

Sweet Love 4361

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Even though he was young and didn't have a driver's license, driving wasn't a problem. The island didn't have many complicated routes or a very complex road plan. Plus, it was an automatic car. One foot on the gas, one foot on the brake. He just had to get his bearings.

Gong Fan got into the car and adjusted the seat to a suitable height. He turned on the ignition, stepped on the accelerator, and successfully drove the car out of the garage and away from the manor.

Beyond the estate was a long stretch of asphalt road void of traffic. Gong Fan drove slowly along the road.

There were some mountains on the island, but the mountain paths were not narrow and it was not difficult to drive.

As the boy drove, he looked out of the window. Soon, he found himself at the edge of a cliff.

It was a dead end.

Gong Fan sighed. He had no choice but to turn the car around.

The gauge indicated that he didn't have much gas left. There was no navigation here, so he had to start the fuel-efficient mode and step carefully on the gas, looking out all the way for a gas station.

After driving about seven or eight kilometers, he finally saw a gas station. He parked the car and got out, but there was no sign of gas station staff. The huge gas station was empty. No one was there. So he took the liberty of refueling until the dashboard showed he was full. Leaving the gas station, he drove in the opposite direction from the dead end and the estate.

There was actually no one on the huge island, giving it an inexplicable sense of desolation.

Before he knew it, the sky was darkening. Usually, he stayed within the estate and didn't wander around. He didn't expect the island to be so big. He had been driving around for so long, but he hadn't seen anything beyond the mountains.

Now that the sky was gradually darkening. Gong Fan felt that it was too dangerous to be driving at night. Besides, he didn't find anything, so he thought that he should turn back and wait for the night to pass.

However, as he turned back, he saw a sudden scattering of lights against the darkened surroundings in the distance. It attracted his attention.

Gong Fan slowed down and looked out the window. He saw that the lights were coming from a few tall buildings.

A large sign with a red cross could be seen on one of the roofs. A hospital, it seemed?

Hospital? Gong Fan frowned. It was not yet completely dark, so he took the opportunity to drive towards the buildings.

From where he was, the hospital didn't look too far away. However, the winding roads on the island took time to navigate through and it was actually late by the time he arrived at his destination.

He parked the car a little way from the hospital and walked to the front entrance. He saw that only a few floors of the hospital were lit. The rest of the building was dark and gloomy.

Was there anyone in the hospital?

How would that be possible?!

Alice had said that the space he was in was an XY dimension, but whoever appeared in it would be, potentially, the boy's other personalities.

Could it be that the other personalities were in the hospital?

If that were the case, could the dangerous personality who had attacked Yun Shishi be also present?

Gong Fan instantly raised his guard and tiptoed into the hospital.

The lights in the lobby of the hospital were not turned on, but the corridor was dimly lit. Perhaps because it had fallen into disrepair, the bulbs flickered on and off.

At a glance, he felt an inexplicable chill run down his spine. It was eerie.

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Gong Fan stood in the hall in a daze, but he didn't dare to speak. He gently took a step forward, and when his shoes struck the ground, the sound echoed in the space.

He didn't dare take the elevator, but apart from that method, it seemed the only other choice was the stairs. He didn't know why he was compelled to go upstairs, but his intuition led him on, it was as if something was attracting him. He didn't know if this intuition was a good or bad thing.

Gong Fan deliberated, unable to decide if he should walk up. He lightened his footsteps and quietly walked to the stairwell entrance, but he was a little hesitant. He wondered what exactly was waiting for him.

Of course, the rational part of himself told him that this was not a horror movie, and there were no such things as ghosts and gods. He was relieved at the thought. Even if there was a ghost, he wasn't afraid. What more could he be afraid of?

Gong Fan mustered his courage and went upstairs. Apart from the flickering lights and shadows, there was nothing particularly scary along the way. He did not know where he should head, so he decided to go up the stairs to find out how tall this building was.

He didn't know how long he'd been climbing, but there was no sign at all to indicate which floor he was on. He couldn't remember how many floors he'd climbed before he saw a closed door at the end of a flight of stairs. He hesitated for a moment before climbing up and pushing on the door tentatively. Unexpectedly, the door was not locked and it swung ajar.

He deliberated for a long time before carefully pushing the door open a little more. First, he looked through the crack. Outside was a spacious rooftop. From where he was, he could make out a drying rack with white coats and sheets on it.

The hospital had many such platforms used for daily chores. Some of the doctors and nurses who lived in the dormitory would dry their laundry here. However, apart from that, there was no sign of anyone.

Gong Fan pushed open the door and walked out. The wind on the rooftop was very strong. Coupled with the fact that it was night time, it was rather chilly. He first walked around the edge of the rooftop. Standing there, he could see the general layout of the hospital more clearly.

There were three blocks arranged in the shape of the letter 'C'. In the middle was a large courtyard.

And the building he was in was the one on the far edge facing south. Directly opposite was another building.

He silently counted the floors opposite because he didn't know how many floors his building had. As he counted, he suddenly saw a strange shadow appear in his peripheral vision.

In the building opposite, only the middle floors were lit. And in the middle of that, probably the fourth floor, the lights were on. A shadow, emerging from the far left, strode down the hallway.

Gong Fan was stunned for a moment.

He wasn't afraid, but he was surprised that there was someone in the hospital. Furthermore, from the silhouette, he could tell that this was a tall and strong man. Even though he was far away and couldn't see him clearly, his shadow was very long under the light. Gong Fan thought that he should be more than six feet tall.

Just as Gong Fan was secretly observing this man, the man suddenly stopped in his tracks.

Under the moonlight, for some reason, a sense of fear rose within Gong Fan.

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Under the moonlight, for some reason, a sense of fear rose within Gong Fan. He subconsciously took half a step back. An ominous feeling came over him.

At this point, the man leaned towards the window and looked towards the rooftop where the boy was.

However, Gong Fan was already on guard and quickly hid behind the drying rack. There was a bedspread on the drying rack and it was draped over the rack such that one end reached the ground. It was just enough to hide him completely.

Gong Fan didn't know what exactly he was afraid of, but subconsciously, he didn't want this man to discover him. This was his subconscious reaction. However, when he turned his head and looked at the moonlight in the sky, his heart suddenly skipped a beat!

In his nervousness, he had forgotten that even if these white sheets could cover his figure, the moonlight would cast a shadow against them.

Gong Fan suddenly felt as though he couldn't breathe. He could vaguely sense that if the man's gaze was really trained in this direction, he might have already been discovered!

With the intention of finding out, Gong Fan turned slightly. Through the bedspread lifted by the night breeze, he saw from the corner of his eye that the man was indeed heading in his direction.

Their eyes met halfway through the distance between them! He could even feel the man's sharp gaze boring into him!

This man was tall and it was obvious that he was an extremely domineering man. Gong Fan recalled the time when Yun Shishi was stabbed and immediately associated this man with that dangerous personality!

"Oh no..." Gong Fan immediately felt his scalp tingle. Since he had already been discovered, he didn't have to hide anymore. He walked out from behind the bedsheets, and clearly saw the man's gaze fixed on him. Then, his shoulders arched slightly, like a tiger preparing to hunt!

The atmosphere was tense.

If not for the fact that they were so far apart, Gong Fan would have thought that this man would pounce on him like a cheetah in the next second!

His back was already drenched in cold sweat.

Gong Fan moved his feet slightly and slowly moved towards the door. The man looked at his position for a moment. Then, while watching him, he quickly ran through the corridor in his direction!

He knew where he was, and this was the start of his hunt!

"Run!" At this moment, there was only one word in Gong Fan's mind! Instinct told him that this man was extremely dangerous, so he lunged for the door at almost the same time.

He was 10 floors up on the rooftop, while the man was on the fourth floor of the other building so there was some distance between them. However the man's figure heading in his direction was enough to instill fear!

If he didn't run now, the man would definitely catch up to him.

After all, he was a grown man. He would certainly not be a slow runner!

Should he run? But where to?

Gong Fan didn't have time to consider the man's identity at all. He only wanted to find a place to hide.

He ran through the huge hospital. The echo of his footsteps was as if someone was following closely behind him, making him even more on edge!

Gong Fan tried the doors that he came across. Every door was either locked or a dead end. There was no place to hide. He didn't dare pin his hopes on the bolts. It felt as if the door wouldn't be able to withstand a kick from the man, no matter how strong the lock seemed.

Gong Fan didn't know what to do, nor could he find a place to hide.

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He first ran down to the ninth floor, then back up to the tenth. Just as he reached the tenth floor, he vaguely heard footsteps from the floor above.

Gong Fan approached the window warily. He first stuck his head out and looked up. At this point, the footsteps upstairs quietened. He first swept his gaze to the left, then to the right. Immediately after, he saw a human head sticking out of the window!

That man had managed to get to where he originally was so quickly. He wasn't a fool indeed. Through the sound of the footsteps, he caught on that the boy was on the tenth floor. He looked down and their gazes met again. Gong Fan immediately felt his blood run cold!

The man quickly drew his head back. Footsteps sounded!

Gong Fan immediately realized that the man must be heading in his direction! He was going crazy! Was it on the left or right?

Gong Fan made the judgment that the man would likely come down the stairs on the right closest to him. Hence, he ran towards the stairs on the left and went down to the fourth floor. When he could no longer hear his own panicking heartbeat, he calmed down a little.

He ran around the hospital building like a headless fly. Gong Fan had never been in such a sorry state before!

But he knew deep down inside. Alice had also told him that this was no ordinary dream. He had entered the world of personalities. Here, if he was hurt, his personality would also disappear without a trace in the real world. He was different from Youyou. The boy could not be destroyed, whereas he could!

Gong Fan remembered Alice's words and was determined to protect himself! He must not die! Even if he were to die, he'd take the dangerous personalities down with him!

Gong Fan walked cautiously along the ward. In a moment like this, the doors were like cages that held ferocious beasts! No one knew what kind of danger would explode through the door in the next second.

He was extremely cautious and kept his steps extremely light. He wondered if the man had followed his example and kept his steps light, waiting for an opportunity to sneak up on him.

Now he felt like prey in the open, while the man lurked in the shadows, ready to pounce.

Unknowingly, the cold sweat on Gong Fan's back had been dried by the evening breeze. Immediately after, another layer of sweat formed. His clothes were stuck to his back. This sticky feeling was so real that he couldn't even tell if he was in a dream or reality.

Just as he was making his way slowly, he saw a door a short distance away creak open. Like a startled cat, he bounced back a step, looking wary.

He was brave enough to be calm in the face of this, but at this point, he didn't have the courage to ask, "Who's there?"

He tried his best to shrink into a ball and guard against any danger coming out of the door so that he could retreat at any time!

At this point, a pair of tiny hands scrabbled at the door frame and a small face slowly emerged. Under the moonlight, the delicate features on the face became clearer. When Gong Fan saw the familiar face, his heart beat even faster!

As if aware of the rapid breathing, that child also looked in his direction. On seeing Gong Fan, he was first shocked and subconsciously retreated.

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On seeing Gong Fan, he was first shocked and subconsciously retreated. Then, the child who looked exactly like him called out tentatively, "Is... is that you? Gong Fan?"

Hearing this familiar voice, Gong Fan felt a chill run down his spine. However, it was not out of fear, but excitement!

He responded immediately. "It's me!"

The child finally relaxed and beamed. Those glistening eyes gave him a sense of endless warmth.

"It's me, Youyou!" Then he beckoned with his finger. "Come over here, hurry!"

Gong Fan couldn't hide his excitement, but he still tried his best to control his frantic footsteps.

He lowered his body, keeping close to the wall. When he was about a foot from the door, the boy leaned out, grabbed his arm, and immediately pulled him into the room.

The door shut softly.

Youyou carefully locked the door behind him, trying not to make a sound. As soon as he locked the door and turned around, Gong Fan could not contain his excitement and hugged him tightly!

"I finally found you, Youyou!"

Gong Fan was not without emotions. Because he knew exactly why Youyou had entered this world of personalities. In fact, he didn't need to take the risk. Although such a dangerous world was not life-threatening to him, it was still a considerable mental pressure.

But the boy had entered this world for him, to protect him! Gong Fan hugged him so tightly, as if he wanted to fuse with him!

Instead of pulling away, Youyou sighed and hugged him just as tightly. "I'm glad you're okay!"

These few words warmed Gong Fan's heart. It felt as though they released the long-term suppression that his personality bore!

However, it seemed that his tear ducts had never really developed. Logically speaking, in such a situation, the two of them should be hugging each other and crying. But the boy didn't shed a tear. He was too excited to cry.

"You're fine too. That's really good!" Youyou released him and studied him intently.

Gong Fan also sized him up. They looked so identical, even more so than how Youyou and Little Yichen resembled each other. They were exactly the same. When Youyou looked at Gong Fan, it was like looking into a mirror.

Gong Fan looked at Youyou with infinite emotion. In some parallel world, the two personalities had miraculously met! This world was too unbelievable! Here, the boy saw his other self!

This feeling was very strange. At once, he asked curiously, "Why are you here?"

"I..." Gong Fan hesitated for a moment before explaining, "I heard from Alice and Romanka that you underwent hypnosis for my sake and should have met up with me. However, I woke up halfway and occupied your body, which meant you couldn't return to it. I finally fell asleep and successfully entered the dreamscape. Then in the process I came across this hospital. I didn't expect you to be here too!"

That was probably what they called telepathy!

Gong Fan finally understood why something seemed to be summoning him when he first entered the hospital. There was no audible sound, but in his consciousness, it was as if someone was reminding him to enter this hospital.

Before Youyou could say anything, Gong Fan cautiously reminded him, "Just then, I was being pursued by a man. I don't know who he is, but my intuition tells me that he'll harm me."

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Youyou turned ashen when he heard this. "A man? Is he a tall man with ..."

Gong Fan finished the other boy's sentence, "... a murderous intent?"

"Uh huh."

"Yes, that's him." This confirmed Youyou's fears. "He's in this building. He was trying to hunt me down before. I have a feeling he might be the dangerous personality who attacked Mommy."

"Oh?" Gong Fan actually suspected so too, but hearing Youyou's suspicions, he wanted to hear the boy's analysis of it. "What do you think?"

"He's tall and strong. My guess is that he's a dangerous personality. More capable of attacking Mommy than you."

Gong Fan pondered and nodded. He turned around silently and was surprised to see a girl sitting on the bed. Startled, he took half a step back and said, alarmed, "Who ... who is she?"

"She, oh... she must be one of the other personalities." Youyou continued, "Her name is Shanshan."

"Shanshan?" Gong Fan observed her seriously.

Shanshan was sitting up in bed leaning against the headboard. She had been in that position since Youyou had arrived in the room. She had not moved at all.

From her appearance alone, Shanshan seemed to resemble Yun Shishi.

However, Gong Fan knew in his heart that Shanshan was definitely not Yun Shishi. At the same time, he also suspected that it was because he had always been with Yun Shishi that the boy had subconsciously created a similar personality based on their mother.

There was something about Shanshan that resembled their mother. So much so that Gong Fan even thought that Shanshan must be Yun Shishi in her youth.

“She’s been here since I entered this room. But she doesn’t seem to be a dangerous personality.”

Gong Fan frowned. Even though Youyou said so, he lowered his voice to remind the boy, “Even so, you have to be careful. You shouldn’t even trust me easily here, understand?”

He remembered dreaming once of a child who looked exactly like Youyou and him. But it was a dangerous personality. He could no longer tell if it was a personality or a dream.

Youyou looked at him in surprise, but he also knew that Gong Fan had said that to protect him. “Don’t worry! I know what I’m doing.”

Gong Fan asked in confusion, “Haven’t you been out of this room since you came here?”

“Uh huh...” The boy nodded. “I haven’t been out since I got here, because I don’t know what it’s like out there. But since I’ve been in this room, I’ve been hearing footsteps coming and going outside the door. I suspect the man hasn’t left. I think he must be looking for me.”

Gong Fan nodded. “I’m sure he hasn’t left. He must be looking for you.”

“So ... what now?”

Now that he had found Gong Fan, Youyou thought, he must find a way to explore this world. However, even if there were two of them now, they were not strong enough. He did not dare to make any rash decisions given his unfamiliarity with this world. What if they encountered any sort of danger after leaving this room? It might be fatal for Gong Fan.

He was in this room, keeping watch, waiting for the right moment, but the man had been hovering outside, and he was taking no chances.

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“If we don’t go out and take a look, we’re as good as not making any progress.” Gong Fan took a deep breath and exhaled a puff of turbid air. He sighed helplessly. “There’s nothing I can do now. I can only take things one step at a time. The best I can do is be more vigilant.”

Youyou, however, still had his concerns. “Let’s not talk about you just yet, would the two of us even be a match for that man?”

Gong Fan fell silent for a moment at that. Then, he said solemnly, “Don’t worry, I will ensure you’re well-protected, even if at the cost of my life!”

Youyou stared at him blankly for a moment, his expression grave and stern.

“Are you kidding? At the end of the day, you’re the one who needs protecting.”

“...?” Gong Fan was stunned. Did Youyou say he wanted to protect him? Wasn’t Youyou the one who should be protected?

“I’ll be fine. Don’t you worry.” Youyou was worried that Shanshan would hear him. Even if he didn’t dislike the girl, he was more or less wary. “I’m the primary personality. No matter what I encounter here, I’m in no danger in reality. But you’re different. If you die here, that means you’re gone forever in reality!” Despite himself, Youyou grew agitated. He took a step forward and gripped Gong Fan’s shoulder tightly. “I don’t want you to disappear!” he said nervously.

Gong Fan was speechless.

Behind him, a voice suddenly spoke. “Do you guys want to get out?”

The two little lads turned around in unison and saw that Shanshan had quietly drifted to their side like a ghost!

“Are you guys hiding from that man?”

“You know about him?” Youyou paled and could not hide his surprise.

Shanshan’s expression changed at the mention of the man. She was clearly fearful.

“I... that man. He’s scary. I’m afraid of him, too. That’s why I’m hiding here. I’m afraid to go anywhere.”

Youyou saw that Shanshan seemed to understand something and immediately probed, “Who is he?”

However, what she said disappointed him.

Shanshan shook her head helplessly. “I don’t know him. I don’t know where he comes from, what he does for a living, or who he is. But there’s something murderous about him. I don’t dare to go near him. He patrols this place every day, just like a sanctioner. He’s so powerful. I don’t know if he’ll... hurt me. That’s why I’ve been afraid to go out.”

Youyou’s mind was suddenly in turmoil.

Who exactly was this man? Could it be the sanctioner Romanka had been talking about? However, logically speaking, shouldn’t he or Gong Fan take the role of the sanctioner?

There were too many unknowns in this world.

“But if you want to leave this place, I know there’s a secret way out of this hospital. You don’t have to go through the gate. You can leave via the winding path in the back garden. That’s the back entrance to the hospital. It’s always unlocked.”

Youyou’s interest was piqued. “Do you know where it is?”

“I know the way. I can take you there!”

When Gong Fan heard this, he immediately stopped her. “I’m sorry, we can’t take you away.”

When Shanshan heard this, her bright eyes dimmed. “Why? Are you going to abandon me?”

Abandon?

Youyou questioned her. "Haven't you always been here?"

"I don't want to stay here. It's too depressing."

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Shanshan slumped back against the wall, hugging her knees and looking disappointed. "I'm all alone. I feel lonely and uneasy..."

Youyou's heart softened at her helplessness.

Gong Fan tugged at his wrist.

Youyou was aware that he was reminding him not to trust anyone so easily.

Youyou, however, took his hand and said, "Let's take her!"

"...?" Gong Fan was a little shocked by his risk-taking.

Youyou looked at Shanshan and then turned to the boy again. "I feel she might be of some help to us. Besides, that man is one thing, but would you be afraid of such a delicate girl?"

"A girl? Delicate?" Gong Fan couldn't help laughing. "Youyou, you can't judge a book by its cover. You can't judge a person from their appearance alone if they're a threat to you."

"Then by the same token, one has to take risks in life. Neither of us would have come here if we had no sense of adventure! Eh?" The boy was beginning to convince Youyou bit by bit.

"Alright then!" He sighed. That was all he said. He turned away and made no further comment.

Youyou said to Shanshan, "Can you really get us out of here?"

Shanshan stood up excitedly, hope returning to her face. "Are you really willing to take me with you?"

"Uh huh. We can't possibly leave you here alone, can we?"

"Uh huh!"

Shanshan walked to the door and like a nimble butterfly, she beckoned, "Come with me!"

Youyou and Gong Fan exchanged glances. Although they were skeptical, they decided to take a risk.

Shanshan opened the door. No one knew how she did it, but she opened the door silently.

She poked her head out and looked around. Seeing no one, she turned around and waved at Youyou and Gong Fan.

The three of them slipped quietly out of the room.

"Shhh." After a few steps, Shanshan shushed them into silence.

Youyou was wary at once. "What is it?"

"I hear footsteps." Shanshan's hearing was so sharp that she had already arched her body in caution before the two boys even had a clue. Youyou didn't dare make a sound. The two of them held their breath as Gong Fan and looked around warily.

"Upstairs." Shanshan suddenly pointed upstairs and winked at the boy. "I think he's upstairs."

"I don't hear any footsteps."

"Probably on a very high floor! You can't hear him, but I can. He's coming from the left, heading right."

Shanshan wasn't speaking too softly herself. The only reason she had told Youyou and Gong Fan to keep quiet was because she wanted to hear the man's movements.

Youyou felt his blood run cold!

"It's all right. We'll go this way." Shanshan pointed towards a door.

"Where's that?" The boy was still worried about her.

But Shanshan was extremely sensitive and picked up the distrust in his voice. "Are you suspecting me?"

"Uh..."

Youyou saw that his little ploy had been seen through and did not try to explain himself. Instead, he pursed his lips in embarrassment.

"There's a laundry room over there. There's a set of fire escape stairs in the laundry room. It's a special escape route for when there's a fire. It's a secret I discovered. Very few people know about it. The man probably doesn't know either, since it's so hidden."

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After Shanshan finished speaking, she walked towards the laundry room, ignoring Gong Fan's worried expression.

Youyou grabbed Gong Fan's hand and immediately, cautiously, lightened his footsteps and followed. He had mixed feelings and was skeptical. He didn't hear any movement, but Shanshan could hear footsteps a few floors away. This was too mysterious.

Shanshan obviously saw through his doubts. She smiled and said, "My hearing is very sharp. Perhaps it's because I've been practicing it in such a quiet environment. I can hear the sound of your footsteps on the lawn and the wind blowing, let alone in the corridor."

Gong Fan was rather unimpressed by this. "In that case, do you know how I got into the hospital?"

"You went to the rooftop, didn't you?" Shanshan said with a smile.

Gong Fan immediately looked surprised. She actually heard him. It had to be said, the rooftop was many floors away from the room she was in.

Youyou chimed in. "Shanshan heard your footsteps earlier. She could tell the difference between the man's and your footsteps. Otherwise, I wouldn't have felt safe opening the door. I knew it had to be you outside."

The three of them went into the laundry room, which was filled with rows of fully automatic washing machines and white sheets that had been hung out to dry.

Gong Fan looked at the clothes that were drying and asked curiously, "Is there anyone else here?"

"Well ... there is."

"Doctors and nurses?"

Shanshan shook her head. "I haven't seen any doctors or nurses. I've always been here. It seems like an abandoned hospital. Very few people come in and out."

"Who usually takes care of you when you're alone in the hospital?"

"Myself. I take care of myself. My little sister visits me occasionally."

"Little sister?"

"Shhh." At the mention of her sister, a look of horror finally came over Shanshan's face. "My sister is scary. She's always so overbearing. She's never been nice to me."

Gong Fan thought this was really odd. Somehow he was reminded of Yunna. Could it be that Shanshan's sister was a personality created based on Yun Na?

Shanshan led them to a door and pushed it open. The door was never locked. When it swung open, a set of Z-shaped staircases leading down to the back garden was revealed.

"This is it." Shanshan said, "Follow these stairs. They lead straight to the back garden. After passing through the back garden, we'll come to the back door of the hospital."

"And after walking out the back door?" Gong Fan was a little lost. He couldn't tell if his car was parked at the main entrance or the back entrance. His gaze passed over the garden. The back door seemed to lead to a mountain.

"Is that a mountain?"

"Yeah."

"What's on the mountain?"

Shanshan looked confused and shook her head. "I don't know. I've never been out. Even the back garden. I've never been there. But I've been upstairs, looking out the window at the back garden, and I saw a path leading to the back door."

"Let's go! Let's take a look at the mountain!"

Youyou muttered to himself, there can't possibly be any wild animals on this mountain!

The three of them made their way down the stairs until they reached the ground floor. They found themselves in the back garden.

The back garden was a large garden lush with dense greenery, flowers, grass, stonework...

They hunched over, covering their tracks as best they could.

The three of them were extremely careful. For some reason, Youyou had a nagging bad feeling about this.

He felt as if someone was watching him closely from behind, but he didn't dare look back. He had a feeling that if he turned around and met that person's gaze...

"I get the nagging feeling we're being watched."

"... You feel it too??"

Gong Fan was about to look back when the boy tugged at his arm. "Don't look back!"

"Why?"

"I have this really strange sense, that if we didn't look back, the man would just be looking at us all the time, watching us from behind, but the moment we turned back and tried to run, he'd be in hot pursuit..."

Gong Fan was stunned. In fact, he had that same feeling.

"Could it be that he won't come after us if we keep pretending we don't see him?"

Youyou nodded. "Technically, yes."

"Hush. Stop talking." Shanshan was scared now. "I feel scared..."

"Don't be afraid. We're here aren't we."

They passed all the way through the back garden. Sure enough, at the end of the winding path, they saw an iron gate.

Youyou finally breathed a sigh of relief when he saw the steel door.

"We can leave the hospital from here, right!?"

"Uh huh!"

He stepped forward and opened the door ahead of Shanshan. The boy walked out, but for some reason, his vision blurred and then he saw another empty ward.

It was as if the door he had just passed through was some sort of terrifying barrier. He had walked through that door thinking that he could leave the hospital. After going around in circles, he now found himself back at the hospital.

"Arghhh...!" The boy's eyes snapped open and he struggled out of bed. The nightmare was tearing his head apart!

Everywhere he looked, he saw concerned faces. Alice, Gong Jie, Lisa, Hua Jin, Natalia... They were all there.

However, Youyou hunched his shoulders in fear. For some reason, as the two worlds switched back and forth, he could not tell if he was still in a dream or had come out of it.

“What happened...” The boy put his head in his hands, rubbing his temples in pain and confusion.
“Where exactly am I? Who am I...”

The personalities were clashing within him all the time, to the extent that he had lost himself somewhat.

Everyone in the room, however, did not speak. It was so quiet that it seemed frozen. It actually looked strange.

They were extremely worried, but Romanka had repeatedly warned them that when the boy woke up, no matter how worried they were, they should not just speak, or they would disturb his state of mind.

Romanka was standing beside the boy, so quiet that it was as if he had no presence. The boy did not notice him, so he took the opportunity to bring a bottle filled with vapor to the tip of the boy’s nose. He moved it back and forth slightly, and the vapor rose. Unconsciously, the boy inhaled deeply. The cool, refreshing smoke traveled all the way along his nose, and poured into his hot, swollen temples. It soothed his erratic heartbeat.

He closed his eyes and took another long, greedy drag. The anxiety of waking from his nightmare slowly faded.

Only then did Romanka speak. “This isn’t a dream. Whatever had happened in your dream, calm down, take deep breaths...”