

## Crazy 721

### Chapter 721: Five Unsettled Cases

“To tell you the truth, you really surprised us. We thought that you were a professional agent!” Miao Ying looked at Zhao Yu and asked, “How on earth did you manage to do that? How do you know that it’s the honey shop?”

“I’ve spoken to the people at the embassy countless times,” Zhao Yu said. “They came to blackmail me first, otherwise I would not be so angry! You know, I’m vengeful. Whoever provokes me will have to pay the price.”

“Ha ha...” looking at Zhao Yu’s proud face, Miao Ying couldn’t help but laugh. “It’s undeniable that this time your shamelessness won out!”

Miao Ying looked at Zhao Yu with admiration. “You can even crack the terrible Headless Female Corpses Case!”

“Of course... Otherwise, I couldn’t win such a beauty back!” Zhao Yu moved to caress Miao Ying’s face, but Miao Ying quickly escaped.

“Don’t act like a fool,” Miao Ying said, pressing Zhao Yu’s dirty hand away. “I guess that mysterious organization discovered the secret transaction, so it sent someone to investigate it! But, I don’t quite understand why they want to kill all of the vault guards?”

Miao Ying continued, “Maybe they have internal conflicts, or perhaps they think that the vault guards made a mistake!”

“Yes, that’s what I thought, too,” Zhao Yu added. “But, I prefer the former guess, because the vaults were all forcibly pried open. So, the guards must have been there for several days, which means they don’t have the key either!”

“Yes!” Miao Ying agreed. “They must be in collusion with the local police. Although they caught an innocent Thai girl, they were not worried about her at all.”

“However, it was not long before I came to them,” Zhao Yu continued. “They didn’t know what I was there for! When they found out that we weren’t looking for that Thai girl, they wanted to silence me forever!”

“Yes!” Miao Ying added. “They suspected that you had something to do with the vault trading, so they wanted to know your background. Then, they killed the Thai girl in your room and shot the police with drones to frame you!”

“Yes!” Zhao Yu nodded. “They must have found out who I am.”

He and Miao Ying looked at each other. Even after such a long time, they still were each other’s perfect partner.

“But, they didn’t know that they would become the victims of their own trap!” Zhao Yu said.

Miao Ying kept silent for a moment, then said, "They underestimated you! You did what a hundred agents probably wouldn't have been able to do! I'm so proud of you."

"No big deal." Zhao Yu was pleased and said, "You know, I'm good at what I do. Well, when you find the den of this organization, I will destroy them for you!"

"Hmm..." Miao Ying made a fake smile and said, "Let's talk about the current situation. The information you got from them, together with the information that I got, has given us an advantage."

Zhao Yu said, "Now that the spies among us have basically all been captured, let's take the lead and beat them!"

"In the future, we will make good use of the information you have in order to unite other companies and find allies to fight together." Miao Ying said.

She then turned to gaze affectionately at Zhao Yu. "Of course, these things have nothing to do with you anymore! They've helped you destroy all of your videos on the Landing, as well as all of the evidence! So, your safety and that of the little girl can be guaranteed!"

"I'm okay, but what about you?" Zhao Yu asked anxiously.

"Well, we are different," Miao Ying said. "Although my identity in China has been erased, my father is still a very big target. Besides, I left some clues in the Landing, so I will not be able to regain my identity anytime soon!"

Seeing Zhao Yu's eyes revealing his disappointment, Miao Ying quickly added, "But, I believe it won't be too long! When the war begins, they will have no time for my affairs. But, for now, my father wants me to keep an eye on the situation patiently, and then he will let me reclaim my identity after making sure that it is safe!"

Zhao Yu sighed, then said, "When I get back, I'm going to start on the next case in the yellow notebook! So, you have to take care of yourself!"

Hearing this, Miao Ying immediately started rubbing Zhao Yu's shoulder and saying, "Darling, can't you start with something else first? Although I can't regain my identity now, I'll be back soon. Or... Can I go with you secretly?"

"Are you crazy?" Zhao Yu shook his head. "You know that I don't have the final say on these cases. So, you'd better get back as soon as possible! But... I will miss you very much!"

"You will?" Miao Ying embraced Zhao Yu and spoke in a charming voice.

"Of course! Should there be any question of that?" Zhao Yu kissed her and said, "Otherwise, how could I possibly come all the way to New Zealand for you? Do you know how much you turn me on?"

Miao Ying smiled coquettishly, then said, "I'm not used to having you speak such filthy rubbish in my ear! Okay, I promise you, I'll be back as soon as possible!"

She then added, "Also, I haven't forgotten about those big cases in the yellow notebook. I think about them everyday! I can't wait for you to tell me about all about them!"

For the next hour, Zhao Yu dedicated himself to telling her about solving the cases. As Zhao Yu drank an entire bottle of red wine, he spoke with a strong voice, while Miao Ying listened carefully, not daring to miss a single detail.

After Zhao Yu finished, Miao Ying was stunned. "Oh, I'm so sorry that I missed such wonderful cases!" Miao Ying said. "I really can't wait... In two days, I'll ask my father again!"

Suddenly, Miao Ying thought of an important thing and asked, "Darling, as you have solved one of the five unsettled cases, which of the remaining ones do you plan to look into first after you get back?"

"You're wrong," Zhao Yu said. "There are actually only three unsettled cases left. That dismembered body case has been solved!"

"Oh? Was it? When?" Miao Ying was curious. "Why didn't I hear about it?"

Zhao Yu quickly pulled out a small notebook that detailed the five state-level unsettled cases from the yellow notebook. He then shared its contents with her.

As she peered at it, she could clearly see that the five unsettled cases were...

1. Ziliu Town Rural Cooperatives Homicide Case. 2. Beiqian Devil Case. 3. Jinzhong Headless Female Corpse Case. 4. Wenxi City Baishan Reservoir Dismembered Body Case. 5. Huayun Mountain Massacre Case.

"Captain Jing was the one who investigated all of these cases, but he didn't solve any of them!" Zhao Yu said. "The Wenxi City Baishan Reservoir Case was the last one, and it happened not very long ago. The case was solved by the local Criminal Investigation Department last year. The murderer was a forester in the Baishan Mountain, who was mentally disturbed. It is said that there were many female victims, all of whose bodies were dismembered after their murders. Interestingly, a person with a special ability helped a lot with arresting the murderer!"

"What special ability?" Miao Ying was curious.

"Apparently, if this person touches the remains of the deceased, he can find the corpse! It's truly unbelievable!" Zhao Yu answered.

"Hmm..." Miao Ying was suspicious instantly. "Even if such a special ability is real, then only the body could be found with it. How could it help find the murderer?"

"Who knows? To me, it's mostly nonsense! Maybe the specialness of the ability is just an exaggeration." Zhao Yu shook his head. "But, it's true that the case has been solved! For some reason, the local police deliberately kept it secret. Even I did not know about its being solved until I was in the Special Investigation Group. So, anyway, there are now three cases left. If you don't come back as soon as possible..."

"I'll come, I'll come... So..." Miao Ying pointed to Zhao Yu's little notebook and asked again, "Well... Which of the remaining three cases do you intend to handle first?"

**Chapter 722: Restart the Devil Case**

“Considering time,” Zhao Yu said, while pointing to the little notebook, “The Devil Case happened at least 15 years ago.”

“Yes!” Miao Ying nodded. “SARS erupted that year, didn’t it? Sometimes I wonder if SARS was a result of this case...”

“Probably not. I did my homework. SARS started in November, but this case had already begun in the summer of that year!” Zhao Yu shook his head. “But, at the beginning, it didn’t attract too much attention!”

Miao Ying said solemnly, “The Devil Case is a horrible serial suicide! I don’t know why they give it such a name.”

“I don’t know either. Maybe people couldn’t think of a better term for such a weird thing, so they could only use the word ‘devil’ to explain it?” Zhao Yu guessed. “In the same area, and in a relatively short period of time, nine suicides occurred. That’s definitely not a coincidence!”

“Yes. Their ages, sexes, occupations and family conditions were all different, and they had no obvious mental problems. That’s why it’s really puzzling that these people committed suicides, one after another!” Miao Ying said.

She then added, “The Headless Female Corpses Case, once recognized as the most difficult unsettled case, is mainly considered as such because of its wide time span! But, this serial suicide case is difficult in terms of the murderer’s means of committing the crime. I don’t believe that the nine people really killed themselves. But, no clues can be found to prove that they were murders! As such, it’s really a hard case!”

“We have a psychologist in our group, and I asked her about it!” Zhao Yu suddenly mentioned Wu Xiumin. “She said that if you want to make a person commit suicide, it is possible to do so by providing a psychological hint or through hypnosis. But, she said that the probability is very low!”

He then added, “This all, of course, is closely related to the person’s mentality, willpower, and living environment, so there are really too many variables to measure. Even for the world’s top psychologists, it would be impossible for them to make nine people commit suicide in such a short period!”

“Yes, I did think about the possibility of psychological methods and hypnosis before.” Miao Ying agreed with him. “But, besides this, maybe there are other possibilities, such as some hallucinogens that are unknown to us, or other drugs that can make people depressed?”

“Well, I’ll go back and list all of the possibilities. Then, I’ll apply for reinvestigating it!” Zhao Yu nodded.

“This case is different from others,” Miao Ying said. “Although this case has a great impact, it has not been formally filed by the police. So, there is not much information about it from that year! This makes investigating it really difficult!”

“The Headless Female Corpses Case has been solved. What are you afraid of?” Zhao Yu gently embraced Miao Ying and smiled. “You come back as soon as possible. I look forward to teaming up with you!”

Miao Ying also hugged Zhao Yu tightly, then said, "My father has made arrangements over there in the Criminal Division. That will take the pressure off of you, as whatever happened, your father-in-law will help you!"

"Well, if your father ever heard you say that, would he blame you?" Zhao Yu laughed and asked. "By the way, just mentioning my father-in-law, I realized that I don't know who my mother-in-law is!"

"Just some rich lady!" Miao Ying said casually. "She's retired from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. As my dad is really busy, she decided to take more responsibility for the family!"

"Oh..." Suddenly, Zhao Yu recalled what he had learned while he was eavesdropping on Miao Ying's phone call...

No wonder Miao Ying's mother had such a proud tone to her voice on the phone!

"Both of them are from Beijing," Miao Ying said. "The reason why we have settled down in Qinshan is that my father has many friends there, who can take better care of me."

She then added, "When I was a kid, I always wondered why they didn't take me overseas and why they couldn't be with me every day. Later, when I grew up, I realized that the nature of their work was the reason for my loneliness. But, I know, it was also for my good!"

Miao Ying took a gentle breath, then whispered in Zhao Yu's ear, "Actually, this is better! At least I met you, you bast\*rd!"

"Hmm..." Zhao Yu's ear was itching and felt hot. "Okay, I'll let you have a good experience with this bast\*rd..." Then, they rolled into the bed again.

Over the next few days, Zhao Yu and Miao Ying were practically inseparable and had several special dates. For the last date, they even violated the rules and went to Wellington's seashore.

However, this happy time was short. Even though he was reluctant to go, Zhao Yu eventually had to leave. The embassy helped him and Su Jinmei with all of the necessary arrangement, and on a sunny morning, they flew to Beijing.

Before Zhao Yu left, he and Miao Ying kissed each other. Miao Ying promised Zhao Yu that she would do her best to return as soon as possible to join him in investigating those cases.

Because Miao Ying's identity had been kept secret, Zhao Yu had not told Su Jinmei and even Ma Runkui about her. As such, Su Jinmei was very curious on the plane.

She did not understand why Zhao Yu was so happy and was smiling all the way. It was not like him. In fact, Zhao Yu was acting the total opposite of his previous depressed and listless demeanor that he had when he first came to New Zealand!

After arriving at the airport, they were brought to the Central Criminal Division, where they met with Division Chief Jiao and the Division Director. After the two heads were briefed on the details of what Zhao Yu had done in New Zealand, several confidentiality letters were signed, which marked the official end of the New Zealand incident.

The director had heard so many good things about how Zhao Yu had handled the case, so he specifically called Zhao Yu aside and praised him. He also said that, according to Zhao Yu's excellent performance, he would consider a promotion for Zhao Yu, as well as provide him with new work. They also discussed many other matters.

Specifically, Zhao Yu would have a great chance to become a full-time officer in the Criminal Division instead of being a policeman in the Rongyang Police Branch Office of Qinshan. However, ever since Zhao Yu had met Miao Ying, he didn't care about titles and promotions anymore.

At this time, in addition to Miao Ying's return, there was only one thing left that was important. This was the application for the investigation of the Devil Case.

Therefore, Zhao Yu directly submitted an application for investigation. Division Chief Jiao did not expect Zhao Yu to be so dedicated to his work. While praising him, he happily approved the application for investigation on the spot.

However, it was just as Miao Ying said. Because no obvious murder evidence was found in this case, it was never filed. Strictly speaking, it was not a case at all!

So, if he wanted to reinvestigate such a case, he actually didn't need to do a lot of preparatory work like he did for the Headless Female Corpses Case. Instead, he just had to inform the local police of his intentions, and they would provide support for Zhao Yu's Special Investigation Group. However, because of it never having been officially filed, the related materials and clues of this case were also the most scarce out of the five unsettled cases.

At the time when the 03 project team was found, the case had just happened. But, Captain Jing did not find any clues at that time. So, after many years, it was difficult to investigate this case again.

### **Chapter 723: Great Days**

Although he had been approved to officially restart the Beiqian Devil Case, Zhao Yu had just returned from New Zealand, so he really needed a break.

At the moment, despite his long stay in New Zealand, Zeng Ke, Wu Xiumin, and others were still busy finishing up the Headless Female Corpses Case. As such, he had to wait until they had completely finished.

So, Zhao Yu went back to Qinshan to rest. When Zhao Yu returned to Qinshan this time, the situation was completely different than before!

Because the news about the shocking Headless Female Corpses Case had been on TV, Zhao Yu had become a hero overnight. For such a high-level unsettled case, this news was like a blockbuster movie, as it caused a strong public response! Zhao Yu, as the chief official in the investigation of the case, was known all over the world, and his popularity rose dramatically.

For the Qinshan police, it was a very glorious thing! So, on the first day of Zhao Yu's arrival in Qinshan, Bureau Chief Hong of the City Council took the lead in preparing a grand celebration feast for him.

As Zhao Yu had just been in Qinshan office for a year, it was very difficult for him to meet the Bureau Chief, let alone to be honored by a large celebration! However, as the rank of Special Investigation Group was above the municipal and even provincial levels, Zhao Yu was the group leader and had solved many major cases. So, it was totally reasonable that others would treat him differently.

However, these changes didn't excite him anymore. After he had joined the Special Investigation Group, he had seen a lot more than before. Everywhere he went, he received praise and special treatment from the local police. So, he was used to the official routines.

At the table, Zhao Yu's lively talk and witty words caused everyone to laugh. He completely stole the spotlight from other high officials.

At this banquet, Zhao Yu also met many old acquaintances, including two Vice Bureau Chiefs, Liao Jingxian and Zhou Andong, Crime Investigation Captain Feng Xiao, Rongyang District Bureau Chief Luan Xiaoxiao, and so on.

In addition to the police, several officers from the judiciary authorities and the courts also came, as well as some prominent figures in Qinshan. There was even a big-named municipal official named Su Lin, who was the deputy mayor in charge of judicial affairs, who was in attendance. Among all of the people present, he was the highest ranked, so he sat at the front seat.

Zhao Yu didn't take this person seriously at first, but unexpectedly, he toasted Zhao Yu several times. For the last toast, he even stood up, looking extremely enthusiastic.

Zhao Yu was appreciative, and he toasted others as much as others toasted him. In this manner, back and forth, they all drank several shots. It was not until their faces and ears turned red that Zhao Yu learned from Liao Jingxian that Mayor Su was the father of Su Jinmei, the young apprentice!

What the heck?

Zhao Yu was quite surprised that the young apprentice had such a privileged background. This explained why she was so confident when she spoke.

In retrospect, when Zhao Yu was investigating the Apartment Murder Case, because the matter involved Bureau Chief Hong, Zhao Yu had encountered obstructions from many parties. But, Su Jinmei had said that she could help him solve the problem. He wondered...

Maybe Su Jinmei asked her father for help! No wonder Bureau Chief Hong admitted his mistakes so quickly! At that time, Zhao Yu thought it was Miao Ying who helped him, but now it was more likely that it was Su Jinmei!

Mayor Su was enthusiastic and sincere. He told Zhao Yu that Su Jinmei was obsessed with solving cases and worshipped Zhao Yu. He also expressed that he hoped that Zhao Yu would teach his little apprentice more when he had time to do so.

Zhao Yu agreed happily as he breathed a sigh of relief. Fortunately, when he was in New Zealand, he had not had any intimate relations with the little girl. Otherwise, he would have had a huge problem today!

After all, it was never good to annoy high officials, let alone a mayor! Among several of the toasts, people praised Zhao Yu as being a model for the police and being the glory of Qinshan.

After enjoying many shots, Zhao Yu became somewhat absent-minded. Once upon a time, he was just a hoodlum with street smarts. But, unexpectedly, a magical experience and a magical system had changed everything! Today, it was really impressive that so many leaders had come to appreciate him so much.

Since returning to Qinshan, many good things had happened to him! The first one was the feast.

Next, because he had successfully cracked the Hasty Murder Case in the pharmaceutical factory, the Criminal Division had awarded him a group bonus of up to 250,000 yuan! This group bonus meant that the money was awarded to the Special Investigation Group.

Now, his position of group leader had finally played its role! It turns out that there was an unwritten regulation for the Special Investigation Group, which stipulated that the bonus would be distributed by the group leader based on merits. So, Zhao Yu could give the others as much as he liked!

For other Special Investigation Groups, the group leader only was able to distribute a little to the team members, yet had to keep all the rest. That's why the competition for the role of group leader was so fierce.

Of course, Zhao Yu was not that kind of person. Although he did well in solving the case, the team members also worked. So, he took 70,000 for himself, then gave the rest to the other three members equally!

Zeng Ke and Wu Xiumin were exultant to get so much money all at once. They never thought that they would get such a big bonus after solving the case.

Coupled with Zhao Yu's distribution, they had already received 160,000 yuan, which didn't include the bonuses for the Gem Theft Case and the Headless Female Corpses Case. These two cases were of a higher level than the pharmaceutical factory case, so the bonuses would certainly be even more!

As money increased motivation, they worked even harder. They even said that, in less than a day or two, they would be able to complete their work and join Zhao Yu.

As he waited, Zhao Yu enjoyed a few great days. After all, Miao Ying had been found and the big case was solved. Hence, he was in a particularly great mood.

Plus, he finally had time to do some things for himself, such as maintaining his two cars, getting a driver's license, having meals with old friends and working out. Of course, he was also actively preparing for the Devil Case. For this reason, he visited Jin Zhenbang on several occasions, telling him the details of the Headless Female Corpses Case and discussing the Devil Case.

A few days later, Zeng Ke, Wu Xiumin, and Ran Tao finally completed their work and came to Qinshan to join Zhao Yu. To welcome them, Zhao Yu invited them to enjoy a special hot pot plus a sauna and massage, which made the three of them very happy.

However, these three had already known that there must be a reason for his luxurious attentiveness. So, when Zhao Yu said that he had applied to reinvestigate the Devil Case, all three of them revealed knowing expressions.

Of course, after the three major cases were solved, the three members were already convinced that Zhao Yu was a genius, so they didn't have any objections to joining him for this new case. Moreover,

when Zhao Yu mentioned the Devil Case, they got so excited, they couldn't help talking about it at the dining table.

While talking about the case, Zhao Yu somehow sneezed more than a dozen times in a row, and his heart was thumping inexplicably. Feeling the palpitations, Zhao Yu frowned.

What's wrong with me? Does this mean that it won't be a smooth journey to solve this Devil Case?

#### **Chapter 724: And Then There Were None**

There was an island that was located just offshore of Quliang City in the Tongjiang Province. This island could be found at the junction of the East China Sea and the South China Sea.

In the early War of Liberation period, the naval forces were stationed here. The army officers and soldiers named the island Yongjin Island, which was a name that meant that the soldiers would never retreat.

With the passage of time, the local residents gradually confused the original meaning of the island's name. So, today, this unmanned island far away from land has been gradually forgotten by most people, and no one was investigating it anymore.

Above the vast sea, the wind rushed and the waves rolled. It was just before dawn, and the sun shone faintly from the distant sea level. It had not yet illuminated the whole sea surface.

At that moment, a white arc appeared in the distance. This was what the local people often called the "daybreak white."

On the south side of the island, near the seashore, there was a flat stretch of ground. Suddenly, a woman's faint moan came from there, "Oh..."

The woman's name was Li Qian. She was an actress who had come to Yongjin Island with a film crew more than a dozen days ago. She was the lead actress in their production.

"Oh..." Li Qian felt dizzy, and she looked like she was drunk.

Although Li Qian was the lead actress, she was not famous. The film crew was just a group of unknown actors like her.

Sometimes, she had to be drinking partners with some directors and investors just to get a role! Every time she did that, she would become completely drunk, so she was very familiar with this drunk feeling.

However, she could vaguely remember that she had been filming on the island these past few days, and during that time, she did not drink at all. Last night, she just went to bed a little later than usual. So, she had to wonder...

What's wrong with me? This headache...

"Oh..." In her confusion, Li Qian wanted to stretch out and feel her forehead. However, when she stretched out her arms, she found that her arms were bound by something and could not move at all!

“Huh?” Suddenly, an instinctive fear arose in her heart, and she struggled again, but still could not move. Then, she suddenly felt shaken and weightless, as if she was not lying in bed, but was suspended in the air!

What happened?

Gripped by fear, she finally opened her eyes! The first thing she saw was a faint fire that was not far from her feet. The fire was used by the camera crew for heating their quarters. The fire almost went out, and there was nobody around.

But... Why is the fire under my feet?

“Oh... Ah! Ah!” Suddenly, Li Qian was horrified to find that she was standing on a tall thing, and not only were her arms tied behind her back, but there was also a frighteningly thick hemp rope around her neck!

“Ah!” In horror, she did not stand firm, but suddenly tilted her body and almost kicked over the thing that was under her feet! Suddenly, she felt her throat tighten so fiercely that she could hardly breathe.

Li Qian shuddered with fear and quickly stood on tiptoes, trying to regain her balance. Although she couldn't see clearly what was under her feet, she could guess that it was the folding ladder that was used by the camera crew!

“Ah...” At that moment, Li Qian suddenly sobered up and realized that someone had not only tied her hands and neck, but that they had also suspended her up in the air.

Someone wanted to hang her! If the ladder that was under her feet turned over, she would be strangled by the rope!

“Ah... Ah...” Li Qian dared not to move even half a step. She tried to call for help, “Hello... Help... Help... Is anyone here?”

However, after she shouted several times, the entire island remained silent and unresponsive.

“No, no, no...” As Li Qian trembled with fear, tears streamed down her face.

After a few minutes, she began to raise her voice once more, “Hello! Is anyone here? I beg you, don't play with me!”

Just as Li Qian shouted, a cold breeze suddenly blew in from the sea. Li Qian found that, on her right side, a black shadow was swaying with the wind.

She turned her head, and to her surprise, there was a dead human body not two meters away from her right hand! The body appeared to have been hanging there for a long time!

“Ah...” Her cry resounded across the island, but got no response at all. Not even an echo was heard.

10 a.m. Shun Feng Street, Qinshan City.

“Ah...” Zhao Yu yawned as he lazily put his luggage in the trunk of his Land Rover. The trunk was quite big, so even after the luggage was all placed within it, there was still a lot of space left.

His dog Daheng, which he also called Tycoon, barked a few times. As it wagged its tail playfully at Zhao Yu's feet, its eyes begged Zhao Yu not to leave.

"Stop that!" Zhao Yu patted the dog's head and said, "Since you annoyed my mom, I now have to take you with me."

"Master!" Ran Tao suddenly popped his head out of the rear seat. "Is that okay? We're going to investigate the case, so should you be bringing such a big dog along? Can the dog help us solve the case?"

Hearing Ran Tao's concerns, Zeng Ke and Wu Xiumin could not help but laugh.

"Oh, don't underestimate the pup!" Zhao Yu pointed to the dog and said, "This fellow has helped me solve many cases. Do you remember the bank corpse case that I told you about? If it hadn't helped me find fresh... Um..."

Zhao Yu hesitated, trying to find a better way to say the word "sh\*t," but before he could, Ran Tao asked, "Fresh what?"

"Fresh footprints!" Zhao Yu found better words quickly.

"Your dog is so good!" Wu Xiumin laughed from inside of the car. "Other dogs smell things, but your dog can even recognize footprints!"

"It's wasn't quite footprints... Anyway... I can't leave it at home!" Zhao Yu said reluctantly.

Tycoon barked as if it could understand his words.

Wu Xiumin pouted. "Team leader, aren't you afraid that this dog will harm us?"

"Hey! Dogs are like their owners! The dog is fierce, and so is our team leader! Um..." Ran Tao was frightened by Zhao Yu's ferocious eyes, so he quickly shut up and got into the car.

Tycoon was afraid of Zhao Yu, too. When Zhao Yu raised his eyebrows, it jumped into the trunk obediently.

The Beiqian area where the Devil Case took place was adjacent to the Longxi Province, and was only 400 kilometers away from Qinshan. As such, Zhao Yu thought it would be more convenient to drive. Besides, he had to take Tycoon with him, so he couldn't take any other means of transportation.

After the car started, Ran Tao kept talking from the back seat. Once the car got on the expressway, he couldn't help but ask, "Team leader, when I was a child, I read about the Devil Case in the newspaper! I remember that witnesses claimed to have seen ghosts from the scene of the deceased's suicides. Do you think that this is how the name 'Devil Case' came to be?"

"Not again!" Wu Xiumin seized the opportunity to make fun of Ran Tao and asked, "Did you read the newspaper in your dreams? Ghosts? Haha!"

"Um... You..." As Ran Tao was looking for some clever words to respond, Zhao Yu's mobile phone suddenly rang.

After he had returned from New Zealand, for the sake of safety, the Criminal Division had specially ordered him a cell phone with a better confidentiality function. The new cell phone number was unknown to anyone except the Criminal Division.

"Hello..." Zhao Yu answered. The call was from Chen Zhuo, the liaison officer.

As he was driving, Zhao Yu had answered with his Bluetooth device. After listening to Chen Zhuo's hurried and nonstop words for a long time, Zhao Yu asked him with some confusion, "Chen Zhuo, what does 'And Then There Were None' mean? Can you say something that I can actually understand?"

Suddenly, Zhao Yu was stunned as he repeated what Chen Zhuo had just relayed to him over the phone, "You mean... On a small island... A large group of people suddenly died? And... They make movies?"

## **Chapter 725: Island Murder**

"Oh my god!" After hanging up the phone, Zhao Yu suddenly realized that he had only been thinking about the Devil Case and Tycoon. He had not had time to even consider his hexagrams!

Suddenly, hearing such news reminded him of this. As he expected, when he finally went to check, the Miracle System showed a Kun Gen Hexagram.

Zhao Yu was quite familiar with the combination of these two hexagrams. According to his past experience, Zhao Yu had always encountered very adventurous things when a Kun Hexagram and a Gen Hexagram showed up together. Based on this combination, Chen Zhuo's case must be quite special.

"You must be kidding! You're the Special Investigation Group leader, and you've also cracked the Headless Female Corpses Case," Zeng Ke said jokingly with his hands outstretched. "But you don't know Agatha Christie and the reference to 'And Then There Were None'? Well... how about Detective Poirot?"

"I have tried a fruit called Poirot before, but it was too sweet! Why... Is Poirot also a detective?" Zhao Yu answered earnestly as he slowly pulled over to the roadside. At this moment, he had just left Qinshan City.

Wu Xiumin faked anger. "Why is it that every time we want to concentrate on the investigation, this happens? Leader, is this really a new case? And... Do we have to take over the investigation?"

Zhao Yu nodded.

"Master, what's going on?" Ran Tao shook his head and asked, "What case is so urgent? Please tell me it's not another drug factory murder."

"Um... Mr. Chen just told me..." Zhao Yu turned his head as he spoke to the others, "There is a film crew who went to a deserted island in Tongjiang Province to film. Then, during the night, something happened and several people died. Because that island is under the jurisdiction of Quliang City in the Tongjiang Province, they were worried that the Quliang Police couldn't handle this case, so they wanted us to help!"

"My God!" Ran Tao pinched his finger as he calculated the distance. "From Qinshan to Quliang is more than 2,000 kilometers! Is it possible to take a flight?"

Whether it was that Tycoon really understood his words or it was purely coincidental, when Ran Tao had just finished speaking, Tycoon's bark was heard from the trunk.

"I don't understand..." Wu Xiumin shook her head and said, "As far as I know, there are many Special Investigation Groups near Tongjiang. Are they all so busy? Why do we have to go? Leader, your superiors need to know that we are good at dealing with unsettled cases, but urgent cases are not our thing."

Zhao Yu spoke, while smacking lips, "It seems that we handled the hasty murder in the pharmacy so well, the higher-ups think that we are the best candidates to oversee this!"

"Well, forget what I said then!" While she was speaking, Wu Xiumin seemed to notice something, so she then frowned and asked, "Leader, I don't understand. How many people died exactly? Since the murders have already happened, don't we at least need know how many victims there are?"

"I don't know. Although, it seems that the situation is severe. Otherwise, they wouldn't need us to come such a long way to help!" Zhao Yu said. "Chen Zhuo also said that he would send us the details as soon as possible. He also contacted the forensic pathologist Gao Facai to help the local police collect evidence and do autopsy tests."

"Wow!" Zeng Ke couldn't help but exclaim. "No way! Gao Facai? This must not be a normal case. Is there really a live version of 'And Then There Were None?'"

"It's really weird." Ran Tao shook his head. "Why does a film crew have to travel so far to shoot on an island? What year is it now? With today's technology, all they need is a green curtain and a synthesizer. Besides, you can also take shots at the seashore, right? That's at least pretty interesting!"

"I've heard that even a very small crew has at least a dozen of people in it." Wu Xiumin crossed her arms and asked, "Did none of them survive? If that's the case, it's not something that we can deal with!"

"No kidding. It's not a video game! Would it be possible to kill so many people on such a small island?" Ran Tao shook his head.

"Of course that is possible! Use poison, and it's all done..." Wu Xiumin said.

"You can try and see if you can kill so many people." Ran Tao never missed an opportunity to bicker with Wu Xiumin. "Besides, it seems that it was not poison, right?"

"Stop! You two, shut up!" Zhao Yu hastily yelled at the childish pair. "Until the details of the case are more clear, it's useless to say anything else! Let's get to the crime scene first. It's a tough case. Let's go and have a look. Zeng Ke, book the tickets! We'll go to the airport right away!"

"Okay!" Zeng Ke immediately took out his cell phone.

Zhao Yu looked around the car, then said to Zeng Ke, "Order three of the fastest flights to Tongjiang!"

"Master, what are you thinking? We have four people!" Ran Tao held up four fingers.

Zhao Yu pulled out his car keys, then threw them to Ran Tao and said, "Ran Tao, you drive slowly, and don't worry! Dog food is in the trunk. Remember to feed my dog and let it out to pee periodically!"

“What?” Ran Tao suddenly felt like a fool. “Master, did I hear you correctly? Do you really want me to drive the car to Quliang? That’s more than 2,000 kilometers!”

“Actually, it’s 1,846 kilometers!” Zeng Ke corrected him, then said to Zhao Yu, “Leader, there’s a flight at 11:30. If we can make it, we can reach our destination by 4:00 p.m. What do you think?”

Zhao Yu nodded and then told Ran Tao, “Tao, rest assured that I’ll reimburse you for all of the expenses along the way!”

After that, Zhao Yu did not even pick up the luggage in the trunk, but immediately left with Zeng Ke and Wu Xiumin in a taxi. Ran Tao wanted to say something else, but only saw Wu Xiumin’s happy face as they were leaving.

Just as Zhao Yu and others were preparing to fly to Tongjiang, Bureau Chief Wang Chenggang, head of the Quliang Police, arrived at Yongjin Island by boat. Becoming aware of the arrival of Bureau Chief Wang, Dou Zili, the Crime Investigation Captain who had arrived at the crime scene first, rushed to report the situation to him.

“Zili!” Chief Wang, with a grim face, asked in a trembling voice, “Can you tell me now how many people are dead?”

Captain Dou scratched his beard as he hastily handed the chief a cigarette and said bitterly, “Chief Wang, at present, five bodies have been found. But, we suspect that this may not be the final number!”

“What?” When he heard this, Chief Wang dropped the cigarette. He then sighed sadly and asked, “Not the last number? Then, what is the actual final number?”

## **Chapter 726: Lighthouse**

“Yes, that’s the end.” While they were on the place, Wu Xiumin told Zhao Yu about the story of “And Then There Were None.”

“In the end, all of the 10 people died! Actually... This was all planned by the Lord Chancellor, who punished those people by the means that he thought were most just!”

“Oh...” Zhao Yu nodded. “This story is quite interesting, but I thought a judge had to have an associate! If an old man wants to kill so many people in line with the description of nursery rhymes, including killing methods and order, it’s no easy feat.”

“Sin is in the heart!” Wu Xiumin said. “In fact, the most incredible part of Agatha Christie’s work is how she reveals the hidden evil. The crimes of these people have been exposed, and they are suspicious of each other, which the judge can take advantage of.”

“Well, that does make sense. Although it’s a novel, it’s really impressive!” Zhao Yu sighed. “I hope our case is not like the novel, where no one survives.”

At this time, Zeng Ke suddenly looked at his mobile phone and said to Zhao Yu, “I have just received an update from Chen Zhuo. There are survivors!”

“Holy sh\*t!” Zhao Yu cried out. “How can you have access to the internet on this plane?”

“It’s not a big deal for me.” Zeng Ke proudly pointed to the screen of his mobile phone and said, “At present, the police have found three survivors on Yongjin Island, but one of them is in very serious condition in the hospital.”

He then added, “The other two survivors are a woman and a man. The woman is an actress, and the man claims to be a producer, but in fact, he is a cook!” Zeng Ke said.

He then added, “The Quliang Crime Investigation Department was the first to arrive at the scene after receiving the call. They felt that the situation was severe, so they reported it to the Criminal Division. That’s why we were asked to come and help.”

Zeng Ke continued, “It is said that the two survivors were not seriously injured, except for their mental instability. But, the report says that, although she was a survivor, the woman was put on a folding stool with a hemp rope around her neck. Then, she was almost hanged to death!”

He shook his head. “The cook encountered something even more bizarre. He was tied up and buried alive! Only his face was above the ground! Because they still are suffering after experiencing such a scare, the local police have sent a large boat, where they were temporarily placed. They’ve also sent a psychologist to help the two calm down, while also asking them about the specific details of the case.”

Wu Xiumin then asked, “How many people died in total?”

“At present, six people have been confirmed dead!” Zeng Ke then turned to Zhao Yu with a sad face and said, “These people died in different ways, and their bodies were scattered all over the island. So, the police are still searching the whole island for their remains. As such, the final number of deaths remains uncertain!”

“God! Six people! They’re all filmmakers, too. Who could kill them so cruelly?” Wu Xiumin exclaimed. “Did they have a big dispute among the crew or something?”

“Let me see that...” Zhao Yu took Zeng Ke’s mobile phone and carefully read the information that Chen Zhuo had just sent.

Apparently, the crew that was involved in this accident was an independent film crew that worked for a film company called Champion Pictures. As they were a semi-private unit, they had their own creative and production teams, but because of limited funds and distribution, they still had to be affiliated with larger companies.

Usually, before filming, they would submit their travel plans and production schedule to the larger parent company. If the company agreed to them, they would get some funding and assistance. Then, when the film was released, they could receive a higher percentage of the copyright proceeds.

Champion Pictures itself was not a well-known name in the industry. As such, its production teams were not very skilled.

These filmmakers could only make low-cost digital movies, mini films, indie documentaries and so on. That crew on Yongjin Island was such a team.

Actually, their team was at the bottom in the film and television circles, that is, they just earned what was on the table. The purpose of their films was just for the investors.

For example, in terms of a low-budget film with a production cost of only half a million dollars, they would usually ask for a budget investment of one million or even two million dollars. The price difference was basically their profit, so they didn't really care about the quality of the film or the later profit after the release of the film.

Of course, investors were not fools. Therefore, dirty business became a widespread part of this industry. In order to find sponsorships and investment partners, the filming team or the film company would resort to any means possible.

For example, the crew in the accident had obtained its funds from a local rich female via a personal relationship that she had with the actor Xie Hao. Because of this, Xie Hao naturally became the lead actor in the cast. But, unfortunately, Xie Hao had died in this island tragedy!

According to the information that Zhao Yu had, the reason why the film crew wanted to shoot on Yongjin Island was that Yongjin Island had something to do with the script. This time, they were filming a digital film called "Lighthouse." The whole story was about an isolated island and a lighthouse.

The reason why the film crew chose Yongjin Island was because Yongjin Island actually had a lighthouse, and in the 1970s and 1980s, that lighthouse had played an important role in guiding the local ships safely to shore.

It was reported that the police had contacted the director of Champion Pictures, who claimed that a total of 17 members of the film crew had participated in the filming! However, because the shooting site was far away from the mainland, these people did not necessarily all stay on the island full-time. Now, they were actively trying to contact these people, so it was expected that they would get the exact number of deaths soon.

In addition, the crew's production schedule showed that their shooting period was a full month. So far, the crew members had been filming on the island for about half a month. Yesterday, they were almost finished!

"My god! I can't believe it... 17 people!" After hearing this astonishing figure, Zhao Yu grew tense.

He couldn't believe that a film crew had encountered such a terrible thing, especially right when it was near to being finished with the film! He had to wonder...

What happened on that island?

## **Chapter 727: Signal**

This trip to the crime scene was still beyond the expectations of Zhao Yu and the others. The provincial police received them and drove them directly to the dock once they got off of the plane in Quliang City.

However, the island was 27 kilometers away from the mainland, and even though the local police used the best speedboat to transport them there, it still took more than an hour for them to reach the crime scene.

By the time the three arrived at Yongjin Island, it was completely dark. Waves rolled under the evening sky. In a faint light, Zhao Yu saw the general outline of Yongjin Island.

The island was much smaller than he had even imagined. In fact, Yongjin Island was about the size of 15 regular football fields put together. Moreover, it was not as barren like other isolated islands.

Instead, it had abundant vegetation and even several wooded areas. The island's topography was also more complex, as it had hills, basins, reefs and cliffs.

Seeing Yongjin Island in front of him, Zhao Yu could not help but recall the incident in the Landing in New Zealand. He really didn't know why he always had trouble with islands!

The Quliang local police attached great importance to such a horrific case, so they had sent most of their police force to deal with the crime scene. At this moment, the island was filled with uniformed policemen, who had erected tall lights, making this island as bright as day.

They had also sent special policemen to help. Ships with maritime police signs could be seen everywhere.

After receiving the news, several officers from the Provincial Office, the Bureau Chief of Quliang City, and the Criminal Investigation Captain in charge of the case all rushed over. But, the Special Investigation Group was still the highest ranked in command.

After a few words of greeting at the dock, they all went directly to the crime scene, while the captain started to report the latest update to Zhao Yu and the others. The captain's name was Dou Zili, and he was a big man in his thirties. Although he was good-looking, he was careless about his dress.

Compared with Li Luoyun of Jinping and Captain Sun of Bailing City, Quliang's Crime Investigation Captain was quite unique. His hair was messy, his beard was not trimmed, and his clothes were dirty.

If it wasn't for his being introduced to them as an officer, they would have thought that he was just some vagrant from the streets. When speaking, Dou Zili always stooped his shoulders, while looking very nervous.

"Officers, we just checked the information. There are 10 people in this crew who were filming on Yongjin Island!" Dou Zili spoke with a strong local accent, but Zhao Yu and the others could still understand most of what he was saying.

He then said, "So far, we have found six deceased victims and one seriously injured person. There is also one missing person. Hence, only two survived. These two people are being detained on the police boat, while we interrogate them!"

After hearing Captain Dou's words, Zhao Yu and the others could not help but stare at each other. The three men looked at each other for a few minutes, their eyes revealing their unspoken worries...

Did he just say 10 people?

This is really too coincidental!

There were 10 victims in "And Then There Were None!"

Is this really just a coincidence?

“We have checked,” Captain Dou continued, “The surviving woman’s neck was tied by a rope, and her hands were tied behind her back. But, the murderer deliberately put the rope across her two armpits, so that even if the ladder turned over, the woman would not really be hanged!”

Oh?

Zhao Yu was shocked and wondered how this could be...

So... The murderer didn’t want to kill the actress? But... Why did he do the extra thing... Tying her in the air like that?

“Also, the cook was buried alive,” Captain Dou said.

Suddenly, Zhao Yu’s phone rang. As he answered it, he heard a familiar voice, “Leader Zhao, have you arrived yet? This is Gao Facai!”

“Hey! Mr. Gao.” Zhao Yu had no idea that the forensic pathologist would be the one calling.

He answered him in a hurry, “We have just arrived! How about you?”

“I got here this morning,” Gao Facai said. “I’ll tell you one thing, the forensic facilities of the Quliang Police Station are too poor to meet my standards! So, I’m going to move all of the bodies and evidence to Caohai City! I’ve worked there in the past, and it’s the nearest and most suitable place to conduct my work now.”

Zhao Yu, of course, had no reason to refute this decision to relocate, so he agreed. “Of course, we are all counting on you! We are already on the island. If you receive any new information, please let me know as soon as possible!”

“Absolutely!” Gao Facai answered. He then hung up the phone.

Zhao Yu liked to deal with such cool and highly effective people. He had been very impressed by this man ever since he had worked with him on the Headless Female Corpses Case. This time, since his superiors had sent him over, it was really a high priority case.

After hanging up the phone, Zhao Yu suddenly realized something, so he asked, “Hey? How can there be a cell phone signal on this island?”

Captain Dou hurriedly pointed to the sea on his right and said, “There is an oil drilling platform 10 kilometers away that has a base station on it! Not only can we make phone calls, but we can also surf the internet!”

Zhao Yu frowned and asked, “Isn’t that strange? So many people were killed, yet no one called for help?”

Captain Dou replied quickly, “Yessir, that’s right. I’ll tell you the whole story. At 6:15 a.m., our operator received a call. The caller claimed that there had been a murder on Yongjin Island. We checked, and the caller appears to have been the actress who survived!”

“Wait a minute,” Wu Xiumin said. “How did the woman call the police when her hands were tied up?”

"I... I didn't say that right, did I?" Captain Dou stuttered, then pointed to Zhao Yu and said with a laugh, "By the way, you just answered the phone. I was just talking about it, ha ha..."

He smiled awkwardly, took out a cigarette, then handed it to Zhao Yu. He then said, "That cook was the one that was buried alive..."

Knowing that Zhao Yu and the others did not smoke, Captain Dou had to hold the cigarette in his hand as he continued to explain, "Well... The man who was buried alive, though his hands were tied up, he was not buried too deep. He said that he had somehow been able to climb out. Then, he saved the actress, and that's when the actress called the police! Um... And it was also him who told us about the rope that was under the actress' armpits!"

"Right!" Captain Dou suddenly remembered something and said in a hurry, "When we arrived, the two survivors said that they had no idea how they they had been captured. They said that had just woken up to find that they were tied up!"

Hearing this, Wu Xiumin could not help blurt out her suspicions, "The murderer must have given these people sleeping pills!"

### **Chapter 728: Crime Scenes**

"That's what I think," Dou Zili said. "I've seen all of the murder scenes. I feel that the murderer must have committed these crimes overnight. Since he killed so many people in one night, it would be necessary for him to use some extraordinary means!"

Hearing this, Wu Xiumin said something secretly in Zeng Ke's ear. After listening to her words, Zeng Ke nodded.

Although Zhao Yu didn't hear what she was saying, he could guess that Wu Xiumin had the same question that he did. He was wondering...

Since the murderer wanted to kill these people, why didn't he or she just poison them? Wouldn't that save him the trouble of killing people one by one?

"To be honest," Dou Zili said dejectedly, "I've never seen such a tragedy in all my years. It's so weird!"

"Weird?" Zhao Yu did not quite understand what Dou Zili meant.

"Come on... I'll show you the crime scenes one by one," Dou Zili said, while pointing to the depths of the dock. "This case is really... A puzzle!"

While he was speaking, Dou Zili shivered and scratched his ears and cheeks, which seemed very unnatural. He was also still holding the box of cigarettes in his hand, which he almost crushed!

"Come on, have one!" Zhao Yu knew that Dou Zili wanted to smoke now. His withdrawal symptoms were clearly evident. As such, Zhao Yu figured that he must be a heavy smoker.

"Oh, thank you... I'm sorry... I'm sorry..." Dou Zili shakily lit a cigarette after getting his approval.

Zhao Yu noticed that the cigarette this captain had was a Red Plum, which wasn't a very good quality cigarette. From this, Zhao Yu surmised that the standard income here must be very unsatisfactory.

No wonder his supervisor sent our Special Investigation Group to solve this case...

Allowing Dou Zili to enjoy his cigarette, Zhao Yu did not bother him anymore, but immediately took Wu Xiumin and Zeng Ke with him to the depths of the dock.

After finishing his cigarette, Dou Zili caught up with them and reported, "After receiving the call, the first to arrive at the scene were several policemen from the coastal police station. As soon as they got to the dock, they saw the two terrified survivors! At that time, the two were so frightened that they huddled together and kept repeating, 'They're all dead! They're all dead...'. Then, the police saw the first corpse..."

After taking a few more steps, Dou Zili stopped and pointed to a place that had white lines on it and said, "This is where they found the first corpse! It was a man who was burnt to death. It's terrible! Your forensics expert has taken the bodies away for examination! Although the body was badly burnt, the two survivors could still recognize that the person was one of their crew members, who was responsible for clothing and props, as well as transportation and so on."

"Burnt?" Zhao Yu repeated the word as he signaled to Zeng Ke, who quickly turned on the mobile phone flashlight so he could take a picture of the crime scene. On the ground, they could still see some traces of the fire's remnants.

"Wow..." Zeng Ke said in surprise. "Leader, look at the burn traces. The charred lines drag out for such a length! This clearly shows that the victim struggled for quite some time when he was on fire, right?"

"Yes!" Zhao Yu said. "When you are on fire, the first thing you would think of is to look for water! This man must have wanted to get to the beach, but because the fire was too big, he was burnt to death before he could get there!"

Dou Zili nodded, then asked, "Do you think that this man was set on fire somewhere else, then ran here all by himself? But... If he had been drugged with a sleeping pill, the man wouldn't have been able to run away, right?"

None of the other three responded to his somewhat contradictory questions, which explained two very different scenarios. This was because they were similarly perplexed and were all lost in their own thoughts.

"Hmm..." Seeing that nobody responded, Dou Zili said, "Sir, this is just the beginning. Come with me!" As he spoke, he motioned for the group to follow him.

As Yongjin Island was an uninhabited desert island, its dock was small. It was basically built with natural building materials long ago. Today, it was old, damaged, and in a sad state.

At the moment, Zhao Yu unexpectedly felt a little hot. Although it was winter, because Yongjin Island was situated near the South China Sea, it was not cold at all.

As Zhao Yu came from the North, he hadn't properly considered his attire. As such, his usual cotton coat was too heavy for this climate, and he was sweating profusely.

When they arrived at the island's wet and bumpy dock, they saw more police officers there. The most noticeable thing that caught their eyes were several tents just a few dozen meters away from their right hand side.

Needless to say, those tents must have been the temporary base for the filming crew. As they had to shoot on the island for more than half a month, they naturally needed some makeshift accommodations.

Dou Zhili sniffed at his cigarettes fiercely, while he took Zhao Yu and the others to the tents.

"The second victim's throat was cut by the murderer!" Dou Zili pointed to one side of the tent and said. "When the policemen rushed to the tent, they saw blood at the door of the tent. Then, when they went inside, they saw the body!"

As the group came to the tent door, because there was still obvious bloodstains on the ground outside of the tent, Zhao Yu and the others did not enter the tent, but only took a look inside via the illumination of the cell flashlight.

"The victim has been identified!" Dou Zili said. "Yes... It's an actor. His name is... Um... Um..."

He scratched his head, but clearly couldn't remember. He then rushed over to the policeman next to him and asked for help.

"Isn't it Xie Hao?" Zeng Ke suddenly asked.

"Right, right..." Dou Zili nodded and looked at Zeng Ke in surprise. "You're really excellent. How'd you know that?"

Zeng Ke looked at Zhao Yu and said, "Xie Hao is the most famous one in this group. He has had many little roles in numerous mainstream TV dramas! The recruiting of investors and sponsorship for this play was basically all thanks to him!"

Zhao Yu turned his head and looked carefully at the scene in the tent. The bloodstains were indeed a tragic sight.

Zhao Yu also noticed that there were bloodstains on the suitcases and sleeping bags in the tent. There were also clear signs that someone had been rummaging through everything.

"Captain Dou, has anybody touched anything here?" Zhao Yu asked quickly.

"No!" Dou Zili spoke nervously, "Although we don't come across many murders in our daily work, we still understand the basic principles! As such, no one would dare move anything!"

He then added, "When the two policemen saw the dead person in the tent, they were all frightened! They didn't have guns, and they were afraid that the murderer was still hiding nearby. So, instead of looking around inside, they went back to the dock and waited for support to arrive!"

After he revealed that, Dou Zili perhaps felt that his words were not quite appropriate, so he hastily added, "You must not be surprised by this, as Quliang is a small place. There are hardly any murders here!"

He shrugged as he attempted to explain, "Anyone else here who saw such a situation would be frightened too! To tell you the truth, even when the criminal policemen came to help investigate, they were all terrified of them, too!"

In just a few minutes, Dou Zili had already finished nervously smoking two cigarettes. He then said anxiously, "I'm still confused. How could something like this happen here?"

Chapter 729: Indecent Clips

"Hey..." Captain Dou took Zhao Yu and the others under a big tree beside the tents. He then pointed to the highest treetop and said, "This is where the third body was found and where the female survivor was hanged!"

Zhao Yu and the others took out their flashlights and took a closer look at the treetop. They saw two strong ropes still hanging down from it.

"Two people were hanging side by side, very close together. But one was killed, while the other survived!" Captain Dou waved to a policeman nearby, who immediately took out the crime scene pictures and showed them to everyone.

"The deceased victim is the director!" Captain Dou announced. "I remember his name is Qian Jin, which means making a great fortune, so it was very easy for me to memorize!"

"Qian Jin!" Zeng Ke added, "This 51-year-old man has worked in the entertainment industry for decades. He is not only the director of the film, but he is also the nominal producer of the film."

"Wow, so many titles? That's a lot of power, isn't it?" Wu Xiu sighed.

"Not exactly. There is a great difference between a small film director and a mainstream director," Zeng Ke said. "A director for such a mini crew has to play many roles and do a lot of things on his own!"

As everyone was discussing the details, Zhao Yu was lost in thought...

So... The director was hanged, but the lead actress survived? The killer... Why would he make such an arrangement?

Did the murderer not worry at all that the survival of the actress would be detrimental to him?

As Zhao Yu recalled the hexagram that he saw today, he realized that everything in front of him was really in line with the Kun Gen hexagram!

After all, so many people had died. That was the Kun part of the hexagram! Then, a major case was corresponding to the Gen part of the hexagram.

Thinking of this, especially regarding the Gen part of the hexagram, Zhao Yu figured that there must be some more important clues...

At that moment, Zhao Yu looked up at the rope that was hanging on the tree and wondered if the hexagram was suggesting that the clues of this case had already appeared!

“Come on... Let’s go and see the next crime scene. Uh... Let’s go this way first. It’s closer!” At this time, Dou Zili lit his third cigarette.

He then said to the three, “After the tents crime scene, the following crime scenes are all quite scattered!”

“Scattered?” Zhao Yu was surprised to hear this.

He assumed that the places where the deceased had been found would be relatively concentrated in the same area. If they were dispersed further apart, it seemed that it was impossible for there to be only one murderer. After all, the murderer had only one night to commit the crimes!

Shortly after this, under the leadership of Captain Dou, they crossed the woods beside the tents and came to a cliff by the sea. The cliff was five or six meters high, and under the cliff were some huge black reefs. The ferocious waves that beat against the reefs seemed extremely dangerous and frightening.

“The cameraman was pushed down by the murderer from here,” Captain Dou said as he pointed to an area below the cliff. “The man fell directly on the stone right there, and when the police found him, he had already stopped breathing!”

“Captain Dou, you aren’t being precise!” Wu Xiumin couldn’t stand it anymore. “As criminal police officers, we can’t just assume that the deceased must have been pushed down by the murderer. Is it possible that he jumped down of his own accord?”

“Huh? Oh... Oh...” Hearing Wu Xiumin’s words, Captain Dou realized that his words were not entirely appropriate.

So, he urgently explained, “Oh! Sorry! I guess I took that for granted. Next time, I will pay better attention. Um... I’m really scared by all of this, so please forgive me!”

“Leader, the cameraman’s name is Zhang Chenggong, and he is 51 years old!” Zeng Ke read the information that he had gotten about this victim. “This person holds an important position in Champion Pictures. He also has a close relationship with the company’s senior members!”

“Hmm...” As Zhao Yu was thinking about something, his phone suddenly rang again.

When he took out his mobile phone, he saw that it was a call from the forensic pathologist, Gao Facai. Zhao Yu instinctively felt that it must be something important.

As soon as Zhao Yu answered the phone, he heard Gao’s excited voice, “Leader Zhao, we are still on our way to Caohai City, but when I was sorting the bodies, I found something that might be useful to you in solving the case!”

“Oh? What is it?” Zhao Yu’s asked.

“One of the deceased male victims clearly fell from a high altitude!” Gao said. “I was curious when I saw the tape around his mouth, so I took the tape off and found a USB inside his mouth!”

He then added, “The USB is now sealed in a plastic bag. As we have already read the information that was on the USB, we found something special...”

“Oh? What is it?” Zhao Yu asked in a hurry. “Is he the one who fell from the cliff, the cameraman of the crew named Zhang Chenggong?”

“He’s a cameraman... That’s a good explanation!” Gao Facai spoke the words, but didn’t exactly answer Zhao’s question.

He then said, “I have asked my assistant to send the information that was in the USB to your independent cloud. So, you can check it with your account number and password. However, it is quite a large file, so it may take a while. Also, I will send you the photos of the deceased victim, so that you can confirm everything with the local police!”

“Okay!” After hanging up the phone, Zhao Yu hastily repeated Gao’s words to the others, and all of them felt a sudden tremor in their hearts.

Zeng Ke quickly turned on his laptop and checked their independent cloud account. Although there was a signal on the island, they were quite some distance from the base station, so getting the Internet connection was a little slow.

Finally, they managed to get the photos. Zhao Yu quickly showed the photos to Captain Dou, who nodded affirmatively. He believed that the man with the USB in his mouth was indeed Zhang Chenggong, the cameraman who had fallen from the cliff!

At this time, Zeng Ke finally opened a small video that that Gao Facai had sent. When they looked at it, they were all shocked.

None of them had expected that it would be a clip of a girl changing clothes in a dressing room! After the second video was opened, it turned out to be an even more obscene clip of a woman’s bathroom! There were even more shocking scenes that followed, all of which were clearly filmed secretly.

“Here!” Zeng Ke exclaimed as he looked at the screen and pointed to it. “Here’s the latest dated footage. Look at this!”

The video showed a lady, who was answering the call of nature under the cliff at the seaside. The camera’s lens angle looked like the video was being shot from a crack in the rock. Apparently, this video had being shot by a hidden cameraman!

When he saw this lady, Captain Dou’s eyes brightened and he pointed to the photo and said, “Yes, that girl is the surviving actress! My God... What is this?”

After hearing Captain Dou’s words, the others realized that these clips must have been taken on Yongjin Island!

As they kept watching the footage, the actress was just about to do her business, when she turned around and saw the person who was filming her!

“As\*hole! Don’t you even feel a bit guilty for spying on me so shamelessly? Get out of here!” The actress put on her pants as she shouted angrily.

When he was exposed, the cameraman didn’t panic at all. Instead, he just kept on filming. At the same time, his sneer could be heard from behind that camera, and it gave gave Zhao Yu and the others goosebumps.

## Chapter 730: Buried Alive

Although the south wind was mild, it made Zhao Yu and the others feel chilly.

“What a surprise...” Dou Zili said. “The film crew’s cameraman is a peeping Tom who has done so many shameless tricks! I suppose that he was the one who shot all of these indecent scenes?”

“It seems to me that this case is no accident!” Wu Xiumin nodded and said.

Zhao Yu asked in a hurry, “Captain Dou, do you remember if any other deceased victims had tape wrapped around their mouths?”

“Um... I remember no such thing.” As Captain Dou dumped his cigarette butt off the cliff, he said in embarrassment, “I was so frightened, I didn’t notice...”

Zhao Yu then turned to Zeng Ke. “You can contact the forensic pathologist and ask him to check the other deceased victims to see if there are any other USBs.”

“Okay!” Zeng Ke said before hurrying to follow his orders.

Zhao Yu and Wu Xiumin looked at each other and said nothing, but they were both thinking the same thing. Since the USB was stuffed into the dead man’s mouth by the murderer, this showed that the murderer was trying to tell them something.

From this point of view, this Yongjin Island’s case was likely to be a well-planned murder scheme! And, if that was so, they had to wonder...

Would “And Then There Were None” really have just happened in reality?

“Officer Zhao,” said Captain Dou, while he pointed to the distant sea, “the fifth one was a woman, who was discovered by the water by our men! She must have drowned!”

Because of the distance, Zhao Yu and the others couldn’t see clearly where he was pointing, even with flashlights.

“There’s a path on the left of the cliff that leads straight to the sea!” Captain Dou said as he led the crowd forward. “The corpse was soaked in a large puddle of seawater that was surrounded by reefs. That was why the body was not washed out to sea!”

Under the guidance of Captain Dou, the group made its way down to the rocky seaside and saw the puddle that was surrounded by the reefs. But, because the corpse had already been taken away, there was nothing left to see there.

Zeng Ke then turned to Zhao Yu and said, “There is another woman in the crew besides Li Qian, the lead actress. Her name is Qin Hao, and she is 42 years old. She is the makeup artist and the assistant director. Um... Also, I just asked the forensic pathologist Gao, who said that he had sent someone to examine the mouths of the other corpses, but they didn’t find anything.”

“Oh...” Zhao Yu nodded.

After they had finished inspecting the seaside crime scene, Captain Dou took the group back by the crew's tents before walking into the depths of the island.

"Six people died!" Wu Xiumin said. "We have only seen five of them. Where is the last one?"

"On the other side of the lighthouse," answered Captain Dou. "But, there's a place that I need to show you before we go to the lighthouse! There is a garden that is just northwest of the tents, where the surviving cook was buried alive!"

"A garden? Isn't this an uninhabited island? Where did the garden come from?" Wu Xiumin asked curiously.

"Hmm..." Captain Dou hesitated for a moment, then said, "Well, during the War of Liberation, naval forces were stationed on this island. There were many wooden shacks and huts on the island, all of which were left by soldiers. I think they built that garden, too."

"You must be joking!" Zeng Ke shook his head and asked, "When do soldiers have time to build gardens?"

Captain Dou, as if he suddenly remembered something, hastily corrected his words, "My terrible memory! How could I have forgotten that there were lighthouses on this island in the 1970s and the 1980s? There were people living on the island at that time as well!"

He rushed to explain further, "Perhaps they were the ones who planted this garden! In fact, for so many years, no one cared about that garden, so it has already become a place filled with mostly wildflowers and weeds! You'll see what I mean later!"

Just as Captain Dou finished talking, they arrived at the garden. Perhaps because it was winter, but the only flowers that they could see in the garden were some residual chrysanthemums. Other than that, there were only withered trees and weeds.

The garden was not big, and it had a few clear traces of man-made repairs that had been made somewhat recently. As such, it was clear that this small garden had indeed been built by a person.

After entering the garden, Captain Dou pointed to a pit. "This is where the cook from the crew said that he was buried alive! However, although the murderer buried him alive, he still left his face above the ground."

Although it was not a deep pit, it was terrible to imagine such a thing as being buried alive! When the cook woke up to find himself buried, and he realized that he couldn't move, he must have been terrified!

"The cook's name is Zhang Yong." Zeng Ke said. "He was on the daily production team. Daily producers and real producers are not the same thing at all. To put it simply, daily producers are responsible for the living arrangements and culinary provisions of the production team, including the management of logistics, handling cooking, and so on. As this man was 51 years old, he was a senior among this crew."

"If the cook was unconscious before he was buried alive..." Zhao Yu squatted down and examined the pit carefully.

He then wondered aloud doubtfully, "Well... How did he get here? Did the murderer come with him, carrying him on his shoulders or back?"

"Yes, maybe!" Captain Dou said. "The soil near the garden is soft, and during the day's search, we saw many deep footprints. Maybe the murderer left those when he carried people here!"

"If he really carried this victim on his shoulders, it means that the murderer is quite strong!" Zeng Ke reached out and pinched the soil, then said, "The soil here is soft, which means that it would be easy to dig holes here. So, that explains why the murderer made such an effort to get him here!"

"But, I don't understand..." Wu Xiumin said. "The murderer made such an effort to bring the cook over and dig the pit. Why didn't he kill him?"

"Yes, we are quite puzzled by that as well," Captain Dou echoed her confusion. "It would require only one last step. Why did the murderer stop? If he didn't want to kill him, why even bother bringing him all the way up here? Plus, digging such a big pit is not an easy job!"

"Hey!" Suddenly, Wu Xiumin thought of a possibility and turned to Zhao Yu in excitement. "Leader, I want to see those two survivors now!"

"Oh?" Zhao Yu couldn't imagine why she had gotten so excited all of a sudden.

"The actress was hanging, but did not die, and the cook was buried alive, yet also survived!" As Wu Xiumin was speaking, she was waving her hands around wildly. "Don't you think there's something fishy about these two people?"