

THE SPIRIT MEDIUM DETECTIVE TRILOGY

乩童警探三部曲

A criminal case takes a spirit medium turned detective due to family misfortune back inside a Daoist temple. As the protagonist confronts razor-sharp knives, complicated messages from a corpse, and complex power networks, his investigation encompasses both the living and the dead.

The Spirit Medium Detective trilogy blends Taiwan's temple culture with the investigative work of prosecutors, police, and forensic experts, merging the supernatural and reality to create a world unlike any other in mystery fiction. Raised in a Daoist temple, Detective Lo Chih possesses the psychic abilities of a medium, enabling him to see clues others can't and uncover the secrets behind each case.

The trilogy's first installment, *The Death Row Oddity*, begins with an execution by firing squad. Despite his vehement denials of guilt, the killer in the Lin family mansion murder case is sentenced to death. Detective Lo Chih witnesses the execution but does not see the man's soul depart. He discovers that the condemned man had a rare condition: his heart was not located on the left side of his chest. As a result, he is still alive. How should those who enforce the law deal with this situation? Does this murder case conceal deeper truths? How will Lo Chih, the former vessel for a deified spirit, navigate this "dead man walking" investigation?

The second installment, *Duplicate Murder*, involves a series of murders. Seemingly unconnected victims are found stabbed with identical knives, a previous victim's fingerprints on the handles. Could the victims have returned from the dead to commit murder? Thanks to his extraordinary abilities, Lo Chih is once again called upon to investigate this bizarre series of deaths.



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In the third installment, *The Deeps of Death*, Lo Chih investigates the disappearance of a female police officer, discovering that she participated in an online Ouija board séance before she vanished. As he delves into the case, he finds himself in grave danger....

The Spirit Medium Detective trilogy depicts Taiwanese society's religious beliefs, judicial system, and complex human nature with a suspenseful narrative style. The stories focus not just on figuring out "whodunnit" but also probe themes of evil and death, challenging readers' perceptions of justice and truth.

Chang Kuo-Li 張國立

Chang Kuo-Li, one-time editor-in-chief of *China Times Weekly*, has won numerous awards for his writing. A linguist, historian, army expert, sports fan, food critic, as well as poet, playwright and novelist, he is truly a Renaissance man. He has published over sixty books over his career, mostly mystery novels, including the recent *The Otherworld Pawnshop* and The Spirit Medium Detective trilogy. His *Sniper* series has been translated into Dutch, German, French, English, Russian, Turkish, Vietnamese, and Japanese.