

Revival 136

Chapter 136: A Ghost with Status

"I think we should go get Miao Xiaoshan's cousin back. If there really is a ghost, then him being alone out there is definitely very dangerous. Isn't that how horror movies always play out? Those who are alone are bound to die."

Zhao Lei voiced his opinion at that moment.

"That makes sense," Yang Jian said, nodding in agreement.

But his agreement didn't stem from kindness, rather, without understanding the ghost, it was best not to sacrifice anyone.

Once the ghost starts killing, it means a bad precedent has been set.

More killings would follow.

On the contrary, if the ghost hasn't killed anyone, you might look dangerously terrifying, but at least you are safe for now.

"Then what are we waiting for? Let's go together," Miao Xiaoshan said, sounding uneasy.

Just as the group was about to stand up and leave the private room to look for the cousin.

At that moment, the door to the private room suddenly opened.

Shangguan Yun walked in.

“Cousin, you’re alright? That’s great,” Miao Xiaoshan let out a huge sigh of relief.

Compared to the haunting, being inexplicably beaten up was nothing.

“What’s the matter? Of course, I’m alright. Little cousin, it’s time to go back. I got a phone call earlier about some urgent business, so we need to leave early. I was thinking you and your classmates might want to keep playing here,” Shangguan Yun said.

Miao Xiaoshan hesitated: “But...”

She wanted to mention the possibility that the place was haunted, but Yang Jian couldn’t be entirely sure if there was a ghost around him or not.

Moreover, it was indeed getting late, and time to head back.

“Yang Jian, what do you think about this...” Miao Xiaoshan said hesitantly.

Zhang Wei exclaimed in alarm, “You dare to leave? Just now, even Zhao Lei didn’t dare go. Brother Tui said that it’s very likely a ghost has slipped in among us. Now, whoever leaves first is the first to be alone, and if the ghost follows you home, then the consequences would be unimaginable. Miao Xiaoshan, I strongly suggest that no one goes home tonight.”

“I’ll book a room, and we can all stay together for a few nights until this blows over. What do you think?”

It has to be said, Zhang Wei rarely made a useful suggestion.

But his next statement was more surprising: “Of course, I want to share a bed with Yang Jian. You, Zhao Lei, and your cousin can figure out the rest.”

“What haunting? That’s just superstitious nonsense, something that only a child would believe. Which adult would believe such things?” Shangguan Yun said.

"I am an adult, and I believe it," Zhang Wei retorted.

Shangguan Yun said, "You kids have messed up brains. I don't want to talk to you anymore. Plus, if it gets too late and we don't go back, your aunt and uncle will start worrying. I agreed to bring my little cousin here to meet you, her classmates, and now that the gathering is almost over, if we don't return, the family will worry."

"Yang Jian, should I go with my cousin first? You guys keep playing, and if something happens, call me?" Miao Xiaoshan said.

"Don't bother, if anything happens, calling the funeral home would be better. We're classmates, but I don't want to end up collecting your body or attending your funeral."

Yang Jian's eyes suddenly narrowed, becoming very stern: "I suggest you keep your distance from your cousin... immediately," he said.

"What?"

Miao Xiaoshan was stunned, looking at him; "What's going on?"

"Nothing's happened. It's just that I find your cousin a bit strange. Didn't you see his shirt pocket is turned inside out? Before, his pocket was on the left side, now it's on the right. It's clearly the same shirt... and even the letters on his belt are reversed."

Yang Jian sharply noted these slight details: "His face still has the injury, but it's no longer bleeding. Even if it's healing, it's not that fast."

"What are you trying to say? You can't suspect my cousin has a problem, can you? We came here together," Miao Xiaoshan said, shocked.

"Damn, Yang Jian, are you telling a horror story again? The cousin is the ghost? We were just sitting together earlier," Zhang Wei blurted out.

Yang Jian said, "Rushing to leave just after using the restroom is not quite normal, and his clothes are slightly different from before. These changes indeed make one wonder."

"It doesn't matter if he is a ghost or not, we can just give it a try," he said indifferently.

With that, he suddenly drew a gun and aimed it directly at Shangguan Yun at the doorway.

"If you're human, then you should probably die from this bullet, right? If you don't die... then you must be a ghost," he said.

"Yang Jian, have you lost your mind? Are you going to shoot my cousin?" Miao Xiaoshan cried out in alarm, frantically lunging forward to stop him.

"Wang Shanshan," Yang Jian called out.

Suddenly, Wang Shanshan stood up and hugged Miao Xiaoshan.

Her soft arms felt ice cold, yet there was a terrifying strength in her grip that was impossible to break free from, as if it were not the strength of a woman at all.

"Wang Shanshan, what are you doing? You can't let Yang Jian go crazy," Miao Xiaoshan said, almost crying, but she couldn't wrestle free from Wang Shanshan's arms.

Wang Shanshan didn't say a word, her expression somewhat vacant, as if even she didn't know what she was doing.

It was Yang Jian directly controlling her.

"Yang Jian, think it through, a mistake could kill someone," Zhang Wei exclaimed, eyes wide.

Zhao Lei remained silent, unsure whether to stop or not to stop the action.

After all, Yang Jian had had experience dealing with malevolent spirits, and his judgment was to be trusted; however, it was still quite astounding to think that Shangguan Yun could be a ghost.

At this moment, Yang Jian released the safety catch and said calmly, "I trust my judgment. If I am wrong, I'll accept it."

"But have you considered how I feel? Yang Jian, I'm begging you, don't shoot. There must be another way to identify that ghost, right?" Miao Xiaoshan pleaded in tears.

"Without direct contact, this is the most effective method. Don't blame me for being cold-hearted. Once you realize the true horror of a ghost, you will understand that any hesitation could mean missing the best chance to stay alive. So, please, trust me," Yang Jian said.

"Hold on, classmate. What am I doing? Let's talk this out," Shangguan Yun said, looking frightened.

"Bang~!"

However, the next moment, the gunshot rang out without hesitation.

"Ahh~!" Miao Xiaoshan screamed in terror.

At such a close distance, a miss was impossible, even for an amateur like Yang Jian when it came to cold weapons.

A bullet hit Shangguan Yun directly.

If he were a normal person, he would have been lying on the ground convulsing and waiting to die.

“Why on earth would you shoot? Do you have any idea how dangerous that is?” Shangguan Yun chastised Yang Jian.

“...”

Yet at this moment, everyone’s eyes widened as if they had seen a ghost, staring at Shangguan Yun. Even Miao Xiaoshan was stunned and began to panic.

The guy had been shot yet was unharmed.

“Bang~!” Without hesitation, Yang Jian fired another shot.

This time, the bullet hit Shangguan Yun in the head.

He could clearly see a bullet hole appear on his forehead.

Yet Shangguan Yun still said, “Yang Jian, you’re shooting again? Are you crazy? Believe it or not, I’ll call the police?”

“Yang Jian, you were right. He, he is a ghost,” Zhao Lei shouted, feeling a chill run down his spine.

But as he said this,

The previously furious Shangguan Yun suddenly stiffened, his complexion rapidly paled, the light in his eyes quickly vanished, and at the same time, his body gradually became transparent... until he eerily vanished from everyone’s sight.

Just like an illusion, he was directly erased without a trace.

Nothing was left behind.

Except for two golden bullets that fell crisply to the ground.

“What, what’s going on? Where did it go?” Zhang Wei asked, terrified.

Yang Jian furrowed his brows: “I don’t know, but what I am certain of is that this ghost wanted to blend into the crowd with a legitimate identity, or it needed a living person’s identity to appear before us. We’ve just exposed its disguise, so it abandoned the identity of Shangguan Yun and disappeared.”

“If I’m not mistaken, it should still exist in some invisible form around us now. Whether it has left or not, I can’t be sure.”

“I’ve seen quite a few paranormal incidents. This is the ghost I’ve encountered that’s best at hiding. Once it assumes a human identity, it’s just like any other person,” he said with a somber tone.

Thinking this, his expression turned grave.

A ghost with an identity indistinguishable from a human, completely blending into society—what does it want to do?

Unimaginable.

But definitely not something good.

“So it’s gone now, but where did Shangguan Yun go?” Zhao Lei said.

“Follow me to the restroom,” Yang Jian put away his gun and immediately rushed to the restroom.

The others hurriedly followed.

But just as they were leaving, the reflection on the glass door of the room showed the silhouettes of six people. Those who had left the room were Wang Shanshan, Miao Xiaoshan, Zhang Wei, Zhao Lei, and Yang Jian—a total of five people.

There was still the presence of an extra person.

Yet no one had noticed this point.

Chapter 137: Trapped

By this time, Shangguan Yun had finished washing his face.

The nosebleed had almost stopped, and when he looked in the mirror again, he suddenly froze, his eyes revealing a shocked expression.

Because there was no reflection of himself in the mirror in front of him.

“What’s going on here?”

Shangguan Yun looked at himself in the mirror, waved his hands, and walked a few steps left and right.

But no matter what he did, his reflection couldn’t be seen in this huge glass surface.

It was as if he didn’t exist in the mirror at all.

“That’s impossible.”

Shangguan Yun was puzzled; he looked at the faucet, the sink basin, even the vanity countertop—all these things could be seen in the mirror, but he himself couldn’t appear in it.

In this mirror, there was just an empty space, as if he didn't exist at all.

"Am I hallucinating from blood loss, or have I encountered something evil?"

Shangguan Yun rubbed his head, thinking perhaps the recent work pressure had been a bit too much. Was it time to see a doctor?

"Forget it, let's go back. Maybe it's someone's idea of a prank."

Although the situation was strange, he didn't take it too seriously.

He turned around to leave.

The bathroom here didn't have a main door.

And as he turned the corner ready to exit the restroom, he suddenly froze.

Instead of the familiar path he had arrived by, there was utter darkness—a darkness not like that of the night, but rather like walls of condensed ink eerily standing in front of him, blocking his way out.

If he were to step forward, he felt he would plunge into an abyss from which there was no return.

"What in the world is happening?" At that moment, Shangguan Yun was completely panicked.

Not being able to see himself in the mirror was one thing, but now even the outside had changed like this.

Could it really be haunted?

Shangguan Yun was a staunch materialist. Ever since childhood, he had believed in science; all this talk of ghosts and spirits was contemptible, never to be taken seriously, mere stories to fool naive children. Who would believe in that once they entered society and started working?

Yet everything before his eyes was making his unwavering inner beliefs start to waver.

And once beliefs begin to shake, fear involuntarily emerges to take over your body.

Shangguan Yun was starting to feel afraid and thought first of calling the police.

But as soon as he took out his phone, he stopped again.

Call the police?

How could he report it?

Say that he was trapped in a KTV bathroom and couldn't get out?

Or that he had encountered something evil?

If he said something like that, he would probably be laughed at.

"Call my cousin, ask her what's urgent; stay calm first, don't panic, don't scare yourself." Shangguan Yun forced himself to stay calm as he dialed Miao Xiaoshan's number.

"Hello, Xiao Shan, it's me, your cousin."

On the phone, Miao Xiaoshan's voice was somewhat excited: "Cousin, is it really you? I'm so relieved you're okay."

Yang Jian, who was hurrying to the restroom, was momentarily stunned when he saw Miao Xiaoshan answer a call from Shangguan Yun.

Could it be that Shangguan Yun was still not dead?

That couldn't be.

The ghost had taken Shangguan Yun's identity, so why was he still alive?

"Miao Xiaoshan, first make sure it's really your cousin. If you're not sure, just hang up the phone immediately. Under these circumstances, you can't just answer any call; you know the consequences," Yang Jian warned.

The joy on Miao Xiaoshan's face immediately stiffened.

She remembered the terrifying call that started with 138 from the school.

It was that call that had lured the Door Knocking Ghost over, almost causing them all to die right at the school gate.

"Cousin, I'm in the bathroom right now, and something seems off here. You and your classmates had better come over and take a look. If there's an accident, call the police right away," Shangguan Yun's voice came out of the phone again.

"What's wrong exactly? Talk to me," Yang Jian directly took over the phone and spoke.

Shangguan Yun said, "Is that you, Yang Jian? You guys had better come over and take a look. I think the bathroom exit is sealed off, outside is pitch black, I don't know what's going on. And, I couldn't see anyone in the mirror just now; I think you guys might have been right. Have I encountered something evil? What should I do now, can you find a way to help me?"

Pitch black outside the restroom?

Yang Jian furrowed his brows upon catching this piece of information.

He had already seen the restroom entrance ahead of him.

Everything here was normal; there was no pitch-black scene. Instead, the lights were on, very bright.

“Take a photo and send it to me, I’ll analyze it for you,” Yang Jian said, not directly contradicting his assertion. Perhaps Shangguan Yun really was in trouble.

He just couldn’t understand the situation at the moment.

“Okay.”

“But we’re about to enter the restroom now, are you sure you’re really in there?” Yang Jian added.

“Of course, I’m sure. I’m standing right here talking to you on the phone. Where else could I be if not in the restroom?” Shangguan Yun said.

“Alright, I got it.”

After asking, Yang Jian immediately ended the call.

Afterward.

He led the others into the restroom.

But reality was cruel.

There was no one in the restroom; Shangguan Yun was nowhere to be seen.

“No one? Didn’t cousin just say he was in the restroom?” Miao Xiaoshan became frightened again.

Zhao Lei said, “Could it be that the person on the phone wasn’t Shangguan Yun... maybe a ghost?”

“Not likely. His emotions were full, without any strangeness. Of course, I don’t rule out a perfect ghostly disguise, but since the ghost in the private room had already appeared, the call should be real. So I think Shangguan Yun wasn’t lying.”

“He truly is in the restroom.”

“But there’s no one here,” Zhang Wei said.

Yang Jian strode over, his gaze sharpening as he looked at the huge mirror in front of the sink.

Reflected in the mirror, Shangguan Yun was holding his phone, anxiously making a call, occasionally glancing outside.

“There’s no one in the restroom because the person is inside the mirror...”

The restroom was empty, but Shangguan Yun’s reflection appeared eerily in the mirror. The him inside the mirror seemed unaware of the situation, just anxiously calling for help from outside, not daring to step out of this restroom.

The mirror only showed the restroom.

Nothing outside of the restroom appeared in the mirror.

That’s why the outside world Shangguan Yun spoke of was pitch-black.

“Cousin, what’s wrong, cousin I’m here, can you see us?”

Miao Xiaoshan, seeing this scene, was both scared and anxious. She ran to the mirror somewhat panicked, pounding on it.

But Shangguan Yun inside the mirror seemed not to hear and did not turn around to look at Miao Xiaoshan.

Seeing this, Yang Jian directly dialed Shangguan Yun’s number using Miao Xiaoshan’s phone.

Shangguan Yun inside the mirror heard the ringing phone and quickly answered, “Hello, Xiao Shan? Why haven’t they arrived yet, it’s been over five minutes. Did something happen on your side?”

“It’s me, Yang Jian.”

“Yang Jian, tell me about the situation outside. What on earth is happening out there?”

“Everything is fine outside, no situation has occurred. It’s you who’s in trouble. Don’t look outside now, no one will come in from there. Turn around and look at the mirror, we are all right here,” Yang Jian said.

Shangguan Yun turned and looked behind him at the mirror subconsciously, his eyes suddenly narrowing as he got a fright.

In the mirror, his cousin Miao Xiaoshan was crying while pounding on the mirror, but he couldn’t hear any sound.

Zhao Lei and Zhang Wei were standing by with looks of fright on their faces.

Yang Jian was on the other side holding a phone and talking to him, calmly looking over.

“How, how are all of you in the mirror?”

“It’s not us in the mirror, it’s you in the mirror,” Yang Jian’s voice came from inside the phone.

At that moment.

Shangguan Yun froze, his eyes revealing immense fear as his phone slipped from his hand unnoticed.

“Beep beep...”

The communication cut off.

“Did the phone break?”

Yang Jian, looking at the fallen phone from outside the mirror, furrowed his brows.

But at that moment, he wasn’t concerned about whether the phone was broken or not, but that the communication had been cut off, making further contact inconvenient.

From the previous situation, it seemed that the person inside the mirror could not hear people speaking from the outside.

He was also curious as to why Shangguan Yun entered the mirror... and where was that vanished ghost now?

Chapter 138: The Voice in the Mirror

The situation before their eyes was indeed beyond belief.

Big Cousin hadn't died, but instead, his entire person had entered the mirror, while conversely, the invisible ghost had taken Big Cousin's place before everyone.

If Yang Jian hadn't been so observant and noticed the details in which the ghost was masquerading, it could very well have deceived them, taking Miao Xiaoshan away with it.

Once they had left, Yang Jian couldn't even begin to imagine what chain reaction might have been triggered.

But from this incident, Yang Jian deduced that the ghost's Terror Level was not very high, not one of those vengeful spirits that would kill indiscriminately at the first sign of conflict.

Otherwise, by now Big Cousin probably would have been dead.

"Yang, Yang Jian, what do we do now?" Zhao Lei started to panic.

Before, when it was uncertain whether there was a supernatural event happening around them, it wasn't so alarming, but now that it was confirmed that there was indeed a ghost following them, they couldn't stay calm anymore.

Yang Jian looked at the glass mirror in front of him and said slowly, "First, don't panic. Since the ghost was present back at the restaurant and hasn't killed anyone over the course of several hours, it indicates that this ghost has certain restrictions or unique characteristics, so for the time being we are safe."

"Right now, I just want to know how this ghost managed to get a person into the mirror."

"You think, could the ghost itself be this mirror?"

Wang Shanshan spoke with a hint of coldness in her voice.

Yang Jian immediately said, "No way, the mirror is fine. It's just an ordinary mirror. The issue is with the ghost, but right after it showed itself a moment ago, it disappeared again. I haven't quite figured out some characteristics of that ghost. To understand it, we'll need to ask Shangguan Yun."

"Given what happened, he must have encountered the unseen ghost while he was using the bathroom earlier."

"So some things must be clarified with him. Only by understanding that ghost can we resolve this situation."

Because ghosts can't be killed.

So, upon seeing a ghost, the first thought isn't to engage in a head-on fight, but rather, while ensuring one's own survival, to avoid direct contact with the malevolent spirit.

Ghosts can't die, but people can.

Even someone like Yang Jian, who controlled two ghosts, couldn't afford to be careless when facing a ghost.

"However, his phone is broken, communication is cut off, and it's very inconvenient to talk; we can only communicate in writing now. Does anyone have a pen and paper? If not, we'll need to buy some nearby," Yang Jian asked.

"No."

"I don't study, why would I carry that stuff?" said Zhang Wei.

Wang Shanshan also shook her head.

"Then who will go and buy some? Or we can borrow from the bar downstairs," Yang Jian said.

“Brother Tui, we’re in the middle of a horror movie right now. If we split up, it could end badly. It’s better to stay together; that’s the right move,” Zhang Wei said, shaking his head frantically.

Yang Jian looked around; “Then I’ll go, you guys wait here.”

“No, no, if you leave, wouldn’t we still be left alone? Tied together fish are still fish, facing a ghost we are still done for,” Zhang Wei immediately shook his head again.

“Then let’s go together,” Yang Jian said.

At this moment, Wang Shanshan suggested, “We don’t need to go, we can just write on the mirror with water. He should be able to understand that.”

“That’s a great idea,” Zhao Lei immediately nodded in agreement.

Nobody dared to leave, gathering together, and especially when they were by Yang Jian’s side they could feel a bit safer.

“Zhang Wei, you go write, I’ll dictate,” Yang Jian said.

“Why me? Brother Tui, I can’t do it, look at my fingers. I over-clicked the mouse while gaming yesterday, and they’ve been cramping up ever since—now they’re numb, can’t move at all, ouch, it hurts so much. See, my finger is cramping again, I can’t, I need to go to the hospital, I can’t be disabled at such a young age,” Zhang Wei said, cradling his hand as if in immense pain.

“Zhao Lei?” Yang Jian turned to him.

All of a sudden, Zhao Lei clutched his chest and said, “Brother Tui, my chest feels so tight, suddenly I can’t breathe, it’s over, I’m going to pass out, I feel like I’m running out of oxygen, it’s so uncomfortable, is it alcohol poisoning? It must be, that beer earlier was dodgy.”

As he spoke, he even slumped down against the wall.

"Damn it, just die already, don't come to me for help when you meet a ghost later, just pretend I don't know you," Yang Jian said.

As soon as he spoke, Zhang Wei suddenly laughed and said, "Yang Jian, I just remembered, although my right hand is cramped, my left hand is fine! I can write with my left hand, not a problem at all. See, the left hand is so flexible, writing is no issue."

If Brother Tui isn't covering for them, what's the point in playing along?

"Suddenly realized my dizziness is also getting a bit better, looks like my alcohol poisoning wasn't so severe after all, I should be able to hold on."

Zhao Lei then struggled back to his feet, looking utterly feeble.

"Since your hand isn't cramping, you write," Yang Jian said to Zhang Wei.

"Big bro, why is it still me?"

"Because I suspect the ghost followed you here."

Yang Jian said seriously, "Didn't you say you spent an entire night playing rock-paper-scissors with a reflection in the mirror and winning?"

"Now that Shangguan Yun has run into trouble inside the mirror, this is too much of a coincidence. That's why you are the prime suspect. If you don't go, who will? We can't expect others to clean up your mess. Besides, I can't do it. I need to stay on guard and not get too distracted."

Zhang Wei replied with a dismal face, "Will it be dangerous?"

"I don't know, it might be dangerous or it might not be. Why don't you try getting some paper and a pen?" suggested Yang Jian.

"Let's go together, I think it's the safest method. It won't take much time if we go together," Zhang Wei said earnestly.

The corner of Yang Jian's mouth twitched. "If you guys keep this up, I'm going to start hitting people. You're dithering so much, if that ghost really were out to kill us, you'd all be dead at least three times over."

"I'll do the writing. I can't leave Cousin alone here," Miao Xiaoshan said, her voice tinged with fear she couldn't hide, as she wiped her tears away.

"Think it through. Although the mirror isn't a problem, the ghost definitely has some connection to it, which poses certain risks," Yang Jian warned, somewhat surprised.

He hadn't expected Miao Xiaoshan to be so courageous at this moment.

"It's okay, it's all my fault Cousin is like this. If I hadn't asked him to come to the gathering, he wouldn't have experienced this. And by the time you go and come back, I'm not sure if Cousin will still be in the mirror. What if something happens when we're all supposed to leave together?" Miao Xiaoshan said urgently; she and Shangguan Yun were relatives, and despite her fear, she was very concerned about him.

Yang Jian calmly said, "Since you've decided, then let's begin. I'll ensure your safety if anything happens."

He could open his Ghost Domain in an instant, and once it was opened, he could get everyone out of there within a second. That's why he had to be constantly vigilant, ensuring there were no accidents.

"Okay," Miao Xiaoshan nodded.

"Ask Shangguan Yun if he saw anything unusual in the restroom," Yang Jian instructed.

Miao Xiaoshan quickly dipped her finger in water and wrote on the mirror, "Cousin, don't be scared. Yang Jian will find a way to resolve this. He wants to ask you some questions. Since you've dropped your phone, this is the only way we can communicate."

On the other side of the mirror, Shangguan Yun's expression was collapsing. Standing in front of the mirror, he was immensely alarmed, desperately pounding on the mirror, trying to get out.

But it was futile.

He was trapped as if in a cage, unable to escape.

Miao Xiaoshan's words sparked a glimmer of hope in him. He hurriedly wrote on the other end of the mirror, "Please help me~!"

"Yang Jian is asking if you saw anything unusual in the restroom," Miao Xiaoshan wrote messily but quickly, without impairing readability.

"No, I was just washing my face at the time."

"Yang Jian, what do you see?" Miao Xiaoshan turned and asked him.

Yang Jian continued, "Ask him how he got into the mirror."

Miao Xiaoshan immediately wrote, "Cousin, how did you get inside the mirror?"

Shangguan Yun replied anxiously, "I don't know, what am I supposed to do now? I want to get out, I want to leave this place. Can I not get out?"

His expression was full of fear and urgency,

"Tell him to calm down," Yang Jian said, frowning.

Shangguan Yun was in a terrible mental state, probably on the brink of collapse. It was difficult to ask him questions effectively.

“Cousin, please calm down. Yang Jian will have a hard time helping you if you’re like this. Think about it, did anything unusual happen to you in the restroom?” Miao Xiaoshan wrote again.

“I don’t know, I really don’t know. I was just washing my face, I have no idea when I got into the mirror,” he shouted and wrote, “Tell Yang Jian to save me, I don’t want to die. I don’t want to die here...”

“He’s in no state to recall details or provide clues. Unless he calms down, it will be hard to get anything useful out of him,” Yang Jian said with a frown. “Miao Xiaoshan, console your cousin for now. Let’s hold off on questions.”

Unable to recall specifics or give clues, asking him was pointless.

Miao Xiaoshan had no choice but to continue writing and comforting him.

But at that moment, Shangguan Yun, on the other side of the mirror, suddenly wrote, “It sounds like someone is coming to the restroom, is rescue on the way? You must have called the police by now, right? Please have them save me...”

Seeing this message, Miao Xiaoshan’s hand froze up instantly. Instinctively, she moved away from the mirror, the fear in her eyes magnified in an instant.

The others also felt a chill down their spines, falling silent.

Even Yang Jian deeply furrowed his brow, sensing something was amiss.

Because, from where they stood, there were no sounds of anyone approaching the restroom.

Even if there were, Shangguan Yun inside the mirror should not have been able to hear it.

The sound he heard had only one possible source.

It was coming from inside the mirror.

Chapter 139: Appears

Words written on the mirror appear reversed to others, but this does not prevent Yang Jian and company from reading a sentence, even if the handwriting is somewhat sloppy.

Yet, the sentence written by Shangguan Yun changed everyone's complexion.

He actually heard a voice on the other side?

Whatever the voice was, it was a very terrifying matter.

Because he couldn't hear even the slightest noise from outside the mirror—otherwise, there'd be no need for written communication.

Miao Xiaoshan also immediately realized the terror of the situation. Shocked yet summoning her courage, she hastily wrote on the mirror, "Cousin, run! Those aren't rescuers; they are...ghosts."

But before she could finish writing, Yang Jian stopped her.

"It's no use writing; he's trapped now, and his mental state is very bad. Maybe he won't be killed by a ghost, but he might die of fright. The fact that nothing bad has happened to him yet is a good thing. Until the situation worsens, we should maintain the status quo, even though we know that ghost may have already found him," Yang Jian said as he grabbed her wrist composedly.

To ordinary people facing malevolent spirits, the greatest enemy is not the ghost, but fear itself.

Not all ghosts are unsolvable entities.

Even if it seems unsolvable, once the truth is known, even ordinary people can survive, albeit with great difficulty, but it's not completely hopeless.

Before that, fear and panic will only push you into the abyss of death.

"Then, what do we do now? What can we do, Yang Jian, think of something quick," Miao Xiaoshan urged, almost in tears.

"I'm not the savior; what good solution could I possibly have? Comfort your cousin first, I need to analyze the situation before I can come up with some conclusions," Yang Jian replied.

Miao Xiaoshan nodded and then frantically wrote on the mirror again, "Cousin, calm down, don't worry, everything will be okay..."

But she had barely finished half of the sentence when her eyes suddenly narrowed, and she almost let out a scream, hastily covering her mouth, her face instantly covered in terror.

At this moment, she saw someone standing by the corner of the restroom inside the mirror—it was unclear when this person had appeared.

The individual only revealed a part of their body, hiding there like playing hide and seek, motionless.

She turned her head sharply to look.

Thinking there was someone that had come into their side of the restroom, after all, this place was a KTV, and it was possible for others to want to use the restroom; it was necessary to check.

"Nobody..."

Miao Xiaoshan, seeing the emptiness behind her, felt the reality of her fear cement itself.

There was no one standing at the doorway of the restroom here; without a doubt, the person was standing at the corner of the restroom inside the mirror.

Indistinctly, she saw the pale arm revealed by that person.

No blood color.

Stiff as if belonging to a corpse.

“Cousin, behind you, there is someone standing there,” Miao Xiaoshan warned, scared to the point of tears.

But Shangguan Yun behind the mirror didn’t hear her at all.

He couldn’t hear any sounds from this side, but he wrote, “What is my cousin saying? The voice I heard seems to have disappeared. Did the person leave again? Tell me, who can help me get out of here? I don’t want to stay trapped, someone please save me.”

Miao Xiaoshan’s hands trembled; she wanted to write something but didn’t know what to write.

The person didn’t leave at all.

Because they were standing right at your side of the restroom’s entrance.

This scene was not only seen by Miao Xiaoshan but by the others as well.

The person standing by the restroom corner, appearing to enter but not coming in, revealing just a part of their body.

Eerily and rigidly standing there motionless.

Only existing inside the mirror, not in reality.

“Yang Jian, is that person... a ghost?” Zhao Lei’s voice trembled.

Counting this, it should be the second time seeing a ghost.

A real ghost.

“The answer is already very clear,” Yang Jian said solemnly. “If we’re not mistaken, this thing has been following us. No wonder we couldn’t see it before; it turns out this ghost only exists inside the mirror and doesn’t exist in reality at all.”

“No, no, that’s not right. If that were the case, that waiter shouldn’t have been able to see this ghost unless... the ghost’s real body is in the mirror, and what appears in reality is just an invisible shadow.”

If the real body is inside the mirror, then the invisible shadow is outside.

It’s as if they have been swapped.

Reality is the mirror, and the world inside the mirror is the real world where the ghosts dwell.

“^

But the ghost wanted to step out of the mirror world and into the reality where humans dwell.

Clearly, this ghost couldn’t easily accomplish this; otherwise, it would have emerged from the mirror long ago.

It requires a condition.

Perhaps this was why Shangguan Yun was attacked.

Now he's in the mirror, while the ghost just appeared before everyone, as if they had switched places.

"Keep away from any mirrors, don't touch them, and don't gaze into them for too long. I'm sure this ghost won't only appear in this mirror. It could show up in any mirror, whether in a restaurant, KTV, or even at home," Yang Jian said gravely, then glanced at Zhang Wei.

"You must have been the first to encounter it."

Zhang Wei shuddered with fear, recalling the game of rock-paper-scissors he'd played with his reflection at home.

It was merely a spooky little game when he was bored; he never imagined it would come to life.

The one playing rock-paper-scissors with him that night in the mirror... was not his own reflection... but a ghost.

But why did the ghost stop at the bathroom door?

Why didn't it keep showing itself?

Hadn't it revealed itself before?

If the ghost refused to appear after being recognized by him, why would it show up in the mirror again?

Looking at Miao Xiaoshan, Yang Jian continued, “You don’t have to be afraid. If you want to save people, keep writing on the mirror and communicate with your cousin. Draw the ghost out, try to find a breakthrough from it. Maybe that way, there’s a slight chance.”

“However, I can’t guarantee success. The chances of failure are high, especially since your cousin has been attacked by a malicious ghost, and it’s hard to say given his current condition.”

“And as for you...”

Yang Jian turned back to Wang Shanshan, Zhang Wei, and Zhao Lei, “If you don’t want to stay here, leave quickly while the ghost is still in my sight. If it disappears again, I can’t be certain it won’t latch onto one of you, and since you ordinary people can’t help, leaving is the right choice.”

“Yang Jian, what you’re saying is right. I’ll just get in the way if I stay here, so I’ll go. Take care, Miao Xiaoshan. I really can’t be of any help. If nothing else, we’ll contact each other by phone later.”

Zhao Lei apologized and immediately turned to leave.

“Damn, what a spineless bastard, this idiot really can’t be relied on. Don’t worry, Yang Jian, I won’t leave. I’ll stay here with you for support. We can’t let that Zhao Lei off so easily; I’ll chase him down and make him apologize to you. Trust me, if I can’t catch him, I won’t have the face to see you again.”

Enraged, Zhang Wei dashed out: “Zhao Lei, don’t you run, have the guts to wait for me!”

“...”

Yang Jian then looked at Wang Shanshan.

“Leave here, and after you go out, call your father to come and get you.”

“Okay.”

Wang Shanshan nodded calmly and left.

Perhaps in such a state, she couldn't feel much fear anymore.

Watching the others leave, Yang Jian added, "Miao Xiaoshan, although I don't want to get involved in such matters, the reunion has been disrupted by this ghost. It would be somewhat unreasonable not to do anything. Since we once gathered happily, it's only right to part ways properly. I'll do my best to help you one last time, but if it's beyond my capabilities..."

"Then I'm sorry."

"Thank... thank you," Miao Xiaoshan said gratefully.

"Don't thank me. I wouldn't do this for any other classmate. You can thank our six years of friendship. The path I will take in the future will be different from yours, and we probably won't have a chance to meet again, so consider this a personal farewell."

"Maybe in a moment you'll hear that your cousin and you are safe and sound, but it could also be fear and a corpse. All of this... we'll have to leave it up to fate."

Miao Xiaoshan bit her lip and nodded.

"Then, continue communicating with your cousin through the mirror. This method should be able to draw the ghost out," Yang Jian said.

Miao Xiaoshan did as he said, continuing to write, "Cousin, Yang Jian has already thought of a way to save you. Don't be afraid and don't act rashly, otherwise, it could be terrible."

"Why did everyone else run away? Why did they run? Did they find something wrong? Tell me, tell me," Shangguan Yun was panicking as he wrote, his face growing increasingly desperate.

"It's okay, everything will be alright."

During the conversation,

Yang Jian's eyes narrowed.

His guess was right.

Their communication had indeed lured the ghost out.

The ghost standing at the bathroom door suddenly moved.

It walked out.

However, this person turned out to be a man, just as the waiter had described, and it bore an astonishing resemblance to... Zhang Wei.

No, not exactly Zhang Wei, but similar enough to pass for him, with seven or eight points of resemblance. Its clothes were different, wearing a uniform.

Chapter 140: Successful Rescue

Is this the true face of that ghost?

Or is this just one of the ghost's many appearances... Previously, it clearly looked like Shangguan Yun.

This is a ghost that can freely change its appearance.

But no matter how it changes, the person in the mirror before me is undeniably a ghost.

“Indeed, from the beginning, the ghost was following Zhang Wei, but how did he survive after foolishly playing in front of the mirror all night? Could it be because he slapped his own face swollen?” Yang Jian thought to himself.

However, as the person in the mirror approached slowly, he suddenly realized that the person in the mirror began to change.

The ghost’s appearance gradually transformed into that of Miao Xiaoshan, with the clothing and attire changing accordingly.

It hadn’t reached the front of the mirror yet.

The ghost in the mirror that looked eerily similar to Zhang Wei had already completely turned into Miao Xiaoshan, petite and somewhat cute, with no trace of its previous appearance.

The only difference from a normal person would probably be the complexion.

That bloodless, pale complexion, and those eyes devoid of any human emotion, didn’t look like a normal person at all but like a lifeless puppet.

“Yang Jian~!”

Miao Xiaoshan, too shocked to speak, turned back with a terrified gaze to look at him.

The ghost in the mirror had transformed into her own likeness.

And was slowly merging with her shadow in the mirror.

“You keep doing what you’re doing, leave the rest to me,” Yang Jian said gravely.

“Okay, okay,” she stammered, trembling as she continued to write on the glass.

She almost dared not open her eyes to look at herself in the mirror.

“Cousin, don’t move. Everything will get better. We have to believe in Yang Jian, he will find a way,” Miao Xiaoshan still comforted Shangguan Yun.

If there was danger outside the mirror, she could run away at any moment.

But Shangguan Yun couldn’t, he was trapped in the mirror, and the ghost was right beside him... getting closer and closer.

Less than two meters away now.

Shangguan Yun shivered all over, his panic should have made him aware of the wrongness beside him.

Suddenly, footsteps sounded from behind.

Starting at the bathroom door, drawing nearer, coming towards this place.

The clear footprint echoed in the eerily silent bathroom, causing his hair to stand on end and his blood to freeze in that instant. Immense fear flooded his heart and almost drowned his reason.

Cold sweat streamed continuously down his face.

Curiosity and instinct drove him to subconsciously want to look back.

“Cousin, don’t turn around, don’t look, close your eyes,” Miao Xiaoshan wrote hastily, panic-stricken.

She didn’t want Shangguan Yun to see this scene.

Knowing the real ghost was at his side, even the mentally strongest person could break down.

However, the writing in front of the mirror couldn't curb Shangguan Yun's curiosity.

He ended up looking back.

Shangguan Yun saw someone who absolutely shouldn't have been there... it was his cousin, Miao Xiaoshan.

The appearance of a familiar person didn't offer him any comfort, only an incredible horror in his eyes.

His cousin was clearly outside the mirror, how could she possibly be here?

If the cousin outside the mirror was real, then who was this before him?

Almost subconsciously, the word "ghost" surfaced in his mind.

This cousin who suddenly walked in from outside the toilet might not be a person at all, but a ghost that looked exactly like his cousin.

Upon realizing this, Shangguan Yun cried out in alarm and fled in panic.

He wanted to get away from this cousin of his.

But the toilet was only so big, where could he run?

In the end, he just leaned against the wall, crying and screaming in horror, his sanity nearly on the verge of collapse.

However, no matter how much he collapsed and cried out, all this was inaudible to Yang Jian outside the mirror.

“Forget about your cousin now, he won’t die now since the ghost has no interest in your cousin, but in you now,” Yang Jian said, “Keep writing on the mirror, anything will do, you attracted this ghost, and now that it has taken on your appearance, you are definitely its target.”

“This is an opportunity, if you are afraid and want to give up, there’s still time.”

Although Miao Xiaoshan was afraid, she knew that once she gave up, her cousin would never come out of the mirror again.

“I, I’ll try my best.”

She bit her lip tightly, suppressing the fear in her heart, and continued to write and draw on the mirror, even though she didn’t know what she was writing.

Very soon.

The ghost in the mirror arrived in front of Miao Xiaoshan.

The exact same height, the exact same body shape, the exact same face.

It gradually fused with the image of Miao Xiaoshan in the mirror.

Identical to each other.

The ghost had become Miao Xiaoshan in the mirror.

But there was one difference, their expressions did not match; Miao Xiaoshan looked tense and fearful, while her reflection in the mirror appeared calm, cold, and emotionless.

And the mirror image stood still, while Miao Xiaoshan kept gesturing to the mirror.

“The ghost has taken on the appearance of Miao Xiaoshan; the remaining secret is how it will replace Miao Xiaoshan to come out of the mirror, and how Miao Xiaoshan would enter the mirror,” Yang Jian intently watched every move of the ghost in the mirror.

There’s no need to pay attention to other places anymore.

The only thing that needs to be watched is any action of this ghost before his eyes.

Suddenly.

The ghost in the mirror moved.

She imitated Miao Xiaoshan, biting her lips and raising her slender finger to draw on the mirror with careful strokes.

It was just that her movements were very slow and somewhat stiff. Although they matched Miao Xiaoshan’s actions, they seemed to be delayed. Miao Xiaoshan had already finished a horizontal stroke while the ghost in the mirror had just started.

“It’s completely mimicking Miao Xiaoshan’s every move, striving to be identical?” Yang Jian noticed this point.

The speed of the ghost in the mirror’s mimicry was very fast.

It previously couldn’t keep up with Miao Xiaoshan’s actions, but now, it was almost indistinguishable.

When Miao Xiaoshan raised her hand, the ghost in the mirror also lifted its hand.

She moved her lips, and the ghost in the mirror did the same.

But there was still a delay of less than a second, not quite a complete overlap, yet already almost as synonymous as her shadow.

“Once this ghost’s imitation of the person in front of the mirror reaches an astonishing synchronization, does that mean the ghost inside the mirror will come out, and the person outside will go in?” Yang Jian vaguely realized this critical point.

He couldn’t dare to let Miao Xiaoshan take risks any longer.

The ghost eye on his forehead instantly opened.

Red light enveloped the entire restroom.

Without Miao Xiaoshan noticing a thing, Yang Jian forcibly pulled her into his Ghost Domain.

And Yang Jian tried to extend the Ghost Domain into the mirror.

The attempt failed.

He could cover the entire mirror with the Ghost Domain but couldn’t penetrate it further.

“This ghost is very special,” Yang Jian could only conclude.

If the Ghost Domain is a special space formed by a fierce ghost, then the ghost in the mirror can also form a space within the mirror.

They do not affect each other and are even unable to intervene.

It's like drawing a circle on each side of a piece of paper.

Although both are on paper, they will never touch.

"However, if this ghost can come out of the mirror through some method, then at the moment it comes out, my Ghost Domain will be able to enter the mirror, even if just for an instant, that would be enough for me," Yang Jian thought as he calmly waited for that instant.

Only needing the blink of an eye, his Ghost Domain would be able to pull Shangguan Yun out from inside.

Suddenly.

At this moment.

The actions of the ghost in the mirror matched Miao Xiaoshan's.

As if the ghost had completely disappeared, leaving only an image in the mirror, no longer distinguishable from her.

And in that instant.

Yang Jian felt a strange pulling force within his Ghost Domain.

A distortion appeared somewhere in front of the mirror.

Red light seemed to be sucked into the mirror, along with Miao Xiaoshan in the Ghost Domain, as if they were to enter the mirror together.

And the ghost in the mirror was coming out to take Miao Xiaoshan's place.

Once the positions were successfully swapped, the previous scenario would replay, Miao Xiaoshan would end up like her cousin, entering the mirror, and the ghost would take her place in the real world.

“Now is the time.”

Yang Jian’s eyes sharpened, and Miao Xiaoshan in the Ghost Domain immediately disappeared from her spot, then appeared behind him, temporarily protected by him, preventing the ghost from succeeding.

The thing that took Miao Xiaoshan’s position was just a restroom stall door.

The next moment.

The stall door standing in front of the mirror instantly vanished, entering the mirror in a flash, but Miao Xiaoshan inside the mirror also disappeared.

However, it did not appear before Yang Jian.

It vanished eerily.

Since Miao Xiaoshan did not disappear into the mirror, the ghost failed to take her place and didn’t have an identity, so it remained invisible yet existent.

Now, Yang Jian’s Ghost Domain extended into the mirror, following that opposed position.

His guess was correct.

The moment the ghost emerged, the passage into the mirror space opened.

Shangguan Yun, almost driven to a mental breakdown with fright, was now enveloped in red light.

It was just a moment.

He vanished from inside the mirror, but appeared in the real restroom,

Success.

Seeing this, Yang Jian was delighted.

His estimation was correct.

“Let’s leave this place.”

Since the person had been rescued, Yang Jian had no reason to stay any longer.

A flash of red.

The three of them disappeared from the KTV together.

He was not greedy enough to try to detain the ghost, but chose to quit while he was ahead, safety first, after all, he no longer needed to risk his life catching ghosts for money, and even if he wanted to, he had no gold container to imprison them.

And for the sake of caution.

He kept his Ghost Domain as far away as possible from this place, completely avoiding the ghost’s entanglement.