

THE HIDDEN LEVEL (Vol. 6)

隱藏關卡 THL (六)

* Grand Prize of 2017 Kyoto International Manga Awards
(Taiwan Section)

* 2017 Golden Comic Award for Best Shonen Manga

The final installment in the latest series from artist Chang Sheng, winner of manga awards at home and abroad, tells the story of Lu, a high school student trapped in a computer game. She and her fellow players search for a way back to reality — much like a manga Inception.

Lu, a senior high school student, finds herself trapped in a computer game and joins forces with fellow players to search for a way back to reality.

Lu is a loyal fan of REAL, an online virtual reality game. Game lore tells of a “hidden level”, only accessible to those who finish all other levels and meet certain other conditions. Lu finally makes it to that hidden level – and finds herself in a world identical to her own. The sky is the same, the streets are the same, the scent of the air in the morning, the feel of the breeze on her skin... Even her mother, her teachers, her friends... are they real, or characters in the game?

Lu is unarmed and unable to quit the game. All she has is a message: “Survivor: Find your partner to reach the next level.” Can Lu defeat this new level? And what challenges await if she does?

The latest series from artist Chang Sheng, winner of manga awards at home and abroad, is an *Inception*-style story, set in a virtual world indistinguishable from our own. What is real and what isn’t? And if you can’t tell, what choices will you make?

Chang Sheng 常勝

Chang Sheng worked in advertising for 15 years. He started his own studio when he was in his thirties and since 2004 he has released



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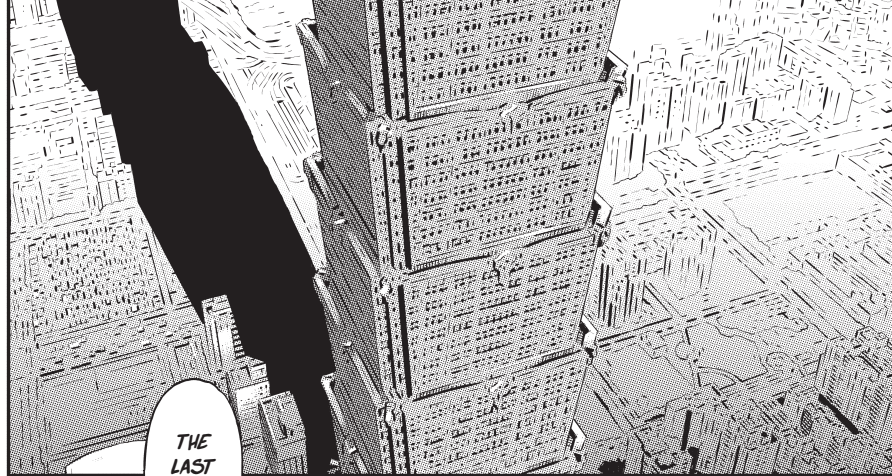
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work on a regular basis. Having read comics from a young age, Chang Sheng has always liked science fiction stories best. He admits to having been deeply influenced by the work of Yukinobu Hoshino. And his training in drawing and oil painting while studying at the Fu-Hsin Trade and Arts School are likewise reflected in his exquisitely detailed and extremely realistic video game-like style. Chang Sheng has represented Taiwan at the Angoulême International Comics Festival three times. Another of his books, the fantasy *Oldman*, was a finalist in the 2013 International Manga Award in Japan.

#25

A killer is
born





THE
LAST
STAGE...

