

Crazy 731

Chapter 731: A Horror Film?

“From the beginning to the end, the experiences of these two were only told by them alone. As such, no one can prove their stories at all! What if it’s all a lie?” Wu Xiumin asked. “What’s more, what they said is really contrary to common sense!”

Captain Dou shared similar concerns, “Yes, that’s why we didn’t take them to the hospital! When the policemen arrived on the island, only two of them were alive, and we thought that was a bit odd!”

Zeng Ke thought about it for a while, then asked, “Wu Xiumin, what do you mean? Are you saying that you think that the killings on the island was all a plot made up by these two survivors?”

“If all of the victims were poisoned, then the cook is most likely the one who did this!” Xiumin said. “And, if they didn’t have drugs, it proves that the two survivors are lying! So we have to give these two people a thorough test to see if they are lying or not!”

“It has all been arranged!” Captain Dou smiled and said, “As it is our usual routine, we have already arranged blood tests for the two. So, it shouldn’t take too long to get the test results back!”

Wu Xiumin then turned to Zhao Yu and said, “I’ll go interrogate those two people now. If they are lying, I’ll be definitely able to tell!”

“Don’t worry!” Although Zhao Yu was frowning, he was obviously much calmer than the others. “Xiumin, since they are already in our custody and are being watched, then there is no need to rush over there!”

He then added, “In a short while, we will have more information from Gao’s discoveries, so then you will be more confident when you take that evidence to interrogate them! So, let’s finish going over all of these crime scenes first, then we can talk about the interrogation!”

Hearing her leader’s words, Wu Xiumin held back her excitement and went to the next crime scene with the others. In fact, the real reason that Zhao Yu had insisted that she stay was that he had a strange feeling, and he immediately became lost in his thoughts...

What if the murder was really a joint performance of the actress and the cook... The hanging one couldn’t die, and the buried one survived! This would definitely attract the police’s attention to them!

And... The least logical thing is the USB that was found in the cameraman’s mouth. If the actress really killed the cameraman because he took those indecent shots of her... Well... She just would never do that, surely!

Of course, if they really did commit the crime, the case would be simple. But, what if they are not the two murderers? In that case, this could really be a tough case!

As Zhao Yu pondered all of these factors, it made him realize how important it was that he know all of the facts and details of the case before proceeding to the next stage.

Then, on the way to the lighthouse, where the next crime scene was located, Captain Dou reported to Zhao Yu all of the updates from the local police. "After the incident, we reported the situation to the Provincial Office immediately. At that time, the officers dispatched the maritime police, who took control of the case and began to investigate the surrounding islands."

He took a breath, then said, "At present, no suspicious vessels have been found! At the same time, we also sent the police to carry out a thorough search on the island, which has not been completed yet. But... To be honest, although Yongjin Island is far from mainland, anyone can reach the island if they have suitable means of transportation!"

He sighed. "This means that, after the killing, the murderer had enough time to escape. Therefore, it is highly possible that someone came to this island that very night to commit the crimes!"

"Whether it's an outsider or a local," Zeng Ke said, "the USB is enough to prove that the murderer must be someone who knows the crew very well!"

Captain Dou shook his head and asked, "But... Why? It's just a film crew, after all. What's the big deal? Why did the murderer must kill so many people?"

"We can't know for sure yet," Zeng Ke said. "It's also possible that someone came to the island on holiday, and occasionally met these filmmakers, then randomly committed a robbery and murder!"

"Don't talk nonsense!" Wu Xiumin said. "That's impossible! All of the deceased victims died in different ways. It was clear that it had nothing to do with any robbery. If it was for money, the murderer would have chosen a more direct and convenient way of killing people!"

"Yes!" Captain Dou agreed. "In fact, there are still several wallets, computers, and cameras left in the tents! So, it seems like we can rule robbery out as a motive."

As Captain Dou spoke, they came across many policemen who were searching for evidence. Zhao Yu was surprised to find that there were many houses and buildings on the north side of the road.

The first few houses in sight were very old wooden houses, most of which had collapsed because of their old age. But, as they went forward, several brick houses gradually emerged into view.

These brick houses were at the center of the buildings, and they were quite well-preserved. The tiles on the roof were mostly intact, and the paint was not completely peeling off of the doors.

"Captain Dou..." Zhao Yu couldn't help but ask when he saw the houses, "Are these houses where the people who guarded the lighthouse lived?"

"Yes!" Captain Dou confirmed, while nodding his head. "In the 1970s and 1980s, the lighthouse played a very important role on the island. The fishermen of Quliang all depended on the lighthouse to help them navigate their vessels safely. However, since the 1990s, electronic devices have become so popular that the importance of lighthouses has greatly diminished."

Captain Dou sighed. "Although there are not many unique points of interest or fancy beaches on the island, some young people in Quliang still come here sometimes for a picnic or to go camping. Oh, by the way, sometimes in the summer, our local schools even organize summer camps. In fact, my daughter has participated in a few..."

As Captain Dou kept talking, they walked along a stone path that led through the brick houses and ended at the lighthouse. Under the lighthouse, the police's lights were on, allowing everyone to see the whole picture of the lighthouse, which had clearly seen better days.

Due to the erosion of wind and rain, the top of the cement lighthouse had completely collapsed! The lighthouse's body was full of cracks.

"I really forget how tall it is! It should be about twenty meters! Lighthouse managers used to light this old lighthouse up every night to guide fishing boats home safely," Captain Dou recalled.

Zhao Yu looked at the slightly depressing ruined lighthouse and asked, "So, why did the filming crew shoot here? Are they making a horror film?"

Captain Dou scratched his head and sighed. "Sir, don't say that please. So many people have died here. If you mention any more about horror movies and the like..."

"No, they're not making a horror movie. It's actually a literary film..." Zeng Ke picked up his mobile phone and began to read the filming materials of the crew to the others.

At that moment, Captain Dou raised his hand and pointed to the cordon under the lighthouse and said, "Look, everybody! This is where the last deceased man was found! That man died in a terrible way. He was hit in the head by a big stone."

Chapter 732: Missing One

"The deceased victim was a scriptwriter. His name was Cai Jinda!" Zeng Ke said. "He was quite famous, and he has written many dramas, like the popular mini-film series Grey Hound, which he made many years ago."

He then added, "But, this person has declined in recent years, and only a few of his works have been published."

Zeng Ke looked at his mobile phone and said, "So, it is reasonable that he would have lowered himself to the point of joining a low-level crew."

"Hello... Hello... I'm on Yongjin Island. The signal here is really bad!" Dou Zili was answering the phone. Because the signal was not good, he jumped onto a big stone and shouted into the phone, "Okay, it's getting better. Just speak! Oh, good. That's great. Thanks a lot!"

After hanging up the phone, Dou Zili jumped off the stone and said to Zhao Yu and the others, "I just received the news that a professional diving team has been sent from the Tongjiang Provincial Office and will arrive early tomorrow to conduct an underwater search. If you have special instructions for them, just tell me directly!"

Zhao Yu nodded and asked, "We have seen the crime scenes of all of the dead victims, so what about the surviving two?"

“Oh...” Dou Zili said in a hurry, “Regarding the survivor who was seriously injured, he was found in the windbreak. The man was found stabbed and covered in blood, but he was tough. When our people found him, he was still alive!”

While he was speaking, Dou Zili pulled out his mobile phone, checked his messages, then said, “He should have survived! If he was dead, I would have received a message by now!”

“Kang Leming!” According to the information available, Zeng Ke introduced the details of the man to the others. “This guy is very versatile. He has done almost everything... Lighting, audio, assistant cameraman, and he even played a few small roles. Also, he is only 28 years old.”

“Is the windbreak far away?” Zhao Yu asked, with a glint in his eyes, while staring at Dou Zili.

Dou Zili was clever, so he caught his meaning right away. He nodded and said, “It’s not far... But it’s not near either! It’s directly north of the garden, and we walked for 10 minutes to get there during the day’s search. If you walk faster, it would take five minutes!”

Although his words were somewhat contradictory, Zhao Yu and the others could still understand the situation. What he was trying to say was that, if you walked normally, the distance was not far. However, if the murderer was carrying a person, it could definitely not be called near!

On the way to the windbreak, none of them spoke. Dou Zili smoked his cheap cigarettes as he led the way with a flashlight. Meanwhile, Zhao Yu and the others were discussing the shocking and strange case.

To get to the northern windbreak forest, they had to go through a wet and rugged area. It was dark and slippery, so they couldn’t walk fast. As such, it took them almost a quarter of an hour to reach the scene.

Unexpectedly, at this late hour, there were still several dedicated policemen in the vicinity, all of them searching for possible clues that could possibly have been left by the murderer.

Seeing Dou Zili leading a group over, the police instantly guessed the identity of Zhao Yu and the others, which caused them to work even harder.

“That was really not close!” Zeng Ke gasped. “If the murder happened last night, the murderer would have been very busy! Plus, it’s dark and hard to walk. What’s the matter with that murderer? Why would someone go so far to kill people?”

Zhao Yu was also wondering about this same thing. The depressed area that they had passed just now was very difficult to walk through, and if the murderer had been carrying another person on his back, it would obviously be a very difficult trek!

Even if the murderer had to kill people in different places, it would have been better to kill people in the depressed area versus travelling a long distance through the woods! Thinking of all of these factors, Zhao Yu had to wonder...

Why was the murderer so persistent? Or, like the other two survivors, did the murderer intentionally injure the man instead of trying to take his life?

But... How could the murderer be so sure that the man he stabbed would not die?

Before Zhao Yu had a chance to voice his thoughts, Dou Zili had led them to the scene. There was an obvious bloodstain on the ground, which clearly had been left by the seriously injured person.

Zhao Yu and the others carefully examined the scene and the surrounding environment. Then, Zhao Yu got up and said to Dou Zili, "Okay, so there's only one person left!"

"Yes, we haven't found that last person yet!" he confirmed. "It has been confirmed by the film company that there were 10 crew members on the island. The one who has yet to be accounted for is a young actor."

"Yes, his name is Guo Yihang," Zeng Ke spoke up, offering more specifics. "He's 27 years old and is a supporting actor. But, in the current play that they're shooting, his part is very small!"

"His mobile phone has been pinged, but there has been no response yet!" Dou Zili added. "I guess that means that this man is either the murderer or another victim!"

"I think the latter is more likely!" Zeng Ke said. "After all, this actor just joined this cast, so what feud could he have with the others that would cause him to want to kill them? Sadly, since the murderer used so many different ways to kill people, I'm afraid that this person's situation does not appear to be very optimistic!"

"During the day, we took search dogs with us and scoured the whole island, but nothing was found!" Dou Zili said. "So, they sent the diving team here, too! If this person was killed, maybe..."

Dou Zili's mobile phone suddenly rang. Coincidentally, Zhao Yu's mobile phone rang at the same time.

"Hello... Hello..."

"Hello... Hello..."

As the two men answered their phones, almost seeming to mimic one another like parrots, Zeng Ke and Wu Xiumin frowned. They wondered what this news would be.

"Oh... Really? That's great. I'll contact the Forensics Department. Send me the exact location as soon as possible!" Dou Zili spoke into the phone in a loud voice. "Remember, if the forensics people are not here, you mustn't move..."

"Oh? I know. What's wrong?" Zhao Yu's conversation seemed to be going quite differently from Dou Zili's. "Really? Was it written on the body? Which one? Oh... Oh... Okay... Great job... I'm waiting for..."

Coincidentally, they put down their phones at almost the same time. Dou Zili excitedly took the lead in reporting on his conversation, "Apparently, the crew hired a speedboat. The two survivors said that, before the accident, the speedboat had been parked on the dock of Yongjin Island, but that it had disappeared after the accident. Now, my colleagues have found that speedboat!"

Dou Zili added, "I'll ask the forensics people to collect evidence and send someone to check the monitors in the coastal areas! The man who drove the boat away is most likely the murderer!"

"So... How about you?" Zeng Ke asked Zhao Yu in a hurry.

At this time, Zhao Yu's mobile phone chimed with an incoming message. He held his phone up, then checked it before reporting to the others, "Gao Facai's assistant just told me that they found a line of symbols on the neck of one of the corpses! The symbols were written with an oil brush, which means that it is probably a clue that was left by the murderer!"

"Wow! A corpse, and a clue?" The others were shocked, and all of them asked almost at the same time variations of the same questions. "Which corpse is it? What kind of symbol?"

"That drowned woman!" Zhao Yu showed them the pictures that he had just received on his mobile phone. There appeared to be a series of symbols on the pictures, which were combinations of numbers and English letters.

"Ah! No way!" Wu Xiumin immediately recognized the symbol and said in surprise, "C16H16N4O8S... This is the molecular formula for cefuroxime!"

"What? Cefuroxime?" Zhao Yu couldn't help but repeat the strange word. "What the heck is that?"

Chapter 733: Mysterious Cross

In order to solve this extraordinarily cold-blooded murder case, the Tongjiang Provincial Office sent a naval police vessel with advanced equipment to the dock as a command vessel. It was almost midnight, and the police were still busy at work on the vessel.

After they had completed the crime scene investigation, Zhao Yu and the others returned to the command vessel. In the past, when they were investigating and dealing with major cases, the Special Investigation Group that was led by Zhao Yu usually cooperated with the local police.

But this time, at Quliang, the local police gave up the command role directly to Zhao Yu's team. They did this because they wanted to give all of the power and authority to Zhao Yu.

Although Zhao Yu was good at solving cases, he was too swamped with his important work and case details to arrange so many departments' tasks with ease. And, as this case was so urgent, he had no time to take on so many extra responsibilities, which would really spread him too thin.

So, he explained this to the local officials, while also requesting that they prepare a small office for them onboard the vessel. That way, it would be easier for them to concentrate on the case.

The local officials obliged readily, as they had never encountered such a ferocious case. Although they had thought that the Special Investigation Group, which was sent by the Criminal Division, would take full responsibility for the case, after hearing Zhao Yu's explanation of why this just wasn't possible, they understood.

Besides, they would not dare refuse him, as no matter what, the Special Investigation Group was the highest rank of them all. With that in mind, not only did they arrange the best accommodations for them, but they also deliberately arranged for several of their smartest policemen to assist them.

Zhao Yu knew that the first 24 hours after the incident occurred was the key period to solve the case. As such, even a single minute lost meant a great deal to them. So, as soon as they entered the office, they immediately started to analyze the relevant clues of the case.

At that point, Dou Zili left to investigate the speedboat of the crew. He believed that the man who drove the speedboat back to land from Yongjin Island was the biggest suspect in this case.

In his mind, as long as they could find this person, the case was going to become much clearer. Therefore, he had applied for a closure of the island as he began to investigate the whereabouts of the suspect in Quliang.

Originally, the two survivors were detained on the command vessel. Zhao Yu and the others planned to interrogate them first.

However, an unexpected incident disrupted their plan, and they had to turn their attention to another matter. It turned out that, after the forensics team found the USB in the cameraman's mouth, they also found a symbol on the makeup artist's neck, as well as a big cross on Cai Jinda's belly.

After hearing about these important new discoveries, Zhao Yu had an instinct that this isolated island murder case was more complicated than he had first imagined! Obviously, these symbols were deliberately left by the murderer, so their deciphering the meanings of these symbols was the current top priority.

"The cross was also drawn with an oil brush," Zeng Ke said, while pointing to the picture on the screen.

He then explained, "The drawing hadn't dried before it was touched by the clothes, so the cross became a little blurred. If the deceased was still alive after the murderer drew the cross on him, it might have been even more blurred. So, it is highly possible that the murderer drew this symbol after committing the murder!"

"It's quite strange..." Wu Xiumin frowned and said. "Cefuroxime... And a big cross... Why did the murderer draw such things?"

"The person had already killed these people. If these things were really left by the murderer, then..." Zhao Yu wondered aloud as he looked at the cross on the screen, "The murderer is probably trying to tell us something!"

"Yes, but what?" Wu Xiumin asked. "Cefuroxime is only a kind of cephalosporin anti-inflammatory drug, and it's also widely used. What could the killer mean by leaving this clue?"

"I... Um..." Zeng Ke pointed to the computer as he offered a hypothesis. "How about this? The makeup artist's name is Qin Hao. Since the formula was written on her neck, I'll do a background check and see if this person has anything to do with cefuroxime."

After that, Zeng Ke began to type on the keyboard.

Zhao Yu suddenly remembered something, and he turned to a policeman who was sent by the Quliang police and said, "Please take these two pictures to the interrogation room and see if the two survivors know anything about cefuroxime and the cross!"

"Okay..." A young policeman hurried off with the computer.

"Team leader..." At that moment, another policeman approached. "The president and directors of Champion Pictures are all here. Would you like to meet them?"

“No!” Zhao Yu said simply. “Send someone to receive them first, and get a closer look at the details of their crew!”

“Alright...” Wu Xiumin left to carry out his order.

Zhao Yu saw that there was no white board in the command room, so he asked another policeman to get one. Meanwhile, in order to not delay the analysis of the case, he took out a large sheet of white paper and began to add the case information on it.

Later, someone brought him a map of Yongjin Island, as well as the details and photos of the various crime scenes, including the photographs in the USB and the images of the cefuroxime and the mysterious cross. Thinking about this case over and over, Zhao Yu felt that something extremely weird!

This case seemed to be totally different from any of the murders that he had ever handled before. If it was only a murder, the murderer should not leave so many clues and make such an effort to be so detailed. As such, Zhao Yu had to wonder...

Who is the mysterious murderer? What on earth is he trying to do?

All of a sudden, Zeng Ke reported to Zhao Yu, while looking at the computer. “I can’t find anything related to cefuroxime, but regarding that cross, I think I have found a clue!”

“Oh?” Hearing this, Zhao Yu quickly came over to the computer. Wu Xiumin also came over out of curiosity.

“You see...” Zeng Ke pointed to the computer and said, “The cross appeared on the scriptwriter’s body. So, I searched the scriptwriter and the cross together, then found this picture!”

“What is this?” Zhao Yu and Wu Xiumin were gazing at a manuscript that was full of words. In a blank place on the manuscript, there was an arrow that pointed to a plus sign, and more words were added after the plus sign.

“What does that mean?” Wu Xiumin was puzzled. “The characters are too small to see them clearly. What’s on it?”

“What this picture shows is actually a script that is commonly used in filming! Actors, directors, scriptwriters and assistants all have such scripts,” Zeng Ke explained. “So, I feel that the mysterious cross should have something to do with the script! And...”

Before he was able to finish, Zhao Yu’s mobile phone rang suddenly, and at the same time, the young policeman who had been dispatched before returned.

“Leader,” the policeman said excitedly, while holding a computer. “I just asked the two people. The actress said that the cross might actually be a plus sign! Apparently, whenever a scriptwriter or director adds to the plot, a plus sign is marked on the script. She also said that Cai was famous for adding extra plotlines, which often annoyed the actors!”

Extra plotlines? When Zhao Yu heard this surprising news, his mobile phone was still ringing. He took it out and saw that it was the forensic pathologist again.

“Hello! Group leader Zhao. If it’s convenient for you, let’s do a video call!” he said before barreling into his explanation, “I’m ready to start! Although the corpse has not yet been examined, we have found a lot of things! I’m afraid they’re very important to the case, so we’d better have a video call! Then, I’ll explain them to you, one by one!”

“Alright. I’m on the command vessel!” Zhao Yu said as he motioned to Zeng Ke to set up the video call. He then said, “Pathologist Gao, tell me what you’ve found...”

Chapter 734: Solving the Mystery

“Phones!” Gao Facai asked one of his beautiful assistants to place the mobile phones of several of the deceased victims in front of them.

He then said, “We found some abnormalities in the mobile phones of several of the deceased victims. Their screen saver pictures had all been changed! My assistant will show you the pictures. I have to go examine the bodies.”

After that, Gao Facai left the camera’s view, while his beautiful assistant opened one of the mobile phones in front of the camera. She then began introducing their findings, “Evidence number 0049, a Samsung mobile phone. Officers, this mobile phone was found on the deceased victim named Qian Jin. After checking it, we were able to confirm that it did belong to him. But, when we turned on this mobile phone, we found that the screen saver had become like this...”

Zhao Yu and others watched carefully as she brought the phone closer to the camera. Then, they clearly saw that the screen saver had three numbers on it... 2-5-5!

Zhao Yu frowned slightly, feeling a little strange.

“It’s a calculator screen shot,” the assistant explained. “Someone turned on the calculator function on the deceased’s mobile phone, pressed those three numbers, and then took a screenshot of it before replacing it as the new screen saver.”

She continued, “Normally, people seldom use such a picture as their screen saver, so we suspect that it may have been intentionally left by the killer! Also, we are checking to see what time the screen saver was switched. If it really was the murderer who changed it, we may be able to calculate the time of death accordingly!”

Even though Zhao Yu repeated the figure in his head over and over, he was unable to understand its meaning.

“Evidence number 0050, a Meizu mobile phone.” At this time, the assistant picked up the second cell phone and spoke in front of the camera, “This cell phone was found on the dead person named Xie Hao, and it has also been confirmed that it belonged to her. But, when we opened it, we found that the screen saver had been replaced by... Um... This...”

When everyone looked at it carefully, they were shocked. “No... Again?” Wu Xiumin flushed with embarrassment.

Unexpectedly, the screen saver was a racy picture of a man and a woman in bed, both naked. The man was obviously the actor Xie Hao, while the long-haired woman was only shown from behind, so they had been unable to identify her so far.

“Holy shi*! Who would use this picture as a screensaver? What a pervert! This reminds me of ...” Zeng Ke shook his head, but didn’t blink at all as he stared at the picture.

“No!” Zhao Yu looked more carefully than Zeng Ke, then pointed to the picture and said, “Look at Xie Hao’s face carefully. It’s obvious that he has makeup on! And... His moves are too exaggerated. It’s almost impossible to act like that... Um...”

Zhao Yu didn’t feel in the mood to offer a detailed explanation, so he stated his conclusion simply, “In other words, I think this is actually footage for a real scene! They’re clearly filming a real, professional scene!”

“Oh...” Zeng Ke suddenly realized this as well. “If it is indeed a real film scene, I should be able to search for it. Assistant, please send me these pictures as soon as possible!”

“Okay, we’ll upload them to your cloud immediately,” the assistant said, but she didn’t turn off the video. Instead, she continued to share their findings, “Officers, please pay attention to evidence number 23. It is a signal gun!”

“Oh?” Zhao Yu motioned for Zeng Ke to open the case folder and find the signal gun.

The assistant then pointed to the signal gun and said, “Mr. Gao has guessed that Xu You, the prop artist who was burned on the dock, was probably burned by the signal gun!”

“No way? A signal gun can kill people? Ordinary signal guns can only produce 200 joules of heat. If you wanted to burn a person...” Zeng Ke immediately voiced his doubts.

“Signal guns can shoot signal flares up to 50 meters. If they hit the human body at close range, it’s can be more than 200 joules!” the assistant politely corrected him. “Moreover, as the ignition point of magnesium is low, it can ignite human’s clothes, causing them to burn to death!”

“Well, let’s keep our video call connected, and if you have any updates, please tell us immediately!” Zhao Yu said.

“Okay! I’m going to send the files now!” After that, the assistant disappeared from the camera’s view.

Zeng Ke was still staring at the screen, as if he was thinking about something. Wu Xiumin saw his gaze and patted Zeng Ke’s head as she giggled.

She then teased him. “Hey! So... You like her? Don’t be silly! Don’t you see that wedding ring on her finger?”

“Really? I... Why didn’t I see that?” Zeng Ke remained speechless for a few seconds, then his eyes dimmed and he looked very disappointed.

“Idiot! I’m just messing with you!” Wu Xiumin laughed heartily.

Then, she turned to Zhao Yu and said, "Leader, Zeng Ke has fallen in love! As you friends with Mr. Gao, could you help our poor Zeng Ke out?"

"No problem," Zhao Yu said with a smile.

He then pointed to Xie Hao's picture and said, "But... I think the woman in this picture is in pretty good shape. So, she may be more suitable for Zeng Ke!"

"Don't make fun of me!," Zeng Ke said, clearly a little embarrassed.

"Okay, enough silliness. Back to work! Let's hurry up to find out who this woman is." Zhao Yu faked an angry face, while Zeng Ke, having been reminded of his duties, began typing on the computer keyboard.

"Wu Xiumin, please call the hospital," Zhao Yu said to Wu Xiumin. "Ask the police officers there to see if there are any special marks on the seriously injured person, and also ask them to check for signs of any more mobile phones. Maybe the murderer left a clue on him, too!"

"Oh... Yes!" Wu Xiumin agreed at once.

"If the murderer leaves clues on everyone, then..." Zhao Yu thought carefully for a moment, then suddenly said to the local policemen present, "You guys, bring the two survivors here right now. I want to talk to them personally!"

The police officers were surprised by his request, and one of them said, "Leader, those two are important suspects. If they leave the interrogation room without permission..."

"Just do as I say." Zhao Yu pointed to the many computers and said, "I can't take these things to go see them, can I? So, hurry up and bring these two people to me. Go!"

"Oh... Okay..." The police officers dared not resist, so they quickly did exactly as Zhao Yu instructed.

As he was waiting, Zhao Yu reorganized the clues, then wrote on the white paper:

USB, cefuroxime, mysterious cross, 255, racy photos...

When he finished writing these items, although these clues still seemed pretty unclear, a thought occurred to him...

Oh? Maybe the murderer left these things not to leave clues for the police, but to show something to the police?

Chapter 735: They Deserve It

The actress named Li Qian had long black hair and charming eyes. She had not yet recovered from the tremendous terror of the murders. Although her body shivered and her face was pale, she still possessed the unique and elegant presence of an actress.

After experiencing such a night of horror on the island, Li Qian's purple woolen coat was stained with spots. But, even while she was wearing such a dirty coat, Li Qian still looked beautiful and elegant.

After seeing Li Qian, Zhao Yu felt that she was not the one who had been filmed by the cameraman while using the bathroom. However, the case with the chef Zhang Yong was totally different.

Zhang Yong was 51 years old and was very skinny. After experiencing such a shock, his eyes were as wide as saucers, and he looked quite dazed and confused. Whenever someone spoke to him, he had to stop for a few seconds before he could properly respond.

He hadn't changed, so he was still wearing the jacket that he had on when he was buried. There was soil on the jacket, and it had a strange and musty smell.

Because the pair were only suspects, the police couldn't handcuff them, but only restrict their activities. At the moment, they had been taken to the command office. They sat on a comfortable soft sofa, while a policeman poured them two cups of hot water.

At this time, Wu Xiumin pulled Zhao Yu aside and reported in his ear with a low voice. "The doctors have given these two a preliminary examination. There were no injuries or clues on them, and there were no sign of indecent assaults towards Li Qian's body. They didn't lose anything, either. We also checked their mobile phones. There were no obvious traces of them being touched, and their screensavers showed nothing either."

After listening to Wu Xiumin's report, Zhao Yu wondered why the murderer hadn't left any clues on these two people. What's more, he still couldn't understand why the murderer had only spared them.

While Zhao Yu was thinking, Zeng Ke had already put the clues that they had found on the corpses and the deceased's mobile phones on the projection screen. Wu Xiumin started explaining the situation in detail to the two survivors, asking them to help their team figure out the clues that had been left by the murderer.

The actress Li Qian found something immediately. She stood up and pointed nervously at the racy picture and said, "Officer, I recognize this picture. It's a clip from the movie 'The Most Beautiful Season.' That man is Xie Hao! In that movie, Xie Hao was the supporting actor."

As soon as Li Qian's voice fell, Zeng Ke found relevant information online and said, "This movie was a low-budget independent film, which was produced by Huaiyuan Pictures. It is a literary film, and the cast list does have Xie Hao's name on it!" (Boxno vel. co m)

Zhao Yu pointed to the woman in the picture, then asked Li Qian, "Is that you?"

"No, I was not in the cast. At that time, I was not even in the industry yet!" Li Qian frowned and answered nervously, "I don't know that woman. I just had a friend in the crew."

Li Qian looked around as she spoke. She was good at observing, so she had already noticed that Zhao Yu was their leader. She then begged Zhao Yu, "Officer, can I have a cigarette?"

"No!" Zhao Yu was quite straightforward. He then turned to a young policeman and said, "Get this lady a cup of coffee. It's going to be a long night. We may have to talk about a lot of things!"

"Never mind." Li Qian waved helplessly, then looked down and said, "I've had a lot of coffee already!" Li Qian was clearly a bit annoyed.

Zhao Yu didn't have time for any small talk, so he went right into discussing the case details, "I don't need to emphasize the urgency of this case with you again, do I? There are ten people in your crew in total, six of whom are now dead, while one is seriously injured and another one is missing. If you don't cooperate with us to catch the murderer, you two are in big trouble, as you are now our biggest suspects!"

"No... Not me... I really don't know anything..." The cook waved his hands frantically. "We are all colleagues. Why would I want to kill them?"

The cook's words provoked Li Qian, and she yelled at Zhao Yu through tears, "Have you ever thought about our feelings? We almost died! Have you ever experienced being hanged? How dare you..."

"Li Qian, please calm down." Wu Xiumin tried to comfort her. "I hope you can understand that we're simply trying to solve the case, not for ourselves, but for your colleagues! Don't you want to help us find the murderer, so that the murderer will be punished?"

"No! I don't!" Li Qian shouted at Wu Xiumin hysterically, which shocked the crowd. She then cried out bitterly, "I'm telling you, none of these dead people are good guys! All of them should go to hell!"

Hearing what Li Qian had just said, Zhao Yu and the others looked at each other in surprise. Zhang Yong, the chef, lowered his head and did not make a sound.

"Li Qian, what do you mean by that?" Zhao Yu seemed to realize something and asked her in a hurry.

"What do I mean? I'm going to tell all of you what kind of people they really are. Anyway, what does it matter, as they are dead?" Li Qian said.

She then pointed at the racy picture on the screen indignantly and raised her voice, "I'll start with this guy! Xie Hao is a despicable, dirty, and shameless a*shole!"

She shook her fist at his picture as she spoke, "He uses his good-looking face to get investments and sponsorships from many wealthy married women, so that he can get the largest roles in every production! He is arrogant and domineering towards the other cast members. He also bullies the rookies and takes advantage of young girls."

She shook her head. "The most loathsome thing is that this guy likes to take advantage of the actresses who have bedroom scenes with him. Sometimes, he even wants to do it for real on camera, while making the actresses suffer terribly!"

Li Qian shook her head once more, then said sadly, "This a*shole is smart, too! He always picks inexperienced actresses, who have gentle personalities. These actresses are usually poor and don't have any impressive background, so it is very difficult for them to get roles. Due to this, he knows they will mostly keep silent, simply enduring such treatment."

Pointing to the photo on the screen, Zeng Ke said in shock, "My god! So, the murderer left this picture... Is this the reason for the murders?"

Chapter 736: The Story

Zhao Yu was aware of the importance of Li Qian's words, so he turned to a young policeman and said, "Hey! Get her a cigarette!"

"Oh, I've got one..." The policeman was also a heavy smoker, so he immediately took out one and handed it to Li Qian, then lit it for her.

Li Qian was immersed in her own emotions. After taking the cigarette, she continued, "Compared with other people, Xie Hao is not the worst! Take the cameraman Zhang Chenggong, for example. This guy is a complete pervert. He put cameras everywhere, especially in the dressing room and bathroom!"

She shook her head, clearly disgusted by this man. "Sometimes, even those of us who knew about his tricks still couldn't protect ourselves, let alone the new girls! This is because Zhang Chenggong had a strong voice among the crew, so we couldn't do anything to stop him, even though we caught him doing shi*ty things all the time!"

She rolled her eyes, then continued. "He is vulgar, and if you offend him, he will try his best to showcase your faults when he is filming by using weird angles and so forth. So, no actors dare offend him."

Li Qian clenched her fists and said, "I've heard that this pervert not only takes pictures of actresses, but also sells them at high prices to either his homeboys or porn websites! Many actresses have been secretly filmed by him!"

Hearing this, Zhao Yu swallowed hard. This Zhang Chenggong was really sinister. He didn't expect that there were so many hidden secrets hidden among this seemingly normal crew!

In Zhang Chenggong's USB, besides those videos of actresses, Zhao Yu also found some others. Although it had not been confirmed, there seemed to also be footage of directors, producers, investors and many others.

"Director Qian Jin..." Li Qian said the name with a disgusted look. "He used to work in many big crews, so he knew some famous directors and producers. So, he bragged about getting actresses important roles. He brought harm to many naive girls. But, in the end, those girls never even got to read a single line! Some of them even had to run errands for the crew instead of acting at all!"

"What about 255?" Zhao Yu pointed to the number on the screensaver and asked, "What do you think this means?"

"I don't know." Li Qian exhaled a ring of smoke as she turned to Zhang Yong and asked, "Do you know?"

Zhang Yong looked up and shook his head numbly.

Wu Xiumin suddenly came up to Zhao Yu and whispered, "Leader, I just received the report. It has been confirmed that the blood of these two survivors contains dimethylthiadine and benzodiazepine, as well as some other unknown chemicals, which happen to be strong sedatives."

Zhao Yu nodded. It seemed that Li Qian and Zhang Yong did not lie. They were indeed poisoned!

"Qin Hao... I mean the assistant director... He is not good either," Li Qian said, while pointing to the makeup artist's picture. "This old woman was only supposed to be responsible for makeup, but she got some roles because she slept with directors! She is such a gossip, too, always speaking ill of others behind their backs. In fact, stirring up disputes and spreading rumors is her forte!"

“Then what about cefuroxime?” Wu Xiumin took the opportunity to ask. “What does she have to do with cefuroxime?”

“What’s that?” Li Qian exhaled another smoke ring as she asked.

“It’s an anti-inflammatory medication!” Wu Xiumin replied.

“An anti-inflammatory drug?” Li Qian frowned, then shook her head and said, “I don’t know. I haven’t heard of it.”

“Me either!” Zhang Yong answered as soon as he saw the people looking at him.

“Then... Next!” Zhao Yu pointed to a picture and asked, “How about Cai Jinda, the scriptwriter?”

“Um... To tell you the truth, I don’t know this man very well!” Li Qian shook her head and said. “This is our first collaboration. We didn’t know each other before. I only know he used to be quite famous, but then his stuff wasn’t popular anymore. That’s why he came to our crew!”

She then added, as if she had just remembered something, “Oh, by the way, I saw that plus sign... With a short line under it...”

She then pointed to the plus sign on the screen. “Whenever he would add a scene, he would always draw such a sign on the script!”

The mysterious cross was a plus sign, which means additional scenes had been added! Everyone who had just heard her wondered... Was this the reason that Cai Jinda was killed?

“How many extra scenes did you usually have to do? Can you tell me more about that?” Zhao Yu asked.

“A lot!” Li Qian said. “Cai Jinda cared about this opportunity very much. People said that he had prepared the script for two years, as he wanted to make a comeback. Our company was also very optimistic. Although it was not a big production, the plot was very special and bold. It was my first time receiving such a unique script!”

Zeng Ke spoke up at that moment, “I’ve read the script of ‘Lighthouse.’ It’s just a normal one. What special parts are you referring to exactly?”

Li Qian frowned and said, “Yes, the script is really simple, but after the shooting began, I felt that things were getting quite complicated!”

Wu Xiumin could not help but interrupt, “Well, shall we first finish talking about the victims first? We can talk about the plot later.”

“Alright! So...” Zeng Ke clicked a few times, as there were only a few pictures left. “Well, there’s the last deceased victim, the prop artist Xu You!”

“Xu You...” After seeing the picture of Xu You, Li Qian could not help but shed a few tears. “Xu You was burned to death. That must have been so miserable!”

“Yes,” Zhang Yong added. “If there were any good people in the crew, Xu You was among them!”

"I don't know why the murderer even killed him!" Li Qian wiped her tears away as she spoke, "He's really a good man. He's diligent, hard-working, and never complains. He works on props and runs errands, and he's always smiling."

Hearing what Li Qian and Zhang Yong had just said, Zhao Yu was lost in his thoughts. So far, the Forensic Department had not found any clues on Xu You's body. Hence, they figured that Xu You might not have been the murderer's target.

In fact, as Xu You was hit and burned by a signal gun, they had to wonder... Was Xu You's death an accident?

While Zhao Yu was thinking about this possibility, Wu Xiumin suddenly held up her mobile phone and shouted in surprise, "Really?"

After confirming the information, she then said to Zhao Yu with great excitement, "Leader! There's news coming from the hospital! The seriously injured Kang Leming has just woken up! Moreover, he's already named the murderer!"

Chapter 737: Suspicious Witnesses

"No way!" When Wu Xiumin said the name of the murderer, Li Qian couldn't believe her. "How could it be him? Why?"

Chef Zhang Yong shared a similar opinion. "That young man is quite gentle. How can he be the murderer?"

"This is Kang Leming's own confession. Unless he lied, it can't be wrong!" Wu Xiumin pointed to the screen and said, "The murderer is the one who disappeared... Guo Yihang!"

"Guo Yihang, 27, an actor, graduated from Nanjiang Film and Television School and lived in Fuyuan County, Caohai City." Zeng Ke read out the information about Guo Yihang.

As Zhao Yu listened to Zeng Ke reading Guo Yihang's background, he was lost in his thoughts. It never occurred to him that the murderer could be so quickly exposed, since he was so meticulous in the way that he killed the people.

Zhao Yu still couldn't believe it... How could it be so coincidental that Guo Yihang disappeared, while Kang Leming just pointed out that he was the murderer?

Could this really be the truth?

"Well... Although he is older than me, that young man is still a boy!" Li Qian said. "When we were shooting, his mouth couldn't help but shake while he was kissing me! I deliberately stuck out my tongue, which made him shake even more!"

Li Qian exhaled a smoke ring as she expressed her doubts, "How could such a shy and naive person be a murderer?"

Zhang Yong agreed. "Yeah! This kid is new to our crew, too. So, why would he kill so many people that he barely knew?"

Just after Zhang Yong had finished speaking, Zhao Yu's mobile phone rang. It was Captain Dou, whose anxiety could be noticed from his voice immediately.

"Leader Zhao, I just heard that there is an update from the hospital, right?" Captain Dou asked excitedly. "The wounded person said that the murderer was the missing guy, Guo Yihang! So, I'm rushing to issue a warrant for his arrest!"

Zhao Yu thought for a moment and said, "Okay, yes. You must find this man first! But... Did you find anything there?"

"We found the speedboat. It was abandoned on a beach that was far away from the city. We don't have many monitoring cameras in that area, but we are still searching!" Captain Dou said.

He then added, "Now that we can be sure that the driver must be Guo Yihang, we have cordoned off the entire Quliang area, as well as having sent people to Guo Yihang's hometown. You can rest assured that if this kid really did it, we'll catch him!"

"Good!" Zhao Yu said.

After he hung up the phone, Zhao thought for a moment, then turned to Wu Xiumin and said, "Please contact the hospital again. Ask them for the medical records of Kang Leming."

Wu Xiumin immediately asked in a low voice, "Leader, are you suspicious that Kang Leming is lying?"

Zhao Yu bluntly expressed his doubts, "I just think that this is still too weird! Based on how the six people were killed, I think that the murderer should be a pro. So, how would it be possible for such an experienced person to leave behind any witnesses who could identify him?"

Zhao Yu continued, "Kang Leming had many stab wounds. As such, the murderer had no reason to spare his life!"

"Then... I'll go get the medical records. Also, one more thing..." Wu Xiumin paused. "If we look at Kang Leming's blood report, we can know whether he lied or not! If he also took sedatives, it means that he was telling the truth. If not, then we'll have to talk to him seriously!"

While Wu Xiumin was calling about the medical records, Zhao Yu asked Li Qian and Zhang Yong about Guo Yihang. Both of them said that they really didn't know much about the new actor, only that he often had headphones on and seldom communicated with the others.

"What about Kang Leming?" Zhao Yu then asked about the seriously injured person.

"Um... He also does a lot of things, such as running errands, cameraman assistance, lighting and sound." This time, Zhang Yong took the lead in answering Zhao Yu's question. "Also, this man is good at pleasing others. As such, the directors and scriptwriters are all very fond of him!"

"Zhang Yong, I'd say that he has a glib tongue." Li Qian gave a different opinion. "Think about his sneaky eyes! I guess you don't know what he's doing behind our backs?"

“What do you mean?” Zhao Yu asked.

“Leader, the report is here!” At the same time, Wu Xiumin suddenly interrupted them, “You are right. Kang Leming’s injury is really a little strange! The murderer took seven stabs at him, but all of them avoided any vital organs!”

“Oh!” Hearing this, Zhao Yu was surprised and quickly went to his computer.

Wu Xiumin continued, “It’s not easy to too receive seven stab wounds and not die!”

“In that case...” Zhao Yu paused and thought for a while. “Either Kang Leming is lucky or the murderer intentionally spared his life!”

“But, why would the murderer do that?” Zeng Ke didn’t hold the same opinion. “He had clearly already seen the murderer. So, in my opinion, the murderer must have thought that he was going to die after the seven stabs! Besides, even if seven stabs were not enough to kill Kang Leming, he would have been likely to die due to excessive blood loss!”

“Hmm...” Zhao Yu nodded first, then shook his head. “But, I still think there’s something wrong with Kang Leming! What if the murderer hoped that Kang Leming would accuse Guo Yihang, and this is all a part of the murderer’s plan?”

“Leader, what you are saying is getting more baseless!” Zeng Ke insisted on his own opinion. “How can we find witnesses guilty instead of the suspect?”

“Zeng Ke, would you wait for a moment? I haven’t finished yet!” Wu Xiumin held her cell phone, then turned to Zhao Yu and said, “Leader, I think there was nothing wrong with Kang Leming! He survived because of luck.”

Zhao Yu asked, “Why?”

“Because...” Wu Xiumin passed the mobile phone in front of everyone and said, “The murderer left something on Kang Leming’s body, too!”

Everyone was shocked as they looked at the phone carefully. It had a picture of Kang Leming’s arm, upon which was a word that had been written with an oil brush in English... “Mommy”!

“Mommy?” Zeng Ke raised his eyebrows. “What does that mean?”

“Oh...” After Li Qian heard the word “Mommy,” she suddenly thought of something and cried out, “I think I know what that means! I just wanted to tell you! Kang Leming looks innocent, but he’s actually a pimp!”

Chapter 738: Motive

“Pimp? How did he pimp in a crew?” Zeng Ke didn’t quite understand.

Li Qian said coldly, “It seems that you haven’t seen the dark side of the world! Do you think the entertainment industry is so simple?”

“Um... This...” Zeng Ke didn’t know what to say.

Li Qian laughed, but said bitterly, “I heard that Kang Leming has pimped as a private business, all while being heavily involved in films! He actually uses the films as fronts somewhat, as he is active in major films and television bases, where he is always in contact with young actresses, all of whom have dreams of stardom. He then introduces them to directors, producers, and even some other well-known actors. This is what you often talk about as ‘unspoken rules’ in our industry. Kang Leming earns fat fees by running such a business.”

“I don’t quite understand.” Zeng Ke asked doubtfully, “Who pays for this kind of pimping business?”

“The demanding party pays, of course!” Li Qian said.

(Boxno vel. co m) “This is disgusting! The entertainment industry is messed up! It has been ruined by just this kind of villain!” Wu Xiumin scolded.

“Don’t be naive. It’s all a matter of simply taking what one needs. Where there’s demand, there’s trade!” Li Qian said frankly.

She then added, “In fact, it’s good to be able to get what you want after a transaction. However, most actresses that are pimped out end up being deceived, sacrificing so much, but not getting much back in the end!”

Li Qian laughed bitterly. “As for me, I’m lucky enough to have work, so I won’t be starving anytime soon.”

She then continued, “There are billions of people in the world. The big stars you see on TV are just a few of the lucky ones. If you are not the powerful party and want to be famous, your chances are even lower than that of winning a lottery!”

Li Qian’s words made the others feel sad.

After a moment, Li Qian said earnestly, “But... I just heard all of this from others. So, I can’t guarantee that all of these things are true. You can ask my colleagues about what I have said. I’ll give you their names! Nevertheless, rumors spread for a reason, and since so many people say these same exact things, I think it must be partly true at the very least.”

“Mommy...” Wu Xiumin pondered the word for a moment, then said, “A woman pimp is called mommy. So, the murderer is telling us that Kang Leming is a pimp, isn’t he? That’s why he was going to kill Kang Leming?”

“Maybe!” Zhao Yu frowned and said. “But, just because of that, it should not be enough for someone to commit a murder over! Maybe there is a deeper meaning in the clues that were left by the murderer.”

After careful consideration, Zhao Yu said to Zeng Ke, “Sent out more policemen to find out more information of the ten crew members, especially Guo Yihang. Do it as soon as possible, and the more detailed the better. Also, pay attention to the common features between them, as well as the commonalities of the clues that were left by the murderer!”

“Okay!” Zeng Ke immediately agreed.

“Li Qian and Zhang Yong!” Zhao Yu turned to address the two survivors. “You two better tell me what the murderer left behind on both of you! Are there any symbols on your bodies, additional strange pictures on your mobile phones, and so on?”

“Um... Nothing.” Li Qian hugged her shoulders and said, “Your men have already searched me, and my phone was already given to you.”

“Mine too!” Zhang Yong said.

He then asked, “Officer, if the murderer is really Guo Yihang, then are we free to go? My wife is sick, and she is waiting for me to come back and take care of her. Also, my mother-in-law is old! I’m worried about her, too.”

“Don’t worry. You can go home after the information is collected completely. Please understand this. After all, such a big thing has happened, so you need to wait a little longer!” Wu Xiumin tried to comfort him.

Zhang Yong said anxiously, “But... It is exactly because such a big thing has happened that my family must be worrying a lot about me. I beg you, please let me go home earlier.”

Wu Xiumin wanted to say something more, but Zhao Yu interrupted, “Hey, why are you in such a hurry to leave? Are you hiding something from us?”

“I... No!” Zhang Yong immediately began to sweat.

“Ok.” Zhao Yu then pointed to the screen and said, “After the murderer killed the cameraman, he left a USB full of videos on him. Now, can you two watch all of those videos and see if there’s anything wrong with them?”

Zhang Yong and Li Qian looked at each other, while Li Qian put out her cigarette in the ashtray.

“If you want to prove your innocence, help us find out the murderer’s motive!” Zhao Yu increased the volume level of his voice, “If the murderer is really Guo Yihang, then he must have a convincing motive! Punishing bad guys alone is not a solid reason for committing murder!”

“Oh... Okay.” Zhang Yong was frightened by Zhao Yu and dared not say more. He and Li Qian sat in front of the computer and began to watch the videos.

Just after having a few looks, Li Qian could not help but sneer. “This ba*tard took so many dirty shots!”

Listening to Li Qian, Zhao Yu’s thoughts returned to the clues that had been left by the murderer. Now, he knew what the USB, the cross, the racy photo, and “Mommy” stood for. But, he still had no idea what Cefuroxime and 255 meant.

The murderer did not kill Li Qian and Zhang Yong, and there were no clues left on them either. So he had to wonder...

What about the prop artist who was burned by the signal gun? Why didn’t the murderer leave a clue on him? Was the clue burnt, or was the prop artist’s death an accident?

Or... Was Kang Leming lying? Was the murderer really Guo Yihang? Why did Guo Yihang kill so many people in such a complicated way?

Although the major suspect had already been targeted, Zhao Yu still felt that the case was not clear. There were far too many things that couldn't be explained yet.

At this time, a message came from the Forensics Department. Through the examination of the new evidence, they found sedatives in the crew's drinking water and prepared drinks. The ingredients were the same as those found in Li Qian and Zhang Yong!

This clearly revealed that the murderer had made careful preparations beforehand, so that he could smoothly carry out his homicides!

Chapter 739: Sins

The night was dark and the sea was clear. It was three o'clock in the early morning, yet the crew on the command vessel was still busy working on the case.

Zhao Yu was sitting on the sofa in his office, carefully examining the allegation records that had been provided by Kang Leming, the seriously injured person who had just woken up. Kang Leming claimed that, on the night of the accident, he had gone to bed very early and had slept very deeply. As such, he said that he had no idea what had happened until he woke up.

(Boxno vel. co m) When he finally did wake up, he found a man stabbing at his stomach with a knife! Although it did not feel too painful, Kang Leming was frightened, so he ran away!

He said that his mind was blank at that time. He just remembered that the wound on his stomach was bleeding.

He also said that he could not cover it with his hand, and in his panic, he did not even know where he was going. He just remembered that he fell a lot along the way, knocking his head often!

However, the man with the knife kept chasing after him, which made him become even more panicked. Unfortunately, when he ran into the windbreak, the man finally caught up with him.

The man didn't speak to him, but stabbed him immediately, again and again! Kang Leming screamed, but couldn't stop him. After being stabbed several times, he gradually lost consciousness.

However, although it was completely dark and Kang Leming was frightened to death, he claimed that he recognized the man who had stabbed him. He said that the man was Guo Yihang, an actor in the crew!

He said that the reason he could identify him certainly was because he recognized Guo Yihang's jeans and baseball cap! Although he did not see his face clearly, he confirmed that the man was the same height and shape as Guo Yihang. Therefore, Kang Leming was sure that the murderer was Guo Yihang!

As he was reading this, Zhao Yu couldn't help but frown. Although Kang Leming's testimony was clear, he had admitted that he not seen the murderer's face clearly. So, Zhao Yu had to wonder...

What if the murderer was wearing Guo Yihang's clothes? During such a dark night, amid such a dangerous atmosphere, was it possible that Kang Leming recognized the wrong person?

Thinking of these things, Zhao Yu shook his head. He didn't know why he had such ideas...

Is it because there have been so many weird cases that I don't believe that this case can be so simple? Or... From the bottom of my heart, do I really not think that Guo Yihang is the murderer?

How can I have such an instinct?

Am I overthinking this?

While Zhao Yu was confused, a local policeman suddenly walked in. He was carrying a plastic bag. After he politely greeted Zhao Yu, he went over to Li Qian and Zhang Yong.

At the moment, they were still sitting in front of the computer, watching the cameraman's videos. Once he got to them, the policeman said, "Excuse me, your things are here. Please take a look at them, then you may have them back!"

It turned out that the policeman was carrying an evidence bag that contained the personal belongings of Li Qian and Zhang Yong. The two were totally not in the mood to comply, but they obediently took out their things, then laid them all on the table.

There were their phones, wallets, bags and so on. After verifying everything and taking her things back, Li Qian took out her cell phone and a pack of delicate cigarettes. She then went out to the deck that was connected to Zhao Yu's office.

Seeing Li Qian leave, the young policeman in charge of her hurried to follow her. Although Li Qian had been cleared and was no longer an official suspect, they now had to keep her safe, as she was an important witness!

Zhao Yu suddenly thought of something, so he stood up and motioned for the young policeman to stop. As the policeman was quite clever, he understood Zhao Yu's meaning immediately and quietly retreated. Zhao Yu then followed Li Qian onto the deck.

The south wind was blowing in fiercely. Zhao Yu zipped up his coat and slowly walked over to Li Qian.

Li Qian had already lit a cigarette. While she was blowing smoke rings, she checked her unread texts and messages on her phone.

Finding no important information, she quickly put away her phone and looked at the distant sea. Clouds covered the moon in the sky and the sea was dark and deep.

Li Qian stared at the sea's surface, frowning. No one was able to tell what she was thinking about.

Zhao Yu looked at her face from the side. The light that came from the office reflected on her smooth cheeks, creating a unique aesthetic.

"People often say that, if you survive a catastrophe, you will be blessed!" Zhao Yu initiated a conversation. "Don't be so depressed. This disaster may bring you opportunities!"

Hearing Zhao Yu's comforting words, Li Qian turned her head and looked at him with a bitter smile. She then said, "You don't understand. People in the entertainment circles are superstitious. I'm afraid that no one will dare hire me for any roles in the future!"

"That's not right!" Zhao Yu smiled. "When I was working a case in Jin'an, I rescued a woman who was kidnapped on the street! She was naked in public! As a result, she became a star overnight!"

"Ha ha... You're quite good at comforting people! What a great leader!" Li Qian handed her phone to Zhao Yu. "Have a look at this picture. How many of them do you know?"

Zhao Yu took a look at it and saw an old picture on her phone. There were several beautiful young girls in the picture.

"Um... The one in the center is you, and then... Um..." Zhao Yu looked at them, then said, "They all look familiar. They often appear in movies and TV shows, but I can't remember their names!"

"Pay special attention to the humble looking one on the far right!" Li Qian said playfully. "Don't tell me that you don't even know the international superstar Lan Caiyan?"

"Oh... Now I see!" Zhao Yu said. "I heard that she is working with Shangge Yundun on a new film, right? A few days ago, the news said that she had found her twin sister and was involved in a lawsuit or something! Is that her?"

Li Qian responded coldly. "I'm afraid that's just hype!"

Zhao Yu pointed to the photo and asked, "Was she one of your classmates?"

"No." Li Qian took the phone back and shook her head. "This was taken at the audition for 'Princess Lonely'! At that time, we were all candidates for the leading actress role! In the end, Lan Caiyan beat all of the others and won the role. From then on, she was a superstar!"

"Oh..." Zhao Yu nodded. "Do you mean that Lan Caiyan didn't play fair?"

Li Qian smiled bitterly. "The so-called fair competition was just a show! Lan Caiyan's family spent millions to snag that role for her. The rest of us didn't even get a chance to compete!"

"Oh..." Zhao Yu nodded. "But, since you already knew the results before, you have nothing to regret. You know what? Your negativity won't change anything!"

Li Qian looked at Zhao Yu for several seconds. Obviously, Zhao Yu's words had made her feel even more crummy.

Soon, the atmosphere became awkward, and the two people were left just staring at each other. Li Qian stopped smoking, and Zhao Yu just stood there, completely mute.

Finally, Li Qian took the lead in breaking the silence. "I know what you want to ask me. I can tell you honestly that Zhang Yong is a good man. He is cleaner than Xu You! Believe me, there is absolutely no problem with him! I guess that's also the reason why the murderer didn't kill him."

"Oh!" Hearing this, Zhao Yu was surprised. "How did you know what I was thinking?"

“Because the dead victims all committed unforgivable sins!” Li Qian said in a sophisticated tone. “Of course, you want to know about the living people!”

Zhao Yu slightly nodded. Unexpectedly, Li Qian was not only clever, but was also very good at reading other people’s minds!

So, Zhao Yu asked her, “What about you? You were also spared by the murderer. Were you innocent, like Zhang Yong?”

Chapter 740: Crazy Delivery Woman

“That depends on how you think, officer!” Li Qian took another deep drag on her cigarette.

She then closed her eyes and said, “I admit that my sins are no less than those people’s, but I am also a victim! I was forced to do what I did by the cruel reality of the world. I just wanted to make my life better.”

“Can you be more specific?” Zhao Yu asked. “I sympathize with you, but I also want to know the truth!”

“In order to get roles, I also introduced girls to these higher-ups. I am also a mommy!” Li Qian shook her head as she threw her cigarette into the sea. “I bullied newcomers and messed around with other actors. I have been with married guys and sugar daddies. I’m also a drug addict! You don’t have enough fingers to count all of my sins. Are you satisfied now, officer?”

Zhao Yu was speechless.

Li Qian sighed, then said, “But, the murderer did not kill me! I’m still alive. That’s the truth.”

(Boxno vel. co m) After that, Li Qian took a deep breath, then went back into the office. Zhao Yu walked to the deck railing and looked out at the dark sea. He was thinking about Li Qian’s words carefully. He felt that if what Li Qian had said was true, the murderer had rules that determined each killing.

All of the people who were killed had sins, but not all of the people who had sins were killed! Therefore, in a sense, the murders were committed not to defend justice, but for pure revenge!

So... Why the hell is the murderer doing this?

While Zhao Yu was pondering the murderer’s motive, the system finally sent him a notification. Today’s Kun Gen hexagram had been completed, and Zhao Yu had achieved 144% rate of completion. As a result, he got a new device called Invisible Arm Shield.

The device could make the user’s arm invisible, allowing it to withstand any attack. Getting such a powerful device made Zhao Yu feel like he was becoming a badas*, just like Captain America!

Although 144% was not low, Zhao Yu knew that, because he had missed today’s duplicate adventure, the completion rate was not as good as it should have been. At this critical moment, Zhao Yu did not dare waste time, so he immediately started a new hexagram. Unexpectedly, it was a Geng Li hexagram.

As Li represented friendship, he figured that he might meet some new friends tomorrow. The Gen gave Zhao Yu confidence, as this hexagram meant that he would probably make more progress on the case!

As this case was quite complicated, in order to stay energetic each day, the Special Investigation Group took turns resting.

So, Zhao Yu took a brief nap on the sofa. After he had slept for only an hour, he woke up and continued his case analysis.

The Forensics Department had just sent over a lot of evidence. For example, they had extracted sedative residues from the deceased victims, proving that they had all been poisoned before they died.

However, due to the varying amount of residues, the extent of comatose symptoms varied from person to person. This was especially the case for Xu You, who was burned by a signal bomb. He had the smallest amount of residue in his body, indicating that he had been in the lowest degree of a comatose state that night.

From this evidence, Zhao Yu predicted that the Xu You's death might have really been an accident! This was because he did not drink very much water and was not completely unconscious that night. In fact, Xu You might have woken up during the murder!

Then, Xu You most likely fled in panic, and in a hurry, the murderer took out a signal gun and burned him with it! Because of Xu You's clear and honest background, perhaps his name was not on the murderer's kill list.

Li Qian and Zhang Yong said that the signal gun was owned by their crew and had been packed in the emergency bag. No one had ever used it before, so no one really paid much attention to it.

The forensics examination found no clear fingerprints on it, which indicated that the murderer had either fired the gun while wearing gloves or had wiped the fingerprints off after killing Xu You.

The Forensics Department kept sending new findings, but there were no new updates from Captain Dou. So far, they hadn't received any information about Guo Yihang's whereabouts. Nobody knew where Guo Yihang had gone.

After an exhausting night, it was 6 a.m. and the sun was just rising. Zhao Yu was still filling in the information on the whiteboard as he yawned twice due to his lack of sleep.

"Huh?" At this moment, Zeng Ke suddenly scratched his head, while gazing at the computer screen.

"What?" Wu Xiumin was awoken by Zeng Ke's outburst.

Zhao Yu also turned to see what was bothering Zeng Ke.

"Oh..." While Zeng Ke stared at the computer screen, he made loud sounds as he typed on his keyboard. He then jumped up from his seat and said excitedly, "Leader, Xiumin, come and have a look! It seems that I've found a clue!"

Zhao Yu was surprised and hurried over. Wu Xiumin and Li Qian followed him.

“Leader, look... 255!” As Zeng Ke clicked his mouse, some data showed up on the screen. He then pointed to one of the entries and said, “This is the shooting calendar and the daily schedule of Champion Pictures. Look carefully at this one... ‘Crazy Delivery Woman,’ director Qian Jin, starring Zhang Meiwei, Nanjiang Automobile Group, exclusive sponsorship 2.55 million yuan!”

“255! Is that what it means?” Wu Xiumin frowned. “A movie? Sponsorship funds?”

“I’ve checked on it. It’s a low-budget online movie,” Zeng Ke said. “It was only released online, but it had a pretty good response! At that time, Zhang Meiwei was new in the film industry. It was with this film that she first started to become popular. After that, she entered the mainstream market!”

Wu Xiumin shook her head. “But, what does that mean? Why did the murderer leave this for us?”

Zhao Yu looked at Li Qian and asked her if she knew anything about it.

“Four years ago, I hadn’t yet joined Champion Pictures!” Li Qian shook her head and said, “Zhang Yong, you’ve worked here for a long time. Do you remember this movie?”

Everyone turned to look at Zhang Yong, only to discover that he had already fallen asleep on the desk, and the videos that he had been watching were still playing!

“Zhang Yong!” Li Qian walked over and banged her fist on the desk to wake him up.

Zhang Yong rubbed his eyes and said in a daze, “I knew that one! I also participated in it! It’s a comedy... Quite interesting plot, actually!”

After that, Zhang Yong smiled at the others in silence.

“That’s all?” Li Qian asked.

Zhang Yong nodded, then asked, “Why? What’s wrong with this film?”

Li Qian shook her head. “Come on. Think more. Did anything happen while you were making this film? Did anyone do anything bad? Did any incident occur?”

“Yes! Think hard, as it may be very important!” Zeng Ke said.

“Oh... An accident? I don’t think there was...” Zhang Yong nervously stroked his thin hair, trying to recall anything. “The director was Qian Jin... It was shot four years ago in Yinling City... Zhang Meiwei likes Sichuan cuisine. The more peppers I added, the better...”

Li Qian was not satisfied with Zhang Yong’s silly words and wanted to interrupt him, but Zhao Yu stopped her.

“Qin Hao was a makeup artist in our crew!” Zhang Yong didn’t have any logic and just said whatever he could recall as it came to his mind. “Kang Leming was also in it... By the way, this film was sponsored by Nanjiang Automobile Group. Why did it sponsor it? Oh, this movie was about delivery Woman, so it had soft ads! Express cars are all their brands, so they solely invested in it...”

“Nanjiang Automobile Group...” Zeng Ke repeated the name as he did a quick search online. He then shook his head and said, “It’s closed down now.”

“Go on...” Zhao Yu urged Zhang Yong. “It doesn’t matter what you can remember, as anything might help.”

“Something happened on the first day of shooting. Qiao Ruxue quarreled with the director, but the others stopped them!” Zhang Yong said.

“Qiao Ruxue?” Li Qian shook her head. “Who is that?”

“You don’t know Qiao Ruxue?” Zhang Yong asked. “Oh... That makes sense. Since then, Qiao Ruxue quit acting! But, before that, I thought she was doing well!”

“Why did she do that?” Zhao Yu seemed to have thought of something important, so he asked in a hurry.

“Oh... I heard that Qiao Ruxue was originally the lead actress. But, for some physical reasons, her role was changed.”

“Physical reasons? What do you mean?” Wu Xiumin asked urgently.

“Allergies. She got a lot of pimples on her face suddenly, and because of our tight filming schedule, another actress got her role,” Zhang Yong said.

He then added, “I heard that was the case, but all of the details are not clear to me. I just heard it from others. You can go and ask Kang Leming about it. That fellow should know more about it, and he is such a gossip!”

“I don’t think that there is a need to do that!” At this time, Zeng Ke stopped typing and stared at the rest of the group. He then said, “I just found out that Qiao Ruxue and Guo Yihang were classmates!”