

Revival 151

Chapter 151: Spreading the Word

“Keep an eye on the club. Since we’ve got Ma Youcai under control, sparing his life for now is inconsequential. He wouldn’t dare make a move. Controlling a group of rich businessmen is beyond my confidence, but having the confidence to control one person is still within my grasp,” Yang Jian said.

Yang Jian had already returned to the city center in his car, and he didn’t immediately go to Rose Bar to find that Wang Yue. It would’ve been too reckless to just rush over without knowing what kind of existence Wang Yue really was.

So, the best method was to wait for a couple of days.

After the news of what happened at the club spread, Wang Yue would inevitably show some reaction once he heard about it.

By then, friend or foe, it would be clear at a glance.

“During my conversation with Wang Xiaoqiang, he vaguely indicated that I blocked some people’s path. Those people are probably inextricably linked to Zhao Kaiming,” Yang Jian frowned and pondered.

“After all, if I were to successfully become the ghost controller of Dachang City, Zhao Kaiming would have to leave. Besides, considering the friction between him and me before, he definitely wouldn’t be willing to give up Dachang City so easily. Therefore, Yan Li’s death, if orchestrated by him, is not out of the question.”

As for why kill Yan Li, the true intention wasn’t about the murder itself.

It was probably aimed at me.

And there was only one purpose to it.

Murder by proxy~!

This phrase suddenly popped into Yang Jian's mind.

If Zhao Kaiming knew there would be a conflict between me and the club, then he would be pleased with today's outcome.

"No, Wang Xiaoqiang isn't stupid enough to be used willingly, unless... he was also kept in the dark, promised some benefits, and looked for an opportunity to eliminate me. Knowing the death of Yan Li's family might be related to the club, this conflict and contradiction would just so happen to clash."

"If that's the case, the person orchestrating all this is truly terrifying," Yang Jian thought, his heart growing colder.

The more he thought about it, the more he felt this speculation was correct.

Otherwise, how could Zhao Kaiming stay in hiding and not show himself after losing a leg to me?

If he were to seek revenge out of rage against me, Yang Jian would be less concerned.

It's those who lie in wait, mobilizing various forces to deal with me, who are truly frightening.

Just at that moment, Yang Jian's phone suddenly rang.

It wasn't a ghost controller's call, but a regular cell phone call. The caller ID showed: Ma Youcai.

"I left my number with Ma Youcai before I left. He's calling me now?" Yang Jian's eyes flickered as he immediately became alert.

However, he still answered the call.

“Hello, Yang Jian, Mister Yang speaking?” Ma Youcai’s voice came through the phone, still laced with disbelief.

Yang Jian said, “It’s me. President Ma, do you miss me already after just an hour?”

Ma Youcai replied, “Mister Yang, there’s something important that I must tell you.”

“What is it?”

“That Wang Xiaoqiang, the one you killed at the club, he... he came back to life,” Ma Youcai said, his tone still carrying a sense of disbelief.

“What?”

Hearing this, Yang Jian, who was driving, was shocked and almost subconsciously slammed on the brakes.

The vehicle came to a sudden stop, and the car behind nearly collided with it.

Wang Xiaoqiang came back to life?

How is that possible? This must be a joke; such things can’t be done.

Wang Xiaoqiang was killed by me personally, his head was taken by me, and to be certain, I even fired an extra shot at Wang Xiaoqiang’s head. Even a ghost controller would be done for. Moreover, the ghost inside him was left in the conference room and couldn’t possibly have helped him.

“

In that kind of situation, there was only one path: death.

But Ma Youcai said he came back to life.

However, judging from Ma Youcai's tone, it was possible to tell that the man wasn't lying.

Wang Xiaoqiang must have indeed come back to life; otherwise, Ma Youcai would definitely not dare to speak like that because there is no benefit for him. Instead, he might have enraged Yang Jian by lying and gotten killed by him.

“How did he come back to life? Did you see it?” Yang Jian asked in a deep voice.

Ma Youcai roughly described the previous situation over the phone.

After listening, Yang Jian was also momentarily stunned.

Is that even possible?

That ghost actually helped Wang Xiaoqiang resurrect; since when did fierce ghosts become so friendly? Where did he find such a helpful ghost? Even if a ghost master dies, they could still be saved.

“Not only has Wang Xiaoqiang come back to life, but he also wants me to fund the club with ten billion within three days to find a way to deal with you,” Ma Youcai added.

“This is very normal. If he isn't dead, of course, he'd want to take revenge on me. After all, I almost destroyed his club. Anyone would find it unacceptable. However, you can gently remind him that this might be Zhao Kaiming's strategy of using others to do his dirty work. Let's see what Wang Xiaoqiang will do? When the time comes, whether he chooses to deal with me or Zhao Kaiming, let me know,” Yang Jian said.

“Alright, okay. But, is that Zhao Kaiming the person in charge of Dachang City?” Ma Youcai asked.

Yang Jian replied, “Yes, that’s him. Who else could it be? Currently, he’s the one managing all the supernatural incidents in Dachang City and has boundless authority.”

“Today’s information has been very useful to me. If you continue to be this honest, that new body of yours will also stay very obedient. As for the ten billion for funding the club, you don’t have to think too much about it. If you give it out, you’re as good as dead. How could I possibly allow you to spend money to help Wang Xiaoqiang kill me?”

“I... I understand. I’ll find an excuse to refuse,” Ma Youcai said in alarm.

“Now that you understand, let’s leave it at that. I’m still driving, and taking calls is dangerous; it goes against traffic laws and can easily lead to accidents,” Yang Jian said.

Are you still afraid of traffic laws?

Human laws can’t stop you, can they?

In a hurry, Ma Youcai asked again, “Mister Yang, wait... what about my neck? Could my head really fall off accidentally?”

“Of course, so you should find a doctor to stitch it up to avoid washing your face and accidentally losing your head,” Yang Jian said; “Goodbye.”

He didn’t continue the conversation with Ma Youcai and hung up the phone directly.

Let’s leave President Ma be for now; once he figures out his own situation, he’ll know what to do next.

Today, Ma Youcai’s actions were correct.

Because today he inadvertently stumbled upon Wang Xiaoqiang's plan to deal with him, Yang Jian temporarily put aside the matter with Yan Li. However, this also confirmed that Yan Li's death was not at the hands of the club, but a third party was involved.

This third party is very likely to be Zhao Kaiming.

"It seems necessary to make contact with Zhao Kaiming once again," Yang Jian thought to himself.

Just as he drove up to the entrance of the residential area, his phone dinged with a message.

"Brother Tui, save me, I'm in the detention center."

It was a text message from Zhang Wei.

"What did this kid do, running off to play in the detention center?" Yang Jian didn't want to bother with Zhang Wei at the moment; after all, being in detention wouldn't kill him.

But then he remembered something and immediately checked his location, which turned out to be under the jurisdiction of Liu Jianming, Chief Liu.

He had just been thinking about finding Zhao Kaiming.

Remembering that Chief Liu should be one of Zhao Kaiming's subordinates, he might be able to help make contact with Zhao Kaiming.

With this thought, Yang Jian immediately turned the steering wheel and headed out.

“`

Detention center.

Zhang Wei sat with his legs crossed, looking dejected, frowning and continuously pondering one question in his mind.

What on earth had he done?

He had carefully thought back to everything that had happened yesterday, but he couldn't figure out what he had done wrong. In the end, he concluded with an answer in his heart.

He was definitely wronged.

Inside the detention center, he wasn't the only one; there were several others who had been caught for committing crimes,

They were not like Zhang Wei, deep in thought. Instead, they started chatting with each other.

"Bro, how did you end up here? What did you do?" someone asked.

"I don't know, I just walked in by accident."

"What kind of accident?"

"Well, it was like this: yesterday, I accidentally had a few drinks, then I accidentally ran into a beautiful woman who was also drunk, and I accidentally took her to a hotel. Afterwards, I even accidentally took a fall, and accidentally slept until dawn. When the girl woke up, she accidentally touched her phone and accidentally reported the incident to the police, and then I accidentally ended up here."

A young man in his twenties squatted there, innocently saying, "You guys tell me, isn't this just me being very innocent?"

“Indeed, quite an accident.”

The young man asked, “And how did you get in here?”

“I’m even more innocent. I’m just a guy who sells electric scooters. The day before yesterday, a customer wanted to buy a scooter from me. So, I got up early in the morning to stock up from the street. I saw a brand-new electric scooter parked in front of a shop. I picked the lock, planning to haul it away, but before I could deliver it, I was caught. They accused me of stealing. How ridiculous is that? I was buying stock in broad daylight, conducting legitimate business, how did I become a thief?”

“That’s just preposterous.”

“You’re really unlucky too, buddy. And you, how did you get here?” the young man asked Zhang Wei.

Zhang Wei said, “Last night I got lost, I don’t know how, but I wandered into an unfamiliar alley and ran into an old lady who asked if I wanted a ‘big health care’. I definitely refused, but then I heard something about ‘eating chicken’, and I agreed. But in the private room, an unknown old lady came in and took off my pants. Of course, I wasn’t going to let her succeed. I kicked out, and then I was brought here.”

“You guys be the judge, what’s wrong with an adult ‘eating chicken’? Is there a mistake? Definitely not, so I am sure I was wronged.”

“You’re the unluckiest of all. Nowadays, people are really not careful enough in handling cases. I can relate to that,” a stout man shook his head and said.

Zhang Wei asked, “How about you, how did you get in here?”

“I’m even more wronged than you. I just asked a few girls on the street for their wallets. Let me be clear, they gave them to me willingly; I didn’t force them. They didn’t want them, so I took them. But just as I turned around, I was spotted by the patrol. They came to ask what was going on. Afraid of a misunderstanding, I gestured an eight in my pocket to signal them to let me go. Then someone said I had a gun, that I was dangerous, and immediately they pinned me to the ground. Tell me, isn’t this being framed?” the burly man said indignantly.

“Once inside, who knows when we can get out. I left those wallets in the trash can, by day they will probably be taken away by the garbage collectors. That was the good will of several young ladies.”

“What’s your wallet compared to this, my electric scooter hasn’t even been delivered to the buyer. That was a surefire deal, and now it’s gone sour. The customer is probably still waiting for my reply. If I don’t deliver the goods, my years of honest business are done for.”

“Don’t be downhearted, rest assured, this is just a small misunderstanding. Once things clear up, we’ll be fine, they can’t hold us for too long, at most it’ll be a detention of several dozens of hours.”

The people discussed and comforted each other.

Every single one of them in the detention center was a character, and they spoke so pleasingly that I began to like it here a little.

Zhang Wei thought to himself.

But then again, would Brother Tui really come to save me?

At this moment.

In the office.

Yang Jian and Liu Jianguo, after speaking on the phone with Captain Liu, had arranged a meeting.

When he arrived, he saw that the station was bustling with activity, seemingly dealing with various cases both big and small. Some involved serious crimes, while others were trivial disputes like neighbor quarrels and marital spats. Of course, there were also some rather special paranormal events that needed immediate documentation, reporting, and transfer of case jurisdiction.

As the captain, Liu Jianguo felt the most pressure.

In times of emergency, he needed to lead his team into action, and when there wasn't an emergency, he was required to handle official duties.

"Xiao Zhang, that document is very important—immediately deliver it upstairs," he ordered.

"Don't ask me what to do, just arrest the person first. What? The person escaped? Check the surveillance, capture and bring them to justice immediately—under no circumstances can we neglect this."

"The situation in that neighborhood is a bit complex, involving a special event. First, stabilize the situation before anything else. Don't let panic spread. We absolutely cannot afford chaos at this critical juncture. The higher-ups have issued a strict order to maintain public order in Dachang City no matter what, ensuring the safety of the people's lives and property. The lockdown is for the good of the nearby residents. If they can't understand, then patiently explain it to them."

"I want results, not reports. What use are all these reports? Keep interrogating, and don't get sidetracked by useless matters."

Liu Jianguo busied himself in the office hall, with many cases requiring his input, making him feel that even working twenty-four hours a day was not enough.

But it wasn't just his district—none of the others were faring any better.

It was a special period, after all.

Liu Jianguo rubbed his head, feeling exhausted, yet also keenly aware of the great responsibility he bore. He could not afford the slightest negligence, standing as he did at this post.

"Captain Liu, you seem very busy," Yang Jian remarked. "It seems I've come at a bad time, imposing on your schedule."

Captain Liu looked up, and upon seeing Yang Jian, shook his head with a wry smile: “No, you’re wrong. Your arrival is actually a break for me. After all, the higher-ups have decreed that special matters take top priority—even the small things are big issues. Everything else can wait for now, particularly since every move you make, to put it gravely, is tied to the life and death of Dachang City.”

“What case could be larger than the safety and survival of several million people?”

Yang Jian said, “Don’t speak so gravely. The lives of millions are beyond my qualification to judge—that’s a matter for the state. My visit this time is mainly for personal matters.”

“As we spoke on the phone, you’re looking for Zhao Kaiming, aren’t you?” Captain Liu stood up, seizing the chance to take a break and brewed a cup of tea. “Do you want some tea?”

“No, thank you,” Yang Jian replied.

Captain Liu said, “I do have Zhao Kaiming’s contact information, but I only reach out to him when there’s a special event. I wouldn’t dare call him frivolously; he’s not an easy person to get along with. You can understand that, lacking specialized training, people who receive special treatment always have some flaws, not very high in ideological consciousness.”

“Oh, don’t tell Zhao ‘Ghost Rider’ this, or I’ll be facing another disciplinary action,” he added.

Yang Jian chuckled. “Don’t worry, how could I? I’m not one to gossip, and besides, I’m not fond of Zhao Kaiming either.”

“Do you need him for something?” Captain Liu inquired.

“Just to confirm something,” Yang Jian replied.

“How about this—I’ll give you his satellite-encrypted phone number, and you can try contacting him. But you could have asked your operator about this issue, why take a special trip?” Captain Liu asked.

Yang Jian replied, "I'm also here on a personal errand. I was hoping to get someone released and wondered if you could do me a favor?"

"Did they commit any offense? If it's a serious case, then I'm afraid I must apologize," Captain Liu stated.

"It shouldn't be. It's probably just a misunderstanding," Yang Jian said.

Captain Liu said, "Tell me the name, and I'll have someone check it out. If it really is a minor issue, we may be able to release them early. But if it's a major case, even if you want to bail them out, I won't allow it. This is a legal matter, please understand."

"Of course, I wouldn't want to put you in a difficult position," Yang Jian said. "My friend's name is Zhang Wei, and he's about the same age as me—definitely not the type to be in trouble."

"Alright, here's Zhao Kaiming's satellite-encrypted mobile number. You can try contacting him,"

Captain Liu said while instructing someone to look into the issue with the individual named Zhang Wei.

Chapter 153: The Villain Dies from Talking Too Much.

"Dudu~!" The phone rang.

"Hello, who is this?"

Zhao Kaiming's voice came through from the other end of the phone.

"Zhao Kaiming, it's me, Yang Jian." Yang Jian stood in the station with Zhou Zheng's satellite positioning mobile phone and dialed the number,

"Yang Jian?" Zhao Kaiming cracked a smile, "You're actually calling me? That's rare. What's up, had a change of heart? Ready to be my assistant and help me manage Dachang City?"

Yang Jian said, "Did you kill Yan Li and his family of four?"

He got straight to the point without any pretense or beating around the bush.

There was a pause on Zhao Kaiming's end before he replied, "You... why do you ask?"

"Before Yan Li died, he told me that someone from the club was going to kill him and to be careful. However, Wang Xiaoqiang from the club said he didn't touch Yan Li and he also wanted to eliminate me."

Yang Jian said, "Clearly, someone is deliberately using the Xiaoqiang Entertainment Club to try and take me down, while Yan Li was kept in the dark, unable to discern whether it was the club or someone else who wanted him dead."

"If I were to clash with the Xiaoqiang Entertainment Club, who in Dachang City would be happiest to see that? I believe Zhao Kaiming, you would definitely be one of them."

"Knowing that I have a history of cooperation with Yan Li, his Ghost Blood ability is of great assistance to any international ghost master. Hence, his death indirectly means I lose a future helper. Moreover, it would provoke me to suspect Wang Xiaoqiang, and if a conflict were to arise, it would be killing three birds with one stone."

"And the real instigator could just sit back, watch the outcome, and wait to clean up the mess at the end."

"Based on this reasoning, I wonder if I'm correct?"

Yang Jian's tone was very serious, laced with a cold indifference and hostility.

"Hahaha." Laughter from Zhao Kaiming came through the phone.

“What are you laughing at?”

After laughing for a while, Zhao Kaiming’s tone suddenly changed, turning somewhat savage, “Yang Jian, you have some brain, but you’re not smart enough. Yes, I killed Yan Li and his family of three. I intentionally used the deaths of the four of them to infuriate you, to set you against the Xiaoqiang Entertainment Club. Remember what you said before in the city center, that you would go to the end with me.”

“Don’t tell me you thought I was just talking. When words are spoken, one must act on them. Today you acted very well; I’ve already received the news. The Xiaoqiang Entertainment Club has suffered a lot, with over a dozen dead, most of the shareholders killed by your hand.”

“You really went for the jugular, too bad you didn’t kill Wang Xiaoqiang, but of course, you can’t kill him. His ghost is handpicked by Professor Wang, his brother.”

“Though it isn’t of the highest Terror Level, it’s quite unique and well-suited for keeping Wang Xiaoqiang alive. Now think about it, if Wang Xiaoqiang hasn’t died, how might he react when he sees what you’ve done to the club? Might he kill your entire family in a fit of rage? Hehe, I would be very pleased to see that happen.”

Yang Jian furrowed his brows, “I thought you would deny it, didn’t expect you to admit it so readily.”

“Why would I deny it? Your call proves you’ve already guessed the truth, and it would be pointless for me to hide it now. Also, now that Wang Xiaoqiang and you have fallen out, even if he knows I instigated it, it’s too late; he won’t let you off. He often says ‘a smile can dissipate deep grudges,’ but I’m afraid you don’t know just how vengeful he can be,” Zhao Kaiming said with a sneer.

“Besides, although the Xiaoqiang Entertainment Club suffered heavy losses in Huanggang Village, it’s not just Wang Xiaoqiang left as a ghost master. You just got lucky today, running into a situation where certain people were not in the club. Give Wang Xiaoqiang some time, once he makes some arrangements, you’ll regret it, even if you control two ghosts yourself.”

Yang Jian said, “You’ve told me so much, aren’t you afraid that I would kill you right now?”

His face grew somber.

This Zhao Kaiming was truly like a viper, lurking so deep. If Yang Jian hadn't picked up on some clues through these events, he would likely have remained in the dark until the end.

"I will disappear for a while. Rest assured, you won't be able to find me. Until the battle between you and Wang Xiaoqiang is settled, I won't show my face. I'm not that foolish. If I were to make a move at this time, I would have to endure the pressure from both sides. As long as I stay hidden, the fight between you and Wang Xiaoqiang will continue. I believe the chances of you dying will be a bit higher then,"

Zhao Kaiming said with a mocking smile.

"Young man, this society is treacherous. You still have much to learn. Don't think that just because you've studied for a few years and have become a ghost manipulator, you're something special. In my eyes, you're still too naïve. You can't even begin to play in the league of adults, just like you foolishly walked into Huanggang Village. To be honest, from the day you entered the village, I thought you were as good as dead. I never expected you to come back alive."

"But in the end, you did make it out alive from Huanggang Village and even resolved the paranormal incident there."

"Luck or strength, whichever it is, I see you as a potential threat now. In Dachang City, there can be only one international ghost manipulator, and that's going to be me."

"Thump, thump-thump."

As Zhao Kaiming spoke, Yang Jian gave no reply, but from the handset there came a dull knocking sound.

One knock after another, as if striking right on the heart, nearly suffocating.

"What is this?"

Zhao Kaiming's tone changed as he quickly asked.

It was only then that Yang Jian's voice came through, "There's a saying that rings true, the villain dies because of his babbling. How much do you know about the Ghost Door Knocker incident? If you don't, maybe you should look into it later. Since Yan Li's death and the Xiaoqiang Entertainment Club incident were both your doing, I can rest easy. At least now I know who the enemy is. So here's a challenge letter for you, to see if you can handle it. Then we can have a proper showdown."

With that, he hung up the phone.

Once the communication broke off, Zhao Kaiming's immediate realization that something was amiss prompted him to call his own dedicated operator to pull up the archives on the paranormal event at The Seventh High School in Dachang City.

"The Ghost Door Knocker incident at The Seventh High School of Dachang City."

After Zhao Kaiming had a rough look through it, his expression turned exceedingly ugly.

"Anyone who hears the knocking sound will be sought out by that ghost... and that's a ghost that has already created a Ghost Domain. That damned Yang Jian, playing dirty with me? Wants me to get entangled in that paranormal event and die? Very well, I'll give him credit for catching on quickly. I just taught him a lesson, and now he's using the same trick to 'borrow a knife to kill someone,' even involving a ghost."

Surviving from the hands of a Catastrophe Level ghost was no easy feat, especially when that ghost had a Ghost Domain.

Yang Jian's move could be called a masterstroke.

Even if Zhao Kaiming managed to kill Yang Jian, the curse would still remain with him, and he'd still have to face a Terror Level event.

What bothered him the most was not knowing when exactly that ghost would appear.

At this moment, Zhao Kaiming wanted to slap himself. He shouldn't have tried to flaunt his superiority and mock Yang Jian. Now, he had landed himself in trouble as well.

Chapter 154: The Person Who Had an Accident

"This Zhao Kaiming, I don't know if he can survive an attack by the Door Knocking Ghost. If he makes it through that supernatural event, it means this guy is really dangerous. If he ends up dead, that would actually be good for me," Yang Jian mused as he put away the satellite-tracking phone.

The Ghost Door Knocker case was, for the moment, an extremely terrifying paranormal event, and the chances of surviving it were slim.

Without knowing its pattern, it was a toss-up, similar to the Huanggang Village incident—both were nearly unsolvable mysteries.

"We've found Zhang Wei. He was indeed detained in a detention center, caught last night by Xiao Zhang's team. He doesn't have a criminal record; based on his testimony, it appears he was lured in and can't even be considered a first-time offender. After processing, he'll be free to go," a staff member approached and reported.

At this moment, Captain Liu said, "If there's nothing else, release him. We've got a lot on our plate lately. Wrap up any cases that can be resolved quickly; don't delay. You, take Yang Jian with you and have him pick up Zhang Wei."

"Yes, Captain," the man responded with a nod.

"Then, Captain Liu, you must be busy, so I'll take my leave now," Yang Jian said in farewell.

"In the future, I hope you can continue to help with special events when you're able, as one person can't handle all of Dachang City's special events alone. Zhao Kaiming isn't dedicated to his work, and I would be incredibly grateful if you'd exert your effort," Captain Liu earnestly said.

Yang Jian smiled and replied, "Don't misunderstand me, Captain Liu. In fact, I've resolved several paranormal cases already, and they're on record with Interpol. It's just that ordinary people don't know about them, like the Furen Mall incident, the Huanggang Village incident outside the city... and any future supernatural events I encounter, I will certainly lend a hand. However, I can't deal with Zhao Kaiming directly on cases that are in the public eye."

"I hope you can understand the need for some caution," Yang Jian added.

"Your words are very reassuring," Captain Liu said seriously.

"No need to thank me; after all, we're both working on cases," Yang Jian replied.

Having an official identity to cover him seemed beneficial, at least for easier dealings in the future. The paranormal cases he handled would keep being reported and added to the records.

If one day Yang Jian became part of Interpol, his contributions would surely outshine those of others.

Climbing the ranks would be somewhat easier.

Therefore, resolving a paranormal incident brought immense benefits, even though some of those benefits weren't apparent yet.

"Captain Liu, something bad has happened. There's been, there's been an incident," another staff member ran over, interrupting Yang Jian as he was about to leave with the other person. The staff member came in front of Captain Liu, his face pale and panicked.

"Xiao Zhu, what's happened? Stay calm and speak slowly," Captain Liu said, trying to soothe him.

The staff member named Zhu pointed to a spot in the lobby and said, "There, in that mirror, one of our colleagues is trapped inside."

"What? Is that possible?" Captain Liu's face changed immediately upon hearing this.

He then immediately looked towards Yang Jian.

Upon hearing this, Yang Jian's brow furrowed instantly; the situation felt eerily familiar to him.

A person trapped inside a mirror?

Could it be the same ghost he had encountered at the KTV, now here in this place?

Why, in all of Dachang City, did it have to be him who stumbled upon it?

Coincidence, or inevitability?

"Yang Jian, what do you think?" Captain Liu asked.

Yang Jian replied, "Without a doubt, it's a special event. Captain Liu, you should brace yourself. Of course, if you need help, I am willing to give you a favor, although it's not my responsibility. If I encounter it and don't lend a hand, it would seem rather hard to justify."

He didn't mind owing a favor at this moment.

He might need Captain Liu's help in the future, and since he was fairly clear about the ghost's capabilities, he felt somewhat confident. Besides, it was good to leave a positive impression with the authorities to aid his future endeavors.

"That's wonderful, please come with me," Captain Liu said gratefully.

He then ordered, "Xiao Zhu, instruct the others to immediately evacuate the lobby. Seal off the scene of the incident with a cordon. We have professionals handling the situation here—no one else is allowed within a certain distance. You know the drill for handling special cases, I don't need to say more, do I?"

“Yes, Captain. I’m on it,” said Zhu as he scurried away.

Soon enough, several staff members started evacuating the crowd in the lobby, cordoning off a mirror that stood next to the lobby to form a barrier.

Calling it a mirror was actually a bit of a stretch—it was nothing but an exceptionally reflective wall panel. Still, due to the shininess that cast reflections, it gave the impression of being a mirror.

“Captain Liu’s experience really shows,” said Yang Jian as they walked.

He was familiar with the pattern of the Mirror Ghost, which in his view made the situation manageable.

“^

However, Captain Liu dealt with this case quite seasonedly, prioritizing evacuation and isolation without questioning the situation. If there were any onlookers, he would immediately disperse the crowd.

This is the most appropriate action an ordinary person can take in the face of a supernatural event.

It’s to minimize unnecessary casualties as soon as possible.

If one rashly intervenes, it would only lead to more innocent casualties.

“You’re joking, I’m far from being experienced. It’s just a desperate measure.”

With a bitter smile, Captain Liu said, “During the special incident in the city, I could only watch helplessly as people leapt to their deaths from the fifteenth floor, unable to even provide aid. I didn’t expect something to happen here too.”

“And this time it’s a colleague, Yang Jian, I’m really counting on you this time. They’re all good colleagues. If they die on duty, I have nothing to say, but they absolutely can’t die senselessly at the hands of those things. Such a death would be meaningless.”

He was truly earnest, even pleading.

“I’ll do my best,” Yang Jian could only respond in this way.

Although he had some confidence, who could promise full assurance in the face of a supernatural event?

Very quickly.

Captain Liu and Yang Jian arrived at the lobby.

By this time, quite a few staff members had gathered nearby, along with some bystanders who were out of the loop. However, due to the isolation, they could only gaze at the mirror from a distance, unable to approach.

“Captain.”

“Captain.”

The other people paid their respects one after another.

“No need for salutes. What’s the situation?” Captain Liu asked.

“The incident involves our colleague, Zhang Yuan, 27 years old...”

A staff member started to read from a file.

He had hardly started when Captain Liu interrupted him: "I know about Zhang Yuan. Let's not waste time reading the file. I want to know about when the incident happened."

"The first to notice something amiss was Xiao Zhang. He saw Zhang Yuan trapped in the mirror about ten minutes ago, but according to the surveillance footage... the incident seems to have occurred this morning," the person said.

Captain Liu exclaimed, "What? It took us half a day to discover that one of our own had an incident?"

The man said with some embarrassment, "I'm sorry, Captain. We've been quite busy these few days and failed to take notice."

From the side, Yang Jian spoke up, "Captain Liu, you can't blame others for being inattentive. If I'm not mistaken, apart from the Zhang Yuan inside the mirror, there's another Zhang Yuan out here. Because he's been seen, no one realized one was missing. Otherwise, with the usual workflow, how could colleagues not notice someone missing from their side?"

"How could this be possible? It's already baffling enough that someone is trapped inside a mirror, and there's another Zhang Yuan appearing here?" Captain Liu was startled.

"If it wasn't strange, how could it be a special event? In the face of such matters, there are even stranger occurrences," Yang Jian said.

He observed the situation and was certain in his heart.

The Mirror Ghost wasn't brought here by him; otherwise, the incident couldn't have occurred in the morning.

Could it really just be a coincidence?

Yang Jian had a vague feeling that it couldn't be.

With only a day's difference, encountering the same ghost in the vast Dachang City seems improbable; there must be some factor he was overlooking.

"Can we go over to take a look?" Captain Liu asked.

"No problem," Yang Jian replied.

Upon approaching, they indeed saw a person looking desperate and helpless sitting inside the mirror. He had written many words inside the mirror, including numerous pieces of information. As the passersby were too hurried, they hadn't noticed, and those who did happen to pass by only saw an inconspicuous shadow, not paying much attention.

"It's exactly like the case with Shangguan Yun," Yang Jian thought to himself.

"Zhang Yuan, can you hear me?" Captain Liu called out.

Yang Jian said, "It's no use, he can't hear us, but he can see the outside. If we really need to communicate, we could write messages, but... there's no need for that now."

"Why is that?" Captain Liu asked with surprised curiosity.

"Because it's treating the symptoms, not the disease," Yang Jian narrowed his eyes, beginning to look around.

His intuition told him that the "Zhang Yuan" was definitely still here and hadn't left.

“

In the face of supernatural events, there is no place in the world that is absolutely safe.

Even the Presidential Palace, if really unlucky enough to encounter a ghost, those who are doomed to die will still die.

Although Gold is not affected by the power of malevolent spirits, if you hide inside a Gold coffin, you indeed could rest easy. But wouldn't that still be waiting for death?

As long as you want to live, you can't escape the influence of malevolent spirits.

Even if you are protected by a spirit exorcist twenty-four hours a day, that can only shield you from most dangers. If you happen to bump into one of the top three ghosts on the rankings, you're done for. And with the outbreak of supernatural events, many more terrifying ghosts are continuously emerging, many of which may not even be documented or recorded yet.

It is not unusual for accidents to occur here.

After all, before a malevolent spirit, all beings are equal.

Yang Jian is now sizing up everything around him.

At this moment, the staff in the hall are isolating the crowd, evacuating the masses. The scene is a bit chaotic, but he is certain the other "Zhang Yuan" is here and has not left.

Not for any other reason but a hunch.

As for Zhang Yuan trapped in the mirror, he didn't bother with him.

Unable to find that ghost, Yang Jian also couldn't possibly enter the mirror. Even if he wanted to help, he couldn't, only by finding that ghost and driving it back into the mirror would there be a chance to save someone.

The moment when reality and the mirrored realm connect is the best chance to save someone.

“Yang Jian, what are you looking for? I can help you adjust the surveillance in the department,” said Captain Liu. “Just let me know if there’s anything I can do to help.”

“I’ve dealt with that ghost before, it’s strange and elusive, it doesn’t kill nor act rashly. Its goal is simply to walk out of the mirror, and that requires the identity of a living person as a substitute. Someone to enter the mirror in place of the ghost. Zhang Yuan took the ghost’s place and went into the mirror, so the ghost from the mirror also took his place and became Zhang Yuan,” Yang Jian explained with narrowed eyes. “Finding him is the key to resolving this supernatural incident.”

“The department really has another Zhang Yuan?” Captain Liu still couldn’t believe it.

Although Yang Jian didn’t say much, he was already feeling the creeps.

The real Zhang Yuan was trapped in the mirror, so the fake Zhang Yuan, without a doubt... was the ghost.

How could such a terrifying thing have sneaked in here?

“I hope he’s still here, but I can’t be completely certain. If he has already left, then it becomes a bit more complicated,” said Yang Jian.

With a grit of his teeth, Captain Liu immediately said, “Xiao Zhu, check the surveillance, find the location of Zhang Yuan. If anyone else spots Zhang Yuan, report it immediately. Remember, the current Zhang Yuan is the enemy; be extremely careful with any contact.”

At his words, the others all looked serious, realizing that something was off and began to feel uneasy.

“What are you standing around for? Get moving,” Captain Liu barked again.

Only then did the others suppress their unease and start to take action.

"I'll go out and keep an eye on things. Contact me as soon as you find him," said Yang Jian.

"Alright, thank you," Captain Liu replied.

Yang Jian chose not to stay there because it was crowded and chaotic with many people moving about. He needed to step away from the crowd first and secure his own safety before he could handle anything else.

Without certainty of where the ghost might be, he would not expose himself to danger.

Helping out was an obligation, but not a responsibility.

That responsibility belonged to Zhao Kaiming.

So, he would not risk his life recklessly.

It may seem selfish, but this is a survival strategy. After all, in the face of supernatural events, those who play the hero die quickly.

Once outside, he found a deserted corner to stand in while keeping an eye on anyone entering or exiting the department.

However, there are many people here; it would definitely take some time to find that Zhang Yuan.

"Wait a minute... I just remembered now, that ghost wasn't coming for me, I can be sure of that, but I missed someone else." Suddenly, the name Zhang Wei popped into Yang Jian's mind.

This supernatural incident originally entangled with him from the beginning.

Now he's been detained.

And that ghost also followed here.

This couldn't be a coincidence.

"So, is it possible that the ghost's real purpose, whether it's replacing Shangguan Yun or this Zhang Yuan, is to contact Zhang Wei?" Yang Jian's expression changed slightly.

"Wait, that doesn't seem likely either, because after taking Shangguan Yun's place, the ghost planned to leave directly without bothering Zhang Wei, so the theory that it's targeting Zhang Yuan doesn't work."

"Unless... the ghost can only appear near Zhang Wei."

Zhang Wei's home, the restaurant where he treated guests, the KTV where he entertained... all places where the ghost appeared are where he had been.

As it turns out, the ghost had always been following Zhang Wei.

Wherever he appeared, that's where the ghost would show up.

As for who the ghost would attack, there was no set target.

"So everything is actually like this." At this moment, Yang Jian finally deduced the ghost's pattern of activity.

The ghost's objective wasn't important.

What mattered was why the ghost would only appear around Zhang Wei; what strange things had he done recently to be targeted by such a ghost?

While Yang Jian was reflecting.

Suddenly, he vaguely sensed something; the ghost eye beneath the skin of his forehead felt a twitching sensation.

This was some kind of sensibility between fierce ghosts.

The more terrifying the ghost, the stronger Yang Jian's perception, something he had deeply experienced.

He almost subconsciously raised his head to look upwards.

At that moment, in the corridor on the fourth floor, seen through the glass, a person dressed in uniform, resembling a staff member, was currently passing by with their head slightly lowered, unhurriedly.

That complexion reflected on the glass, one could clearly see that on a face strikingly similar to Zhang Yuan's, it was pale without a trace of color.

"Indeed... it's still here, the ghost hasn't chosen to leave," Yang Jian's eyes narrowed.

Immediately, he made a call to Team Liu: "Team Liu, no need to check the surveillance anymore, I've just noticed something on the fourth floor. That thing is currently heading towards the fifth floor. I suggest you abandon the search below the fourth floor, directly block the corridor and the elevators, starting from the fourth floor, and conduct a step-by-step search."

"Alright, I understand. Also, I discovered through monitoring that you were indeed right. At noon, in the canteen, Zhang Yuan showed up to eat, and just half an hour ago, he was seen in the lobby... it turns out that thing has been here all along, sneaking in under Zhang Yuan's identity. No wonder we couldn't find it," Team Liu's voice was somewhat subdued.

His complexion must be difficult to look at now.

A ghost had blended in among them, and they hadn't noticed at all.

This wasn't just a simple special event, but also a humiliation for him.

As a team leader, dealing with cases every day, but a special case surfaced right under his nose without him noticing.

Fortunately, no major incident had happened because if something had, Team Liu felt he would have regretted it for a lifetime.

"Don't worry about that now. Find him, and I will deal with it," Yang Jian said.

"Rest assured, that thing won't escape," Team Liu said; "We'll keep the communication open. I'll inform you immediately if there's any situation."

"Try your best to lock him down," Yang Jian said.