

Crazy 991

Chapter 991: Zhao Yu Finds You

In the blue Buick business car that Zhao Yu sat in, other than the goateed man with the pistol, there was a young driver sporting a buzzcut. The young man seemed expressionless, focused on the task of driving. Since Zhao Yu had gotten in the car, the driver had not spoken a single word, nor had he so much as turned around to glance at Zhao Yu.

The car made its way through the forested area before quickly looping onto a road without streetlights. Normally, cars were prohibited from driving around the park as the entrance was usually barricaded by huge stone structures. Someone had pushed the structures away, leaving a gap just wide enough for a car to drive through. They soon reached the end of the small road and passed through a wooden archway to the main road.

“Mr. Jiang...” the goateed man began, giggling as he passed Zhao Yu a pair of handcuffs. “I’m sorry, but I need to ask you to cuff yourself! You should know how these things work. Don’t worry! It’s only a safety measure and we mean you no harm. If we did, we wouldn’t have gone to the trouble of inviting you here, right?” he asked.

Zhao Yu understood the man’s implication. If the goateed man had wanted to kill him, he could have easily done so with the pistol. But Zhao Yu was also experienced in new meetings and immediately tossed the handcuffs aside, asking, “You’re giving me a pair of handcuffs on our first meeting? Is this how you treat your guests? If you truly mean no harm, why not let me know who you people are?”

The goateed man let out a laugh and smiled. “Mr. Jiang, we really did come here with the sincerest of intentions. But as you know, you are someone who enjoys playing mind games, and we would like some peace of mind.” As he said this, he threateningly raised his pistol. “In this particular instance, for safety, we have to use force to ensure peace. It’s only because we respect your legendary reputation in this industry!”

“Hmph!” The truth was that Zhao Yu had a bulletproof vest on. He figured he stood a pretty good chance if he wanted to take these men down. But attacking in such a manner wasn’t smart. After all, he was still unsure about their backgrounds. Thinking everything over, he let out a grunt and proceeded to cuff himself.

“Good! It seems that you do understand the situation, Mr. Jiang! Now then...” the goateed man said as he pulled out a metal scanner. “This is just protocol, I hope you understand!” he continued, seeming embarrassed.

F*ck! Zhao Yu thought. It had only been one day but this was already his third time being scanned.

Beep, beep, beep.

The scanner immediately began to beep as it approached him. He had no choice but to cooperate. Reluctantly, he took out his phone and passed it to the goateed man. “Wow!” the goateed man exclaimed, his eyes lighting up as he took the phone. “I-isn’t this the limited edition M3 Forbidden City

version? This is like, tens of thousands of dollars! How extravagant! I can't bear to throw this away. Alas..." Sighing, he proceeded to throw the phone out of the window.

Tsch! Zhao Yu felt a slight pang in his heart over the blatant consumerist waste he had just witnessed. Not only was the phone expensive, but it also contained all of the investors' information!

"Meh!" The goateed man sighed and reluctantly picked up the scanner. Almost immediately the scanner began to sound again. Alright, you're in charge here. Zhao Yu thought as he cooperated once again, taking out a gold-colored phone.

"What the f*ck..." The goateed man could no longer keep his calm. Trembling, he asked, "Isn't this the newly released Golden Circle? Custom made, at least ten thousand dollars. Boss Jiang, this isn't something to play with! What do you expect me to do with it?"

"It's no problem," Zhao Yu said, signaling to the car window. "This kind of sh*tty phone can't be used after being soaked in water anyway, so feel free to toss it." The goateed man had nothing to say as he reluctantly threw the phone out the window. After throwing it, he took a deep breath and continued with the scan. Lo and behold, the scanner rang again!

"Seriously?" the goateed man asked, becoming frantic and staring in disbelief at Zhao Yu. "Boss, I can't take this anymore! What other valuables do you still have? Can't you take them out all at once?"

"Alright, alright..." Zhao Yu said. With some difficulty, he put his hands into his pocket and pulled out two more phones and three watches. "Hey man, there shouldn't be a problem with the watches, right?"

"What the actual f*ck..." The goateed man was astonished. "How is there even a Dior platinum version here? You could buy a Passat with this! Boss Jiang, you are truly the King of thieves here. Even your phones are too much. You've got me!"

"Stop the shenanigans!" Zhao Yu berated. "I've treated you with sincerity this whole time, it's time for you to do the same. If we're really friends, then let's get closer! If we're enemies, tell me your demands. If you have requests, just state them. If you have motives, let me know. Hurry up and be straight about it so I don't have to guess blindly!"

"Y-you... let me calm down first!" the goateed man said, playing with the phone with both admiration and envy. "Boss! Once you've finished discussing things with our boss, why don't I work for you in the future instead? You're too rich..." Upon seeing Zhao Yu's tensed expression, the goateed man immediately said, "Alright, since you're clear, what else can I tell you? Our boss's instructions were that he must meet and discuss matters with you so I really can't explain much."

"Who is your boss?" Zhao Yu asked, furrowing his brows. "And where are you taking me?"

"Our boss... hmm..." Knowing he couldn't say much, the goateed man furrowed his brows as well. "It's like this, Mr. Jiang. Since you'll be seeing him later, you'll come to understand everything! I'm not going to say something and risk receiving flak for it. Our boss has a bad temper. The place we're going isn't far from the outskirts of Jin. Why don't you take a rest and we'll be there before you know it!"

"F*ck. What you just said is as good as not saying anything. Are you looking to get a beating?" Zhao Yu bellowed, staring intently at the goateed man. Despite being cuffed, all he needed was a multipurpose picklock and he could still assault him.

“D-don’t. I’m only a lackey, please don’t take it that seriously with me! I assure you we really mean no harm. Our boss should be discussing a collaboration of sorts with you. Once you reach him, you’ll understand!” the goateed man frantically explained as he threw the remaining branded phones out the window.

To build some trust with Zhao Yu, he hastily stuffed the watches back into Zhao Yu’s pocket. “How about this, I can tell you my name. I’m Zhu Sunfeng. My subordinates call me Brother Feng, and my superiors call me Xiao Feng. Since you’re my senior, you can call me Xiao Feng! Even Xiao Xiao Feng is fine...” the goateed man said, trailing off with an awkward laugh.

Hmm? The name seemed familiar to Zhao Yu, but he couldn’t quite put his finger on it. Even so, he felt like he was one step closer to the truth! As he thought about this, he asked, “Were you the ones who helped me break out of prison at Yaoming?”

Upon hearing this, the goateed Zhu Sunfeng began to mumble. “Ah... that... hahaha...”

F*ck! It really was them! Even though Zhu Sunfeng didn’t answer directly, Zhao Yu realized immediately they were indeed the ones who broke him out of prison. The boss he spoke about – it must be the mystery person!

Chapter 992: The Older the Wiser

After what had seemed like forever, Zhao Yu finally felt like he was nearing the end of this! To be honest, although Zhao Yu used to be part of a gang, it was completely different than it was being a thief. After changing his face to become Jiang Ke, he had gotten to know a bunch of strangers, from Jiang Ke’s underlings to a bunch of cocky rich people.

Because Zhao Yu wasn’t familiar with Jiang Ke, there was some difficulty adjusting to his persona. It was especially hard when he discovered the five rich people weren’t the mystery man, causing him to briefly regret changing his face. After all the risks he had taken, he still wasn’t able to find the mystery man! What a disappointing turn of events.

Now, however, it seemed that everything was coming up roses for him! Zhao Yu’s mood had taken a 180-degree turn and his eyes sparkled with excitement, lighting up like Sun Wukong’s fiery eyes. Who knew that a path to the mystery man would reveal itself, and just as he was about to give up on the plan and return to his own identity! As the saying went, ‘good things come when you least expect it’.

Obviously, the goateed Zhu Sunfeng wanted to bring him to the mystery man’s hideout since the mystery man wanted to meet with him! All of Zhao Yu’s questions would soon be answered, all he had to do was wait patiently.

“Mr. Jiang, please stop with the questions...” Zhu Sunfeng said sincerely as he lowered his pistol. “If you have any questions, please feel free to ask the boss directly. You can’t expect runners like us to go around running their mouths, right?”

Zhu Sunfeng... Even though Zhao Yu no longer had his phones, he had the Invisible Browser in his mind. He did a quick search and found all of his information. According to the data, Zhu Sunfeng was from

Halong River and was now a sales rep in a pharmaceutical company. Now 33 years old, he had completed his military service and had no previous records.

When Zhao Yu saw the words 'Halong River' he felt uncomfortable. Tsk tsk. Wasn't Cao Sifen from there as well? Did that make Zhu Sunfeng his underling? If the mystery man was Cao Sifen... the situation wouldn't be pretty. It would be bad if Cao Sifen was the mystery man since he and Jiang Ke had a deep hatred for each other. When they met later it would be nothing but chaos!

Zhao Yu had seen many such cases in the past. When a boss had a deep hatred for someone, it could lead to lynching. So even if Zhu Sunfeng didn't kill Jiang Ke now, it didn't mean his intentions were good! At this thought, Zhao Yu hesitated for a while. It didn't matter which pit he jumped into; he would still have to handle it alone. The mystery man was the key to solving everything. If it really was Cao Sifen, all he had to do was catch him to learn about the mystery man! Besides, he had so many quality tools at his disposal, what was he afraid of?

Now Zhao Yu was only worried about one thing, and that was the real Jiang Ke. He could no longer contact Ma Laodan and now that Jiang Ke had suddenly disappeared, what would Ma Laodan do? If he left Jiang Ke in the park to get caught by the police, they would no longer be able to contact each other. But if Ma Laodan was smart and brought Jiang Ke away once realizing Zhao Yu wasn't coming... that wouldn't be good either.

"Mr. Jiang, as expected you really are the King of thieves, hahaha..." Zhu Sunfeng said. He was trying to get close to Jiang Ke, going so far as to praise him with a thumbs up. "Even in the club, with that many security guards and plainclothes police officers, you were still able to escape! If it was me, I think I would have been beaten to death!"

"Oh..." Zhao Yu said, frowning as he suddenly thought about how they had managed to find him after he had escaped from the club. Had they been observing him? "How did you know?" Zhao Yu asked curiously.

"Of course I knew..." Zhu Sunfeng said proudly. "We received news that you'd be meeting the rich man today so we infiltrated the club's CCTV system in advance and saw everything! Hehehe!" Zhu Sunfeng waved his fist around. "Everyone says Jiang Ke is a computer geek, but nobody expected you'd be able to fight as well! Every punch had such force and your legs moved so nimbly; it was so cool! Oh, right. I saw dozens of people surrounding you at the stairs, how did you get out?"

Zhao Yu understood that they had followed him from the CCTV, but how did they know Jiang Ke would be meeting the investors? Was it one of the investors himself who had leaked the news, or had it come from Jiang Ke's people? Based on the evidence, it seemed the mystery man had no relation to the investors.

"Mr. Jiang, tell me quickly..." Zhu Sunfeng couldn't wait, immediately asking, "What exactly happened at the stairs? You entered from the eighth floor but left from the fifth, and... when you ran out your whole body was covered in white. Don't tell me it was from the fire extinguisher?"

Zhao Yu didn't know whether to laugh or cry at Zhu Sunfeng's question. All he could think was that the goateed man had a sense of humor. He decided not to answer the question because he was feeling

spiteful. "Small Zhu..." Zhao Yu said, "Jiang Ke... uhm... amongst the rich men I met with, are there any who know your boss?"

"This..." Zhu Sunfeng didn't expect Zhao Yu's question and awkwardly laughed it off. "The best part was when you were in the women's bathhouse! I thought you would crawl out from there but not only did you manage to hide, you completely disappeared! I was looking for you through the monitors for a long time before I managed to find you again! As expected of you. You probably escaped through the vents? The path you took was clear so I assume you previously researched the layout of the building?"

"Hmph... thinking about it, were you the ones who called the police? I don't understand why you would sabotage us. If the police caught me, what was in it for you?" Zhao Yu asked, realizing the contradictions.

"Eh, why would you say that? Don't point fingers like that. Unless... you were the one who called the police? If not, how were you so familiar with the building? And I saw you fight your way from the eighth floor! Don't tell me the rich men discovered that you called the police... wait... no..." Zhu Sunfeng shook his head while he spoke. "You broke out of prison, there's no way you would have called the police and risked getting yourself sent back! It seems like there's a spy in your midst!"

"The spy is in your midst!" Zhao Yu said. "You guys called the police to destroy Jiang Ke, no, the entire network! This way, if I were to get caught you guys would come out on top. I guess your boss is calling me over to discuss collaborating?"

"No, no, no." Zhu Sunfeng attempted to explain quickly, saying, "The meeting was really to set up a collaboration, and because of that calling the police was out of the picture. What if the police caught you? There's no way we could help you break out of prison again, right? Ah, f*ck." Zhu Sunfeng cursed as he realized he had let the cat out of the bag.

Oh! Zhao Yu was relieved and nodded. It looks like these really were the people who had broken him out of jail. Since Zhu Sunfeng had already exposed himself, it was only natural that Zhao Yu push to try to find out more. "Small Zhu, was it because of the two of you that the car was modified to be Skynet-proof?"

At that moment, the man with the buzzcut who had been driving smoothly up until now, suddenly jerked and caused the car to jump violently. It looked like he was the one who had done it!

"As expected of you!" Zhu Sunfeng said, hitting himself as he took out a black mask. "Boss Jiang, you're too smart. I can't beat you! Hurry up, put this on and shut your trap. Just stop speaking, alright?"

"So... it was you who swapped the prison guard's phone?" Zhao Yu pressed on.

"Shut up, shut up, just stop speaking!" Zhu Sunfeng snarled. "If you speak anymore, I'll force you to shut up!"

Chapter 993: The Unexpected Final Destination

Zhu Sunfeng covered Zhao Yu's face with a mask. Zhao Yu was no longer able to see anything, as the mask came with an attached blindfold. Zhao Yu knew they didn't want him to know the route they were

taking to the mystery man's hideout. He also figured they weren't far out from the destination. If they were still far, Zhu Sunfeng wouldn't have taken such immediate action. The hideout was probably near the outskirts of Jin.

To be honest, Zhao Yu was relieved to wear the mask. It had been some time since he last used the face changer and there was a limit to its use. He'd be in a terrible position if the face changer couldn't last until the meeting with the mystery man. Since he had the mask on, he could use his own face and save the face changer for later.

It wasn't just the face changer though, Zhao Yu had at most two more charges of the Invisible Voice-changer left as well. Although his and Jiang Ke's voices were similar, he was hoping to use the tool during his meeting with the mystery man to avoid arousing any suspicions. So, after the mask was on, he took the opportunity to stop talking as well.

It was only natural that Zhao Yu didn't feel safe after being plunged into sudden darkness. He opened his Invisible Fluoroscopic Device and began keeping track of movement inside the car so Goatee wouldn't be able to hurt him. However, Zhu Sunfeng showed no intention of harming him and calmly sat opposite Zhao Yu, watching him as if he were the villain.

Buzzcut, who was driving, seemed to be mute, as he hadn't uttered a single word from the beginning. Instead of using the highway, he kept north on the route. After the car began to cruise, Zhao Yu yawned and laid down on the back seat, readying himself for a nap.

"Yes, that's exactly what you should do..." Zhu Sunfeng said, satisfied with Zhao Yu's decision. He let out a yawn before continuing, "The night is long, you should get a good night's rest, Mr. Jiang! By the time you wake up, we should almost be there..." How was Zhao Yu supposed to be in the mood for sleep? He was more excited than ever thinking about meeting the mystery man.

Ah, the mystery man.

I can finally see your face this time! I want to take a good look and see exactly who you are. I also want to see your reaction when you see Jiang Ke become Zhao Yu. Oh, what will you think then? Zhao Yu thought.

He had other doubts, of course. Firstly, he still couldn't understand why the mystery man would send Zhu Sunfeng out to catch Jiang Ke. Did he want to collaborate with Jiang Ke, or was there something else? He was becoming more confused by the minute about the mystery man's attitude towards Jiang Ke. During the explosion at the seafood market, the mystery man had used Cao Sifen to deal with Jiang Ke, which meant he was obviously after his life! But if that was the case, then why didn't he ask Zhu Sunfeng to just shoot him? Why did he want to meet Jiang Ke personally? Wasn't this all contradictory?

Secondly, Zhao Yu felt being kidnapped by Zhu Sunfeng was really questionable. After all, he had been surrounded by the investors' bodyguards and the plainclothes police officers, how would the mystery man have known he would be able to escape the building? What would the mystery man have done if the real Jiang Ke had been taken away by the police? Would he abort his mission, or plan a second prison break? Zhao Yu doubted he was that daring.

Zhao Yu thought about this seriously and suddenly realized, maybe the mystery man didn't want to kidnap Jiang Ke. Perhaps he just wanted Zhu Sunfeng to see what information he could get, maybe find

out Jiang Ke's real motives. In the end, he found out Jiang Ke had escaped the building and took the risk to kidnap him.

Tsk, I really don't understand this mystery man's intentions! he thought. Zhao Yu took a look at his toolkit. Since he was going to meet the mystery man alone, he would need some backup just in case there were too many opponents.

Of course, how was he to resolve the Ma Laodan issue? Who knew what the real Jiang Ke was doing at this moment? If he was already caught by the police, would it affect the upcoming meeting?

Fortunately, when Zhao Yu had assigned the tasks to Li Luoyun, he had already informed him that whatever happened during this mission was top-secret. Even if the police had caught Jiang Ke, they should be doing everything secretly. After thinking everything over, it was already evening and the number of vehicles on the street had dwindled. The car began to pick up speed.

The usage time for the Invisible Fluoroscopic Device was limited, so Zhao Yu couldn't leave it on forever. Still, he had the Invisible Detector in his mind and could still see Zhu Sunfeng's gun. If Zhu Sunfeng were to make any movements Zhao Yu would know.

Besides the Fluoroscopic Device, Zhao Yu had another tool that allowed him to see where he was. That was the GPS he hadn't used in some time. After using this device, he would be able to know exactly where he was. He had accumulated over thirty uses of it, and it would be a waste to let it sit idly!

He found out his current location was Leping City. Leping was a well-known country city located on the northwestern outskirts of Jin. The Headless Female Corpses Case had taken place here. Zhao Yu had been investigating it, although he had stayed around Jin and never ventured as far as Leping. Of course, Leping was also famous for one other thing – being Jiang Ke's hometown.

Jiang Ke was from Leping and he had many relatives there. But because of what he did, he wasn't close to them. If the mystery man was in Leping, could he be an old friend? A childhood friend perhaps? Or a classmate? It turned out his thoughts were for naught as the car didn't stop in Leping and continued heading northwest. Zhao Yu knew that further north of Leping City was Jin'an and then Meng Xiang.

Whoa... When he thought about Meng Xiang, the first thing to come to Zhao Yu's mind was Gao Lanqi! Could it be? Gao Lanqi was the southernmost city in the Meng Xiang province. A small desert of no more than 120km separated Gao Lanqi and Le Ping City.

The Ziliu Town Rural Cooperatives Homicide Case had happened here. Was the place the mystery man wanted to meet really in Gao Lanqi?

Chapter 994: The Special Secret Base

This time, Zhao Yu had guessed correctly! The other party's destination was indeed Gao Lanqi in Meng Xiang Province. The Buick business car turned in the direction of Gao Lanqi right after crossing the desert. What was even more unbelievable was that when approaching the city, the car began to turn west again. Zhao Yu was shocked when he checked his GPS. It can't be... he thought.

His GPS showed one location – Ziliu Town!

My goodness, how could this be? Zhao Yu was shocked and found this hard to believe. Why did this particular year's Rural Cooperatives Murder Case happen in this small town? Why did the mystery person arrange to meet Jiang Ke here?

By now, Zhao Yu was no stranger to coincidences. The mystery person and the Rural Cooperatives Murder Case were undoubtedly related. This person was either an insider, an accomplice, or even the culprit!

Shoot... Zhao Yu's first thought was that there was no way the mystery guy could be the wanted criminal Yang Zehu, right? If that was true, then wouldn't this case be ridiculous? Who would have thought that the murderer would have hidden near the crime scene the whole time? In plain sight! Where was the logic in this?

After the car turned onto Ziliu Town's small road, it began to slow down. It was well into the wee hours of the morning and there weren't any other cars in sight. Since the car was slowing down, it could only mean that the destination was near!

As expected, the car passed through the town center and turned onto an even narrower road. Zhao Yu did not want to miss out on any details so he quickly took out the Invisible Fluoroscopic Device. The device could see through eye masks and even a car. He could see the environment without having to move a muscle.

Unfortunately, as it was pitch black outside the car, Zhao Yu was unable to see any light and could only see basic details such as the remnants of a destroyed bungalow, alleys stacked with rubbish, and houses covered in residual snow.

Since the reformation and opening of Gao Lanqi and the China borders, the city had become one of the largest cities in Meng Xiang Province due to decent city infrastructure. Still, as the province was scarcely populated and located far away, no matter how good the infrastructure was it would never reach the same level as other metropolises.

The difference was obvious, especially in rural towns. Ziliu Town, while near Gao Lanqi, seemed like a town stuck in the 1980s. There hadn't been much progress since the first murder case.

The winters here were harsh and pure white snow could be seen everywhere outside. A thick mist covered the car windows. If the car warmer was off, someone could probably create visible steam from anger alone.

As it was cold out and still early, there was not a single human on the street. In his heart, Zhao Yu was amazed that this place served as such a great hideout for a wanted criminal. In such a scarcely populated area, minimal monitoring and only having a few accomplices would greatly reduce the risk of being exposed.

The car headed straight along the small road for about one kilometer before turning right. The surroundings became even more dilapidated, with rundown barns on both sides. There were no longer any animals inside them, and some were even on the brink of collapsing.

After another two to three minutes, the car came to a stop in front of what seemed like a huge factory door. Buzzcut and Zhu Sunfeng left the car and opened the padlock on the door with their keys. Through

the Invisible Fluoroscopic Device, Zhao Yu could see both of them shivering. It must really be bone-chillingly cold weather outside.

As the metal door opened, two distinct sounds could be heard in the courtyard. This was probably a cattle farm! This was truly eye-opening. Who would have thought that such a great, mysterious man would be hiding out in a place like this? In that instant, Zhao Yu felt a rare sense of accomplishment. If it wasn't for his unconventional plan and white lies, he would not have been able to sniff out this mystery man. Thinking about this, Zhao Yu couldn't help but feel more excited about finding out the mystery man's identity.

They drove into the courtyard and Buzzcut locked the door behind them before driving further in. Zhao Yu took another look through the Invisible Fluoroscopic Device and confirmed his cattle farm hypothesis. Not only could he see through the walls to see the cows in the barns, but he could also identify that these were female cows due to the spots on them. This was a dairy farm! Interesting...

The car drove into the innermost part of the courtyard where there was a smaller space with a garage. The doors to the garage were already open so Buzzcut drove straight in. "Alright!" said the goateed Zhu Sunfeng as he stretched. "Mr. Jiang, wake up! We've arrived!" he shouted at Zhao Yu, who was feigning taking a nap.

"Oh..." Zhao Yu yawned lazily, taking on the appearance of Jiang Ke before taking off the mask.

"Come on, let's get out of the car!" Zhu Sunfeng said, pistol in hand as he stepped out. "I guess our boss already knew Mr. Jiang was coming and prepared supper for us! I'm famished..."

Woof, woof! The garage and barn were directly linked. A big yellow dog that was tied to the door of the barn started barked immediately when it saw people. "Shoo, shoo, shoooooooo..." Zhu Sunfeng charged towards the dog, waving his hands. However, the dog did not back down and continued its incessant barking.

"What a b*tch!" Zhu Sunfeng pointed his pistol at the dog. "Bark again and I'll shoot you!" As he was talking, Buzzcut had already walked towards the dog. When the dog saw Buzzcut he immediately stopped barking, turned around, and laid down.

"Lucky f*cker!" Zhu Sunfeng said with a shrug. Zhao Yu had left the car by now. Although they were in a garage, he could still feel the chill from the frigid wind. He couldn't help but shiver. "This way!" Zhu Sunfeng said, signaling towards him. "It's warmer inside..."

Zhao Yu followed the two inside the barn. Just as Zhu Sunfeng said, the barn was indeed much warmer thanks to a heater that had been installed. However, the smell of fresh manure was unbearable and it burned his nose.

However, Zhao Yu's curiosity was stronger than the smell. There was no way the mystery man would have chosen to meet Jiang Ke inside the barn. There was definitely something fishy about this.

Right on cue, Zhao Yu witnessed something strange. Buzzcut had used a key to open the fence near the door and made a series of hand signals. A huge cow obediently walked out. "Move, move!" Zhu Sunfeng motioned him inside the barn. "Mr. Jiang, this way please."

At this point, using the detector in his mind, Zhao Yu discovered there were alarms and security cameras installed beyond the fence's walls. These devices had been shut down.

When Zhu Sunfeng walked up towards the wall, it opened inwards, revealing a secret passage.

Chapter 995: It Was Him All Along!!!

As he looked into the secret passage, Zhao Yu felt as if he was looking at something out of a spy film. The experience tonight had already been overwhelming, and to think, things were actually about to get worse! Who would have expected a secret passage inside a cattle farm? This group of robbers weren't just skilled, they were cunning as well.

As a show of sincerity, the goateed Zhu Sunfeng entered first, squeezing into the passageway. Zhao Yu followed after him without so much as a second thought. Buzzcut then brought the cattle back to the herd and locked up the fence before following along behind Zhao Yu.

While it seemed like they were being sincere, Zhao Yu understood the dangerous situation he was in. He was trapped in the middle, with Zhu Sunfeng in front and Buzzcut behind, which meant there was no escape for him. The two were still acting guarded around him.

Still, there was a saying that highly skilled individuals are daring. Zhao Yu wasn't about to let the situation get to him. He had already prepared his Invisible Cloak and Invisible Odor Bomb, amongst other advanced tools. Once he had verified the mystery man's identity, he would seize the opportunity! At that point, who could stop him?

Seeing as the opportunity was near, Zhao Yu spared no expense and brought out the last Invisible Voice-changer to use. This device could last another thirty minutes, which was more than enough based on Zhao Yu's professional judgment.

After passing another corridor, the environment changed. Under the faint light, it was clear that the walls here had been made out of high-quality materials. Various decorations hung on the walls and the floors were even carpeted. Looking at the scene ahead it was as if the barn was just an illusion.

The corridors were neither too wide nor too narrow, and they soon came to an end. On the right was another extravagant looking security door, although the door had no lock and was hidden.

At that point, the detector embedded in Zhao Yu's brain was able to capture even more information. In the hideout, aside from the infrared alarms and a large number of security cameras, it detected a pistol. However, these devices were all shut down just like the ones outside. Zhao Yu suspected they were probably shut down due to the arrival of the mystery man.

It was finally time! Zhao Yu could not help but feel slightly tense. Once he stepped through the doors, he would finally come face to face with the mystery man! The village murders, Wu Fangfang's murder, and even Jiang Ke's prison escape... was it possible to solve all three at once?

Zhu Sunfeng pushed the door open and walked in, shouting, "Boss, Mr. Jiang is here!" Zhao Yu followed closely behind Zhu Sunfeng. There was a living room as huge as a classroom. The living room had a sofa,

television, cabinets; all items you would find in a normal home. There was a corridor linked to the living room and along the corridor were two more rooms that were probably bedrooms of some sort.

The furniture placement was relatively high-class in comparison to Jiang Ke's hideout. The European-style decorations, exquisite crystal lighting, and elegant blankets gave the room a feeling of grandeur. This... was the mystery man's hideout?

Zhao Yu closely observed everything in front of him. From his vantage point he could see that the television was turned on, although no one was on the sofa. Behind the sofa was a bar filled with a variety of alcohol. A small, slender person in yellow pajamas was lying with their face on the bar! They were the only person in the whole room.

The person sat on a swivel chair with their back faced outwards. Perhaps he had been tired, but it seemed he had fallen asleep at the bar. A laptop was open in front of him and a glass of alcohol sat near his hand.

"This..." Zhu Sunfeng seemed shocked to see the man asleep. He glanced at Buzzcut before hurrying towards the bar. Zhao Yu's curiosity was piqued. Based on the situation, that was probably Zhu Sunfeng's boss. Did that mean the mystery man was... him? This mystery man didn't seem very tall...

As Zhao Yu was looking at his back, he noticed that the pistol he had detected was placed inside a flowerpot by the edge of the wall. Was there anything else besides the pistol? Zhao Yu once again scanned everything with the detector. Despite not picking anything up, he still felt uneasy.

He took a deep breath and smelled something odd. There was a hint of sweetness to the smell. Through the dim, soft light he saw something on the parts of the flooring without carpeting. It was as if something had been smeared on the surface of the floor. Also, the carpet... Tsk tsk. Zhao Yu bent down and took a look, realizing the carpet had been soaked by some liquid.

Eh? He lifted his eyes and looked at the man sleeping. Something was amiss...

Zhu Sunfeng was now in front of his boss and frantically calling, "Boss, Boss!" However, the man did not show any signs of waking. Out of options, Zhu Sunfeng tried to shake him but there was no response to that either.

This was not good. Zhao Yu was now on full alert. The person wasn't sleeping, he had been poisoned! The poison... looking at the floor it suddenly came to him. Jesus f*cking Christ don't tell me this room is filled with poisonous gas?!

After extended usage, he was familiar with the characteristics of each of his tools. Although the Invisible Fluoroscopic Device was great, it wasn't able to detect toxic substances. If the house was really filled with toxic gas it meant the situation was very bad.

Zhao Yu quickly opened his toolkit and retrieved the Invisible Air Monitor. It had not been used for some time. Zhu Sunfeng was beginning to realize the extent of the situation and began to help his unconscious boss. "Boss, boss!" he shouted, but there was still no reaction. By now, Buzzcut was worried as well. However, he did not dare take his eyes off of Zhao Yu, as he was still worried Zhao Yu would do something suspicious.

Beep. The detector rang in his brain and revealed the results of the scan. No way, is this right? The detector showed that although the alcohol-based substance was permeating the room, it would have no impact on a human's health. Alcohol-based substance? What the f*ck was this?

Zhu Sunfeng turned his boss over and felt for signs of life. This was when Zhao Yu finally got to see the guy's face. Eh? Zhao Yu felt a sense of déjà vu when he saw his face. He had definitely seen this man before!

Who was it? He... he... Oh! Zhao Yu felt goosebumps. He finally remembered who it was. Although he had never seen a photograph before, he was sure it was him! Yu Fusheng?! How could this be? Upon recognizing the man as Yu Fusheng, his mind began to fill with questions. Why was it him?

During Jiang Ke's initial prison escape, the mystery man had mentioned that Zhao Yu and he had never met before, although they had passed each other once. Could it be, was the mystery man really Yu Fusheng?

"F*ck! He's not breathing anymore!" Zhu Sunfeng said. He saw that Yu Fusheng would not wake up and his face turned white. "Tu Lekai, what are you doing? Something happened to the boss! Hurry up!" he said, scolding Buzzcut. As he said this, he pinched Yu Fusheng hard. Buzzcut rushed forward to help.

"Sofa, sofa!" Zhu Sunfeng pointed at the sofa, suggesting that they carry their boss to it before performing any first aid. Buzzcut understood, quickly taking Yu Fusheng's arm and lifting him off the swivel chair.

Just as Yu Fusheng left the swivel chair, a flare shot off of the chair and exploded into a gigantic fireball that swallowed the entire room!

Chapter 996: A Surprising Change

In the blink of an eye, the whole living room was engulfed in flames. The air vents had generated a huge blast of fire and Zhao Yu was blown across room with the others. Although Zhao Yu was already on high alert, he did not expect the fire would be that massive. Before he could react, he had been hit by the shockwaves and sent flying like a cannonball, slamming into the walls. Under normal circumstances, the impact alone would have killed him.

It all happened so fast that Zhao Yu couldn't react. All he felt was a spinning sensation in his head after the collision and being tumbled around. For now, all he could see was the horrible and frightening flames in front of him.

I... I'm alive, right? Zhao Yu had been sent flying to the far wall of the living room. He was surrounded by hot flames. As the fire approached him, it was blocked by an invisible barrier. Zhao Yu searched through his brain and realized that because the impact had been enough to kill him, the highest-grade Invisible Hedge Ball had activated itself to save Zhao Yu.

Beep, beep, beep. After activating, it was only able to protect him for 30 seconds before it vanished. Zhao Yu's breathing was heavy and his whole body was soaked in a cold sweat. Although the ball had saved his life, the impact had still taken a toll on him and he felt dizzy. His vision was a blur. He wasn't able to think either.

By now, the flames had engulfed everything in the room. The fire was fierce and smoke was everywhere. In such an extreme environment, Zhao Yu would be immediately burnt to death once the ball vanished. Zhao Yu dragged himself towards the door, coughing and staggering along the way. He wasn't able to think about the current case and just wanted to leave this room as soon as possible.

In the past, Zhao Yu had experienced large fires, but a fire this big was a first for him. Not only had the flames spread quickly, but they were also burning fiercely and gave off the feeling of a fiery hell. The fire sizzled, hissed, and howled like a phantom.

Run, run faster. That was Zhao Yu's only thought in such a critical time. The ball was about to expire and to save himself from the fire he had to take out his Invisible Fire Prevention Suit as he ran.

After getting hit by the impact and being tumbled around, Zhao Yu was unable to find the exit. Before him, there were either huge flames or thick smoke and he was unable to see clearly. It wasn't easy, but he finally found an exit as he moved along the walls. However, he realized the 'exit' was actually the entrance to the bedrooms and he had been going farther into the room instead. Damn it!

His dizziness was clearing and Zhao Yu hurried his pace, heading in the opposite direction. As he was cutting across the living room the ball vanished and he suddenly felt high temperature shockwaves. His body became boiling hot. Beep, beep, beep. Even with the suit on, he wasn't able to withstand such high temperatures. The alert kept beeping, reminding Zhao Yu to upgrade the suit.

Zhao Yu didn't have any adventure points, how was he supposed to upgrade? The situation was far too dangerous and Zhao Yu didn't have time to formulate a plan. All he could do was charge forward with conviction. This time he went in the right direction and reached the door. However, not only was the door shut, it was stuck!

Zhao Yu stretched his hand to pull the door and smoke once again emerged from above. He felt as if his hand was being melted and he screamed at the top of his lungs. As the fire grew larger, he felt unbearably hot and it was as if he had been dropped into a pot of boiling oil. The system screen was all red, alerting Zhao Yu to the fact that the suit was about to lose its effect.

Please upgrade now, please upgrade now.

The Multipurpose Key! To open the door, Zhao Yu took out the Multipurpose Key. The system informed him that the door did not have a lock. Fuck... The issue didn't seem to lie with the door being locked. It probably had something to do with the temperature being too high, or the mechanism sticking.

What was he to do? As he thought through his options, a loud explosion came from behind him. Something within the flames had exploded! An impact wave from the new explosion sent Zhao Yu staggering down to the floor, as well as launching countless shrapnel shards towards him.

The floor was like lava and the burnt Zhao Yu screamed in pain. He subconsciously took out the Invisible Biochemical Suit to use, which could deter biochemical attacks and substances. It also doubled as a fire-proof suit.

With both suits active, Zhao Yu felt a slight drop in temperature. He realized his ability to react was getting more and more sluggish as time progressed, and his reactions themselves were becoming slower

too. If this went on, he wouldn't be able to keep it up for much longer! Just one moment of weakness would probably be the end of him.

Boom...

This time, another explosion from the bedrooms caused the ground to shake violently. Zhao Yu was once again thrown down onto the floor. In this life and death situation, Zhao Yu did not bother to save any device. He quickly took out his Invisible Breathing Device, which allowed him to bring his breathing under control and clear up his mind. Next, he took out an Energy Booster. After violently smashing the door for a bit, he managed to break through the severely flame-deformed frame.

Only after he squeezed past the door and into the corridor did the temperature drop, letting him breathe slightly easier now that he was further from death. However, before he could even take one full breath, the living room exploded again. This time, the explosion was fiercer than usual. Gigantic airwaves filled with debris shot out, blasting off the door and sending Zhao Yu flying to the ground again.

Motherf*cker... Zhao Yu clenched his teeth in pain. He was close to vomiting blood.

He didn't dare waste another moment and quickly ran towards the end of the corridor. He was panicked and his eyes had a frenzied look to them. When he saw the door to the barn was closed, he didn't even think about opening it, and instead ran shoulder first into it.

Bang! With the Energy Booster within him, Zhao Yu had immense strength and the door wasn't able to withstand the impact, shattering into four pieces. The awful incidents just wouldn't stop as he forgot that behind the door was the barn, and inside was a large cow.

F*ck... Zhao Yu tried to pull back, but it was too late. Now awake and standing, the cow was in a frenzy, chasing its own tail like a dog.

Mooooooooo...

Because of the heavy impact, the cow's screams sounded like that of a eunuch. Despite the cow being so large, Zhao Yu had still knocked it into the air with his blow to the door. First came the sound of the broken cattle fencing, then came the sound of everything crashing to the ground.

Mooooooooooooooooo...

The cow was mooing nonstop. If it could speak, it would probably have been cursing Zhao Yu and his ancestors! "Sorry, sorry!" Zhao Yu apologized as he ran beside the cow, using his strength to get it back on its feet.

Moo...

After the cow was on its feet, it stared intently at Zhao Yu, wanting revenge. An explosion came from behind the walls and because of how violent it was, one of the barn's walls cracked and exploded.

Moo...

The cows were clever. After witnessing the explosion, they began to run out of their stables.

Chapter 997: How Complicated Can It Get?

Boom. The sound of explosions came one after another, causing the barn to shake vigorously. What was even scarier was that the flames had started to travel from the room where the explosions started to the barn. As the barn was filled with hay and other flammable items, at this rate, it would burst into flames!

Moo, moo... Realizing the imminent danger, the cows began crying in desperation. Logically speaking, Zhao Yu was in the midst of danger himself. The only solution was to run away from the barn as quickly as possible, but looking at the innocent cows, he couldn't help but stop himself. Although cows were not human, they were living beings too. If they became roast beef, he would never be able to live with himself.

If God has good virtue, then I, Zhao Yu, am a man with values. If that's the case... Zhao Yu thought.

Seeing as the explosions were coming closer and the flames were getting bigger, he had no time to hesitate, and dashed into one of the barns. The barns were locked and Zhao Yu had no time to find the keys. Thankfully, he had an Energy Booster on hand. All he had to do was pull the bars with force and his superhuman strength would be able to pry them open!

Moo... Upon seeing the bars open, the cows fled the scene immediately. At this point, the fire had already spread into the barn that was nearest to the origin of the fire. The flames were getting greater and the smoke was getting heavier. The cows were getting more anxious, their cries ringing throughout the barn. It was a mess.

Zhao Yu was not be bothered anymore and sped up his actions, prying open bar after bar to release the cows. Now the cows were becoming desperate, and some were even running into the bars to break them.

Zhao Yu hurriedly opened the doors one by one, but after opening half of them, the explosions began again. This time, the roof of the barn could no longer withstand the impact of the explosions and finally cracked, crumbling to pieces. Things were getting dicey...

Boom! The roof collapsed completely. Realizing something was amiss, Zhao Yu quickly rushed out the door before he could be smashed by the falling debris.

Boom! After the roof collapsed, it created a cloud of dust. Even though the place was filled with dust, the fire pierced through the layers very quickly, shooting upwards towards the sky.

Woof, woof, woof. Woof, woof, woof. As Zhao Yu covered his head and ran through the barn, the big yellow dog began to bark. Frightened by the fire, the dog would not stop barking as it had been leashed to the door with no way to escape. If I can save a cow, I can save a dog! Zhao Yu thought. Zhao Yu strode forward and tugged at the leash with force, releasing the dog instantly.

Woof, woof... Dogs indeed understood humans. Knowing that Zhao Yu was saving him, it barked as if to thank him. "Okay, okay, go quickly..." Zhao Yu said, swatting his hand at the dog. The dog, however, began to circle Zhao Yu, refusing to leave.

At that moment, Zhao Yu spotted the car in the garage. He wanted to run to the car and leave. As he was about to get into the car, the dog barked and bit his pants. Zhao Yu thought the dog was being

ungrateful, but immediately realized that beneath the car was a stream of liquid. The flames travelled through the stream and in the blink of an eye the car was lit ablaze.

“Holy sh*t!” Zhao Yu exclaimed, realizing the dog had saved him. “Good dog, good dog!” Zhao Yu said as he hugged the dog. They ran towards the courtyard. Just as they ran out of the garage, the car exploded with a loud boom and flames rocketed towards the sky. Even the roof of the garage was blown up.

The courtyard was even more chaotic. The escaped cows were now gathering, stomping their hooves and crying. Oh! Zhao Yu remembered the main door was still locked. Where were the cows supposed to go? As the courtyard was too close to the barn, when the fire spread it would be equally as dangerous for them.

Upon realizing this, Zhao Yu wanted to open the main door and let the cows run free from the danger. However, there were already people gathered at the main door, axes in hand, hacking at the lock. Behind them were others with water buckets and basins. These people were probably neighboring residents who had seen the fire and come to help out!

With a loud sound, the lock was finally broken open, and the people hurriedly rushed into the barn. One of the villagers seemed to want to put out the fire with his bucket of water, but upon seeing the extent of the fire, fainted from shock, spilling all of it.

Woof, woof woof! Seeing the doors open, the dog ran through them. This dog was a cattle herder, and hearing its bark, the cows regained their composure and walked through the doors in an orderly fashion. The people had given up on putting out the fire and instead rushed into the remaining barns to save the cows. Great! After seeing the cows were fine, Zhao Yu was filled with relief. He quickly slid into a back alley behind the barn, scaled the yard walls, and was out of the meadow.

Thump! Zhao Yu jumped from the wall, but because his Energy Booster was still active, his landing had caused a large impact and he felt like he was the Terminator. But he had also used up all of his strength and when he landed it felt like his whole body was empty. It was like being in two worlds at once!

The scene in the secret chamber felt almost like a dream and thinking about it made Zhao Yu feel apprehensive. Amongst the demonic flames, his mind had stopped working and was a blank. If it wasn't for the Top-Grade Device and muscle memory causing him to use it, he probably wouldn't be here now. This time he really had barely scraped past death!

Zhao Yu had plenty of dangerous experiences, but the fire today was the closest he had come to death, and was the worst of them so far. Scary! He had anticipated many scenarios, but none as shocking as today.

This was really depressing. All I wanted to do was investigate the case from 13 years ago, how did things end up like this? The past few days have been a rollercoaster. With Wu Fangfang being murdered, Jiang Ke breaking out of prison, the huge explosion at the seafood market, the episode at the thieves' hideout, meeting the investors, the night club murder, and finally this barn fire... Jesus. Just how complicated was this case? Zhao Yu thought to himself.

As if anticipating his reactions, right as he sighed, the Miracle System in his mind activated and the Kun Qian hexagram he opened had finally ended. His adventure completion rate was now 388% and he gained 40 new tools as a reward!

Chapter 998: Traceless

Boom...

The fire in the cattle farm raged on and the sound of explosions continued without any sign of stopping. The sky was covered in a crimson blaze and smoke. The fire engine was the first to arrive on the scene and the firefighters worked out a plan to put out the fire and move the crowd to a safe location.

Although it was the middle of the night, the fire was raging and it had attracted the attention of the residents. The safety shelter was already packed to the brim with people as well as cows. The dairy cows that were rescued had no place to go and crowded together with the people, moving amongst them and continuously mooing.

“How intriguing!” said a young man, wearing a green military coat, as he filmed the scene with his cellphone. “Do you think it has something to do with the cow feed he’s using? How did it cause such a huge fire?”

“Feed... can feed explode?” asked another man that was also holding his phone. “I remember Mute’s house had many cars, so it should be the cars that are on fire, no?”

“Wait a minute... where is Mute? Did he come out?” asked the young man hurriedly.

“I didn’t hear anything! I came much later so I didn’t see anyone other than the livestock,” the other man replied.

“Ah... well let’s hope there won’t be any lost lives this new year,” the young man said worriedly. “Mute is a good person. He even helped my sister beat up some hooligans.” As the two men conversed, a cow passed them. Something seemed to trigger the cow and it crashed into the two of them, sending them rolling to the ground.

“Ouch...” The two of them got up after rolling around in pain for a while. The young man in the green military coat was the first to speak. “What the fuck? Do you want to die? Or do you have mad cow disease?”

Of course, no matter how much he said, the cow did not respond and continued to move leisurely through the crowd as if nothing had happened. “That’s enough...” the other man said. “Why find fault with a beast? These dairy cows are really pitiful, if they were not rescued on time, they would have become jerky!”

“Well, that’s true...” the young man said, nodding in agreement. Reaching into his pockets, he suddenly became anxious. “Where’s my phone?”

“Oh? Wait... my phone too!” The two men exchanged glances and remembered when they fell. “It must have fallen onto the ground! Hurry, find it!”

“Ugh, that’s my brand-new Huawei Mate! I hope it’s not broken...” said the young man as he lowered his head and searched hurriedly. However, there were only humans and cows in the area with nothing else to be seen.

“I can’t find mine either!” the other man said anxiously. “Mine’s a Xiaomi Note. Look! There’s a drain there. Please tell me it didn’t fall in...”

Just as the two men were looking for their phones, Zhao Yu, who had been holding the phones in his hand, left the scene. It was he who made the cow attack the men and used the diversion as an opportunity to take their phones.

In fact, besides their phones, Zhao Yu had also picked up a cotton-padded coat. Even though the coat smelled like sheep, it would keep him warm. More importantly, the coat had a hood that could help him hide his face.

His Invisible Disguise Machine and voice changer had been used up despite him having just received them as part of the 40 new tools. At this point, Zhao Yu didn’t have to change his face to Jiang Ke’s. Whether or not Yu Fusheng was the mystery man, Jiang Ke would already have been dead under normal circumstances.

But the reality was... Zhao Yu sighed. The power of the Kun Qian hexagram was unexpectedly strong. It took only three days, but within these few days, Zhao Yu felt like he had been on a rollercoaster. If it continued for another few days, he probably would not have been able to hold on. Besides, who knew if there would be another such hexagram. If there was, it would be...

Zhao Yu did not dare to continue with that chain of thought. No matter how strong the hexagram was, no matter how long it lasted, at the very least it was now over and he could temporarily take a breather. Anyway, it seemed like the result wasn’t that bad! 388%? What an odd number, was the record broken again?

Receiving 40 tools at once was something to be excited about. When Zhao Yu opened up his inventory, he was elated. There was equipment and items of all grades. Bullet Proof Suit, Aircraft, Counter-surveillance camera. What was most encouraging was the Emergency Evacuation Ball. This item was immensely useful. To put it simply, it was a life-saving talisman. There was no downside to it.

Also, there were many new equipment pieces, such as the Invisible Recording Camera, the magical Invisible Hair Growth product, and a rather formidable Invisible Space Suit! Zhao Yu couldn’t believe his eyes. Perhaps he would get the chance to go to space to solve a case?

Aside from the equipment, the accumulated points made Zhao Yu happy as well. After the hexagram, he had actually achieved 3,880 points. That was 10 times the completion percentage! With these points in hand, he felt confident. The next time there was an emergency there would not be as many difficulties.

Of course, the thing was, even though the fearful Kun Qian hexagram had ended, the truth behind this case was still a huge mystery and only caused more confusion. Who would have thought that, after chasing leads from Yao Ming for thousands of kilometers, all he got was a fire that burnt everything to ashes?

At that moment he remembered that during the check, the alcohol was a burning agent that consisted of methanol, ethanol, propanol, and butanol. It had a low ignition point and would cause a huge fire, especially since it was both colorless and odorless. The arsonist must have set up the fuel ahead of time as a trap. As soon as Yu Fusheng’s body moved, the fire would ignite! But...

Thinking about this made Zhao Yu feel overwhelmed. What was the point of all this? What role did Yu Fusheng have in this case? Was he the mystery man or was he someone the mystery man was using as cover?

The key question was, after Qu Ping's case, didn't Yu Fusheng leave the country? Why would he suddenly appear at a cattle farm? Also, who exactly were Zhu Sunfeng and Buzzcut Tu Lekai? What was their relationship with Yu Fusheng? The fire had started so suddenly that the two of them should be dead!

What's more... Zhao Yu looked up towards the burning flames. If the fire was burning at this rate, the three of them wouldn't just have been burnt to death, there would probably have been nothing left of them.

Whoa! Zhao Yu felt a sudden chill run through his spine. If he hadn't survived, who would have known that the people burnt to death were Yu Fusheng and his lackeys? And even Jiang Ke would have burned!

Chapter 999: Phone

The whole case was a mess that had reached a whole new level, and Zhao Yu couldn't seem to figure it out. When he escaped from jail, what exactly did the mystery man want Jiang Ke to do? Up until the point he pretended to be Jiang Ke and Zhu Sunfeng kidnapped him, he couldn't figure out why he had helped him escape. Who would have guessed that when he finally saw Zhu Sunfeng's boss, Yu Fusheng, everything would be burnt to ash in the blink of an eye?

Based on everything, the mystery man seemed to want to kill Jiang Ke. He was instead just finding a proper place to kill him! So why did he want him killed? It wasn't just killing Jiang Ke, but also Xu Fusheng, Zhu Sunfeng, and the others... just who was the arsonist and what was his motive? What a mess!

Zhao Yu never would have thought that using his ability to change his face still would have resulted in him not finding out the truth. In fact, he felt like he was drifting farther from it. He knew that at this moment, he could no longer do this alone! He had to go back to the team, but... it would be too brazen to go back when the identity of the mystery man was still unknown. He had to carry this out secretly...

There were many things to sort out, which meant getting a phone was Zhao Yu's first priority. Because of this, he mixed into the crowd and made use of the cow to snatch someone else's phone.

Of course, because of his professional instincts, Zhao Yu had already observed the group before joining the crowd. There was a saying he had heard from an old detective. He said after a murder was committed, the murderer wouldn't leave the scene immediately, but would instead pretend to be someone in the crowd to bask in the afterglow of his crime. With this in mind, he was hoping the arsonist would have shared this sentiment and stayed behind. Maybe he had left behind witnesses and evidence?

After combing through the crowd, Zhao Yu couldn't find any suspicious characters. Only the residents who lived near the cattle farm had come to watch and discuss the incident. There was nobody there alone.

After locking on to his targets, Zhao Yu stole the coat and the phones. When he got the phones, he immediately ran for the woods and hurriedly gave Ma Laodan a call. "Brother!!" After the line was connected Ma Laodan had immediately recognized Zhao Yu's voice. "What is going on? Where did you go? I was waiting for you in the park and didn't see you at all, I was worried some misfortune had befallen you..." he grumbled.

"Cut the crap!" Zhao Yu exclaimed. "Where's Jiang Ke?"

"Jiang Ke?" Ma Laodan asked shakily. "He was caught by the police!"

"Caught?! How?!" Zhao Yu growled.

"He was just lying down on the bench and the police took him away. Isn't that what you asked me to do, boss?" Ma Laodan panicked after hearing Zhao Yu's tone. "I called you multiple times and there was no answer, I really didn't know what to do! Not long after that the police caught up to us and took the unconscious Jiang Ke away. I was afraid they would see me so I ran..." he said.

"Don't worry, it's fine," Zhao Yu said, coming to his senses and nodding. "It's okay that he's been caught! Now, you just need to do one thing."

"I know, I have to keep this a secret, right?" Ma Laodan asked.

"Smart!" Zhao Yu said. "You don't have to know any other details, just know that you helped me a lot. Don't worry, next time there will be more in it for you."

"I don't want anything," Ma Laodan said. "Boss, next time please just don't let me do so many of these horrifying things. You know, on the expressway, I was so afraid the police would check my boot! I drove at 200km/h. Who knows how many fines are waiting for me?! But... if you want to talk about benefits... when Mei Li's movie starts screening you can bring your entire team down to show your support!"

Zhao Yu hung up before Ma Laodan could finish. Zhao Yu was not interested in trivial matters like the movie. Right then, the phone rang. It could only be the phone's owner. Zhao Yu did not pick up the call. After the ringing stopped, he gave Li Luoyun from Jin'an a call. Li Luoyun was waiting for his call as well and picked up almost immediately.

After corroborating that Jiang Ke had really been caught by the police, Li Luoyun mentioned that he found it odd that Jiang Ke would just be lying unconscious on a park bench. Zhao Yu hastily swore Li Luoyun to secrecy, as even a small leak would be disastrous! Zhao Yu also told him to secretly treat Jiang Ke, but if Jiang Ke were to suddenly regain consciousness, he was not to interrogate him for any reason. If Jiang Ke were interrogated, he would outright deny his actions at the nightclub and the police would fall for it.

Even though Li Luoyun didn't really understand, he agreed to contact Zhao Yu first if Jiang Ke were to regain consciousness. "Right!" After settling the Jiang Ke issue, Zhao Yu changed the topic. "How are the situations at the nightclub and Jiang Ke's hideout? Were the people caught?" he asked.

"Yes, they've been caught!" Li Luoyun said. "According to what you told me, all of the people who fainted in the reception room were caught except for Jiang Ke, who ran away. But... according to the camera, it appears that Jiang Ke was caught as well."

“Okay... I will send you the evidence on the investors later. These people had business relationships with Jiang Ke. Not only did they provide him information about potential robberies, they also received large amounts of money as commissions. They have a large syndicate that deals in all other sorts of criminal activities,” Zhao Yu informed him. “What’s most important now is for you to investigate these illegal activities, and bring those involved to justice. Don’t let any of them get away, do you understand?”

“Yes, I understand,” Li Luoyun said in an ensuring manner.

“Also, about the hideout... the uhm, golf course?” Zhao Yu asked.

“Oh, the mission was a success. The people you mentioned were all brought in! They didn’t even resist! The secret base you mentioned was also successfully infiltrated, but...” Li Luoyun’s voice faltered. “Jiang Ke actually planted explosives in the walls. Luckily, they didn’t explode because the fuse was damp!”

Nonsense... Zhao Yu cursed silently. What dampened fuse? To stop the bomb, he had to waste an Invisible Bomb Disposal! How else could they have been successful? “By the way, did you find the things I wanted?” Zhao Yu asked, referring to Jiang Ke’s assets and information.

“Yes, of course I did!” Li Luoyun replied. “It’s all with me!”

“Great! Identify the items. Not just the contents but any evidence too, like fingerprints or flakes of skin. Check everything carefully!” Zhao Yu ordered. “I will give you a way to contact me again, but in the meantime, if there’s any progress remember to let me know as soon as possible.”

“No problem! But...” Li Luoyun paused. He clearly had some doubts.

“But what?” Zhao Yu asked.

“Well... about Jiang Ke and the investors... I can claim that there was an internal spy to evade my superiors... but some things have to be believable. Inspector Zhao, can you tell me how the investors fainted in the nightclub?” Li Luoyun said hesitantly.

“Just say that Jiang Ke farted and they fainted because of it!” Zhao Yu exclaimed.

“This...” Li Luoyun was at a loss for words.

“Leader Li,” Zhao Yu said seriously, “you don’t have to know the details, let me handle the rest. Do I need to remind you again that you absolutely cannot let anyone else know the things that you know about me? Do you understand?”

“Yes, yes... I understand,” Li Luoyun said. It was clear from his voice that he was sweating nervously. After hanging up, Zhao Yu took a deep breath. He had one person left to contact and that was his very own goddess, Miao Ying. But after raising the phone, he felt like it had become heavier, as if it knew about the impending storm.

Argh! Forget it. He would have to face the music eventually. Steeling himself, Zhao Yu unlocked the phone and dialed the numbers.

Chapter 1000: The Return of the Secret

3:15 pm, Cottage on the outskirts west of Gao Lan Qi, Meng Xiang Province.

The cottage was an elementary school classroom before the school moved into the city, after which the classroom was converted into a house for rent. It was the hottest time of the day, even though the temperature remained at sub-zero. The entrance of the cottage was covered with frozen water droplets.

A black Jeep, accompanied by the sound of a car's engine, came driving down the narrow alley towards the cottage. Its wheels came to a stop on the surface of the ice. Under the weight of the car, the ice cracked and murky water began to splash everywhere.

The driver's door opened. Like a scene from a movie, Miao Ying stepped out. She was wearing a black trench coat and reflective sunglasses. She took a deep breath to steel herself from the nervousness she felt. Just to be sure, she took out her pistol and headed towards the cottage.

The old classroom was shabby. The tiles on the eaves were severely broken and looked as though they could crumble at any time. The chimney was smoking, so it was obvious someone had started a fire inside.

"It's alright, darling, there's no danger! Come in!" someone called. Hearing the familiar voice, Miao Ying pushed open the door to see Zhao Yu, whose face was covered in soot from fanning the flames. "It's way too cold. Luckily I learned how to start a fire in a fireplace when I was younger!" Zhao Yu said as he watched the chimney begin to smoke. He turned to smile at Miao Ying.

"Zhao Yu!" Miao Ying kept a grip on her gun and removed her sunglasses. She was relieved to see Zhao Yu unharmed.

"Ah..." Zhao Yu wiped his dirty hands and stepped forward with his arms open. "C'mon, give me a hug! I missed you so much!" Miao Ying sighed after seeing Zhao Yu's signature perverted look and gave him a tight hug.

After hugging him, Miao Ying couldn't contain her anger. "Zhao Yu, do you mind explaining what you were doing? Why are you in such poor condition? I'm not asking you not to follow Jiang Ke, but why didn't you at least contact me? And... what's with this fire?" she asked.

"Listen to me, I really didn't have a choice!" Zhao Yu explained. "I thought since the mystery man helped Jiang Ke escape from jail they would be close. But who would have known they were strangers to each other! Jiang Ke and I were both just pawns in his game!" he said.

"Since the situation wasn't what you expected, why didn't you call it quits earlier? When you were following them, you had tons of opportunities!" Miao Ying grumbled.

"How could you think it would be so simple?" Zhao Yu continued explaining. "When I followed them to the outskirts of Jin I accidentally entered a hideout, and later when I spotted an opportunity, I called Li Luoyun for help since you were so far away. After that, I thought the mystery man was one of the investors who Jiang Ke had met so I followed them to the nightclub, and only then did I found out that the man who helped Jiang Ke escape was not among them! So, I got Li Luoyun to ambush them and arrest them all!"

"Well, if that was the case," Miao Ying said shaking her head, "then your mission was complete. Why are you here in Gao Lanqi?"

“I’m getting to the crucial part!” Zhao Yu said, helplessly shaking his head. He knew that without Zhu Sunfeng and Buzzcut, he would have to continue lying to complete the story. “When the police caught Jiang Ke, I saw two suspicious people with guns and since they appeared in the area where Jiang Ke was arrested, I thought they were either connected or trying to kidnap him.”

“After that... I somehow got into their car and followed them all the way here. Then, I encountered a fire...” he continued. To make his story more credible, he decided to add one more sentence “And hey! Guess what! I made the correct decision to follow them because I actually saw Yu Fusheng at the cattle farm!”

“You’re rash, way too rash,” Miao Ying complained. “You knew they had guns and yet you entered their car. Are you tired of living? What if they had caught you? If you had just called Li Luoyun they would have been arrested and interrogated!”

“No!” Zhao Yu said, dismissing her thought with a wave of his hand. “My phone ran out of battery, so they would have escaped by the time I contacted Li Luoyun! Besides, think about it, even if they were caught would they speak the truth? At most, you would be able to charge them with carrying an illegal weapon.” Zhao Yu felt bad for lying to Miao Ying, but even he found the part where he changed his face too ridiculous. There was no way for him to tell the truth.

“Zhao Yu, what do you want me to say?” Miao Ying asked worriedly. “You’re no longer a young guy capable of making rash decisions like this. Why do you insist on being the hero? Do you know the impact of you helping Jiang Ke escape jail? The entire investigation office is a mess!”

“All of our colleagues thought you were sacrificed and were in low spirits. The superiors didn’t know whether to refer to you as an accomplice or a martyr who died for his country!” she stated.

“Of course I know the consequences of my actions!” Zhao Yu said seriously. “But my dear, you of all people must understand how I felt at that time. I was watching someone point a gun directly at Jiang Xiaoqing, what was I to do? Ignore it? Do you know what was going through my head when the mystery man sent me a bunch of photos of my friends and colleagues? Should I have become a loner to solve the case and become a detective? Do my friends and colleagues amount to nothing more than stepping stones? Miaomiao, if you were me, what would you have done? If that gun was pointed towards me, what decision would you have made?” Zhao Yu asked, shaking his head.

“Zhao Yu!” Miao Ying was trembling. “You keep asking me to understand you, but have you thought about me even for a second? There were videos captured on the bridge. I watched Jiang Ke push you down into the Hong Ming river with my own eyes! Can you imagine how I felt watching that?”

“This...” Zhao Yu was taken aback.

“Yes!” A tear rolled down from Miao Ying’s eyes. “I support and understand you. Of course I don’t want your friends to be put in danger because of you, but you know what I’m afraid of the most? It’s you getting into an accident!” Miao Ying hugged Zhao Yu tightly as she tried to suppress her tears.

At that moment Zhao Yu felt a spark of electricity. The feeling of someone caring for him warmed his body. He hugged the beauty in his arms tightly and gently said, “It’s okay, I will be okay. Miaomiao, I promise you I will not play with my life like this again. I was wrong this time, okay? Miaomiao, when I

was younger, I was part of the national diving team. Nothing happened to me even after 20 days of diving. Hong Ming river is nothing...”

Zhao Yu’s ability to brag was second to none and with a few shameless words of comfort, he had Ms. Miao smiling from ear to ear. “Anyway, speaking of which...” Now that Miao Ying had stopped crying, Zhao Yu moved back to the original topic. “The fire at the barn was really abnormal!”

“Oh? How was it abnormal?” Miao Ying asked as she wiped her tears.

“The fire spread really quickly. The area became a sea of fire in the blink of an eye! The flames seemed to have the ability to burn everything to ashes. I’ve never seen anything like it!” Zhao Yu said, recalling the fire with fear.

“Oh?” Miao Ying pouted and asked seriously, “So did you manage to take the opportunity to practice Fiery Eyes?”

“About that...” Zhao Yu raised a brow, patted his chest and said, “No. But I did manage to save the dairy cows from the shed and was crowned Savior of the Cows!”