

Crazy 111

Chapter 111: The Incompetent Can't be Saved

"Zhao Yu," coming out of the interrogation room, Miao Ying very openly voiced her concerns, "all of those questions were just regular questions. What were you thinking? Are you just wasting time?"

"What?" Zhao Yu licked his lips, "Are you questioning my professionalism?"

"I could tell that you're trying to help Lin Meifeng!" Miao Ying was very serious, "But none of those questions could be used as evidence, do you get it? Without evidence, Lin Meifeng is still our primary suspect for murdering Jian Wenli!"

"Team Leader Miao!" Zhao Yu suddenly spoke seriously to Miao Ying, "You say you need evidence, but I know that you feel the same way I do! If you didn't want to help Lin Meifeng, you wouldn't have called me out so late!"

"That's why I'm regretting it!" Miao Ying's reaction was lightning fast. "If I didn't call you out so late, I wouldn't have been puked all over by you! I keep thinking if I was your nemesis in your past life!"

Even though Zhao Yu had been confused while he was puking, after sorting through the facts, he finally remembered what had happened and explained, "I'm really sorry about that. It really wasn't on purpose! I drank too much, and then rode in a car. All that added with the anxiety, I..."

"It's fine, we still have business to do!" Miao Ying cut him off impatiently. "What do we do about our case? Should I write my report now, or..."

"No, definitely not!" Zhao Yu hurriedly said, "I clearly know that Liu Pengfei and Lin Meifeng did not murder Jian Wenli. The real killer is someone else!"

"That's just a guess. Although her confession is different from the record we have, Lin Meifeng already confessed!" Miao Ying refuted.

"But you just saw it!" Zhao Yu was rather excited. "Lin Meifeng wasn't even sure if Jian Wenli was alive or not when she stabbed her! We have to investigate it further!"

Seeing Zhao Yu so excited, Miao Ying watched him seriously and turned quiet, unable to say no. Her sharp eyes suddenly turned eager. In that moment, Zhao Yu felt a certain kinship with Miao Yin. He could feel that his and Miao Ying's thoughts were exactly the same.

"Zhao Yu," Miao Ying looked around and pulled Zhao Yu into an empty area before speaking to him very seriously, "I think that as your senior I must warn you! With the current situation, you have to understand something!"

"Huh?" Zhao Yu was confused. Why was Miao Ying being so secretive? What did she want to say?

"If...we close the case right now," Miao Ying spoke seriously, "the two of us would get endless benefits, rewards, diplomas, credits, and what not. If we don't close it now, do you know what we'll have to face? Do you?"

“Oh?” Zhao Yu had not thought that far. He was a new transfer, so obviously he did not know everything!

“Just some commotion would be the best result!” Miao Ying spoke like an experienced officer and lectured him, “Not closing this case now, means the job was incomplete and the murderer is still out there. Think about it, if this Murder Exchange case became publicized, what do you think would happen? There would be a huge commotion!

“First, think about Jian Wenli’s family. What would they think about this? It’s already been ten years but we’re bringing up the case again. How could Jian Wenli’s family sit and do nothing? They will continue to pressure the police with words and actions. If we find the culprit, everything will be fine, but if we don’t, then we’re doomed!

“Secondly, if we don’t close the case, how will the higher-ups look at us? Even though we’ve worked so hard, and are so close to the truth, will the higher-ups approve of you? In their eyes, if the case isn’t closed, then all of our hard work doesn’t mean anything. Understand? By that time, not only would we not get any benefits, but they might even drag our names through the dirt!”

Wow! Zhao Yu was secretly stunned, and he began to look at Miao Ying with admiration. He could never imagine that even though Miao Ying looked so young, she was quite experienced in the ways of the world.

“Finally,” Miao Ying’s lecture continued, “for us to be digging up this case again is a huge insult to all of the investigators who worked on the case before! If we dig this case up, but cannot solve it, it’s not just an issue about being a laughing stock! Think about it, those officers have already become higher-ups. If they get dirt on us, the consequences will be unimaginable...”

Tsk tsk...Zhao Yu shook his head. Who would have thought that such a simple case could have such backlash? Now he finally realized that investigating cold cases was truly a tough job with little reward! “Stupid Liu Changhu, to transfer me to such a shitty place was simply too evil! I’ll definitely get back at him later!” Zhao Yu thought.

“Zhao Yu,” Miao Ying spoke reasonably, much like an older sister. “As a part of the Cold Case Investigation Unit, I think you already know how hard it is to investigate old cases. If we continue, then we have to start from the beginning! Can you imagine the difficulty! This is just adding more suffering for ourselves, with no benefit!”

Zhao Yu obviously understood after hearing all of Miao Ying’s points. Ever since his transfer, he had realized that investigating a cold case was not just a little difficult!

“There, I’ve said everything I wanted to say!” Miao Ying continued, “Then...now I want your opinion. Should we close the case of Jian Wenli or not?”

“No! Definitely not!” To Miao Ying’s astonishment, Zhao Yu did not even hesitate as he spoke, “We have to be able to face our own conscience. We didn’t investigate the case thoroughly, how can we just close it? Besides, if Lin Meifeng really is innocent, then wouldn’t we have framed an innocent person? Team Leader Miao, don’t you worry, offending people is my specialty, but even if I offend everyone I know, I will still find the truth!!” Zhao Yu’s answer could not be described as emotional, but his stance was still loud and clear.

According to her understanding of Zhao Yu, Miao Ying would have expected Zhao Yu to be easily swayed. She never would have imagined that Zhao Yu would make this decision! Because of this, Miao Ying could not help but pause. Her opinion of Zhao Yu changed drastically.

“But...” Zhao Yu’s next sentence nearly stopped Miao Ying in her tracks. He said, “But in the end, my Slaughter Case is already closed, and Jian Wenli’s case is completely your responsibility. We might as well investigate it completely. If it works out, then both of us will be benefited. If not, Team Leader Miao will probably be held responsible instead of me....”

“God...” Miao Ying cursed in her head, “Stupid Zhao Yu, there’s really no saving the incompetent!”

Chapter 112: The Kick was Too Light!

As an experienced detective and captain of the Key Case Investigation Unit, Miao Ying had always been firm and stringent. No matter what Zhao Yu’s attitude was, she would get to the bottom of Jian Wenli’s case and seek out the truth. She would never close the case abruptly!

The reason why Miao Ying asked for Zhao Yu’s opinion was to test him, and to tease him! She had not expected that Zhao Yu’s attitude would be so firm. She could not help but to look at him differently. This guy seemed so arrogant and sullen, and he did things without any good reasons. Who would have guessed that he was so principled?

Although Miao Ying had exaggerated her concerns, they were not completely invalid. If they wanted to get to the bottom of this case, they had to be prepared to step on landmines! They each represented their respective police teams, and the pressure on them could not be understated! If they could not find the Jian Wenli’s real murderer, they would be in trouble!

However, Zhao Yu had also gotten it wrong. He had thought that Miao Ying had taken the initiative to ask him because she needed his help, and that he had to go search for clues with her that day! As it turned out, Miao Ying only wanted to discuss the investigation plans with him, and did not intend to let Zhao Yu be involved with the actual investigation. Miao Ying was the team captain, and she had agents under her. There was no need Zhao Yu’s help.

Ruyang Branch was different from Rongyang Branch. Due to a smaller jurisdiction, their Key Case Investigation Unit was not divided into Team A and Team B, and they did not have any Cold Case Department. Therefore, all the cases were directly handled by the captain, and they did not even have a vice captain! As for the unsolved cases that had accumulated over time, the team usually investigated them when they had no other cases. Like the Slaughter Case, it had also been ten years since Jian Wenli’s case was opened, and it was classified as a crucial case. Obviously, Miao Ying felt strongly about it. Now that an important suspect had finally been found, she naturally wanted to find out the truth.

After hours of discussion, Miao Ying came up with the preliminary investigation plan. First, she she divided the agents into four teams: the first team would continue to interrogate Liu Pengfei and Lin Meifeng to see they could find any new clues; the second team would go to the forensics department to check on the evidence from the comparison report from the year the murders happened to see if there were any overlooked details; the third team would visit Jian Wenli’s relatives and friends to

reinvestigate the case; the fourth team would look for the agents in charge of the case that year, and check if there had been any inconsistencies during their investigation.

Seeing Miao Ying's composed arrangements, Zhao Yu could not help but admire. Compared to himself, who was in charge of the Cold Case Department, but had no subordinates, Miao Ying was much more powerful! Sending out more than ten agents in one go. Such boldness...

"Eh?" Zhao Yu was doubtful after he had finished admiring. "Everyone has been sent out, but what about me?"

"Officer Zhao!" After making the arrangements, Miao Ying said to Zhao Yu, "According to procedure, Liu Pengfei can't stay here for too long. I'll have him transferred to Rongyang Detention Center tomorrow. I will have to trouble you to sort out the information for Yu Zhigen's case, and then follow the standard procedure!"

"Mmm..." Zhao Yu understood. Although the Exchange Murder Case had not been investigated thoroughly, he was in charge of the Uptown Slaughter Case, which could now be closed. In other words, the rewards and compliments that he would receive were already certain.

"Then...Lin Meifeng...what do we do with her?" Zhao Yu asked.

"Lin Meifeng is still a prime suspect in Jian Wenli's murder," Miao Ying answered. "We will send her over to our detention center and continue interrogation! The normal custody period is only one month, but if we make an application, we can extend it by another month! That means we have to catch the real murderer within two months! If not, Lin Meifeng will be prosecuted for murder!"

"Two months. That's so long!?" Because of the Miracle System, Zhao Yu appeared very confident; however, his words seemed very annoying to Miao Ying.

"Zhao Yu, what do you mean?" She gave Zhao Yu a sharp glance and said sourly, "Are you gloating? Let me tell you, don't think that Jian Wenli's case only concerns Ruyang Branch. If the case doesn't get solved, I'll immediately report to your leaders that you stopped me from closing the case and made me reinvestigate! If I don't get anything good, then you can forget about living a good life!"

Wah! Zhao Yu blinked and praised Miao Ying from his heart as he watched her. This woman was really smart, and did not allow herself to face any disadvantage! But looking at the way Miao Ying reprimanded him, he could not help but watch her in a daze. With her red lips and charming face, Miao Ying looked so elegant and inspiring.

"Huh! The case hasn't been solved even after ten years, and you're complaining that two months is too long? Are you crazy?" Miao Ying became angrier as she spoke. "Also, although the statement was inconsistent, we are unable to prove that Lin Meifeng is innocent! If she lied intentionally, then how can we find the real murderer? Zhao Yu...hey...you..."

Zhao Yu was still in a daze. Miao Ying's scolding sounded pleasant to his ears, and his eyes could not help but fall on her perfect figure, and then her chest...

Bang! Only when Miao Ying banged her fist did Zhao Yu wake up in a startle. He quickly wiped the corner of his mouth and said to Miao Ying cheekily, "Kekeke...don't worry Captain Miao. Based on my years of experience, I know that Lin Meifeng definitely did not kill anyone. The real murderer is someone else!"

Zhao Yu patted his chest, "As for the case investigation, you can also put your mind at ease. Two months is definitely enough time. Take your time and investigate slowly, just come find me if you have any difficulties...I'm gonna go back and shower first! I stink!" He continued, "Oh...if you find any clues, don't forget to inform me! Then...I make a move first...ahh..." Zhao Yu turned around and yawned. "it's been a tough night...I need a good sleep!"

"You..." Miao Ying looked at Zhao Yu's arrogant and annoying behavior and regretted her decision. She should not have asked this plague to come to her unit! That kick she had given him was too light!

Having not slept for the whole night, and vomiting after getting drunk, Zhao Yu was exhausted when left Ruyang Branch. He wanted to go home and take a shower, then get a good sleep; however, his phone started ringing once he got in the cab. First it was Li Beini who called him to ask how she should draft the Slaughter Case report. Then, Zhang Jingfeng called and asked Zhao Yu if he needed to continue checking on Yao Jia's boyfriend. Right after that, Peng Xin called him anxiously and told him to go back to the police station. The bureau chief wanted to see him!!

Chapter 113: His Highness Zhao

After getting many calls and hearing that the bureau chief was coming to meet him personally, Zhao Yu had to forget about going home to shower and rest, and headed straight for the police station. But as soon as he walked through the front door and into the hallway of the office, Zhao Yu realized something strange. Many investigators were looking at him weirdly.

"What's up?" he thought. Zhao Yu could not help but be confused. "Am I not wear any clothing, or did I put on women's clothing or something? What are you all looking at? Am I that handsome?"

As it turned out, the news of Zhao Yu closing the Slaughter Case had already spread within the entire team. All of the investigators were stunned at the rumored perverted police officer! Just closing both the Taser Rape Case and the Lost Hand Case back to back was crazy, but this guy had just entered the Cold Case Unit, and he had already closed a ten-year-old cold case, by himself nonetheless! Such an insane ability was almost unimaginable! So when they suddenly saw Zhao Yu himself, they could not help but have a strange expression as they awkwardly gazed at him.

Zhao Yu was not aware of this at all. When he saw two female colleagues staring at him from the office, he licked his lip and asked, "Hey, cuties, what are you guys looking at? Want a date with moi?"

The two girls suddenly shivered, quickly lowered their head, and escaped.

"Hehe..." Zhao Yu grinned, but as he turned around, he found himself face-to-face with Team Leader Qu Ping who was leaving the Team B office.

When Qu Ping saw Zhao Yu she paused. She looked as if she wanted to say something, but Zhao Yu spoke up before she had a chance, "Oh? Isn't it Team Leader Qu? What's up? Did you manage to close the Nursing Home Burglary Case yet? Do you need me to help you guys?"

Hearing Zhao Yu's insulting words, Qu Ping simply rolled her eyes at him, then returned to her office without a word.

“Che!” Zhao Yu simply huffed. When he saw that Team B’s door was open, he originally wanted to go mock them further, but at that moment, Peng Xin was leading a group of people storming out of the Team A office. The group moved rapidly, and looked rather urgent.

Hah? Seeing his colleagues from Team A coming toward him, Zhao Yu could not help but shudder a little. He thought to himself, “Miss, I just solved a simple case. Do you need to come greet me so readily?” But Zhao Yu quickly noticed that everyone was wearing their coat and holding their bags as if they were going somewhere in a hurry. What happened?

“Ah! Yu!” Peng Xin was the first to notice Zhao Yu. She excitedly ran over with her arms wide open. “Come, let me give you a kiss!”

Peng Xin actually made a motion to kiss him, but Zhao Yu quickly dodged to the side and laughed, “No...I haven’t brushed my teeth yet!”

“Hahaha...” Peng Xin roared with laughter and slapped Zhao Yu hard on the shoulder. “You really are my lucky star! You haven’t even been in the Cold Case Investigation Unit for more than a few days, but you’ve already closed another huge case, you, rascal...” Peng Xin was so excited that she did not know what to say. She simply punched Zhao Yu’s shoulder hard over and over again.

“Yeah, Zhao really made us proud! He let us hold our heads up high as well!” Liu Xueshan agreed from behind, “We all have to work hard too! We will definitely capture this criminal too!”

“Yeah!” All of the other team members agreed, their spirit was at its peak.

Ah? Zhao Yu finally understood. All of his colleagues were eagerly going out to capture a criminal! “They didn’t come to welcome me” he realized.

“Sis...what happened?” Zhao Yu hurriedly asked Peng Xin.

Peng Xin replied, “We just got some new information. Someone saw Yang Wentao’s near Qinshan Water Reservoir. We have to go and capture him! Kiddo, I’m going to organize your victory party later!”

Yang Wentao? Zhao Yu suddenly remembered that Yang Wentao was the suspect in the Floating Corpse Case, the one that did parkour! Who would have thought that he was still running away after so many days?

“Qinshan Water Reservoir?” Zhao Yu’s brows knitted. “No way? That guy actually hid at the place where he killed someone and dumped the body? Amazing, huh? Sis, wait up, I’ll go with you guys!” Zhao Yu zipped up his jacket, ready to head out with his colleagues.

“Okay!” Peng Xin first nodded, but she remembered something a second later and stooped. “Wait, no! Bro, Bureau Chief Luan called this morning. She wants you to go to her office!”

“Bureau Chief Luan?” Zhao Yu knitted his brows again. He wondered, “What could she possibly want with me?”

Having guessed what Zhao Yu was thinking, Peng Xin made sure to shout Team B’s direction, “Zhao Yu, it’s because you managed to close the Uptown Slaughter Case! That’s quite the achievement. Bureau Chief Luan wants to praise you, and she wants to personally hear from you! Also, she wants you to prepare a report about your experiences solving cases for the rest of the Key Case Investigation Unit.

Make sure you're prepared!" Peng Xin had raised her voice so Qu Ping and the others would hear her boasting. She wanted to let them know, "Team A also has skilled people! We aren't here for nothing!"

Seeing Peng Xin's pride, Zhao Yu wanted to laugh; however, he was a much better actor than Peng Xin. He immediately cooperated and yelled towards Team B's door, "Meeting the bureau chief is too much! With such a small case like the Slaughter Case, what is there even to say?" Zhao Yu acted seriously. "I think I should just go and catch the suspect with you guys! Don't worry, it's just a measly murderer trying to escape! If Your Highness Zhao Yu goes, I can guarantee their capture. And I'll be quick too!"

Listening to Peng Xin and Zhao Yu, the Team A members could not help but smile. Ever since Qu Ping had become the Team B's leader, they had been constantly oppressed. They never dared to yell in front of the other's door. This was truly first time they were doing so!

After their performance, Peng Xin seriously shook her head and spoke quietly into Zhao Yu's ear, "Yu, listen to me. Hurry up and go to Bureau Chief Luan's office! It's not only to make a report, but it's also to talk about the Cold Case Investigation Unit. If she gives you the OK, you can leave right away!"

Oh...Zhao Yu had not thought that far. Big sis really did know best! Thinking this much, a sudden emotion welled up inside of him. He knew who were his friends and who were his enemies. "Peng Xin already takes so much care of me. I must repay her kindness!" he thought.

Zhao Yu did not think too much, but persisted on trying to accompany Team A. "Sis, don't say anymore! I, Zhao Yu, am still a member of Team A. I'll go with you guys, the more people we have, the stronger we are!"

"But..." Peng Xin was hesitant.

"What's there to hesitate about?" Zhao Yu waved his hand in dismissal. "I can write a report for the bureau chief anytime, but this suspect won't wait for us! Let's hurry and not waste our time anymore!"

"Then...alright!" Peng Xin finally agreed. "As for Bureau Chief Luan, I'll go explain it to her later! Let's go..." Under Peng Xin's lead, the investigators quickly went downstairs to get into the cars.

At the same time, Qu Ping was inside of Team B's office shuddering in anger. She had heard all of Peng Xin and Zhao Yu's mockery just then. Zhao Yu's words, especially, made her even angrier.

"Hmph! Only the shameless flaunt their glory!" Qu Ping cursed Zhao Yu. "How can he refer to himself as 'Your Highness?' How shameless! I'll wait and see if you can really capture the murderer!"

Chapter 114: The Woman and the Encounter I Missed

Although they had received news about the murder suspect, Yang Wentao, it did not mean that they would definitely catch him this time. This piece of information had been provided by a villager living near the reservoir. He told the police that he had seen a male two nights ago who looked like he was in a hurry. When the villager approached him, they got into a conflict, and the man ran toward the west of the reservoir after struggling free. After that, the villager saw the warrant of arrest and realized that the man looked like Yang Wentao.

Whether the tip was accurate or not, and whether or not the man was Yang Wentao, two days had already passed and it was likely that he had already left the reservoir area. Therefore, on the way to Qinshan Water Reservoir, Peng Xin made last minute adjustments to the plan. She contacted the local police and got them to look for the traces of the suspect from the surveillance cameras around the area. Then, she divided the agents into groups and got them to search the different villages and towns around the reservoir.

Including Zhao Yu, there were ten people. There were five cars, with two people on a team. Zhao Yu and Liu Xueshan were grouped together and were sent to search the southern side of the reservoir. There was a total of three small towns and over twenty villages in that area. Obviously, there was a huge amount of work to be done!

After splitting up from the main team, Zhao Yu and Liu Xueshan started driving toward the south. On the way, Liu Xueshan was full of complaints, criticising Peng Xin's commands. Firstly, he said that each town and village had their own local police station and there were also police on duty in the villages. Since the search could have just be handed over to them, where was there the need for the Key Case Investigation Unit to do it? Moreover, the eyewitness had said that Yang Wentao ran toward the west side, so why was there a need to search the south? Wouldn't it be better for them to focus on searching the west instead? Thereafter, he started worrying about the accuracy of the tip, saying that if the villager had been wrong, they were just wasting their effort! Also, Qinshan was big. If Yang Wentao had gone into the deep mountains, how could they find him?

Hearing Liu Xueshan's negative commentary, Zhao Yu could not help but be turned off. Thinking back on when they had been ready to leave, this fella had been full of confidence and was more excited than anyone else! In the blink of an eye, he started to slack and criticize Peng Xin. Zhao Yu knew that Liu Xueshan was the oldest and most experienced on the team, and he remained unconvinced about Peng Xin's sudden promoted; however, without any capabilities, drive or backing, how would the leaders hold him in high regard?

During Zhao Yu's life in the underworld, he detested people who did not hold firm to their stance and spread negativity. Two faced people like him had no credibility at all. Therefore, Zhao Yu did not bother about him and carried on sleeping. Zhao Yu, who was the junior, should have been driving the car, but Liu Xueshan knew about Zhao Yu's arrogance and barbaric behavior. Seeing that Zhao Yu sat in the backseat straightaway, he could only take the wheel. Zhao Yu had not slept a wink the night before and was completely exhausted. Although the journey was bumpy, he slept soundly, and the car had already reached their first destination when he woke up.

This place was called Yulangdian. It was over twelve miles from Qinshan Water Reservoir, and was a small town within the jurisdiction of Moyang County in Qinshan City. After arriving at the destination, Liu Xueshan and Zhao Yu followed the normal procedure and went to the police station to meet the local police. The local police had already been informed and started searching the entire town. They would inform them once they had any news.

It was already noontime after they had finished the handover to the local police. The two went to a small restaurant in town and ordered some simple food. While eating, Liu Xueshan was still nagging and complaining, annoying Zhao Yu even further.

At that moment, the Miracle System sent a message to Zhao Yu, stating that his adventure today had already ended. The completion rate was only forty-two percent, and he received nothing!

Zhao Yu was very surprised. Why had the system ended so fast? And why was the completion rate so low? He thought that his adventure for the day had not even begun! Why had it ended so suddenly? Thinking of this, he quickly began flipping through his notes. Kan-Zhen hexagram! Kan-Zhen hexagram! “Kan” represented woman, woman...woman? Zhao Yu thought back at the woman who interacted with him the most today. It was still Miao Ying! Could the woman be referring to her? Or...

Zhao Yu pondered about it carefully and quickly thought of another possibility! Ah, Luan Xiaoxiao. Bureau Chief Luan was also a woman! “She had wanted to see me today, could it be...the woman in the adventure was referring to her!?” he thought. In the end, he had chose to take part in the mission with the police force and missed the encounter with her. If that was why the completion rate was so low...then...how about “Zhen” hexagram? What did “Zhen” represent? Zhao Yu seemed to have figured out something and quickly looked through his records, and made a new discovery.

The “Zhen” hexagram had only appeared three times before. The earliest was on the day the Lost Hand Case had been solved, when Zhao Yu beat up the blonde guy. The next was during the police training when Zhao Yu and Miao Ying had their big fight. The most recent time was when Liu Changhu announced that Zhao Yu had been transferred to the Cold Case Department. Zhao Yu made notes with his pen and felt that the time he and Miao Ying fought should not count since it had been messed up by Miao Ying in the end. Then...Was there any connection between the time when he beat up the blonde and when he got transferred to the Cold Case Department? Although he was uncertain, Zhao Yu still thought of something out of instinct, “Status!”

The day he beat up the blonde was when he had just solved the Lost Hand Case and established his status in the Key Case Investigation Unit. And when Liu Changhu transferred him to the Cold Case Department, although it seemed to be work-related on the surface, his status had also changed! Could it be...“Zhen” hexagram represented status? When he first fought Miao Ying, he had also established respect among the male police officers, and that seemed to be also a change in status. Could the “Water” and “Thunder” have referred to the big fight between him and Miao Ying? Thinking of this, Zhao Yu quickly noted down his theory. If there was another “Zhen” hexagram in future, he was sure to experience something similar.

Ah! Zhao Yu suddenly thought of something as he wrote it down. If “Zhen” represented status, then did the “Zhen” hexagram today also have the same meaning? Bureau Chief Luan had wanted to see him today. Could it be linked to a change of his status? As he had not gone, had the Miracle System ended early?

“Holy sh*t!” he thought. Zhao Yu felt he was correct the more he thought about it. If he had gone to Bureau Chief Luan’s office, he might have been transferred out of the Cold Case Department! It was likely that he had missed a good opportunity. Tsk tsk...Zhao Yu could not help but regret it. If only he had figured this out earlier! He had also not expected it would be so difficult to nab Yang Wentao. If not, he would have gone to the bureau chief’s office first before coming to help!

He switched his thoughts and felt at ease shortly after. Since he had solved the Slaughter Case, he would have to write the report and go to the leader’s office sooner or later! Although he had missed this

encounter, there would be many other encounters waiting for him in future! Also, it might not have been a mistake for him to join this current mission. "If...I catch Yang Wentao...what will happen?"

Chapter 115: The Most Familiar Stranger

Zhao Yu still thought catching the murderer was too easy. He never would have imagined that when he and Liu Xueshan entered the mountain, they would be searching for three whole days.

Even though Peng Xin already confirmed with witnesses that the person who appeared at the Qinshan Water Reservoir was indeed Yang Wentao, when they worked with the local police officers to do search-and-capture, Yang Wentao was nowhere to be seen.

For three days, Zhao Yu and Liu Xueshan cleared out all of the towns and villages to the south of the water reservoir, but they still had no results. Although Zhao Yu got a new hexagram everyday, he had yet to have an adventure that had anything to do with the case. Even the "Gen" hexagram that was related to work had not appeared.

On the first day, the system gave him the "Kan-Dui" hexagram. Zhao Yu had thought that he would meet some cuties and even get some money. In the end, he simply met an old classmate from a nearby town.

The classmate was someone Zhao Yu used to play with growing up. Not only were they students in the same elementary school, but they had even been tablemates. She had married into a village and was a teacher there.

After their meeting, the classmate was incredibly happy, and invited Zhao Yu and Liu Xueshan to her home. She even gave Zhao Yu a huge bag of Jujube and noodles when they left.

When the system signalled that he had finished his adventure, Zhao Yu finally realized that the nearly two-hundred pound classmate was the woman he was supposed to meet for the day, and the jujube and noodles had been the reward! One could tell that everyday was a different adventure, and there was a significant difference in their worth!

Even though the process had been undesirable, the result was decent. That day's adventure completion rate was sixty-five percent. He obtained something called the invisible GPS which let him locate his own position. Its effects lasted for an hour.

Zhao Yu pondered, "Just what can this thing be used for? Could it be to prevent myself from getting lost?"

The next day, Zhao Yu opened the "Xun-Li" hexagram. Out of the six hexagrams, Zhao Yu did not understand either of these two. Who would have thought that he would get them together! Xun meant wind, and Li meant fire, Zhao Yu pondered as he jotted notes down, but he still had no idea what the two characters meant.

That day, he continued his work and searched for the suspect through the many villages with Liu Xueshan, but he did not encounter anything that could be considered an adventure.

After working for the entire day, Zhao Yu received a message at night notifying him that his salary had arrived.

Zhao Yu had recently become an official police officer, so his salary was a little over four-thousand yuan. Even though it was not much, it was enough for him to live off of; however, the Zhao Yu of this world had been very respectful to his parents. Every time he got paid, he only saved one-thousand yuan for himself, and he would send the rest to his parents. It was because of this that he had always lived so poorly.

Thinking about his own parents, Zhao Yu could not help but get a bit emotional. As it turned out, the Zhao Yu from his previous life and the one in this life were completely different! Because he had had too many brothers in his house, and he lived in poor conditions, the old Zhao Yu had left home before he had even graduated from middle school!

From day-to-day, he and his parents often disagreed. They did not see each other often, and they were almost like strangers. Even when he had been sentenced to death, he had not thought about seeing his family even once. To him, family was a completely foreign idea, but it was different now!

After he crossed over, not only was he reunited with a family, but he even became a good son! At first, Zhao Yu had not really thought about his situation. Even though the old Zhao Yu's parents called him a few times, he just spoke to them neutrally. But now that he got his salary, he had to consider what to do more seriously. How he would face his parents, his siblings, and relatives from his hometown? This feeling of familiarity yet strangeness made him uncomfortable.

After pondering for awhile, Zhao Yu decided to continue doing what the old Zhao Yu had done—give the money to his parents! It was probably better to maintain the relationship for now! Besides, he did not even need money at that point, so even if he gave them all of his salary, there would not be any issue.

When Zhao Yu sent the money, he quickly got a message from the system that his adventure had ended. This time, Zhao Yu's completion rate was a high eighty-seven percent, and he had obtained another invisible eavesdropper!

"Woah? No way?" Zhao Yu could not help but be shocked. He had simply sent some money to his family. Why was the completion rate so high? Could it be that it counted as doing something good? And the more good he did, the higher his completion rate would be?

At the same time, Zhao Yu formulated a new idea. It seemed that either Xun and Li meant family! But he didn't know which one. If he got the same hexagram later on, he would have to investigate it thoroughly.

Just like that, Zhao Yu and Liu Xueshan had walked and searched all day. When they got tired, they rented a room in a hotel and rested.

Then, on the third day, Zhao Yu caught a glimmer of hope! That morning, the system finally gave him the "Gen-Li" hexagram. The hexagram explanation was, "Gen for mountain and Li for fire. Fire within mountain, visible from afar, the five elements are conflicted."

Fire within mountain...Zhao Yu looked out the window and thought, "Right now I'm on a mountain! Could it be if there's a fire somewhere, the suspect would be there?" Thus, after finally obtaining the "Gen" hexagram related to his work, Zhao Yu was quite excited, and was ready to leave early in the morning.

But at that moment, Liu Xueshan could not take it anymore! Over the past few days, the man became less and less interested. Not only did he not bother to look for the suspect, but he often complained and stopped working. Whenever Zhao Yu went from house to house, the man sometimes did not even bother to get out of the car. He only played his phone and made some calls, completely slacking off.

Seeing Zhao Yu get up so early to leave, Liu Xueshan finally could not anymore. “Zhao, just listen to me! Let’s just rest up! Can’t you tell? This is a complete waste of our time and energy!”

Hearing this from Liu Xueshan made Zhao Yu rather frustrated. In actuality, he had slacked off more than Liu Xueshan since he had joined the police force, but whenever it was not him who was slacking off, Zhao Yu became very agitated.

“We’ve already looked everywhere we should over these past few days. If Yang Wentao really ran to the southside of the reservoir, we would’ve already found something!” Liu Xueshan kept making excuses for himself. “See...”

“Whether it was the east or the north side of the reservoir, there isn’t any trace of Yang Wentao at all!” He continued, “I think this guy either ran up some uninhabited mountain, or out of city! Our search here is completely useless!”

Even though Liu Xueshan’s words had some merit, Zhao Yu could not help but be angry when he heard them. But once he thought about it, his eyes lit up and he asked, “Liu, don’t you think that maybe there’s another possibility?”

“Another?” How could Liu Xueshan know what Zhao Yu was thinking? He was instantly curious, “What possibility?”

“Out of west, south, east, north,” Zhao Yu pondered as he spoke, “Aren’t we missing one? How about...we look east?”

Chapter 116: You’re Still Too Young!

“Zhao, are you alright?” Liu Xueshan stared at Zhao Yu as if he were looking at a ghost. “The eyewitness said that Yang Wentao went west, but now you want to search east? Isn’t that doing things the opposite way? What are you thinking?”

But Zhao Yu insisted on his epiphany and said seriously, “Yang Wentao is full of tricks. Isn’t it possible that he tricked people into believing that he went west?”

“Oh my...” Liu Xueshan shook his head in disbelief. “Zhao, are you writing novels? Yang Wentao is neither in the special forces, nor Bear Grylls in “Man Vs. Wild,” he’s only a small clerk, a wanted man. He’s already having problems surviving, why would he still bother tricking us?”

Zhao Yu ignored Liu Wenshan as he checked the map on his phone. He thought of only one question, “Why had Yang Wentao appeared near the reservoir?” Before this, Zhao Yu had thought of this question more than once. Did he just happen to pass by, or had he been hiding near the reservoir? The reservoir was where he had discarded the dead body, so why did he return?

The map on the phone showed that there were many towns and villages near the water reservoir, and these were places where the population was the most dense in the mountains. If Yang Wentao continued hiding in this area, the probability of him being exposed would become higher! Go west? Could it be...he had just been passing by?

The west side of the reservoir was the only way to get to other provinces. Could Yang Wentao have been taking a risk to get out of Qinshan to go to other provinces? However, it was a long journey, and without any transport, he would not be able to get out even if he walked for an entire week! As for the north, it was vast and desolate with mountains, and many areas were unpopulated. If Yang Wentao went there, although he could escape capture, he would not be able to survive.

The south and the surrounding areas of the reservoir had been searched thoroughly by Peng Xin and her team. For now, only the east side of the reservoir had not been searched thoroughly. Zhao Yu looked at the map and realized that east of the reservoir was right outside Qinshan City. Although there were also a few mountains, they were mostly barren, and the population was sparse. According to the map, there was only a small town called Yinpan, and four to five small villages in the mountains.

Indeed, it was too close to the city. The probability of Yang Wentao hiding there was almost zero! However, Zhao Yu's thinking was just the opposite. He felt that since Yang Wentao had gone toward the west, it meant that he had probably come from the east! If they went to search the east, although they might not be able to catch the suspect, they might be able to discover his traces and find some clues. Moreover, he had gotten the "Gen" hexagram. Who knew if he would be able to make some progress?

With that thought, Zhao Yu urged Liu Xueshan to set off quickly. Since they were not able to get any clues where they were, they might as well try searching the east side; however, Liu Xueshan was unwilling to move, saying that they had already searched for three days and that his bones were almost falling apart. He suggested resting first before continuing the search.

Hearing such discouraging words, Zhao Yu almost wanted to give him a big scolding, but Liu was already turning fifty, so Zhao Yu felt that there was no need to get angry at him. Therefore, he decided to stop wasting his breath on him. He went to pack his things and left after taking the car keys.

Liu Xueshan had thought that Zhao Yu would return at night after going out to look for clues, so he did not stop him and continued sleeping.

Zhao Yu left the hotel by himself and drove toward the east of the reservoir. On the way, he kept thinking about things related to Yang Wentao. Because the mountain roads were narrow, he did not drive very fast. More than two hours later, he had only reached the town of Yulangdian where they had initially searched.

As his gas was running low, Zhao Yu reduced his speed and wanted to find a gas station in town. Unexpectedly, when he was driving on the road, he suddenly witnessed a scene: two men were standing in front of a small cottage. A hale and hearty white-haired, elderly man was shaking hands with a young man. The old man was a stranger, but Zhao Yu recognized the young man. He was an agent from Ruyang Key Case Investigation Unit, and one of Miao Ying's subordinate! As Zhao Yu had just stirred up trouble at Ruyang police station a few days ago, the man probably still remembered him. This guy had even been startled by Zhao Yu and had sat on his puke!

“Eh? What a coincidence! What was this fella doing here?” Due to the existence of the Miracle System, Zhao Yu subconsciously became aware of something and quickly stopped his car by the side of the road to observe.

After shaking hands warmly with the elderly man, the young agent said, “Thank you so much, Officer Lu. The information that you have given us is definitely of great help for us!”

“Kekeke, don’t mention it,” the elderly man laughed. “The case has not been solved after ten years. We also feel bad about it. Put in your best effort!”

“Definitely. I will inform you once we have any news!” The young man said as he bowed respectfully to the elderly man.

“Good...good...” the old man smiled and waved at the young man.

“Please go back in! I shall make a move!” Not only was the young man polite, but he even waited for the elderly man to go back into his house.

The gears in Zhao Yu’s brain started to turn as he looked on. Hearing what the young agent had just said, he should have been there to find information. It was also mentioned that the case had not been for ten years. He could have been investigating Jian Wenli’s case!

Interesting...Zhao Yu had never expected that he would actually come across information about Jian Wenli’s somewhere almost sixty miles away from the city. “If that’s the case, why don’t I just ask him straight? Don’t forget that I was also an official investigator of Jian Wenli’s case!” With that thought, Zhao Yu opened the car door and got out.

The young agent had come alone. After he saw the elderly man go back into his house, he walked around the rear of his car toward the driver seat; however, he had only taken two steps before he heard Zhao Yu’s thunderous greeting. “Hey! What a coincidence, what are you doing here?”

The young agent raised his head and got a shock. “Eh? Why...why is it you!? How did you...” After pausing for two seconds, he said in astonishment, “Oh...you...actually followed me!?”

“What nonsense!” Zhao Yu shook his head. “Coincidentally, I’m just investigating another case!” Zhao Yu’s explanation was unable to convince the young agent.

The young agent said to Zhao Yu with hostility, “This is not the city. Who would believe that we would run into each other here by coincidence! Hey...you...what do you want exactly?”

“Mmm...” Zhao Yu could not be bothered to explain and got straight to the point, “I do not want anything. I only wanna ask how’s the progress on Jian Wenli’s case? Has Miao Renfeng found any new clues? And...who were you talking to just now?”

“Hey!” The young agent replied angrily, “I’m doing an investigation. Sorry, I can’t divulge anything! You can ask our Captain Miao directly!”

“What kind of attitude is this? Is this how you talk to your senior?” Zhao Yu stared at him. “Don’t you already know that I am also in charge of this case. I have the right to know! You better fill me in on the development of this case...”

“Dream on!” the young agent adhered to his principles and pointed to the cottage. “Go investigate yourself!”

“Hey!” Zhao Yu grabbed the young agent’s collar and pushed him toward the hood of the car. “Young man, don’t force me to do it the hard way! If I want something, nobody can refuse to give it to me!”

“You...you...” The young agent knew about Zhao Yu’s tyrannical behavior and started to stammer, but as a police agent, he remained fearless. “You...don’t mess around! I won’t tell you anything, so hit me if you dare!”

“Wahaha...” Zhao Yu suddenly laughed and let go of him. “You’re good, young man! Remarkable! Kekeke...alright, I shall not argue with you. I have a mouth, so I can just go and find out myself!”

With that, Zhao Yu turned his head and walked toward the small cottage, and even pretended to knock at the door. The young agent adjusted his collar and swallowed hard before getting into the driver seat in a fluster and driving away! Probably due to his intense emotions, the car made an “S” on the road before leaving.

Zhao Yu waited until the car was gone before laughing, “Huh! Young man, wanna play games with me, you’re still too young!” After he put down his hand from when he had pretended to knock on the door, a black recording pen suddenly appeared on his palm!

Chapter 117: Curses and Evidence

While he was looking for Yang Wentao, Zhao Yu never forgot about Jian Wenli’s case. When he was resting, he would often flip open his records, trying to find any leads.

According to the plan, Miao Ying had already sent Liu Pengfei to Rongyang Prison for surveillance. Due to his absence, Zhao Yu had left all of the follow-up work to be finished up by Li Beini.

Over the past few days Zhao Yu had tried to contact Miao Ying to inquire about the investigation, yet it seemed that he had angered the feisty woman last time. Miao Ying did not respond to any WeChat messages or phone calls. Maybe she had even blocked him.

Actually, because of the difference in jurisdiction, Zhao Yu could only cooperate with the Jian Wenli’s case independently. It really did not have much to do with him, so he did not need to worry at all, but because of Lin Meifeng’s involvement, he simply could not let go of the case. He still felt like he had to help Lin Meifeng gain her innocence! Every time he thought about this, the image of Lin Meifeng laughing with her children in the morning floated into his mind.

Having met an investigator so far from the city by coincidence, Zhao Yu felt there was something more to it. Even though he was trying to intimidate the new investigator, he had secretly put his hand into his car and stolen his recording pen.

When he turned on the recorder pen and listened to all of the information on it, he finally understood why the investigator had gone all the way to the shop in Yulang. Apparently, the white-haired man that appeared at the door was originally a police officer responsible for Jian Wenli’s case, but he had retired

already. Miao Ying sent someone over to find him because she wanted to understand the original case situation, and see if they missed anything from before.

Unexpectedly, the interview with the retired police officer really produce some important details. According to the footprint left at the crime scene previously, the suspect was a strong man that was at least 5'11"! Also, according to the rather experienced detective's reasoning, he thought the suspect's right foot had some sort of disability because he noticed that all of the right footprints appeared to be a little shallower compared to the left.

Jian Wenli had been strangled by someone. Using the marks left on the corpse, they concluded that the culprit was tall with long arms and thick fingers, and was very strong. Also, Jian Wenli's pajamas had had a lot of mud on them. The police suspected that the bed where she was found may not have been where she was murdered. The victim may have been strangled by the culprit while pinned against a wall! According to the old police officer's recollection, these details had initially been recorded, but had not been saved for some reason. He was not sure if it had simply been ignored, or if there was some sort of mistake.

After Zhao Yu heard that, he felt even more confident. With this new evidences, there was no doubt that Lin Meifeng was innocent. Jian Wenli's murderer was indeed someone else! He was not sure if Miao Ying would find the culprit in the end.

Zhao Yu was thinking about this when his phone rang. He opened it to see it was from Miao Ying.

The call had just connected when Miao Ying's angry voice came from the other side, "Zhao Yu, you good for nothing, are you crazy? If you wanted to know more about the case then just look for me, why did you follow my investigator? And...and followed him so far, too! If you know what's good for you, go and return the recording pen to Zhang!"

"Hey hey..." Zhao Yu was prepared and replied immediately, "Team Leader Miao, don't be so angry, okay? I already explained myself. I came to Yulang for another case; it was just a coincidence! Also, I did want to ask you about the case, but how come you didn't answer me? Did you block me on WeChat or something? Also...what pen? I don't know what you're talking about!"

"Zhao Yu, don't play dumb with me!" Miao Ying roared, "Okay...you said you wanted to understand the case. I'll tell you right now. Lin Meifeng's office supply shop was destroyed! Also, Liu Pengfei's storage room was set on fire!"

Ah? What? Zhao Yu was shocked. He asked in a hurry, "Who did it?" But he did not need Miao Ying's response to know the answer. Who else could it be? Obviously, it was Jian Wenli's family! Now that the case had been reopened, and the police had uncovered Liu Pengfei and Lin Meifeng's murder exchange plot, Jian Wenli's family would stop at nothing to get revenge.

"You happy now?" Miao Ying continued, "Also I'll tell you now, the victim's family has already started putting pressure on the police! If we can't find the truth, and the higher-up can't take it anymore, they might use Lin Meifeng as a scapegoat!"

This... Zhao Yu could not have imagined this. To think the situation with Jian Wenli's case had worsened so quickly. It seemed that they could not wait two months anymore. They have to close this case as soon as possible.

“Don’t worry, if I go down, I’ll take you down with me!” Miao Ying threatened him, “As long as I send your information to Jian Wenli’s family, Rongyang Branch will also die with me. I’ll see where you run then!”

Zhao Yu swallowed and thought to himself, “This woman...savage!”

“Didn’t you say we were taking too long? Why don’t you come and help us?” Miao Ying continued to scold him, “What were you following my investigators for?”

“Fine!” Zhao Yu did not stop. “First you give me the information. Once I finish what I’m doing now, I’ll go and help you investigate!”

“It’s helping yourself, not helping me! Okay, I’ll give you the information soon!” Miao Ying agreed, then asked, “Then...what about the recorder pen?”

Ten minutes later, the young agent, Zhang, drove his own Passat and pulled up in front of Zhao Yu.

Zhao Yu ignored him and simply held his pen out the window.

Zhang opened the door and got out of the car. As he got closer he pouted and was rather frustrated, then grabbed the pen angrily. He had wanted to just turn and leave, but he still felt angry, so he turned and cursed at Zhao Yu, “Officer Zhao, Yulang has a lot of cliffs. If you aren’t familiar with this area, be careful not to fall, okay? It’ll hard to clean up!”

How could Zhao Yu take this sort of insult? He did not even need to think before he replied, “Then let your mom come and clean up after me! We were in bed together anyway! Later, she’ll tell you the truth, kiddo!”

“You...” Zhang shuddered in anger. He had wanted to yell at Zhao Yu more, but Zhao Yu suddenly turned on the car and purposefully zoomed past him. Zhang almost fell over in shock!

When Zhang turned to look, not only did he see the car leaving him in the dust, but there was even a middle finger sticking way out of the car window.

“Tsk, tsk...” Even though Zhao Yu had messed with Zhang a little bit, he did not feel good at all. He had not thought that Jian Wenli’s family would so rush to make a commotion! Also, he had not thought that Yang Wentao would be so hard to catch! No wonder Peng Xin and the others had worked so long but still could not close the case!

“This guy...where is he hiding?” Zhao Yu thought. “I’ve finally opened the “Gen” hexagram. What kind of adventure did the system give me? Could it be the meeting with the investigator just now?”

Thinking this much, Zhao Yu was suddenly inspired. He recalled the investigator’s words, “Officer Zhao, you aren’t familiar with this area...don’t fall off a cliff!”

“Unfamiliar?! Familiar?!” Zhao Yu pondered carefully for a few moments before saying in shock, “Ah!! I was wondering what I was missing?! So, the key to the problem...was here?!”

Chapter 118: A Man and a Dog

Previously, Zhao Yu had puzzled over why Yang Wentao would appear near Qinshan Water Reservoir. He thought hard and long about it but could not figure it out. After Zhang had cursed him just now, he suddenly figured out! The secret lies in “familiarity!” Yang Wentao chose to discard the dead body at Qinshan Reservoir, and he came back after being on the run. What did this imply? It meant that he was very familiar with this area! That’s right! He knew this place well, and knew that it was a good place for him to hide from the police!

Zhao Yu had seen Yang Wentao’s file. He was not from Qinshan, and did not have any relatives near the reservoir. He did not even like fishing or outdoor sports! Logically, there was no reason for him to be familiar with this place! Then...why was he familiar with this place?

Thinking about it further, Zhao Yu quickly thought of something: work! Yang Wentao was a clerk in the technology bureau. Could it be that he knew this place well because of some work requirement? Zhao Yu had never been a civil servant and had no idea what the technology bureau was for; however, he used his phone to get on the internet, and quickly understood the work nature of the technology bureau. Although most of the employees were researchers based in the office, there were also large-scale scientific research projects that required extensive field research.

Environment, hydrology, medicine, agriculture...as long as it involved scientific research, it was related to the technology bureau. Could it be that...Yang Wentao had previously been involved in some research near Qinshan Water Reservoir? Such as the reservoir’s fisheries, water treatment, etc...was that why? Was he aware of some place near the reservoir that was suitable for him to hide? Was he hiding there!?

After mulling it over, Zhao Yu felt that he had possibly realized a key clue. He immediately called Peng Xin to ask if she had Yang Wentao’s employment record. Did he take part in any large-scale scientific research projects involved in the Qinshan mountain area?

Peng Xin was taken aback by Zhao Yu’s questions, and did not understand why he wanted Yang Wentao’s employment record. Since Yang Wentao had committed homicide, and it had even been a crime of passion, Peng Xin had no need to check Yang Wentao’s work. After Yang Wentao escaped, she basically focused all of her energy on Yang Wentao’s relationships, and had not considered his work!

Zhao Yu was uncertain whether his hunch was accurate or not. He told Peng Xin his suspicions truthfully. Peng Xin agreed with Zhao Yu’s thinking and immediately sent someone to investigate. Zhao Yu thought that he would need to wait for some time, but he received Peng Xin’s call just as he reached the gas station.

Peng Xin sounded very excited over the phone, “Yu! You’re really awesome! We just called Yang Wentao’s colleague to inquire, and guess what? His colleague said that five years ago, Yang Wentao was in charge of a reformation project in Yinpan Mountain’s old silver mine. That project was active for three years, and they made numerous field trips there! However, the project was stopped due to funding problems!”

Silver mine!?! Zhao Yu frowned. He had thought that it would be a project related to Qinshan Water Reservoir! But it was the silver mine instead? “Wait...Yinpan Mountain? Yinpan Town?” Zhao Yu thought for a moment and was stunned! Ah, holy sh*t! Wasn’t I going to go to Yinpan today? Its location is east of the reservoir! Oh...my goodness!” Zhao Yu had goosebumps all over. Could it be...Yang Wentao had

been hiding in the abandoned mine of Yinpan Mountain all along? Yinpan Mountain was very close to the reservoir, and could be reached in a few hours by foot...

Zhao Yu was pondering as Peng Xin spoke again, "Yu, it's such a pity! If only we had thought of this earlier! He was definitely hiding in the mine before, but he's gone west now, so he's probably no longer there!" Zhao Yu wanted to say something, but stopped as he was unsure.

"How about this!" Peng Xin said, "We have limited manpower now. I'll get Dafei and Lee to investigate the mine area. You will also go and check things out. The three of you will try to see if you can find something, okay?"

"Okay!" Zhao Yu nodded. Even without Peng Xin's instructions, he already intended to go to Yinpan Town. Zhao Yu felt that him wanting to go east that morning, and finding out about the mine area was probably not just a coincidence! Moreover, the system had given him a "Gen" hexagram which represented work. Perhaps he might find something at Yinpan Town!

After filling up the gas tank, he went straight to Yinpan Town. Zhang had been right. Although the mountains were not too high from Yulangdian to Yinpan Mountain, there were many cliffs on both sides of the road, and it was necessary to drive cautiously. Zhao Yu did not even care about lunch and drove all the way to Yinpan Town.

Yinpan Mountain got its name due to the fact that it had a silver mine in the past. It was situated at the front end of the Qinshan Mountains, and there were basically no high mountains. It was said that the silver mine had been active until the eighties, but on a very small scale. After the start of the twenty-first century, it had been totally abandoned!

The land near Yinpan Mountain was barren, and there was little vegetation, making it look dull and desolate. Yinpan Town was also pathetically tiny, and the whole town only had one main street. There were not many hotels, and the environment was completely unsanitary and appalling.

Zhao Yu could not take any more and bought a few packs of instant noodles to quickly fill his stomach. It was almost sunset, but Zhao Yu still began his investigation work as planned. He held Yang Wentao's photo and started looking around house by house.

After he finished visiting half of the street, the sky was already completely dark. Zhao Yu went to the best hotel in the small town to stay for the night. Although it was the best hotel there, there was not even a shower, and he had to use the public toilets to wash up. Zhao Yu disliked the foul smell in the room. After he quickly finished his dinner, he sat at the entrance of the hotel and drank beer as he pondered about his investigation.

After investigating, no one had seen Yang Wentao. It seemed like Yang Wentao may not have come here at all, and that he previously hid deep inside the mine. Information had shown that although the population was sparse near Yinpan Mountain's mine, the surface area was not small. Inside the huge mountain, there were mining pits everywhere, and some mining pits could even be traced back to the Yuan and Ming Dynasties. It was also like a maze inside the mining pits. Even the locals did not dare to go too deep in.

Yang Wentao was previously involved in a project related to the mine area, and was thoroughly knowledgeable about the inside. If he had gone right inside, how could he be found? It was especially

cold and chilly in the mountain at night. The small town only had a few street lamps, and many of them were dirty, making the dusk look even dimmer.

A wolf-dog walked over from the back of the hotel and took a weak glance at Zhao Yu. Without making a sound, it curled up its body and laid beside Zhao Yu.

Zhao Yu side-eyed the dog. This wolf-dog was rather big with a black head. Its body had mud caked onto it, and looked very filthy. To make things worse, one of its eyes seemed to have been injured at some point. It was closed tight, and the dog looked blind!

A blind dog? Zhao Yu sighed and shook his head, feeling sorry for the dog. He remembered that he still had half a bag of dried beef in his car and went to his car to get it. He threw the few pieces of dried beef to the blind dog, and the dog ate them hungrily.

Zhao Yu found the car seat comfortable and continued sitting there, then turned on the radio. The radio was playing an oldie called "Waves." "I can't see, I can't hear, I can't think, I can't touch, the two of us together...A man, a dog, a glass of wine, a night, suddenly turning old..."

"A man and a dog?" Zhao Yu thought. He looked at the blind dog outside the car window and shook his head as he contemplated. This song was quite apt...

"Eh? Wait..." Looking at the blind dog gobbling down the dried beef, another thought sprung up in Zhao Yu's head.

Chapter 119: You Gotta Help Me

When Zhao Yu saw the dog eating the beef jerky, he suddenly came up with a very important question. If Yang Wentao escaped into the mines, then...what did he eat?

The area around the mine had nothing but mountains and uninhabited areas, not even any wild life. Even edible plants or seeds were rare! This guy was not sitting in the cave catching mice, right? On the day he ran off, he could not have brought that much money, and probably could not have bought much food. Then...What had the guy been eating for all of these days?

Zhao Yu vaguely felt that even if Yang Wentao had went to the mines, he could not be far from people! If he wanted to live, he needed food and water, and he could only get that if he was near a town or village. Then...

Zhao Yu turned on his phone and started checking out the map of the area Peng Xin sent him that morning. He wanted to see, within Yinpan Mountain, what towns or villages were close to the mine area.

As it turned out, according to the map, the place he was in, Panyin Town, was the town closest to the mine. West of the town, and behind the mountain, there were many mining caves!

"Tsk tsk...Interesting..." Zhao Yu thought that if he was Yang Wentao, he would probably pick a place like this to hide too. In the morning, he could stay in the caves, then he could go to the town to buy some food and things to use at night.

"I hear the sound of the ocean, standing in the center of the town. I think of the tears from the decision when you said yes that day..." Hearing song on the radio and seeing the half-blind dog who had just finished the beef jerky, Zhao Yu felt that he should look around.

Unexpectedly, just as he made that decision, he received a message from the system. This time, Zhao Yu's adventure completion rate was seventy-three percent, and the system rewarded him with a signal amplification device. With it, one could amplify a phone or other device's signal.

"First an invisible air monitor, and then Invisible GPS, and now a signal amplification device. System, are you really worried I'll get lost?" he thought. Since the adventure was over, Zhao Yu did not really want to think about anything else. He locked up his car and went upstairs to sleep. Before sleeping, Liu Xueshan called him, but Zhao Yu did not bother picking up. Zhao Yu could not care less about the slacker.

Even though the hotel was awful, Zhao Yu was so exhausted that he slept until morning. Following his old habit, as soon as he woke up, he smoked! As soon as the hexagram explanation appeared, Zhao Yu's excitement lit up!

"Gen-Dui hexagram," The system said. "Gen for mountain and Dui for swamp. Marsh within the mountain, dark and light all prominent, objects return to nature, very strange."

Seeing early morning he already managed to obtain the much anticipated "Gen" hexagram. Besides that he felt lucky, Zhao Yu also felt that maybe the hexagram he had received could be related to the hard work he had put in before. "Maybe...because the direction of my investigation is right, I managed to get the "Gen" hexagram?" he thought. "If so, then I have to work hard today. Maybe...I'll get huge rewards! Hehehe..." Thinking about that, Zhao Yu got up and washed up in a hurry. He ate something light, then immediately started his investigation!

First, he searched through all the areas he had not gone to the day before, then he started searching towards the back-mountain's mining area. In order not to miss any evidence, he asked almost everyone around, even the children who were going to school.

Not only that, he also interviewed many old people, and asked about the situation at the mine area, then personally went to search. Inside the mine, there were many caves almost like a maze. Zhao Yu didn't dare enter, and only searched around the cave entrance, before going back to the town. And just like that, he had searched until eight at night, but Zhao Yu still had not made any progress.

As the town descended into night, the stubborn Zhao Yu suddenly came up with a strange idea. He thought that since Yang Wentao was kind of handsome, maybe he was hiding in some woman's home. "How about I look in those places? And...take care of some of my own frustration while I'm at it...?" he thought.

Thus, somewhat distracted, Zhao Yu started making rounds in the town once again. However, the poverty of Yinpan Village was beyond his expectation. He looked through the town's many shops. Even though there were a few salons, they were all hair salons and were less than savory. The stylists were all old men or old ladies! And the bathing house was also just a bathing house. There was no fun to be had there!

Zhao Yu could not help but be a bit disappointed. His adventure would end soon, but he had spent the whole day wandering around and had found nothing! Was his direction wrong? Or had he missed something important? If Yang Wentao really was hiding here, how could nobody have seen him? Zhao Yu could not come up with anything, and could only drive back to the hotel.

When the car stopped, Zhao Yu once again saw the half-blind dog from the night before wandering beside a wall. Ah, Zhao Yu realized that the dog was not only blind in one eye, but its rear leg also had problems. The dog limped as he walked! Also, the dog was mostly skin and bones. It was clearly a stray that was always hungry.

“Sigh! Poor guy...” Zhao Yu sighed softly and got out of his car. Even though he had fed it only once, when the half-blind dog saw Zhao Yu, it hobbled over to him. It raised its head and looked pitifully at Zhao Yu. Only dogs could show such a pitiful expression.

The dog did not bark or block his way, but when Zhao Yu stopped when he saw it. He wondered if he had anything that the dog could eat, then he could at least give him a bite! But the beef jerky was already gone, and Zhao Yu did not have anything else to eat.

Zhao Yu looked around and saw a small shop was still open, so he walked in and bought a huge bag of chicken legs and chicken feet. “Here...eat up, eat up...” Tearing the bag open, Zhao Yu started feeding the dog in front of the hotel. Seeing the delicious food, the dog immediately started gobbling up the food as fast as it could.

Zhao Yu also bought a few bottles of beer, and simply sat beside the dog and started drinking himself. Dog ate meat, while human drank beer...

As he drank, Zhao Yu could not help but think back on the case. “Gen-Dui hexagram. That’s both work, and money!” It was a good hexagram, but how come it was not working? “I’ve worked hard today, but I still feel like I’m missing something. What...am I missing? I’ve already asked everyone in the town. Is it possible that Yang Wentao really didn’t come here? Hmm...”

Zhao Yu looked at the half-blind dog. As if joking, thought of a stupid idea. “Well, if the people of the town didn’t know, how about...the dog? Could the dog have seen Yang Wentao? Apparently, a dog’s nose is good. I have Yang Wentao’s scent. Could the dog help me find him?” Then he realized, “Oh? That’s it!”

Zhao Yu suddenly remembered that the police team had many police dogs. If he got one of them, then maybe it could sniff out Yang Wentao! “Yeah!” Zhao Yu made up his mind and decided that after he finished the bottle of beer he was drinking, he would call Peng Xin.

Yet, before he finished, Zhao Yu suddenly had another idea. Maybe he had drunk too much, but he pulled out Yang Wentao’s photo and put it in front of the half-blind dog. “Hey, I fed you well, so you gotta help me I guess...” Zhao Yu was rather dizzy, and started talking to the dog, “Here...have you seen this guy?”

Unexpectedly, when it saw the photo, the half-blind dog actually stopped eating and stared at the picture with its working eye. “Woof! Woof! Woof!” After two seconds, the dog started circling Zhao Yu, and barked a few times. Then it dragged its disabled leg and walked towards an alley behind the hotel and started nodding at Zhao Yu. Apparently, it wanted Zhao Yu to follow it!

“Holy sh*t! No way? No way...” Zhao Yu looked at the beer in his hand Was it fake beer? Why was he so dizzy? Could it be...this dog...really...?

Chapter 120: A Dog Never Changes its Habit of Eating Poop

Zhao Yu only had a few cans of beer since he knew he could not drink too much. He was clearly aware that the photo of Yang Wentao was a printed copy from the police station, and it was impossible for it to have Yang Wentao’s smell. It was also impossible for the blind dog in front of him to bring him to Yang Wentao! Nonetheless, Zhao Yu followed the blind dog without hesitation. As of now, the system had not announced the end of his adventure that day. Even if the blind dog was unable to find Yang Wentao, it might be able to bring him to some clues.

The blind dog limped but moved quite fast. Zhao Yu had to run slightly along the way to catch up with it. The blind dog was afraid that Zhao Yu might get lost behind it and barked from time to time to alert Zhao Yu.

They passed through a small alley at the back of the mountain. It was a dark and windy night, and the area was overgrown with weeds. Zhao Yu had no choice but to switch on the flashlight on his phone. The blind dog brought Zhao Yu through the weeds, and turned in different directions. They soon arrived at the foot of the mountain. There was a tall elm tree there, and the blind dog finally stopped under the tree. “Woof woof woof...” The blind dog barked continuously at Zhao Yu and seemed to want Zhao Yu to see something.

“Oh...there’s something here! It’s time to witness a miracle!” Zhao Yu thought. He was already filled to the brim with excitement and quickly ran forward, wanting to know what the blind dog had led him to. Zhao Yu looked at the ground and was stunned by what he saw! “What...damn...”

The thing that the blind dog had led him to turned out to be a steaming pile of poop!! “Holy sh*t! A dog never changes its habit of eating poop!” Zhao Yu could not help but feel despondent. “I came all the way here just to see you eat poop? What the...”

As Zhao Yu was turning crazy, the blind dog excitedly ran around the pile of poop in circles as if it had found some treasure, and kept barking at Zhao Yu at the same time. This time, Zhao Yu finally understood something. The dog was trying to return the favor, and used the poop to repay him! “Holy sh*t!”

“Oh, I treated you to chicken drumsticks and feet, and you’re treating me with...this!? Is this good food?”

“Woof! Woof! Woof!” Hearing the blind dog’s loud barks, Zhao Yu could not wait to give it a kick. “What is going on? I was going crazy trying to solve the case, and ended up being played by a dog...”

Eh? Eh!? Just as Zhao Yu was feeling depressed, he suddenly heard a few clanking sounds. Although it was faint, it was not far from him. The sound was obviously from metals knocking against each other, but this was a barren mountain with no one around. How could there be this sound?

Zhao Yu quickly turned on his flashlight and looked around. At the same time, a thought came across his mind. The poop under the tree had steam coming out of it. That meant that...someone here had just...

Suddenly there was movement in the bushes, and Zhao Yu saw a man scurrying out! The man's speed was very fast as he fled toward the back of the mountain. Zhao Yu was less than ten meters away from the man. Although it was dim, he could still clearly see that the man actually had some shiny object hanging on his right wrist! The clanking metal sound just now was from this object! "Ah! Handcuffs! Wasn't that a pair of handcuffs!? The man...why was he wearing handcuffs?"

"Oh..." Zhao Yu had been closely following Yang Wentao's case, and he instinctively recalled something. The day Yang Wentao escaped, one of his hands had already been handcuffed by the detectives. He had escaped when his other hand was about to be cuffed! "Could it be...this man who just fled...ah, holy sh*t!" Zhao Yu quickly held his flashlight higher to find the man, but the fella was very fast and had already disappeared into the night.

"What, how can this happen!? If that was really Yang Wentao, we cannot let him escape again!" Zhao Yu anxiously ran toward the mountain, but his flashlight was too weak and he could not even see the road clearly, let alone chase a person.

"What should I do? Right!" Out of desperation, Zhao Yu suddenly remembered he had the invisible night vision from the Miracle System. This was a chance not to be missed. If he did not use it now, when else could he use it?

He quickly found the tool in his brain and selected it. The tool did not activate immediately, and cautioned him that the tool should be used at night and that strong light should be avoided or else it could be harmful for the eyes. Zhao Yu quickly tapped on it again and finally activated it. This tool was indeed amazing. Zhao Yu felt that his eyes suddenly went into night vision mode. The surroundings were colorless, but he was able to see clearly. Although he had night vision, he was still unable to see faraway places clearly. Having no other choice, Zhao Yu also activated the invisible telescope, combining the two into one and maximising their power.

Zhao Yu quickly searched the faraway places. Fortunately, the weeds were not tall and within ten seconds, he saw a man flash past the entrance of a mine some distance away! "What...this fella ran so fast? He actually got so far in a blink of an eye!? Oh..." Zhao Yu suddenly recalled that Yang Wentao was a parkour practitioner. "So...this fella really is him!?" Zhao Yu did not have time to think further and quickly ran toward the entrance of the mine.

With the night vision, he was able to move fast and reached the mine pit in no time. The dark pit became clear with the use of the night vision. The tools boosted Zhao Yu's confidence, and he went straight into the mine pit without a second thought. Zhao Yu thought that since he had night vision while the man did not have any sort of light, he had the upper hand in a pitch-dark place like this, and he would be able to catch up with Yang Wentao soon!

However, Zhao Yu had overlooked the most crucial problem. The mine in front of him was not a dead-end, but had numerous connecting tunnels. Not long after, he came to an intersection. Zhao Yu was eager to go after the man, and had not thought about it too much. He felt that the path on his right had some movement inside and ran straight inside.

Who would have known that this mine pit was like a maze? The deeper you went in, the more intersections there were. Gradually, Zhao Yu had gone down a few tunnels and had no idea how to

continue the chase. Although he could still hear some vague movements, he was unable to ascertain where the sound came from exactly.

“Tsk tsk...what to do now?” Unexpectedly, just as Zhao Yu was faced with difficulty, a series of rapid noises came from behind him. He quickly turned his head and saw the blind dog appear out of nowhere.

“Wah, are you kidding?” Zhao Yu felt that it was amazing and could not figure out how the dog followed him. However, seeing the blind dog rekindled Zhao Yu’s hope. “Doggie, since you could never change your habit of eating poop, why don’t you help me find the man who pooped!?”