

Sweet Love 4061

Chapter 4061: The Other Side 30

Yun Shishi kept her eyes on the oven as she added, “Uncle Hua Jin’s career is in full swing at the moment!”

Although his current popularity could not be compared to Gu Xingze at his peak, it was not far off!

“No wonder.” So many of his classmates had asked for the actor’s autograph and photograph. “Uncle Hua Jin is really popular nowadays.”

Yun Shishi thought for a moment and said, “Maybe it has something to do with a recent TV show he’s in! The show he was working on last year, “Star Rise”, is one of the top-rated shows currently, isn’t it? I hear he’s been running from one program to another, making appearances these days.”

As she spoke, her curiosity was suddenly piqued. Little Yichen wouldn’t normally pay much attention to Hua Jin. Why was he suddenly asking about the actor?

“Many of my classmates are asking me for his autographed photo.”

Yun Shishi was surprised to hear this. “Why would they ask you for it?”

“Because one of my classmates seems to know that my dear mommy is a big star. Perhaps it was unintentional, but he spread the news to the class. Now, everyone in the class knows you’re my mommy, and that I know Uncle Hua Jin.”

Her lips twitched at that. Was Hua Jin that popular? Even among kids in elementary school.

“There are 40 students in the class. Now, almost half of them are asking me for autographed photos. Should I give that to them?”

“Oooh...” Yun Shishi thought for a moment, then pursed her lips. “If it’s just an autographed photo, that’s not a big problem.”

She felt that being a star was nothing more than an ordinary profession. Perhaps it was because they were observed by the masses that they became so special.

Hua Jin was indeed very popular. Almost everyone in the industry had concluded that his role as an idol had been set. It was general consensus that he could probably only take on roles in period dramas and not modern idol dramas.

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However, in this year alone, Hua Jin had completely subverted everyone’s perception of him with two youth idol dramas, “Mid-Summer Blossoms” and “Star Rise”.

Even though he was in his twenties, he didn’t look awkward in school uniform, especially since “Mid-Summer Blossoms” was an idol drama that spanned from school campus to the business world. The

male lead role, spanning from youth to middle-age years, was played by Hua Jin alone, and even then it didn't come across odd.

It was unbelievable that the number one male lead of period dramas became even more popular after playing a male lead role in a youth drama.

"A total of 25 autographed photos." Little Yichen counted on his fingers, then said to his mother, "Mommy, could you help me ask Uncle Hua Jin?"

"You can call him yourself. It's not as if my classmate asked me for it." Yun Shishi said.

The boy opened his mouth to retort, but there was nothing he could say.

"Alright!" He relented.

Sitting in the study, Little Yichen dialed Hua Jin's cell phone number. It was a long time before he answered.

"Hello?"

"Uncle Hua Jin, it's me... ahem..." Little Yichen cleared his throat awkwardly and turned somewhat red.

Hua Jin was surprised to hear Little Yichen's voice on the phone. "Huh? What made you call me?"

"Um... may I ask a favor?"

"Mmm? What's the matter?"

"Will you ... give me 25 of your autographed photos?"

The actor was stunned by the request. "Why do you want my autographed photo?"

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"Because... that's what my classmates asked of me when they found out I knew you. They said they are all your fans."

"I see..." The actor let that sink in for a moment. "An autographed photo is easy, but I don't have much free time these days. Why don't you wait until I have a few days off and I'll bring you the autographed photos?"

"Yes, that's fine." Little Yichen was touched. "Thank you, Uncle Hua Jin!"

The actor was touched as well. After all, Little Yichen was not close to the actor.

The truth was, Hua Jin liked the twins. Unfortunately, they weren't close to anyone but their mother. He'd been worried he wouldn't get a chance to get into their good books. Wasn't this a good opportunity to do what he could to please the boy? Unexpectedly, Little Yichen even sweetly thanked him!

The actor realized that his chance to “suck up” had finally come! However, as luck would have it, his schedule was rather full these days, so he gave Little Yichen his word to deliver the autographed pictures once he went on leave.

Naturally, the boy was in no hurry. Except that, when the boy had not come back with the autographed pictures for days, a few of his classmates thought he had forgotten about it, so they reminded him a couple of times. The boy explained to them that the actor’s schedule was too full, and that he would send over the pictures in a few days, when he had some time.

So they waited patiently again. However, after more time had passed, someone started complaining.

“Is this for real?”

“Didn’t Li Sicheng say that Little Yichen’s mother was a huge celebrity? Why does it seem so difficult just to get an autographed picture?”

“Could the autographed photos be a lie! After all, it seems odd that the boy would agree to more than twenty autographed pictures at once.”

“Actually, it’s not unusual for celebrities to be unfamiliar with each other. Maybe Little Yichen’s mother is not on such good terms with the actor?”

“Eh? Isn’t Little Yichen’s mother Yun Shishi? I know her. She was in a television series with Hua Jin. It was called ‘Lethal Beauty’. Have you guys seen it? Little Yichen’s mother played an evil woman in it. I hated her when I was following the show. I wished she would die quickly!”

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“Hush! You mustn’t let the boy hear you!”

“I’m talking about the characters in the TV series! Not in person.”

“Still, we can’t let the boy hear us. He’ll be furious!”

“Yes. I think he’s always been very serious about matters relating to his family, so don’t even make jokes about it.”

“Oooh...”

The children waited for a few more days, after which the matter was starting to slip their minds. At this point, Hua Jin took his break!

He had been planning to give the twins a surprise! But the boys ended up getting more of a shock!

On that particular afternoon, the children were doing self-revision in class. Suddenly, someone exclaimed, “It’s Hua Jin!!”

“Wow...!”

“It’s really Hua Jin!”

Soon, there was a great commotion in the classroom!

Little Yichen, who was feeling drowsy, was jolted awake by these earth-shattering cries.

What the hell?!

Was there an earthquake?

Little Yichen looked up with a shocked expression, only to see Gong Fan staring speechlessly out of the window. He followed the boy's gaze and saw Hua Jin scanning the classroom through the window next to the corridor.

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The classroom was crowded with children. Through the window, the actor scanned the room for the twins. When he finally spotted them, he smiled and waved. Gong Fan turned around with a cold expression and acted like he had not seen the man. Little Yichen, on the other hand, was taken aback!

It was Hua Jin!

The boy was dozing off just then when he suddenly heard people shouting and shrieking in the classroom, as if there was an earthquake. He vaguely heard someone shouting Hua Jin's name, and the next thing he knew, Hua Jin was actually there!

He came to school, in-person?! Was he crazy?! Little Yichen looked incredulous. He was not so much shocked as horrified. Was Hua Jin mad?

The actor, however, was oblivious to the horror that the boy felt. Instead, he waved the autographed pictures in the air as if it were a tribute. He smiled at the boy through the window. "I brought the autographed photos!"

The boy put his hand to his forehead in exasperation! He actually came to school to deliver a few autographed pictures! This... this was crazy!

Little Yichen stood up with an air of resignation and walked out of the classroom. The actor immediately greeted him and handed him a huge stack of autographed pictures.

It was a thick stack because Hua Jin did not just give him some autographed pictures, but photograph albums!

"What happened to the photos I asked for?"

The actor looked terribly pleased with himself as he explained, "These are all limited-edition photo albums. You can't usually buy them. I hoarded them myself as gifts for my fans. Aren't you glad that I'm giving them to you now?" He rambled on. After a pause, the actor lowered his voice in annoyance. "Besides, how shabby is it to give photos? Won't people lament about you being petty?"

Little Yichen rolled his eyes. "I already think it's too much trouble to help them. Why would they ask for more? They can just have the autographed pictures."

The actor shook his head and sighed. "Since you're all my little fans, just take it that I'm giving my fans a bonus!"

The boy raised his eyebrows. "All right! By the way, how did you get in? No one stopped you?" As he spoke, another thought struck him. "And what do you think you're doing, invading my school like that!?"

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"Giving you a surprise!"

"Hehe, more like a shock." The boy shot him a look. "Our school is heavily guarded. No outsiders allowed. How did you get in?"

The actor was surprised to hear this. "Really? Actually, I didn't want to come in. I thought I'd call you from the school gate and get my assistant to deliver the photos. But as soon as I got to the gate, the security guard recognized me and the principal, who was on duty at the school gate, ushered me in!" Hua Jin pointed over his shoulder.

The boy looked in the direction he was pointing and saw the teacher-on-duty, the heads of departments, the vice-principal, and the security guard standing behind the actor, smiling politely.

"..."

What happened to moral integrity?

Was that really the disciplinary mistress who was forever preaching the virtues of law and order, staring at Hua Jin now with a star-struck smile?

The boy gulped.

The actor noticed Little Yichen staring at one of the teachers and immediately said, "This teacher seems to be a fan of mine, too. Unfortunately, I only brought this many autographed albums and I don't have a set for her, so she asked me for a group photo."

The boy looked as if he'd seen a ghost. "She's a fan of yours?"

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The boy looked as if he'd seen a ghost. "She's a fan of yours?"

That was hard to imagine. The disciplinary mistress, who in his impression was strict and demanding, was actually Hua Jin's fan. Recently, several of Hua Jin's shows had become so popular that many people had become his fans.

"Are you here to pick up Little Yichen from school, Hua Jin?" The disciplinary mistress asked cautiously.

The actor nodded and replied, "Uh huh, school should be out soon! I'll wait to pick up the two little ones and take them home!"

The teacher grunted in acknowledgment and looked at the boy with a surprising amount of envy that he could have such close contact with Hua Jin, and even had the male idol personally pick him up from school! She wished she could become Little Yichen, even if only to enjoy that special treatment for a moment!

Gong Fan sat in the classroom yawning. He lay slumped over the desk and completely ignored what was happening outside the window. It was as if Hua Jin's appearance had nothing to do with him.

The children in the classroom were completely astounded, however. They stood up and ran to the windows and door. When the disciplinary mistress saw this, she immediately walked into the classroom in a huff and said sternly, "All of you, focus on your self-revision. Stop being distracted!"

"Wow... that's too much..."

"She herself is acting like a brainless fan in front of Hua Jin, so what if we only took a look?" Many of the students grumbled under their breath.

After the disciplinary mistress left, the group peered out of the window curiously again. The children marveled at the actor's good looks.

"Wow, I didn't expect Li Zeyu to look better in person than on television!"

"Don't most people say that celebrities aren't as good-looking in-person as they are on television?"

"I think Hua Jin is so handsome in-person! He's really dashing!"

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The actor was much more handsome in person than on television. No doubt, Hua Jin himself didn't like to admit that he certainly wasn't the photogenic type. In fact, his face looked somewhat puffy on television. However, there was no dispute over Hua Jin's gorgeous looks in real life.

Celebrities were indeed different from ordinary folks. Hua Jin stood outside along the corridor. Although he was only wearing ordinary clothes and a cap, it was difficult to hide his radiant physique.

A few moments later, the actor walked in with the form teacher. Then, according to the list Little Yichen had given him, he distributed the photograph albums to the children. The classroom was in a complete uproar as the students' shrieks rose and fell.

When school was over, the actor waited at the entrance of the classroom door for the boys to pack their bags. He had instructed his assistant to wait just outside the school gate, but the assistant was more worried that Hua Jin, a public figure, should be standing along the corridor. He was worried that the parents who'd turn up at the classroom to pick up their children would cause a commotion and a jam.

Hua Jin felt, on the contrary, that having such a large group of people surrounding him would only serve to attract more attention. So he dismissed his bodyguard and assistant and waited outside the classroom alone.

Soon, the parents arrived to pick up their children.

And it was just as the assistant had feared. Indeed, even though Hua Jin was dressed very ordinarily, it could not hide his glowing presence.

Except that many people who saw him were only suspicious and did not take it seriously.

Nevertheless, someone finally recognized him.

“Is that Li Zeyu?”

“That’s impossible! Why would Li Zeyu come here?”

“True. He’s a big star. Why would he come to an elementary school?”

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“True. He’s a big star. Why would he come to an elementary school?”

The people pricked up their ears.

“That’s true!”

Hence, they thought nothing further of it.

The actor stood silently among the parents until the twins came out of the classroom and left with him. When the other children came out and told their parents in excitement that it was Hua Jin who had been waiting at the door, all the parents were shocked!

So it really was Hua Jin!

However, a few teachers immediately hurried over and instructed these parents not to spread the news of Hua Jin coming to the school, for if the media and reporters found out, they would definitely fabricate reports and spread some unsubstantiated stories.

When Hua Jin and the twins came up to the school gate, they found themselves staring at the monster of a Raptor parked at the entrance. The vehicle was so big that it almost became the most eye-catching car at the school gate.

As the actor swept his gaze over it, his eyes caught sight of Gong Jie leaning against the side of the car. His eyes widened in shock.

“Gong Jie!”

Damn it! What was he doing here!?

Little Yichen was surprised to see his uncle, but instantly recalled. “Oh, I remember now. Uncle said he was picking us up from school today.”

The actor frowned. “Huh? I thought you guys were chauffeured to and from school?”

“Something happened in Uncle Driver’s family today. Apparently, his wife has been hospitalized following an accident. He had to go to the hospital to take care of her. Because it all happened so suddenly, he asked Uncle for help to pick us up.”

The actor broke out in a cold sweat upon hearing this. He quickly said, “We’ll pretend we didn’t see him. Let’s go.”

Little Yichen winced at that suggestion. Feeling awkward, he said, “Really? Uncle would be furious if he didn’t manage to pick us up.”

Gong Fan raised his eyebrows but didn’t say anything.

Little Yichen could not help feeling worried. “Uncle can be very scary when he’s angry.”

The actor was dumbfounded. He contemplated for a moment, then said quietly, “Tell you what, I’ll leave first then. You guys go home with him, huh?”

Little Yichen was about to nod, but then suddenly looked blankly past the actor before his expression turned into one of horror.

Hua Jin saw the horror on the boy’s face and didn’t react initially... Until he whirled around and nearly ran headlong into Gong Jie’s chest.

The actor was stunned. He slowly raised his eyes and saw Gong Jie looking down at him with an icy smile.

The actor, standing at six-foot-two, was a considerably tall man, but Gong Jie stood a good eight or nine centimeters taller than him. The eight or nine centimeters weren’t much, but enough for Hua Jin to have to look up to meet the other man’s eyes.

Damn it, did he have to be that tall?

The embarrassed actor greeted him awkwardly. “What a... coincidence. Ha, ha.” He gave a dry laugh that sounded somewhat distressed, and rubbed his hands together, obviously guilty.

Gong Jie returned with a neutral smile and asked, “Who was about to sneak off?”

“...”

“Why? Saw a ghost?”

Hua Jin shook his head in horror. “No... no...”

As Gong Jie’s smile widened, the actor looked increasingly horrified.

Why must the guy glare at him in such a terrifying manner!

“Well, I have things to do. I’ll get going.” The actor shrank back and was about to make his escape when Gong Jie reached out and grabbed him by the collar at his nape.

Three minutes later, Hua Jin was sitting frozen in the backseat of the Raptor, exchanging looks with Little Yichen.

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Gong Jie got into the driver's seat and adjusted the rear view mirror. For a moment, it caught the reflection of the actor's pale face. For some reason, he looked shell-shocked and stunned.

Oddly, Gong Jie suddenly wanted to laugh aloud at the blank look in Hua Jin's eyes, but he clamped his lips together and snorted casually. The actor shuddered again. Gong Jie shot him a meaningful glance and secured his seat belt with mock nonchalance.

Gong Fan sat in the front passenger seat. After getting into the car, he crossed his arms and sat back calmly.

Hua Jin felt as if he were trapped in an icehouse of despair. *Somebody, please help!*

He gulped and asked, on tenterhooks, "Where are we going?"

Gong Jie countered expressionlessly, "Where do you want to go?"

"I..." Hua Jin replied weakly, "Actually, I have an event tonight?"

"Moonlighting?"

"..."

"Why are you so afraid of me? I'm not going to eat you."

The actor frowned, but sighed inwardly. How infuriating!

It seemed strange to him too, that for some reason, Gong Jie left a deep and horrifying impression on him. He had always thought the man to be very scary and super-dangerous.

However, the actor knew in his heart that no matter how much Gong Jie disliked him, he would not do anything to him. The man wouldn't kill him or eat him, but his fear of Gong Jie was instinctual. It was so instinctual it was scary.

Gong Jie said coldly, "I'm not going to eat you. You don't have to be so afraid of me!"

He studied the man through the rear view mirror. Similarly, Hua Jin could see Gong Jie through the same mirror. Somehow, even though he was clearly smiling, Gong Jie looked as if a layer of frost had formed across his face.

He realized that Gong Fan and Gong Jie were indeed uncle and nephew.

No matter the mood they were in, when it came to outsiders, they always seemed to keep them at arm's length. However, when they were obviously angry, no matter how furious they were, they would always be gentle towards Yun Shishi.

Envious.

She was probably the only person in the world who enjoyed such privileges!

Initially, the atmosphere between the actor and Little Yichen was very harmonious. However, after getting into Gong Jie's car, they did not utter a single word. Despite the fact that Little Yichen got along well with Gong Jie, in reality, the boy was relatively quiet in Gong Jie's presence. He didn't dare to speak freely, because Gong Jie would snap at him. The man had a sharp tongue, almost as sharp as Youyou's. They spoke with great directness and bluntness.

He remembered one time, Little Yichen drew a picture and showed it to Yun Shishi as if it were a treasure. Gong Jie happened to be beside him and said in a quiet voice, "It looks like a talisman with all that scribbling."

Little Yichen felt himself wilting!

What a bully!

The uncle and nephew both ganged up to bully him!

Gong Jie even said that Little Yichen must have had a genetic mutation. Otherwise, how could he be so stupid when Youyou was so smart?

Fortunately, Mu Yazhe stood by Little Yichen and replied casually, "Why don't you say instead that Youyou carries a genetic mutation? His level of intelligence is heaven-defying for a kid his age."

Although the words did not carry much strength, but at the very least he had his daddy's support!

It could be said that the family was divided. Mu Yazhe, Little Yichen and Hua Jin made up one camp, Youyou and Gong Jie belonged to the other camp.

Yun Shishi was in the middle.

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At this point, they happened to drive past a street.

Little Yichen leaned into the window and looked around. "Uncle," he said suddenly, "I want some milk tea."

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Gong Jie immediately brought the car to a halt. "Sit still," he instructed Little Yichen. "Uncle will buy it for you."

After a pause, he glanced at Gong Fan again. "Do you want some?"

Gong Fan looked disgusted. "No."

"What would you like to drink, then?"

"Wolfberry tea."

"..."

Gong Jie complained, "Are you a Buddhist studies elementary school student? So young but so focused on cultivating your health."

"I don't like anything too sweet."

Hua Jin thought it was odd and mumbled, "That's strange. Doesn't Youyou have a sweet tooth?"

He recalled that in the past, Youyou was fond of drinking Cola. Apart from Cola, he was also very fond of other sweet things. However, Gong Fan was different. He would drink Cola, but declined any other sweet treats.

Gong Jie turned to the actor and asked him, "And what about you?"

"Are you buying me a drink?"

Gong Jie raised an eyebrow, looking rather displeased. "Otherwise? Would you go buy it and give us all a treat?"

"No ... too many people."

Gong Jie said nothing, but only instructed him to take care of the two children. The car door shut with a "bam", leaving Hua Jin and Little Yichen staring at each other.

Gong Fan said, "Why does it sound so much like a husband instructing his wife to take care of the kids?"

The actor's face flushed with anger upon hearing this. "Hey, don't talk nonsense!"

Gong Fan said, "I'm just spouting nonsense, why get so worked up?"

The actor was dumbfounded.

Little Yichen, however, had managed to stifle his laughter the whole time. His shoulders rose and fell as he tried to hide his chuckling. Reflecting on Gong Fan's words, he realized that it was indeed true! Uncle really did look the part of a career husband, and Hua Jin, the stay-at-home housewife minding the kids... Come to think of it, they fit into the picture perfectly!

The boy covered his mouth with his hand and giggled.

The actor spat, "What are you laughing at!?"

"Now that he's mentioned it, you look the part." Little Yichen said very solemnly, "Seriously, have you considered my uncle? He's so handsome and rich. If you marry him, you can be Mrs. Gong and live a worry-free life!"

The actor said with contempt, "Are you trying to pimp me?"

"I'm pimping my uncle!"

Speak of the devil. Gong Jie returned with the milk tea. When he opened the car door, Little Yichen looked at him, stunned.

"Uncle... you... that was fast?!"

It was a food street in the middle of downtown.

Usually, there would be a long queue at the entrance of the milk tea shop at this time of the day.

He had only been gone a few minutes and now he was back with the drinks.

Gong Jie frowned. "Really? I said I was in a hurry, and then the crowd made way."

"..."

Little Yichen asked suspiciously. "Did you... intimidate them?"

"No."

Gong Fan lamented icily, "Even if he didn't use threat, most people would be scared out of their wits by his gaze."

Gong Jie handed Youyou the wolfberry tea, and Little Yichen the milk tea with pudding. Then the remaining cup went to Hua Jin, who was surprised to find that it was his favorite matcha.

He had not told Gong Jie that he liked matcha. Instead, he had said "whatever". And Gong Jie bought matcha at random.

"What's wrong? Don't like this flavor?"

Taken aback, the actor immediately replied, "No, I'm actually very fond of this flavor. Did you select this randomly?"

Gong Jie looked startled, too, then frowned.

Gong Fan, who was watching them, interrupted, "Uncle's favorite flavor is matcha too."

Hua Jin was surprised. "You like matcha, too?"

"Uh huh."

"Me too. Matcha suits my taste bud, sweet but not overly so."

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Clutching the matcha milk tea, the actor slurped noisily through the straw, feeling most satisfied!

Gong Fan took a sip of his tea and frowned. He put it aside and stopped drinking.

Gong Jie was surprised to see this. "What's the matter?"

"Too much sugar." After a pause, the boy said, "It's too sweet."

Gong Jie did not expect to hear this, and his expression grew increasingly complex.

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"I recently took on a patient with multiple personalities."

Gong Jie sat on the sofa cross from Alice. As she poured tea for him, she said faintly, "This patient has six personalities and each is independent."

"Are you diving deeper into this area of work now?"

"If it weren't for your dear nephew, I wouldn't have taken over this patient." Alice sat down with a rather heavy sigh.

"There aren't many patients with multiple personalities around. The incidence of occurrence of this condition is also very small. However, most of the more complicated conditions are handled by authoritative research institutes. In short, they're test subjects. These patients have been tortured by multiple personalities for a long time and have been controlled. Generally, the underlying cause of multiple personalities is a loss of sense of self-unification due to self-identification disorders. Two or more distinct personalities develop as a result. When one personality appears, the others automatically exit. Generally, it's the primary personality that dominates. As far as I know, the person with the most number of personalities in the world currently being investigated is Billy Milligan."

"Billy?"

"Well, his story was also made into a movie. Originally, he committed three cases of rape in Ohio State, but he was diagnosed as a rare multiple-personality schizophrenic and acquitted."

Gong Jie nodded. "I've heard of him."

This man was the only felon in the history of M nation to be exonerated for multiple personalities.

"After he committed the crime and was arrested, he had no idea what kind of crime he had committed. He underwent a psychological test assessment before he was diagnosed with schizophrenia." Alice took a sip of tea and continued. "After he was exempted from punishment, he began a lengthy period of treatment. Two doctors separately found out that he had a total of 24 personalities. However, through treatment, the doctors discovered that the dissociation of these personalities was inseparable from his childhood."

"How so?"

"Billy's mom, Dorothy, grew up on a farm in Ohio, and subsequently lived with her husband, Dick, when she came of age. They later divorced and Dorothy moved to Miami and became a singer-songwriter. There she moved in with a married Jewish comedian named Morrison. Dorothy and Morrison had three children together, and the second son, William, was Billy. A few years later, Morrison committed suicide because of gambling debts and alcoholism, following a previous suicide attempt. After that, Dorothy left Miami with the kids and returned to Ohio."

"Dorothy met Chalmer. This man was the cause of Billy's schizophrenia."

"Chalmer has two daughters, one of whom is the same age as Billy. After Dorothy and Chalmer got married, the man abused Billy for a long time, this included rape. Prior to that, his mother's multiple marriages and his father's suicide had already predisposed Billy to multiple split personality tendencies."

“Chalmer has two daughters, one of whom is the same age as Billy. After Dorothy and Chalmer got married, the man abused Billy for a long time, this included rape. Prior to that, his mother’s multiple marriages and his father’s suicide had already predisposed Billy to multiple personality tendencies. The first split personality, a little girl, Christine, showed up when he was three.”

Alice had studied Billy’s 24 personalities carefully.

“Among them, the core personality is brown-haired Billy, age 26, but the second personality, 22-year-old Arthur, was English. A rational and cold man, Arthur self-studied physics, chemistry and research medicine. He was even fluent in Arabic. Stubborn and conservative, he considered himself a capitalist. The bespectacled man was the first to discover the existence of the other personalities, and, being in charge, decided who should appear as a representative of the family.”

“He spoke Arabic?”

“That’s right.”

Gong Jie was confused. Did different personalities differ even in nationalities?

Human beings are truly mysterious creatures.

Gong Jie had never known that there was such a thing as multiple personality disorder.

“A number of strange events have been discovered so far. Some people, for example, were originally from M nation, but one day, they woke up speaking authentic Spanish for no apparent reason. Following that, he was diagnosed to be a secondary personality.”

Gong Jie finally understood some of it.

“In other words, these personalities are independent entities.”

“The world in which a personality exists is not something we can even start to imagine. This information we’ve been given are verbal accounts collated from the patients during the study. For example, the little girl personality was created by Billy when he was three years old. She was three years old and was often punished by the teacher by being made to stand in the corner of the classroom. The blue-eyed blonde was an English girl, very clever, but suffered from dyslexia and liked to make drawings of flowers and butterflies.”

“These personalities were also verbally described by the patient?”

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Alice said, “This is what’s special about Billy. Billy drew all these portraits too.”

Gong Jie still found all of this hard to believe.

“Amongst so many personalities, there was one named Phillip, 20 years old, violent nature, New Yorker with a thick Brooklyn accent. There was another named Kevin, 20 years old as well, had a scheming mind; he planned the robberies at Gray’s Drugstore. This personality, who was a blonde, enjoyed writing.”

"In other words..." Gong Jie summed it up. "Each of the 24 personalities was different. Some were little girls, some were violent men, and some were gentle writers. The 24 personalities each played a different role. But the outside world would not be able to tell at all. Only he himself knew."

"Uh huh."

"Do they hallucinate?"

Alice studied his expression and spoke slowly, "How frightening does it get when someone with split or multiple personalities acts up?"

"Just an example."

"When you're driving, you suddenly realize that you don't remember what had happened or part of what had happened along the way."

"When you're listening to someone, you suddenly realize you can't hear part or all of what he's saying."

"Constant, severe headaches, especially when the two situations mentioned take place."

"You find yourself in a place but don't remember how you got there."

"You find yourself wearing unfamiliar clothes but have no idea how you ended up wearing them."

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"Constant, severe headaches, especially when the two mentioned situations take place."

"You find yourself in a place but don't remember how you got there."

"You find yourself wearing unfamiliar clothes but have no idea how you ended up wearing them."

"Sometimes it feels like the people around you, the objects, or the world isn't real."

"Or you feel like you're standing next to yourself and watching 'yourself' do something, or watching yourself as if you're someone else."

"When you look into the mirror you feel as though the person in the mirror isn't yourself or you don't seem to recognize yourself."

"You feel like you're in a familiar place, but you realize you're actually not familiar with it."

"You focus on a fantasy or daydream so much that you feel as if it's really happening to you."

"Talking aloud to yourself when you're alone."

...

"You find that you can't remember if you did something."

“You find that sometimes it’s as if you’re observing the world through a layer of fog. People and objects are far away from you, and you can’t see them clearly...”

...

Alice rattled off one example after another. Every one of those made Gong Jie shudder. The world of someone with multiple personalities is indeed a scary one.

Gong Jie’s expression grew grave. “Is it difficult to treat?”

“Difficult, but not impossible.” Alice spoke again after a pause. “A dozen years ago, there was a patient with multiple personality disorder in Lima. This patient had 10 personalities, three of which were very violent and rebellious. So the hospital came up with a very brutal electric shock therapy program for this disobedient patient.”

“Electric shock?!”

Gong Jie paled at that. “Isn’t that...”

“It’s painful.” Alice turned to look at him directly. “Billy had gone through such painful treatment in Lima as well. After the electric shocks, Billy was put in the most heavily guarded Ward 9. Most of the personalities gave up hope of living and focused on going into the ‘land of the dead.’”

“The land of the dead?”

“Uh huh. Once in the land of the dead, these personalities would be brutally destroyed, meaning they would sleep forever, but that does not guarantee they would not awaken again. However, one of the 24 personalities, the Teacher, appeared to take over the body. He was the sum of 23 personalities and possessed the memories and abilities of all of them. Unwilling to bow his head to Lima, he refused to admit defeat by death. He resisted and wanted to announce Lima’s tyranny to the world, destroying this hell once and for all. After that, using his brilliant acting and communication skills, the personality convinced Lima that he had become ‘obedient enough’ to be transferred from the strictest Ward 9 to the least secured Ward 6. One of the personalities wanted to kill the doctor in-charge, but was restrained by the Teacher. The Teacher was the most astute of all the personalities. He then set out to collect evidence against the crimes of the hospital. Without pen and paper, he pulled cotton out of the quilt, wet it, and adhered it to the underside of the bed. He used this to keep written notes. He stole a fellow patient’s tape recorder, and reaching through a vent in the toilet, he recorded the discussions of the medical teams and managed to capture evidence that they were overdosing the patients. With this, he threatened Lima into giving him pen and paper, and visitation rights.”

“This personality is really smart.”

“Uh huh.”

Alice continued, “Actually, at the moment I’m more worried about the boy becoming more difficult to manage should he create more personalities.”