

Crazy 861

Chapter 861: Let Me Be the Stone

As Miao Ying poured a cup of soybean milk for herself, she pouted as she asked, “Zhao Yu, what are you giggling about? You are ruining my appetite!”

“Team Leader... Do you have something on your mind? Would you like to share it with us?” Zeng Ke asked.

Zhao Yu shook his head helplessly, then said, “No. It’s nothing. It’s actually something pretty ridiculous! By the way, Zeng Ke, which school did Han Kuan attend? Is it in another city? I remember vaguely something like that when I read his information.”

As Wu Xiumin was very familiar with Han Kuan’s background, she answered him immediately, “Yes! His parents are long-time employees of an oil company, so Han Kuan got an opportunity to study in an oil school at Yaoming after he graduated from middle school. It was a 5 year program, after which he would be guaranteed a job and a vocational technician certificate. However, immediately after Han Kuan came back, he resigned from the oil company.”

Wu Xiumin then added, “It is said that he did so because his first novel was being published and he wanted to become a full-time writer. Because of that decision, he had argued with his parents! But, since he had already made the decision, his parents couldn’t stop him!”

“Yaoming... Yaoming...” Zhao Yu repeated in a murmur as he thought about this information carefully. “Yaoming is in the Tongjiang Province, and that’s still too far from Beiqian...”

Hearing this, Miao Ying spit out the soymilk that she had just drunk. Zeng Ke was also startled, and his body shook suddenly.

Wu Xiumin then frowned and asked, “Team Leader, why did you think of Beiqian?”

“Zhao Yu...” Miao Ying coughed, then asked in shock, “Are you crazy? You are not thinking about the Devil Case, are you?”

After Miao Ying spoke, everyone looked at Zhao Yu with a mixture of shock and confusion.

“Um... It was just a sudden and passing thought! Just ignore me... Ha ha...” Zhao Yu shook his head helplessly, immediately feeling like a fool.

He then shook his head and wondered... What’s wrong with me? Why did I just have such an absurd idea?

Unexpectedly, after thinking a bit more on Zhao Yu’s words, Miao Ying suddenly asked, “The victims of the Devil Case were all found in abandoned buildings, right? Zhao Yu, do you mean to say that the two cases have something in common in terms of the crime scenes? If so, it’s no wonder that you had such a bad look on your face just now!”

“Team Leader...” Wu Xiumin then shook her head and said, “Han Kuan came back to the Golden City after graduation, but Yaoming and Beiqian are 1,400 km away from each other! Hence, there is no way that he could have had anything to do with the Devil Case.”

“Hmm...” Zhao Yu nodded and looked sullen, as she had a logical point.

Miao Ying then thought of something else and turned to Zhao Yu in a hurry and asked, “Zhao Yu, do you remember that... In the Devil Case... There was an abandoned swimming pool?”

Zhao Yu also recalled this very thing, and he immediately clapped his thighs and exclaimed, “Yes! So, when I first heard that the victim was drowned in an abandoned swimming pool instead of a river, I thought of something similar! Is it just a coincidence... What do you think?”

“The Devil case materials are in your suitcase still, I suppose?” Miao Ying looked around, shrugged her shoulders, then said, “I do remember that one of the victims in the Devil Case fell from a building and died. Although the victim didn’t fall into the pool directly, there was an abandoned swimming pool nearby, where the grass grew tall because the pool area had not used by anyone for many years.”

“Yes, I remember that too!” Zhao Yu nodded, then said, “And... In the Devil Case, all of the victims fell from abandoned buildings and died! I remember that I saw the photos from the death scenes. That’s why, after reading 11 Kills, I had the feeling that I had seen such things before! I also thought about the ghost city of Qinshan, but now, I’m sure it’s the Devil Case that is the correlation!”

“But... But...” Zeng Ke shook his head, then said, “A swimming pool alone is not convincing enough evidence. Team Leader, I think you are going too far! Do you actually believe that Han Kuan is the murderer from the Devil Case?”

Wu Xiumin nodded, then said, “Yes, he’s right, as just sketches can’t prove that much about these two cases. If there is such a coincidence in the world, and it occurs to us... Um... I’m afraid the probability is less than one in a billion that it is correct!”

After Wu Xiumin finished speaking, the team fell silent. They all looked at each other for quite some time, none of them speaking.

Everyone was thinking about this almost impossible possibility. Although they hadn’t reached a unanimous agreement, they all felt a sudden sense of nervousness overwhelming them.

“Um... Okay...” Zhao Yu said as he waved his hand. “I’d better take a closer look at the information that I have for now. In the meantime, you guys don’t think too much about the Devil Case.”

Zeng Ke quickly nodded his head, then said, “Well... Leader, Ran Tao, and Cui Lizhu went to the detention center to sign Xie Tongguo’s documents. They said that on the way back, they learned some news from the driving school. They said that Zhang Jingru had wanted to learn to drive before she died, so she had reached out to several driving schools. If she had actually made a decision to kill herself, why would she have gone to the trouble of signing up to learn how to drive right before she died?”

Miao Ying suddenly spoke earnestly, completely ignoring what Zeng Ke had just said, “No! The 11 Kills case and the Devil Case seem to be more than similar in terms of the crime scenes. Maybe they really do have some connections! Even if Han Kuan has never been to Beiqian and is not the murderer from the Devil Case... Would it be possible for him to still know something about the case?”

Zhao Yu interrupted her and said, "Meow, listen... Let's find the evidence for Han Kuan's case first. We are thinking too much about other cases right now. In fact, this was really just a random thought I had. I'm definitely not too serious about it."

"Yes, Leader Miao..." Zeng Ke added, "What looks like the truth may always be the truth! We are all professionals, so we should know that there is no obvious evidence to prove that Han Kuan and the Devil Case are related to each other at all."

Zhao Yu then interjected, "But... The yellow notebook says that the investigators suspected that there was more than one murderer in the Devil Case, as nine victims died within a very short time period. Such a large amount of murders would be hard for only one murderer to commit on his own! As such, I feel that we can really gain some insights from Han Kuan's sketches."

"Team Leader... What's wrong with you? You are thinking of these things again?" Zeng Ke asked, clearly a bit concerned.

"If Han Kuan really had something to do with the Devil Case and Zhang Jingru happened to discover his secret..." Miao Ying said, her eyes wide.

As she spoke, the office once again became completely silent. After a while, Zhao Yu went over to Miao Ying, squinted at her, and said, "Honey, although this sounds impossible, I can verify it!"

"How? Do you really have a way to do so?" Miao Ying's eyes lit up at the thought.

Zhao Yu then said, "Cui Lizhu is right! We need to use her stone theory again! This time... I'll be the stone!"

Chapter 862: The Devil Lurking Nearby

At noon, Zhao Yu entered the restroom at the Golden City Police Station with his mobile phone after receiving a piece of news. He had come in early because he was waiting for an important person to show up.

Fortunately, the restroom was not as dirty as he had expected. Zhao Yu felt a sense of relief about this. Although the Golden City Police Station was old, the restroom was at least clean. Otherwise, he would be miserable!

A few minutes later, Zhao Yu heard a noise outside the door. He hid in one of the small toilet stalls and quickly locked the door from inside.

As soon as he locked the door, he heard the sound of slow, very heavy footsteps outside. This alerted Zhao Yu to the fact that it must be a man who was coming into the restroom. The man entered the bathroom, then walked to a urinal and began to unfasten his belt.

Zhao Yu knew who the man was, as he had made a detailed plan in advance. As there were no toilets inside the cells where the prisoners stayed, if a prisoner needed to go to the toilet, a police officer would have to bring him here to this restroom.

As Han Kuan had been detained for two and a half days already, he was already very familiar with the location of this restroom. Hence, the police officer on duty, who was in charge of watching the prisoners

as they went to the restroom, no longer felt like he had to go inside the restroom with Han Kuan. Instead, he just stood outside the door and waited for him there,

In order to make everything look and sound real, Zhao Yu made a show of noisily unfastening his own belt and then sat down on the toilet. Then, he raised his mobile phone with his right hand and waited for the prearranged call from his team member to come.

Outside Zhao Yu's stall, as Han Kuan had just finished unfastening his own belt, Zhao Yu's mobile phone finally rang. Zhao Yu had deliberately raised the volume of his ringtone, so the music was quite loud. Han Kuan was inevitably startled by it, which caused him to be so shocked that he almost peed on himself!

"Hello, Officer Chen... What's going on?" Zhao Yu deliberately said Officer Chen's name, when in fact, Zeng Ke was the one on the other side of the line.

Han Kuan was still busy peeing, but he couldn't help but look back at the stall. He had clearly recognized Zhao Yu's voice.

"I know, I know..." Zhao Yu said, using the exact dialogue that he had planned beforehand. "Officer Chen, don't you know me? Whether it's fame or money, I don't care about either of them. What I want is the truth! Let me tell you, there are still many questionable things about the Han Kuan's case, especially that confession! I won't let Han Kuan get away with this so easily!"

Hearing that Zhao Yu had brought up his case, Han Kuan naturally paid close attention. He leaned in closer to the stall, listening attentively.

"Okay... Yes, I know it's almost New Year's Day! Everyone wants to get a satisfactory result and celebrate the holiday. But, we can't just bury our consciences. After all, a person died! You know... I am an honest man now, so I can't just look the other way!" Zhao Yu said sincerely.

He then added after a moment's pause, "Yes, I know... This case is hard... Because... That confession is real! But, just give me a little more time. I can think of some ways to..."

After hearing Zhao Yu's words about him and his case, Han Kuan slowly turned back and looked at the wall. Although he had no noticeable expression on his face, there was still a hint of pride in his eyes.

"Team Leader..." Over the phone, Zeng Ke quickly said to Zhao Yu, "Yes! Say that! Remember your killing point!"

After hearing Zeng Ke's hint, Zhao Yu burst out laughing. He then said very loudly, "Don't worry! That Beiqian Devil Case is nothing! I promise you that I will close the case. I've been investigating it for so long! Of course, I have found some clues! After taking care of Han Kuan's case, I will meet you in Beiqian. I have clearly stated in my report that the victims were murdered!"

Because Zhao Yu spoke very loudly and his speech was very impassioned and emotional, he did not hear any sounds coming from outside his stall. Although he wanted to know Han Kuan's reaction, he continued to keep up the charade and acted like he was talking to Officer Chen.

"Um... Team Leader..." Finally, Zeng Ke's voice came from the other end of the phone again, "It's done... Han Kuan just left!"

Hearing this, Zhao Yu quickly lowered his voice, covered the phone's microphone, and asked eagerly, "How did he react?"

"Hmm..." Zeng Ke hesitated for a moment, then said, "Come and see for yourself!"

"Shi*! What are you keeping me waiting for?" Zhao Yu shouted angrily as he hung up the phone, pulled up his trousers, and quietly pushed the stall door open.

Just as he had said, there was no one left in the bathroom. Han Kuan was already gone.

Zhao Yu quietly opened the door of the restroom. After seeing that there was no one outside in the hallway, he ran back to the office as fast as he could.

Originally, he had wanted to shout at Zeng Ke for not answering him directly over the phone. However, as soon he rushed into the office, he was shocked by the unexpected situation that he saw in front of him.

Zeng Ke, Miao Ying, and Wu Xiumin were sitting in front of the computer, each of their faces pinched up and filled with strange expressions. The atmosphere in the office was tense.

Clearly, something was not right. It was like the office was covered in a haze or poisonous gas, leaving everyone in it in a daze.

Zhao Yu asked, "What happened? Someone speak to me! Did you find anything?"

However, the three people still did not say a word, but only looked extremely depressed.

Zhao Yu then came over to Miao Ying and said, "Meow, when I mentioned the Devil Case just now, how did Han Kuan react?"

"Team Leader..." Zeng Ke finally stood up and gave Zhao Yu his seat. He then said with a solemn expression, "Here, you can look at it for yourself! I synchronized the video footage of Han Kuan with your voice while you were on the phone!"

After that, Zeng Ke gently clicked on his keyboard. Immediately, Zhao Yu's loud voice sounded, and in the video, they could clearly see Han Kuan's every move.

Zhao Yu came closer and stood directly in front of the computer. When he had mentioned the Devil Case on the phone, the video clearly showed that Han Kuan was startled.

After seeing Han Kuan's reaction, Zhao Yu was shocked and his heart started beating wildly. In the video, had Han Kuan had actually wet himself! But, he had no time to care about that because he had turned around and looked quite viciously at Zhao Yu's stall with a crazy look of a madman!

Suddenly, he seemed to have changed into someone else entirely! His face was dark and his eyes were cold and evil. Then, he began to tremble and clenched his fists, as if he was going to turn into an actual devil!

After seeing this, Zhao Yu was dazed. He really had not expected that his plan would have such an unexpected result. At this moment, he could not help but wonder...

Is Han Kuan really related to the Devil Case?

Chapter 863: Find out His Weaknesses

While Zhao Yu was still in shock, Han Kuan, who was standing outside the toilet stall, resumed his previous state of calm and had a wicked expression on his face. He seemed to realize something, and as he went to the urinal and looked around suspiciously, he almost spotted the camera that Zeng Ke had hidden there!

Fortunately, at the critical moment, the policeman outside knocked on the bathroom door impatiently. Only then did Han Kuan pull up his trousers and rush out of the restroom.

After Zhao Yu watched the video, Wu Xiumin, who was always calm, could not help but speak up. She looked at Zhao Yu with a sense of uneasiness and asked, "Team Leader, that is a one in a million probability! How could it be a coincidence? This is too incredible!"

Miao Ying then said solemnly, "It looks like Han Kuan really is somehow connected with the Beiqian Devil Case!"

"I... I still can't understand... How can this be possible?" Zeng Ke could barely speak. "Han Kuan called us here, after all. If he was related to the Devil Case, why would he do that? Wouldn't he be putting himself in danger?"

Wu Xiumin placed a laptop in front of everyone and said, "I don't know if he really was involved in the Devil Case, but Han Kuan's reaction definitely reveals something about him!"

Wu Xiumin then played the real-time monitoring video from the prison. When Han Kuan returned to the prison, he appeared quite nervous.

He was no longer calm and relaxed. Instead, he seemed like he was worried about something very important.

"When he was in the bathroom, he showed a stress reaction!" Wu Xiumin said. "After overhearing information amid such a sudden situation, Han Kuan was not prepared, so his response was unfiltered and real! When he heard the words 'Devil Case,' he displayed obvious signs of abnormal behavior. This shows that those words might have sounded threatening to him."

Wu Xiumin then pointed to the two videos and said, "So... From my professional point of view, Han Kuan must know something about the true story behind the Devil Case!"

Miao Ying shook her head and laughed. "One of the five major pending cases! I finally get to work on one at last! And... It's so close to home! Who would have thought that the murderer from the Devil Case was around us this whole time?"

Miao Ying excitedly pulled on Zhao Yu's arm and asked, "Han Kuan is going to be sent back to the detention center tonight! Are we going to interrogate him again then?"

"No..." At this moment, Zhao Yu had still not yet recovered from the shock he had received just now. Han Kuan's weird reaction in the video had made his heart tremble.

After a long while, he finally said to Miao Ying, "If we launch attacks against him now, it just won't work! Without evidence, everything we say is mere speculation. And... We are not properly prepared to attack him now. If we lay all of our cards on the table now, he will know exactly what we are thinking."

Zeng Ke then said, "Yes! But, where are we going to look for more evidence in such a long-standing case? If the Devil Case could be so easily deciphered, I'm afraid it would have already been solved by others before us!"

"I... Um..." Wu Xiumin thought for a moment, then said, "I could invite my teacher to come and perform hypnosis on him!"

She then looked around at the others and said helplessly, "But... Just one hypnosis session may not work. Moreover, even if it does work, it can't be used as evidence in court."

She shook her head, then added, "Also, hypnosis is basically the same as a lie detection test. Because it involves one's personal privacy, it requires those who perform such tests to have legal permission. If you want to get approval, you have to have some strong evidence first! But... Since we have no evidence, based on Han Kuan's current situation, it would be impossible for us to get an approval."

Clearly depressed and frustrated after hearing this not so great news, Zeng Ke asked sarcastically, "You realize that you just suggesting something basically useless to us, right? I suppose that Han Kuan was confident that we wouldn't find anything, so he bold enough to call us here to investigate."

He frowned, then added, "Group Leader is right. We have all been fooled by him!"

Zhao Yu said bitterly, "I really underestimated this fiction writer!"

At this point, Zhao Yu's eyes suddenly lit up as he added, "However, we should be happy! After all, we haven't really lost anything. Don't forget, we have already closed the first pending case, which was the Headless Female Corpses Case. So, noo difficult case can stop us now!"

"So..." Miao Ying then asked excitedly, "Well... Do you have any thoughts on what to do now?"

Zhao Yu replied frankly, "Han Kuan's case is totally different from the cases in the past. He is very careful and won't let us discover his weaknesses easily. If we want him to reveal the truth to us and confess, we have to find some real evidence."

He then attempted to comfort everyone as he added, "Of course, we don't have to worry too much! Nothing is too difficult for those who are willing to put in the hard work of doing it! Also, during these past few days, we had no clear goals, which explains why we felt that the case was too difficult to solve. But, now that we have a clear goal, we can make much more progress!"

"That's right!" Zeng Ke was flattered by the confidence that his leader seemed to have in the team. "That's what it was like at Yongjin Island! At first, we were such a mess and were totally clueless! But later, when the target appeared, we found so many clues and a plethora of useful evidence quickly thereafter!"

Zhao Yu nodded. "Yes! That's exactly what I mean. Now that we have a major suspect in front of us, as long as we focus our investigation on him and the Devil Case, we will certainly be able to get some results!"

Wu Xiumin pointed to the files on her desk and said, "We have already read a lot of information about Han Kuan, but there seems to be nothing suspicious about him..."

Zhao Yu said firmly, "Just reading through these files is not enough! The Devil Case happened so long ago, so there have to be more where these came from. Thus, we have to look for more!"

Zeng Ke agreed with him and said, "Right! I'm going to investigate what Han Kuan was doing when the Devil Case took place!"

"He was still in school at Yaoming!" Wu Xiumin said. "It was his final year. So... We should focus on investigating who he was in contact with at that time."

Miao Ying then said. "Okay! Well... I'll go and get the materials regarding the Devil Case. We can go over it again!"

Wu Xiumin nodded, then said, "Han Kuan's abnormal behavior in the restroom was not consistent with his psychological test results! This means that he may have an intermittent psychological tendency!"

She then added excitedly, "So, I think it's necessary to redo his psychological assessment! If I can find out the reason behind his psychological changes, I may be able to find his weaknesses as well!"

Zhao Yu was relieved to see that his team's morale and confidence had improved after his pep talk. He then pointed to the two boxes and said, "In that case, I'll go through these two boxes again to see if there's anything that I missed. And remember... The Devil Case is important, but we can't give up on Zhang Jingru's case!"

Chapter 864: Sheer Fantasy

"The Devil Case, which is one of the five pending cases, is also called the serial suicide case!" Miao Ying took a document and introduced the basic information to the others.

She then added, "This case happened between August 2002 and February 2003 and lasted for about half a year. A total of nine victims appeared in Beiqian!"

She then said, "The nine victims all fell from uninhabited or abandoned buildings and died. Most of these deaths were classified as suicides because the police could not find any obvious evidence that would lead them to suspect that they were murders."

Miao Ying then said, "Beiqian is not a city. Instead, it refers to the area of Yingping, Guang'an, Changfeng and Beiqian combined. The case was not submitted into the online crime records because there was no Internet connection at the police department at that time."

She paused for a moment, then added, "Some people believed that these were all suicides. However, due to the outdated means of investigation and limited media, as well as the subsequent outbreak of the SARS during that time period, the case didn't attract much attention."

Miao Ying shook her head, then said, "A year later, when the police finally entered the case into the online system, a very observant and meticulous police officer was able to connect the nine victims' deaths with one another!"

She added, "He found that the nine victims died in very similar ways and their crime scenes all shared many common features. Moreover, they all happened in a relatively short period of time. So, he believed that there must be some close connection."

Miao Ying then said, "So, he wrote a report and turned it into the Criminal Division. As the Criminal Division attached great importance to this case, it assigned a specific investigation team to Beiqian, and Captain Jin Zhenbang, who wrote the case's information in the yellow notebook, was one of the investigators at that time!"

At this point, Miao Ying paused for a second, then continued, "However, since the reopening of the case was not until a year ago, their investigation didn't go too well. By that time, the crime scenes had been destroyed and the victims' corpses had all been cremated or buried. So, they weren't able to find any valuable clues!"

Miao Ying shook her head, then said, "They then had to turn their focus to the victims' backgrounds, but they found that none of the nine victims shared the same gender, age, or background. Moreover, they didn't even know each other at all!"

She added, "Through information gleaned from interviews, they learned that none of the nine victims had psychological problems, such as depression. Hence, their relatives and friends didn't believe that these people would choose to commit suicide! Later, the investigation team found an important clue when they returned to the crime scenes!"

Miao Ying then took out a picture from a folder and said to the others, "When they were investigating one of the scenes, they found an eyewitness, an old man who was living nearby at the time of the crime. He said that he had seen a ghost on the day that the death occurred!"

Miao Ying held up the picture in her hand as she said, "This picture is a mock composite sketch of the ghost, according to the witness' description!"

As the other members already knew about the general information of the Devil Case before this, they were familiar with this so-called ghost. The ghost in the picture had two curved horns, bloody red eyes, sharp ears and terrible tusks!

Miao Ying pointed to the picture and said, "The witness said that when he came out of his room to use the bathroom that night, he suddenly saw a green light that was coming from the empty building across from his. He then claimed that he suddenly saw the fierce ghost within that green light. Apparently, he was so frightened that he rushed back into his room."

Miao Ying pointed to the picture again, "Some experts recognized that this ghost in the picture was very similar to the devil that is described in a well-known Western myth! Thus, this case was called the Devil Case."

Miao Ying took a breath, then said, "Because the case is full of many mysteries, it has received a lot of media coverage. There was even a film inspired by it. It is for these reasons that the Devil Case became one of the five major pending cases!"

After that, Miao Ying gave them all a meaningful smile and said, "Now, we have already cracked the Baishan Reservoir Dismembered Body Case and the Headless Female Corpses Case. If we can close the Devil Case, no one can ever look down on us again!"

"I hope that Han Kuan is really related to this case, so that we can find a clue from him..." Zeng Ke put his hands together in a gesture like he was praying.

"The year that the Devil Case happened was the last year that Han Kuan stayed in Yaoming," Wu Xiumin said, while pointing to the whiteboard. "Yaoming is in the Tongjiang Province, which is thousands of miles away from Beiqian. So, how could Huan Kuan possibly be involved in the Devil Case?"

"I've checked, and unfortunately..." Zeng Ke shook his head and sighed, "the school that Han Kuan attended at that time no longer exists. As such, I cannot find any information about that school at all!"

After hearing this, Miao Ying said, "Well then... Ask his classmates! There must be a class group or something on social media. Regardless, we must find some way to find out more about Han Kuan's school days!"

"Okay!" Zeng Ke nodded, then immediately went to work.

Suddenly, the office door opened and Ran Tao came in. He was carrying a computer case.

"Ran Tao, what are you doing with the computer?" Wu Xiumin asked him curiously.

"You are asking me? How should I know?" Ran Tao quickly came over to Zhao Yu and said, "Team Leader asked me to bring this here!"

"Um... Yes, I did!" At that moment, Zhao Yu was still carefully checking the files in the two boxes, so he wasn't paying much attention to Miao Ying and the others.

In fact, he didn't even raise his head as he said, "Just put the computer right there and let Zeng Ke check it."

Ran Tao turned and put the computer on Zeng Ke's desk as he was ordered, announcing, "Well, Zeng... I now give hand it over to you!"

Zeng Ke didn't understand this, so he asked, "What do you want me to look for?"

"It's Zhang Jingru's office computer!" Ran Tao said.

He then explained, "I have checked with her manager, and apparently, after Zhang Jingru was killed, they didn't use her computer at all. In light of this fact, Team Leader must have his own reasons to ask you to do this."

After hearing this explanation, Zeng Ke looked at Zhao Yu and wondered... What exactly does he want to find?

Zhao Yu, while still looking carefully at the materials, said to Zeng Ke, "Focus on Zhang Jingru's browser history, especially the period of time just before her death! Find out what websites Zhang Jingru visited..."

“Oh... Okay...” Zeng Ke said as he nodded. He then started clicking on the computer keyboard and started searching.

“Zhao Yu... You...” Miao Ying looked at Zhao Yu’s serious face and could not help but ask, “Do you really think that you can find new clues inside these two boxes?”

“Um... I’m not sure, but I at least want to give it a try!” Zhao Yu said.

His words made it sound like he was uncertain, when in fact, it was just the opposite. The reason for this was that the location of today’s side adventure had clearly indicated that there must be something important in these two boxes.

Since the side adventure was never haphazard when it came to picking its location, he believed that this case could make significant progress if he could find something within these two boxes!

Miao Ying looked at Zhao Yu and said, “Maybe we should read all of Han Kuan’s novels! After all, the saying ‘knowing your enemy is half the battle’ is quite true! So... We should...”

Before Miao Ying finished speaking, she suddenly saw that Zhao Yu’s eyes had suddenly become fixated on a particular piece of paper. It seemed that he had noticed something specific on that paper. He held the paper in front of his face so that the sunlight could shine on it and provide him with a better look at it.

“Is there any problem with it?” Miao Ying was curious about Zhao Yu’s behavior.

“This is someone’s loan approval that Zhang Jingru had helped prepare. But, a part of it is unclear because there was clearly not enough ink in the printer. So, this document must be considered invalid.” Zhao Yu stared at the paper, not even blinking.

“Hmm...” Miao Ying then asked quickly, “What does that mean?”

“There is a date on the document, which is ten days before Zhang Jingru’s death! Also, this document was originally a complete document, but look at the page number... It’s missing a page, which means that the previous one was taken by someone!” Zhao Yu replied excitedly.

Miao Ying then guessed, “The person who applied for the loan! Is there a problem with him?”

“No... It’s actually the paper!” At last, Zhao Yu raised his head, picked up a pencil from the table, then said to the others, his eyes shining, “Ladies and gentlemen, the time to witness a miracle has arrived!”

After saying that, he slanted the tip of the pencil on the piece of paper and quickly started scribbling randomly. When he had almost filled up the entire piece of paper with these scribbles, an amazing pattern appeared.

It was the ghost with two horns, sharp ears, and towering tusks. It was... A devil!

Chapter 865: Who Is the Devil?

“I see! I finally understand! It turns out that... Um...” Zhao Yu looked at the monster on the paper and couldn’t help but shout.

However, after realizing that he was about to blurt out something that the others shouldn't know, he quickly shut up. But, his fears ended up being irrelevant, as all of the others were so attracted by the devil on the paper, they did not pay attention to Zhao Yu's words at all!

"This ghost... Or devil..." As he pointed to the paper, Zeng Ke said, "It's the same as the ghost that the Devil Case witness described! It couldn't be a coincidence, right?"

Seeing that nobody was going to speak, Zeng Ke continued, "This is Zhang Jingru's. That is to say, Zhang Jingru drew a devil on the previous page! Why did she draw this? Did we make a mistake about Han Kuan, meaning that Zhang Jingru is the one who really had something to do with the Devil Case instead of Han Kuan?"

Zeng Ke's words made what was already a fairly depressing atmosphere considerably worse. Everyone frowned at once. They felt that the evidence that was in front of them was vague at best. It was like they were stuck in a heavy fog.

Ran Tao was confused, so he asked, "Hey, Han Kuan's case is not over, and now we're already turning our attention to the Devil Case?"

Zhao Yu frowned tightly as he said to Zeng Ke, "That's not what I mean. I just think that Zhang Jingru may know something. So, I read her writings. But, I suppose she doesn't really have anything to do with the Devil Case..."

Miao Ying pouted her lips and asked, "But, Zhao Yu, you just found out this pattern! Didn't you say you finally understood? Don't you know anything?"

In fact, what Zhao Yu had wanted to say was that he finally understood the system's meaning. Today's side adventure was referring to the devil pattern! But, as for what the devil pattern represented, he still had no idea.

Zhao Yu knew that he had to make up an excuse quickly, so he said, "I thought I understood something, but now I'm confused! Here..." He then pointed to the devil pattern and said, "I saw the mark on this paper through the reflection of sunlight, and the previous page was clearly missing. So, I thought that I could use the pencil to make the pattern appear! But... I certainly didn't expect a devil to appear!"

Zhao Yu then said, "Obviously, Zhang Jingru was the one who drew the devil on the previous page, but I don't know why she drew this pattern or why she took that page out after she finished it!"

"Team Leader..." Wu Xiumin said after seriously thinking about everything for a moment, "Even if the devil pattern is Zhang Jingru's work, it doesn't mean that she has something to do with the Devil Case! Don't forget that we have been thinking about Han Kuan's motive for killing his wife! Is it possible that Zhang Jingru found out about Han Kuan's connection with the Devil Case, which would explain why she drew the devil?"

Zhao Yu quickly answered her with a smile that was filled with excitement, "Yes! That's what I meant just now! I was a little scared by Zeng Ke's theory. In fact, that's why I asked Ran Tao to check Zhang Jingru's browser history. I thought that maybe Zhang Jingru was investigating Han Kuan herself. But, I didn't expect to see the devil pattern!"

Miao Ying nodded, then said, “Zhang Jingru must have found out Han Kuan’s secret, and as she was worried that Han Kuan was the murderer of the Devil Case, that would explain her weird behavior before!”

Miao Ying’s voice got louder as she was very excited, “She was suspicious about Han Kuan, so she began to investigate him secretly. But, she was eventually discovered by Han Kuan! Then, Han Kuan was worried that Zhang Jingru might expose his secret, so he made a move! Isn’t this the same theory that I thought of before?”

“Yes!” Zhao Yu was relieved, and as he wiped away the sweat from his forehead, he pointed to Zeng Ke and said, “But... Zeng Ke’s theory is a little scary! If Zhang Jingru is also involved in the Devil Case, then...”

When Zhao Yu was speaking, he got goosebumps. Upon seeing Zhao Yu’s expression, Miao Ying trembled.

She immediately had a feeling of deep horror well up in her heart, and she couldn’t help but ask, “Do you think that the Devil Case is not only related to Han Kuan, but to Zhang Jingru as well? This would mean that there is not only one murderer, but two!”

Wu Xiumin was quite shocked to hear this, and in a daze, she murmured, “I’ll check out Zhang Jingru’s background!”

Zeng Ke, however, was unaware of what was going on and asked, “What’s happening?”

“Hello, everyone...” Ran Tao opened his hands, clearly quite confused, and asked, “Can anyone tell me what just happened? You guys all changed so suddenly. I don’t get it. How the hel* is Zhang Jingru connected to the Devil Case?”

“Ran Tao... Let me tell you...” Zeng Ke pulled Ran Tao aside and told him the latest progress on the case. Once Ran Tao knew the truth, he couldn’t sit still, so he jumped up and shouted, “What?”

“Oh my god!” Wu Xiumin then shouted, while she pointed to the computer screen.

She was trembling as she said, “Zhang Jingru graduated from Changfeng Post College! She is two years younger than Han Kuan! That is to say, the year she went to study in Changfeng was the exact time that the Devil Case happened! Moreover, Changfeng is in the Beiqian area! So, she is the person most likely person to be involved in the Devil Case!”

Miao Ying was shocked by this idea and said, “It seems that we have to think about this differently now. Specifically, we have to ask ourselves... What secret did this couple want to hide from us?”

Zhao Yu never thought that this case would be so complicated! He had no idea what they should do now. The investigation of Devil Case hadn’t even officially started, but there was already loads of new information for them to sift through and figure out!

“Wait... Wait a minute...” At this time, Zeng Ke suddenly shouted loudly from his seat in front of the computer, “I found it! My God, I found something on Zhang Jingru’s browsing history! Two weeks before her death, she searched for the terms ‘devil’ and ‘Beiqian Devil Case!’ In fact, it appears that she was searching for and reading about these things for several days!”

Miao Ying was shocked to hear this and asked, “Is Zhang Jingru the killer of the Devil Case?”

Zhao Yu frowned and said, "If Zhang Jingru was a murderer, it would be totally unreasonable that she searched the Devil Case on her computer!"

Miao Ying retorted, "Well... She could be thinking about her past experiences. As the murderer of the Devil Case, she may have a sense of accomplishment about it, which would explain why she looked it up online so much."

Wu Xiumin nodded, then said, "Yes, I guess that's possible. Either way, we know that the murderer of the Devil Case must have some serious psychological problems. Moreover, the police still couldn't solve the case after so many years, which means that the murderer must feel quite proud about being able to evade the authorities for so long."

"Okay! That's enough! Stop guessing!" Zhao Yu waved his hand and said, "In fact, if you want to prove whether Zhang Jingru is related to the Devil Case, there is a simpler way!"

"What simpler way?" Miao Ying asked immediately.

Zhao Yu then said, "The victims! Check whether these nine people have anything to do with Zhang Jingru. That's enough to connect her!"

"How could we all forget such a simple way?" Zeng Ke sighed and immediately began to search for exactly that information.

At this moment, someone knocked on the office door. Moments later, two local policemen came in. One of them had document in his hand.

He looked at Zhao Yu and said, "Um... Leader Zhao, we're really sorry, but we did our best..."

He then handed Zhao Yu the document and said, "Our leader approved Han Kuan's bail application. So, he had been freed!"

Chapter 866: Turn over a New Leaf

Miao Ying said decisively, "Han Kuan was our major suspect. How could he have made bail?"

Bureau Chief Liu said in embarrassment, "Dear investigators, we want to cooperate fully, and with sincerity, but we really can't do anything about Han Kuan's case! If you want to extend the interrogation, you'll have to use your Special Investigation Group's authority to exert pressure on the Provincial Office!"

Feeling helpless, Wu Xiumin reminded Miao Ying, "But... We have already used our privileges! Otherwise, we couldn't have detained Han Kuan for 72 hours."

"Zhao Yu..." Miao Ying then winked at Zhao Yu, which meant that Zhao Yu must find a way to keep Han Kuan in custody.

Unexpectedly, Zhao Yu waved at Bureau Chief Liu and said, "Thank you. Since this is the official procedure, we can do nothing about it. Although we are the Special Investigation Group, we have to abide by the rules. You guys just go and deal with your own stuff. We are okay here."

After getting Zhao Yu's approval, the two men left.

"Zhao Yu..." After they left, Miao Ying glanced at Zhao Yu, pointed at him with her index finger, and said, "Wow... Come on, did you just think of any foul tricks in order to deal with Han Kuan?"

"No... ." Zhao Yu was sweating.

Ran Tao suddenly said, "I don't understand. Now that we know that Han Kuan is also related to the Devil Case, why don't we prosecute him and charge him for his connection with the Devil Case? Then, he wouldn't be able to leave the police station."

Wu Xiumin shook her head and sighed before she asked, "What evidence do we have to prosecute him with? The video in which he wet his pants in the toilet? Or... The devil on this piece of paper? If we try to use our guesses as our only evidence, we will make fools of ourselves!"

Zeng Ke agreed, albeit reluctantly, "Yes. What we believe now, in others' eyes, will seem just like fantasy stories! Moreover, the Devil Case happened in Beiqian, but Han Kuan was in the Golden City! We really would be making ourselves look like fools if we tried to prosecute him with such flimsy evidence and claims."

Zhao Yu thought about this for a moment, then said, "Our group's special privileges in case investigations can only be used when we have significant evidence to support our claims. That clearly does not apply to Han Kuan's case. Moreover, according to our current investigation, it seems that Zhang Jingru has more of a connection to the Devil Case."

Wu Xiumin then concluded for the group, "In a word, we have far too little evidence!"

Miao Ying looked at Zhao Yu and said coldly, "I don't believe your bullsh*t. The Zhao Yu I know wouldn't ever allow Han Kuan to be set free for no good reason. Tell me, what's your plan?"

"No... I'm not kidding, and there are no tricks up my sleeve!" Zhao Yu shook his head, then said, "Our aim is simply to solve the case. What's the point of keeping Han Kuan? But... Don't worry! I have already informed Ba Chen to monitor Han Kuan 24/7. He can't escape. As soon as we find some strong evidence, we will immediately catch him!"

"Zhao Yu..." Miao Ying suddenly realized that Zhao Yu might be serious about this, and her expression changed as she shouted, "You are the Special Investigation Group leader. Do you really not understand, or are you pretending? Han Kuan is a major suspect in the Devil Case, so we must not save this trouble for the future. He has been writing crime stories for so many years, and at this moment, we still haven't figured out the truth behind Zhang Jingru's death. If he gets bailed out, Ba Chen won't be able to keep him here any longer!"

"Yes!" Wu Xiumin said, "Let's put aside the Devil Case for now. Han Kuan is still the prime suspect in his wife's death. Because of that, Han Kuan will never play it safe! So... You have to think of a way to keep him at the police station regardless of which case it is for!"

Miao Ying took a paper-cutting knife from her desk and asked Zhao Yu, "Do you remember how you used to deal with criminals? The police alone are not threatening to bad guys, but the police with guns certainly are!"

“What?” Zeng Ke and others could not understand his meaning, but Zhao Yu immediately realized what Miao Ying was trying to say.

Miao Ying handed the knife to Zhao Yu, then said, “We won’t treat a good person unjustly, but we also can’t let a bad person go! This is a critical time, so we must act accordingly! Zhao Yu, no one is better than you at doing what needs to be done!”

Zhao Yu then said with embarrassment, “Meow Meow... We are police officers of the law. Moreover, we are the Special Investigation Group. How can we play dirty? I might have been a hooligan in the past, but why can’t you trust me when I tell you that I have become an honest man?”

The other team members were confused by their conversation. Ran Tao did not understand what exactly Miao Ying meant so he asked Zhao Yu, “Team Leader, you aren’t going to use violence to coerce Han Kuan to admit his guilt, right? That would not be smart.”

Miao Ying grabbed Zhao Yu’s hand tightly and said, “Just listen to yourself! I will never believe that you’ve turned into an honest man. Listen, you just need to put the knife into Han Kuan’s hand later, and all our problems will be solved!”

“Ah!” Ran Tao now understood what she meant! He hesitated and asked, “How could we do such a thing? You want to accuse Han Kuan of attacking the police with a weapon? That’s a false accusation!”

At this time, Zhao Yu grabbed the knife and threw it into a bin. He then said to Miao Ying, “Hey! It looks like you’ve mastered my old tricks! Look, I miss that heroine who fought against injustice in the past.”

Zhao Yu then said, “Yes, Han Kuan is our major suspect. We don’t want him to leave the police station or the detention center before the case is solved. But, we can’t use such a dirty trick to ensure that will happen.”

Zhao Yu was serious as he added, “I promised your father that I’d protect you and make you happy. I know that you wouldn’t be happy if I did that to Han Kuan, at least not in the long run. Besides, even the criminals find this kind of foul play disgusting. If I acted in such a despicable way, even the bad guys will look down on us from now on!”

By now, everyone had grown accustomed to Zhao Yu’s hooligan ways. Now, suddenly seeing a new version of him, one that was speaking about honesty and righteousness, they were totally stunned!

Miao Ying, in particular, could not believe the words that were coming out of Zhao Yu’s mouth. She wondered if Zhao Yu really had changed.

Suddenly, they saw Cui Lizhu run in from outside the door, charging toward them with ecstasy on her face. Cui Lizhu danced around as she shouted excitedly, “Boss! I’ve done what you asked me! And... I even saved you 2,000 Yuan! So, I’ll take that as my reward!”

After seeing Cui Lizhu, Zhao Yu suddenly felt anxious and put his index finger on his lips, motioning for her to be quiet.

However, Miao Ying was quick-minded, and she noticed this interaction and immediately asked Cui Lizhu, “Really? Is it really all done?”

Cui Lizhu clapped her chest and said, “Yep! It cost 8,000 Yuan to get Zhang Jingfeng to cooperate with us. He is now with the Golden City criminal police! Believe me, Han Kuan won’t get the slightest chance to leave the police station now.”

Zhao Yu slapped his forehead hard. He was clearly embarrassed.

Miao Ying then said with a smile, “Cui, tell me more... In detail. How can Zhang Jingfeng keep Han Kuan at the police station?”

Zhao Yu wondered if Cui Lizhu was intentionally betraying him. She immediately told Zhao Yu’s plan to Miao Ying, “Zhang Jingfeng reported to the police that Han Kuan had an affair with a woman named Zhang Meili, and Zhang Jingru didn’t know about this. Zhang Meili suddenly disappeared a year ago. He suspected that Han Kuan had killed her, so he wanted to report it to the police. So, now the police will investigate this matter, which means that they can’t let Han Kuan go yet!”

“Who is Zhang Meili?” When Miao Ying asked this, she glanced at Zhao Yu.

“No one! Of course, our boss made it all up... Hahaha... Our boss is so talented! He told me that we can always use a helping hand from others. Amazing!” Cui Lizhu giggled before she drank some water.

At the same time, Miao Ying and Wu Xiumin each picked up a newspaper from the desk and threw it at Zhao Yu, while rolling their eyes.

Chapter 867: I’m Not a Jealous Person

Ran Tao scratched his head and said, “What Zhang Jingfeng reported to the police pertains to another case, so the police must detain him for further investigation. This means that we can keep him 72 hours.”

Zhao Yu then said, “Well.. That means that this next 72 hours will be very important to us. Though I don’t expect to crack the case in that time, but if we can just find more evidence, we can keep him longer, maybe even forever!”

Miao Ying glanced at Zhao Yu, then said, “Zhao Yu, I almost believe your bullsh*t. A past hooligan criminal like you is disgustingly good in deciphering these kinds of affairs!”

“Ha ha...” The others all laughed upon hearing this.

Zhao Yu gave Cui Lizhu an angry look and asked her, “What are you laughing at? This is all because of you! I warned you not to tell them. How can you just blurt out everything in front of everyone?”

“Ha ha...” Cui Lizhu laughed. It seemed that she had indeed done it on purpose.

“But... Then... Zhang Jingfeng would be charged with giving a false testimony to the police, right?” Ran Tao guessed. “So, that explains why Team Leader needed to give him some money for compensation!”

Cui Lizhu then said, “That guy has a criminal record. So, giving a false testimony is not a big thing for him. Also, he despises Han Kuan and firmly believes that Han Kuan killed his sister!”

Miao Ying looked worried as she said, "We can use Zhang Jingfeng this time, but he won't be able to help again if there is a next time! So, from now on, we have to be highly focused!"

Suddenly, Wu Xiumin raised her hand up to her computer screen and said, "The graduate school that Zhang Jingru attended has since become a technical school. There isn't much about it online. In fact, I don't know if I can find anything useful here. I think we'll have to talk to the Changfeng police!"

Zeng Ke then said, "It's the same way with Han Kuan. He has a very small social circle and is never in contact with his old classmates. Thus, in my opinion, we'd better go to Changfeng police station in person as soon as possible."

"Well..." Zhao Yu thought over it, then said, "Let's just split into three groups and act separately. Miao Ying and I will go to Yaoming to investigate Han Kuan's past, Ran Tao and Zeng Ke will go to Changfeng to investigate Zhang Jingru, and Wu Xiumin and Cui Lizhu will stay in town."

Just as Zhao Yu finished giving the orders, Miao Ying immediately voiced an objection, "Team Leader Zhao, although I am a newcomer, I am still a deputy team leader. So... How can a team leader and a deputy team leader be in the same group?"

Zhao Yu frowned and then winked at Miao Ying, motioning her in secret to not embarrass him. However, Miao Ying just smiled impishly.

She then added, "And... Beiqian is the most important part of the investigation of this case. So, even if we go together, we should go there."

Zhao Yu had a bad look on his face as he waved at Miao Ying, signaling to her that he wanted to speak to her in private. Then, they both went into the side room.

"Meow meow..." As soon as he entered the room, Zhao Yu asked her impatiently, "Why are you not listening to me? Can't you see... I promised your father that I would protect you, so we must stay together!"

"Honey!" Miao Ying pulled Zhao Yu's arm and said, "I am doing this for you! Think about it... If you just care about me, your team members will lose faith in you. I know that you are doing this for my good, but as far as the rules go, the leader and deputy leader shouldn't be placed together in such a situation."

"But..." Zhao Yu smacked his lips and said, "It's not easy to be apart from you, especially after enduring such a long separation."

Miao Ying sighed, then said, "I don't want to be away from you either, but we are at a critical moment in this investigation. Hence, we must spare no effort. Our affair can only be put aside for now."

She then asked softly, "Don't you believe in my abilities? I can take care of myself. Besides, it'll just be for a few days."

"So..." Zhao Yu asked reluctantly, "What's your plan? Wu Xiumin will do a psychological assessment for Han Kuan, so she should stay."

Miao Ying then said, "Well... Investigating Zhang Jingru's connection with the Devil Case is obviously the most important thing, so Zeng Ke and Ran Tao should come with me. As for you, you and Cui Lizhu should go to Yaoming."

“What the heck?” Zhao Yu asked. “You actually want me to go with her? Won’t you be jealous?”

“I’m not that narrow-minded!” Miao Ying said.

She then added softly, “I have absolute trust in you! In addition, my plan is based on the needs of the case and the abilities of each person. You and Cui Lizhu should be able to complete your task quickly, and after that, we can meet in Beiqian.”

Zhao Yu nodded. “Okay. I’ll do as you say. However, you must be careful.”

Miao Ying kissed Zhao Yu happily, then said, “There’s no need to worry about me.”

Then, they went back to the office to assign everyone their tasks. Seeing that Miao Ying was excited upon receiving her orders, Zhao Yu totally understood why. He knew that Miao Ying wanted to investigate the famous Devil Case.

From the moment they met, this strong girl was eager to outdo him in solving cases. Although they were now in love with each other, Miao Ying’s inherent stubbornness and competitiveness hadn’t changed.

Before this, she had already cracked the 11 kills serial murder case and surpassed Zhao Yu. As such, she was now quite prideful and even a bit overconfident. So, of course, she wanted to jump in and make a contribution to Zhao Yu’s team again!

Moreover, she had become obsessed with the five major pending cases, and she had always regretted not participating in the Headless Female Corpses Case. So, she would certainly not miss this opportunity!

However, Zhao Yu shook his head. He had a slight feeling that Miao Ying might be wrong in her judgments about the Devil Case. Beiqian was not necessarily the most important place to start investigating the Devil Case. Instead, he felt that Yaoming, which was where he was going, was the most crucial location.

Miao Ying was very eager to win, but Zhao Yu was equally motivated to do the same! Today, he had received a Kun Li hexagram. This was exactly why he had insisted on going to Yaoming to investigate Han Kuan’s affairs!

If he was right, the Kun hexagram should refer to the Devil Case, which they just found out was related to Han Kuan and his wife. Currently, there was no bigger case than the Devil Case!

As for the Li hexagram, after thinking it over, Zhao Yu believed that the Li portion must mean Han Kuan. So, just like Dou Zili on Yongjin Island, it was possible that the key to the Devil Case was still Han Kuan! Naturally, he wanted to go to Yaoming to find out more about Han Kuan’s past.

Moreover, Zhao Yu had an even more practical purpose. If he could find evidence to point to Han Kuan’s guilt, he could at least buy them more time for their investigation. If not, Han Kuan might be acquitted!

When Zhao Yu and Miao Ying allocated the tasks, the team members had no objections. Zeng Ke booked flight tickets immediately, and after a short time of preparation, the team members set off in separate directions.

Chapter 868: Cui Lizhu’s Confession

As the roaring noise of the flight's takeoffs declined, Zhao Yu and Cui Lizhu were flying through the night sky. If all went well, they would arrive at their destination, Yaoming, in about an hour and a half.

Although Yaoming was not the capital of the Tongjiang Province, it was still quite an economically developed city. In fact, it was known as the economic center of the Tongjiang Province, along with Chaohai.

Zhao Yu was quite familiar with the Tongjiang Province. This was because, a few days ago, Quliang, where he had solved the Yongjin Island case, was under the jurisdiction of the Tongjiang Province. During the time that he worked on that case, he met with some leaders at the Tongjiang Provincial Office.

Quliang was in the southernmost region of the Tongjiang Province, with Chaohai being in the middle and Yaoming in the north. In Yaoming, port trade and the petrochemical industry were its main economic pillars.

The local oil technical school was once famous all over the country. Therefore, Han Kuan came to study there, even though he lived far away.

However, things had changed since then. Now, that famous oil technical school no longer existed.

Currently, Cui Lizhu was sitting near the window. As she looked out at the darkness through the window, she sighed and asked Zhao Yu in a lazy tone, "Boss, have you checked your clothes carefully yet?"

"What? " Zhao Yu did not understand her meaning.

"Well.. For bugs! For mini cameras! Or... Something like that!" As she was exhausted, Cui Lizhu yawned, then said, "I can't believe that your violent girlfriend would be so confident to send us to work together!"

"Shoot!" Zhao Yu shook his head, then asked, "What are you thinking about? Miao Ying is not the person you think she is!"

"Hum... Maybe not... But, don't forget what you did to me in Jinping... How could she not be jealous?" Cui Lizhu shook her head as she asked.

Zhao Yu frowned. "Please! What did I do with you? I keep that a secret to protect your reputation, and yet you question me and her? To tell you the truth, Miao Ying and I were having some problems at that time and had somewhat separated. So, even if I did something to you, she wouldn't complain about me!"

"Ah.. I see..." Cui Lizhu stretched a bit, then put her hands around Zhao Yu's arm and lay her head on his shoulder.

She then said softly, "Well, since you don't mind my being here, today is a good opportunity for us. After we land, we can enjoy having a good time together."

Zhao Yu knocked on Cui Lizhu's forehead gently, then asked, "What's the matter with you? I'm the last loyal man in the world. If I allow myself to be seduced by you, the world is ruined!"

“Um... You’re terrific...” Cui Lizhu buried her head in Zhao Yu’s arm, then said, “But right now, I need to use your shoulder to sleep on for a while. It’s so tiring being a policewoman!”

“Hmmm, you just won’t stop, will you? Zhao Yu shook his head and smiled. He then murmured, “Don’t think I don’t know. You just gave Zhang Jingfeng 5,000 Yuan and kept half of my money! And... You said that you just took 2,000 Yuan. Which word should I use to describe you? You are never going to learn your lesson, are you?”

Cui Lizhu rubbed her face against Zhao Yu’s clothes and laughed. “You already know that? No wonder you are my boss!”

Zhao Yu advised her with these earnest words, “Money is a small matter for me, but you must obey basic principles. No matter what happens, you must tell me the truth, do you understand?”

“Um... I know...” Cui Lizhu was really very tired, so she closed her eyes and muttered a promise to him. Then, she started to snore slightly. She seemed to have fallen asleep.

Zhao Yu pressed his temple with his hand. He was also tired and was ready for a good rest.

At this moment, the little girl, who was still snuggled under his armpit, unexpectedly mumbled, “Ouch, boss... To be honest... Being a policeman... Actually feels quite good! Whatever the investigation... There’s no need for me to sneak around anymore... Wherever I go... I don’t need to hide...”

Cui Lizhu’s words immediately reminded Zhao Yu of his past life. He had once had the same feelings as Cui Lizhu.

Who would have thought that a street gangster, who had built a life out of making trouble for others would become a criminal policeman and well-known detective? One had to wonder if it was luck or destiny...

Zhao Yu touched Cui Lizhu’s beautiful hair gently and said softly, “We must do well in the future. At least, you have to make me believe that I did the right thing.”

“Hmm...” Cui Lizhu nodded her head, and suddenly, tears began to roll down her face.

She was silent for a long time before she said softly, “I’m thinking... If my dad wakes up in the future and sees that I have become a criminal policewoman, he’ll be happy for me, won’t he?”

“Yes. Also, I heard that Tao Xiang was transferred to a mental hospital!” Zhao Yu said. “Don’t worry, though, as you can visit him anytime after you make some great achievements!”

Cui Lizhu nodded slightly, then asked, “Boss... Do you really think that Han Kuan and his wife have anything to do with the Devil Case? I really want to know the truth.”

“I also want to find out the truth, but it’s of no use rushing matters. We have to collect all of our evidence, bit by bit!” Zhao Yu closed his eyes, then said softly, “I think there are three possibilities in this case. The first is that Han Kuan is the murderer, or at least is one of them, in the Devil Case. Then, Zhang Jingru discovered his secret, so Han Kuan killed her and disguised her death as a suicide.”

Zhao Yu then said, “The second possibility is that Zhang Jingru is the real culprit of the Devil Case. Han Kuan was afraid of her, so he killed her! As for the third, which is the most complicated, Zhang Jingru

and Han Kuan are both the main culprits of the Devil Case. They designed and committed the horrible crime together! Later, for unknown reasons, they had a conflict, so Han Kuan killed Zhang Jingru! Perhaps, there even are other murderers besides them!”

He shook his head, then added, “Regardless, Han Kuan is smart. Although we know that he killed Zhang Jingru, we can’t do anything about it yet! So, we can only hope that we find more evidence that connects Han Kuan to the Devil Case. Only in that way can, we can finally figure out why he killed his wife!”

He then added, “And... Although Zhang Jingru went to school in Beiqian, I still feel that she is not likely the killer of the Devil Case. After I read Zhang Jingru’s diary, I saw that she is a cheerful and outgoing woman, which does not match the Devil Case murderer’s personality profile at all. But, regarding Han Kuan, he is totally different...”

When Zhao Yu was talking, he was in high spirits and didn’t even notice that Cui Lizhu had fallen asleep in his arms! As he looked down, he saw that she was even snoring a little bit.

Chapter 869: Confusing Hexagram

Zhao Yu’s flight arrived at Yaoming airport at 2:15 a.m., right on time. As the Criminal Division had already made arrangements for them in advance, the local police station had a special bus that was waiting to pick them up the moment that Zhao Yu and Cui Lizhu got off the plane.

The local police would also assist them in the follow-up investigation. Because it was still dark, the police officers at the station sent them directly to their hotel to rest for a bit.

Of course, Zhao Yu wouldn’t stay with Cui Lizhu in the same room, and after checking in and going upstairs, they went to different rooms to rest. After all, Zhao Yu knew himself well. If Cui Lizhu really tried to seduce him, he was worried that he might not be able to stay loyal and honest!

Yaoming was a big city with a developed economy. As such, the four-star hotel they were staying in was 100 times better than the hotels in the Golden City.

As he was lying on the soft and comfortable bed, Zhao Yu felt that he could finally have a good sleep. But, before going to bed, one thing that was still weighing on his heart was the Kun Li hexagram that he had opened yesterday. At this time, there was still no update for the hexagram.

If the side adventure didn’t end, he could not open a new hexagram. However, he did not quite understand why yesterday’s side adventure didn’t end. He couldn’t help but wonder... Does this mean that I am right about the case? Or... Will something happen later?

With this in mind, Zhao Yu quickly locked the door from the inside. He was afraid that Cui Lizhu might try to sneak into his bed in the middle of the night.

However, after locking the door, Zhao Yu laughed at himself. He felt that it was hilarious that he was afraid of a tiny female thief! Moreover, her going along with him for this investigation had been Miao Ying’s idea!

After lying in bed for quite some time, yet still not falling asleep, Zhao Yu turned on his mobile phone and took a look at it. Because Miao Ying's flight didn't take off at the same time as his, they should not have arrived at Beiqian yet. So, instead of calling her, he sent Miao Ying a message to let her know that he had arrived safely in Yaoming.

As he looked at Miao Ying's image on his phone, Zhao Yu was slightly worried about her. He wondered if Miao Ying's trip was going smoothly.

He also wondered if they had already made any progress in the Devil Case. Of course, he didn't yet know if he and Cui Lizhu would find any important clues on their end.

After that, Zhao Yu made plans for tomorrow, specifically on how he would conduct the investigation. As he saw that the system still did not have any updates for him, he fell asleep, utterly exhausted.

The next morning, although he had set the alarm for 7 o'clock, he woke up at 6:30. When he turned on his phone, a message alerting him that Miao Ying and the others had arrived at Beiqian appeared on his Wechat. However, unlike Zhao Yu, Miao Ying and the others had to travel overnight to Changfeng, so they had no chance to rest.

By this time, they should have arrived at Zhang Jingru's school and begun looking for clues. Now that they had started, he could not fall behind! Thinking of this, Zhao Yu quickly sent Cui Lizhu a text message, asking her to get up. Then, he went to the bathroom.

He had just turned on the tap, when he found that yesterday's Kun Li hexagram had been completed! He quickly checked the history records and found that he got a high 189% score, as well as eight first-class devices, including the Invisible Bone Setting Device!

He was quite confused about these results. There were no special events yesterday, and Cui Lizhu didn't come to his room. So, he had to wonder... Why did the side adventure not end earlier, so that I could open a new hexagram?

Zhao Yu didn't have much time now, but the satisfying side adventure result and his new eight devices boosted Zhao Yu's confidence greatly. He felt like he had made the right choice in coming to Yaoming.

At that moment, he made up his mind to make a great effort to find key clues to the case as soon as possible, so that he could crack the Devil Case! Thinking about this, Zhao Yu did not even wash his face before he quickly opened a new hexagram.

However, Zhao Yu was shocked and froze on the spot when he saw the new hexagram. This time, in the center of the system's interface, there appeared two big characters... Kun Gen!

No way! What's wrong with it? Zhao Yu wondered. He had anticipated opening a Gen hexagram, but he could never have imagined that there would be a Kun hexagram in front of the Gen hexagram!

Why? This... This Devil Case is too strange! I've just arrived in Yaoming, and I haven't even gone to Beiqian!

Zhao Yu frowned. He thought that he and Cui Lizhu were only here to find more clues and related information to the case. So, he had to wonder... Why would a Kun hexagram suddenly appear? As a Kun hexagram represented a major event, he felt uneasy.

Suddenly, Zhao Yu was scared by the thought that he could possibly meet Han Kuan's accomplice today. Then, as he wondered whether he would run into Han Kuan's accomplice, who was also a murderer of the Devil Case, he began to worry that he and Cui Lizhu would be in danger.

If that's the case, I have to make be prepared and stay vigilant today. I mustn't be fooled by anything or anyone! With this in mind, Zhao Yu quickly brushed his teeth and washed his face.

Soon he was ready to start his workday. However, during this time, he was still panicked and nervous. Now, he that had escalated to horror... He was truly horrified by the Devil Case!

After he washed his face, he suddenly thought of another thing and couldn't help but feel excited. This was because, according to his past experience, a hexagram that represented a big event often resulted in a major breakthrough, which would benefit him a lot in solving this case.

So, maybe I will have a very big harvest today! Thinking about this, he rushed out of the bathroom and took out his notebook to write down this side adventure.

According to the system's instructions, today's side adventure would take place in Yaoming. However, the exact location was not the city center, but a remote suburban area. The time for the side adventure was 4:29 p.m..

Suddenly, Zhao Yu felt that his brain couldn't work efficiently enough to even think correctly. In the past, it was always the same way. If he wanted to know the meaning of the side adventure, he had to first experience it personally.

Systems master, I just came to this strange place... Can you just let me take a breath first? What will happen to me today? Zhao Yu sighed as he pondered the day to come.

Chapter 870: Intolerable

Jin Wan, the vice captain of the local criminal police was responsible for assisting with Zhao Yu's investigation. He was about 10 years older than Zhao Yu and looked very vigorous and fierce.

After staying with him for a short while, Zhao Yu found that this man was not at all what he first appeared to be. Instead, he was careful, delicate, and experienced, a police officer who had worked for a long time and had solved many cases.

Currently, it was very early in the morning as Jin Wan turned to to Zhao Yu in the police car and said, "We have four groups of police forces from each branch office to assist you in your investigation. They will all be under your command and at your service at any time. If there is any need beyond that number, we can increase our forces at any time."

Vice Captain Jin then said, "Also, our bureau chief said that the Yaoming Police Station would cooperate with your Special Investigation Group. If you find a suspect, we also have armed and anti-terrorism forces to support you."

"Very good!" Zhao Yu said with an authoritative tone that officials usually used. He had started to use such a tone after hearing them use it.

However, Zhao Yu didn't really need any armed police or anti-terrorism forces at all. But, due to his receiving the Kun hexagram that morning, Zhao Yu felt that he should take a few more precautions. So, now that he was assured that he had the strong support of the local police, he felt much more confident.

Jin Wan then turned to Zhao Yu with a piece of material in his hand and said, "Group Leader Zhao, the technical school that you are investigating closed five years ago. Later, it reopened as a private middle school before then being changed to an elementary school. But, one year ago, along with the city's transformation, the elementary school moved. Now, all of the original buildings have been demolished, and the old site has become a harbor park."

Cui Lizhu exclaimed in shock, "No way! It's really gone?"

"However, according to the information that you have provided..." Vice Captain Jin said quickly, "We found several legal representatives of the technical school at that time, and we also found several teachers and some students of the school from the old address book. We are currently organizing the information, so we will know more about the people who are connected with the school soon. We just can't know anything yet..."

Zhao Yu interrupted him, saying, "The Golden City police only found a form that had some personal information about Han Kuan from the oil company. It seemed like it had been submitted after he resigned. The form says that Han Kuan went to the school in 1998, so our goal is to find his teachers, classmates, and roommates from that time period."

Vice Captain Jin wrote all of this down in his notebook, then saluted Zhao Yu and said, "You can rest assured that we shall find something soon, as four of our teams are acting together now!"

"Good..." Zhao Yu said as he waved his hand. "Let's go and meet the leaders of his school first!"

After Zhao Yu gave the order, the four police teams immediately dispersed and took action. At first, Zhao Yu and Vice Captain Jin thought it would be easy to find out about Han Kuan from his old school. However, after spending the entire morning searching, not one of the four teams had found anything!

This was due to many mitigating factors. First of all, because the school had become different institutes several times since he had attended it, it was almost impossible for them to find old materials from the time when Han Kuan was enrolled there. Moreover, there were no remaining official records about the teachers or students, so they could only look for each possible person on their own.

Secondly, although they successfully found several school representatives, these representatives were all senior leaders, which meant that they didn't participate in teaching at all. Hence, they could only provide information about the upper management, but were completely ignorant of Han Kuan's situation.

According to them, this school had been very popular at that time, and 1998 in particular was the most prestigious year for the school. There were 16 classes of students for each year, with each class having more than 60 students. And, because 99% of the students who went to the school were from remote areas, it was very difficult for the police to find them now.

Moreover, Han Kuan had attended a five-year program, during which there was probably a change of classes and a probationary workshop practicum. This revealed that his situation was extremely complex.

At that time, the teachers at the technical school were state authorized staff. Later, because of the reform of the education system, the graduates wouldn't have state guaranteed jobs, so the enrollment rate had declined sharply, leaving most of the teachers without jobs and scrambling to look for other employment opportunities.

Thus, it was not surprising that Zhao Yu and the others were only able to find a few teachers, even after a half day's effort. Sadly, none of these handful of teacher had any recollection of having Han Kuan as a student in ant of their classes.

Feeling desperate, the police then called every possible person that they could think of and asked them if they anything about Han Kuan. But, they still did not find anyone!

When it was time for lunch, Jin Wan invited Zhao Yu and Cui Lizhu to share a meal with him at a famous local restaurant in order to introduce them to some of Yaoming's signature cuisine and culture. Just like in Quliang, since it was so close to the seaside, the restaurants there mostly served seafood.

But, as Zhao Yu had a tight schedule, he kindly declined the kind invitation and had requested to have lunch at a place that was closer instead. At that time, their police car was near the western part of the old city area, which happened to have a street that was lined with especially good seafood markets and vendors as well.

So, after Vice Captain Jin parked the car, he took Zhao Yu and Cui Lizhu to a small restaurant on that street. Unexpectedly, the small restaurant was very busy, and when they went inside, there was only one table available. So, they were lucky to get it!

After Vice Captain Jin looked at the menu, he ordered food for them. As he did so, Zhao Yu frowned tightly and said to Cui Lizhu, "I didn't expect that it would be so difficult to find information about Han Kuan and his school! I'm thinking about letting Wu Xiumin ask Han Kuan to tell us some of these things directly, such as... What class was he in? Who were his teachers and classmates, and what dormitory did he live in?"

As Zhao Yu was talking, at a table next to them, a group of local people, who were all clearly drunk, were talking loudly. They all spoke with a local accent, which Zhao Yu could not understand. They were so loud that Zhao Yu had to practically yell into Cui Lizhu's ear for her to hear him.

Zhao Yu turned around and looked at the people. In the past, he would have screamed at them furiously to shut up. However, he had since learned his lesson about fighting, so he tried to restrain himself and not lose his temper.

He then turned around and said to Cui Lizhu, "If Han Kuan answers us honestly, we won't have a problem. But, if he pretends to not remember his time at school, it means that this information is important to the case and he is avoiding telling us in order to cover something up! Thus, I think that we should not question him ourselves. After all, if he knows that we are investigating him, he will get nervous!"

"I agree. In fact, there is no need for us to show up and make any of this more complicated. Let Wu Xiumin ask him herself..." Cui Lizhu could barely even hear herself speak at this point. Because of this, Cui Lizhu looked at the people at the next table with disgust in her eyes.

Cui Lizhu also had to speak with her mouth right next to Zhao Yu's ear as she asked, "Why did Han Kuan choose to work as a freelance writer instead of at an oil company? Did he intentionally want to forget his past? If so, I really think there is something fishy about him."

"Leader Zhao, I ordered some local dishes for us, um..." At this time, Vice Captain Jin held up the menu and wanted Zhao Yu to have a look at it. However, he could not help but frown at the next table as he noticed how loud the drunk people were being.

The drunkards were really going too far! They were making a ton of noise and were speaking loudly, while knocking their bowls with their chopsticks constantly! Some of them were even topless!

Not only was Zhao Yu annoyed by their antics, but all of the guests in the restaurant looked at the noisy people with disgust. But, none of the patrons dared to speak up when they saw that most of these people had tattoos all over their bodies.

"This is intolerable!" Vice Captain Jin yelled angrily.

He then put the menu down on the table and turned around and glared at the drunkards. It seemed that he wanted to give them a stern warning.

Unexpectedly, Zhao Yu suddenly reached out and grabbed him, while calmly advising him, "Captain Jin, let's just eat our food. We are decent people, and they are not worth the drama or trouble."

"What the heck?" When she heard this, Cui Lizhu clapped her hand down on the table and almost laughed out loud.

She then asked, "Boss, did I just hear you correctly? You are going to just take this lying down and not doing anything about it?"

"Hey... Tolerance is not my usual style, I know, but I am turning over a new leaf," Zhao Yu said.

He then chuckled somewhat deviously, then pointed to Cui Lizhu and said in a commanding tone, "However, you can go over and sort all of them out for me! Otherwise, I will fire you!"