**Made by Ancient-End**

**Three Layers of Illusion Reasoning**
**Summary**
**(The document is still being updated….)**

**First is a situation overview since this is what Chen Ran will reason around.**

**You can scroll and skip to the reasoning part if you want.**

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**Situation Overview:**

Chen Ran's cognition was already tampered with by a skill and he knows it by prior reasoning which is outside the scope of this summary.

In the park basketball court. Twenty four Chen Rans stood in four rows with six people in each row.

Chen Ran with a whistle around his neck, looking like a coach, patrolled the ranks. Seeing someone with poor posture, he kicked them directly to the ground. He then said: Stand up straight!"

"This physical selection concerns your future. This planet is barren; only by being selected will you clones qualify to immigrate to Planet ZYX-101."

The Chen Ran, who had been kicked down, stood back up.

The patroller declared a roll call.

These following were then said respectively:

Chen Ran No. 1!"

–"Present!"

"Chen Ran No. 2!"

–"Present!"

"Chen Ran No. 3!"

–"Present!"

"Chen Ran No. 18!"

"Chen Ran No. 18?”

Chen Ran No.18 said: "Stop wasting your energy. Although I don't know how much of my cognition has been altered by skills, there are two pieces of cognition that skill can't seem to change.”

Clearly Chen Ran No.18 thinks that he is the true Chen Ran.

According to Chen Ran No.18’s statements. These were the two pieces of cognition that Skills cannot seem to change.

First: His name is Xu Lang, and he is a pure white liar killer with a skill called eternal kingdom.

Second: There is someone whose skill can make people believe part of what he says.

Chen Ran No.18 claims that with this information. He can reason about a lot of other information.

However Chen Ran No.18 discovered he didn't have a liar killer. On the contrary everyone had the white pistol liar killer.

The patroller concludes that something is wrong with Chen Ran No.18’s brain while the Chen Ran memories were being implanted. So he commanded Chen Ran No.19 to tell Chen Ran No.18 where they are and the purpose of their existence.

Chen Ran No.19: “We are all Chen Ran clones. This is the Cloning Center. The purpose of our existence is to have our organs and blood transplanted to Chen Ran whenever he has health issues!"

"In this selection, the winner can immigrate to the Resource Star and live a superior life ahead of time. Our slogan is..."

"Friendship first, competition second!”

When asked about his cognition, Chen Ran No.19 says: Reporting to the coach, there are two pieces: First, my name is Chen Ran, and I have a pure white pistol with a skill called Eternal Kingdom; second, there is someone with a skill that can make me believe part of what he says."

Next Chen Ran No.20 spoke. The same information as what No.19 said.

After hearing this, Chen Ran No.18 began to doubt himself.

Finally Chen Ran No.18 seemed to accept that he was a clone of Chen Ran when the coach asked him again.

Then the coach gave Chen Ran No.18 a punishment.

The roll call continued until it was Chen Ran No.21’s turn.

The coach looked at where Chen Ran No.18 used to stand, he found Chen Ran No.21 in there.

The coach suspected it was another memory scrambling and asked Chen Ran No.21 to tell about it.

This is Chen Ran No.21’s reasoning of the situation:

"You know which two pieces of cognition people affected by the skill will retain, so you—or one of you—arranged for this so-called Chen Ran Clone No. 18."

"To【prove】to me that if I have other thoughts, it's because of a problem during the memory implantation."

"Then you had the so-called No. 19 and No. 20 correct No. 18's cognition. In reality, you wanted to correct my cognition. You wanted me to think that everyone has those two memories and that since they are Chen Ran's clones, I must be a Chen Ran clone too."

"If I am Chen Ran, and I say I'm a clone, wouldn't that be a lie? And my cognition tells me Chen Ran has a pure white gun called the liar killer."

"As the name implies..."

"It kills those who lie. If I lie, does it mean I'll die?”

According to this reasoning, No.18 should have told a lie.

To prove this, Chen Ran No.21 used his liar killer to judge No.18 with it.

(Coach Chen Ran said that the command for the gun to work is “You lied”)

The gun jammed.

Chen Ran No.21 turned frustrated, rolling on the ground and clutching his head.

The roll call continued.

Now it was Chen Ran No.22 who didn't follow.

Number 22 unhurriedly fished a pack of cigarettes from his pocket, pulled one out, lit it, and took a deep drag, exhaling a cloud of smoke.

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Number 22 spoke: “First: Everything I'm about to say is my own hypothesis."

"Second: These words can be considered me talking to myself, or me making up a story. They are directed at neither person nor object."

"Third: If the content of what I say mentions certain people, don't misunderstand. I'm telling a story; you might just happen to have the same name as someone in my story.”

Chen Ran No.22 said this as a backup plan, in case the possibility of him telling a lie happens.

Chen Ran No.22 said that his cognition is.

"First: My name is Chen Ran, I have a pure white liar killer Pistol, and my skill is called Eternal Kingdom."

"Second: There is a person whose skill can make me believe some of his words.”

In other words, the person who can make me believe his words likely used this skill to tamper with my cognition."

"However, there are three things he cannot tamper with. There's not much to say about the first and second; they are the two pieces of cognition I just mentioned."

"The third..."

"Is my IQ!!”

No.22 also reasons that since the gun is called Liar Killer then it is made to kill those who have told a lie.

He also says that all Liar Killer have skills.

“Therefore, I deduce it must be like this: the person who can make people believe his words first used this skill to actively tamper with much of my cognition—for instance, my cognition of the scene, my visual cognition, my memory cognition, and so on”

"I deduce that this skill must have an activation condition: the effect of the skill must be informed to the target in advance."

"Alright, next, I'll continue with the plot deduction from just now."

"That person first used the skill to tamper with much of my cognition."

"Next, what he needs to do is trick a Lie out of me and kill me."

"You were just emphasizing that we are clones of Chen Ran. But if I am Chen Ran, then the moment I say those words, it would be judged as a Lie."

"Therefore..."

Chen Ran Number 22's expression changed, staring sharply at Coach Chen Ran as he said word by word:"You are that person! The one using the skill! The one who wants to trick a Lie out of me to kill me!"

With that, he pulled out his gun and pointed it at the speechless Coach Chen Ran.

Then Chen Ran No.22 tried every possible way to use his Skill by sacrificing the judgement of a lie.

However he found that it wouldn't work.

The coach said:  "I told you before, this liar killer is voice-activated. The command is【You lied】. You want to use the skill but don't dare to say the command; of course you can't use Eternal Kingdom."

"Since you all look exactly like me, it means this setup is meant to kill me. To be precise..."

"To kill Chen Ran!"

"Since it hasn't ended with me, it means Chen Ran isn't among the first 21 people."

Thinking of this, Number 22 suddenly turned his gun and pointed it at Chen Ran Number 24.

Chen Ran No.24 when asked, replied that he is Chen Ran's clone.

Chen Ran No.22 said the command, "You lied" however the gun jammed.

"Based on the deduction, that person only appears when they are Number 24, allowing them to both kill Chen Ran and avoid lying themselves. He said he is Chen Ran, so there must be a lie. Why..."

"Why would the bullet jam?"

In the next moment, he hurriedly spoke what might be the command for the skill:
"You lied, Liar Slayer: Eternal Kingdom."

"You lied, Eternal Kingdom."

"I am Chen Ran, Eternal Kingdom."

"Liar Killer Superman, Eternal Kingdom."

"My Date with a Vampire III: Eternal Kingdom."

Chen Ran No.22 turned frantic realizing he wasn't real and was only a clone.

Next it was No.23's turn in the roll call. However No 23 didn't answer.

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Now the situation overview is over.

**Reasoning:**

**No.23's reasoning:**

Premise 1: We know that this trap is targeted towards true Chen Ran.

Premise 2: The trap hasn't ended yet

Conclusion 1: We can conclude that Chen Ran is either No.23 or No.24, since they haven't fallen to the trap yet.

Premise 3: (Everything that Number 18, 21 and 22's did earlier.)

Conclusion 2+Premise 4: Number 18, Number 21, Number 22 were performing on purpose. In order to further confuse the true Chen Ran and make him fall deeper into the trap.

Premise 5: "My name is Chen Ran"

Premise 6: "I have a pure white liar killer Pistol."

Premise 7: “My Liar Killer Skill is Eternal Kingdom.”

Premise 8: There exists a possessor of a skill that can make people obedient.

Premise 9: The skill which makes people obedient cannot alter these pieces of cognition.

Premise 10: Number 18 said his name was Xu Lang,

Premise 11: He also had a pure white liar killer,

Premise 12: His skill was also called Eternal Kingdom.

In order to proceed with the reasoning we make two assumptions.

Premise 13: Chen Ran and Xu Lang are two different people,
Premise 14: they each have a skill.

Let**:** Chen Ran's skill be A, and Xu Lang’s skill be B
【Chen Ran's skill: A】
【Xu Lang's skill: B】

Premise 15: There is a third person whose skill can make those affected obedient(labeled as C)

Premise 16: Chen Ran and Xu Lang were hit by skill C causing them to become obedient.

Premise 17: they still both retained certain cognition.

Premise 18: Chen Ran retained cognition A and C

Premise 19: Xu Lang retains cognition B and C.

Conclusion 3: Chen Ran or Xu Lang should also retain the cognition of all three skills: A, B, and C.

Premise 20:  Assume we are all humans

Conclusion 4(Looking in the possibility of P20): Number 18 definitely lied.

Premise 21:  Despite **[**conclusion 4**]** Number 21 failed to shoot Number 18.

Premise 22: If 21 isn't a human then he can't use the liar killer gun.

Premise 23: If 18 is not a human then he cannot be judged

Conclusion 5: This means either Number 18 is not human, or Number 21 is not human.

Premise 24: Number 24 said: I am not Chen Ran; I am Chen Ran's clone.

Premise 25: Number 22 failed to judge Number 24.

Premise 26: Assume both are human,

Conclusion 6(In the possibility of P26):  it proves Number 24 didn't Lie.

Premise 27: (Looking at another situation) One of them is not human.

Conclusion 7(drawn from P27): whether Number 24 lied is questionable.

【Obedience.】

【Creating virtual humans.】

【Eternal Kingdom.】

Premise 28: These are already three skills.

Premise 29: Each real person can only have one skill.

Conclusion 8: That means among us, there must be at least three real people.

Premise 30: There are five people in question:

Premise 31: Number 18 is included(among five people in question)

Premise 32: Number 21 is included, (among five people in question)

Premise 33: Number 22 is included, (among five people in question)

Premise 34: Number 23 is included, (among five people in question)

Premise 35: Number 24 is included, (among five people in question)

Premise 36: Number 18, first said he was Xu Lang,

Premise 37: after being brainwashed, No.18 said he was a clone of Chen Ran.

Premise 38+Conclusion 9: Number 18 lied.

Premise 39: Number 21 failed to shoot No.18

Premise 40: Number 18 isn't human,

Premise 41: The gun would jam if you judge someone who isn't a player.

Conclusion 10: Number 21's command Lie was baited out.

(Further explanations: If you judge someone who isn't a human, the gun would jam and you would have told a lie since the activation command of using the Liar Killer gun is “You lied” This includes judging robots, illusions, virtual realities, )

(If you struggle to understand why, view it like this. A recorder playing a voice, the played voice is a false information but in a way it isn't a lie because the instrument had no intention of lying, because it isn't even conscious. Now it is arguable whether phantoms, illusions, copies etc have consciousness so this is only to make people understand better and whether one is lying or not depends on the mechanism of Hell)

Premise 42: Number 18 is human, (looking at another possibility)

Conclusion 11: it means he definitely lied. (Looking at premise 42)

Premise 43: He definitely lied but wasn't shot,

Conclusion 12: Number 21 is a virtual human.

(Further explanations: Remember that no.21 judged No.18, but if no.21 wasn't human then it's possible for the liar killer not to work even if no.18 lied.)

Conclusion 12: Number 18 is either lying or is a virtual human.

Conclusion 13: Number 21 either had his Lie baited out or is a virtual human.

Premise 44: Number 24 said: I am not Chen Ran; I am Chen Ran's clone.

Premise 45: Number 22 failed to shoot Number 24.

Conclusion 46: Regardless of what Number 24 is, Number 22's command Lie was definitely baited out.

Conclusion 15: Number 22 is a victim.

Summary: Number 18 is either lying or a virtual human; Number 21 either had his Lie baited out or is a virtual human; Number 22 is definitely a victim.

【Deep Deduction: Number 18 was the first to speak. He had no reason to Lie. After all, a Lie like 'My name is Xu Lang' is too low-level. Everyone's cognition tells them they are Chen Ran, yet you claim to be Xu Lang—are you sure you're not joking?】

Conclusion 16+Premise 47: If Number 18 were human, he definitely wouldn't tell such a low-level Lie.

Conclusion 17: Number 18 is a virtual human.

Premise 48: Number 18 tricked Number 21,

Premise 49: No.18’s tricks were aimed at real people.

Conclusion 18: so Number 21 is a real person.

Conclusion 19: Precisely because Number 18 said his name was Xu Lang, he caught the fish that is Number 21, causing Number 21 to speak the 'You lied' command.

Premise 50: Number 21 is a real person

Premise 51: Number 18 is a virtual human.

Premise 52: As long as Number 21 spoke the command, then he definitely lied.

Conclusion 19: virtual human Number 18 lied to bait out Number 21's Liar Killer command.

Now let's move to number 22.

Premise 53: Number 22 failed to shoot Number 24.

Premise 54: In Number 22's deduction, he believed Number 24 was the person with the obedience skill.

Conclusion 20: as long as Number 24 avoided the answer of the obedience skill holder, Number 22's Lie Killer command was bound to be baited out.

Conclusion 21: Therefore, Number 22 is a victim whose Lie was baited out,

Conclusion 22: Number 24 was cooperating in the fishing.

Conclusion 23: Number 18 is virtual human.

Conclusion 24: Number 21 is Real person.

Conclusion 25: Number 22 is Real person.

Conclusion 26: Number 24 is virtual human.

(Remember the deduction earlier was that there are three real people among the five.)

Conclusion 27: I am a real person. (Number 23–the one making this reasoning is a real person)

Premise 55: Number 21 has his lie baited out

Premise 56: Number 22 had his Lie baited out,

Conclusion 28: neither of them is the person with the obedience skill.

Premise 57: That person wouldn't screw themselves over,

Conclusion 28: so I am not that person either.

So who is that person?

Premise 58: Number 21 has the same cognition as me.

Premise 59: Number 22 has the same cognition as us,

Premie 60+Conclusion 29: This contradicts the conclusion that they are real people.

Conclusion 30+Premise 61: This is a logical loop.

Conclusion 31: There's another expert

Premise 62+Conclusion 31: That expert must be someone whose IQ and cognition are both above mine.

Conclusion 32: He orchestrated everything.

Premise 63: That expert knows me very well.

Conclusion 33: If I continue to deduce, I will surely walk step by step into the trap that expert prepared for me.

Number 23 Chen Ran sat cross-legged, intending to just give up. But as soon as he sat down, his body stood up uncontrollably.

Premise 64: His brain told him that he couldn't stop; he had to continue the deduction.

Conclusion 33: It's possible that the obedience skill was activated again

The Chen Ran in the illusion said, "You really couldn't keep your cool, could you? With just a little bluff, you've shown your true colors. It seems your skill has a time limit. That makes things easier."

Premise 65: A person whose IQ and cognition were both above Chen Ran's wouldn't be so restless.

Premise 66: If the skill had a time limit that person would be restless.

Chen Ran had deduced this, so he intentionally sat cross-legged and acted like he was giving up to bluff them. He didn't expect to actually bait them out.
This allowed him to successfully deduce that the obedience skill had a time limit.

The First Layer is over.

Premises: 66
Conclusions: 33

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What happens next is something that maybe only the readers of the story can understand easily. Non-readers may struggle a bit.

Since I am too lazy to explain the context, I might update this.

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After Chen Ran escaped the illusion there were some sequence of events.

Eventually Diwu Zhiyi and Chen Ran came back to Qiu Yinong's area.

Premise 67: There are different ways for time itself to function.

Premise 68: Assume the future is uncertain,

Premise 69: Assume the the past is definitely unchangeable.

Premise 70: Others can create illusions or tamper with my cognition,

Premise 71: it's impossible to kill the future Chen Ran on the timeline of a past instance.

Premise 72: I have appeared in the future instance,

Conclusion 34: it means I will not die on the timeline of this past instance.

Conclusion 35: Di Wu Zhi Yi can, at most, only trick me into telling a Lie.

Premise 74: Diwu Zhiyi did try to trick me into a lie.

Premise 73: Diwu Zhiyi wants to kill me;

Premise 74+Conclusion 36: as long as I'm tricked into a Lie by Qiu Yinong, Diwu Zhiyu will kill me.

Conclusion 36:  Di Wu Zhi Yi cannot trick me into a Lie on the timeline of a past instance.

(For those who didn't read the story and just want a glimpse or for those who don't remember much. Remember that way before, the 9th true self player appeared and told Chen Ran some information.)

Premise 75: The Ninth True Self Player said his own skill can change the fate of the future.

Premise 76: My future overlaps in time with his past,

Conclusion 37+Premise 77: so he cannot change the past—which is the part of my future that overlaps with his time.

Conclusion 38: What he(9th True Self) said likely obscured the specific effects of【Qin Shiyue(skill of 9th true self)

Conclusion 39: 9th true self skill could not change fate at all.

Conclusion 40: Time travel cannot change fate.

Conclusion 41: Since time travel would not change fate, then Qiu Yinong's previous use of the Wheel of Time to trick opponents into Lies many times would definitely not be valid. (in essence if

Conclusion 41 is true then Qiu Yinong's skill shouldn't work since it is time travel)

Premise 78:  But in fact, Qiu Yinong can indeed use the Wheel of Time to trick many Lies out of people by going back to the past.

Premise 79: When the Skill ends Qiu Yinong isn't judged as having told a lie.
(This is also proof for conclusion 42)

So why is this?

Conclusion 42+Premise 80: It is simple, Qiu Yinong's skill rather than going just going back in time creates multiple timelines

Premise 81: I cannot be tricked into a Lie in a past instance,

Conclusion 43: it proves that the conclusion I've deduced must be the correct one.

Conclusion 44:I am still at the station in the past instance right now.

Conclusion 45+Premise 82: The real Di Wu Zhi Yi hasn't gone to the next station to decrypt the Twin Pavilion either.

(Chen Ran just wanted to see how Di Wu Zhi Yi was going to trick him into a Lie all along.)

Premise 83: Qiu Yinong is close with me since we are teammates.

Conclusion 46: Di Wu Zhi Yi probably wanted to use this illusory Qiu Yinong to talk to me and trick me.

Chen Ran explained to Di Wu Zhi Yi, that since he was a Novel Author in life constructing scenes, plots, and dialogues is his forte.

Before using the Eternal Kingdom, he believed nothing.

Even in the first layer of the illusion, where he didn't know the effects of Eternal Kingdom, he never thought about shooting anyone or engaging in too much dialogue, let alone telling a lie.

This shows that Chen Ran has deep psychological defenses against deceptions.

At the station, Black Fatty stared intently at Chen Ran, who was talking to himself in the illusion, his expression gradually turning to horror.

(Remember that it was stated in the narrative that excluding the conclusions according to the story Chen Ran used lie evasion verbal methods for everything else he said. To be able to explain this I may have to go to raws and grab the original chinese since translations are messy

at times. For now, just keep note that Chen Ran also reasoned the ways to evade the lies in case he was wrong)

Without any evidence to prove he was still in an illusion, he used a single time paradox to prove his own deduction.

The skill was retracted by Gao Sheng.

The hospital scene vanished. He looked at the two people in front of the bench, his gaze landing on Gao Sheng.

He just watched quietly.

For Chen Ran, he believed nothing except for the Eternal Kingdom.

Gao Sheng gave up and told an emotional lie, letting Chen Ran use his skill. Eternal Kingdom was used since Gao Sheng provided the lie.

Now returning to reality.

Di Wu Zhi Yi, without the slightest hesitation, used his gun to sentence Gao Sheng to death.

Under Di Wu Zhi Yi's surprised gaze, Chen Ran slowly stood up, walked over to him, and kicked him without warning.

Di Wu Zhi Yi was kicked to the ground.

"Fuck, fuck, fuck! Fuck! Screw you! Damn you! How can there be such a troublesome Newbie? Argh!!!!"

It turns out that Chen Ran had reasoned that he was still in an illusion the moment Diwu Zhiyi(phantom) killed Gao Sheng.

Premise 84: From a perspective of general rationality, Diwu Zhiyi would definitely keep a trump card,

Conclusion 47(derived from P84): Diwu Zhiyi would not kill Gao Sheng so fast since he wanted to keep trump cards.

At this moment, Diwu Zhiyi figured that the time paradox was just a smokescreen and the real method for Chen Ran to determine if he had escaped cognitive illusion was actually the liar killer protection mechanism.

Chen Ran however, shook his head.

Diwu Zhiyi: "It's uncertainty!"

Premise 85: Cognitive alteration is like a pre-set program.

Premise 86: What you need to do is perform a 'buggy' action outside of that program.

Premise 87: Phantom Diwu Zhiyi had certain range of programs

Premise 88: It's possible that Kicking Diwu Zhiyi is outside of the programs of the phantom.

Conclusion 48: Kicking Diwu Zhiyi without warning would cause a bug.

Premise 89: Diwu Zhiyi started swearing

Premise 90: Diwu Zhiyi is a three star Player who has access to heart Cultivation.

Premise 91+Conclusion 50: Diwu Zhiyi should be able to suppress his emotions and not utter emotional lies.

Premise 92: Diwu Zhiyi couldn't suppress his emotions.

Conclusion 51: This made Chen Ran realize that he was still within the illusion created by cognitive alteration.

After many more sequences of events.

Chen Ran pulled out a cigarette pack.

He checked the number of cigarettes inside.

Premise 93: He confirmed it was the same as before he fell into the illusion.

Chen Ran looked at Gao Sheng and told him to repeat what he said prior but backwards.

Premise 94: Gao Sheng was stunned and didn't speak.

Premise 95: This was an absurd request

Premise 96: A Normal Person, hearing such an unreasonable request, would want to curse. But this was Hell, where lying was forbidden. Therefore, a normal player hearing such a request would usually be speechless and look at him like he was an idiot.

Premise 97: If Gao Sheng repeated his words backward it increases the possibility that it was an illusion.

Conclusion 52: so this gave Chen Ran more proof that he had escaped the illusion

Chen Ran took out glass beads and began tossing them.

When the glass bead came to a stop, he tossed it high again, repeating the process over and over.

He waited quietly.

This scene left Gao Sheng's mouth agape in disbelief. He turned to Di Wu Zhi Yi and asked, "Wait, this guy... isn't he being a bit too cautious?"

Both of them knew that Chen Ran was observing the trajectory of the glass bead and quietly making marks to ensure that time hadn't been tampered with.
As mentioned before, Gao Sheng's skill had a time limit.

As long as he confirmed that time hadn't been tampered with, then after waiting a few hours, Gao Sheng's skill would have long since ended. He could then judge whether it was an illusion by whether his memory returned or if his altered cognition self-repaired.

Never mind Gao Sheng; even Di Wu Zhi Yi was stunned by this scene.

Then Chen Ran pulled out a sobering agent, there was writing in it that didn't make any sense.

Seeing this Chen Ran was able to further confirm he was no longer in an illusion

Diwu Zhiyi reasoned: "From one perspective, the content of this text is meaningless, but from the perspective of being in an illusion, the significance of this text becomes immense."

"If I'm not mistaken, even you didn't know what she was trying to express."

Earlier, his act of tossing the glass bead was merely a disguise; he was actually waiting for the sobering agent's side effects to wear off.

Through various verifications and deductions only then did Chen Ran confirm that he had returned to reality and had already used the Eternal Kingdom to decipher Black Fatty's skill.

Overall this shows that Chen Ran doesn't rely on explanations that are perfectly rigorous within a system, rather he formulates the most likely explanations and attempts to find evidence that either supports it or does the opposite.

Chen Ran whenever he can—would use the principle of Consilience of Evidence, in short, multiple independent evidence must support one explanation, making that explanation more credible than one supported by only one line of evidence.