

Crazy 311

Chapter 311: Mess Around

“Twelve, Thirteen, Fourteen...” Lying on the floor, Zhao Yu suddenly started counting and stopped counting at fourteen. “Oh my god?!” He raised his head and looked around. He looked surprised, but had his guard up.

When Zhao Yu landed on the floor, he realized that display panel of the invisible detector in his mind captured a lot of surveillance cameras. The cameras filled the whole area, and were scattered at every corner!

“That’s not right?” Zhao Yu thought.

The place where Zhao Yu fell from the second floor was an intersecting alley among all the buildings. Half of the place was closed down. Around the area, besides an abandoned parking lot and some trash, there was nothing else. However, there were fourteen surveillance cameras. This kind of situation was actually beyond his imagination.

“Why are there be so many surveillance cameras monitoring this place?” he thought to himself. From the display panel of the invisible detector, Zhao Yu could tell the exact location of every surveillance camera, as well as the range and model of the camera.

These cameras were scattered around the outer wall of the building, and all of them were hidden behind power lines and cables. One would not be able to see them unless they were looking carefully.

Zhao Yu was puzzled. “Are these surveillance cameras used to monitor secretly? For peeping?” he thought to himself. He then looked up and saw the location of the surveillance cameras and he realized that the cameras covered the whole area without any blind spots!

“Oh...” Zhao Yu came to a sudden realisation. The setup of the surveillance cameras was not to monitor something, but probably to safeguard something! “Then...what are they safeguarding?”

All of a sudden, Zhao Yu linked these cameras to the cake shop. “Is this place really the base for the criminals? Are these cameras used to guard something? So if something went wrong, they could escape in time?” he thought.

Was it possible?

Zhao Yu quickly got up and his heart was pumping. If these cameras were used for guarding, then he was exposed! Plus, he was even wearing his police uniform!

The very next second, Zhao Yu calmed down. He realized that these cameras were all not functioning. It clearly showed on the display panel that not all fourteen surveillance cameras were on!

Zhao Yu was even more confused! He walked towards the camera nearest to him and found it behind a bunch of power cables. The invisible detector introduced the surveillance camera regarding its resolution and autofocus. Zhao Yu compared these data with what he knew and was surprised that these cameras were all imported premium goods, and they cost quite a bit of money! Not only was the

video resolution clear, but they had night vision capabilities. Plus, they were really small in size so they could be easily hidden.

“What the...” Zhao Yu took a deep breath. “Such high standard surveillance cameras in this quiet area...there must be something fishy! I can find something for sure if I follow the cables of these surveillance cameras,” he thought. Then, he found the source for the cables. After walking around a bit, he found them connected to the back of a shop under the eaves. He was dumbfounded when he found out that the surveillance cameras were from the cake shop!

“What the!” Zhao Yu quickly took out his phone and called Liao Jingxian, but he did not pick up again.

“Damn it!” Zhao Yu cursed and immediately walked towards the main entrance of the cake shop through the alley. Just when he passed the crowded street, he realized that the cake shop was closed! It was the peak shopping time in that area, so it would be impossible that the cake shop was not open! Zhao Yu felt that there was something fishy about it. He quietly walked to check the entrance of the cake shop, but the door was locked and there was no movement in the shop.

Zhao Yu was thinking whether or not he should use his invisible fluoroscopic device to check what was going on in the shop. Maybe the criminals were still in the shop. If so, he would be able to earn some brownie points again.

When he was focusing on his device bar in his mind, his phone rang. “Ahh... Hero, please leave me my beautiful dream...”

“The f*ck!” Zhao Yu exclaimed in his head. The volume was so loud that he frightened himself. When he unlocked, he saw that his mother calling. Needless to say, the old lady was waiting anxiously.

Tsk tsk... Zhao Yu was at a very crucial moment in investigating the case. How could he pick up the call? He immediately pushed the red button to decline the call.

“Invisible fluoroscopic device, let me see...” Just then, his phone rang again, “Ahh... Hero...”

“F*ck, f*ck f*ck f*ck f*ck...” Zhao Yu silenced his phone and looked. Zhang Jingfeng was calling him. He could not reject Zhang Jingfeng’s call. He quickly picked up the phone and walked somewhere else.

“Zhao, I found the person that you wanted me to check on!” Zhao Jingfeng explained, “Jin Yuanyuan, thirty-five-years-old. Lü Yuan International Travel Agency Departmental Manager, living in XXX. You are right, this woman is missing. The family filed a missing person’s report saying she was lost on her way to work. Nowhere to be found!”

“Oh? Missing?” Zhao Yu said, “Zhang, please go and ask for more details from the family. Check if there is any similarities with the missing persons from the Bank Hidden Corpse Case.”

“What?!” Zhang Jingfeng was shocked. “Bank Hidden Corpse Case? You mean, this woman might be a new victim?! Oh my God...”

“I am not sure. But we should follow up about this!” Zhao Yu said.

“I know! If she was, then it’d be great! If we found Jin Yuanyuan, we could find the murderer of the Bank Hidden Corpse Case! Zhao,” Zhang Jingfeng replied excitedly, “Miao...Team Leader Miao...should I inform her?”

“Mm...inform her too! She would back us up!” Zhao Yu ordered and thought that if Miao Ying knew that he had found a new clue, then he would be able to explain attending a group blind date.

“Hey, isn’t that Police Officer Luo? How have you been?” Suddenly, there was a uniformed officer that walked over from the other side of the road. He greeted Zhao Yu as though they knew each other.

“You are?” Zhao Yu hung up the phone and said, “My surname is not Luo. I think you got the wrong guy!”

“Great wits have short memories.” The officer was smiling. “Look closely, do you remember me? We’ve met before!”

Zhao Yu took a closer look and found that the officer seemed really familiar.

“Come on, it’s been a long time. Let’s catch up! How are you doing?” The officer pointed at a convenience store nearby as he spoke, showing his intention of talking to Zhao Yu in there. Zhao Yu wanted to yell “F*ck off!” but suddenly, he recalled that this officer was Liao Jingxian’s underlining!

“That’s right! When Bureau Chief Liao came for meetings in the police station, this guy was always following him,” Zhao Yu remembered.

Mm... Zhao Yu was even more curious. He wondered, “Where did this police officer come from, and what does it mean?” So he followed him. The officer took a few turns and stopped in front of a truck.

Dong dong... Dong dong dong... He knocked a simple rhythm on the truck, and the door swung open. Zhao Yu followed him and saw what was in the car. It was a control car in disguise! There were a few police detectives sitting inside. They were monitoring the surveillance videos.

“Officer Zhao, here!” The police officer pressed a button near the display. Then, Liao Jingxian’s face appeared on one of the screens.

“Zhao Yu! What are you trying to do?” Lian Jingxian did not wait for Zhao Yu respond and scolded him directly, “Didn’t we make it clear that you don’t have to worry about this case? Why did you...why did you come and mess around?”

Chapter 312: Don’t Mess with My Son

After his talk with Liao Jingxian, Zhao Yu finally understood what happened. Apparently, the special investigation team responsible for Qu Ping’s murder had long been aware of the problem with the cake shop. Right when they took over the case, they had already looked through the footage of Zhao Yu chasing Zhao Qing. In order to retrace Zhao Qing’s steps, the investigators also went to the cake shop once, trying to get the surveillance footage from the shop. Yet, by the time they arrived, the cake shop had already closed, and the manager had gone without a trace. Thus, the investigators immediately redirected all their attention to this. After some further investigation, they felt that this cake shop was most likely the headquarters of the criminal organization as well as Boss Yu. But they were a step too late. The cake shop was already deserted.

But even though the criminal organization had changed locations, the police did not give up there. They sent someone to survey the area day and night, just in case the criminals came back. Yet they had not

expected Zhao Yu to notice this place. This was why the police officer came up and chatted with Zhao Yu.

Oh... Once he realized the truth, Zhao Yu relaxed. It seemed like the special investigators that were responsible for investigating Qu Ping's murder were very capable. He did not need to worry at all.

But since Liao Jingxian had already reprimanded him, if Zhao Yu did not tease the other a little, then it just would not sit right with him. Thus, Zhao Yu told Liao Jingxian through the monitor that the reason he was there was to buy a cake! Not to investigate any case! How could he have such a thought? Also, when he had called Liao Jingxian just now, it was to ask him out to dinner, and was not related to the case!

Facing such an act of feigned innocence, Liao Jingxian could not do anything to Zhao Yu either. He could only warn him to keep the case top-secret, and then he hung up.

Once he parted ways with the other police officer, Zhao Yu then left the police car by himself and headed towards the café.

To think the truth was like this! Zhao Yu recollected his memory when he chased down Zhao Qing. At that time, he was focused on capturing Zhao Qing and did not take anything else into consideration. Now that he thought through the entire situation, he realized that had he paid more attention to the cake shop back then, he might have been able to kill two birds with one stone!

But...however...tsk, tsk... Remembering what he just heard, Zhao Yu still felt like something was wrong. It felt like other than the cake shop, there was still other evidence! But what could it be? Would the criminal organization really back off after they were forced to move? Or would they cause an even bigger commotion?

Also...could Jing Yuanyuan's disappearance have something to do with the Bank Hidden Corpse Case?

When he thought this far, Zhao Yu could not help but feel nervous. If his theory was correct, then was Jing Yuanyuan already in danger? According to the criminal's modus operandi, he would first lock Jing Yuanyuan somewhere, without food or water, and wait for her to naturally starve to death.

Jing Yuanyuan disappeared two days ago. It had already been a long time. Could she...bear it? Just how could she be found?

With so much confusion and agitation in his mind, how could Zhao Yu have any desire to finish his blind date? All he wanted to do was to go back to the police station and investigate the case. But he knew his mother's temper well! Since his mother already spent money on the blind date, she would never give up until Zhao Yu at least found a target. Right now, the old lady was probably going nuts over his disappearance!

Zhao Yu had so much on his mind that he had forgotten something rather important. He had entirely forgotten about the voluptuous girl he had seen in the women's restroom! Indeed, just as he entered the café, he saw people yelling something while surrounding the workers in the café. Zhao Yu's mother was there too, trying to reassure the other, "Hey, don't yell anymore! Since the pervert is around here, he should definitely be caught! Don't worry, my son is a police officer. When my son comes back, he will help you guys catch the peeping tom!"

Hearing the word “peeping tom,” Zhao Yu suddenly realized. “Crap! Damn! I forgot!” he said to himself. He immediately turned to leave, but a nosy person cried out: “Hey, get to the side, the police are here! Isn’t he a police officer?”

“Sh*t...” Zhao Yu wanted to lower his head, but the old lady suddenly saw Zhao Yu and immediately pulled him into the crowd. “Son, good timing. Quick, there is a peeping tom in the women’s restroom, you should help catch them! Hey...how did you come in from the front door, didn’t you go to the restroom?”

“Ah! It’s you?!” Under everyone’s gaze, the girl had already recognized Zhao Yu. She strode forward and pointed at Zhao Yu. “Yea, yes! It’s this guy! The one wearing the police uniform, it’s him!”

“Yeah! My son is a police officer!” The old lady did not quite understand the situation.

“Brother! Brother!” As she spoke, the girl pulled a bulky man towards her and pointed at Zhao Yu. “He is the peeping tom! Just now, he saw me changing clothes, and was peeping from outside the restroom while standing on the pipes! What police? He’s just a pervert!”

Ah?! Sh*t... Suddenly, the entire room grew awkward. No one could imagine a police officer could turn into a peeping tom within a second.

“What? What?” The old lady was also confused. She pulled at Zhao Yu. “My son is a police officer, not a pervert! How could you say something like that?”

“I’m not wrong! I would know that face even if he turned to dust!” The girl spoke savagely, “Brother, the person who peeped at me was definitely this guy, I am certain!”

“Kid, impersonating a police officer too!” The brother of the girl walked over and raised his hand aggressively. Now, Zhao Yu’s mother was truly intimidated and immediately stepped forward. “You! You’re making up lies! My son is a police officer, why would he peep at your sister? Wrong, everything is wrong!”

“Mom...” Zhao Yu had no heart to deal with this. He pulled at the old lady’s elbow, “Mom...can you get to the side, please?”

“How can I?” The old lady turned, worry written all over her face. “Son, hurry up and go, I’ll stop them here! I gave you life, so how could I not know you? You have always been timid. Don’t worry, I’m here for you!” What the old lady said was not wrong. The previous Zhao Yu really was timid. But the old lady did not know that the current Zhao Yu was not at all like the previous Zhao Yu.

“Hey! Get out of the way!” The bulky man rushed forward, still yelling, “Kiddo, if you know what’s good for you, pay up! Your police uniform won’t do you any good, watch how I deal with you!”

“Go, go!” The old lady latched onto the man, pulling him back. Yet, just as Zhao Yu was about to pull the old lady back to him, the brother of the feisty girl pushed the old lady in agitation and sent her staggering.

Zhao Yu was stunned as he clutched onto his mother. “Holy!” Originally, he had wanted to reason with the other, but how could that ma raise his hands to an old lady?!

Bam! Zhao Yu's anger quickly flared up, and the consequences were as expected. The man did not notice at all and even walked up to him, intending to grab Zhao Yu's collar. In the end, Zhao Yu immediately punched him in the face. The incredibly powerful fist landed squarely on the man's face. Blood immediately spurted everywhere!

"Ah!" The man immediately hunched over, moaning like an injured animal.

Zhao Yu did not care at all and immediately followed up with more attacks, fiercely slamming the other to the ground. The man did not have any way to defend himself, and could only wail in pain.

"You...pervert! And you even hit people!" The girl yelled and stepped forward, wanting to save her brother, yet Zhao Yu suddenly roared out, "Ah!!!" The roar shook the room, and Zhao Yu's ferocity intimidated the feisty girl into cowardice, her hair puffed up in shock.

"Holy sh*t!" Zhao Yu kicked right at the man's face, sending him into a fit of dizziness. Then, he lifted the man up by the collar, pulled out a set of handcuffs, and handcuffed the man's hands together.

"I'm telling you guys!" Zhao Yu showed his police badge to the crowd. "I'm a high-level investigator in the Key Case Investigation Unit. Right now I'm investigating a sibling scam case! There's a pair of siblings who are specialized actors. The sister accuses people of peeping on her, and the brother scams them out of their money! Today, I finally found you guys! Okay, don't say anything. Come with me to the police station now!"

"Woah..." Hearing this, the entire crowd broke into commotion.

"Right, I knew it! Officer, good job!" A server of the café stepped forward. "These two were just about to scam the shop! Saying something like our café has management issues, letting a pervert though! Hmph! So that's how it is!" With the server's word, the truth seemed to be clear. All the females presently looking for a date immediately started to look at Zhao Yu.

"No, that's not it! This guy really is a pervert! A peeping tom! I'm not lying, I'm not!" The girl was on the edge of tears.

"Fine!" Zhao Yu said. "I'm a police officer, so I must enforce the law! Take out your evidence! Are there any recordings or photos that prove I'm a peeping tom? Are there?"

"N-no..." The girl's frustrated tears flowed down her cheeks.

Tsk, ts... Seeing the girl's tears, Zhao Yu felt a bit guilty. No matter what, he was in the wrong, so even though he had to cover up for himself, he probably should not be too harsh. After some thought, Zhao Yu uncuffed the man and turned to the girl. "Fine, since you guys don't have an extensive record, I'll let you guys go! But remember, no next time..."

Hearing this, the elder brother immediately thanked Zhao Yu and pulled his sister away.

Yet, before the two took two steps, Zhao Yu's mother suddenly fell to the ground. "Ow, don't let them go, I'm having a heart attack! It's all their fault! Quick...make them take me to the hospital, ow..."

In that moment, Zhao Yu felt nothing but awkwardness. He immediately patted the old woman on the shoulder and leaned down. "Alright mom, it's time to let it go! Get up..."

Chapter 313: The Seventh Victim?

“Sigh!” Zhao Yu’s mother was sitting on the couch of the coffee shop when she complained, “Son, what were you thinking? If you didn’t pull me up, I could’ve got two-hundred dollars from him! Why did you let them go?”

“Mom, can you stop, please?” That very moment, Zhao Yu’s mind was in an impossible mess. He did not expect that his mother was an extortionist, and that totally changed his perspective of her.

“But...why do I feel like you are a different boy?” His mother turned around and said, “The police station did toughen you up! You were such a shy boy back then. Why are you so hot headed now? But anyway, what you did just now was impressive! Yeah, son, follow me back to our hometown someday! Li Ergou built his pigeon hut on our side of the wall and your dad was furious! You should go back and give Li Ergou a lesson in your father’s name!”

“What the...” Zhao Yu’s mother had won him over. He finally realized the concept of blood is thicker than water. His blood was flowing within his mother’s genes.

“Mom, can you keep quiet? I want to think!” Zhao Yu was going crazy. Leaving the chain of accidents aside, his mother right before his eyes was more than enough trouble for him.

“Oh, right!” Zhao Yu’s mother did not care about his feelings and continued, “Auntie Xiao Qin called earlier! There was a mistake! She thought I was looking for a girl for your brother. She didn’t know that it was for my second son! That’s why she picked Jin Yuanyuan who’s nine years older than you. Sigh! I’m getting old. It’s my fault for not making it clear to her! This is...”

Zhao Yu wanted to shut his ears, but two beautiful ladies in nightgowns stood before Zhao Yu. The lady in blue asked sheepishly, “Officer, can I...can I have your WeChat ID? You...did you come for the blind date?”

“I...” Zhao Yu looked up and saw the two pairs of eyes full of admiration. He felt odd. If it had been before, he would be confident that he could get laid with any one of them. But, at the very moment, he had no intention to do such a thing.

“Yes! Sure! If I wasn’t here for the blind date, why else would I be here with my mother?” His mother took the cue and said, “You saw that, my son’s a wonderful man. Don’t miss your chance!”

“What the... Do you think you’re selling vegetables?” Zhao Yu looked around dully and realized that the females in the room were looking at him in a different light. It seemed that his ferocious actions had achieved an unexpected effect. If they were on *If You Are The One*, almost all the female guests would hit the light for him. But Zhao Yu was not in the mood for that. Plus, he had finally gotten one step closer with Miao Ying. He did not have room for anyone else in his heart.

“Son, son,” The old lady suddenly told Zhao Yu mysteriously, “These two won’t work. One has a sharp nose bridge, no good fortune. The other one has lips like a fish, can’t get any sons! Come on, let me look for a better one for you... Mm... This one...definitely!”

Zhao Yu did not know what to say, so he replied, "Take your time to choose, I have something to discuss with these two beautiful ladies!" He pulled the two ladies in nightgowns aside.

The two of them thought Zhao Yu was interested in them and they looked shy. But they were shocked when Zhao Yu started the conversation. He asked them, "Excuse me, can you tell me more about Jin Yuanyuan? Do you know how she disappeared?"

"Officer...how did you know we know Jin Yuanyuan? This..." The lady in blue asked, "Are you...are you in charge of her case?"

"You can say that!" To get to the point, Zhao Yu exaggerated the situation. "Let me get be straightforward, Jin Yuanyuan's life is at risk. We have to find her at once!"

"Huh?" The lady in red was in shock. "That serious? It can't be!"

"Officer, we are from the same travel agency!" The lady in blue said, "We bought the tickets for this group blind date together. But after we bought the tickets, Jin Yuanyuan disappeared two days ago She didn't even come to the office!"

"Yeah!" The lady in red continued, "It's not like Jin Yuanyuan! She is a very punctual person and doesn't skip work without reason. Our boss got in touch with her family, but they said she went to work. So, they filed a police report, but there hasn't been news since. It's worrying us to death!"

Hmph! Zhao Yu thought, "Worrying to death! If you are worried to death, why are you here for group blind date?" Zhang Jingfeng said that Jin Yuanyuan was the manager of the travel agency, but these two did not seem to be close to Jin Yuanyuan!

"Then...where did Jin Yuanyuan stay? Who else is in her family?" Zhao Yu asked again.

When the two heard the questions, they shook their head, unable to answer.

"Then...why do you think she disappeared?" Zhao Yu asked again.

"Mm... Jin Yuanyuan is a workaholic," the lady in blue said. "She would not disappear for no reason! But she doesn't seem like someone who'd have any enemies either!"

"Then..." Zhao Yu wanted to ask more questions but his phone rang. When he unlocked the phone, he saw it was Miao Ying. When he answered, Miao Ying said angrily, "Zhao Yu, are you done with your blind date? What is it about Jin Yuanyuan that you mentioned? Why are you so sure that she'll be the seventh victim? Please, can you please be honest for once? I heard that the special task force found something, and they went out to do fieldwork already! If we don't find any new clues, we really will lose!"

"Oh? They took action?" Zhao Yu was panicking. "Team Leader Miao, I ran into this missing person. I feel that her disappearance is similar to the victims from the Bank Hidden Corpse case! We need to look into it carefully!"

"You..." Miao Ying said unhappily, "You are a professional detective, how can you go along only with your gut feeling? I worked with the Missing Person's Department, there were more than seventy missing people in Qinshan this past month. You...what sort of coincidence is this?"

Hearing Miao Ying say “coincidence,” Zhao Yu then wanted to mention his “friends from above”. But Miao Ying guessed it before Zhao Yu said anything. “Are you going to bring in your friends from above? Zhao Yu! I am really really confused about you!

“Yesterday, we kissed! But you went on a blind date this morning?! Then, you just randomly came up with this seventh victim for me to investigate! Plus, you...you went to the cake shop! Let me ask you, did you find anything weird about the cake shop? Did you investigate Qu Ping’s case behind my back? Zhao Yu, can’t you be honest with me? Zhao Yu!!!” Miao Ying sounded hysterical over the phone.

Then, something happened that made her even more emotional: Zhao Yu’s mother ran over and shouted, “Son, son! Come quick! Number nineteen seems like a good choice. Come and see...”

Chapter 314: Vanished

As the old lady spoke at the wrong time, Miao Ying misunderstood Zhao Yu and the phone was cut off viciously. Zhao Yu tearlessly grieved but his mother did not notice, and continued to pick her future daughter-in-law happily. As Zhao Yu was overcome with grief and indignation, he decided to seize the opportunity to escape! Although he knew the consequences of him escaping would be bad, the case investigation was urgent and he was not in a mood for blind date. Zhao Yu finally ran out of the coffee shop and he quickly called Zhang Jingfeng to look into Jin Yuanyuan’s missing case.

Although he did not get the “Gen” hexagram that day, according to Zhao Yu’s experience, he felt that it was not a coincidence that news of Jin Yuanyuan’s disappearance was repeatedly brought up. Plus, there was something fishy about Jin Yuanyuan’s disappearance. It was very similar to how the other victims of the Bank Hidden Corpse Case disappeared.

Although Miao Ying said that there were dozens of missing person cases, Zhao Yu was aware that the targets were either minorities, like kids, teenagers or seniors, or people who had a criminal record or a complicated background. It was rare to see something like this happen to an ordinary person like Jin Yuanyuan!

As Zhao Yu had always solved the cases unexpectedly, Zhang Jingfeng and the others believed in his ability, so they took Jin Yuanyuan’s case seriously. They got in touch with the officers that were in charge of Jin Yuanyuan’s case to get detailed information. Then they personally went to where Jin Yuanyuan had gone missing and looked at the surveillance cameras around the area.

According to the information, although Jin Yuanyuan worked in a travel agency, she was a conservative person with a regular routine. She was not someone that would just drop everything and go. Hence, there must be something off about her disappearance!

When the officers recovered the surveillance videos, something even more fishy happened! According to Jin Yuanyuan’s parents, she showed no suspicious signs on the day she disappeared. She took the bus to work as usual. But she had been missing since then.

According to the surveillance videos that the police retrieved, Jin Yuanyuan did go to work. She did not get into any accident on the way and arrived at the unit safely. The travel agency that Jin Yuanyuan worked at was located in a building, and according to the surveillance videos outside the building, Jin

Yuanyuan clearly entered the building that morning. But when the police looked through all the surveillance videos inside the building, there was no sign of her at all. She seemed to have vanished in the building! The police detectives talked to many workers and her colleagues in the travel agency but no one seen her in person that day.

Receiving such a result, Zhao Yu and the rest could not help but suspect that Jin Yuanyuan's disappearance was related to the Bank Hidden Corpse Case.

"But...how did the murderer make a living person vanish into thin air in a building that is filled with surveillance cameras?" Zhao Yu wondered. "That's weird!"

Jin Yuanyuan!

Jin Yuanyuan?!

Zhao Yu looked at the photo of the pretty lady and became worried. If...his guess was right, Jin Yuanyuan had been captured by the Bank Hidden Corpse Case murderer, and she might have already been imprisoned for a few days! If the murderer was not arrested soon, Jin Yuanyuan might end up like the other victims, to be vacuum sealed by the murderer and turned into a pitch black corpse!

Zhao Yu thought to himself, "But Jin Yuanyuan was in the building. Why are there no clues?! Tsk tsk... What the hell is going on?"

"Zhao!" Zhang Jingfeng suggested, "Let's go look for the surveillance cameras outside each entrance of the building and see whether or not there was any suspicious person that left the building!"

"And," Liang Huan said, "we can also look into Jin Yuanyuan's personal relationships to see if there's some hidden info."

"Mm!" Zhao Yu nodded. As of then, he could only investigate according to the traditional way.

"Alright, let's go and get it done!" Zhang Jingfeng reminded Zhao Yu, "You are a team leader now, you don't have to do it yourself anymore. Go ahead and wait at the police station!"

But the idea to head back to the police station made Zhao Yu cringe. He replied, "I think I would rather follow you two to go investigate. We can save more time with more people, right?"

Actually, Zhao Yu did not want to go back to the police station because he did not know how to explain himself to Miao Ying when he saw her. The relationship between the two of them was now very delicate; it was ambiguous yet complicated. As their relationship was unclear, Zhao Yu had no idea how to deal with it.

As Zhao Yu insisted to investigate at the scene, Zhang Jingfeng and the rest did not argue further but went to work after delegating the tasks. Zhao Yu stayed in the hall of the building to watch the surveillance videos. In the surveillance room, he could clearly see that Jin Yuanyuan had entered the building and walked through the hall. But she did not appear in any other videos!

"Tsk tsk..." Zhao Yu looked at the surveillance videos and looked at the hall, trying to figure something out. There were six to seven surveillance cameras; it would be impossible for a human being to just vanish!

“There must be somewhere that you can’t see... Hey? I know!” he realized. Suddenly, Zhao Yu recalled that he had an invisible detector running in his mind. “That’s right, I should take a walk according to Jin Yuanyuan’s route,” he thought.

Zhao Yu quickly took his laptop and walked to the entrance of the hall. Very quickly, the invisible detector showed the location of every surveillance camera and the surveillance range of every camera.

Zhao Yu started walking along Jin Yuanyuan’s route in the hallway. He could see the blindspot of every surveillance camera. Although it seemed that the surveillance cameras covered a huge area, in actuality, it had many blind spots.

Zhao Yu started walking through the area with the most blind spots and reached a door in a corridor that led him to the right. The corridor was connected to a deep part of the building, but there was no surveillance camera at the door. If one entered, it would not be captured by any surveillance camera.

Zhao Yu looked around carefully. If Jin Yuanyuan did not turn back according to her original route, this was the only place where she could avoid the surveillance cameras!

“Did Jin Yuanyuan walk here?” he thought to himself. “But the travel agency is located in area A of the building and this is area B. This is the opposite direction. Then...did Jin Yuanyuan walk here? She...what did she want to do?”

When the police detectives were searching the building, they did not search around that area.

Zhao Yu looked at the directory, and it showed multiple companies located in area B. The building was not big but there were many companies and many employees. With a strong curiosity, Zhao Yu walked to the stairs of area B. But, very quickly, another surveillance camera appeared in his sight!

“That’s weird?!” Zhao Yu thought. He creased his eyebrows. “If Jin Yuanyuan were to walk in from here, she would be captured on the surveillance camera, right?”

He looked around and realized that there was an obscure place to his left. It was an emergency staircase that led upstairs. If she took the emergency staircase, she could avoid the surveillance cameras in the corridor.

“Tsk tsk...” Although he thought of the possibility, Zhao Yu was uncertain if Jin Yuanyuan really had gone there. But as he was already there, he would not give up halfway. He went to enter the staircase, but the door was locked and he could not open it.

“What?” Zhao Yu knew that the emergency staircase was so that people could escape in an emergency, so it was impossible that it was locked!

“What is going on?” He instinctively felt something was off, and he used all of his strength to pull on the door. The weak lock suddenly loosened and the door opened!

The emergency staircase had no surveillance cameras. He looked up. The staircase was empty, with no people whatsoever!

He walked up the stairs. He realized that there was no exit from the first to the fourth floor, so he had to go all the way up to fifth floor to exit! When he got to fifth floor, the exit was not locked, and when Zhao Yu opened the door to exit, his detector quickly showed the location of a camera in his mind.

He looked around and figured that fifth floor belonged to a renovation company and that no one was there.

He quickly called Zhang Jingfeng to have him obtain the surveillance footage there to see if Jin Yuanyuan had been there. After the call, Zhao Yu went back to the emergency staircase and planned to go further up to take a look. When he got to sixth floor, there was a whiff of a foul smell!

Zhao Yu suddenly realized something and ran up. When he got to a turn, he was frightened when he saw a...female corpse!!!

Chapter 315: The Three Investigation Approach

One summer's night in Rongyang Branch.

It was drizzling outside the window. To Zhao Yu, that night was meant to be another sleepless night. It was just past midnight. There was a tentative result on the dead body that he found at the emergency exit of the building.

That's right! The lady who died a tragic death at the corridor was the missing Jin Yuanyuan!

Recalling the incident, Zhao Yu was still unsettled. Although he had been in the Key Case Investigation Unit for a while, and solved a number of significant cases, that was his very first time being so close to a dead body!

Zhao Yu couldn't stop thinking about Jing Yuanyuan's death. She lied on the cold stairs with her body twisted, her face was purple, and her eyes rolled up as though she had died discontentedly. And Jin Yuanyuan's pants were dragged down to her ankles. The worst part was Jin Yuanyuan's body was already rotting as she had been dead for quite a while. So, her body was surrounded by flies.

Previously, Zhao Yu had seen the vacuum sealed corpse which was scarier, but those corpses were all out of shape as it had been a long time before they were found. But that was different. Jin Yuanyuan's body had been laid right before his eyes at the stairs. Although Zhao Yu's psychological endurance was decent, he could not rid the image from his mind.

"Why?!" he asked himself. The harsh reality made Zhao Yu unable to believe his own eyes! It was hard to believe that there would be such a tragic accident in the emergency exit of a busy building!

Jin Yuanyuan, why would she die there?

At first, Zhao Yu made a lot of guesses, but he had never thought it would end up like that!

"Zhao!" Then, Zhang Jingfeng reported, "The autopsy clearly stated that the victim was sexually assaulted before she died. The cause of her death was a heart attack! According to Jin Yuanyuan's medical report, she had serious heart disease! It was most likely triggered when she was violated."

"And," Liang Huan continued, "Jin Yuanyuan's colleagues recalled that their travel agency had business ties with the renovation company at Block B fifth floor. The police found the related documents in Jin Yuanyuan's portfolio."

“It seemed like Jin Yuanyuan was possibly heading over to the renovation company for a business meeting, and it happened to be rush hour then. So, she decided to go to the emergency stairs as it was crowded at the elevator.”

“No matter what caused Jin Yuanyuan’s death,” Zhang Jingfeng said, “that bloody rapist is the murderer! That building is under the jurisdiction of Ruyang Branch, so the Key Case Investigation Unit there took over the investigation!”

“Damn it!” Li Beini said pitifully, “I do not know how the building management does their job. The dead body was at the stairs for three days and no one found out! Does everyone take the elevator?”

“That’s not it!” Zhao Yu explained, “The building had specific stairs and elevators for regular use, but that was the emergency stairs. As the steps were steep, hardly anyone used them. When the suspect fled, he might have locked the door on the first floor!”

“Then...isn’t the case easy to solve? Li Beini said, “You have to use the keys when you lock the door, right? How could just anybody lock the door? So the murderer must be an work at the building!”

“Hey, you’re right!” Zhang Jingfeng slapped his head and said, “Why didn’t I think of that... Let me inform Ruyang Branch now!”

Just when Zhang Jingfeng turned around, he heard a bell-like voice from his back, “That’s not necessary! The suspect has been justified!”

Everyone raised their head and saw Team Leader Miao Ying speaking. Zhao Yu took one step back when he saw Miao Ying. He even blocked half his face with the whiteboard.

“I’m from Ruyang Branch!” Miao Ying spoke with great spirit. “I believe in their abilities! I just got their update, the suspect is a maintenance worker at the building. He has a criminal record!”

“On that day, he drank excessively. He most likely ran into Jin Yuanyuan when he was working at the emergency staircase, and he came up with an evil thought at the sight of her! The suspect is trying to escape but the police are in the midst of hunting him down!”

“Oh! That’s great!” Li Beini said. “These people are the most horrible ones! We can’t let him escape!”

“Zhao Yu!” Miao Ying signalled to Zhao Yu who was standing next to the whiteboard and said, “Come here, we need to talk in private!” Then, she pointed to the pantry.

Zhao Yu heard Miao Ying call his name and he trembled. Ever since he had been reborn in this life, he treated everything with disdain, not afraid of anything. But after he had gotten emotionally involved with Miao Ying, he was like a child who made a mistake. For the first time, he acted awkwardly. Miao Ying looked at him fiercely, then he hung his head and followed her into the pantry.

“How was it? Did you find yourself a wife? The blind date went well, huh?” Miao Ying mocked him as he entered.

“Hehehe...” Zhao Yu knew it would not do him any good if he tried to explain. So, he decided to make some concessions to gain the upper hand. He said shamelessly, “I did find some! I caught the fancy of seventeen or eighteen beautiful girls at once! I am still thinking about who should be my wife and which should be my concubines. I have a headache!”

“You!” Miao Ying had never come across any hooligan like Zhao Yu, but she took joy in it.

“Alright, my dear! Don’t you worry. I, Zhao Yu, am not a man that’s hot and cold.” Zhao Yu saw that he had achieved his goal and quickly made a vow, “I really went to investigate the case! In my heart, you are my one and only wife!” Then, Zhao Yu moved his face closer to Miao Ying playfully.

Miao Ying raised her elbow and squished Zhao Yu’s shoulders ferociously. “F*ck f*ck f*ck, talking nonsense all the time!” Miao Ying asked, “How was it? Is Jin Yuanyuan related to the Bank Hidden Corpse case?”

“Ouch ouch ouch!” Zhao Yu begged for mercy when he was hurt. “Although it was not related, at least...we found the person’s body!”

“Sigh!” Miao Ying heard that and let go of his shoulders. She said, “True that. At the end of the day, you did a good deed! I wish my colleagues at Ruyang arrest the murderer soon!”

Zhao Yu saw Miao Ying was not angry at him anymore, so he quickly told her about the cake shop. Miao Ying reacted similarly to Zhao Yu. Both of them thought that it was a pity to miss such an opportunity.

Then, the two of them started discussing the case. Actually, even though they were occupied with a lot of other tasks, their first priority was still to solve the Bank Hidden Corpse Case! They could only slow down and relax after they solved the creepy case.

Miao Ying said that the special task force was heading out for fieldwork frequently. Through careful observation, she made out their investigation approach.

They were launching their investigation in three stages: first, to find the vacuum sealing machine! It was already certified that the vacuum sealing of the six victims had been done with the same machine. According to the timeline, the murderer had started using the machines seven years ago! Seven years ago, the sales for that kind of vacuum sealing machine was minimal. Thus, the special task force wanted to find the murderer by looking at a list of people who had bought the machine.

Second, was to investigate the victims thoroughly. It seemed that Wang Shengyao thought the murderer did not kill randomly as well. There must have been an unknown relationship between the murderer and the victims!

Third, was aligned with Zhao Yu’s thoughts. They were looking into recent cases of missing people to find out the possibility of the seventh victim.

Getting those updates, Zhao Yu and Miao Ying were overcome with emotion. Although the case had yet to progress, they both thought that the day when they solved the Bank Hidden Corpse case was not faraway!

Chapter 316: Different Response

Zhao Yu thought that it was the most restless night ever. It was drizzling outside and there was a cold breeze blowing against his face even though the air conditioner wasn’t on. Zhao Yu was burning with rage.

After a chain of adventures, his messy mind was continuously entangled. Starting from his mother, ever since he ran away from the coffee shop, she was furious and burning with rage. She spamed him endlessly with phone calls.

Zhao Yu dared not to reject her calls, so he tried to explain to his mother that he really had an important case at hand. But his mother would not listen to him, and continued to throw a tantrum!

Then Zhao Yu lied as he panicked. "Mom, do you know why I did not want to go on a blind date? I have a chick... Oh no, I someone special, I have a girlfriend! So, why would I go on a blind date?" Zhao Yu thought he could satisfy his mother with that but what his mother said next gave him a headache.

"Son, hurry up and send me her photo. I'll read her face via physiognomy and see if she can give birth to a son!"

"What the!" Zhao Yu was confused at first but then an interesting idea popped into his mind. He sent Miao Ying's photo to his mother. His mother gave him a call again a minute later.

"Son, she looks fine! Straight nose bridge, full nostrils; it's the face of the rich! The groove between her nose and lips is clear and long, and her cheekbones are prominent. This is the face of someone who has the ability to give birth! Son, push away her hair and let me see her forehead and ears. I want to see whether or not she can give birth to sons!"

"What the!" Zhao Yu exclaimed internally. Then he quickly replied, "Mom, my girlfriend is out doing fieldwork, I'll send it to you in a few days! If there are still buses running then you can head back home first! If there aren't, my house keys are under the shoe mat. You can go home and rest first. Go back to home tomorrow! I have work tonight and I won't be able to head home!"

Hearing that, his mother quickly told him to be careful and to run if there was any danger, and that he should not get injured again! Although Zhao Yu could not compliment his mother's character, every sentence she uttered revealed her love for him, and that made Zhao Yu feel warm. It was the concern from a mother and it was irreplaceable.

Moreover, what happened that day with Jin Yuanyuan made him unstable. Whenever he closed his eyes, the tragic image of Jin Yuanyuan's corpse would appear in his mind.

Maybe there were many factors that led to her death. If she had not needed to go to that meeting so early in the morning, or maybe if she took a cab, she would not have run into the vicious criminal! Maybe the criminal wanted to sexually assault Jin Yuanyuan but did not know that she would suddenly have a heart attack and die.

But if the suspect had not tried to rape Jin Yuanyuan after poisoning her, she would not have faced such tragedy! If he was humane, he could have called for help or informed someone. Maybe Jin Yuanyuan might not have passed away! Furthermore, the lax building management and the ignorance of her colleagues in the travel agency made the entire incident even more sorrowful and pitiful.

But the case was reassigned to Ruyang Branch, and theoretically, it was not related to Zhao Yu anymore. Plus, Jin Yuanyuan's death signified that she was not related to the Bank Hidden Corpse case.

Besides Jin Yuanyuan's case, there was something else that made Zhao Yu anxious, which was the cake shop. Although the special task force was still investigating the criminals that killed Qu Ping, Zhao Yu felt

that something was off, as if he had left something out. If he could participate in the investigation, maybe he could find some new clues.

But it needed to wait till later. Zhao Yu had other urgent tasks at hand. He needed to solve the creepy Bank Hidden Corpse Case first. If the case was not solved, he could not get his hands on anything else.

There seemed to be several clues for the Bank Hidden Corpse Case, but the mysterious and brutal murderer had yet to reveal themselves.

“Who is the murderer? Why did he choose such a method to kill someone?” Zhao Yu wondered.

“Miracle Adventure for today is complete. The completion rate is eighty-five percent. Congratulations, you are awarded one invisible device, please accept!” Just when Zhao Yu was seriously thinking about the case, the system sent an ending notification.

He got a “Ji-Li” hexagram that day. “Ji” represented family and “Li” represented friendship. Zhao Yu could totally feel familial warmth that day!

“But what about friends? I didn’t seem to have anything,” he thought. It seemed that though he had had a few encounters that day, he possibly missed out something. Hence the completion rate was below ninety percent.

Zhao Yu opened his device bar and saw that he got an invisible tracker, something that he rarely got. Although the level of tracker was not high, it was a very practical device. He had used it to solve a few cases in the past.

Zhao Yu filtered through the devices in his device bar. With his recent hard work, the number of devices increased. He had to remember their function by heart so that he could use them in crucial moments.

After that, Zhao Yu had two important tasks left. One was to get another hexagram and the second was to investigate the case.

Finally, something that made Zhao Yu excited happened. He finally got a “Gen” hexagram—a “Gen Li” hexagram. Finally getting a “Gen” hexagram, Zhao Yu was extremely delighted and immediately stood before the whiteboard and thought hard about the case.

The rain outside was getting heavier, and Li Beini closed the window. The office suddenly got stuffy and the air was moist. But Zhao Yu was drowning in his own thoughts and did not notice the change in his surroundings.

As there were many victims, there was a total of four whiteboards. On three of the whiteboards, each one had information about two of the victims, and the last whiteboard was about the situation of the safety deposit boxes.

“In seven years, there were six victims! Every year, they would kill one! From the earliest—Duan Dacheng—to the most recent—Zhang Hongran—who was killed last year, all six victims have different genders and ages. Besides the old couple, there was no connection between the others. Hence, the police presumed that the murderer killed people randomly!

“But the way the murderer killed his victims was abnormal. To starve a living person to death seemed more like getting revenge! Did the murderer take revenge randomly due to some mental illness or was it a targeted revenge? If it was a targeted revenge, why do we have yet to find out the reason?”

Was the murderer alone? Would one person be able to manage the corpses?” Zhao Yu wondered.

Although the whiteboard was filled with information, the cases were old and there were not many clues that were useful! Besides the video provided by Tongchuan Bank, the police did not manage to find any information related to the suspect directly.

So the police resorted to looking at new missing people’s’ reports to see if the murderer made a move to commit the crime again.

“Do we have to wait for the murderer to get their hands on the next target before we can make progress in the case?” Zhao Yu thought to himself.

What if the murderer already knew about the corpses in the bank and decided not to commit any more crimes? If they did it again, there would be new victims!

“We can’t just bet a human life to arrest a murderer, right?” he thought.

“Duan Dacheng, sixty-seven-years-old, janitor; Tang Lingling, thirty-three-years-old, shoes wholesaler...” Zhao Yu went through the victims’ information over and over again. Just like the Lost Hand Case, he felt that there was an important clue that was hidden among the information but could not be found!

“Does this important clue exist?” he asked himself.

It had been raining the whole night and only stopped as the sun rose the next day. Zhao Yu had been thinking long and hard the entire night. Although there was not anything new, Zhao Yu felt that the murderer of the Bank Hidden Corpse Case was taking revenge instead of killing people randomly.

According to the autopsy report, the forensic scientist described that the process of the victims starving to death was extremely tortuous. They went through muscular atrophy, organ prostration, their hair and nails falling out, and all of them had had terrifying expressions on their face. They had also probably experienced unimaginable fear throughout the lengthy process of their death!

Similar to the Lost Hand Case, Zhao Yu felt that the murderer of the Bank Hidden Corpse Case seemed to want the victims to atone for their sins.

“Then...what kind of beef do they have?” he wondered.

Suddenly, Zhao Yu recalled a question that he had thought of before. He had a feeling that there were many victims in the Bank Hidden Corpse case, but the the victims’ family members seemed quite unresponsive.

“Is that the crucial problem?!”

Chapter 317: Pointing at the Truth

Although Zhao Yu had a lot on his plate, he was still involved closely in the Bank Hidden Corpse Case investigation. Whether it was when the family members claimed the dead bodies from the post mortem room, or during interviews with the family members of the victims, he felt that the family members did not react strongly! Besides Tang Zhaolong's family who had caused momentary chaos at the police station, the other family members took it quite lightly.

"Why? he wondered. Is it that...the victims and their family members were not on good terms? Or...is it because of some other reason?"

Then, Zhao Yu wanted to look into the relationship between the victims and their family members. He wanted to look through the information thoroughly.

As per discussion, they worked in shifts around the clock. Miao Ying did not stay back at the police station that night but went home to rest. Looking around, most of those who stayed were from Team A. Zhao Yu then quickly shifted his gaze to Li Beini.

Li Beini could not take it anymore but slept on the table. Zhao Yu woke her up softly and said, "Beini, please pass me the information on the victims' family members."

"Oh, okay!" Li Beini opened her eyes and typed robotically on her keyboard, then she asked, "Bro, what's wrong with the family members?"

"I don't know! I felt that the family members didn't exactly cry enough! Zhao Yu answered lightly.

"What do you mean? Didn't cry hard enough?" Li Beini was surprised.

"Mm...it's like, I feel, the family members aren't exactly sad. I don't know why!" Zhao Yu answered.

"Oh..." Li Beini yawned as she found the information on her computer and printed a copy. "But when we found Gong Xiuzhen's body, Bureau Chief Tang and his relatives cried really hard! Plus, even though Bureau Chief Tang resigned, he paid close attention to his fifth aunt's case. He talked to Bureau Chief Luan quite a number of times!

"And I heard Bureau Chief Luan worked really hard with the Public Relations Department to keep this case unearthed, as not to let the media find out. Maybe they negotiated an agreement with the victims' families to not spread the word, so maybe that's why they didn't act strongly?"

"I am not sure!" Zhao Yu shook his head. "But keeping secrets and being sad are two different matters. I feel the family members reacted quite oddly!"

"Here you go..." Li Beini passed the information to Zhao Yu and said, "But I heard Team Leader Miao said that there aren't many immediate family members!"

"Huh?" Zhao Yu cringed and quickly took the information. When he looked, it was as Miao Ying had concluded. Firstly, the first victim, Duan Dacheng, and the fifth victim, Gong Xiuzhen had no children. Although they had siblings, they were quite old.

Then, the second victim, Tang Lingling, had disappeared when she was widowed. Even though she had a daughter, the daughter followed her ex husband.

The third victim, Tong Yun, her mother died in a car accident. She and her father ran a minimart. When she disappeared, she had just gotten into a relationship with a guy and had yet to get married. When her body was identified, Tong Yun's father was diagnosed with terminal cancer, so the relatives dared not break the news to him.

Then, the fourth victim, Zhao Zhenjiang, his wife and son were killed in a car accident. He never remarried after that. Even when he disappeared, he was single.

Among them all, the last and only victim, Zhang Hongran, who was a truck driver, was different. His parents were alive and he had a wife and children. He was the financial pillar of the family. When he died, the family was severely affected. But when they got the news, the parents were only busy dividing the family fortune with their daughter in law.

Looking at the information, Zhao Yu finally understood why. It wasn't because the family members were acting weird, it was because there were too few immediate family members of the victims. Hence, the solitude.

But something in the information caught Zhao Yu's eyes. Zhang Hongran's whole family was from Tongyang! Besides, Duan Dacheng, Gong Xiuzhen and Tongyun were from Tongyang too! Among the six victims, there were four from Tongyang. This definitely caught the detective's eyes!

"Then...Tongyang, what does it have to do with the case? Maybe the murderer was from Tongyang?" Zhao Yu thought.

Tsk Tsk... Zhao Yu thought he had found a new investigation approach, but from what he saw, there were more questionable points which made it even more complicated.

"Why were these people targeted by the murderer? Did the murderer have some sort of conflict with them?" he wondered.

According to Zhao Yu's understanding, if one wanted to take revenge, to starve them to death, that probably meant that the murderer and the victim had some serious grudge! It could not be any normal conflict.

"But these victims were not related. What is it..."

Just when Zhao Yu was thinking, Miao Ying, Zhang Yaohui, and the others came for work one after another. They even bought breakfast for everyone. Ever since the appearance of the special task force, and the interesting relationship between Zhao Yu and Miao Ying, Team A and Team B were living harmoniously under the same roof. They fought side by side against the outsiders.

"How is it, my Sherlock Holmes?" Miao Ying had had a good rest and seemed extremely energetic. She had her normal valiant and heroic look again.

Zhao Yu was at loss of words when he looked at Miao Ying as he was still thinking about the case!

"Here, this is yours!" Miao Ying smiled and passed him a bag of breakfast.

Zhao Yu took the breakfast, and there were still water droplets on it. It seemed like the rain had not stopped.

There were three burgers in the bag! Zhao Yu was thrilled—it meant that Miao Ying had specially prepared the bag for him. “If she prepared a different breakfast for me, does it mean that she’s into me?” he wondered. “Hehehe...” Zhao Yu was delighted.

“Oh...Hero, please leave me my sweet dream...” He had not even eaten the burger when his phone rang. He unlocked and saw his mother calling. He could not help but cringe. He wanted to decline the call but he was worried that she needed something urgently, so he answered.

“Hey! Son, you finally picked up my call! You frightened me!” His mother sounded anxious over the phone.

“What is it, mom?”

Zhao Yu asked and he looked at Miao Ying. Miao Ying heard Zhao Yu say “Mom”, and she felt a bit odd, so she was looking at him curiously too.

“Aiya! Didn’t you see the news?” his mother said. “I turned on the TV this morning and there was a news report about a police car accident during duty. The police officers were severely injured. It gave me a heart attack, I thought it was your car!”

“Mm?” Zhao Yu was stunned and asked his colleagues, “Have you all heard about the police car that got into an accident during official duty?”

“Yeah!” Xiao Liu answered, “It was raining last night, so the police car slipped and flipped over! But they were traffic police, if I’m not mistaken...”

“Oh!” Zhao Yu quickly explained, “It’s alright, mom! That’s not related to us!”

“Oh!” His mother quickly said, “That’s great, that’s great! Then, are you coming back for lunch? I’ll make you some Zha Jiang Noodle!”

“Alright! Sure!” Zhao Yu had not had Zha Jiang Noodles for a long time, so he agreed. “I’ll try to be home!”

“Alright, I will go get some groceries! Oh, right, if your girlfriend is back, tell her...” Plak! Zhao Yu hung up the phone and suddenly broke out into cold sweat.

Although Miao Ying had not heard, she stared at Zhao Yu as he looked ashamed. Zhao Yu lowered his head and started eating his burger.

When he had had two mouthfuls, he suddenly seized up as though someone had cast a spell on him! In a split second, a sudden thought crossed his mind, “Wait a minute...car accident?! Flipped over... Is...is there a possibility?”

Chapter 318: Accident! Accident!

“Tong Yun’s mother died in a car accident.” Zhao Yu asked everyone, “Who know what accident it was?”

Hearing Zhao Yu’s question, the detectives stop eating their breakfast. But no one seemed to be able to provide an answer as they shook their head together.

“Zhao Yu, what do you mean?” Miao Ying was confused too.

“Tong Yun’s information, who is in charge of it?” Zhao Yu did not answer Miao Ying but continued asking questions.

“It’s me, it’s me!” Lan Bo quickly raised his hand and said, “Bro Yu, I am in charge of looking for Tong Yun’s information! His father has a terminal disease, so the family members didn’t want to tell him the news! All the information was provided by one of her aunts!”

“Lan Bo, hurry up, give Tong Yun’s aunt a call and ask about the accident that her mother got into!” Zhao Yu commanded solemnly.

“Okay! Alright!” Looking at Zhao Yu being so serious, Lan Bo did not dare to delay further but made a call immediately.

“And,” Zhao Yu pointed at the whiteboard and asked, “the fourth victim Shao Zhenjiang, his wife and child died in an accident too! Who can tell me what accident it was?”

“Team Leader Zhao!” Ma Wei stood up and answered, “I did the investigation record, I didn’t ask about it! Shao Zhenjiang was a sheep dealer. He didn’t have many family members. I got his information from his neighbor.”

“Then ask more thoroughly. See what accident his wife and child got into,” Zhao Yu commanded.

“Alright! I’m on it right now!” Ma Wei quickly picked up his phone.

“Everyone listen to me.” Zhao Yu pointed at the whiteboard. “Besides the two victims just now, I need everyone to check on the other victims and their family members, if they were ever in any sort of car accident. All in all, I need to know everything related to the car accident!”

“Okay!” With his command, all the detectives nodded and got going on the investigation.

“Zhao Yu,” Miao Ying came before Zhao Yu and asked suspiciously, “why did you want to check about the car accident? I don’t understand, how does a car accident relate to the Bank Hidden Corpse Case?”

“Mm...” Zhao Yu said solemnly, “Team Leader Miao, if I were to tell you I have no idea too, would you hit me?”

“You!” Miao Ying immediately flashed her fist at Zhao Yu.

“I’ll say, I’ll say!” Zhao Yu immediately rectified the situation, “Among the six victims, four of them were from Tongyang. Their ages weren’t the same, and they weren’t related in any way. So, I thought, how could they overlap in any way?”

“Look, Shao Zhenjiang was a sheep dealer. According to the record, he always went around provinces in Qinshan. He most likely had some kind of trade going on in Tongyang!”

“Then, look at Tang Lingling, a shoes wholesaler!” Zhao Yu held the information and said, “There was a huge shoe market near Tongyang train station! Tang Lingling and Shao Zhenjiang might be the same, always travelling back and forth to Tongyang!”

“But I still don’t quite understand what you were trying to say!” Miao Ying shook her head.

“Travel bus!” Zhao Yu did not pause as he said, “Travel bus! If the victims overlapped with the murderer, the probability of them meeting on a travel bus is big, isn’t it?”

“What you mean is...” Miao Ying seemed to understand, “there was an accident on the travel bus and it hit someone. Then, the people didn’t help so the murderer decided to kill them one by one. But...to starve them to death, seems...”

“Regardless, we need to investigate further!” Zhao Yu said, “Besides the family members of the victims, I think we could look into the accident records in Tongyang to see if there was any record!”

“Tsk tsk...” Miao Ying creased her eyebrows and thought. Zhao Yu’s idea did seem somewhat plausible, but would a car accident lead to such severe consequences? A car accident was an accident after all. If these people were passengers, why would the murderer take out his anger on them? There seemed to be many unreasonable facets.

“I...I found it!” Who knew, Li Beini was the first that raised her hand. She quickly typed on her keyboard and read the information on her monitor, “Zhang Hongran had an accident before. He was a bus driver but he became a truck driver due to the accident!”

“Beini, what bus did he drive?” Zhao Yu quickly asked.

“Passenger transportation, wow!” Li Beini was shocked and said, “Tongyang to Qinshan!”

Wow... Hearing the update, everyone was dumbfounded.

Zhao Yu was excited but Miao Ying was worried and shouted at Zhang Yaohui at the door, “Yaohui, shut the door!”

Miao Ying’s intentions were obvious, she did not want their progress to be stolen by the special task force.

“Bro! Team...Team Leader Miao! Turns out...” Li Beini blanched. She looked at the screen and prevaricated, “It...it was in Qinshan Tunnel! It was an uncommon car accident!”

“What? Qinshan Tunnel?” Zhao Yu tried hard to recall but he could not think of any related information.

“M-millennium, the Qinshan Tunnel incident?” Peng Xin suddenly stood up and said, “That...that wasn’t just a simple car accident!”

Millennium? Qinshan Tunnel? Zhao Yu finally found an answer in his mind. It was right before the year 2000, there was a severe accident in Qinshan Tunnel. An oil tank exploded after it lost control. The explosion broke the main support of the tunnel and led to a large surface area collapsing. Many cars were trapped under the tunnel!

“Oh my God!” Zhao Yu drew in a cold breath. He had not expected that his theory about the Bank Hidden Corpse Case had been too simple!

“Report!” Lan Bo finished his call and reported, “I asked. Not only did Tong Yun’s mother die in the accident in Qinshan Tunnel, but Tong Yun was there too! She survived!”

Huh?! Hearing that, the detectives were shocked!

“Motherf*cker...” Zhao Yu could feel his heart pumping. “Is the truth of the case revealing itself? Actually, was the Bank Hidden Corpse Case related to the Qinshan Tunnel incident?” he thought in disbelief.

“Report!” Ma Wei stood up to report. “I’m done with my call. According to Shao Zhenjiang’s neighbor, Shao Zhenjiang, his wife, and child took the travel bus that was in the tunnel when it collapsed. Only Shao Zhenjiang survived!”

Everyone was shocked again.

“I found more too!” Liang Huan said, “Tang Lingling was also in the travel bus that was in Qinshan Tunnel too!”

“I’ve talked to Bureau Chief Tang Zhaolong too!” Peng Xin continued, “Duan Dacheng and Gong Xiuzhen were on their way to Qinshan to do some Spring Festival shopping. They were trapped in Qinshan Tunnel in the travel bus as well.”

All information about the Qinshan Tunnel incident was discovered one after another. Everything pointed towards the incident in Qinshan Tunnel!

Miao Ying clapped her hands in anger and shouted at everyone, “You! All of you! Can’t you be any quieter?! All of you, remember, do not let the other team find out about this!”

Chapter 319: A Great Breakthrough

“That’s impossible!” Just when the news about the tunnel incident arose one after another, Miao Ying was stunned. “It’s such an obvious similarity, why didn’t we realize this earlier? If we could’ve related the victims to the tunnel incident, we could’ve solve the case!”

“Team Leader Miao,” Li Beini explained, “I’ve checked. As the tunnel incident was big, there were too many victims. Most of the related departments only recorded the deceased victims. Those who survived were not filed in the records! If no one brought up the tunnel incident, it would be quite difficult for us to connect them!”

“Oh, right!” Zhao Yu said, “These survivors were killed, and they didn’t have many relatives. Even if someone brought it up, we wouldn’t have linked it with the case!”

“Mm...” Miao Ying nodded. The similarity seemed obvious, but it was not easy to look for the information. No wonder the special task force and themselves had yet to look into it!

“Amazing! Amazing!” Zhang Jingfeng was thrilled with excitement. “I feel, Rongyang Key Case Investigation Unit is going to do extraordinary things! Everyone, cheer up and let’s arrest the murderer!”

“If we want to know who the murderer is, we have to get the accurate information from the incident!” Miao Ying commanded, “Xiao Liu, you go get the files from the Traffic Department. Get the information as fast as possible!”

“Yes!” Xiao Liu left at once.

“Zhang,” Zhao Yu did not stand by idly, but told Zhang Jingfeng, “Look into the medical records back then! It was such a severe accident, so even if there were survivors, they’d need some treatment at the hospital! Try to get the list of the wounded!”

“Okay!” Zhang Jingfeng followed suit.

“And, Zhang Hongran was the driver. Get a background check on him to find out about the bus. See if these victims were on the same bus!” Miao Ying continued, “Beini, please get your hands on this!”

“Okay!” Li Beini started typing on her keyboard that instant.

“And,” Zhao Yu told the colleagues from Team A, “go talk to the family members again. But this time, ask about the tunnel incident. Be as detailed as possible. We need to find out what happened in that tunnel.”

“Okay!” Most of the members from Team A left to fulfil their tasks.

“Here, this is the information from the internet!” Liang Huan pointed at his computer screen. “It was an accident, so the government dealt with it with full transparency. There shouldn’t be any hidden report!”

Zhao Yu and Miao Ying read and got to know the ins and outs of the disaster of the millennium. The incident took place on the New Year Eves of the millennium. A gas truck fell over in the tunnel, then exploded. The explosion destroyed the supporting frame of the tunnel, and most parts of the tunnel collapsed. There were many cars that were passing through at the time that couldn’t escape, and were trapped under the tunnel. After the disaster, emergency responders came to rescue people immediately, but the collapsed tunnel caused a landslide and blocked off quite a number of roads! It was just after a big snow at the time. It was so cold and the rescue mission was extremely difficult to execute! It took a total of fifteen days to finally get the people out from the tunnel.

According to the official information, there were seventeen people that were stuck in the tunnel for fifteen days, but they were all rescued in the end!

“Look!” Liang Huan pointed at the screen and said, “If the information is correct, the victims from the Bank Hidden Corpse Case should be among these seventeen survivors! That’s unfortunate! They survived such a tragic disaster but got into another accident!”

“Millennium!” Miao Ying was thinking. “It’s been seventeen years! The first victim Duan Dacheng was killed seven years ago! The murderer only started killing ten years after the tunnel incident. He took down one each year, and with such extreme methods... This...”

Miao Ying cringed while Zhao Yu said, “That year, they were trapped in the tunnel for fifteen days. In those fifteen days, they must have endured inhuman conditions! Now that the murderer decided to take revenge by starving them to death, is it that...maybe there was some conflict among the survivors?”

“Which means,” Miao Ying chimed in and guessed, “the murderer is among the survivors. He starved the other survivors to death. Did the survivors do something to him? Who would this person be?”

“Regardless!” Zhao Yu looked at the screen and said, “I feel that we are getting closer and closer to the answer!”

"I..." Peng Xin thought of something and said, "Then, I'll give it to Bureau Chief Tang Zhao Long and ask about this! He was an officer in Tongyang for many years. He might know more about this than the others."

"Okay!" Zhao Yu and Miao Ying nodded at the same time. That very moment, the two of them felt as if victory was within their reach, but in actuality, it was not.

"Zhao, Team Leader Miao!" Zhang Jingfeng fixed his eyes on the computer and shook his head. "No wonder we couldn't relate the victims together! The information showed that the survivors of the tunnel incident were rushed to Cao Yang Hospital for treatment.

"But Cao Yang Hospital is now shut down. The information for wasn't recorded then, and it is nowhere to be found now! We can try to find the physician in charge, to see whether they have any information on hand, but I'm doubtful!"

"Same here!" Li Beini said. "There was no registration needed then, so we can't check if the victims were on the same bus! According to the information, including the gas truck, there were eleven cars trapped under the tunnel. But it wasn't stated whether or not there was any travel bus!"

"Then we have to wait for Liu's information from the Traffic Department!" Zhang Jingfeng shrugged. "But it is uncertain whether or not they have the information on the survivors!"

"Maybe...there's another way," Miao Ying said. "Media and TV programs! Such a big event, and the survivors were trapped for fifteen days. The media wouldn't miss such information!"

"That's right! The TV station should have some live recordings!" Li Beini said, "I was only a few years old, but I still remember watching the live rescue scene on TV! I...I will get in touch with the TV station!"

"Let me make a trip to the newspaper..." Zhang Jingfeng stood up and said, "There's no use in calling them. I'll go and visit them!"

"Thank you!" Miao Ying said politely.

"Hurry up, Zhang!" Zhao Yu reminded, "But be extremely careful about the other team! Don't let them know!"

"Don't worry!" Zhang Jingfeng left the office.

After Zhang Jingfeng left, the office resumed to silence. Miao Ying took a look at Zhao Yu while he was still looking at the whiteboard, thinking about something. Just like when they were working on Jian Wenli's case back then, Miao Ying was confused by the Zhao Yu before her eyes.

He looked like a hooligan that acted like gangster, but during every crucial moment in solving a case, he seized victory through surprise. He would definitely be able to find important clues in such a complicated case!

"Maybe... he really did have some sort of friends from above?" she thought. "F*ck f*ck f*ck..." Miao Ying blamed herself for being bewitched by Zhao Yu's nonsense. "This b*stard, what magic powers does he have..."

Chapter 320: Who Is the Real Murderer?

Although they had made great progress in the Bank Hidden Corpse Case, due to the lack of information seventeen years ago, the police detectives were unable to lock down any suspect. Theoretically, if they could find one survivor, they could figure something out. But most of the survivors had already become vacuum sealed corpses that were stored in the safety deposit box. They had yet to find out information about other survivors.

At about half past ten in the morning, Liu brought back a detailed information from the traffic department. According to the information, there was only one travel bus in the Qinshan Tunnel Incident. The report contained all information related to the vehicle and their owners, but it did not have the passengers' information.

Liu said that the traffic police officer that helped him with the information had been involved in the rescue mission back then. He could roughly remember that though the bus was trapped under the tunnel, there were many survivors! He could even remember that the driver, Zhang Hongran, was alive then!

It was a pity that Zhang Hongran died, so it was obvious that they could not find out what happened inside the bus from him. Miao Ying told Liu to get in touch with the owner of the vehicle to see what he knew about the incident. Liu left when the other detectives in charge of investigating the other victims' family members came back with updates one after another. According to the information, all six victims of the Bank Hidden Corpse Case took the travel bus that had gotten stuck in the Qinshan Tunnel Incident.

In other words, the only way to find out the relationship between the incident and the Bank Hidden Corpse Case was to clarify the survivors' claims about what had happened on that bus.

A travel bus, Qinshan Tunnel Incident, trapped for fifteen days, survivors, and the Bank Hidden Corpse Case! There must be something tightly knitting the situations together.

Just when Zhao Yu and Miao Ying were waiting for the investigation result, Zhao Yu's phone rang again. It was his mother again!

"Aiyo!" Zhao Yu took a glance at his watch and remembered that his mother wanted to make Zhajiang Noodles. But it was a crucial moment right now and it was impossible for him have lunch with her. He quickly answered the phone to explain the situation to his mother. The moment he answered the phone, he stumbled.

"Son, your dog is going crazy!" his mother said. "I couldn't take it anymore, so I brought him to the police station for you! I'm at the entrance of the police station but the guard won't let me in!"

"Oh, I'll talk to the guards. Wait for a bit—" Zhao Yu had yet to finish his sentence, but he drew in a cold breath and thought, "No way! I can't let her come upstairs! I sent Miao Ying's photo to her, and if she were to see Miao Ying when she comes up, I'm in big trouble!"

Zhao Yu quickly stopped. "Mom, mom, mom...you can't come up here, I'll come downstairs and get you!" Then Zhao Yu ran downstairs at rocket speed.

Who would have guessed that the guard was a softy? He heard that the old lady that brought the dog was Zhao Yu's mother and he violated the rules to let her go through! Fortunately, had Zhao Yu run fast enough to stop his mother in the hall.

The old lady held the leash as she said, "The dog was running around in the house and kept staring and growling at me. I can't cook with him at home so I brought him here!"

Zhao Yu took the dog and explained that he had an urgent mission, so he would not be able to go back and eat the Zhajiang Noodles. He finally convinced his mother to go home after much effort.

"Bark bark..." Looking at the descending shadow of the old lady, even Daheng seemed to sigh in relief.

Zhao Yu was sweating. "Holy f*ck. If the old lady were to see Miao Ying, God knows what she would do!" he thought. Luckily, the worst did not happen. Zhao Yu brought Daheng back into the office.

After the operation and being cared for by Huahua, Daheng was not like the stray she had been before. The dog looked awe-inspiring, her hair was like a lion, and she was one size bigger than before.

"Good dog! Good dog!" Zhao Yu was holding Daheng as he praised her sincerely. He thought about contacting the police dog department to train Daheng to become a professional police dog.

Looking at Zhao Yu bring his dog in, the colleagues were shocked. But the police detectives roughly recalled the dog from when they were investigating the Mianling Case. After Zhao Yu explained, everyone seemed to loosen up. If they were to go after the criminal, the dog might come in handy.

After the chaos of Zhao Yu's mother bringing the dog, Zhang Jingfeng and Li Beini both returned from the newspaper office and TV station. The power of the media was strong. Who knew something that could not be found in the traffic department or medical department would be retrieved from the newspaper office and TV station! Not only did they find detailed information about the Qinshan Tunnel Incident, but they also found the name list of the victims and survivors.

The name of the seventeen survivors was on the list! Zhang Jingfeng said that the name list was from the reporters in the hospital back then. When they were finalizing the manuscript, they did not publish the list, so it was saved in the filing room.

The police detectives were fired up with enthusiasm. The case was getting clearer and clearer. The mysterious murderer of the Bank Hidden Corpse Case was among the seventeen survivors! With this information, the truth of the case would be revealed soon!

Zhao Yu and Miao Ying did not delay any further, but started investigating the survivors on the list thoroughly. At the same time, Li Beini got the live recording of the rescue scene from the TV station. The video recorded the moment when the survivors were saved. Then, Zhang Jingfeng quickly took the information to the missing persons department to look for a professional to do portrait analysis in order to get accurate information.

The entire Key Case Investigation Unit was bustling, and everyone was going in and out, making constant phone calls, the sounds of constant typing—a scene of a bustling workplace.

At noon, before they could even eat lunch, they gathered before the whiteboard in the office to conclude what information they collected. Very quickly, the detailed information of the seventeen

survivors was displayed before everyone's eyes. But among them, five of the survivors had passed away, and another six were victims of the Bank Hidden Corpse Case. There were only six survivors left on the list. In other words, the murderer was most likely one of the remaining six!

"One out of six," Zhang Yaohui said excitedly. "Should we just take action already?"

"Yeah!" Lan Bo agreed. "We need to arrest all six of them! Although there might only be one murderer, only God knows if he killed enough or not." The detectives were itching to take action.

"Hold on..." Miao Ying had the style of a great general. She knew that at such crucial moment, one had to be more composed. She told everyone to calm down and pointed at the list of survivors. "From what I see, it's one out of four! This person is already eighty-two-years-old, so he shouldn't have anything to do with the case! Besides, this one got both his legs amputated, so I doubt he's the murderer!"

Miao Ying gestured, and everyone directed their focus to the remaining four people. Among the four of them, there was a thirty-year-old young man; a brawny middle aged man; a forty-year-old middle aged lady, and an old person that was slightly over sixty-years-old!

Then...who is the real murderer?