

Revival 1441

Chapter 1441 - Hiring Help with Money

Although Tong Qian didn't really like the Tony teacher Yang Jian sent him, he had no choice but to accept it reluctantly for the sake of improving his makeup skills. Time was running out, and he quickly followed the Tony teacher to leave, finding a room to start urgent special training for makeup.

At the same time, Tong Qian also brought many captains' dossiers, especially photos, into the makeup room.

He needed to choose at least two photos from these captains' pictures, and then use makeup to transform his two ghost faces into the appearance shown in the photos.

During training, of course, ordinary cosmetics were used. Only when he was confident would he use the supernatural makeup kit.

Yang Jian didn't know whose face Tong Qian planned to use; he provided all the available dossiers and explained the pros and cons. He believed Tong Qian would make his own choice, so there was no need to worry much about it.

"Based on Tong Qian's personality, within a day, he would at least learn to draw three faces, because three faces are his limit and the most perfect he can achieve. To fight the King, he must go all out. Two faces are safe, but merely inheriting sixty percent of the supernatural isn't enough to take down a King, whereas sixty percent from three captains is different."

Yang Jian thought to himself.

"I really didn't expect that Tong Qian's ghost face would haunt him for so long and finally play a role at this moment. Maybe the ghost face itself was created to cooperate with ghost makeup. The cooperation level between these two supernatural powers is very high, perhaps this is Tong Qian's fate," Huang Ziya commented.

"I hope he can have an unexpected performance. Besides those captains' photos, I also gave him some photos of dangerous individuals. I wonder if he will choose them," Yang Jian said calmly.

At this moment, Li Yang spoke up: "Captain, do you think I have any weaknesses that need supplementing? Even temporary supernatural powers would do, I don't want to be a burden at that time."

"You currently master three supernatural powers: the door-knocking killing, blocking the door, and pulling people inside the door. The balance level is very high, and mastering new supernatural powers would only disrupt your balance. In addition to the supernatural hook and the door handle of the Ghost Gate, there's a chance to strike a decisive blow. However, dealing with the King is still a bit forced, but you're not acting alone; you need to act together with other candidate captains. So your current abilities are already sufficient."

Yang Jian pondered for a moment and said, "Having the strength of a captain is very difficult. Tong Qian is special, and no one else has been able to make a ghost fall into a deadlock state after controlling two ghosts. Therefore, he has great potential, which was released today."

"And your supernatural power potential is visible unless you're willing to risk controlling the Door Knocking Ghost. But I advise you not to do so. When the Door Knocking Ghost was alive, he was extraordinary, and his path cannot be copied. Recklessly controlling it could easily lead to your death. So I think as long as you make good use of your supernatural power and the Ghost Gate, I believe you can have unexpected performances."

He had no suggestions to offer Li Yang to improve.

The balance of three ghosts currently achieved best by Li Leping.

However, Li Leping also experiences moments of losing control at night and transforms into a wandering ghost. Therefore, Li Yang's path to improvement is very difficult.

"Since the captain said so, I will dismiss my thoughts on it. I should focus on making good use of my supernatural powers to defeat the opponents, rather than aiming too high," Li Yang said.

Yang Jian said, "That's right, your supernatural power isn't weak, you have the capital to confront the King. So the matter is settled, the latest by midnight tomorrow, you and Tong Qian need to arrive at Dadong City. Headquarters will send you the exact location later, and the arrangements will depend on the specific circumstances then."

"Okay, Captain." Li Yang nodded.

Yang Jian looked at the others: "Wang Yong, Huang Ziya, you two will be in charge of Dachang City, taking shifts. As for Xiong Wenwen..."

"Xiao Yang, don't look at me like that. I haven't offended you," Xiong Wenwen shrank his neck, wanting to flee.

He was afraid of being targeted by Yang Jian and dragged into the battle with the King and the captains.

After all, he was still a child, and that was an adult matter, irrelevant to him.

"Premonition is a very important supernatural power. Your current body was given to you by Leuk San, and since Leuk San, as a captain, cannot remain outside this war, if Leuk San is gone, you will disappear too. So I suggest you leave Dachang City with me and get involved," Yang Jian voiced his thoughts.

"I don't want to, I'm not going, I want to go home and do homework," Xiong Wenwen protested vehemently.

"You don't have to be afraid. No one would ask a child to fight. But staying here is useless, your life is tied to Leuk San, so you might as well take a look. Maybe there's something you can help with." Yang Jian said. "I've decided, and it's settled."

"My mom definitely won't agree, give it up," Xiong Wenwen said.

Yang Jian replied, "I'll have a word with your mom, and she will agree."

He decided to take Xiong Wenwen away. It might not be needed, but it was good for numbers. Besides, in some crucial moments, this premonition ability might come in handy.

Xiong Wenwen continued to resist strongly but it was to no avail, as Yang Jian had already made the decision. No matter what, he would take Xiong Wenwen away from Dachang City.

After arranging some company matters, Yang Jian didn't stay any longer.

As it was almost dawn, he still needed to visit a place.

It was a very ordinary small city.

But near this unremarkable small city, Yang Jian had left the Ghost Lake's supernatural, making it convenient for him to come anytime.

In the old city section of this small town, there is a narrow alley.

The alley is quite historical, with an uneven surface paved with bluestone bricks, and the shops on both sides are built with old brick-and-wood structures. Such scenes are quite rare in a modernized society.

The purpose of Yang Jian's visit was a Chinese medicine shop in this alley that has stood for nearly a hundred years.

This medicine shop was established by the last elderly person from the Republic of China Era.

However, at this moment, the shop was already closed, and the alley was silent, with not a single passerby.

Yang Jian's ghost eyes stared at the medicine shop for a moment.

A terrifying supernatural interference appeared, causing the shop in his vision to become illusory and distorted, as if it might disappear from his sight at any moment. Yet, to ordinary people, the shop appeared perfectly normal.

Just as Yang Jian was standing at the shop's door, contemplating, a small door next to the shop's main entrance opened.

A woman with fair skin and an alluring mature beauty appeared behind the small door. She wore a white dress and seemed to emit a faint white glow while standing in the darkness, making her particularly conspicuous.

"Yang Jian, the master will not see you. He does not wish to partake in the supernatural circle's struggles. His existence is meant to witness the birth of a unique being. To the master, chaos is actually an opportunity, so you should leave," said Xiao Ru.

Evidently, the shop's owner was already aware of Yang Jian's purpose for this visit.

"I came here merely to observe the attitude of this top figure from the Republic of China Period, not to seek assistance. However, I had anticipated such a result," Yang Jian nodded and decided not to linger, planning to leave immediately.

Yet, at that moment, a flirtatious, teasing voice echoed from behind: "He may not be interested in this affair, but I might be."

The next moment, a young, beautifully slender woman, wearing a red cheongsam and red high heels, swayed her hips as she emerged from the darkness behind Xiao Ru.

"Sister Hong?" Yang Jian's eyelids twitched.

"Surprised to see me?" Sister Hong chuckled softly as she stepped past Xiao Ru and walked out of the shop.

Yang Jian said, "Not really surprised. You people from the Republic of China Period all know each other, so your appearance here does make sense. Why, are you interested in this war?"

"To be honest, not really. Our era was much more chaotic than yours is now. If we got involved, history would have long been altered, but we haven't, because compared to the supernatural, many things are insignificant. Besides, we also had supernatural circle wars back then, with a brutality you can hardly imagine," Sister Hong replied.

"In that case, what are you here for? To reminisce?" Yang Jian glanced and said.

Sister Hong said, "Not at all. Although I'm not interested and don't want to participate, if you want to hire external aid, you can name a price. If the price is right, I can go with you tonight. How about it?"

After speaking, she winked flirtatiously at Yang Jian.

"How much do you want?" Yang Jian's eyes flickered. He knew Sister Hong had her sights set on the Ghost Money he possessed.

After all, all the Ghost Money collected by the headquarters was in his hands. Other supernatural circles might have some, but certainly not as much as he did.

"That depends on how much you think I'm worth," Sister Hong smiled, not in a hurry to name her price.

"I don't have much Ghost Money, only forty yuan. If you can take down a King, I'll give you twenty yuan," Yang Jian said seriously.

Sister Hong laughed, "Only twenty yuan to make me go with you? So stingy. But money's hard to earn these days; fine, twenty it is. Just don't go back on your word later."

"We'll see if you can do it. Don't underestimate the King. With your current state, without using some special tricks, it's uncertain who will prevail," Yang Jian replied calmly.

He didn't have high expectations for Sister Hong, after all, she wasn't Zhang Youhong from the Republic of China Period.

But Yang Jian still decided to give it a try. After all, there was nothing to lose.

Sister Hong chuckled and said, "Don't underestimate others. I'll come find you when the time comes."

"Alright, I'll be waiting," Yang Jian replied.

After he finished speaking, he didn't stay any longer, quickly turning around and leaving the alley, then disappearing into this inconspicuous small city.

After he left, Xiao Ru said, "Sister Hong, his price was too low."

"Not too low, and besides, it's time for us old, obsolete things to show up and be of some use, isn't it?" Sister Hong said with a smile.

Chapter 1442 - The Uninformed Statue

Although Sister Hong's appearance was unexpected, Yang Jian didn't want any conflict with her at this critical moment. He was even willing to spend some Ghost Money to cooperate with her.

"It's dawn."

At this moment, Yang Jian raised his head slightly and looked towards the horizon.

It was already five o'clock in the morning, and the sky was getting brighter. The dark night was finally over, but his mood was not relaxed; instead, it was a bit urgent, because another day passing meant the Ghost Ship was closer to landing.

He didn't complain at this moment and continued to the next location.

This time, Yang Jian arrived at the headquarters.

Despite it being five in the morning, the headquarters was brightly lit, with many staff members working overnight.

Yang Jian's sudden appearance immediately drew the staff's attention. As the news was reported, soon, the sleep-deprived Cao Yanhua, with bloodshot eyes and accompanied by two assistants, rushed over.

Yang Jian glanced at him: "Cao Yanhua, you're prone to sudden death like this. Better go rest."

"Sudden death isn't that easy. Don't worry."

Cao Yanhua rubbed his face to wake himself up: "Why have you come to headquarters at this time when the situation in Dadong City has just ended not long ago? Is there something important?"

"Nothing important. I just need to go to the headquarters' warehouse to retrieve some supernatural items," Yang Jian replied.

Cao Yanhua understood immediately: "The Ghost Candle and surrogate dolls? You could just call, and I'd have someone deliver them. No need for you to come personally."

"I'm more efficient in action," Yang Jian said.

"Xiao Liu, take Captain Yang to the warehouse." Cao Yanhua quickly instructed one of the assistants.

Yang Jian said: "No need. I can go by myself. I just came to say hello, so when things go missing from the warehouse, you won't be in the dark."

He had entered the warehouse last time, leaving behind the supernatural element of Ghost Lake, allowing him to enter anytime and take what he needed without being noticed.

"Alright then, I won't send anyone with you." Cao Yanhua signaled Xiao Liu to return.

Yang Jian said: "Also, I have a question to ask you. If it's inconvenient to answer, forget it."

"You are the Enforcement Captain. At the headquarters, there's nothing you can't know. What do you want to ask, Yang Jian?"

Cao Yanhua glanced around, and the two assistants understood, immediately spreading out to block others from approaching.

"You must be aware of the situation with the King Organization and the captains' confrontation today. Though we won today, the situation remains grim. With Cao Yang retreating and Li Jun and Ah Hong lost, the captains' numbers are rapidly dwindling, while the King Organization hasn't exerted full force; many Kings haven't truly revealed themselves."

"You know very well, Cao Yanhua, that the real fierce battle will be the moment before the Ghost Ship lands, so our people immediately chose to prepare for battle after today's fight ended... Therefore, I now really want to know whether Old Qin, sealed in the statue, is alive or dead."

Yang Jian pressed his voice to inquire, wanting to get accurate information on the headquarters' last trump card.

Cao Yanhua's gaze shifted slightly. He walked a few steps closer to Yang Jian, whispering: "At this point, I should indeed tell you some secrets, as the current headquarters exists because of you. But regarding Old Qin, I genuinely can't be certain because when Old Qin voluntarily sealed himself in the statue, he only said he'd sleep in the statue for a period until he died. So now, whether Old Qin is sleeping or has already died, no one can be sure. Only opening the statue can reveal the truth."

"So that statue is now just a blind box?" Yang Jian frowned.

"Not moving it maintains its deterrent effect. If it's moved and fails to work, proving Old Qin is dead, it will be trouble. Thus, when Professor Wang was alive, plans were made never to move the statue," Cao Yanhua continued to whisper.

"A dead Old Qin is more useful than a living one? I understand. But you must also know if the situation becomes irretrievably severe, even without moving Old Qin's statue, it will have lost its significance," Yang Jian said.

Cao Yanhua sighed: "Yes, if all the captains are exhausted and the statue has not moved, it undoubtedly proves the Old Qin inside is dead."

"I will take the statue during a critical time, then open it to see if Old Qin is truly dead. Whether to let Old Qin wake up and fight once more, or unleash a fierce ghost will depend on my luck."

Yang Jian said calmly, his ghost eye turning, looking at the statue standing in the headquarters hall.

The statue made of gold couldn't be pried by any supernatural means, even Yang Jian could only smash it to ascertain its state.

"I have no objection to your plan." Cao Yanhua didn't object either, knowing clearly that when it came to desperate times, anything goes, nothing can be held back.

"Since there are no objections, let's settle it this way."

Yang Jian said no more, walking to the statue, he left behind the supernatural of Ghost Lake, then vanished from sight.

Yet, Yang Jian did not leave the headquarters; instead, he entered the headquarters' warehouse.

The warehouse was filled with large boxes containing the resources accumulated over the years at the headquarters. Some of these resources were depleting with no replenishment.

Yang Jian casually opened a box, neatly packed inside were rows of red Ghost Candles. Though these items had significant roles in supernatural events, against the Kings and Captains, a single Ghost Candle could only fend off a supernatural attack once and wasn't that effective.

He opened another box, which contained strange, oddly shaped cloth dolls.

All of these were surrogate dolls, and their numbers were already dwindling.

Without hesitation, Yang Jian took half of the surrogate dolls and Ghost Candles, choosing to leave the rest in the warehouse.

It wasn't that he didn't want to take them all, but there were only a few captains who could use these, and he had to leave a bit behind. If this battle was lost, other responsible parties at the headquarters would still have supernatural items to use, not ending up with nothing.

Watching each supernatural item sink into the water, Yang Jian returned to his thoughts.

He knew it was time to go.

Yang Jian didn't linger in the warehouse for long and soon left again.

This time, he didn't wander aimlessly but after a round trip returned to Guanjiang Residential Complex,

He wanted to see his mother, and meanwhile have Jiang Yan and Zhang Liqin document the recent occurrences, so he could focus on dealing with the people from the King Organization.

It was morning,

yet a villa along the river in the Guanjiang Residential Complex remained brightly lit.

Looking at this house, Yang Jian couldn't help but recall when he first became a ghost rider.

Back then, he went all in to save some money to ensure his mother could spend her remaining days in comfort, never imagining he'd achieve his current accomplishments, every move he made now affecting the destinies of countless people.

With some emotion, Yang Jian returned home.

Chapter 1443 - Sudden Peace Talks

"You now know about matters between the King Organization and Headquarters. Despite holding the title of Enforcement Captain, there are many things I can't just push away even if I wanted to. The people from the King Organization are already fixated on me; even if I didn't want to get involved, I can't stay out of it."

In the room, Yang Jian stood by the bed, looking at the Jiang Jing in the distance, expressing some of his inner thoughts.

Zhang Liqin and Jiang Yan had just finished recording the situation. As they lazily lay back on the bed, Yang Jian's voice reached their ears.

"So it's uncertain whether I'll return safely after this departure, but I should make preparations early, as always."

Yang Jian turned to the two and said, "You have followed me for a long time and know how I've come this far. I dislike burning bridges, so if I die on this trip, you will continue to take care of my mother as before. In appreciation, I will leave most of my assets to you."

"Yang Jian, don't say that. Taking care of Auntie is our duty, and I believe you'll be fine this time," Jiang Yan immediately stood up and said with some concern.

"Who knows? Anyway, leaving a will is never a bad idea, just in case I die suddenly with regrets. But it's not the first time doing this, just consider it going through the motions, no need to be too nervous. Also, after having lunch with my mom today, I'll be leaving. Matters at the company have been arranged, so you guys don't have to work for the next few days, just stay at home. If anything happens, you can call on the Ghost Child; I've left it at the Guanjiang Residential Complex," Yang Jian said calmly.

As soon as he finished speaking,

a strange child in burial clothes peeked its head out from behind the curtains, swaying left and right, its pupil-less eyes seemingly observing everything around it.

Yang Jian mentioned the name of the Ghost Child just now, and since Guanjiang Residential Complex is the Ghost Child's domain, it appears immediately whenever its name is spoken.

"I didn't ask you to show up; leave here now," Yang Jian glanced over and said.

The Ghost Child quickly withdrew its head and disappeared behind the curtain.

Faced with such a bizarre scene, Jiang Yan and Zhang Liqin were unsurprised. Instead, the appearance of the Ghost Child added a sense of safety, without fear due to its identity.

"President Yang, you know Jiang Yan and I are just ordinary women. Apart from handling some life matters for you, we can't help with anything in the supernatural circle. But hearing you so calmly leave a last will every time actually terrifies us inside, fearing that one day you might really disappear without coming back."

Zhang Liqin sighed softly at this moment, "To put it bluntly, if you're really gone, do you think Jiang Yan and I could survive? We've always been your people, and our situation in the supernatural circle might already be fully investigated. Once there's a settlement, none of us can escape."

"But I didn't say this out of regret for following you, because without you, we'd be long dead, so even out of selfishness, I hope you can live on."

"I understand what you're saying, and you've put it very tactfully. You're trying to say that if I die and there's a settlement, not just you but even my mom wouldn't be able to escape," Yang Jian said with a slight change in his gaze.

Zhang Liqin nodded.

Yang Jian gave a calm smile, "You're quite bold to remind me of this, but the situation now is not like before. You should know this from the notes you just recorded; if we lose this time, many people will die, and supernatural incidents will go completely out of control, leading to all kinds of dire situations. There's no choice but to fight desperately, and as for what happens afterward, it'll be left to fate."

"Alright, I've said what I needed to say. You go buy some groceries from the community supermarket and prepare today's lunch."

The two nodded and didn't continue the conversation, immediately leaving to prepare lunch.

Yang Jian rested for a few hours, had lunch, and then left Dachang City on his own, heading to Dadong City again.

In a day's time, he completed all the preparations he could.

However, it's not just him working hard; other captains are also trying their best because this is a battle concerning life and death for everyone, and no one will take it lightly.

When Yang Jian appeared at Ning'an Building in Dadong City, Wang Guoqiang brought the latest news.

"Yang Team, just half an hour ago, there was a temporary negotiation between the King Organization and our Headquarters. The people from the King Organization want to have a teleconference with you, hoping to resolve some contradictions and conflicts peacefully, and potentially avoid this inevitable war."

Yang Jian was stunned upon hearing this, feeling very surprised, "The other side wants to negotiate?"

"It seems they have that intention," Wang Guoqiang nodded.

Lu Zhiwen, on the side, said with a cold expression, "They suffered a big loss last night. It's estimated there are internal issues within the King Organization. Wanting to negotiate is not impossible; after all, the Ghost Ship will dock in a few days. The timing is tight; they don't dare to gamble anymore. Once the Ghost Ship docks, there's no turning back."

Yang Jian's gaze moved slightly, "Are you implying we should agree to negotiate with them?"

"If the other side is willing to delay a bit under the guise of negotiation, we're also happy to oblige, aren't we? And we know the chances of negotiation are almost nonexistent. Even if they don't want to continue the fight, we absolutely cannot allow the King Organization to exist. Their proposed Ark Project is too dangerous. As long as this organization exists, there's a possibility of implementing that plan. We must eliminate them in one effort," Lu Zhiwen said seriously.

Yang Jian asked, "Do others know about the other side wanting to negotiate?"

"Most of the captains are already aware," Lu Zhiwen said.

Wang Guoqiang said, "The people from the King Organization said the negotiation can be done through an online video, no need for face-to-face. Of course, there's also the possibility they want to launch a surprise attack on us through this method. Yang Team, do you think we should refuse or agree?"

Yang Jian pondered for a moment, "A surprise attack through a video call is obviously very dumb, not so easy to kill a captain, and since we're about to have a meeting, everyone will naturally be on guard against this. Since they want to talk, let's see what they really want."

He also knew the likelihood of negotiation was zero, but now both sides had concerns. The King Organization no longer had the upper hand they used to, and the Headquarters was not a pushover either.

With equal strength, the right to dialogue naturally exists.

Yang Jian agreed to negotiate with the King Organization, letting Wang Guoqiang convey the response.

Soon, news came back from Wang Guoqiang's side that the video conference would be held in an hour.

"This time, we won't let too many captains make an appearance, just the two of us and Leuk San will do. Our intelligence information has already been leaked, so it doesn't matter. The other captains' information hasn't been exposed yet, no need for them to be seen. Also, the video conference won't be here; choose a new location," Yang Jian continued.

"Rest assured, Yang Team, I'll handle it," Wang Guoqiang got busy, selecting a new address and setting up video conference equipment.

Lu Zhiwen turned to ask at this moment, "Yang Jian, how's the preparation for the war on our side?"

"You come from the Intelligence and Archives Department of Headquarters, and you don't know the war preparation?" Yang Jian asked.

"I really don't know the latest situation. Can you reveal a bit? So I can have a handle on it and make further arrangements," Lu Zhiwen asked with an impassive expression.

Yang Jian said, "Ye Zhen from Dahai City has been convinced; he's coming to Dadong City today. I reckon he'll arrive in the afternoon. Also, Zhang Xiangguang's side has been settled, but we must assume the risk of releasing him. I also spent some cost inviting an external aid named Sister Hong; if you encounter

her next time, don't attack her, but also be wary as her stance is complex. Lastly, I went to Dachang City to bring over my teammates Li Yang and Tong Qian."

"Ye Zhen, Zhang Xiangguang, Sister Hong? It seems things are progressing smoothly. I'll inform the other captains then," Lu Zhiwen nodded.

"How's your side of things?" Yang Jian also asked.

Lu Zhiwen replied with a blank expression, "Several captain candidates are already on their way to Dadong City. Moreover, He Yiner has come to her senses and invited the two residents from Taiping Town who participated in the Ghost Lake event last time. Leuk San has also transferred all his paper figures to Dadong City. Now, you can encounter Leuk San's paper figures anytime on the road. This essentially spreads our intelligence network."

"He Yuelian has also released the ghost painting in this period. Coastal cities are connected, and if needed, they can be pulled into the ghost painting world in the shortest time, avoiding greater harm between us and the King Organization. This can be considered half a Peach Blossom Plan."

"Wang Chaling wants to ask you, Yang Team, where do you plan to place the Supernatural Pendulum Clock?"

"I haven't decided on the location for the Supernatural Pendulum Clock yet. It might be used at the last moment. Tell him not to rush; this Supernatural Pendulum Clock is our final trump card and can't be used unless it's critical," Yang Jian said. "From the current situation, our strength is rapidly increasing, and various responsive measures have been displayed. Things are better than expected."

Lu Zhiwen nodded, "The foundation of the headquarters is still there. Although we were caught by surprise before, now that we've responded, we won't lose too much to them. Now, as long as we stay united, it'll be hard for them to take us down."

"Certainly. They're also afraid of dying. Seeing we're not easy to deal with, they proposed today's negotiation. Alright, go call Leuk San's paper figures over. It's time we talked with these King Organization folks," Yang Jian said.

Chapter 1444 - An Unpleasant Conversation

Yang Jian, Lu Zhiwen, and Leuk San's paper effigy, the three of them decided to initiate a video conference with the people from the King Organization.

Although both sides knew the conflict was irreconcilable, neither side wanted the next battle to break out so soon because, quite simply, no one was prepared.

Yang Jian and the others hadn't thought of a way to deal with the Ghost Ship, and the other side was also not completely confident in defeating the captains from headquarters.

Thus, a negotiation under such circumstances appeared reasonable.

In a spacious indoor area in Dadong City.

Wang Guoqiang had already set up the equipment indoors, ready to start the meeting at any moment.

"The time is about right, everything is prepared on this end, we can connect with the people from the King Organization to start this meeting," Yang Jian said.

"Alright, Captain Yang." Wang Guoqiang nodded and had the staff turn on the equipment.

Immediately, an image appeared on the screen next to them.

The screen showed the other side's scene, also an indoor conference room. There was nothing special about the place, making it impossible to analyze the location from the scene. In the conference room was a large table, with several eerie individuals sitting in front of the table, looking toward this side of the screen.

"Only six people?" Yang Jian glanced at the screen, seeing not many people, only six.

Obviously, the other side also didn't plan to have all the Kings participate in this conference, with the same purpose as Yang Jian to hide information, unwilling to expose too much King information.

Through observation, Yang Jian saw a familiar person in the image, someone who had previously clashed with Li Leping at Xiangjiang Wharf, seemingly referred to as the Preacher.

The other five were unrecognizable and very unfamiliar. Moreover, at this meeting, the Preacher wasn't sitting in the main position but sat aside, looking gloomy and seemingly in a bad mood.

"Mister Yang, I am very surprised that you agreed to this video conference. Even though this is our first meeting and there are some conflicts, I believe we can have a pleasant afternoon," a foreign man wearing a gentleman's hat, looking like a noble, said with a smile in the video.

"Let me introduce myself, my name is Charlie, and this time I represent the King Organization to negotiate with Mister Yang who represents the Asia headquarters..."

"Let's cut the crap and get straight to the point. I don't have much time to chat idly with you here. If this is just a bunch of useless nonsense, I might as well just disconnect," Yang Jian waved his hand, directly interrupting Charlie's words, displaying impatience in his tone.

Facing such an attitude, Charlie from the King Organization didn't show any dissatisfaction, only offered a stiff smile: "Since Mister Yang put it that way, I won't waste words either. Indeed, there have been several conflicts between the King Organization and the headquarters Mister Yang represents in recent days."

"Both sides have suffered losses; if this situation continues, I think neither of us will be happy. How about a temporary ceasefire? As long as Mister Yang agrees, I will have the King Organization's personnel withdraw from your country and promise to cancel the Ghost Ship plan, preventing it from landing in your country. What does Mister Yang think?"

Charlie appeared to demonstrate enough sincerity from the get-go, willing to withdraw the King Organization's personnel and cancel the Ark plan.

But such conditions were just tricks for kids.

In the current situation, daring to stay in the country would be waiting to be cleaned out by the captains; withdrawing or not made no difference. As for canceling the Ark plan, it was downright laughable. The Ghost Ship was floating on the sea, and as long as the other side wanted, they could have the Ghost Ship dock at any time.

Therefore, while it appeared sincere, in reality, it amounted to nothing.

Yang Jian calmly said, "The war has already been provoked by you. You killed two of our captains. Things can't calm down anymore. I declared war a few days ago, which means we will fight your King Organization until the end. You may go ahead with your ridiculous Ark plan. I will annihilate every last one of you lunatics sooner or later."

His attitude was clear: no negotiations, just keep fighting.

Charlie's face in the video momentarily froze, somewhat surprised by Yang Jian's thoughts.

Clearly just nodding could have kept the peace. Why refuse?

Aren't the people of this country the ones who least want to go to war?

"Mister Yang, I wonder whether your previous statement represents your personal opinion or the headquarters' stance?" Charlie asked.

"I represent the headquarters; my opinion is the headquarters' opinion."

Yang Jian bluntly said, "Don't think about stalling for time. You can proceed with allowing the Ghost Ship to dock, but correspondingly, I will initiate the Flood plan. I don't believe the headquarters will lose to these so-called organizations. After all, I've seen your strength, and it's nothing much. Annihilating all you Kings isn't a difficult thing."

"Damn bastard," upon hearing this, the other members of the King Organization couldn't help but stand up and shout angrily.

Yang Jian glanced over; it was an unfamiliar King who hadn't shown up before, and it was unclear what kind of supernatural powers he controlled.

"Charlie, if you're representing the King Organization, you should manage your subordinates properly. It's not time for him to speak yet."

"Charlie doesn't represent all of us," the unfamiliar King said, suppressing his voice.

Yang Jian said, "I see, you don't represent the King Organization, so this so-called negotiation is meaningless. There's no need to continue our conversation. Contact me when you become the leader of the King Organization; I'll be happy to continue today's topic then."

Charlie looked very displeased at the moment. He didn't get angry at Yang Jian but instead glanced at the person who spoke earlier: "Can you do me a favor and keep your mouth shut? Even if it's just for ten minutes, let me finish what I'm saying. Don't interrupt our conversation during the meeting. This is a warning; there won't be a next time."

"As expected, there's a lot of internal conflict in the King Organization," Lu Zhiwen thought to himself.

Leuk San's paper figure couldn't help but grin; he knew Yang Jian was deliberately sowing discord among the other party, but he also wanted to see this scene unfold.

The unfamiliar King didn't refute Charlie and sat down, suppressing his anger, but it seemed the grudge was against Yang Jian. He stared at Yang Jian, wishing to tear him apart.

Unfortunately, a glare can't kill, especially through an online connection.

Yang Jian remained calm and was unaffected.

Charlie spoke again, "I'm sorry, Mister Yang, I think our discussion should continue; it shouldn't end so easily after being disturbed, because no one can be certain if we can sit here alive again. It's about equal exchange, isn't it? So we should cherish this opportunity."

"Once again, I refuse to call for a ceasefire, and I'm confident I can take down the King Organization and stop your Ark plan. If you still want peace talks, I suggest you give up; there's no room for negotiation here," Yang Jian firmly stated.

Lu Zhiwen chimed in, "You started the war; your King Organization members teamed up to kill one of our captains. If you want peace talks, at least let us see your sincerity. If your King Organization is willing

to hand over the murderer and cancel the Ark plan, I might be willing to persuade Yang Jian to ceasefire with your organization."

Apparently, Lu Zhiwen was echoing Yang Jian at this moment.

Yang Jian needed to maintain absolute confidence and strength, while Lu Zhiwen aimed to leverage Yang Jian's confidence and strength to gain some benefits.

Thinking of a ceasefire without benefits? Dream on.

Charlie's eyes shifted slightly, then he said, "I'm sorry, but the death of your Captain Zhang Jun was truly an accident. He had been investigating our organization and killed several of our important members. Without revealing his identity, we accidentally killed him, and for that, I express deep regret here. It was all a misunderstanding, and today I want to clear up this misunderstanding."

Misunderstanding?

Yang Jian sneered, "Now that you can't beat us, you say it's a misunderstanding. That wasn't your attitude before, so there's nothing worth negotiating. You Kings better wait; you will regret starting this unnecessary war in a few days."

"Mister Yang, calm down first. I think there's still room for moderation. I don't think you want to see your captains dying in an unnecessary war. You might win in the end, but it will be hard for you to bear the cost," Charlie said calmly.

"Maybe taking you down will come at a smaller cost than imagined," Yang Jian said expressionlessly.

Charlie said, "It seems Mister Yang hasn't calmed down yet, still upset over last night's events. In that case, I'll give Mister Yang three days to cool down; three days later, we can talk here again. What do you think?"

Lu Zhiwen immediately chimed in, "I also think both of us should calm down. Let's talk at the same time three days later; maybe by then, you'll understand a lot of things."

Yang Jian frowned and remained silent.

Charlie nodded, then disconnected the video.

As soon as the video was disconnected.

Leuk San's paper figure shook its head and said, "The other side is cunning, not wanting to pay any cost, just trying to buy time. The peace talks are indeed just a facade."

"This was to be expected," Lu Zhiwen said calmly, "Yang Jian, what are your thoughts?"

"No particular thoughts. The other side seems prepared to face off against us, but time is too tight. They can't figure out our trump card now, so they don't dare to continue attacking, thus wanting a few days to assess our situation," Yang Jian said, then seriously added, "I think we can act in advance to pressure them."

"The opponent's momentum is already lacking. As long as we apply enough pressure, there will definitely be significant problems within the King Organization. Their power structure is very complex, unlike us, so their unity isn't as strong as ours. The situation in the meeting just now was the best illustration."

Chapter 1445 - The Emergence of the Nightmare

A video conference ended hastily, and both sides' attitudes were clear.

Although the King Organization had suffered a setback, they clearly did not want to let it rest. They just wanted to delay for a few days, to have more time to prepare, while Yang Jian's attitude was very firm, determined to eliminate the King Organization and remove it from this world. He also showed enough confidence, with no intention of negotiating at all.

So, the meeting ended on a sour note.

"It's rare; the other side didn't pull any tricks during the video conference. Probably because they saw we only had three captains appearing, even if they acted, they wouldn't gain any advantage, so they chose to hold back," Leuk San said.

Yang Jian glanced over: "How are you so sure they have a way to kill across the internet?"

Leuk San's paper figure gave a strange smile: "They initiated this video conference, and if they didn't have such supernatural means, why bother? They could just have a few agents come out to negotiate; there's no need to appear in person. By taking part personally, they risk information leakage. Even so, they were willing to do this, clearly trying to gain more advantages."

"If we had gathered all the captains and candidate captains this time, showing utmost importance to this meeting, I bet they would have made a move."

"Makes sense. Attacking during a video conference might not kill everyone, but as long as we have enough people, some would be unable to resist and would die under a supernatural assault. I recall some special killing methods abroad, such as the phone killing code-named Ghost Call, the midnight doorbell murder, and the death melody murder... As for a video curse murder, it's not impossible," Lu Zhiwen mentioned some foreign supernatural events.

However, those supernatural events have disappeared, but the supernatural powers will not; most likely, they've been controlled by the King Organization's ghost tamers.

Just like the Ghost Door Knocker incident in the country, now the supernatural being of the Ghost Door Knocker is controlled by Li Yang.

"Is there any way to locate the King Organization's position?" Yang Jian said, "I want to take further action within these three days."

Lu Zhiwen thought for a moment and said: "Though they showed their faces during the video conference, they didn't reveal their names. That so-called Charlie King should also be a pseudonym. Without real information, it's hard to pinpoint their location, and even if we did, taking action would be very unwise. The other side must already be gathered together, and acting could be very risky."

Leuk San said, "I have found one of their intelligence ghost tamers, but that person is not in reality, but connected through consciousness, making it hard to pinpoint."

"Not in reality?"

Yang Jian glanced over, and immediately said: "That's simple, I'll have my dog follow you. It can invade the consciousness of living people and pull people into dreams."

"If that's the case, you come find me. My main body is in an apartment in Dadong City," Leuk San's paper figure immediately revealed his location.

"Alright, then let's not waste time, take action immediately, and see if we can get hold of their intelligence. If not, destroying their intelligence organization is also a good thing." Yang Jian immediately stood up and then said, "Lu Zhiwen, today many candidate captains will come to Dadong City, you handle the reception."

"No problem," Lu Zhiwen nodded.

Yang Jian quickly disappeared from the conference room, activating his Ghost Domain to head to Leuk San's main body's location.

Leuk San's address was not spoken out.

Soon, Yang Jian appeared in an empty apartment building, where the real Leuk San was sitting on a sofa, eyes closed as if asleep.

"This is the recording device used by the King Organization's intelligence officer, which can play a piece of eerie music. That music can pull a person's consciousness into a special place. The other side contacts this way, which means there is no specific base for the King Organization in reality."

At this moment, Leuk San's voice sounded, but a paper figure walked out from the room next door and briefly explained the situation.

Yang Jian glanced over, and indeed, an old-fashioned tape recorder was placed in front of the sleeping Leuk San.

"How long have you been like this?" he asked.

"I've gone in to investigate several times, but each time got lost. This time, it's been quite long, several hours already," said Leuk San's paper figure.

Yang Jian squinted and said: "Your consciousness being pulled into a supernatural place essentially means you're going into their territory. The opponent surely has some safety measures to prevent unrelated people from getting in. However, such tricks are useless for me; as long as I bring my dog inside, everything can be resolved."

"Your dog is too ferocious; I don't dare to act recklessly. You should bring your dog and go together."
Leuk San's paper figure shook its head, considerably wary of the Evil Hound Yang Jian reared.

After all, that dog is a true ghost, and one never knows when it might go out of control.

"If you're not at ease, I can go either way. How is this thing used?" Yang Jian didn't mind; he picked up the old recording device.

One of Leuk San's paper figures taught Yang Jian the usage method of the recorder.

Soon, Yang Jian started using it according to the instructions.

He first entered a code, then heard a familiar, eerie music coming from the recorder.

"Why does this sound so much like the curse bell of the Eight-Tone Music Box? But the melody is off; it's not the Eight-Tone Music Box's melody, it's another melody, but undoubtedly, this and the Eight-Tone Music Box's bell must be of the same type." Yang Jian recognized the music immediately upon hearing it.

It seems to be one of the puzzle pieces of the Eight-Tone Music Box's bell. He had found a piece of the bell before at Caesar Grand Hotel, and didn't expect this third piece to be abroad.

"The bell can guide consciousness to enter an unknown place?"

Listening to this bell, Yang Jian felt as if his consciousness was indeed being drawn, his vision blurring as if seeing another scene.

It was a spacious hall... In the middle of the hall seemed to be a piano.

But soon.

A low growl from the Evil Hound echoed in his mind, instantly breaking Yang Jian's consciousness free from a certain supernatural restraint, snapping him back to clarity.

"Take me in for the intrusion." Yang Jian immediately commanded the Evil Hound.

His consciousness was pulled again, but this time he was not affected, instead it felt like he was willingly entering that unknown supernatural realm.

Very soon.

The scene before his eyes shifted once more. Yang Jian felt as if he had successfully entered a spacious hall in the form of consciousness, but along with him appeared an Evil Hound by his side.

"Is this the supernatural place Leuk San mentioned that only consciousness can enter?" He looked around, finding it amazing, as he couldn't see his own body, yet he could feel his existence.

Moreover, the way he walked was strange.

Without the sensation of legs, his entire being seemed like a mysterious floating object, drifting in the air.

This was completely different from when entering the Ghost Dream.

Seeing this, Yang Jian couldn't help but ponder: "Leuk San's situation upon entering here should be the same as mine. He has no physical form, so he shouldn't be able to see me, just as I can't see him. Every operative here is invisible to each other, thus Leuk San's investigation was hindered."

"But how do the operatives who enter here leave information? Perhaps there's a place akin to an archive room here, and Leuk San might be searching for such a place."

He gradually understood some of the situation here.

No wonder the King Organization is so secretive. Even though Leuk San infiltrated it, he found nothing noteworthy.

"However, I need not follow Leuk San's old path. This is their territory; naturally, I must abide by their rules. But what I need to do now is make this my territory, follow my rules." Yang Jian mused to himself, then once again issued a command to the Evil Hound beside him.

"Infiltrate here and drag all the consciousnesses into the nightmare."

The Evil Hound quickly let out a low growl, and then an incredible sight unfolded. An old cement road appeared at the Evil Hound's feet, and soon the area of this road expanded, beginning to spread in all directions.

The empty, magnificently decorated hall disappeared, replaced by a desolate, uninhabited village.

The village's area kept expanding as time passed.

Yang Jian stood on the small stretch of road in the village that appeared; his strange state vanished, and his body reappeared, just like when he previously entered the Ghost Dream World.

He traversed the consciousness world and entered the Ghost Dream World.

"Success." He squinted his eyes, observing the ever-expanding dream world.

As long as this place was completely enveloped, all the hidden consciousnesses here would reveal themselves.

Very quickly, the effect manifested.

The silhouette of a stranger abruptly appeared not far from Yang Jian; it was also a living consciousness that had entered here, but unfortunately, it was captured by the Evil Hound and forcibly pulled into the dream world.

This person looked shocked, then glanced at Yang Jian, immediately his eyes contracted, seemingly recognizing Yang Jian's identity, instinctively wanting to flee.

The Evil Hound let out just a low growl, and the person stood frozen, unable to move, with only a pair of frightened eyes continuously darting around.

This was the ability obtained by the Evil Hound from invading Zhang Xiangguang's supernatural classroom, binding anyone entering the dream world in place, making them immobile. Previously, this person could have escaped, potentially found some weapon to counterattack. If his ability were strong enough, the Evil Hound wouldn't have been able to kill him within a day, but not now; once bound, he was merely a lamb waiting to be slaughtered, completely powerless to resist.

"It seems you recognize me, that's good, saves me a lot of trouble. I'm giving you a chance to speak, don't disappoint me." Yang Jian glanced at the person and then had the Evil Hound lessen its hold on him.

Immediately, the stranger's upper body could move. He was able to speak, but his feet were still fixed in place, unable to escape.

"I, I'm Zhang Li, an operative of the King Organization... currently investigating the situation of the director Ma Jun in Dafu City, Yang, Captain Yang, spare me this time, I promise to quit the King Organization immediately, surrender to headquarters, and disclose all the intel information I know," the man named Zhang Li said in terror.

If not for his numb legs, he might have wanted to kneel before Yang Jian.

"You don't look like a foreigner, did the King Organization pay you a lot? Need to risk your life for them?" Yang Jian said coldly.

"Captain Yang, it's just a job, I didn't think so much," the man named Zhang Li kept explaining.

Yang Jian was unwilling to listen to his explanations: "I don't want to waste words with you. I'll let my Evil Hound have a chat with you."

He wasn't interested in asking for any intel, directly instructing the Evil Hound.

The Evil Hound immediately snarled, pouncing on Zhang Li, savagely tearing into him.

Zhang Li continually let out harrowing screams, blood splattering everywhere, but everything quickly came to an end.

In the dream, the Evil Hound had brutally bitten this King Organization operative to death.

Such a brutal scene frightened the other two newly appeared operatives into having their legs turn to jelly.

The invasion of the Ghost Dream continued, its range expanding, continuously capturing and dragging some consciousnesses entering here into this silent and terrifying village.

"Let's hear your status." Yang Jian glanced over, the massive Evil Hound beside him with its eyes glowing a faint red, mouth full of blood, baring its teeth, looking extremely fierce.

The newly appeared operatives immediately turned pale, drenched in cold sweat.

Chapter 1446 - Pianist

This is the world of the Ghost Dream.

The previously empty and deathly silent village shrouded in darkness gradually saw the appearance of quite a few people as time went by.

These people appeared out of thin air, without any prior indication. There were already over twenty of them, and the number kept increasing.

Yang Jian learned through inquiries that most of these people were intelligence agents from the King Organization. Each agent was responsible for a specific area, and they did not know each other. They usually transmitted intelligence through an old tape recorder, without knowing who was in charge.

Besides the intelligence agents, some lurking ghost controllers were also pulled into the Ghost Dream. These people were not intelligence agents; they were action personnel from the King Organization responsible for creating supernatural events and murdering key individuals.

It can be said that many out-of-control supernatural events have these action personnel behind them.

Yang Jian, upon hearing this, was immediately enraged. He found a big knife and killed several action personnel on the spot.

"Mister Yang, calm down. Whatever the cost, please don't kill me. I don't want to die."

Someone pleaded, but the response was a direct slash, causing the person to scream repeatedly.

"Mister Yang, let me explain. I didn't sincerely want to join the King Organization; I was forced. The King Organization threatened me with my family..."

Yang Jian was still unwilling to listen to their nonsense, and with the knife, he hacked at the person again, killing him directly in the dream.

Repeated hacking left him panting heavily.

But the anger in his heart did not dissipate: "You trash deliberately creating supernatural events that have killed countless people, and you still want to plead? Today, none of you will leave the dream world; one by one will stay here. After dealing with the King Organization, I'll deal with you slowly."

"Yang Jian, stop pretending to be a good person. You've killed many people, too. Do you really think joining the headquarters and becoming a captain makes you clean? I've read your files thoroughly." Some did not intend to plead but directly cursed angrily.

Yang Jian said, "I never claimed to be a good person. I've killed many people, can't say they all deserved it, but at least most were not good. Moreover, I've saved countless lives, resolved numerous supernatural events, so someone like you has no right to comment on me."

"Since your mouth is so vile, why don't you play with my dog first? Don't bite him to death, leave him some breath."

He was even too lazy to act, ordering the Evil Hound.

The Evil Hound bared its teeth, ferociously pouncing on the speaking man.

The screams echoed again in the dream village as the person was mauled, disfigured, and severely injured by the Evil Hound, yet still alive, lying on the ground howling in pain.

Others watched, shivering.

Although they knew ending up in Yang Jian's hands would be terrible, they didn't expect Yang Jian to be so brutal, releasing the dog to bite people but not killing them, repeatedly torturing them.

Yang Jian coldly glanced at the others without further venting.

These people could be left here for now; they wouldn't escape anyway. Killing them wasn't urgent.

At this moment.

The supernatural influence of the Ghost Dream had invaded half of the hall, and the speed was accelerating. If this continued, the intelligence station of the King Organization would be destroyed by Yang Jian within an hour.

"It's reached this point, their side should show up now." Yang Jian frowned, looking at the already damaged hall.

This hall, which allowed only consciousness entry, since it's a supernatural place, must be maintained by a ghost controller, just like the previous Nightmare Castle. The Ghost Dream had already been here for a while, pulling a lot of living consciousnesses into the Ghost Dream World; their side couldn't be totally oblivious.

Yang Jian hesitated to enter the hall again, feeling safer in the Ghost Dream World. Venturing out might attract attention.

"Not only has their side not shown up, but Leuk San hasn't appeared either. If Leuk San were really here, he would have been taken into the Ghost Dream by the Evil Hound."

He waited a bit longer.

Suddenly, the quiet village had five more unlucky souls; their consciousness captured, appearing here just like the other intelligence agents. They stood, unable to move like wooden stakes.

Maybe due to heavy losses, or perhaps the ferocity of the Evil Hound's intrusion.

At this instant.

In the center of the damaged hall, a black piano was placed. At such a moment, the black piano began to play on its own, a hollow and eerie melody echoing around. The music transcended supernatural barriers, spreading into the Ghost Dream World and expanding within it.

The intelligence agents trapped in the Ghost Dream World heard the melody, their eyes brightening with some delight, as if their savior had arrived.

"This music sounds strange, more unique than what I heard on the recorder before." Yang Jian's eyes narrowed, staring at the black piano in the distance.

The black and white keys on the piano constantly rose and fell, seemingly played by someone, yet the player was not visible.

The Evil Hound, sensing danger, crouched towards the piano's direction, baring its teeth, ready to attack.

"Yang Jian, let me tell you directly, the guardian of this supernatural place is a King from the King Organization. He's very mysterious; no one has seen his face or knows his identity. We only know his codename—Pianist. Now that you've drawn the Pianist here, it won't end easily." An intelligence agent coldly sneered.

"In the world of consciousness, the Pianist is the most dangerous existence. If a real fight breaks out here, Yang Jian, you won't stand a chance. If you leave now, you might escape without repercussions; later, it'll be too late to leave."

Some had great confidence in the Pianist, believing Yang Jian was no match here.

"Just a King, it's not like I've never killed one. Even if it's a battle of consciousness, I'll be the winner." Yang Jian coldly said, full of confidence.

His Evil Hound had devoured the Nightmare Castle and the Learning Institute's entity; when it comes to consciousness intrusion, no one can withstand it—not even the King known as Pianist.

The strange piano music continued playing.

Suddenly, in front of that black piano appeared a blurry figure; it seemed ready to disappear at any moment. The appearance was unclear; just a person in a black tailcoat, like a ghost diligently playing the piano.

This blurry figure in tailcoat must be the Pianist they talked about.

With the Pianist's arrival, the eerie music seemed to emit an indescribable terrifying power.

Yang Jian felt his consciousness uncontrollably getting drawn towards that black piano, as if to be absorbed, sinking into darkness.

Yet a low growl from the Evil Hound snapped him out of it.

Unfortunately, others weren't as lucky.

Those dragged into the Ghost Dream World saw their forms beginning to fade one after another, seemingly returning to the magnificent hall.

Additionally, the speed of the Evil Hound's invasion gradually slowed down.

The Pianist kept playing, silent as if lost in the performance, with increasing speed, transforming the ethereal music into buzzing noise, sharp and piercing, forcing people to cover their ears painfully.

"This is already a supernatural assault; an attack targeting consciousness. That black piano is definitely not an ordinary instrument, certainly a highly dangerous supernatural item." Yang Jian covered his ears, unable to escape the terrifying sound even within the Ghost Dream World.

He'd previously seen an old piano in the Caesar Hotel but it wasn't a supernatural item, just an ordinary piano. However, a segment of eerie music was stored on it and was extremely perilous.

Now it seems, three segments of music and a black piano create the complete picture.

But now, the Pianist possesses one music segment and a black supernatural piano, overpowering Yang Jian's other two music segments.

"Drag him into the Ghost Dream World and then maul him to death." Yang Jian painfully commanded, quickly giving orders.

In a battle of consciousness, he couldn't help much; the Evil Hound would need to handle it.

Upon receiving orders, the Evil Hound growled, charging towards the playing Pianist.

Chapter 1447 - Piano and Wraith

The attack of the Evil Hound came ferociously, and the supernatural collision had already begun.

Yang Jian could see the Evil Hound rapidly running towards the Pianist, and the place where the Evil Hound sprinted across the hall was once again replaced by a dead-silent village. A winding path stretched forward all the way to the front of that black piano.

It was evident that the Evil Hound was continuing to invade the supernatural space where the opponent was located.

The piano sounds became increasingly urgent. As the Pianist's playing speed increased, the originally piercing melody changed again.

At this moment, what the piano was playing was no longer music, but an indescribable terrifying screech. This screech penetrated deep into one's soul, as if a vengeful ghost was drilling into your mind, causing immense pain, making your head feel like it was on the verge of exploding.

"The incomplete cursed piano piece, played by this black supernatural piano, seems to produce a terrifying effect. This sound cannot be listened to; otherwise, you will die."

Yang Jian, at this moment, painfully covered his ears, trying to block out part of the sound.

But it was to no avail. This terrifying screech was no longer echoing around you; it was resonating in your brain, just like the curse of the Eight-Tone Music Box.

Within the Ghost Dream, Yang Jian found it extremely hard to withstand such an attack. Even in the world of Ghost Dreams, he was hurt.

Blood continuously flowed from Yang Jian's eyes, ears, and nose. He felt a splitting headache, as if his mind was being scrambled into mush by this screech, unable to maintain normal thoughts. He feared that if this continued, he would either die or become an idiot.

If Yang Jian was in such a state, the intelligence agents of the King Organization who were dragged in fared even worse. They initially believed that the Pianist had come to save them, to pull them out of this Ghost Dream World.

But the urgent piano playing indiscriminately affected everyone.

They simply couldn't listen to this dreadful music. Their consciousness exploded in mere moments and disappeared on the spot, directly causing brain death in the Ghost Dream World, leaving no sign of struggle, dying silently.

One by one, the intelligence agents dropped their heads, dying unclear deaths.

"I'm one of you, don't kill me." Someone desperately shouted, hoping the Pianist would stop playing.

But it was obviously impossible. The rapid piano sound continued echoing like the screech of a vengeful ghost. Just as this person finished pleading, their body trembled, and then their head drooped, leaving no movement. Simultaneously, their body began to swiftly disappear from the world of Ghost Dreams.

With consciousness dead, one could not dream, and thus naturally escape the influence of the Ghost Dream.

Yang Jian didn't die, not because he was particularly special, but because he was anchored by the supernatural power of the Ghost Dream. This supernatural force protected his consciousness from being killed by other supernatural powers. However, now, the Evil Hound was dealing with the Pianist, and the protection for Yang Jian was quite limited. Thus, a supernatural confrontation occurred in his mind, causing such agony.

However, this didn't last very long.

Because the Evil Hound had already arrived in front of the Pianist, baring its teeth, and leaped directly at him.

Sitting in front of the black piano, appearing like a ghost, the insubstantial Pianist had no power to resist and was knocked down to the ground by the Evil Hound.

Immediately after, the Evil Hound, in a frenzy, tore him apart. The insubstantial figure was shattered to pieces in mere moments.

The dreadful piano sound then ceased, no longer continuing.

"Was it successful?" Yang Jian's head was still buzzing at this moment. He wiped the blood off his face and looked towards the piano.

The black piano was no longer making any noise, and the ghostly player had vanished.

It seemed that the terrifying supernatural attack had been successfully stopped by the Evil Hound and would not appear again.

But was it really that easy?

Yang Jian shook his head, the pain diminishing somewhat. He was still wary because the opponent was a King, and merely relying on an Evil Hound to kill him seemed quite challenging. He believed the opponent still existed and hadn't died, that the Evil Hound's attack likely only temporarily disturbed him.

Very soon.

His thoughts were confirmed.

Beside the black piano, a foreign man in a black tailcoat, with an insubstantial body like a ghost, reappeared. Though the Evil Hound had clearly torn him to pieces just now, he returned entirely intact, without any damage.

This Pianist did not continue playing but looked at the Evil Hound nearby, seemingly very apprehensive, then once again gazed in Yang Jian's direction.

The opulently empty hall and the dead-silent, dim village were merged together, appearing mismatched, yet they respectively represented the territory of the Pianist and the Ghost Dream World mastered by Yang Jian. This encounter differed from that in the Nightmare Castle; the last time the Nightmare Castle and the Ghost Dream World were interlinked as puzzles, but this clash was between two entirely distinct supernatural spaces.

"The piano was being played at its most exciting moment, you shouldn't have interrupted my performance. Moreover, I do not allow dogs to appear in my performance," the Pianist spoke, his voice revealing dissatisfaction with Yang Jian.

"Your performance was too dangerous; it had to be interrupted. If you want to play, I can let my dog keep playing with you," Yang Jian responded.

The Pianist looked at the Evil Hound again, seemed to understand: "So that's it, the real danger isn't you, but this dog. I thought you dragged a dog into the Nightmare, but it turns out it is the source of the Nightmare. Truly a genius idea."

"It seems you don't know much about my intelligence," Yang Jian said.

"I am the soul attached to the piano, only interested in my performance, not much concerned about the outside world," the Pianist said seriously. "But your presence disturbed me, and you have to pay the price for this."

Yang Jian sneered: "You are the King of the King Organization, don't pretend that nothing concerns you. I am here this time to destroy the intelligence network you built. If possible, it would be best to kill another King."

"A performance without an audience is a very tragic thing. I need someone to listen to my music, but today your goal has been achieved. They couldn't listen to the final piece and are all dead, the intelligence network no longer exists," said the Pianist.

"As long as you exist, there can be an endless number of such intelligence personnel, no matter how many times it's destroyed, it can be rebuilt," Yang Jian stared at him and said: "Unless you disappear from this world completely."

"Making me disappear from this world, that's not an easy thing to do. You can try if you can achieve it, but in return, I think you should listen to the next piece of music," the Pianist said and sat down again at the black piano.

Seeing that he seemed about to play the piano again, Yang Jian immediately commanded: "Bite him to death."

As the command was given, the Evil Hound growled again, pounced on the Pianist, and cruelly tore him apart once more.

But soon.

Like a wandering soul, the Pianist reappeared by the black piano.

Seeing this, Yang Jian immediately frowned.

"You should give up, music cannot be killed," said the newly appeared Pianist calmly.

"There is no unkillable person, it's only that the right method hasn't been found. I have seen similar cases like your constant resurrection, your existence is simply a supernatural phenomenon. As long as the source is found and snuffed out, then you're done for."

Yang Jian stared at him and said, then looked at the black piano.

"It's that black piano, isn't it?"

The Pianist continued: "You cannot destroy this piano, even your Evil Hound can't do it."

"Of course, the Evil Hound can't drag a supernatural object into the Nightmare, so it can't deal with that black piano, but this piano must also exist in reality. As long as it's found, then you're done for," Yang Jian's eyes flickered, he had found the method to kill the Pianist.

"That's really unfortunate, you'll never find this piano, and my performance will never stop," the Pianist said as he started playing the piano again.

His hands danced, eerie and terrifying music echoed, followed by a weave of music. The horrifying scream that vanished earlier appeared again.

"Bite him to death," Yang Jian commanded once more.

The Evil Hound launched another attack.

But this time, the Pianist always sat in front of the piano, letting the Evil Hound bite, as long as his hands could move, he could continue playing.

Even after being bitten dead, a new Pianist reappeared, continuing the previous performance. Even if the terrifying screams paused halfway, they would eventually ring out again.

"This guy knows the Evil Hound can't kill him, so he wants to drag this on with me, until he exhausts me to death," Yang Jian immediately understood the Pianist's plan.

"Seems I can't stay here any longer, otherwise, over time, it would be very disadvantageous for me. To deal with this person, I must act in reality, confrontations in the Nightmare hold no meaning, neither of us can do anything to the other."

Seeing this, Yang Jian didn't continue to let the Evil Hound attack, he called the Evil Hound back.

Seeing Yang Jian's move, the Pianist also stopped playing, knowing he couldn't kill Yang Jian. As long as Yang Jian wished, he could immediately leave the Dream World, and at that time, he couldn't hurt him.

"It seems you're not planning to continue participating in my concert."

"I can't kill you, but I can kill all your audience. Our confrontation continues," Yang Jian immediately moved with the Evil Hound towards another direction in the hall.

He wanted to pull other people here into the Ghost Dream, eliminating the intelligence personnel of the King Organization.

The Pianist fell silent.

Clearly, the other party had discovered his flaw, that is, being cursed by the supernatural piano and turned into a wandering soul, he wouldn't die, but never could leave the piano's side.

Hence, he couldn't attend any activities of the King Organization, only becoming a King responsible for intelligence.

Chapter 1448 - The 16th Member

In the dream, Yang Jian couldn't eliminate the King, although the Evil Hound could defeat the Pianist, it couldn't kill him. Continuing the standoff here would only be disadvantageous to him.

Therefore, he stopped thinking about killing the Pianist and instead planned to pull the consciousness of other intelligence operatives here into the Ghost Dream World to reduce their numbers as much as possible.

With his abilities, he could easily handle those intelligence operatives.

Yang Jian wandered in the empty hall with the Evil Hound, and although he couldn't fully invade here with the Evil Hound, traces of invasion were still left behind wherever the Evil Hound passed. Capturing those consciousnesses through these traces was an easy task.

The Pianist could do nothing to stop it, and could only let Yang Jian run wild in his domain.

However, he didn't want Yang Jian to wander so easily, so the Pianist sat in front of the black piano again and began to play an eerie piece of music.

As the music played, Yang Jian noticed that the melody had changed. Although it was very similar to before, there were obvious changes, as if some notes had been altered, turning the originally ethereal and eerie music into a much softer melody, like a lullaby.

With the appearance of this soft piano piece, the glorious hall started to become blurry, as if the entire supernatural space was about to disappear.

"Because of my presence, the other side no longer wants to maintain this supernatural space. He wants to drive me away by letting the supernatural space disappear," Yang Jian immediately understood the Pianist's intention upon seeing this scene.

As long as he stayed here, the Pianist could never rest assured; the only way was to stop maintaining this supernatural space.

Yang Jian stopped in his tracks at this moment and didn't continue to wander around. However, after making a round just now, he didn't leave empty-handed, capturing the consciousness of several unlucky ones and successfully pulling them into the Ghost Dream World.

"I hope you can attend my performance next time we meet," the Pianist's voice came with the soft music.

By now, the splendid hall had completely disappeared, leaving only a dim, lifeless village.

Yang Jian stood on a winding path with the Evil Hound, surrounded by darkness, nothing left.

"This is another troublesome opponent. Fortunately, the Nightmare Castle was taken down by the Evil Hound, otherwise the Nightmare Castle combined with the Pianist's performance could kill in dreams. If there's a chance, I still have to find a way to deal with this guy, can't let him persist,"

He felt some dread towards the Pianist. After all, he was someone the Evil Hound could not deal with.

"However, after this encounter, at least I know the intelligence of a King on the other side. Now that the Pianist has left here, I don't need to stay either and ought to check on Leuk San's side,"

Yang Jian thought to himself and immediately left the Ghost Dream World, returning to reality.

In reality, he opened his eyes and woke up, then saw Leuk San sitting beside him, also slowly waking up.

The Pianist no longer maintained that supernatural space, so all living consciousnesses present there would leave on their own, and Leuk San was no exception.

"How's the situation?" Yang Jian asked immediately upon seeing Leuk San awake.

Leuk San, although awake, still sat there motionless, taking a while to regain his composure because he was receiving the memory of the paper man, learning about all the events that happened throughout the day.

"The situation isn't bad. Although my consciousness was wandering in that supernatural space, I also managed to enter a special room by some method. That room seemed to be where the Pianist recorded archive materials, and I also acquired a lot of intelligence information,"

"Is there intelligence on the King?" Yang Jian asked again.

Leuk San nodded, but his expression was serious, "There is intelligence on the King, but after understanding, I realized that the King Organization is very deep."

"What do you mean?" Yang Jian frowned.

Leuk San said, "According to the intelligence, the King Organization has fifteen Kings on the surface, but in fact, there are at least twenty-five people qualified to become Kings. It's just that the extra ten people, for various reasons, are not involved in the King's organization, so we don't have to worry about them for now. What really makes me uneasy is the founder of the King Organization, or should I say, the hidden sixteenth person."

"You mean there is a hidden entity in the King Organization apart from the fifteen Kings on the surface?" Yang Jian asked.

"Yes, and many things seem to trace back to this person, whether it's the Ark Plan or the Ghost Ship, they are all related to this person," Leuk San said seriously, "Yang Jian, you should also know how special a ship capable of carrying countless terrifying ghosts is. A bus carrying ghosts can only handle thirty-five at most, and it still needs a ghost-wielder with enough ability to be the driver."

"The Ghost Ship can carry a boatload of ghosts, such a terrifying supernatural object, what kind of person could control it? A King? I think no King is qualified to ride the Ghost Ship, so I suspect it has something to do with the sixteenth person of the King Organization."

Yang Jian pondered, "I hadn't thought about this issue before, I just thought they used some special method to guide the Ghost Ship forward, didn't think about someone being able to ride the Ghost Ship, that ship is so dangerous, in the current supernatural circle, I'm afraid no one has the qualifications to ride it, maybe the top ghost-wielder who survived the Republic of China Period could do it."

"But looking at the King Organization's intelligence, the unknown sixteenth person doesn't seem like a top ghost-wielder who survived the Republic of China Period. If it were, there would definitely be

records, just like with Old Qin, there are undoubtedly traces, but that sixteenth person seems to have appeared out of nowhere," Leuk San said.

Yang Jian said, "The issue you mention is indeed serious, but it seems that now is not the time to think about those things. The urgent matter on our hands is to find a way to deal with the other side's King. As for that hidden sixteenth person, I think they will show up eventually."

"I understand, but I thought it necessary to tell you this important message in advance to keep you prepared," Leuk San said with a deep tone.

"I understand," Yang Jian nodded.

Leuk San said, "I will sort out the intelligence on the fifteen Kings afterward and send it out, but the information on the files is not complete. I hope you won't mind then."

"Knowing a general idea is enough, it's understandable not to have detailed intelligence data, after all, no top ghost-wielder would be foolish enough to document all their information, some supernatural information can only be known by oneself, not to be said," Yang Jian said.

"However, you've done more than enough, found the opponent's intelligence information, and even exposed their Pianist. Now, the King Organization has no choice but to abandon the domestic intelligence operatives who were lying low. Without the support of information, our ensuing actions will be much safer, and there won't be any more leaders being attacked," Yang Jian said.

"I guess it wasn't for nothing, it's getting late now, I'll go sort out the information,"

Leuk San stood up and then thought of something else, "By the way, Yang Jian, you'll need to be especially careful in the next few days. It seems that the other side's Ghost Ship is already within our sea territory and very close to the port, it might dock at any time. I'm worried they might delay time, then catch us off guard."

"Planning to dock the Ghost Ship early? I understand," Yang Jian's face became serious instantly.

Unexpectedly, the King Organization was ruthless. They had just negotiated with him, planning to ease tensions for three days, only to turn around and potentially plan an early docking of the Ghost Ship, launching a surprise attack.

If it weren't for Leuk San's reminder, they would have indeed been caught.

If the opponent strikes first, they'll be on the back foot.

"Could it really be that the other side doesn't care about the grand flood plan at all?" Yang Jian was puzzled.

Considering the King Organization knows he has a means to go down fighting, they shouldn't be forcing the Ark Plan.

Doing it this way makes it seem like someone wants the supernatural incidents to go entirely out of control and doesn't want things to be resolved peacefully.

But having supernatural incidents fully out of control benefits no one.

Even a King and a Captain wouldn't want to live in a city riddled with various supernatural incidents, as even the strongest ghost-wielder facing a ghost might still be killed.

"Now that Leuk San puts it this way, I really feel like something is abnormal inside the King Organization. This abnormality makes me think of Japan's Exorcism Club, but the reason the Exorcism Club had problems was that a ghost had infiltrated it, and the ghost's identity wasn't confirmed. That ghost supposedly has intelligence and has almost taken over the entire Exorcism Club. Could the King Organization have a similar situation?"

"The possibility is very small, the King Organization is a coalition formed by various forces, even if one King has a problem, it shouldn't lead to all Kings having a problem."

Yang Jian continued to ponder, but without a deeper understanding, there was no way to make a judgment.

Leuk San had temporarily left at this point, he was organizing intelligence data and preparing the information on the fifteen Kings,

At the same time, new information came from Wang Guoqiang's side.

The candidate captains deployed by headquarters had arrived in Dadong City and were now waiting for Yang Jian's arrangements.

"Didn't expect the candidate captains to be transferred over so quickly, it seems headquarters is indeed very anxious," Yang Jian came back to his senses, also stood up, and prepared to set off.

He was to go see these candidate captains and assign them tasks, preparing for the confrontation with the King Organization.

Chapter 1449 - The New Squad

Evening time.

The top floor of Ning'an Building in Dadong City.

The captain candidates summoned by the headquarters this time have already gathered, but their number is not many. Among them are Li Yang, Tong Qian, Liu Qi, Su Fan, Zhang Lei, Wen Zhong, and an old ghost handler named Lin Long. Initially, there was also Feng Quan, but he is trapped in the old grave of the Ghost Post Office like Wei Jing and unable to escape, so he did not appear.

Seven captain candidates were hastily selected. If given some time, the headquarters could surely discover more captain candidates.

"Lin Long, you're actually still alive?" Tong Qian fixed her gaze on a young man about twenty-six years old with a dark expression.

"Since Feng Quan isn't dead, of course, I wouldn't be willing to die," Lin Long replied.

Tong Qian said, "I remember the last time we met was during the Hungry Ghost incident in Dachang City, and after that, I never heard from you again."

"Don't mention the past. After the Hungry Ghost incident, I fought with Yang Jian and almost got buried alive by him. Later, Li Jun and others mediated, so I was fine. However, as a warning, I had to stay away from Yang Jian. That's why I've been working as a person in charge in a relatively remote city. Thanks to staying away from big cities, I've encountered few supernatural events and rarely used supernatural powers, so everything has remained peaceful."

Lin Long appeared somewhat sentimental, reminiscing those past events vividly, yet now, things have changed. Li Jun is gone, some of his colleagues have died, but newcomer Yang Jian has become an Enforcement Captain, overseeing everyone.

If it weren't for this call for assembly, he reckoned he would never show up and remain as a person in charge until the day he died.

"I never thought you would survive after a fight with Yang Jian." Liu Qi looked at him with a hint of admiration.

Everyone knows Yang Jian rarely fights; he usually kills. According to him, once a person offends him, it's better to kill them today than to let them become a threat in the future.

This is typical persecutory delusion.

Lin Long's face, already dark, turned even darker: "It was just youthful impulse back then. It's inevitable to get carried away after gaining supernatural powers, so I made some mistakes. But now isn't the time to discuss my embarrassing past. Are we the only seven candidates for captain roles this time?"

"I don't know."

Zhang Lei, his skin blazing red, emitted a foul foot odor from his body. Occasionally, sparks could be seen spurting from his breath, making it quite astonishing. He shook his head and said, "I was previously substituting for the late Gao Ming as the person in charge, so I've paid little attention to the changes in the situation. But I think since the headquarters is already recruiting captain candidates, no one will be missing."

"There's a heap of issues in Xiangjiang, several supernatural incidents remain unsolved, but I was still dragged here," Su Fan said, spreading his hands helplessly.

Li Yang said, "Over at Dachang City, there's a very dangerous supernatural incident coded Black Umbrella that we haven't had time to handle due to interference from other matters. But confronting the King Organization is a priority now; other matters have to be set aside temporarily."

"There's not much going on at my place either, so I've been closely observing shifts in the supernatural circle. Unfortunately, my rank wasn't high enough to participate. I was eagerly idling at home until now that the headquarters has summoned captain candidates to join the battle. To be honest, I'm quite excited." Wen Zhong smiled, his happiness revealing a trace of coldness.

His coldness was directed at the King Organization.

"If seven captain candidates form a squad, it's conservative to match one captain; matching two captains is an exaggeration, but matching one and a half captains should be feasible, meaning the seven of us teaming up could take down one King and additionally a King's Squad." Li Yang evaluated their strength, speaking fairly.

Actually, this is under the assumption that the seven captain candidates are not risking everything. If they were to go all out, just Tong Qian alone might be able to take down a King.

"If strength assessment is based on numbers, it's meaningless. Facing a captain's attack could lead to casualties within a blink, and we can't afford to be careless," Liu Qi said seriously.

"True, we would only know our strength after a confrontation with the other side," Li Yang nodded, agreeing with Liu Qi's point.

As they were chatting and getting acquainted, the meeting hall was suddenly enveloped in a glaring light.

The light was golden yellow, emitting an indescribable scorching sensation.

When the anomaly disappeared, Yang Jian appeared before everyone. He first scanned the room, then slightly frowned, "Xiong Wenwen doesn't seem to be here? Li Yang, what's going on?"

"Xiong Wenwen is timid and is hiding at home, reluctant to come. Moreover, his mother, Chen Shumei, is somewhat opposed to this matter. Neither Tong Qian nor I could forcibly break into someone else's home to take him away. I think, Captain, you would need to go personally," Li Yang said, a bit helplessly.

Yang Jian thought for a moment and said, "But for now, we don't urgently need Xiong Wenwen; let's leave this matter aside.

Then his eyes swept over the others.

"Yang Jian."

"Captain Yang."

Liu Qi, Su Fan, Zhang Lei, and others stood up to greet him.

Yang Jian said, "We're all familiar; there's no need for such formalities. Let's sit down and talk. I believe everyone is clear about this headquarters' call, so I won't explain further. The seven of you captain candidates currently form a squad, with Li Yang as the squad leader. This squad will take on the responsibilities of one captain, as for the specific task arrangements, I haven't figured it out yet. If you have any questions or suggestions, feel free to speak now."

He spoke straightforwardly, without beating around the bush, getting straight to the point.

"I have no objections," Tong Qian said.

"I have no objections either."

Su Fan glanced at Li Yang but said little. He was much more experienced than Li Yang. During the Ghost Painting incident, he was already a prominent ghost handler at the headquarters, while Li Yang was just an ordinary person caught up in the event. It's surprising that in just one year, Li Yang has already surpassed him.

Indeed, the world is unpredictable.

"Who the squad leader is doesn't matter; I have no objections," Wen Zhong said.

Yang Jian said, "Since there are no objections, let's settle it like this. Additionally, as you're participating in this battle as candidate captains, you'll certainly be taking on a significant risk. So, I'll prepare some supplies for each of you: two substitute dolls per person and three red Ghost Candles."

With that, he took out some of the supplies he had previously taken from headquarters and distributed them.

"In the past, headquarters was always stingy with the Ghost Candles, let alone the substitute dolls; you had to apply for them or exchange them with merit. This time, Captain Yang is really generous, giving away such important resources without hesitation," Su Fan said with a smile.

Yang Jian said, "I've nearly emptied the headquarters' inventory this time. After distribution, there won't be much left. Right now, people are more important than resources. If we lose this fight, then no amount of resources would matter. Considering that you will be acting collectively, I think equipping each of you with two substitute dolls and three Ghost Candles should be enough; more likely won't be necessary."

"That's true. Seven people combined, that's fourteen substitute dolls and twenty-one Ghost Candles, definitely enough," Wen Zhong nodded.

"Before you are assigned tasks, it's best for you to interact with each other, familiarize yourselves with each other's supernatural powers, and cooperate as much as possible. A King-level ghost tamer is not simple. I'm not sure if you're aware of the previous intel. In the battle last night, Li Jun and Ah Hong died, Cao Yang was severely injured and had to withdraw. If there hadn't been previous preparations, Li Leping and Lin Bei might have died at the Xiangjiang Wharf. Although the other side also lost three Kings and several ghost tamer squads, this happened despite our prior preparations."

"If it came to a real fight, we'd be at a disadvantage."

Yang Jian said earnestly, giving them his best advice.

"Understood, if the captains had the advantage, us candidate captains wouldn't be brought in," Lin Long said with a grim face.

"I feel like I recognize you from somewhere. Haven't we met before?" Yang Jian looked at Lin Long, finding him familiar, but couldn't recall immediately, as he had too many memories in his mind that were slow to search through.

Lin Long said, "After the Hungry Ghost incident in Dachang City, we fought once; you nearly buried me alive... Though you let me go afterward, you warned me to stay far away and never to meet again, so I was reassigned to a more remote city as a person in charge."

Discussing this past in front of so many people felt uncomfortable for him, but it had to be addressed, otherwise, it would always bother him internally.

"Now I remember, so it was you. Sorry, I didn't recognize you for a moment." Yang Jian felt a moment of realization, remembering Lin Long, though it didn't leave much of an impression as he had been in too many fights.

"Everything from before is in the past. I overreacted back then, so here I apologize to you. If we make it through this alive, I'll treat you to a meal."

Then Yang Jian took the initiative to apologize to Lin Long.

This wasn't about personal grudges; right now, a major battle was imminent, and the team needed to be united. As the Enforcement Captain, he had to resolve this friction to prevent any unhappiness within the group.

Faced with Yang Jian's apology, a surprised expression appeared on Lin Long's grim face, and he felt somewhat flattered. He waved his hand repeatedly, "It's all in the past. I don't mind; if I did, I wouldn't have brought it up. While I used to have opinions about you, Yang Jian, after knowing what you've done, I really admire you. If it weren't for you hunting down the King, declaring war, and rallying the captains to counterattack, we'd probably all be done for by now."

"No one wants the situation, which has been stabilized with difficulty, to be disrupted by an overseas organization. Honestly, I don't want to deal with all this mess either, but for the safety of my friends and family, I must stand up. If supernatural events were to spiral out of control completely, it wouldn't be good for anyone, and everyone would be affected," Yang Jian said in a calm tone.

"That's right, this is not just for headquarters, but for ourselves too," Liu Qi immediately replied.

At this point, there's no need to talk about lofty ideals. Everyone was well aware that the existence of the King Organization already threatened the life of every ghost tamer in the country; if they didn't unite to fight back, they would be purged by the King organization afterward.

After all, the captains and candidate captains are well-known in the supernatural circle; once targeted, no one could escape.

"Alright, take a break for now. I have other matters to arrange. Li Yang, until there are tasks for your squad, stay here on standby anytime," Yang Jian said.

Li Yang replied, "No problem, Captain, rest assured, we won't act rashly."

Yang Jian nodded, then left.

Once Yang Jian was gone, the seven-person squad began to talk amongst themselves again, starting to understand each other's supernatural powers.

After all, the records in the files are never complete; as candidate captains, they naturally would have hidden something.

But now that everyone has become teammates and is going to fight side by side, there's no need to hide it anymore. They must reveal some of their trump cards so that they can work together to fight against the King.

Tong Qian was very open, directly revealing her new mastery of Ghost Makeup and her ability to coordinate with Ghost Face.

"When necessary, I'll draw a third face and fight fiercely with the opponent. Usually, I'll draw two faces, having sixty percent of the supernatural power of two captains, along with the cries and laughter of the Ghost Face, and with this supernatural ring that can hide oneself, I hope not to disappoint you all."

This kind of trump card revealed drew a great deal of amazement from others.

Unexpectedly, within their team, there was such a powerful figure. Such capabilities qualify one to become a captain.

"With the frozen Ghost Face, sixty percent of the supernatural power of Ghost Makeup, a supernatural ring that prevents discovery with two or more people... Tong Qian, it's truly a shame you're not replacing a captain," Su Fan's tone revealed a sense of envy.

Tong Qian shook her head and said, "I'm still far from becoming a captain. My body is still very fragile; otherwise, Yang Jian wouldn't have given me the life-saving supernatural ring."

He had weaknesses, and they were quite apparent; unless this was compensated for, he would never become a captain, at most just a captain candidate.

At this time, Li Yang also briefly explained his abilities: "I'm relatively simple, currently taming three ghosts in a balanced state, and my supernatural weapon is this old hook."

With two people sharing first, Liu Qi, Su Fan, Zhang Lei, and others also revealed their respective information.

The more they knew, the more confident they became. Indeed, everyone was very strong. Assembling such a squad, taking down a King wouldn't be an issue.

Of course, the seven-person squad did have a weakness, which was that their Ghost Domain wasn't strong enough.

But this shortcoming was compensated for by Su Fan, who possessed sensing abilities that could avoid danger, plus everyone had red Ghost Candles and substitute dolls, along with their respective supernatural disturbances, and Li Yang's Ghost Gate made offensive and defensive strategies viable.

Chapter 1450 - Reinforcements and Ships

With the addition of the seven captain candidates, the team's strength increased, making everyone feel more at ease.

Having overcome the initial crisis, coupled with a few effective counterattacks, the situation, which was on the brink of collapse, was forcibly stabilized and even showed signs of improvement.

Meanwhile, Yang Jian and the others were making preparations.

On the Ghost Masters' website, the intelligence about last night's confrontation between the King Organization and the headquarters' captains was intentionally spread. Such news in the supernatural circle once again caught everyone's attention, leading to a barrage of discussions.

"Waking up to big news again: last night the King Organization moved again, attempting to hunt down the heads of the headquarters en masse. Their plot was uncovered, stopped by the headquarters' captains, resulting in heavy casualties and even the loss of three Kings. Such a loss is a complete defeat."

"Haha, it's hilarious. Is the King Organization this weak? First, one King was hunted, and then in one action three more died. As expected, the King Organization initially got a slight advantage through ambush, but now that the headquarters has responded, the King Organization can't withstand the action."

"Within two or three days, the King Organization's losses are so severe. I think they are bound to lose this war."

The wind of public opinion in the supernatural circle changed. With the deliberate leakage of true intelligence, many believed the King Organization was just externally strong but internally weak and not a match for the headquarters' captains. Quite a few people publicly announced their withdrawal from the King Organization, and some expressed their willingness to join the headquarters in opposing the King Organization.

Seeing the situation becoming increasingly unfavorable, some intelligence personnel of the King Organization also intentionally leaked some information online.

"Though the King Organization suffered losses, the headquarters also faced considerable losses. Li Jun was perished by a King, and Cao Yang narrowly escaped death but had issues and had to retire, now completely missing, his life or death unknown. Many heads were successfully hunted. The captains of the headquarters are not as strong as you think. Calculated carefully, both sides suffered similar losses, and the King Organization still has a strong foundation, remaining strong. Even with the loss of a few Kings, they still have the upper hand. If the fight continues, the headquarters' captains can't afford it."

But such words evidently lacked convincing power.

Ghost Masters are not foolish and have understood domestic supernatural circle changes through their respective channels, not easily fooled by a few words.

However, a few notable figures online refrained from commenting this time, perhaps due to a lack of attention or fear of getting involved in the uncertain situation.

No matter how the supernatural circle changed now.

Yang Jian's preparations would not be lacking all the same.

At this moment.

An important person came to Ning'an Building in Dadong City.

Ye Zhen from Dahai City's supernatural forum had arrived.

The captains of the headquarters were quite concerned about Ye Zhen's arrival, as he was the first external reinforcer invited, and many captains were curious about Ye Zhen. Although much was known through intelligence, a face-to-face interaction hadn't occurred, so they wanted to meet him.

"Yang Jian, as agreed, I, Ye, have arrived." Ye Zhen's voice was loud, his tone flamboyant as he stepped out of the elevator into the floor that didn't belong to reality.

At the conference table sat several captains, all eyes turning to him simultaneously.

"Ye Zhen, you're very punctual. I thought you'd arrive much later. Introduce yourself; I'm Lu Zhiwen, one of the captains of the headquarters," Lu Zhiwen said in his hoarse voice.

"Lu Zhiwen? Never heard of you, and don't get it wrong, I didn't come here genuinely wishing to collaborate with you. It's entirely because Yang Wudi personally invited me that I reluctantly agreed to come and help." Ye Zhen glanced around, his gaze finally resting on Wang Chaling.

"Xiao Wang, your hat is so ugly. Wearing it makes you look like a bumpkin. Did fighting with me last time stress you out so much you went insane and need a hat for security?"

Wang Chaling's face darkened: "Ye Zhen, you should be serious. This matter isn't as simple as a fight."

"I'm always serious. I understand your stress. Surviving a fight with someone like me is indeed difficult, leaving some trauma in the heart unavoidable."

Ye Zhen nodded, oddly comforting Wang Chaling, then continued, "As for the King Organization, to me, Ye, it's nothing at all, just a group of marked men. If encountered, just crush them without holding back. But I almost forgot, you're not like me; maybe, even trying hard, you can't defeat them. No worries, everything is on me now. If you face an unbeatable enemy, just call out loud, and I'll show you what a true master is like."

His words carried an inexplicable confidence.

After all, with his lifelong rival Yang Wudi on his side, Ye Zhen saw no more strong enemies in the supernatural circle.

"Were you always like this, or is it recent?" Lin Bei asked, touching his bald head.

Though it's known that most Ghost Masters might be somewhat abnormal, Ye Zhen is exceptionally rare.

"Anyone who can't even keep their hair is a mediocre person undeserving to speak with me, Ye." Ye Zhen snorted, ignoring Lin Bei's question.

He then asked, "Where's Yang Jian? Where has he gone, why isn't he here?"

"He was here earlier, but left for a while, but it doesn't affect our alliance now."

Lu Zhiwen earnestly said, "Yang Jian should have informed you of this operation. Though you're an external reinforcer, I hope you act primarily under the headquarters' direction, and don't act recklessly. Nobody wants to see any mishaps."

Ye Zhen sneered, "I, Ye, don't care about any operation or plan. I came at Yang Wudi's invitation, not yours, no need to cooperate. But you can rest assured, since I'm here, I'll make you understand the benefits of Yang Jian inviting me. Three of them, I will find a chance to eliminate three Kings from the King Organization during this period."

"Killing three Kings? That confidence is over-the-top." Lin Bei chuckled.

"Three is already humble. I've always said, if Yang Wudi and I join forces, we can sweep the entire supernatural circle. A few Kings mean nothing. If they don't join forces and fight one-on-one, not even more would suffice for me, Ye, to kill."

"Are you already so scared of the other party? If you have no confidence, why stay in the supernatural circle at all? Go home early and sell rice noodles, I'll have my brothers look after your business."

"..." The other captains fell silent.

They felt drained conversing with Ye Zhen, seeing no way to have a normal exchange, wondering what method Yang Jian used to deal with him.

"You continue, I have to pick someone up." Suddenly, He Yiner put down her phone and stood up.

"Has the Ghost Master from Taiping Ancient Town arrived?" Leuk San asked calmly.

He Yiner glanced at him, not bothering to respond. She held a grudge against Leuk San; although she couldn't seek vengeance now, she treated him like an enemy, giving him no kindness.

Soon.

He Yiner left, but indeed to pick someone up—the Faceless Person from Taiping Ancient Town, one of the few older-generation Ghost Masters. But Boss Liu didn't appear, having been injured in an attack last time and needing to manage the reconstruction of Taiping Ancient Town, preventing him from coming.

As external reinforcements arrived in succession, the headquarters' strength gradually reached its peak.

But currently, Yang Jian wasn't paying attention to this, seizing the last bit of leisure to study the Supernatural Pendulum Clock at the Wang Family's ancestral home.

The Supernatural Pendulum Clock, capable of resetting for half an hour, had a significant influence. Used well, it could change many things. Yang Jian didn't want to use the pendulum's supernatural power passively; he hoped to actively master and use the item skillfully. If successful, this would certainly become another trump card for Yang Jian.

However, nobody anticipated that amidst the calm evening sea, accompanied by spreading thin fog, an old, abandoned ship was slowly drifting towards the coastal city.

The ship was deathly silent, harboring countless indescribable eerie phenomena, from walls constantly bleeding to hurried footsteps and enchanting singing voices. Moreover, the desolate deck harboring ghostly figures moving around.

Clearly, it was a ship full of supernatural occurrences.

And driven by unknown forces, the ship unwaveringly advanced in one direction.

But this was not the crucial point. The crucial point was that the ship was now very close to the shoreline.

If the ship didn't slow or change direction, it would make landfall tonight.