

Crazy Detective

Chapter 5: Another Game of Roulette?

Another voice!

“Again?!” Zhao Yu was caught off-guard. He had wanted to listen more carefully, but the voice disappeared as suddenly as it came, returning to silence.

“Reward?!” The man only remembered the word reward. Reward, reward, where are you?

Just as he was thinking of the word, his mind suddenly displayed a virtual image. There was a small, round black ball displayed on the image in 3D.

Zhao Yu clicked on the black ball using his thoughts, and a voice suddenly rang out in his head, “Invisibility Eavesdropper device. One time use. After usage, allows for invisible eavesdropping, completely undetectable. Lasts forty-eight hours.”

“What? What?” Zhao Yu was puzzled by the sudden introduction, and hurriedly clicked on the ball again, causing the voice in his head to replay the description of the Invisibility Eavesdropper device.

“Officer Zhao, I put two bags of sugar in this cup of coffee again!” Li Beini watched Zhao Yu’s spacey expression, and assumed he was simply enjoying the coffee too much.

Zhao Yu was instantly pulled back to reality, and was dismayed by the crowded noise around him. He wanted to find a quieter place and ponder this new development. Ignoring Liu Changhu’s unpleasantry, and Li Beini, he stood up and left the office.

Yet, as he exited the room, he came face to face with Captain Jing Zhenbang. Zhao Yu had never been close with the captain, so he lowered his head and tried to walk past him.

Unexpectedly, Captain Jing blocked him from leaving and asked, “Zhao Yu, didn’t you say you wanted to take the day off? How come you caught the criminal instead?” The captain asked very seriously, “I don’t understand. How did you know that the culprit would appear in that place tonight?”

“Cap’n Jing, I really do not feel well today. Can I tell you some other time?”

Zhao Yu spoke quickly and tried to leave again, but Captain Jing suddenly patted him on the shoulder and spoke wisely, "Little Zhao, no matter what, if you can catch the criminal, then you're worthy of the uniforms we wear! Good job! Keep up the good work!"

Captain Jing's words shocked Zhao Yu. In his memory, the stern and strict captain rarely praised anyone.

What was wrong with him today?

Captain Jing walked into the office after he finished talking to Zhao Yu. As soon as he entered the room, Liu Changhu's ill-intentioned complaints started up yet again.

Zhao Yu did not care to argue anymore, and headed straight for his own dorm.

While it was technically a dorm, the room was more like a small office behind the main building. The living space was tiny and shared among three people, and there was not even a private bathroom.

Zhao Yu's roommates were two of his coworkers from the patrol section. The younger roommate was alright, but the older one had a thunderous snoring issue—every night was quite a headache.

Luckily, the snoring one had night shift tonight; otherwise, Zhao Yu was sure to have a sleepless night.

It was already four in the morning now, nearly dawn. Zhao Yu returned to his dorm, but went to bed without washing up. He climbed on his bed right after taking off his shoes, ready to hit the hay.

Yet the night of this magical adventure had already doomed him to sleeplessness. First, executed by lethal injection, then crossing over to a different world, swapping his identity completely, and obtaining the mysterious System and item reward. All these strange encounters swirled in his mind endlessly, preventing him from sleeping.

Especially this weird Miracle System. Zhao Yu had a feeling that his amazing luck today, catching the Taser Rapist, was not some strange coincidence, but was set up by the Miracle System.

Maybe when the Miracle System was engaged, something was changed, allowing Zhao Yu to coincidentally capture the criminal?

After the case was closed, the system even told him his completion rate was seventy-something percent. This completion rate probably referred to the completion rate of the quest given by the Miracle System. Back when he was at the bar, had he not chosen to

chase down the man in the windbreaker? If he had not chased him, could his completion rate have been drastically lower?

Then that meant, no matter how many opportunities the Miracle System set up for him, in the end, it was up to him to take those opportunities in order to succeed?

Thinking up to this point, Zhao Yu could not help but feel somewhat excited. By having this Miracle System, if he met similar cases in the future, could he also solve them magically like he did today?

“Wow! If this was really the case, then won't I end up being a Master Detective? The reward for that is massive...”

Only after that thought, did he finally start falling asleep...

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In truth, being a policeman was not an easy job. Despite most of the Key Case Investigation Unit working practically overnight yesterday, most people still came to work today—nobody would take a day off so easily.

This was because new cases could happen at any moment, and they must be prepared for them, always.

Of course, that did not apply to Zhao Yu. The next day, Zhao Yu was barely waking up at 10:30am.

In the end, he was awoken by the thunderous snoring; otherwise, he would have slept even longer. The elder roommate had come back from his night shift, and was happily snoring away.

Zhao Yu really wanted to pummel the snoring man. He scratched his messy bed hair and looked around. The room was messy, not to mention smelly—definitely not a suitable place to live.

Seeing this, Zhao Yu suddenly had an idea—living like this was just depressing, so why not rent a different house starting today?

Because he lived in the police dorm, the old Zhao Yu was often assigned extra work from the senior investigators. If he left, then naturally he could avoid this type of problem.

Besides, the current Zhao Yu still was not used his new identity. Going to work was still tolerable, but if he had to live in the police station too, that would just be too awkward.

First the bathroom, then washing up, Zhao Yu did not feel much like cleaning up. After combing his bed hair, the man headed straight for the police station. He did not go in order to do work; but only wanting to use the computer at the office to find a good house to rent.

As he climbed the stairs, he ran into a few officers smoking along the way. The smell of the smoke aroused his own old addiction.

Stopping by a corner at the stairs, Zhao Yu took out the cigarettes he had confiscated from the cab driver, dangling one in his mouth as he lit it.

The result was as expected, with just one breath, he started coughing violently again.

But between the violent coughs, a clear voice rang out in his head again, "Miracle System engaged, currently randomizing..."

'My God!' This time Zhao Yu was more prepared. As soon as he heard the voice start, he focused on the words, carefully trying to remember each of them.

"Dui Xun Hexagram. 'Dui' for lake, and 'xun' for wind. Wind on the lake makes small waves. Smooth sailing regardless of your choice of way."

The voice stopped as soon as it finished the line. Even though Zhao Yu tried his hardest to remember, he still failed to remember much. The only thing he remembered was "wind," and "smooth sailing."

The last word especially made Zhao Yu feel much better. It looked like this game of roulette treated him well. Even though he could not quite understand it, he still connected it to roulette.

Could it be, that this Miracle System made use of some sort of roulette wheel? If so, then he must be sure to research it well, so he would be well prepared when his luck failed him.

'Roulette! Another roulette!'

Zhao Yu could not help but feel somewhat nervous. What did the Miracle System have planned for him this time? He hurriedly checked for the reward he obtained yesterday—the Invisibility Eavesdropper was still there! Without a doubt, this thing was made for eavesdropping. It was completely undetectable, and was definitely a valuable item.

Zhao Yu trekked back to the office, but saw that the office was not nearly as crowded as before. There were only a few investigators working in their cubicles. People like Liu Changhu, and Qu Ping were not there.

Seeing Zhao Yu's arrival, a few of the investigators could not help but awkwardly stare at the man. No matter how they saw it, yesterday Zhao Yu was just out of ordinary. The usually meek man-child had acted like such a violent thug, but then had single handedly solved the Taser Rape Case. It was hard to imagine.

But Zhao Yu could not care less about the stares, and headed straight for his work computer.

His neighbors were Zhang Jingfeng and Liang Huan, the two were responsible for investigating cold cases. The so-called cold cases were those that happened a long time ago, but were still unsolved. As a part of the Key Case Investigation Unit, these cases were naturally of significant importance—usually involving robbery if not murder.

In these cases, due to the long downtime, most evidence or important personnel tended to disappear, drastically increasing the difficulty of the cases. Some cases could be left unsolved for over twenty to thirty years without a lead.

Because of this, the Cold Case Investigation Department was one of the least popular departments, and everyone avoided being transferred over. Not only were the investigations often fruitless, but there was often much pressure from the higher-ups. If there were not enough results in the allocated time, they would be punished.

Zhang Jingfeng and Liang Huan were a pair of unfortunate souls. Due to various reasons, the two had been transferred to the department this year.

At the moment, the two were looking at a stash of photos and pouring through some file records with difficulty.

Zhao Yu was waiting for his computer to turn on, so he snuck a peek out of curiosity, only to see the photos were all of bloody corpses!

“Bro, what the hell was this? Hella brutal!” Zhao Yu asked with minor interest.

“This...”

Zhao Yu's words were crude to say the least, making it hard for the other two to accept.

“This...” Zhao Jingfeng spoke first, “This was a murder case from ten years ago in the uptown area! The victim died very brutally, got slashed forty-something times!”

“Oh?” Although the computer had booted up, Zhao Yu had become interested in the case. He hurriedly picked up a photo, looking at it carefully.

“This case made a huge commotion at the time,” Liang Huan said. “The victim was a jobless wanderer, walking around aimlessly, not to mention a gambling addict as well! Probably due to his debts with loan sharks, after being hacked to death, ‘return debts’

were written all over the wall, as well as things like an 'an eye for an eye'. Because of the brutal death, this case was named H-Gang Murder Case!"

"Yeah!" Zhang Jingfeng followed up, "According to the previous policemen working on the case, the victim's blood was all over the house. His wife even ended up with mental issues thanks to this! After the case, half the people uptown moved out in fear. The government had to enact their plan ahead of time and demolish the place early!"

"Ah..." Zhao Yu examined the picture intently, and asked, "With this much commotion, how come the case still hasn't been solved?"

Zhang Jingfeng sighed helplessly, "If this case was already closed, us two wouldn't be here suffering right now! In the beginning, the station pretty much mobilized everyone, searching day and night, even taking down quite a few gangs in the process. But the weird thing is that there wasn't a sliver of the killer's identity anywhere. The case ended up going cold like that, and now it's just a headache for Captain Jing."

"And now," Liang Huan spoke again, "The area was already demolished. Other than these photos and some incomplete file records, we don't have any other evidence. Where could we go and investigate? This is already a dead case!"

"Because it's almost the ten-year mark, the higher-ups especially want us to investigate this case." Zhang Jingfeng sighed again, "If we can't solve it, then the two of us are probably going to be demoted to traffic duty!"

"Yep, Zhang!" Liang Huan smiled bitterly, "Let's just go practice now!" He made a slamming motion, "First thing I do, is to go down to those cars parked illegally near my apartment building, and ticket them all!"

"Hahaha..." Zhang Jingfeng could not help but laugh, then copied the same motion for ticketing.

"Say," Zhao Yu drummed on his nose as he looked at the two, then picked up one of the photos, "Bro, I have a few things to say, dunno if I should-"

"Go on, go ahead!" Zhang Jingfeng noted, "We've accepted our fate at this point!"

"That," Zhao Yu furrowed his brows, "It's like this, I think this H-Gang Murder Case, isn't right, or at least the name is wrong!"

"What?" The other two were more than a little shocked, exchanging a glance with each other.

"You guys misunderstood. A real gang wouldn't operate like this!" Zhao Yu pointed at the photo, and started his analysis, "Think about it, if you guys owed me tons of money, would I try to force you to repay the debt, or just kill you straight up?"

“Uhh...” Liang Huan pondered, “Obviously, force them to pay the debt!”

“Exactly!” Zhao Yu continued, “The gangs are only looking for money, there’s no reason to murder him, alerting the police. Even if the victim owed them millions or billions! They definitely wouldn’t kill him!”

“We have an occupational say...” Zhao Yu quickly corrected himself, “I mean the gangs have an occupational saying, called ‘go hard, die fast.’ If you hack them forty-something times, to do something so brutal, wouldn’t it be obvious it would cause a huge commotion? To cause such a huge commotion can only be bad for them, with no benefit in return.” Zhao Yu continued, “In fact, the gangs vandalizing, breaking glasses, destroying cars, and threatening women or kids are only trying to force people to repay their debt. If you kill them without reason, how would you get your money back?”

“R-Right?” Zhang Jingfeng’s eyes lit up, “How come I didn’t think of this?”

“Then...” Liang Huan pondered, “The old police’s investigation target was wrong? It wasn’t done by a gang? Bro, what do you think?”

“Forty-something cuts.” Zhao Yu thought about it more, “Murder only takes one, yet the murderer hacked the victim forty-something times. My guess is that the victim and the murderer had some sort of deep-seated grudge. The killer purposely made this especially brutal just to mislead the police into thinking it was gang activity. This is called a diversion!”

“Oh. Makes sense...” Zhang Jingfeng considered the possibility, “But the record already showed that the victim was a jobless bum, and had quite a temper too. He had many enemies, and bad relationships with the neighbors too. To investigate this much is,” he paused, at a loss for words, “difficult.”

“Uhh, is the victim’s wife’s still around?” Zhao Yu suddenly asked, “Are they still crazy?”

“Nope!” Liang Huan thought back on the records and answered, “Already remarried, with a kid now too. Apparently she’s doing pretty well!”

“Then why don’t you guys ask her? If the victim had any enemies, she would know. If she doesn’t, then it’s not too late to start practicing ticketing people!” Zhao Yu turned back to his own computer, “Not to mention, maybe the wife and the murderer could have some sort of connection!”

“W-what?” Liang Huan almost knelt in front of Zhao Yu in gratitude, “You mean...”

“Forty-something cuts. A crime of passion is possible, right?” Zhao Yu started searching up rent information on his computer, “Why don’t you guys look it up, it’s not like...”

Before Zhao Yu could even finish his sentence, Zhang LiangFeng and Liang Huan rushed out of the office.