing in the end.

"Yang Jian, there's no time, wake up now, or you'll die."

Liu Qi watched helplessly as Yang Jian's body was corroded and his supernatural powers stripped, shouting loudly.

Even though he was already covered by the shriveled shadow, he no longer cared about his own situation.

Let himself die then,

at least Yang Jian must survive.

However, at this moment, Liu Qi's shouting suddenly received a response, but it wasn't Yang Jian's voice, it was the low growl of an Evil Hound.

With the Evil Hound's growl,

Yang Jian, who was in a daze, suddenly opened his eyes, no longer an abyss of darkness but flickering with a faint red glow, which gradually intensified until it enveloped his entire body.

At that moment, the decaying body was restored, reversed, while the freshly restored female corpse rapidly deteriorated, its pale skin blackening, emitting a rotting odor, and it quickly detach from Yang Jian.

But now, not only did the female corpse fail to strip any supernatural powers from Yang Jian, it even returned everything it had just taken.

There was only one possible explanation for this situation.

That was Yang Jian had activated the seventh layer of the Ghost Domain, directly rebooting himself.

When the red glow reached its peak, it suddenly stopped.

Then the red light dissipated, and Yang Jian's body returned to its previous, complete state, with no supernatural powers stripped away.

The decaying female corpse slightly turned its head, revealing a blood-drenched face.

"Disgusting, get away from me."

Yang Jian swung the long spear in his hand, and the Firewood Knife mercilessly chopped down.

The female corpse was immediately cut into two, but the split corpse did not immediately fall silent, instead struggled and writhed on the ground, attempting to rejoin.

However, the next moment.

A pale green Ghost Flame reignited on the decaying female corpse.

The Ghost Flame burned, setting the female corpse's bones alight with cracking sounds, the flames grew larger, quickly engulfing the female corpse.

"Made it just in time." Yang Jian, having suppressed the ghost, exhaled a sigh of relief.

He had also been watching the events unfold, had it not been for the Evil Hound pulling his consciousness back at the last moment, he could have died here.

"No time for relief, need to act immediately, rescue Liu Qi, the Ghost Child, and Wang Shanshan, then leave quickly." Yang Jian didn't even spare a glance at the mummified corpse in the room.

No time to study, he immediately rushed out of the room.

The Ghost Eye opened, which would usually be affected by supernatural forces, but the Ghost Flame burned and forcibly dispelled this interference.

The dim second floor suddenly became bright.

The flames quickly engulfed the entire second floor.

At that moment.

The withered figure outside the window couldn't help but step back several paces, retreating from the window, gradually melting into the darkness behind, faintly visible.

And the shadow that invaded the second floor quickly retreated as well.

Chapter 1356 - Rescue and Hidden Dangers

Upon awakening, Yang Jian did not hesitate to immediately take action. He dismembered the vicious ghost in front of him, as the Ghost Flame engulfed the entire second floor of the wooden house. No matter what, he needed to stabilize the current situation first.

"Liu Qi, how are you? Can you still speak?"

After ensuring that there was no immediate danger around, Yang Jian inquired about the situation.

At this moment, Liu Qi was lying on the ground. Despite his body being gnawed beyond recognition, the tenacious vitality of the ghost handler sustained his survival.

"I'm fine, much better than the last time, though my body was almost completely eaten."

Liu Qi breathed a slight sigh of relief and said, "Fortunately, you woke up. I saw that fierce ghost trying to take away all the supernatural from your body just now. I was really afraid it would succeed. If you had woken up a bit later, we really could have been wiped out here."

"Sorry, I thought my abilities could help a bit, but I ended up being a burden. Now, I'm still restricted by the supernatural, unable to move."

"Don't worry, leave it to me to handle."

Yang Jian quickly approached, directly pulling out a few strands of hair from Liu Qi's head, then took out an old red pair of scissors from his body.

When dealing with such invisible supernatural forces, the Ghost Scissors are the most useful.

Although each use might contaminate with a new curse, at this moment, there's no time to overthink it.

Winding Liu Qi's hair around the Ghost Scissors, the hair served as a medium, revealing a series of distinct and special threads on Liu Qi's body. These threads, densely interwoven like a spiderweb, bound Liu Qi within them, while the other end of the lines lay on the floor.

No, that's not right. The threads seemed to penetrate the floor, heading to the first floor, connecting to some fierce ghost in the main hall downstairs.

"No wonder a ghost handler like you would also be bound here and unable to move. This isn't ordinary supernatural; the supernatural on you seems to be connected with this wooden house. This restriction is terrifying. Even a Captain Level ghost handler might not be able to easily break free." Yang Jian's eyes flickered.

It was the first time he had seen such dense threads, and one could imagine how powerful the curse was.

"I will help you reduce the supernatural suppression on the floor, and you try to struggle free."

Yang Jian immediately used the Ghost Scissors, snipping at the densest area of the threads.

The Ghost Scissors naturally restrain such supernatural connections. Without much effort, a series of densely packed threads were severed, and then the threads vanished.

"Just a bit more."

Liu Qi instantly felt his bindings weaken. Previously, no matter how he struggled, he couldn't move. Now he could barely lift his head and shift his body, but still couldn't stand up.

"I understand, I'll continue."

In Yang Jian's Ghost Eye vision, his surroundings had already turned dark.

Various supernatural phenomena surrounded him. The curse from the Ghost Scissors was inching closer. While he was lucky not to be contaminated with a curse the first time he used the scissors, he estimated the second time wouldn't be so fortunate.

Yet, even so, Yang Jian used the Ghost Scissors once again.

Under the second cut, the densely packed threads snapped again, and then vanished.

Although many threads still clung to Liu Qi's body, the supernatural suppression on him had significantly reduced. Being a top-tier ghost handler himself, Liu Qi activated his supernatural ability to resist the binding, struggling to slowly stand from the ground.

To say he stood was more like barely propping himself up on two broken, missing legs.

The wound rubbed against the ground, and the severe pain made Liu Qi sweat profusely, yet he remained expressionless, without uttering a sound, only slightly twitching at the corners of his mouth.

"It worked." Liu Qi endured the searing pain, supporting his battered body, and spoke with his incomplete jaw.

Yang Jian saw that the curse threads entwining Liu Qi were continually fracturing and dissipating.

This indicated that the vicious ghost's binding on him had completely disappeared, and he had withstood the supernatural assault.

"Not bad. Looks like I won't need to use the Ghost Scissors for a third time. My Deceiving Ghost necklace was taken by Wang Shanshan, so I can't help restore your body right now. We need to find her and rescue her immediately."

Yang Jian said as he quickly put away the Ghost Scissors.

However, he had already noticed a new curse had contaminated him after using the Ghost Scissors a second time.

Yang Jian sincerely wished to encounter the old man Zhang Dong from the Haunted House, hoping he could help erase all the curses from the Ghost Scissors, otherwise, using it every time was troublesome.

"Before Wang Shanshan left, she shoved that piece of human skin paper into the mouth of the Ghost Child, and it was swallowed by the Ghost Child. I think that's a hidden risk; you better take a look."

Liu Qi expressed some of his conjectures. He had been observing Wang Shanshan's every move, analyzing her actions, and immediately pointed out potential risks to prevent issues from escalating.

"She fed the human skin paper to the Ghost Child, which was okay given the situation then. She couldn't keep it on her while her life was in danger, nor could she leave it with me. Her approach wasn't wrong, just the timing was. Wang Shanshan shouldn't have fed the human skin paper to the Ghost Child when it was restrained."

"The Ghost Child is now restrained by the supernatural just like you, its own abilities have been suppressed, the ability of the Hungry Ghost cannot be used, and it cannot digest that human skin paper."

Yang Jian walked to the side of the Ghost Child, and under the gaze of his ghost eye, the Ghost Child had no secrets on him.

Then he suddenly stretched out his palm, and with the help of the Ghost Domain, his hand directly plunged into the Ghost Child's stomach.

When he withdrew his hand, it held a wet, dark brown piece of human skin paper.

The human skin paper was intact, showing no signs of being absorbed or digested, and the Hungry Ghost's ability had failed at this moment.

"It really is a hidden danger, looks like my intuition was right, Wang Shanshan must have been deceived," Liu Qi said.

To become a top ghost handler, sometimes this kind of intuition is important, because the supernatural doesn't just exist in front of you, it also exists in many unseen places.

"It's normal for her to be deceived by the human skin paper, this thing is too uncanny, I've almost been killed by it several times, otherwise I wouldn't have stopped using it for so long, dealing with the supernatural is just like this, you want to gain a little advantage from it, you have to be prepared to lose your life," Yang Jian said.

"But sometimes when in a desperate situation, you have no choice but to take a chance at survival."

As he spoke, he put away the human skin paper, now was not the time to study it.

Because now, Yang Jian could sense a terrifying danger approaching.

The Ghost Flame that engulfed the second floor had changed at this moment, the flame was not as conspicuous as before, now it seemed as if the firewood was depleted, the flame was constantly weakening, and seemed about to extinguish completely.

"The infiltration of the supernatural even caused the Ghost Flame to retreat? The terror level of the ghosts here is not low, staying here longer would only become more dangerous."

Through the flames, Yang Jian saw the emaciated figure outside the window approaching again, even stepping one leg through the open window, and the dismembered female corpse had reassembled again, its recovery speed almost matched the Ghost Shadow.

Without hesitation, he repeated his previous action, using the Ghost Scissors to help the Ghost Child escape.

However, it only took one cut for the Ghost Child to break free, it seemed the Ghost Child's supernatural abilities were stronger than Liu Qi's, maybe due to the characteristics of the Hungry Ghost.

After breaking free, the Ghost Child's broken body did not heal, the wounds remained there.

"Looks like I need to prepare to feed the Ghost Child a third ghost," Yang Jian thought to himself.

The Ghost Child currently only had two supernatural elements, one was corpse water, the other was Ghost Call, the Ghost Shroud was previously removed and currently placed in the Ghost Lake, still not retrieved by Yang Jian.

But even with the Ghost Shroud added, the only truly powerful supernatural ability the Ghost Child possessed was Ghost Call.

The corpse water was too weak, just a piece of a fragmented supernatural puzzle, not enough to make a difference.

And at this point, Yang Jian felt that even if the Ghost Child consumed another ghost, he could control it.

But now was not the time to consider this.

Once he confirmed there were no hidden dangers, he quickly led the Ghost Child and Liu Qi downstairs.

"I think the stairs are out of control now, wouldn't it be better to jump out the window, even though there's a powerful ghost at the window, Yang Jian, you have the Coffin Nail to handle it easily, after leaving the haunted house, we can go back to find Wang Shanshan, this would avoid some danger,"

Liu Qi said at this moment, being carried by the Ghost Child.

"If Wang Shanshan is trapped on the stairs, then jumping out the window would be taking a detour, and in a supernatural house, windows cannot be trusted,"

Yang Jian explained, but his actions did not stop, quickly descending the stairs.

As he stepped onto the stairs, it felt as though he disappeared on the second floor, as if entering another Ghost Domain.

All around was endless darkness, nothing but the stretch of stairs.

The Ghost Flame ignited, dispelling the darkness, and spread downwards along the stairs, paving a road formed by the converging flames.

Yang Jian was not afraid of being ignited, he stepped on the flames downwards, avoiding getting lost in the stairs.

The Ghost Child was also unaffected, possessing ghost eye abilities, allowing it to move freely in the Ghost Domain, the only one affected was Liu Qi, although the Ghost Flame did not touch him, he could still feel the burning pain of the flames.

But Liu Qi could endure this pain, and for a short time, the Ghost Flame wouldn't ignite him.

With the path paved by the Ghost Flame, Yang Jian's movements became quicker.

However, he dared not be careless.

Because the staircase had changed in such a way, it indicated that there was definitely a powerful ghost on the stairs.

Chapter 1357 - An Encounter on the Staircase

As Yang Jian successfully left the second floor and walked downstairs, Wang Shanshan was still trapped on the staircase.

The staircase, seemingly only one floor high, at this moment appeared like a supernatural and eerie world, with no end in sight. No matter how much Wang Shanshan walked forward, she could never reach the end, yet she chose not to retreat and continued to press forward with determination.

She didn't know how far she had walked, only aware that each time she grew tired, she would use the Deceiving Ghost's necklace to restore her stamina with Supernatural Power.

Fortunately, the Deceiving Ghost's supernatural effect only affected her, an ordinary person, so its resurgence wasn't too fast. Otherwise, she would have to face the risk of its resurgence.

"There is no point in continuing downwards; this staircase is like a Ghost Domain, impossible to leave."

At this moment, Wang Shanshan stopped her steps and ceased moving forward.

Even though she had long known the outcome would be this way, she was unwilling to give up because if she didn't return to the second floor, she wouldn't be able to thwart the plot of the human-skinned paper.

However, reality told her that her efforts could go no further.

"If nothing unexpected happens, I will be trapped on this staircase, either killed by the ghost on the stairs or starve to death here."

Wang Shanshan mused inwardly. After she stopped using the Deceiving Ghost's supernatural power, her body began to tire, and eventually, she could only sit on the stairs to rest.

Silence, darkness ensued.

Wang Shanshan did not feel fear in her heart. She had experienced a lot, from the Door Knocking Ghost incident to the Hungry Ghost incident, then raising the Ghost Child and entering Baishui Town... As an ordinary person, such experiences were already bizarre enough, and surviving until now was a miracle.

"The only hope now is for Yang Jian to wake up in time. If he wakes up, with his abilities, he can turn the tide and change everything. The only good news is that I am still alive, which means Yang Jian is not dead yet, and there is still a chance for everything."

Wang Shanshan confirmed Yang Jian's survival through her own state. Though she abandoned the idea of returning to the second floor, she had not given up hope.

She thought that what she needed to do was to ensure her own survival as much as possible.

As long as she was alive, maybe there was still a turn for the better.

"But the only good news is that at least I trapped the ghost that attacked Liu Qi on the second floor on the staircase."

Wang Shanshan suddenly heard hurried and chaotic footsteps coming from the steps above, as if someone was quickly descending.

But she had been listening to this sound for a long time and had never met the ghost upstairs.

Clearly, the ghost upstairs, though continuously moving downstairs, also couldn't successfully reach the first floor. Similarly, it couldn't turn back to attack Liu Qi and the Ghost Child, giving them some safe time.

During the process of waiting, new danger emerged once again.

Because another sound of footsteps appeared, this time from the stairs behind Wang Shanshan.

It seemed as if someone was coming up the stairs.

Wang Shanshan's face suddenly changed, and she quickly stood up.

In this wooden house, there was nothing but ghosts; there was no doubt that the one coming upstairs now was definitely an evil spirit, very likely the ghost lingering on this staircase.

"I can't stay here; I must continue to move forward."

After realizing the danger, Wang Shanshan immediately sprang into action, quickly beginning to ascend the stairs.

However, no matter how fast or slow she moved, the footsteps behind her did not fade but instead grew closer.

"I can't shake it off; I'm going to be caught by the ghost behind me soon." She started to get nervous, gripping the Deceiving Ghost's necklace tightly in her hand, as it was her only support.

She continued running forward quickly for another ten or so seconds.

At this moment, Wang Shanshan slowed her pace, looked back, and her eyes contracted instantly.

A terrifying figure loomed vaguely in the darkness behind her. Although she couldn't entirely make out its appearance, Wang Shanshan could barely discern it—a corpse-like figure newly laid in a coffin. At this point, the corpse's eyes were tightly closed, as if sleepwalking, stepping slowly onto the stairs.

But that was not all; Wang Shanshan noticed that with every step the corpse took on the stair, the steps behind it would collapse and disappear.

Without the steps, there would be no foothold, inevitably falling into darkness, guaranteeing death.

Wang Shanshan's heart started to feel uneasy and restless, and she could only press forward, trying to create some distance, struggling for survival time.

Even though she knew she might likely die here, and had already prepared for it, she didn't want to sit here waiting for death either.

At least she had to struggle and make an effort.

What if a miracle happened?

But the reality was harsh; the evil spirit behind was so close again, at this point merely seven steps away from Wang Shanshan.

While she ran forward for over ten steps, those seven stairs' distance still existed, not extending.

In this moment of looking back, only five steps remained between her and the ghost.

"I can't move forward anymore; I must take a risk."

Wang Shanshan suddenly stopped, gripping the Deceiving Ghost's necklace in her hand, deciding to attempt to use the supernatural power of the Deceiving Ghost to influence the evil spirit.

Hopefully, it would turn around and leave.

With her tightly grasping the necklace, she closed her eyes and began fantasizing, deceiving.

The supernatural power of the Deceiving Ghost spread, a chilling aura hovered around.

The originally pure crystal necklace began to rapidly turn black; the spreading darkness resembled an evil spirit imprisoned within, struggling and wailing, with the potential to break free from the necklace and escape at any moment.

The Deceiving Ghost can easily influence an ordinary person, but confronting a terrifying vengeful ghost is not a simple matter.

"Crack!"

Subsequently, a crack appeared in the crystal necklace.

During the supernatural struggle, the Deceiving Ghost revived, and the supernatural item began to damage.

However, the vengeful ghost coming from downstairs was completely unaffected, continuing to advance with stiff legs.

It was evident that in the supernatural confrontation, the Deceiving Ghost unequivocally lost completely.

Feeling the necklace breaking in her hand, Wang Shanshan opened her eyes, showing a bit of helplessness,

At this moment, she chose to give up and stand still, waiting for the vengeful ghost to kill her.

However, as the vengeful ghost approached.

The darkness above Wang Shanshan's head was dispersed, and a faint green firelight surged like a road, extending all the way over.

The appearance of the light made Wang Shanshan slightly uncomfortable; she squinted her eyes slightly, looking up in surprise.

In the firelight, she saw a familiar figure walking briskly.

"Yang Jian..." Wang Shanshan was stunned for a moment, doubting for a second whether she was seeing things.

However, in this brief moment of hesitation, the situation around her had undergone a tremendous change.

The road paved with Ghost Flame extended downward, while the vengeful ghost coming from downstairs was advancing, as if colliding with each other with Wang Shanshan as the boundary.

The Ghost Flame attempted to ignite the approaching vengeful ghost, but as the vengeful ghost took a step forward, the surging Ghost Flame was instantly extinguished.

"Don't hesitate, come over quickly," Yang Jian spoke up at this moment.

Suddenly, a cold hand grabbed Wang Shanshan.

Wang Shanshan uncontrollably was pulled into the light.

The Ghost Flame was burning but did not ignite her.

As Wang Shanshan passed through the firelight, she arrived safely beside Yang Jian, only then seeing that Liu Qi and the Ghost Child were also safe and sound, though covered in wounds and looking quite severe, they were nonetheless alive.

"You finally woke up."

At this moment, a smile appeared on Wang Shanshan's pale face.

Only by experiencing despair and danger can one understand how important Yang Jian truly is.

Now, Wang Shanshan also understood why Liu Qi would rather risk his life, even die, to rescue Yang Jian.

Because as long as Yang Jian is around, there is still hope.

"Now is not the time to be happy; although no one has died at the moment, whether we can smoothly escape from this cabin is still a question."

Yang Jian said, grabbing Wang Shanshan's hand: "Give me the Deceiving Ghost's necklace, let's first restore Liu Qi's body."

Wang Shanshan loosened her hand, letting Yang Jian take back the necklace.

After obtaining the Deceiving Ghost's necklace, Yang Jian quickly put it to use.

Immediately, Liu Qi, carried on the Ghost Child's back in his mutilated state, began to recover at a visible speed.

Within just a few seconds, his missing legs, jaw, flesh, and bones all returned.

"Not bad, my body is even better than it was before."

Liu Qi stood up, moved his body, and felt the changes in himself, discovering he was no longer thin and withered but had become stronger.

"It's only temporary; over time, the supernatural erosion will worsen again, this thing is just a temporary fix," Yang Jian said, then put away the necklace.

"Using supernatural power to restore the body, even temporarily, is already pretty good," Liu Qi said. "Now I can move and use supernatural powers. Plus, with Wang Shanshan rescued, it's time for us to escape here."

"Absolutely, let's act now. I'll pave the way ahead, you protect Wang Shanshan and watch for any anomalies."

Yang Jian moved forward without hesitation.

He stepped on the Ghost Flame, equivalent to being within the Ghost Domain, while the old corpse before him was still approaching.

Just relying on Ghost Flame alone couldn't stop the ghost on the stairs, only delaying the vengeful ghost's advance at most.

The cracked spear in his hand extended beyond the Ghost Domain, and simultaneously a Coffin Nail penetrated the body of the old corpse.

The ghost here was indeed fierce, but unfortunately, Yang Jian's Coffin Nail was more formidable.

With such a supernatural weapon, in a supernatural event, it was as though the number of ghosts was decreased by one.

The vengeful ghost ahead immediately stopped, standing still.

However, the supernatural presence on the stairs did not dissipate.

Chapter 1358 - A Plea from the Darkness

Even though the Coffin Nail had already penetrated the fierce ghost ahead, the supernatural presence on the staircase had not dissipated, a situation that seemed somewhat illogical.

However, in supernatural events, all kinds of scenarios could occur. Yang Jian just frowned slightly, not too surprised.

"It seems the supernatural on this staircase is not as simple as imagined. Since this supernatural can't be dealt with, then just ignore it."

Yang Jian immediately changed his mind. He continued using the Coffin Nail to suppress the old corpse with closed eyes in front of him, then bypassed it and moved forward.

Yet, behind the old corpse, there were no steps, only a void of darkness, causing a wave of unease.

But Yang Jian still chose to proceed. He spread out the Ghost Flame, lighting up the darkness, turning it into steps extending into the void.

After everyone bypassed the old corpse, Yang Jian no longer restricted it but retracted the long spear that was cracking and actively released it.

There were many ghosts here; Yang Jian's Coffin Nail couldn't always stay on this old corpse. It must remain usable at any time.

Speed up the advance.

Yang Jian and the others quickly shook off the old corpse that had been released, then continued to proceed in the darkness.

"Yang Jian, it seems that old corpse is following again."

Suddenly, Liu Qi heard movement behind them, a heavy footstep once again approaching, but this time it wasn't the sound of ascending, rather descending.

"Ignore it. That old corpse is a manifestation of the supernatural, not the source. Even if I nail it with the Coffin Nail, the supernatural presence on the staircase won't disappear. The most important thing now is to get out of here; spending time on that old corpse isn't worth it."

Yang Jian replied and continued forward.

"Although we've entered a Ghost Domain by now, my Ghost Flame paving the way equals forcibly opening a path in the Ghost Domain. So, following this path, we can definitely get out, but it takes some time because the Ghost Domain alters distance, and I can't guarantee how long it will take to exit."

Liu Qi nodded, staying alert to the rear but not overly concerned.

Before long, the group had completely entered a pitch-black environment.

There were no stairs here, no walls, and no sense of direction. They didn't even know where they were, like an endless abyss.

And the path formed by the Ghost Flame was like a fragile bridge spanning this dark world, seemingly ready to be swallowed at any moment.

But the eeriness of the Ghost Flame remained strong, constantly spreading, creating a path over ten meters long.

For every meter Yang Jian advanced, the path extended another meter.

It's not that he didn't want to expand the range of the Ghost Flame, but the wider the Ghost Flame spread, the more the supernatural dispersed. If anything happened, this path could have issues, and in such a situation, a broken path surely meant danger; even reconnecting it would likely pose problems.

"It seems like there's no end here. Can we really get out?" Wang Shanshan spoke, her inner unease growing.

"The footsteps behind us are still following, and now there seem to be not just one... two, no, three now." Liu Qi whispered.

"Each ghost in this wooden house is unusual and not easy to escape from. At this moment, we need patience," Yang Jian calmly said. "No matter how many footsteps follow behind, as long as they don't appear within the range of the Ghost Flame, there's no need to fear the fierce ghost."

"If other ghosts want to attack us, they must first cross the Ghost Flame."

His words gave the two some confidence and calmed their unease.

At this moment, an unexpected voice rang out in the completely dark space, coming from the depths of darkness, calling out to Yang Jian and the others: "Young ones, wait a moment."

The appearance of this voice immediately changed Yang Jian's expression. He instinctively stopped and looked in the direction the voice came from.

Even with the ghostly eye to peer into the darkness, Yang Jian couldn't see through this void. He could only roughly judge that the voice was at least a few hundred meters away.

"Is there someone in this ghostly place?" Liu Qi's eyes widened in shock.

"Not necessarily a person, maybe a ghost. Some ghosts imitate humans, and if you're not careful, it's easy to be fooled."

Wang Shanshan suggested. She had suffered from human skin paper before, so she was wary of such voices.

Yet the voice sounded again: "Young ones, please wait, I'm not a ghost; I'm a person who has been trapped here for a long time. I haven't met living people in ages. I hope you can help me escape, and I'll repay you handsomely, absolutely not letting you suffer losses."

"Can there really be a living person in this ghostly place? Do you take me for a fool?" Yang Jian replied coldly.

"I'm not an ordinary person; I can control fierce ghosts. That's why I haven't died all these years," the voice in the darkness explained.

Yang Jian said, "Though your reason barely makes sense, don't expect me to rescue you. No one would risk so much just because of a voice to change their route. You'll have to figure it out yourself."

"If I could get out, I would have left long ago. Young ones, have mercy and help me out; I'll reward you richly," the voice pleaded again.

"You've been stuck for so long without dying, meaning your supernatural power control is extraordinary. Even someone like you can't escape, so why do you think I can take you out?" Yang Jian said, without hesitation, continuing to move forward.

The voice in the darkness continued, "Different skills for different tasks. I'm trapped here because I lack abilities related to the Ghost Domain."

Yang Jian no longer responded to the voice.

"Young ones, please..."

The voice in the darkness kept pleading, hoping Yang Jian would change his route and lend a hand.

But Yang Jian remained unmoved, not willing to do something so foolish.

As they continued forward, the voice gradually faded until it was no longer audible, disappearing entirely into the darkness.

"Yang Jian, do you think what that person said is true?" Liu Qi couldn't help but ask curiously at this moment.

"Truth or falsehood is not important. What's important is that doing this carries great risks. First, that voice is not close to the outside. If we deviate from the set path, we could get lost here. Secondly, even if we really rescue that person, there's no guarantee this person is good or evil.

"A Ghost Rider trapped here for a long time, even if they're still alive, their mind and spirit are already twisted. Once free, they will cause trouble. They might even kill us immediately."

"Just listen to the story of the farmer and the snake, but never act it out."

"Besides, no one can be sure that voice is human. Wang Shanshan's speculation makes sense, too. The source of that voice is most likely a ghost, just trying to lure us over."

Yang Jian explained. He never wavered and did not intend to pay attention to this matter at all.

Liu Qi nodded: "You're right. The chances of a living person showing up in this ghost place are very low, it's just..."

He wanted to mention the strange incident that happened on the second floor of the cabin when he was attacked by the supernatural. At that time, it seemed that there was indeed someone standing not far from him, talking to him.

However, after thinking about it, he didn't reveal this information to avoid unnecessary questions.

Soon.

The path paved with Ghost Flame came to an end, and a turning point appeared in front of them.

The missing steps reappeared.

"It looks like we've walked for so long and only covered half a floor. From the situation up ahead, we still need to go another half floor to reach the ground floor of the cabin, except... there's a fork here," Yang Jian frowned again as they stepped onto the old wooden planks.

This was the turning point of the staircase.

But instead of one way down, there was one on each side.

Clearly, there's only one correct path.

Wang Shanshan said, "According to the layout of the cabin, the correct stairs should be on the right, but supernatural events are never that simple, maybe the left is the correct one instead."

Yang Jian's face was calm, and he walked toward the stairs on the right without hesitation.

However, as soon as he stepped onto them, a cracking sound rang out. The wooden stairs unexpectedly broke apart, and his body, unwilling to obey him, began to fall, forcing him to quickly step back.

"How can the stairs break? Although the wood is fragile, supernatural constructs shouldn't be so easily damaged," Liu Qi was also puzzled. "Did we take the wrong path? Let me try the left side."

Then he attempted to walk to the left.

The same thing happened; the stairs broke, nearly causing him to fall into the darkness.

Yang Jian looked and said, "My Ghost Flame can't pave the way anymore. The supernatural interference on the stairs disrupted the Ghost Flame, preventing the formation of the Ghost Domain."

His Ghost Flame was still burning, but scattered and unable to gather together.

"Young ones, if you'd be willing to save me, I can tell you how to descend these stairs, and you need to hurry, the ghosts won't let you escape easily. Being here means you've entered a danger zone, and whether you can survive is a question," suddenly, that voice from the darkness spoke again.

This time the voice seemed even further away, as if it had followed them along the way.

"Tell us the method first, and maybe I'll consider saving you," Yang Jian said coldly.

"That's not acceptable. What if I tell you and you leave me here?" the voice replied.

Yang Jian said, "You have no choice, and I might not need your help."

The voice fell silent, seemingly deep in thought.

"Alright then, I'll tell you the method." The voice from the darkness soon relented.

"You should take the stairs on the left, but don't start from the first step. Since this is descending stairs, some taboos must be reversed. You need to start from the second step. If you step only on even-numbered steps, you won't fall, but there are ghosts blocking the stairs. Whether you can go down smoothly depends on your ability."

"Is it really that simple?" Yang Jian's eyes moved slightly.

The voice from the darkness said, "This cabin is deliberately constructed; everything has a pattern. Once you know the method, everything becomes relatively simple."

"Yang Jian, I recall folklore saying that odd steps are yang, and even steps are yin, with the last step for the living always being odd-numbered. But the ghosts of the underworld are different, they always step on even numbers. This person wants us to step on even-numbered steps, suggesting that the living can't leave here, only the dead can," Liu Qi said in a low voice.

"But whether it's true or false, you'll only know after trying."

With that, Liu Qi gathered his courage once more and walked down the stairs to the left.

Just now, those broken stairs on the left restored themselves. However, he didn't step on the first, but directly onto the next step.

Sure enough.

The method was true, and Liu Qi didn't fall into darkness; he landed steadily on the stairs.

"I wouldn't lie to you young ones. After all, I don't want anything to happen to you. Now, can you help me a little?" The voice from the darkness said.

Yang Jian said, "If we can get out of here alive, I'll come back in three years to take you away, but not now."

With that, he led Wang Shanshan and the Ghost Child quickly down the even-numbered steps.

"Three years, huh?"

The voice sighed, "Alright then, I'll wait for you here for another three years, do make sure not to forget."

Chapter 1359 - Leaving the Cabin

Following the method described by the voice in the dark, Yang Jian and his companions descended the staircase smoothly, without encountering any breakage or collapse.

But the voice also warned that there were ghosts on the stairs, posing danger, and finding the right way down didn't guarantee safety.

Soon, while descending, Yang Jian detected something unusual ahead.

A person was lying on the stairs, motionless, as if they had been there for a long, long time, covered in a layer of dust. Strangely, the middle of their body was shriveled and sunken, as if a large chunk was missing.

"A ghost on the stairs? Don't mind it, I'll handle it."

Yang Jian slightly moved his gaze, didn't pause his steps, and as he lifted his foot to step over, his hand dropped the Coffin Nail, piercing through the chest of the sunken corpse.

The corpse lying on the stairs stayed still as well; whether the ghost hadn't yet awoken or the Coffin Nail in Yang Jian's hand was effective, was unclear.

But this action directly avoided a danger and smoothly continued forward.

After walking a little further, another anomaly appeared on the stairs. This time it was slightly different – a clay figurine was placed on the stairs, looking about eleven or twelve years old, and had the silhouette of a little girl.

But the posture of this clay figurine was eerie, with an open mouth, screaming, making it somewhat chilling.

Seeing this, Yang Jian also didn't hesitate, stepped over, and raised the cracked long spear in his hand.

However, the moment he stepped on the stair, the clay figurine suddenly twisted its head, the mouth widened in a ghastly manner, as some kind of terrifying supernatural force awakened, attempting to attack Yang Jian.

But in the next moment,

The Firewood Knife swept through, and the mouth of the clay figurine closed instantly, while a clay head rolled off.

However, thick blood continued to flow from the broken neck.

"Increase the pace, the ghosts on the stairs appear with increasing frequency."

Yang Jian didn't linger, forged ahead while the ghost was dismembered.

Liu Qi and Wang Shanshan watched in a state of shock.

They knew the stairs were so narrow, once a ghost stood there, passing by meant direct contact, which would likely lead to being attacked by the ghost on the stairs. Without someone like Yang Jian, an expert ghost controller, paving the way, they wouldn't have made it far before dying there.

And as they continued forward, the dangers Yang Jian encountered increased, though fortunately handled in time. While there were ghosts on the stairs, they mostly passed by without incident, sometimes due to luck, the ghosts wouldn't awaken to attack them, but to be safe, Yang Jian often chose to act.

However, there was a tense moment when three ghosts stood on a stair, blocking the way completely, and these three ghosts were in an awakened state.

Thankfully, Yang Jian's supernatural weapon was formidable, forcefully breaking through the ghosts' blockade without dying halfway.

Time seemed to stretch.

All they knew was after nerves were taut for a considerable while, as Yang Jian stepped onto the last stair, he suddenly found the surrounding darkness had vanished, and he was in a dimly lit hall filled with coffins.

"Have we made it out?"

Yang Jian composed himself, confirming he had reached the first floor of the wooden house, freed from the staircase's hold.

Liu Qi, Wang Shanshan, and the Ghost Child followed closely, also descending the stairs.

"We succeeded, finally returning to the first floor."

Liu Qi exhaled in relief; though they hadn't encountered danger, the experience was thrilling.

Wang Shanshan remarked, "Don't celebrate too early. Previously, when I came to the first floor, all the coffins had anomalies, and the one matching the ghost from the second floor had been opened... It's definitely dangerous here."

"Everyone stop talking, don't move around, and let me assess the situation." Yang Jian raised his hand to signal.

Wang Shanshan immediately fell silent.

Liu Qi also continued observing the first floor.

It seemed nothing was different from before; everything appeared relatively calm, except an open coffin, with the lid fallen to the ground, and the body inside was nowhere to be seen, beyond that, no anomalies were evident.

But the unusual calmness behind it made Yang Jian feel a strong sense of unease, daring not to easily step out of this staircase exit.

"According to the previous speculation, this entire wooden house is constructed by ghosts — the floor, windows, stairs, even the main door, corresponds to a ghost. Now, we're at the junction of the staircase and hall. Standing here, we haven't suffered any supernatural attack, suggesting this is a safe spot."

"Meaning, once I step out of this safe zone, I'll fall into another eerie location, similar to what we encountered on the stairs, possibly even more dangerous. Though the current situation seems calm, it's because all supernatural elements are concealed, only manifesting phenomena."

Yang Jian made a quick analysis of the situation.

"Yang Jian, the blood on the ground has completely vanished, and the door is closed, indicating that what we see on the first floor might not be the actual situation, but a false scene constructed by supernatural forces."

Liu Qi softly reminded him, noticing some inconsistencies.

Previously, to lure the Evil Hound into the wooden house, he drew a blood line on the ground.

Now those traces had disappeared, and the once open wooden door is shut, everything seems normal yet isn't. Chapters first released on Novel-Fire.net

"We can't proceed forward anymore, I am certain that any step forward will plunge us into another terrifying Ghost Domain, and escaping won't be simple. A staircase almost trapped us; let alone a hall filled with coffins, we need to find another path." Yang Jian said sternly.

"What about the blood traces you mentioned leaving?"

Liu Qi quickly recounted the earlier events.

Yang Jian slightly moved his gaze, "So that's how it is, I have somewhat of a solution."

"What solution?" Liu Qi asked curiously.

"How the Evil Hound got in, that's how we'll get out," Yang Jian replied.

Liu Qi responded incredulously, "That doesn't seem possible."

...

"Let's give it a try. It's better than charging out directly to our deaths. While we're relatively safe, another attempt won't hurt," Yang Jian said.

He was trying to employ the Ghost Domain's supernatural influence at that moment.

However, though his body became damp, no water seeped from under his feet, indicating that the Ghost Lake's supernatural force was being blocked.

Nevertheless, Yang Jian left a pool of water at the closest point to the wooden cabin. If he could connect to that pool and then to the Ghost Lake, it would allow the Ghost Lake's supernatural influence to invade the cabin, thus ensuring their safe escape.

"Let's leave here and connect the Ghost Lake water from outside."

Yang Jian issued the command to direct the Evil Hound.

The Evil Hound doesn't exist in reality and couldn't manifest, but soon he heard a low growl from the Evil Hound, then sensed its swift departure.

On the ground, a trail of blood appeared from nowhere.

This was left by Liu Qi earlier, never showing until now, resurfacing due to the supernatural influence of the Evil Hound.

"There's this method too? If only I had known, we should've used it earlier," Liu Qi said.

Yang Jian replied, "Even if I had mentioned it earlier, it was impossible to use it. I wouldn't leave without finding Wang Shanshan, and this method is just a trial. It takes time for the supernatural influence to erode its way from outside to where we're standing now. We didn't have that time on the second floor but could've tried it while on the stairs before, only I hadn't thought of it then. Your method of attracting the Evil Hound with blood reminded me."

Liu Qi felt a bit regretful for not speaking of it earlier, thinking the detail insignificant, not realizing it would become a path out of the wooden cabin.

The three continued to wait.

At this moment, using blood as a medium, the Evil Hound smoothly left the cabin, soon reappearing at a distant pool of water.

This pool was Ghost Lake Water, the farthest point Yang Jian could leave a medium at.

At this moment,

A damp Evil Hound paw print emerged, advancing toward the cabin from the small pool of water.

Yang Jian couldn't leave a medium out of thin air, resorting to this most time-consuming method.

Though the method wasn't efficient, it effectively extended the Ghost Lake's invasion distance.

The damp paw prints of the Evil Hound were faint, yet they connected to a profoundly deep body of water. As long as the medium remained undisturbed, Yang Jian's method would succeed.

Quickly.

The wet paw prints of the Evil Hound extended outside the wooden cabin.

When the Ghost Lake water merged with the bloodstain Liu Qi left outside the door,

In an instant

Yang Jian inside the cabin sensed it immediately.

"It's working,"

Yang Jian's eyes flickered. He reached out to touch the bloodstain on the ground, and it gradually spread out, quickly forming a pool of water.

At this moment, the medium from the Ghost Lake extended into the wooden cabin.

The so-called supernatural interference hadn't appeared.

As the puddle on the ground expanded and enlarged, it ultimately formed a pool big enough to fit a person. Yang Jian then unhesitatingly tossed the Ghost Child into the pool.

Immediately.

The Ghost Child plopped in, vanishing from sight.

"No problem, we can go now." Yang Jian used the Ghost Child to scout ahead, confirming the medium's stability.

Afterward, Wang Shanshan and Liu Qi successively submerged in the water.

Yang Jian was the last to sink into the pool, but the process was smooth, with no unexpected situations arising.

Inside the water, it was cold and profound, engulfing everything.

Liu Qi and Wang Shanshan both felt pain and suffocation.

But the process was brief, as Yang Jian quickly led them out of the Ghost Lake.

Emerging from the water again, the group found themselves not far outside the wooden cabin.

"Incredible, using water as a medium to connect various places. Does this mean we can leave Baishui Town anytime?" Liu Qi asked.

Yang Jian replied, "Yes, but there are still unresolved issues in Baishui Town. We can't leave yet, and I need to document this place; there's a chance we might return. Some aspects remain unexplored."

He stepped out of the pool, using the Ghost Lake's supernatural influence to gradually expand the pool's range.

Although no spirits lingered nearby, he worried the small amount of water would be interfered with by the supernatural forces here and eventually disappear.

And just as Yang Jian left the cabin through this crafty means,

The actual situation within the wooden cabin was terrifying.

It was entirely different from what they'd seen before; now every coffin inside was open, each surrounded by a terrifying figure, a total of over a dozen, with the nearest figure less than a meter away from where Yang Jian and the others were just moments ago.

If Yang Jian had taken two steps forward, leaving the stair's protection, they would've entered another ghost's territory.

At that point, they couldn't predict how many terrifying ghosts they'd have to face to escape the cabin alive, each step filled with danger.

Liu Qi never imagined his method of using blood as a medium to bring the dog into the cabin would be utilized by Yang Jian to successfully avert a significant crisis.

Chapter 1360 - Rescue

After leaving the cabin, Yang Jian could use Ghost Lake. Although its invasion was hindered here, it wasn't entirely unusable.

He retrieved the Ghost Shroud from the water and tossed it to the Ghost Child, instructing the Ghost Child to put it on.

With the protection of the Ghost Shroud, the Ghost Child wouldn't be easily killed.

Meanwhile, Yang Jian, for safety reasons, also took out the Substitute Doll, Ghost Candle, and even the Grass Rope Circle and other supernatural items from Ghost Lake. He had done too little preparation before, thinking as long as Ghost Lake existed he wouldn't have to worry. Who could have expected there would be times when the Ghost Lake medium could be cut off?

"This cabin is very special. I feel there will be opportunities to come here again in the future, but right now this place is too dangerous for us. Luckily, we escaped without harm this time."

Yang Jian carefully examined the cabin situated on the open, silent road.

The cabin remained as it was before, without any anomalies, and neither the ghosts inside nor the wandering spirits nearby dared to approach it.

"That cabin can help people return to the world of three years ago; it's truly peculiar," Liu Qi exclaimed. "If only we could harness this supernatural power, even a false world constructed by these forces would be captivating."

"Everything must have been caused by that mummy inside the cabin. That should be the source," Wang Shanshan said, still feeling uneasy about the mummy in the room.

Yang Jian said, "It seems the paranormal circle still hides many secrets, even the top ghost tamers of the Republic of China Period probably wouldn't claim to fully understand these phenomena. Baishui Town's existence is something I've never heard of before, and if not for it suddenly appearing in reality this time, I would have found it hard to believe such a place exists in my lifetime."

A road that can take away souls to resurrect loved ones, a cabin returning one to three years ago, and the stores in Baishui Town seemingly run by malicious spirits.

These are not creations ghost tamers could establish or build.

"However, we don't have time to linger here. What's the time now? We need to head back to rescue people." Yang Jian asked.

Liu Qi checked the time: "It's four a.m. now, we have two more hours to act."

"Should make it, let's go." After some brief adjustments, Yang Jian continued his journey.

He didn't return the way he came because the path back was long and filled with dangers from wandering spirits. Instead, he used the water below as a medium to connect to Ghost Lake once again. He had also previously left traces of water in Baishui Town, which were interconnected and could serve as entry-exit points.

Soon after.

The group once again submerged into the water, directly leaving the road haunted by the wandering souls.

When they emerged from the lake water, Yang Jian and the others found themselves in Baishui Town.

Baishui Town was still drenched in the night, a time when supernatural and reality intertwined. Due to Seow Yang's death, the power of the Ghost Rain began to fade, and those previously affected by the supernatural gradually awakened from their zombie-like states; the once dead town became somewhat lively.

Yang Jian casually glanced around and saw frightened and panicked ordinary people running on the streets. He also heard terrified screams from somewhere in Baishui Town and even saw twisted corpses on the sidewalk beside the road.

The corpses were fresh, clearly having only recently died. It didn't look like a homicide but rather a death at the hands of a malicious ghost.

It's important to know that there are wandering ghosts in Baishui Town, and if civilians are targeted by a ghost, they are bound to meet a grim fate.

"Baishui Town has started to go wrong; the thing we feared the most has indeed happened," Yang Jian said.

"That's right, those affected by the supernatural have awakened now, but they don't know this place is no longer the true Baishui Town but a supernatural realm. No one knows what chaos these living people might cause here," Liu Qi said. "Dealing with this situation is difficult. The people have scattered, and gathering them all together will be tough."

"Let me think about what to do." Yang Jian began to ponder.

After a brief moment of reflection, he said, "The simplest method is to search every inch of the place, gather all the people we can find, and then at six o'clock use the Ghost Domain to take them out of Baishui Town."

"This approach requires a lot of work and will definitely result in some misses," Liu Qi thought aloud.

Yang Jian said, "I know, as long as the majority can safely leave it's fine. Casualties in supernatural events are inevitable. We only have two hours, so we need to move quickly."

"Alright, let's split up. I'll take care of the road side and bring over the awakened survivors," Liu Qi said.

"Good, but be cautious. Baishui Town is still very dangerous. To be safe, you'd better carry something for protection," Yang Jian said, handing a red Ghost Candle and a Substitute Doll to Liu Qi.

These items were sufficient for survival.

Liu Qi didn't delay, accepting them and immediately said, "Rest assured, I'll be especially careful this time. Plus, the supernatural here isn't as terrifying as what was inside the cabin. If I encounter danger, the Ghost Candle and Substitute Doll should help me escape safely."

"Since this is the case, let's begin the operation." Yang Jian said.

Liu Qi wasted no time and began to act right away.

The road haunted by wandering souls wasn't impossible to cross. It's just that Yang Jian had ventured too far looking for Wang Shanshan, already leaving Baishui Town's scope, which was why he was trapped on the road. In reality, as long as the paranormal effect wasn't too intense, it was possible to cross the road normally.

Liu Qi went to the other side of the road and entered a building to search for survivors.

Yang Jian also prepared to act, but before that, he thought it would be better to have more helpers.

He reached out to take out the Deceiving Ghost's necklace.

The necklace, darkened and cracked, seemed to be at its limit, with the malicious ghost inside about to awaken. But as the red light flashed in Yang Jian's ghost eye, the darkened, cracked necklace returned to its original state, and the awakening Deceiving Ghost was once again contained by Yang Jian.

This wasn't the first time doing this; everything was done skillfully.

"I need some seasoned helpers."

Yang Jian held the necklace, and before him, people began to appear out of thin air. These individuals looked different but wore the same attire—black suits with sunglasses, resembling mysterious agents.

Covered by the Ghost Shadow, these individuals soon began to regain consciousness.

Not long after, all the people in black opened their eyes.

"The orders are already in your heads. Start the operation now and bring all the survivors you can find over here," Yang Jian instructed coldly.

"Yes, Captain Yang." All the agents in black responded in unison.

Soon after.

A hundred agents in black started their operation, quickly dispersing and disappearing into various buildings.

"The Deceiving Ghost's necklace can accomplish this?" Wang Shanshan asked curiously from the side.

Yang Jian said, "It can't do this on its own. The necklace can only create living bodies by influencing reality, but doesn't provide them with consciousness. This requires collaboration with other supernatural entities."

"I see."

Wang Shanshan nodded her head, then asked, "Do these supernatural-created individuals have any special features?"

"Nothing special," Yang Jian replied. "Strictly speaking, they aren't people but puppets created by the supernatural, with fake consciousness. I've used various ghost tamers' and messengers' memories, modifying and piecing them together. Their only advantage is rich experience in dealing with supernatural events and following orders without fear of death."

Soon after.

The dispersed agents in black started to bear fruit.

Several awakened and panic-stricken ordinary people were found and brought over by the agents.

"Captain Yang, please receive three survivors," the agent reported.

"Just have them stay put and continue the operation," Yang Jian instructed.

"Yes, Captain Yang." The agent in black turned and left again.

"It's really you, I remember you. You were with Seow Yang before,"

One of the female survivors who was brought over widened her eyes and looked at Yang Jian.

Yang Jian glanced at her and said, "Seow Yang is dead; he can't protect you anymore. I've taken charge here now. If you're afraid to die, stay by my side. If you wander off and end up dead, don't blame me. Also, if more survivors are brought here, tell them the same. I don't like to repeat myself."

"O-Okay." The woman shivered, nodding repeatedly.

Soon after.

Other agents in black continued bringing survivors over. Once they delivered them to the road, Yang Jian took over. After surveying the area, he continued moving forward.

The special identity of the agents played a crucial role at this time. Many, upon seeing agents rescuing people, rushed over seeking assistance. The process went smoothly.

But there are also times when things don't go smoothly.

"Yang, the store up ahead has survivors trapped inside. One of our people went in and didn't come out. We need you to handle this." A man dressed in black ran up to report a dangerous spot.

Yang Jian said, "I'll take care of it. You go search elsewhere first."

Then, he glanced over and saw a store with a neon light sign.

The store was packed with people, to the point of being crowded.

Apparently, at first, someone thought that the store with lights on might have living people inside and sought help, so they all hid inside. But later, they discovered that a store with neon lights on is not only unsafe but is even more dangerous because there's definitely a ghost inside.

"This is a bun shop."

Yang Jian stood at the flickering neon-lit entrance. He saw that the shop was filled with people, all of whom were extremely hungry and were frantically gnawing on a plain white bun.

The people held only one bun, but they could keep eating it endlessly, seemingly never finishing.

"This is a shop I haven't seen before." Yang Jian recalled, certain that he hadn't seen this bun shop before when he passed by.

Perhaps the store wasn't open before and only started business after he left.

His ghost eye gazed, focused on the white buns held by the people.

The white buns looked like a ghastly human skin, creepy to see, and once bitten into, they vanished eerily like biting into white fat without being swallowed.

"Buns are free, one per person, eat inside the store; cannot take away."

A red announcement was posted on the store wall. Below it was a steamer, long cold, but piled with steaming buns.

"Unclear what's special about this paranormal shop. To be safe, it's better to get the people out first." Yang Jian's ghost eyes emitted golden light, illuminating the darkness ahead.

The Ghost Domain extended into the store.

A living person gnawing on a bun was directly pulled out by him.

However, a bizarre scene occurred.

As soon as the living person left the store, the bun in their hand dissipated immediately, and without the bun to eat, the person's body began to rapidly thin at an unimaginable speed.

"Hungry, I'm so hungry." They struggled, wailing, wanting food.

But soon, this person's eyes widened, mouth agape, body emaciated, vital signs rapidly disappearing, eventually dying on the spot.

This scene terrified other survivors, nearly causing them to collapse to the ground.

Wang Shanshan frowned, feeling somewhat scared.

Yang Jian's face darkened as he scanned around and immediately diagnosed the person's condition.

This person wasn't killed by a fierce ghost but starved to death alive.

"A bun that makes you hungrier the more you eat it. Once you take a bite, you can't leave this bun shop. Otherwise, you'll starve to death outside." He roughly understood the eerie nature of this shop.

In this case, there's no way to save the people in the shop.

These people have been tainted by the supernatural. Saving them would be equivalent to killing them.

"But perhaps another method might be worth trying."

Yang Jian pondered for a moment, thinking of a rather harsh measure: using the ghost flame to dispel the paranormal within these people. With good luck, they could survive the burning of the ghost flame.

With bad luck, they would die.

Without any hesitation.

Yang Jian's ghost flame invaded, directly igniting the bun shop.

The supernatural would be burned away, but the living wouldn't. Yet these living people had consumed paranormal items, thus tainted by the supernatural, making the ghost flame's burn a torture to them.

But this method could save them.

Soon.

Wretched screams echoed in the bun shop, making listeners shiver in fear.

Yang Jian remained expressionless, staring at the group consumed by the ghost flame.

Soon.

Many people regained consciousness within the ghost flame.

"Help, save me!"

"I don't want to burn to death, someone save me."

The ghost flame dispelled the supernatural, restoring their senses and allowing them to call for help, which was a good sign.

After a while.

Someone painfully rushed out of the bun shop, no longer holding a bun, but tainted with green ghost flames, eyes fearful beyond comprehension, mouth gasping, and the pain in their body quickly easing.

"Lucky, you survived." Yang Jian assessed and confirmed the person's condition.

"You, it's you who started the fire?" This person looked at Yang Jian, shocked and angry.

Yang Jian said, "Not dumb, it's true I started the fire."

"You wanted to burn me to death?" The person angrily rushed over.

"At least I saved you from the ghost, you should thank me." Yang Jian remained expressionless.

The person hesitated, then stopped abruptly. They realized the current situation, looked back at the flickering neon-lit bun shop, then at the eerie quiet street, suddenly shivering with chills creeping up their spine.

Turning back to Yang Jian, they were no longer angry but filled with fear and unease.

"Stand over there, don't get in the way." Yang Jian waved, ignoring the person anymore.

The person wisely refrained from angering Yang Jian again, quickly turning towards the group of survivors.

"You're really not thinking straight. This person can deal with fierce ghosts, came to save us. Don't cause trouble, follow him obediently if we want to leave this ghostly place."

Survivors began advising the person, informing them of the situation.

The surviving person nodded repeatedly, daring not to make a sound anymore.

After the first successful attempt, the second and third person also rushed out of the bun shop, bodies ablaze.

The ghost flame dispelled the supernatural from their bodies, preventing them from starving to death and letting them survive, even though they suffered the ghost flame's burn. But the pain was insignificant compared to surviving.

Finally.

There were fewer and fewer people in the bun shop. Most had escaped alive, with only a few trapped too deeply, having eaten too much and unable to get out.

But such results were already satisfactory.

After all, they made it out alive from the paranormal shop.

Having dealt with the bun shop, Yang Jian didn't linger, needing to rush to the next paranormal spot.

There were more people trapped in paranormal places, so he remained busy for the next two hours.