

Crazy 381

Chapter 381: What Was Lacking?

“The Moyang Branch is amazing!” Over the phone, Li Beini was exclaiming, “We watched Yunyang’s surveillance videos so many times but we couldn’t find anything. But the older detectives in their branch found the problem really quickly!”

“The old detective, did she mean Fu Jianxing?!” Zhao Yu wondered.

“Guess what, bro?” Li Beini sounded slightly jealous. “A school bus! Never would’ve thought of it, right? The grave robbers used a school bus to transport the stolen goods out of the city!”

“The f*ck! School bus? So amazing!” Zhao Yu was shocked.

“That’s right! Liu looked at it so many times but didn’t notice!” Li Beini continued, “But the old detectives from Moyang Branch could tell! He looked through the records of Yunyang County and found out that the entire county had no school buses! When they took another closer look at the surveillance video, he found that the school bus was modified, and the license plate was fake too!”

Amazing! Zhao Yu sighed, the grave robbers were all experts too! They even thought of using a fake school bus to transport the stolen goods? Whether it was the traffic police or police detectives, who would have noticed that there was something fishy about a school bus? Amazing! Really amazing! But what was even more amazing was Fu Jianxing. Who would have guessed that he could even tell that it was fake? He definitely deserved the nickname Sherlock Holmes!

“But since the license plate is fake, how did they find the stolen goods?” Zhao Yu quickly asked.

“That’s easy!” Li Beini answered. “As it is a school bus, it is very eye-catching! All of Moyang Branch took all the surveillance videos from all the locations where the school bus had passed through and traced it to an old factory on the outer ring of Qinshan! Then, naturally, they found the relics!”

“Beini! If the relics were found, how about the grave robbers? Have they caught anyone?” Zhao Yu asked quickly. “And the gold Buddha. Among the relics that they retrieved, did they bring up anything about the gold Buddha?”

“Gold Buddha? What does that mean? I don’t understand?” Li Beini said. “As of now, there is no news about any arrest. Captain Miao sent Zhang Yaohui and the others to the crime scene! Our hard work before just went down the drain!”

“Forget about all that. Once you get an update, keep me posted!” Zhao Yu ordered and put down the phone. Suddenly, he recalled the scene where he ran into Fu Jianxing at the entrance of the tomb earlier.

“That’s weird?! Theoretically, Fu Jianxing should be looking for relics with the other detectives then, but...why did he return to the ancient tomb by himself? And the few old men with white hair around him looked like heritage experts too. Maybe...Fu Jianxing found out that there was something wrong with the ancient tomb too?” Zhao Yu thought.

“He realized that there were many relics left behind by the grave robbers so he linked it with the dozens of statues of gold Buddhas too?! Aiyo, that’s not fun at all!”

It seemed that, with Fu Jianxing’s existence in the competition, Moyang Branch had been ahead of all the other branches. It was as though they were one step away from victory!

“Phew...” Zhao Yu let out a deep breath, and suddenly, he felt weary and his head was heavy. Then, he suddenly remembered that he hadn’t slept for one whole day after the fight with Fat Sausage in the rain last night. Since early morning, he had visited detention center and meddled with Li Xiusheng without any break.

“What? They found the relics?” Li Xiusheng guessed as he answered the call.

Zhao Yu had nothing to hide so he told him the truth. Li Xiusheng heard and nodded. “If so, that could be confirmed that it’s some outsiders’ doings! Locals wouldn’t hide their stolen goods in an abandoned factory. Police officers, what about the gold Buddhas...”

Zhao Yu shook his head and said it was still uncertain. The two of them had no need to stay at the ancient tomb so they drove straight back to Qinshan.

On the way back, Zhao Yu received another update about the case. Moyang Police had found the stolen relics from the Prefect’s tomb, but they didn’t find any trace of the grave robbers. The warehouse where they left the stolen relics had nobody inside! Besides, Zhang Yaohui had confirmed that among the relics, there were definitely no gold Buddhas!

Zhao Yu knew that gold Buddhas were considered as a national treasure. If they were discovered at the scene, there would be news about it. There were only three reasons if there was no discovery:

First, also the worst reason, the grave robbers had already gotten the gold Buddhas from the tomb. As the value of the gold Buddhas was way higher than everything else, they did not hide their relics with the gold Buddhas, but transported them away via other channels! If that was true, it would be very difficult to find the relics!

The second reason was that there were no gold Buddhas at all in the ancient tomb, and the criminals did not find any of them.

The third one was similar to the second one—the entire case was not related to the gold Buddha at all, and it was only a legend!

But as there were no gold Buddhas and they didn’t arrest the grave robbers, the Tomb Murder Case was still going on, and the competition between the police branches was still going on too! Theoretically speaking, Rongyang Branch still had a chance!

When Zhao Yu sent Li Xiusheng back to Flower Market Street, the sky had turned dark. Before he left, Li Xiusheng held his hands together and bowed slightly at Zhao Yu. He said that, although they found the relics, no one had been arrested. If he heard anything, he would tell Zhao Yu immediately. Zhao Yu bowed back politely and promised that he would keep his promise.

Exiting Flower Market Street, Zhao Yu was so sleepy that he couldn’t keep his eyes open. So he did not return to the police station but drove home directly, without returning the police car or his gun. Just

when Zhao Yu parked his car and walked upstairs, the system's ending notification rang. As he had gotten that day's hexagram at dawn, Zhao Yu felt as though it had been very long time!

The system told Zhao Yu that the completion rate for that day was eighty-nine percent, and he was rewarded with a new device called the invisible loudspeaker. The aptly-titled Invisible Loudspeaker, after activation, could expand his voice without using a loudspeaker.

Zhao Yu was upset as he couldn't understand why he was awarded such a useful device yet received such a low completion rate after the fight with Fat Sausage last night and had spent all day working hard to solve the case.

"What on earth am I lacking?" he wondered. "'Dui-Kan' hexagram, right? 'Dui' hexagram, I managed to get Jun Kiln porcelain. Isn't that considered a form of wealth? As for the 'Kan' hexagram, I rescued Huahua. Does that not count as having an intimate relationship with a woman? Do I have to do something with her to have the system consider the hexagram completed?"

Zhao Yu pondered carefully for a while and seemed to realize something.

Firstly, the porcelain vase that he had gotten from Li Xiusheng was way more valuable than what Zhao Yu had gotten it for. He was practically a con-artist!

Secondly, what happened to Huahua could actually have been solved peacefully, but he insisted on venting his anger and had nearly crippled all the henchmen. So, that seemed to be too violent.

Thirdly, although he was investigating the case wholeheartedly, as there was no "Gen" hexagram, it was totally unrelated. So, even if he had solved the case, it wouldn't have increased his completion rate.

"It seems like the system upholds its principles. I need to do good deeds! Do good deeds, do good deeds!" Zhao Yu thought to himself.

Zhao Yu whined in his mind and thought, "Are there so many good deeds to be done? Sometimes to deal with bad guys, we have to be worse than them! Just like the arrogant Fat Sausage and the rest of them. If I did not get my 'an eye for an eye', how could I feel better?!"

As Zhao Yu was carrying the box with the vase while grabbing his keys to open the door with his other hand, the anti-theft door opposite suddenly opened. He saw Yang Hong and Huahua walk out from inside their house, and Huahua suddenly knelt before Zhao Yu...

Chapter 382: Trying to Cheat One Another

Turned out, Yang Hong and Huahua had been waiting for Zhao Yu to appear. They wanted to express their heartfelt gratitude for Zhao Yu in person. They knew that Zhao Yu was occupied with work, so they did not call him in the morning but paid close attention to his door.

Huahua knelt before Zhao Yu and wept while she hugged his legs. "Bro Yu, thank you so much. If it wasn't you, I would have...I would have... Woo..."

"What's going on? Get up quickly..." Zhao Yu quickly helped her up. As he was still carrying the big box in his hands, he strenuously opened his anti-theft door. "Come, come into the house, then we can talk..."

When Zhao Yu finally put down the box, Huahua jumped into his arms again. “Bro Yu, no matter what, I will pay you back what I owe you! This time, I learned my lesson. I will be good from now on! Woo...”

Looking at Huahua wailing, Zhao Yu was in a despondent mood. In his previous life, he had seen scenes just like this every day.

Huahua was considered lucky since Zhao Yu had solved her problem for her! But, regarding others who owed loan sharks money, who would be this lucky? They were either beaten to a pulp with cuts and bruises all over his body or they were forced to sell their house, car, and wives! Women like Huahua would have a worse ending...

“Alright, money is nothing big!” Zhao Yu helped Huahua up and told her solemnly, “Wait till you have money, then you can slowly give it back to me! Huahua, it’s not that I, Zhao Yu, am pretending to be sage, but as a police officer, I have to remind you that you better leave the work that you used to be in! You won’t come across any good person in that business!” When he said that, Zhao Yu looked up and took a glance at Yang Hong. Yang Hong hung her head low as she couldn’t cut in and comment.

“How about this. I have a friend that runs a gym,” Zhao Yu said. “If you are willing to switch to a proper job, go ahead and try it out. There should still be openings!”

“I’ve thought about it,” Huahua cried. “I don’t want to stay in this job either! No one treated me like a human! Bro Yu, I do not know how to thank you! Sis Hong has already asked for help and got me a job in a veterinary hospital, and I will go to work very soon. Although my pay isn’t high, at least it’s clean money! Bro Yu, don’t worry, I will be good!”

“That’s good! That’s good!”

Zhao Yu chatted with the two women for a while. Yang Hong could tell that Zhao Yu was exhausted, so she dragged Huahua back with her in the end.

Hearing the door close next door, Zhao Yu felt that a door in his heart opened. Although Huahua was not related to him by blood, seeing Huahua switch to a legal job and turn over a new leaf gave him a sense of satisfaction. He felt relaxed and satisfied.

“Is this the feeling of doing a good deed?” he wondered.

“Aiyo...” Zhao Yu bent down to open the box. Although he spent some money on Huahua, all in all, he didn’t lose anything! He wondered how much the vase actually cost. He searched on the internet with his cellphone. In the end, the result was surprising. According to the price on the internet, a similar Jun kiln vase at a previous auction was sold at about nine-million and six-hundred thousand dollars!

“Motherf*cker!” Zhao Yu thought. He looked at his antique vase. Although there was a crack on the body, it would still cost at least a few million. This...this was not considered a loss, he gained an advantage. “Hehehe... Mister Li Xiusheng is definitely my VIP. I’d better get in touch with him more frequently in the future,” he thought. Then, Zhao Yu went to the bathroom to take a shower while he opened a surveillance video in his head.

It turned out, although Zhao Yu praised Li Xiusheng, he didn’t believe in him! A cruel businessman that was smooth and slick like Li Xiusheng, Zhao Yu needed to be careful with him! So, when Liu Xiusheng bid

him goodbye earlier, Zhao Yu purposely put an invisible camera on him to be able to keep him under watch at all times.

Zhao Yu knew that Li Xiusheng helped him with the case investigation because Zhao Yu knew about the illegal things he had done. People like him would never easily be brought under submission. So, within a short period of time, he would take action! Besides, Zhao Yu also knew that even Fat Sausage had a bunch of henchmen. As the big boss behind the scene, Li Xiusheng, of course, would be even more powerful! If he didn't want Zhao Yu to spread rumors, he would take extreme measures, and Zhao Yu would be in danger!

Although Li Xiusheng sounded trustworthy and made promises, Zhao Yu wouldn't believe in him. He was worried as he suspected Li Xiusheng might be related to the gang of grave robbers, and Li Xiusheng didn't want to tell Zhao Yu because he was afraid that he would be dragged down. Due to those multiple factors, Zhao Yu used a precious invisible camera without hesitation.

In the end, Zhao Yu didn't guess wrong. Just when he was taking his shower and watching the surveillance video, he realized something. Li Xiusheng was not a simple man. From the camera, he could see that he was busy with something in a hidden corner, even though the sky was dark. Besides him, there was his plump wife and two other men. Zhao Yu had seen information about Li Xiusheng's background, and he knew that the two men were his sons! The family of four were moving some things into the cellar under one of his flower stores. They moved the various boxes from his BMW car into the cellar.

"Hehehe..." Looking at the scene before his eyes, Zhao Yu couldn't help but hum a happy melody and enjoy his shower even more...

At about ten at night, Zhao Yu was getting ready for bed. Li Xiusheng and his family were finally done with their work. They took things from each storehouse and hid in a flower shop named Southern Flower Shop.

"That's interesting!" Zhao Yu thought. Looking at those boxes of various sizes, Zhao Yu naturally knew what was in those boxes. Within a minute's time, Zhao Yu thought of no less than a hundred types of despicable ideas to gain a fortune... But through monitoring, Zhao Yu realized that although Li Xiusheng was an underground cultural relic seller, he shouldn't be related to the gang of grave robbers in the Tomb Murder Case!

So, Zhao Yu decided to let Li Xiusheng off the hook for now. When Zhao Yu was hungry again, he would utilize him again. Resolving the case was the priority.

Zhao Yu was really sleepy. He lied on the bed for a while and fell asleep. But it was destined to be a troubled sleep. From the night before, there were many things that happened, especially regarding the progress of the Tomb Murder Case. Zhao Yu inevitably had many nightmares. He even dreamt about lying in a coffin with another woman in an ancient costume in the coffin...

Chapter 383: Imagination Run Wild

Zhao Yu awoke with a start from his nightmare. It was already four in the morning. The sky was still dark outside. It was a dark night with no wind, and it was stuffy in the house. Zhao Yu was sweating all over.

“That’s damn scary! Like the saying, ‘what you think about in the day, you will dream of at night.’ Investigating cases like about an ancient tomb with a dead victim makes me feel disheartened...” Zhao Yu thought. He turned on his table lamp and took a sip of water. He wanted to turn on the air conditioner to go back to sleep in peace, but he suddenly recalled the vase from the Ming Dynasty that he left outside his room.

“Fuck! Did that vase come from some tomb as well? Why does it feel spooky?” he thought to himself. Although Zhao Yu knew that he was just overthinking, he couldn’t fall asleep when he lied down! If it was before, with his dog Daheng, he might feel more at ease. But unfortunately, Jiang Xiaoqing, who stayed downstairs had finished her midterm examinations and brought Daheng back to her hometown for a trip! “I might as well not sleep!” he thought.

Zhao Yu got up to check his phone to see if there was any progress regarding the Tomb Murder Case on the internet. In the end, when opened it, it was still the same as before. Although Moyang Branch found the stolen items, they did not manage to find any grave robbers. Those people had just into thin air.

Suddenly, Zhao Yu thought about Li Xiusheng’s hypothesis. Gold Buddha Temple, Dozen Statues of Gold Buddha, and things along those lines. Because of these things, it made an originally simple case more and more complicated.

“Then...what is the truth? Is it related to the Gold Buddha?” Zhao Yu thought. But...Zhao Yu suddenly thought of something else. If he were to ransack the three old, would he be able to get new clues?

Zhao Yu was suddenly energized. He immediately washed his face, got dressed, and went to the police station with his gun. The sun was slowly rising from the east, letting out a glimpse of light, but the earth was still engulfed by the darkness.

Just when Zhao Yu was on his way to the police station, he lit a cigarette to get a new hexagram. Like the saying, “good things come to those who wait,” Zhao Yu had finally gotten his “Gen” hexagram. It was a “Gen” hexagram! Under such circumstances, Zhao Yu was not even bothered by the “Kan” hexagram that represented women. As long as he could get a “Gen” hexagram, he was more excited than anything.

“Alright! If so, relying on today’s ‘Gen’ hexagram, let’s investigate! Maybe I can to the bottom of today’s case!” he thought.

There were people on duty at the car collection department and ammunition room in the police station twenty-four seven. Zhao Yu returned the car and the gun, then went to the office. The office lights were still on. There should be people on duty throughout the night.

Zhao Yu pushed open the door lightly and found the office quiet. The whiteboard for writing down the case progress right in front of him had increased from one to three. Two of the whiteboards were used to record the Tomb Murder Case, while the other one was used to record the Female Corpse in the Ancient Costume case from eighteen years ago. Zhao Yu knew that if he wanted to add information regarding the Gold Buddha Temple and the Dozen Statues of Gold Buddha, he would need to add a fourth whiteboard.

“Zhao Yu...what is going on?” Suddenly, Zhao Yu heard a familiar female voice from the corner. Looking over at the source, he never expected to see Miao Ying—Captain Miao! But he saw that Miao Ying was lying in the corner, away from the light. She looked very sleepy.

“You...haven’t left yet?” Looking at Miao Ying so exhausted, Zhao Yu’s heart suddenly started to ache for her. He quickly went over and took off his jacket to cover Miao Ying.

“Why did you come here in the middle of the night? Do you have any new clues? Mm?” Miao Ying couldn’t even open her eyes. She spoke, her eyes almost closed.

“No, no!” Zhao Yu patted Miao Ying’s back softly and said, “I am here to analyze the case. Captain Miao, I slept and woke up. You are tired, we will take turns, okay! You go ahead and sleep, let me take over here...” Zhao Yu patted her softly a few times, and Miao Ying fall back asleep.

Zhao Yu waited until Miao Ying’s breath was heavy and slow, then he slowly moved away from the table. Looking at Miao Ying in deep sleep, his heart was sore. This case had really made it difficult for the tough woman! So many branches fighting together. She must have felt the heavy burden all by herself.

“Don’t worry, Captain Miao!” Zhao Yu said in his heart. “No matter what, I will share your burden! This time, watch me! I will give it my all and solve the case for you before everyone else!” Then, he turned around to face the whiteboard and started looking into the case thoroughly. After he revised the entire case once again, he pulled another whiteboard over and added information about the Gold Buddha Temple and Dozen Statues of Gold Buddha. After he added the information, the sky was almost completely bright. The sunlight shined through the window. Even without the lights, he could clearly see the information on the whiteboard.

Luya Prefect Qiu Cheng, praying for rain in Gold Buddha Temple, Dozen Statues of Gold Buddha, the prefect’s tomb, the victim in the coffin, three old experts... Zhao Yu tried to organize the information in a chronological manner, and he realized that there were still many unexplainable facets in the information.

“Three old experts, what role do they play in the Tomb Case?” he thought. “Were they really looking for the Golden Buddha? Then...were there Golden Buddhas in the prefect’s tomb? If there were, why did the grave robbers only kill one of the old experts? The three old experts had an intimate friendship. It’s impossible that they killed each other. There must be some hidden reason behind this. But if there wasn’t any Golden Buddha, why didn’t the grave robber take everything from the coffin chamber? And why did they find the cultural relics but not any grave robbers? Did the grave robbers flee with the Golden Buddha, or did they go to do something else? Where are the other two old experts? Tsk tsk...” Zhao Yu was deep in thought. He felt that the case was filled with contradictions, and there were many unexplainable matters!

According to Li Xiusheng’s prediction, if the prefect Qiu Cheng really did take the Dozen Statues of Gold Buddha, he would naturally bring them into the tomb to be buried together. Because of this, he built his tomb in a place that didn’t follow Fengshui teachings. That way he grave robbers couldn’t destroy his tomb.

But according to Zhao Yu’s understanding, he felt that the probability of Prefect Qiu bringing the Golden Buddha into his tomb was quite low, only because the Golden Buddha was worth too much money. Even

if Prefect Qiu left a request that he wanted the Golden Buddha to be buried with him his children may have not actually done it!

Qiu Cheng was only a prefect for an area after all. He was not a kinsman of the emperor nor any rich country gentlemen. How could his children not think about his Golden Buddha?

It was hard to say if Qiu Cheng's children deceived him, like how he fooled the villagers. Qiu Cheng's children might have put the Gold Buddha statues made of stone into his tomb after he passed away.

"Did those fake Golden Buddha fool the grave robbers as well?" Zhao Yu thought.

Zhao Yu patted his head and thought to himself, "What was I thinking about? Isn't my imagination running wild?"

Chapter 384: A Method That Was Not a Method

The police detectives were not idiots. Regarding the ambiguous relationship between Zhao Yu and Miao Ying, they could naturally tell. But the police detectives cherished their lives too. One was a violent king and the one was a woman with great ability. Who would dare to spread rumors and talk behind their back?

Just when the first batch of the police detectives entered the office, they saw that Zhao Yu and Miao Ying were in a room by themselves. They lowered their heads and pretended not to see anything.

Actually, Zhao Yu stood in front of the whiteboard and racked his brains while Miao Ying was sleeping soundly in the corner. The two of them had not shared some intimate moment. Plus, even if Zhao Yu had wanted to initiate some intimate scene, Miao Ying would have to want to as well. Although the two of them were in an ambiguous state, there wasn't any definite relationship. Especially since Zhao Yu had rescued Huahua, Miao Ying felt extremely upset.

"Team Leader Zhao, why is there another whiteboard?" Da Fei came next to Zhao Yu and looked. When he saw the information about Golden Buddha, he was suddenly astonished. "This...what does it mean? Golden Buddha Temple? Is it the one with the lily pond?"

Zhao Yu didn't reply to him but continued to analyze the case in his head.

But hearing some noises, Miao Ying woke up. She yawned and came before Zhao Yu to see. As she had slept lying facedown the entire night, Miao Ying's mushroom-styled hair was messy and puffy.

Miao Ying patted Zhao Yu's shoulders and asked, "Hey, he's asking you a question! What does it mean? Is there another new case? Look at you, I asked you to check on the cultural relics. You first caught a bunch of counterfeit sellers, and now you found another legend. Isn't this a little weird?"

Zhao Yu was suddenly drawn back to reality when Miao Ying patted him. He then told everyone the latest news that he had found. Of course, he took out Li Xiusheng from the story.

The police detectives heard and thought Zhao Yu was even more unbelievable than before. Everyone shook their head, and nearly no one believed that the historical legend was true!

“The statues that people worshipped in the temple are huge!” Liu expressed his opinion, “Casting with gold, is that even possible? It would be difficult even for one, let alone, twelve. Even the emperor wouldn’t be able to afford such a thing!”

“Are you stupid!” Liang Huan refuted, “Who says that it must be a huge statue? The small one could be used for worshipping too! Even fist-sized would do. But...the legend sounds quite fantastical; there’s no official historical record!”

“Have you been to the Golden Temple?” Da Fei asked. “No one saw any Golden or Stone Buddha, right? There were only a few statues of Buddha in the temple! My girlfriend even bowed her head!”

“That’s nonsense.” Liang Huan waved his hand. “The Golden Temple was ruined many times! Those things that you talked about were newly built on the original site. They don’t even have the original look! Only the lily pond is from ancient times. It was almost ruined!”

“It’s a pity...” Suddenly, Miao Ying crossed her arms and said, “I heard that the investigation team from the municipal bureau searched the three old experts’ workplace and house, but they didn’t find any clues! According to their family’s verbal confession, before they left, the three of them brought big suitcases out! It’s summer now, how much clothing can one bring? I reckon they brought along all the information!”

“If we could find out what the information was, maybe we could work with the Gold Buddha prediction!” Miao Ying did not wait for anyone to respond, and said to herself, “Why don’t I ask my friend again to see if they can find anything related to the Golden Buddha. Oh wait, I can’t... If I asked, the other branches would all find out, I think...I will visit personally! Zhao Yu, how about you, are you going to come with me?”

“No!” Zhao Yu was still talking, facing the wall, “I feel...I still have things that I haven’t made sense of...I have to think again...”

“Alright, Mr. Sherlock Holmes! I’m going home to shower and change into fresh clothes...” Miao Ying nodded and said, “I will go on my own! If you have any updates, keep me posted!”

Miao Ying delegated duties to the other detectives before she left the office.

Ten minutes after Miao Ying left, Zhao Yu suddenly slapped his thigh and shouted “Aiya!”

The police detectives thought Zhao Yu had made some surprising discovery and quickly ran over to inquire. However, Zhao Yu wasn’t thinking about the case but he suddenly recalled the hexagram that he had gotten that day, “Gen-Kan” hexagram!

“Kan” represented woman. Just now Miao Ying was talking about showering and changing clothes; it was obviously a good opportunity to get close to his Goddess.

“Aiyo, the f*ck!” Zhao Yu exclaimed in his head. He slapped his head and regretted that he had been too absorbed in the case, but had totally forgotten about such great things. Unacceptable!

But the Phaeton was a fast car. Miao Ying was already long gone, and there was no point of chasing after her! Zhao Yu had no choice but to continue to ponder about the case and see if he could retrieve anything from “Gen” hexagram. But after looking into it for so long, Zhao Yu couldn’t find anything. Until

then, he had no idea what was the grave robber's and the three old expert's aim was of robbing the ancient tomb. If he was unable to guess their goal, he wouldn't be able to make any conclusions about the Golden Buddha. Plus, even if he could come to any conclusions regarding the Golden Buddha, he had no idea where the grave robbers and the other two experts went.

"What to do about this?" Zhao Yu thought. He got a "Gen" hexagram that day, would he be unable to make progress in the investigation? Zhao Yu felt that he had to get in touch with his "personal consultant"—Li Xiusheng—to see if the master of cultural relics could provide any novel ideas.

That very moment, the invisible camera on Li Xiusheng was still on! After turning it on, he was surprised to see Li Xiusheng lying on a cot in the hospital, and there was an IV drip on the back of his hand. He actually fell sick!

"Fuck!" he thought to himself. Zhao Yu was upset. It seemed after a busy day at work the day before, in addition to Zhao Yu's threat and con for money, Mr. Li fell sick!

"This is..." Zhao Yu picked up his phone then put it down again. He couldn't give him another call. "Tsk tsk...how should I proceed to investigate the case?" he wondered.

Zhao Yu knew that as Fu Jiancing found the lost relics, the municipal bureau gave them power and told Moyang Branch to take full responsibility of hunting down the grave robbers. The other branches couldn't intervene!

Although no one could intervene, the progress of the case was still shared. Fu Jianxing and his troop used two methods simultaneously. They tried to track the suspects through surveillance videos around the place where they hid the relics, and at the same time, they were looking for information through buying relics. However, as so much time had passed but no progress had been made, they must have run into some sort of trouble.

It looked like the gang of grave robbers were not nobodies. Not only were they good at robbing graves, but they had skills in avoiding being found. They were definitely hard to deal with! Even Fu Jianxing couldn't take care of it, so there was no point for him to intervene! If he wanted to arrest the criminal before everyone else, Zhao Yu would have to take another shortcut! But where was his shortcut? After pondering, Zhao Yu figured out a way. But it was a method that was not a method!

Chapter 385: Golden Buddha Temple

Green mountains and bamboo, the flowers and the grass complemented one another perfectly.

Zhao Yu and Liang Huan were walking towards the Golden Buddha Temple on a foothill along a mountain road. Zhao Yu would often visit the Golden Buddha Temple to look for inspiration. As he lacked knowledge about history and cultural relics, he brought Liang Huan along to be his mentor.

"Half a day's time is hard to come by!" Liang Huan took in a breath of fresh air and stretched, saying, "It has been suffocating ever since we started investigating this case. It's great to get a chance to visit the temple at such stressful times."

"Are you trying to say that I am doing something useless?" Zhao Yu rolled his eyes at Liang Huan.

“Bro, not that I want to discourage you, but the Golden Buddha Temple is just a tourist attraction!” Liang Huan said. “The temple that we are looking at was built in the seventies. The historical one was destroyed long ago! The relics scholars came here to do a thorough inspection before. You don’t think that the Dozens of Statues of Golden Buddha were hidden here, do you?”

“No!” Zhao Yu answered. “Actually, I’m here to learn more history. Later, I’m going to get a professional or someone who is an expert to ask about the unrecorded history of the Golden Buddha Temple. I’d like to know more about the legend of the Gold Buddha, and I thought that the experts here might know more! Who knows, it might be helpful to the case!”

“I am sold!” Liang Huan shook his head. “The way you investigate is very unusual!”

“Oh yeah.” Zhao Yu suddenly recalled and asked, “I heard Qinshan was called ‘Luya’ back in the day, and that the official location of Luya was not in Qinshan, but in Yunyang County. Is this true?”

“Yes!” Liang Huan replied confidently. “Accurately speaking, twenty kilometers to the west of Yunyang county had quite a number of cultural relics unearthed. It has already been certified! Luya’s Lu represented Luya River back then, which is today’s Qin River. The entire Qinshan mountain range formed a moon shape, hence the name ‘Luya’.

“As for Qinshan, it was because the Qing Dynasty has a Qin nation that garrison. Hence, the change of name!”

“Oh...” Zhao Yu was puzzled. “You know quite a bit! If so, why did is the Golden Buddha Temple here in Qinshan but not Yunyang? Isn’t that a little too far?”

“Hehe.” Liang Huan replied, “Yeah? It didn’t matter how high the mountain was, as long as God is effective! Who says temples have to be built in the city? Buddhists emphasize tranquility. In the past, the Golden Buddha Temple had to be built in a remote area! Look at the picturesque mountain scenery; it looks beautiful!”

“Oh...” Zhao Yu nodded and suddenly recalled something, “Oh yeah, I got a Jun kiln vase from the Ming Dynasty a few days ago. Please find an expert to sell it for me when we return!”

“The way you think is all over the place!” Liang Huan shot him down and suddenly reacted. He shook his head and laughed, “Hehehe, Zhao, don’t play the fool with me! Ming kiln vase, do you know how expensive that is? Where did you get it from? How much was it? It doesn’t say ‘microwaveable’ on the bottom, right?”

“Believe it or not. But remember to help me, I have to sell it quickly. I feel unsafe leaving it at home!”

“Alright, alright...” Although Liang Huan agreed, why would he believe what Zhao Yu said about the vase was true?

Then, the two of them discussed the female corpse in the ancient costume case. Liang Huan said that Zhang Jingfeng had put in all his effort and talent in looking for news about “Gege”. He suspected that “Gege” might have hidden her true identity before her death intentionally so that nobody could identify the corpse. But according to the clue that Li Mengqi had provided, they started investigating those old foxes that had been in touch with Gege back then. But these old foxes were either dead or had fled. It

would require some time to find them! Regardless, with the clue of “Gege”, at least they had a direction for investigation, unlike before when everything was just speculation.

As they spoke, they arrived at the main entrance of the Golden Buddha Temple. Although the gate that was painted gold, looking simple and solemn, it had all recently been rebuilt. Actually, even though the place was called ‘Golden Buddha Temple’, the biggest attraction of the place was actually the lotus pond in the temple. There was a pool of water lilies of various colors. Besides being open to visitors, it also attracted many photography lovers. Plus, there was a forest of stone tablets in the temple. There were many ancient stone steles with carvings of Buddhist scriptures and literature. Hence, it attracted many calligraphy and carving lovers to come see it.

The entrance ticket was twenty-five yuan. Zhao Yu and Liang Huan, of course, didn’t want to buy tickets, so they showed their police ID and said to the ticket seller that they were there to investigate a case and wanted to see the person in charge of the scenic spot.

In the end, when the ticket seller heard that the two of them were police, he looked at them with a peculiar expression. He didn’t let them in but he didn’t mention that he was going to look for the person in charge either.

Zhao Yu was suddenly pissed, and shouted at the ticket seller, “What are you looking at? We are investigating a case! Are you trying to obstruct official duties?”

“No...no...” The ticket seller suddenly creased his eyebrows, pointed to the attraction and said, “One just came, how come it’s just one after another?”

“What?!” Zhao Yu exclaimed in his head. He was stunned and put his guards up instinctually. Were there any other police detectives here to investigate? Who?! Was it Fu Jianxing again?!

“What does it mean? What one after another?” Liang Huan didn’t think much but urged the ticket seller, “Hurry up, who is the person in charge?”

“Hold on!” Zhao Yu stopped Liang Huan and gestured at the ticket seller. Then, he dragged Liang Huan and walked into the attraction quietly.

According to the direction the ticket seller was pointing at, they quickly saw that there were two policemen in uniform asking questions at the door of the attraction office. In the beginning, Zhao Yu was hiding behind a big tree. When they saw the uniforms of the police, he relaxed. It turned out that the two police officers were wearing local uniforms, so it should just be two policemen, not detectives.

Phew... It was merely a false alarm!

Zhao Yu walked over with Liang Huan. They saw that the two policemen were holding a record book and taking notes. Standing outside the door, there was another person, who was wearing a shirt and spectacles and was answering their questions.

“Hello!” Zhao Yu was holding his police ID as he greeted them.

“Huh? Police detective? Which branch?” The two local policemen were shocked. They seemed to be surprised by Zhao Yu and Liang Huan’s appearance.

“Rongyang Branch, we are here to ask the person in charge some questions!” Zhao Yu declared the purpose of his visit.

“I am. I am the chief of the attraction! May I ask...” The man with spectacle was, of course, more surprised, but before he finished his sentence, he was cut off by the local policeman.

“What is going on?” The policeman looked at Zhao Yu in surprise and asked, “Bro, how come they called for police detectives too? There’s no big trouble.”

“Huh? Trouble?” Zhao Yu was confused and asked, “What happened?”

“Exactly.” The other policeman said, “There were no human lives involved, nothing lost. It shouldn’t be considered big trouble, right? You... Oh...” The two policemen suddenly realized something. “Is it...are you here to investigate a different case?”

“What? Different case?!” Zhao Yu was really confused and asked curiously, “Did...did something else happen here?”

Chapter 386: Despicable Guesses

“Cough! Nothing big! It’s just that saying it out loud makes people intimidated.” The chief of the attraction, who was wearing spectacles, said, “A week ago, our workers in charge of taking care of the water lilies realized many water lilies in the pool were touched by somebody, and there was mild damage!

“We thought it may have been some tourists, so we wanted to find out who through the surveillance footage. Who knows, when we went through the surveillance video, we found out that footage during the time frame has been removed!

“We were worried if there was something wrong, so we filed a police report!” The chief creased his eyebrows as he said, “But we looked all over the attraction and found nothing missing! You tell me, isn’t this weird?”

“I came here today for this matter.” One of the policemen said, “The technician that brought the surveillance hard drive back for inspection said that it was a brand new hard drive and it didn’t belong to the attraction! In other words, someone changed the hard drive! They intentionally removed that part of the surveillance video!”

“Although it didn’t seriously affect anyone, it seemed a bit fishy. So,” the other policeman continued, “we came over today to investigate further.” He looked towards the chief of the attraction and said, “Is there any internal problem? Fight, robber, or any other situation? Otherwise, who would remove surveillance video out of the blue? And the record stated that there were people on duty in the surveillance control room!”

“Aiya, Officer, that’s quite impossible. If there is something wrong with our staff, how could we not report it? Regarding this, we have thought about it too, and we asked around, there was no problem!” the chief said. “Yes, there are supposed to be guards on duty every night, alternating in patrolling the

attraction and guarding the surveillance video room. But, as we know, besides the water lilies in the lotus pond which are worth some money, what else would the thieves want? So—”

“So...they went to sleep? No one patrolling and no one in the surveillance video room?” Zhao Yu suddenly cut him off. The chief’s face flushed from embarrassment.

“From what I see, there must be someone behind this!” Zhao Yu said solemnly. “Out of nowhere, why would they change the hard drive to remove the surveillance video?”

“Theoretically, yes!” The chief of attraction pushed up his spectacles and said, “But we really checked, and there was nothing missing! Not even one water lily! So...there’s no point...and...police detectives...” The chief thought Zhao Yu and Liang Huan came for that reason, so it seemed unreasonable.

Zhao Yu and Liang Huan exchanged a glance, and Liang Huan seemed not to be too bothered but Zhao Yu was different.

“A week ago, the surveillance video hard disk in Golden Buddha Temple was swapped. Why swapped? They didn’t want anyone to know what happened in the Golden Buddha Temple,” Zhao Yu thought. “During the day, there were tourists so it must have happened during the night! So...what would have happened? The staff stole something? Was there a fight? Or they were trying to hide something? Maybe...is it related to the case that I am investigating?” Zhao Yu knew that the thought was unconvincing, but because he had gotten the “Gen” hexagram” that day, he didn’t want to give up the chance! He was willing to try any line of thought.

Zhao Yu took out his police badge again, and told the chief of the attraction, “We are here today not to investigate such a small matter. We are here to investigate a big crime case, so I need you to cooperate with me!”

“Big crime case?! What crime?” The chief was confused and the two local policemen were puzzled too.

“Comrade, what you mean is, regarding the hard drive, there are other reasons behind it... Then...” The other policeman’s eyes opened wide, and he looked extremely curious.

“Alright, it’s none of your business!” Zhao Yu said impolitely. “We are investigating a highly classified case. You know the rules, please cooperate!”

“You!” The two policemen were unhappy but they dared not stop the detectives from investigating. In the end, they could only step back from the case.

“Zhao Yu...” Liang Huan seized the chance to pull Zhao Yu aside and awkwardly ask, “You...what are you trying to do?”

Zhao Yu didn’t bother with him but ordered the chief of the attraction, “Hurry up, call the two guards that were on duty and the worker that found there was something wrong here. I have questions!” Zhao Yu was very rude. The chief was shocked by Zhao Yu and quickly ran to call the people, his head dripping with sweat.

“Hey, Zhao, what are you thinking of? You can’t think that this is related to the Ancient Tomb Case, can you?” When he left, Liang Huan quickly shook his head and objected, “How could it be possible? Don’t waste any time on this, okay?”

Zhao Yu didn't bother with Liang Huan but raised his head to look around. He took a careful look at the situation around. In the attraction, there were woods surround it, and the environment was tranquil and peaceful. Via the stone pathway in the middle, they could see the Hall of Sakyamuni in the Golden Buddha Temple and the pagoda on its right.

He heard that although the Golden Buddha Temple had been rebuilt later, they hired experts to design it according to the authentic appearance of the Golden Buddha Temple during construction. The pagoda by the side maintained its original name, but as it was passed down orally, it became known as the Golden Buddha Pagoda! The ancient lotus pond was right below the Golden Buddha Pagoda. It was said in the entire Golden Buddha Temple, only the ancient lotus pond was the real historical site.

"Alright, Zhao Yu, let's relax and not take this seriously!" Liang Huan was still trying to persuade him. "How about this, let me tell you what happened to the surveillance video!"

"What? You know?" Zhao Yu looked at Liang Huan suspiciously.

"One night, a couple was looking for excitement and climbed over to have sex near the ancient lotus pond. In the end, the guard found them. When they were trying to escape, they fell into the pond and damaged the water lilies!" Liang Huan said confidently, "Then they were caught by the guards, and the guards wanted to send them to the police! However, the couple spent a lot of money to buy them off, so the guards released them. They even made the guard change the surveillance hard drive. The process was that simple!"

"The f*ck, like that's true!" Zhao Yu said with disdain. "Is it...the man who had sex in public was you, right? and the girl was not sis-in-law, right?"

"F*ck f*ck f*ck..." Liang Huan smiled. "Only guards can enter the surveillance video room, so the hard drive definitely removed by them!"

"Not necessarily," Zhao Yu refuted. "You knew that there was a camera, and you decided to have sex in front of the camera."

"Then...maybe the guards were the ones who were having sex in public!" Liang Huan guessed. "He found a woman randomly and did it at the lotus pond. Then, to destroy the evidence, he removed the video!"

"Liang, I would have never have guessed that your thoughts are even more despicable than mine." Zhao Yu shook his head. "If it was the guards, they could have turned the camera off for a while. And, did they need to do it in the lotus pond? Are they sick?"

"Possibly. Some people have those kinds of fetishes." Liang Huan argued. "Why don't we place a bet! Wait and see, it's definitely something small. So, we'd better not waste time here!"

Chapter 387: The Secret of the Lotus Pond

Very quickly, the chief of the attraction site called the two guards on duty that night and the worker in charge of the lotuses over. The two guards didn't seem to think it was a serious matter, so they admitted to neglecting their duties, and confessed that they were really sleeping in the guards' room! The two of them hadn't patrolled anything, and didn't watch the surveillance cameras, but slept until

the sun came up. Liang Huan insinuated that there was some “special” situation, but the two guards insisted that they didn’t do anything else besides sleep!

The chief of the attraction site was embarrassed and gave them a strict lecture. He spouted off about other guards sleeping after patrolling, but these two guards had slept through the night without patrolling once—that’s extremely lazy! Then, Zhao Yu requested for them to bring him to the lotus pond to take a look.

On the way to the lotus pond, the old worker told Zhao Yu about the situation back then. He said he realized that there was something wrong with the lotuses early in the morning. He was preparing to clean the trash in the pond, but he realized that many lotuses looked disturbed as all of them were out of place!

“That night, there wasn’t any wind or rain.” The old worker was very certain. “It’s impossible that it was by a natural cause. The lotuses had completely changed positions, and many petals were touched; it was an extremely awful mess! Oh, then a few of us went down to take a look and realized something!” The old worker suddenly recalled the situation. Even the chief was shocked. He asked, “Jiang, what do you mean? Realized something? How come I didn’t hear you bring it up?”

“Mm... The water...the water level was different!” The old worker creased his eyebrows as he spoke. “The water level of the lotus pond was one foot lower than usual. We could clearly see the water level marker from before!”

“Huh?” The chief creased his eyebrows again. “Did the two of you pump the water out during that time? Maybe there was less water so the lotuses were more scattered?”

“No! The water pump is in the store! We didn’t touch it. We didn’t pump any water out. As a matter of fact, we added a lot of water!”

The pond wasn’t far. Just as everyone was chatting, they arrived at the lotus pond in front of the Golden Buddha Pagoda. The surface of the ancient lotus pond wasn’t big but the pond was in a figure eight shape. There was also a bridge in the middle for looking at the lotuses. The pond water was murky; no one could tell how deep the pond was. But, as the saying goes, lotuses rise unsullied from mud. Although the pond water was murky, the lotuses in the pond competed with each other as the most beautiful! It was an extremely beautiful sight!

Zhao Yu squatted next to the pond. He first took a look at the pagoda opposite and the temple next to it. He then lowered his head and observed the lotus pond carefully.

“How deep is the pond?” Zhao Yu suddenly asked as he was looking at the pond water.

“It’s different!” the old worker answered immediately. “The middle is the deepest. Some parts are one and a half meters deep, but most spots are not even one meter deep!”

“What’s at the bottom of the pond?” Zhao Yu asked again.

“Mm...soil?” The old worker was confused. “What else could be there?”

“Fish!” The chief quickly continued, “Big carps! More than a dozen of them! Officer, do you mean someone tried to steal the fish?”

“Chief, our fish are not expensive koi. How much are they even worth?” The old worker shook his head and said, “These are all carp and bottom feeders that visitors released in the water. There are even turtles!”

“Zhao, what are you thinking about? In the water...” Liang Huan looked at Zhao Yu as though he was looking at a mental patient.

“Liang, send people to check on the Golden Buddha Temple’s electric meter right now,” Zhao Yu said solemnly. “Find me their statement for the past month!”

“What? Check their electric bill? You...” Liang Huan understood what Zhao Yu meant, and asked, “You suspect someone who pumped out the water from the pond? Is that even possible?”

“Cut the b*llshit, hurry up!” Zhao Yu bellowed. Liang Huan dared not provoke him, and immediately took out his phone.

“Hold on!” Who would have guessed that the chief of the attraction suddenly stopped Liang Huan and said, “Our accountant has the electric statement! I have seen it. She has the electric power administration app on her cellphone. She can see it once she opens the app! Just wait a second!” The chief of the attraction got up and made a call. When he was on the phone, he gestured at the forest on his right. Zhao Yu looked towards where he was waving at and saw a row of beautiful houses in the forest. That should be the office area of the attraction.

“Account Wang, hurry up, come here quickly. This police officer needs to check something!” In order for the people far away to see him, he tiptoed. “Yes, I am right next to the lotus pond. Can you see me? Alright...” The chief hung up the phone and said to Zhao Yu and the rest, “She’s coming over. When she unlocks her phone, we can see the water and electric bill instantly!”

Very quickly, a woman with plump figure came before everyone with her cellphone. Under the command of the chief, she opened the app on her cellphone. Before Zhao Yu took a careful look, the chief of the attraction was dumbstruck first. “What?! Why is it so expensive? This is crazy!” he said.

Everyone was in disbelief, because, according to the statement, on the day the surveillance video was swapped, the electric consumption in the attraction exceeded other periods. Obviously, within the attraction that day, someone had used some high-powered equipment. The same was true for the water bill. On the same day, there was a spike in water usage; far more than any normal period.

“It can’t be, can it?” Liang Huan was dumbstruck. “Does it mean someone snuck in during the night and pumped the pond water out, then put in fresh water? They must be a bunch of crazy people or...maybe they wanted to look for something in the pond? Is it...” Suddenly, Liang Huan thought about the Golden Buddha statue and pressed on Zhao Yu’s shoulder. What he was trying to tell Zhao Yu was, Could it really be the Dozens of Golden Buddha Statues? Were they really hidden in the ancient lotus pond?

“That’s impossible?!” The guard looked naive and scratched his head. “I’ve seen them pump the water out before; the noise it makes is very loud. If there was such a loud noise, it would be impossible for us not to know. Did someone pull a prank or something?”

“It’s impossible!” The old worker supported the guard. “We pumped the water out during repair a while ago. The pond doesn’t look big, but to use a water pump to get rid of all the water would take at least two days and two nights!”

“No!” Accountant Wang suddenly said, “And with such electric consumption, how could it be done by one water pump? Look at the figure; there should be at least seven or eight of them.”

“That’s possible too...” Liang Huan became unusually excited. He pointed at the lotus pond and guessed, “Maybe they didn’t need to get rid of all the water, maybe they only needed to pump some of the water out! They were definitely looking for something down there! Chief,” Liang Huan turned around and asked the attraction chief, “do you have any other older guides or experts here? Hurry up and ask, what is beneath the pond?”

“Oh! Okay! Okay!” The chief of the attraction realized the importance of the incident and was covered in sweat.

“Alright, don’t waste time!” Zhao Yu stopped the chief and said to everyone, “Hurry up, get all your water pumps out, and we will pump it once again! Maybe, when the water is gone, we will all understand then!”

Chapter 388: The Hidden Camera

The curiosity of every person on the scene was roused. Everyone wanted to know the secret of the ancient lotus pond. Hence, under the lead of the chief of the attraction, the workers took all the water pumps from the store and started to pump out the water in the lotus pond. The water pumps that the attraction used were old. When plugged in, they made rattling noises; there was a lot of movement. The water that was pumped out flowed into the drain. But there were only four water pumps in the attraction, and one didn’t work. Even when the three pumps worked together, it would require more than twenty hours to pump the pond dry. In order to speed it up, the chief called a related department for back up, and moved a few water pumps over.

“Oh...I understand now!” After the old worker set up the water pumps, he told Zhao Yu and the others, “There can be many water pumps, but there is only one water pipe, so when those people pumped the pond dry and wanted to pump the water back in, they didn’t manage to pump the water back to its original level, but the sun rose!

“If it were to restore it back to its original water level, the lotuses will return to their usual position, and we wouldn’t be able to tell the difference! But I don’t understand, this...what’s this for? There should only be mud under the lotus pond, right? During the renovation, I went down there. The mud was above my ankles, and I couldn’t even wear my shoes!”

Looking at the water in the lotus pond being pumped, while listening to the old worker speak, Zhao Yu creased his eyebrows and thought about the possibility of the worker’s interference! He wondered if the strange incident in the lotus pond was related to the Tomb Murder Case.

“Do the two of you want to lose your jobs? Mm?” On the other side of the pond, the chief was not letting the two guards off the hook. “The water in the pond was pumped dry, and the two of you didn’t know? You tell me, did the two of you fall asleep and die?”

Listening to the chief scolding them, Zhao Yu suddenly thought of something and came over to ask the guards a question. “The day you were on duty, did you drink any alcohol?”

“No!” One of the guards immediately replied, “I was just going to explain. I had just had a surgery to help my heart, and Liu is allergic to alcohol, so we wouldn’t dare to drink! Plus, we actually planned to patrol before we slept, but somehow, we fell asleep anyways. It was only about nine?”

“Yes, yes, yes!” The guard named Liu nodded quickly and said, “I was playing Anipop! I haven’t even finished the level when I fell asleep!”

“Huh?” Liang Huan and Zhao Yu were both shocked. Liang Huan’s eyes wide open when he asked Zhao Yu, “Maybe...they didn’t fall into a deep sleep by accident?”

“If so, the surveillance hard drive being changed would be explained!” Zhao Yu said. “Those people came in earlier to drug the guards. Then, they used the guards’ keys to open the door to the surveillance video room!”

“But, if they had already fainted, why not just turn off the surveillance videos? Or just delete them right after? Why did they have to change the hard drive?” Liang Huan was confused.

“They couldn’t!” The chief of the attraction heard and quickly explained, “The switch to the surveillance camera is linked up to the main switch. If they were to shut it off, the main switch would cut off all the electricity! They wouldn’t be able to use the water pump!”

“Mm!” Zhao Yu nodded. “I remember that after the videos on the surveillance hard drive were deleted, the police had ways to recover the data! Removing the hard drive would stop the surveillance control from working, and attract attention easily. So, they changed it with another hard disk!”

“Oh my God!” Liang Huan suddenly recalled something and took a deep breath. He told Zhao Yu, “If our prediction is correct, the method was too professional! This gang of people...maybe...it was really related to...”

Liang Huan wanted to say “Golden Buddha” but he was afraid that the other people would overhear him so he shut his mouth. Zhao Yu shared the same thought. Drug the guards, pump the lotus pond dry, change the surveillance video hard drive. If the water level hadn’t changed, it would have been the perfect crime and no one would ever know!

“Is it that, the people that pumped out the water from the lotus pond are the grave robbers from the Tomb Murder Case?” Zhao Yu wondered. “If it was them, why did they come here for? Did they...did they really come to the ancient lotus pond to look for Golden Buddha? There weren’t any Golden Buddhas in the prefect’s tomb but only clues about the Golden Buddha? Then what’s underneath the lotus pond? And, if they were here, did they leave any other traces behind?”

Zhao Yu looked around again to observe the environment around the lotus pond, to look at the location of the cameras. But when he got up, he suddenly recalled that he had a tool—the invisible detector. The

detector could detect electrical devices within a twenty-meter radius. “Why don’t I use one now and see if there are any clues left behind by the criminals?” he thought.

At that moment, Zhao Yu had two kinds of detectors. One was an invisible detector that only lasted for ten minutes, but its function was incredible. The other one was the invisible detector that lasted for ten days but it was not as strong. Zhao Yu thought it over and picked the one with the stronger function. When he activated it, not only could the detector clearly capture the surveillance cameras nearby, but he could even see the cellphones everyone was carrying.

After activating the detector, Zhao Yu started looking for clues around the lotus pond. As the lotus pond was an important place in the attraction, there were six surveillance cameras that covered almost every inch. But, unfortunately, the video from that night was a lost cause.

“Mm... Wait a minute...” Suddenly, Zhao Yu’s detector captured something. He looked carefully and realized that there was one camera that was different compared to the others.

“Huh?” Zhao Yu looked over into the woods. According to the detector, there was another set of surveillance equipment in the woods.

“This is... Oh...” Zhao Yu suddenly understood. It was the attraction staff office area in the woods. He didn’t know in whose office the indoor surveillance equipment was set up in. The equipment was connected via wifi, obviously using a different system than the other surveillance cameras.

Zhao Yu was thrilled. “If, on the night of the crime, that surveillance equipment was on, would it be able to capture anything?” he thought. He quickly dragged the chief with him and walked towards the office area. It turned out, the detector showed that it was the finance room that Accountant Wang walked out from earlier.

“Is there an independent surveillance control in this room?” Zhao Yu asked. He didn’t wait for an answer before he entered the room.

Accountant Wang quickly followed him and answered, “Yes! Yes! This is the finance room. We have a safe in here! But there are only documents in the safe, there’s no money. I checked it too! We didn’t lose anything!”

“What I meant was the surveillance camera!” Then he could see the camera without using the detector. But what made Zhao Yu disappointed was that although the camera was facing the window and could capture outside, the direction was wrong; it was on the left side of the lotus pond! In other words, even if the camera was on that night, it might not have been able to capture the situation next to the lotus pond.

“Oh yeah!” Accountant Wang jumped to her feet excitedly and said, “This camera is very advanced! The memory card space is huge, and it can save videos up to three months back, and it has night vision too. It is connected to my phone. I can find the surveillance videos from my cellphone!”

“Hurry up then.” The chief of the attraction urged her, “Hurry up and take a look!”

“It can’t be, right?” Liang Huan finally understood the problem and pointed at the camera. “You camera is pointed to the left window, it shouldn’t be able to see the lotus pond, right?”

“Oh...that’s true!” Everyone then realized the problem. They hung their heads, feeling disheartened.

“It’s okay!” Zhao Yu didn’t give up. “Regardless, just play the videos first! Maybe someone passed by the window?” Everyone thought that his point made sense, so Accountant Wang quickly found the video from that day. After the video played for a while, everyone saw a shocking scene on her cellphone!

Chapter 389: What Are They Looking for?

Around lunchtime, besides the few police detectives from Key Case Investigation Unit that rushed to the Golden Buddha Temple, Zhang Jingfeng brought two portrait experts from the Missing Persons Department, and Hu Bin and rest from Forensics Department to gather evidence. It turned out, through the surveillance video in the finance room, Zhao Yu and the rest saw a shocking scene.

One week ago, which was the night when the attraction surveillance hard drive was replaced, the camera captured something. On the clip, they could see that about thirty meters away from the finance room, there were four to five human figures! Those people appeared in the frame for a long period of time, and they looked like they were observing something very carefully. During that time, they turned on flashlights in order to get a better look at something. Some of them even squatted, obviously to get an even closer look.

At the end, when Zhao Yu and the group searched according to the direction of the surveillance camera and realized that the group of people had been in one of the corners of the walls of the Golden Buddha Temple. Beneath the corner, there were stone steles scattered about.

“That’s weird! Those people that appeared in the video were obviously the ones who pumped the lotus pond dry. But from the camera, why did it look like they were interested in the stone steles?” Zhao Yu thought.

“These stone steles were moved here during the construction of the temple and pagoda!” The chief of the attraction explained, surprised. “Back then, experts that sifted out the valuable ones to put them in the forest of steles area for people to visit! The rest are basically carved stones from the early years or beginning of the nation’s establishment. Many of them were damaged and aren’t worth that much!”

“What was carved on it?” Liang Huan asked.

“Most of them were Buddhist scriptures. Oh,” the chief guessed, “maybe...those b*stards deleted the surveillance video to steal the stone steles?! Aiya! That’s bad; among the forest of steles, there was an ancient stele that was left behind from the Tang Dynasty! This is—”

“No, definitely no!” Accountant Wang quickly said, “After the surveillance control incident, didn’t we check the forest of steles a couple of times? No, they have not been touched. But, here,” Accountant Wang pointed at the stone steles that were scattered before them and said, “only here has not been checked thoroughly. I think these stone steles aren’t worth much, right?”

“Stone steles?!” Zhao Yu thought. He creased his eyebrows together and felt it was getting more and more difficult. He looked around and realized that it was about twenty meters away from the ancient lotus pond. Those people risked entering the attraction, and they pumped the lotus pond dry while they

looked at the steles carefully. They were obviously looking for something. “What were they looking for?” Zhao Yu wondered.

Full of suspicion, Zhao Yu looked at the surveillance video again. As it was already in the middle of the night, and the camera was far away, and there was a window in front of the camera, the video was very blurry. Besides, they could barely make out the different figures and movements of the people; they couldn’t see what they looked like. But after Zhao Yu watched it a few times, he saw something extraordinary. Among those robbers, there was one that was obviously slower than the rest! When the person walked, he hung his head low and bent down, looking as if he was under a lot of strain. It seemed that he wasn’t exactly young! Besides that, no matter where this person walked, someone brawny followed closely behind. It seemed like he was keeping watch over this person!

“Is it...were they afraid that the person was trying to escape?” Zhao Yu wondered. Suddenly, he felt a surge of emotions. “This old man...is he one of the missing old experts?! Oh, God! If so, those robbers next to him are undoubtedly the grave robbers from the Tomb Murder Case??! Then...would it be?”

With his hope up, Zhao Yu quickly reported to Miao Ying. Miao Ying naturally placed great importance on it and immediately sent experts from each department of the police station to further investigate.

At two in the afternoon, the investigation report from each department had been finalized. Firstly, also the most important, the two experts from the Missing Person’s Department used the most advanced technology to investigate, and found that the old man from the video was highly identical to Professor Tian Dongmin from the Cultural Relics Bureau, up to ninety-three percent. According to their comparison standards, it was almost certain that the old man was the lost Tian Dongmin!

The discovery was remarkably original and compelling! First off, it proved that Professor Tian Dongmin was alive one week ago! Second off, the robbers next to him were very likely the grave robbers from the Tomb Case! The victim in the Tomb Case—Dong Peizhuo—had probably been killed by them!

From the video, Professor Tian Dongmin looked as though he was pinned down by the other party. Based on the video, they guessed that all three of the old experts from the Cultural Relics Bureau had been manipulated by the grave robbers! So, the perpetrator of the Tomb Murder Case was undoubtedly the grave robbers. If they could capture them, they could solve the case! But since they verified the identity of Professor Tian, the case had become more intricate!

No one understood why the grave robbers robbed the prefect’s tomb then went to the Golden Buddha Temple many days later. If they simply wanted to empty the lotus pond, Zhao Yu might think that they were looking for Golden Buddha. But why were they interested in the stone steles that no one asked about?

From the video, they could tell that they were looking for something at the stone steles. If the Golden Buddha was really hidden under the lotus pond, why were they messing with the stone steles? Plus, the stone steles were not historical artifacts, what could they find out from the stone steles?

...

After analysis, the two portrait experts told Zhao Yu that they could confirm it was Professor Tian Dongmin because they had compared it with Professor Tian’s video information. But if they wanted to

identify the other grave robbers through the video, it would be quite impossible! Unless they had other videos of the grave robbers or target suspect's detailed information.

Simultaneously, Hu Bin and the rest searched the stone steles area. Although they got a few fresh fingerprints, the possibility of it being the grave robbers' was very low because the grave robbers touched the stone steles a week ago, and it had rained since. Even if there were fingerprints, they wouldn't be that fresh. Plus, the grave robbers were so professional; the possibility of them leaving a fingerprint behind was small.

Although Hu Bin and his team didn't find any valid evidence, Zhao Yu didn't let them return. At that very moment, they had pumped out half of the water in the lotus pond. Many shallow spots had surfaced. Zhao Yu needed them to continue to look for evidence.

Zhao Yu was smart. Before they started pumping the water, he told the workers to record the usage on the electric meter. That way they didn't need to empty the lotus pond dry but use a similar amount of electricity and then stop.

After turning off the water pump, the lotus pond was half empty. Everyone could clearly see that border of the lotus pond was more shallow while the middle was deeper. What was interesting was that after the water level had gone down, the lotus pond revealed a figure eight shape and a symmetrical fan shape at every peak of the arcs.

Looking at the few fan-shaped areas, Zhao Yu suddenly understood what the grave robbers were looking for! He saw that the fan-shaped slabs of stone were filled with carvings of Buddhist scriptures!!!

Chapter 390: It Was Not Just a Legend

"It can't be a mistake!" Zhao Yu said with confidence. "What the robbers want were these Buddhist scriptures!"

"Why?" Liang Huan was confused. "What do you mean by they were looking for these Buddhist scriptures?"

"I don't know!" Zhao Yu pointed at the slab of stone at the bottom of the pond and said, "Take a look, the lotus pond is so murky. Technically speaking, the stones should be covered in mud! But the Buddhist scriptures on the slab stones are so clean and clear. Obviously, someone wiped it off!"

"Oh... This was done by the robbers!" The chief let out a sigh of relief. "But why?"

"The lotus pond is a real historical place, right?" Zhao Yu asked, "Are these Buddhist scriptures authentic from the Ming Dynasty, a few centuries back?"

"This..." The chief creased his eyebrows and said awkwardly, "That is what is said, but...you should know that this was only a marketing gimmick to attract tourists! According to historical records, the ancient lotus pond was built in the Tang Dynasty, and the other dynasties remodeled it, especially during the end of the Qing Dynasty. There was a big-scale renovation recorded during that time. So, these Buddhist scriptures should be from the Qing Dynasty! It would be impossible to have anything more ancient than that!"

“What was written on the Buddhist scripture?” Zhao Yu asked again.

“Mm... Should be some general Buddhist scripture, right?” The attraction chief took a look at Accountant Wang and she quickly added, “Should be. If it was very valuable, I reckon it wouldn’t be underwater! Officer, we didn’t research this in depth, but the experts in the municipal Cultural Relics Bureau did. Why don’t you ask the people from the Cultural Relics Bureau?”

Cultural Relics Bureau? Zhao Yu suddenly recalled the three old experts. “Maybe the three old experts had done quite a bit of research about the Buddhist scripture? The grave robbers kidnapped them to get their research on the Buddhist scripture?” he thought. “But...it shouldn’t be only to research the Buddhist scripture, right? Maybe all this was for the Golden Buddha statues?” Zhao Yu quickly asked the chief if he knew about the legend of the Dozens of Golden Buddha Statues.

“Yeah! That was how the Golden Buddha Temple gained fame. How could I not know about that!” The attraction chief nodded and said, “Back then, when we were rebuilding the Golden Buddha Temple, the leaders suggested we imitate the dozens of Golden Buddha statues to be worshiped in the temple! But it never happened, and the Sakyamuni Buddha was used instead!” Then, the attraction chief told everyone about the legend, the exact version that Liu Xiusheng had spoken of.

Zhao Yu thought of a possibility, “Could it be? The clue to the dozens of Golden Buddha Statues is hidden in the Buddhist scripture? Besides the lotus pond, there were those stone steles. On the stone steles, there were Buddhist scriptures! And on the wall of the prefect’s tomb, there were many Buddhist scriptures too.

“Could it be...the grave robbers were really looking for the Golden Buddha statues? As the clue to the Golden Buddha was hidden among the Buddhist scripture, they were willing to go through the trouble, even rob the tomb and kill people? But...that’s not right?” Zhao Yu realized information on Buddhist scriptures could easily be found in books or on the internet. “If the clues were really hidden in the Buddhist scriptures, why did the grave robbers go through the hassle of pumping out the water in the lotus pond? Was the scripture in the lotus pond any different than the general ones? Tsk tsk...” Looking at the simple carvings of scriptures, Zhao Yu wondered if it was really necessary to find an expert of scriptures to inquire about it?

Zhao Yu was pondering when his phone suddenly rang. Miao Ying gave him a call to inform him about two important matters. The first news was that through Miao Ying’s secret investigation, she found information related to the Dozens of Golden Buddha Statues in the three old experts’ work area. And that the related information was completely exclusive to a manuscript that had yet to be published!

According to the three experts’ research, the dozens of Golden Buddha Statues in the Golden Buddha Temple had represented the twelve deities in Buddhism, also known as Gods to protect and maintain Buddha dharma! They represented heavens, the dragon spirits, stars, underworld officials, and so on. In ancient times, worshipping the twelve deities was to pray for favorable weather, and to escape and expel disaster.

Besides, in their manuscript, they recorded the sizes of the twelve Golden Buddha statues, and made hand-drawn images. According to the record, every golden Buddha statue was fifty centimeters tall and twenty-five centimeters wide. The workmanship was delicate, and the designs were all different and

lively. Not only were the statues priceless, but its artistic achievement could be categorized as a national art treasure!

Among the manuscripts, the earliest was written twenty years back. From that, they could tell that the three experts had been researching Golden Buddha statues for half their lives! But even though they had acquired a certain amount of research, they had never shared their work, even their family didn't know anything about that. There must have been some other reason for them to do it so secretly!

As for the second news, it was even more shocking. Miao Ying got an update that the literature information in the Cultural Relics Bureau had been stolen. Part of the information that was taken was information regarding inscriptions of stone tablets in Qinshan! More shockingly, the robbery was done smooth and clean. When the workers realized, it had already been a long time. The local policemen got involved in the investigation and realized that the information had been stolen twenty days ago. Even the surveillance video hard drive for the information center had been changed.

"Huh?" Listening to such updates, Zhao Yu was dumbstruck! "Another surveillance video hard drive was changed! The robbery details of the information center and the Golden Buddha Temple are the same. It was obviously done by the same gang of people!" he thought.

The information center lost the information regarding inscription of stone tablets, so he reckoned that there must be countless Buddhist scriptures!

"Oh..." Suddenly, Zhao Yu seemingly realized something about this complicated case. "The grave robbers might have found some clues in the ancient tomb and then went to the Cultural Relics Bureau to steal more information! Maybe it hadn't been found yet, or maybe the information in the Cultural Relic Bureau was incomplete, so they came to the Golden Buddha Temple and went for the stone steles in the ancient lotus pond!"

Zhao Yu was left speechless, and he was getting more and more emotional! This matter was getting more and more interesting! Obviously, there was a shocking treasure hunt behind the Tomb Murder Case! The three old experts might have gotten involved accidentally or maybe they were actually guilty!

Zhao Yu thought that if the grave robbers and the old experts had no sufficient evidence, the Tomb Murder Case wouldn't have happened! So, the Dozen of Golden Buddha Statues in the legend might possibly not be a legend?!

"Aiya! Motherf*cker!" Zhao Yu thought. Suddenly, Zhao Yu had an unprecedented wicked idea. "Bro, system! Why not give me another 'Dui' hexagram tomorrow, for fun? If I could find the Golden Buddha, I would gain a fortune!"