

Apocalypse 1401

Chapter 1401

Translator: La0o9

Gu Qing Shan observed the monk statue.

—after removing the dust, the other party's body could be clearly seen to be wearing a simple Buddhist robe, but his leg was being held down by a pair of black shackles and buried underground, his entire body pinned down and unable to move at all.

Gu Qing Shan had never seen a situation like this before, so he couldn't help but stay cautious.

This is definitely not a simple individual.

"Amitabha, the wraiths are going to arrive soon, benefactor would have to quickly ascend to have any hope of bringing the world of Kunlun with you and escape" the monk said.

Gu Qing Shan looked at the black thread on his hand.

The other end of the thread was emanating a very faint power of Causality, seemingly trying to remind him of something.

—the pursuing troops were coming.

Gu Qing Shan nodded to the other party: "Then I'll think of a way to ascend now, farewell"

The monk said: "Wait!"

"Is there anything else?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

The monk explained: “The path of ascension that the Seven Institute had set up includes a total of 81 obstacles, only by going through them all would you be able to climb onto the ascension deck, then proceed up to the Jasper Pool Heavenly Palace— but the pursuing troops are going to arrive very soon, you most likely won’t be able to pass through those obstacles”

“Then what now?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

The monk replied: “I was the preparation that the heavenly beings left numerous years ago, specifically for emergencies like these. Benefactor, I will now help you ascend immediately”

Gu Qing Shan doubtfully asked; “I heard that ascension is an exceptionally tough matter that requires one to face numerous hardship, it is a trial comparable to Heaven’s Tribulation itself. When you’re stuck here like this, how could you help me ascend the heavenly palace?”

There was reason for him to doubt, after all, this was their first meeting, and the other party was being trapped in this hall, unable to move at all.

The monk didn’t care too much about that and clasped his hands in front of his chest: “Benefactor, in the past, this humble one met a miraculous person, whom I became the disciple of”

“My master said that the world of Kunlun would eventually face a great trial, so master taught be a few techniques in order to face this enemy also entrusted a certain task to me”

“What task is that?”

“If one day, I were to be trapped within a temple, and in my hand were holding a foreign object that came from the sky, and standing in front of an outsider, I will have to chant an incantation to prove that I am their ally, not enemy”

Gu Qing Shan nodded: “Please show me”

The monk chanted the incantation in a low voice: “Time, you are the lord of all living beings, but also my closest friend”

Following the incantation, drifting sand manifested from the void of space, circled around the monk before flying into the air and displayed the form of a dignified woman.

Sensing the familiar power in the void of space, Gu Qing Shan clasped his fist and bowed: “Lady Fusi, I did not think I would meet you here”

———an Awaiting from the [Order] faction, controller of time, the Unextinguishing Sand, the Legendary Lady, Sovereign of the Elemental Fairies, the Fairy of Time, Fusi.

She looked at Gu Qing Shan and smiled: “At the time that the wraiths and the Eternal Abyss fought one another, I once traversed the River of Time in order to sneak a peek into the Wraith realm, but their world was protected by a unique barrier that not even I could completely see through”

“However, out of coincidence, at a certain corner of time, I discovered this cultivator with temporal talents—— this was an exceptionally rare talent”

“Right now, he is my disciple, as well as a part of our new force, you can trust him”

Gu Qing Shan replied: “Very well, I understand”

Fusi continued: “The Awaitings will awaken soon, so I must remain here to guard and protect them”

“The wraiths are a very mysterious bunch, take care of yourself”

After saying so, she nodded to bid Gu Qing Shan goodbye as her body turned back into a sand storm and disappeared.

Gu Qing Shan looked at the monk again.

“So that was the reason. I was wondering why you carried such a familiar power, but then, why exactly were you trapped here?” his voice now carried a bit more intimacy.

“There is little time, let me first take you to Jasper Pool, we’ll talk again later tonight” the monk said.

Gu Qing Shan clasped his fist: “Then I thank you”

Suddenly, the ground began to tremble.

As if some sort of immense force was shaking the foundations of Kunlun itself.

The sky became dark, from afar, one could see a gigantic shadow slowly manifesting itself

—it was an unbelievably huge warship, the hull of the ship completely black, with a fanged yaksha mask being hung at the head of the ship.

The monk's gaze became sharp and spoke: "Not good, the wraiths have arrived"

He formed a hand seal with both hands.

The dust on the ground completely scattered away, showing a large formation right at the monk's feet.

Innumerable golden runes continuously swirled around the monk, giving off immense power to the point that Gu Qing Shan could feel his heart beating faster.

"[Time Withdrawal]!" the monk shouted.

A golden flash of light appeared from his hand and flew straight to the horizon.

Instantly, the gigantic warship disappeared without a trace as it was struck by the golden light.

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After unleashing this golden flash of light, the formation around the monk all shattered.

—-but a single strike to eliminate the enemy, that is too powerful!

“Did you just erase that ship?” Gu Qing Shan couldn’t help but ask.

The monk wiped the sweat from his forehead and explained: “That’s not the case, thanks to the formation that the heavenly beings left behind, my temporal ability was reinforced numerous times, which allowed me to send that gigantic ship back in time by fifteen minutes—— the wraiths will have to travel for fifteen more minutes until they could once again reach Kunlun”

Gu Qing Shan’s heart jumped.

A temporal ability!

The Thaumaturgy that this monk possessed actually had relations to time itself, as expected of Lady Fusi’s disciple.

Most likely, he knows the entire world of Kunlun like the back of his hand.

It’s a good thing that he’s an ally.

The monk looked at Gu Qing Shan again, then urged him: “Hurry, benefactor, take out your sturdiest weapon, then fly to the top of the temple, I’ll directly send you through ascension to the Heavenly Palace”

“Alright, then thank you”

Gu Qing Shan took out the Six Paths Great Mountain sword, flew to the top of the building, then looked down.

“I’m already in place, may I ask how fellow Dao seeker will send me through ascension?”

Gu Qing Shan asked.

At the next moment, the monk took out an ancient-looking giant club from the void of space.

As soon as the club appeared, the monk's entire body sank down a few centimeters, showing just how heavy it was.

Some heavenly aura and energy could be seen drifting around the long club.

"Is that your weapon?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"Correct, this is a Divine Armament that the heavenly beings created specifically for my sake, it has the ability to go through all barriers" the monk replied.

"Have you confirmed that?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"Naturally"

The monk displayed a bright smile, then explained: "81 obstacles is a lot of annoying formalities, we won't make it through all of them in time, so I'll be able to send you through ascension with just the basic power of this club—— but you have to make sure to block it"

Block... it?

Gu Qing Shan abruptly felt uneasy right at that very moment.

The monk raised his club and shouted: "Amitabha, here you—— GO!"

Instantly, Gu Qing Shan understood the other party's intentions.

His pupils dilated, then shouted out loud: "Monk, wait a moment——"

But it was too late!

While the club was heavy, the monk's strike was completely unaffected by the weight, instantly reaching its maximum speed and power at the beginning.

The giant club left a series of afterimages as it violently swung towards Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan put his sword in front of himself to block it.

Bang!!!

The sound resounded throughout the entire hall.

Gu Qing Shan was sent flying in a single strike, quickly turning into a small black dot in the sky as he flew through the numerous layers of invisible light and went above the clouds.

—this was his ascension!

Gu Qing Shan continued to fly upwards through the clouds.

Barrier after barrier appeared in the void of space, but couldn't stop Gu Qing Shan at all.

He quickly made it through all the magical barriers and entered a layer of space full of glowing runes.

—this was the ascension warp layer.

One could not reach Jasper Pool simply by flying, because the Heavenly Palace might be visible from the ground, but it actually resided in a completely different space.

Gu Qing Shan formed a hand seal to stabilize himself.

Right as he stopped, the runes swiftly surrounded him while slowly flying around him.

A second later, Gu Qing Shan's figure disappeared from the sky.

Within the tattered temple, the monk cupped his hand above his eyes as he looked above the broken roof to see the sky, appearing sympathetic.

"Amitabha, that swing was quite decent"

A miniature array of runes suddenly appeared and circled around the monk's body.

A second later, the monk also disappeared from the hall.

Chapter 1402

Translator: La0o9

A flash of light erupted.

Gu Qing Shan appeared in front of a grand palace structure.

He wasn't in a hurry to look at the interconnecting heavenly palaces and instead asked: "Shannu, are you ok?"

Shannu's voice reverberated from the sword: "I didn't feel anything— did you forget, gongzi, the Six Paths Great Mountain sword has the might of [Invincible]"

Gu Qing Shan sighed in relief.

It's ok as long as Shannu is fine.

When the monk attacked just now, he actually had the chance to avoid it, but at the very last moment, he discovered that the attack carried no killing intent and was infused with a very clever method of using force.

Due to his trust in Lady Fusi, Gu Qing Shan decided to block that attack and see what it would do.

And the results were that he actually managed to ascend!

Gu Qing Shan stowed his sword away and looked around.

The entire heavenly palace was completely empty, not a single person in sight.

From the ground, many heavenly beings could be visibly seen moving from place to place, but after he actually came up here, there wasn't anyone here.

What exactly is going on?

Gu Qing Shan released his inner sight and scanned in every direction.

Empty.

Empty.

Empty.

And still empty.

Even the palaces were completely empty without a single thing inside.

Instead, in the void immediately below the heavenly palace, there were numerous illusory figures that acted out the scene of a prospering palace with numerous heavenly beings.

“So it was all a scheme”

Gu Qing Shan muttered.

Suddenly, teleportation runes manifested from the void of space.

As the runes faded, a figure was seen standing in front of Gu Qing Shan not too far away.

—the monk had also come up.

“You were clearly being trapped inside that temple; how did you make it up here?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

The monk smiled: “There was a teleportation formation”

“Then why didn’t you just teleport me up here?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

The monk answered very seriously: “Amitabha, it was for benefactor to experience the tough process of personally ascending, thus becoming enlightened on how things are never easy. There is an old saying that everything is about the journey, and so this little monk wanted benefactor to experience this highly precious process.

Gu Qing Shan just looked at the monk without saying anything.

If this wasn’t Lady Fusi’s disciple, he would have definitely made him experience the entire process of falling to Huang Quan from the Heaven realm.

Seeing his terrible expression, the monk formed his hands together and said: “Benefactor, in truth, Kunlun is the Human realm, while the Jasper Pool is the Heaven realm, so you must go through the ascension process in order to freely move around here”

Following his explanation, Gu Qing Shan was indeed able to feel like he entered a relaxing hot bath.

It was as if these palaces had accepted his presence.

So that was the truth.

Gu Qing Shan then smiled: “And here I thought you enjoyed the process of whacking me—— since you came up with me, did you have some business with me?”

The monk sincerely replied: “Numerous years in the past, the heavenly beings had managed to predict that one day in the future, the wraiths would arrive to destroy the world of Kunlun, so they made the preparations”

Gu Qing Shan pondered: “You mean...”

The monk explained: “That formation where I was trapped. Whenever you and the wraiths appeared together, that formation would trigger all of its power to help me briefly stop the wraiths, stalling time for our world as a whole, at the same time, I would regain my freedom”

Gu Qing Shan asked: “Where are the heavenly beings?”

“They all died in battle” the monk replied

Gu Qing Shan’s heart felt heavy.

If even the heavenly beings couldn’t win against the wraiths, wouldn’t that mean that within the Samsara, not even the Heaven realm would be able to stop the Wraith realm?

As soon as he thought of that, Gu Qing Shan couldn’t help but ask: “Are the wraiths really that powerful? Where exactly did their strength originate from?”

The monk appeared sorrowful and replied: “In truth, the real threat was a kind of Apocalypse”

“The Great Flood?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“Yes” the monk confirmed.

“Were the heavenly beings unable to win against the Great Flood as well?” Gu Qing Shan questioned.

The monk shook his head, appearing confused: “During the last moments of time, the heavenly beings of Jasper Pool were supposed to have already come close to winning against the Great Flood, but with an abrupt change in the situation, they sealed me away along with Kunlun as a whole, saying that it was to preserve a kindling for humanity”

Gu Qing Shan went silent.

Right at the moment before the heavenly beings defeated the Great Flood, they all decided to seal Kunlun, so they must have faced an extremely tough situation that they couldn't resolve.

Just how many layers of preparations did the wraiths actually possess?

Gu Qing Shan sighed and asked: “Didn't you have temporal powers, why were you sealed away as well?”

The monk replied: “While I was able to wield a bit of temporal power, my cultivation period was short, so my strength was limited. The heavenly beings felt that if I were to participate in battle with how strong I was, the only outcome for me would have been death, so they all decided to hide me away to protect my life and leave it for the future”

The black thread on Gu Qing Shan's hand twitched.

— the pursuing troops were quickly approaching him again.

The monk seemed to have also felt that and told him in a low voice:

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“Follow me”

He leapt into the sky and flew into the array of numerous palaces.

Gu Qing Shan followed suit.

The two of them flew in the sky one after another.

Gu Qing Shan observed the monk and asked: “Monk, how many years have you been trapped here?”

The monk clasped his hands into a prayer gesture and smiled: “Amitabha, please do not call me ‘monk’, benefactor, I’m actually a normal cultivator. I’m merely wearing Buddhist garb because I wholeheartedly wish to follow the path of Buddha”

Gu Qing Shan commented: “So you are a fake monk”

The monk refuted: “That isn’t the case, this little monk truly does seek the path of Buddha”

“If you aren’t a monk, why are you calling yourself ‘little monk’ then?” Gu Qing Shan curiously asked.

“Amitabha, this humble one’s surname is Zhao, first name Xiao Seng¹” the monk replied.

Gu Qing Shan opened his mouth wide, speechless.

—this guy’s father had quite the naming sense.

“Then, what’s going on with this set of Buddhist garb?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

Zhao Xiao Seng replied: “The big shots told me that I was predestined to join Buddha, adding that I would tonsure to enter the gates of a temple in the future, so they prepared these clothes for me ahead of time”

“Then, have you tonsured?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“I have not. This Xiao Seng is an admirer of Buddhist arts, so this Xiao Seng would only tonsure to enter the temple once all of my preparations are complete”

“When would that be?”

“Ah... I originally planned to begin preparing when all the Apocalypses were over”

“Then it’s best that you keep your hair growing until then”

The two of them quickly passed through the large array of palaces as they talked and reached the highest of the palaces.

As Gu Qing Shan refocused himself to take a look, he observed that the nameplate outside the palace:

[Cang Hai Heavenly Palace]

Zhao Xiao Seng entered the palace first.

Gu Qing Shan followed and asked: “What is this palace for?”

Zhao Xiao Seng replied: “Kunlun city was the Human realm; Jasper Pool was the Heaven realm. By converging the power of the two realms, the Dao cores of countless heavenly beings, as well as innumerable Laws, and with me as the core, Kunlun city was able to repeat the same day over and over again. This was the reason why the wraiths had not entered Kunlun city up until now”

——any wraiths who tried to enter would be like Gu Qing Shan currently, trapped in that same day.

Gu Qing Shan pondered, then said: “That can’t be true, surely the wraiths have a way to destroy this technique. After all, they managed to use the Great Flood, or perhaps another unseen measure, to defeat the heavenly beings of Jasper Pool”

Zhao Xiao Seng replied: “The wraiths certainly have hidden methods that would be able to get rid of us, but all of them require a huge amount of effort and resources, and with how the wraiths have been constantly waging war on all fronts, they could not endure such losses”

“Until I arrived” Gu Qing Shan continued.

“Indeed, the heavenly beings predicted that by the time you arrived, the wraiths would soon accomplish what they wanted to do, which will allow them to invade and destroy Kunlun without any reserves”

He led Gu Qing Shan into the palace and straight into the deepest chamber of the structure.

There wasn’t anything here, only a single mural on the wall.

On top of a vast, shoreless ocean, a gigantic ship was sailing forward on the water.

Countless heavenly beings and cultivators stood on top of the ship, or hovered above it, all of them wielding weapons to fend off the numerous monsters in the ocean.

The monk walked forward and muttered: “Prolonging our last breath for so long, we’ve finally reached our limit. We must bring Kunlun together with us”

He swung his baggy sleeves, tapping several places on the gigantic ship as his hands swiftly formed dozens of hand seals.

“Release!”

The monk grunted.

Instantly, everything disappeared.

Gu Qing Shan found himself standing in the middle of an abandoned Life Talisman tunnel.

Within this large and silent tunnel, he and the monk felt like tiny debris floating in the vast ocean.

There wasn't anything around them, only the Life Talismans that made up the tunnel that had already lost their light, almost like they were dead.

"Where is Kunlun?" Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but question.

Zhao Xiao Seng showed his palm.

Only to see that he was holding a glittering golden boat, the same one in the heavenly palace mural from before.

"Years ago, the heavenly beings refined the two worlds into this heavenly ark. The upper half of the ark was the heavenly palaces of Jasper Pool, while the lower half was Kunlun city, making it easier to take them both and flee at any moment— and it's now the exact time for that" Zhao Xiao Seng explained.

"Flee where?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

Zhao Xiao Seng looked at him and replied: "That's what I'm supposed to ask you. After exhausting a large amount of vitality and Immortal Crafts, the heavenly beings only managed to predict one thing— — the outsider who came to visit would be the key for the Kunlun world as a whole to escape"

Gu Qing Shan was surprised.

Me?

I've never been to the Wraith realm, nor seen a Life Talisman tunnel like this before, how am I supposed to take you and Kunlun world with me and flee?

A second later, Gu Qing Shan had a certain thought and raised his left hand.

Only to see that aside from the thread that pointed at the wraiths' pursuing troops, another thread had appeared on his hand.

——Fate-type Ability, [Longing]

This ability had activated itself.

The new black thread connected to Gu Qing Shan's hand was reaching deeper into the tunnel without an end in sight.

Chapter 1403

Translator: La0o9

The tunnel was silent without an end in sight.

While the pursuing troops were approaching him, Gu Qing Shan was in no hurry to escape.

He took a deep breath to calm himself down.

Watching the dim Life Talismans, Gu Qing Shan felt like there was some sort of secret that was hidden here.

——for some reason, he suddenly recalled something from the past.

After going through so many worlds, running into close contact with both [Order] and [Chaos], as well as travelling to the Age of Old, I've never actually seen such a gigantic and huge talisman tunnel before.

“Xiao Seng, do you know what this tunnel is?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

Zhao Xiao Seng clasped his hands and said: “Amitabha, this Xiao Seng has yet to know benefactor’s name”

“I’m Gu Qing Shan’

“Benefactor Gu, I’ve been trapped inside Kunlun all this time without knowing anything about the outside world. Both the matter of the tunnel and fleeing will have to rely on you”

“I see”

Gu Qing Shan flew closer to the wall of the tunnel and carefully examined these Life Talismans.

At this point, the Life Talismans had all become ashen like burnt paper, extremely fragile, but haven’t completely crumbled away.

“They’ve all lost their functions...”

Gu Qing Shan muttered.

Near the Wraith realm, those Life Talismans were extremely powerful, anyone who attempted to touch them would be eliminated by the combined power of countless talismans.

—-but this place was too far away from where the wraiths were, so the talismans no longer contained any power.

But Gu Qing Shan didn’t try to risk it, he simply stood at a distance while his gaze scanned through the surrounding talismans.

Invisible Mind Swords were unleashed, cutting through large patches of Life Talismans and destroying them all.

Rash rash!

As the talismans scattered, a near-transparent wall that gave off faint light appeared in front of Gu Qing Shan.

The ocean?

Watching the shadows of fishes that were swimming outside, Gu Qing Shan was extremely doubtful.

The wraiths use Life Talismans to fully encase the walls of this tunnel, just to hide this ocean?

He remained cautious, slowly moved forward, and touched the walls with his hand.

A line of glowing text appeared on the War God UI:

[Discovered the Reality Wall]

Reading this, Gu Qing Shan fell into thought.

“Benefactor Gu, that ocean is truly very strange, but we need to hurry” Zhao Xiao Seng urged him.

“Hm”

Gu Qing Shan answered, but was still a bit unwilling to leave.

This tunnel was actually made from the Reality Wall.

— I know that I was being transported to the Wraith realm, so I used Life Talismans to escape and entered Kunlun; then I reappeared in the tunnel again, only to discover that the walls of the tunnel were made from the Reality Wall, with an ocean on the outside.

What exactly is this?

“Zhao Xiao Seng, can you stop the wraiths for another 15 minutes?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

Zhao Xiao Seng shook his head: “It was thanks to the power of the formation that I was able to do it the previous time, now that the formation has completely crumbled, I cannot stop the enemies by myself”

Gu Qing Shan appeared regretful.

Since the wraiths are after me, I can't remain to study this tunnel wall any further.

He looked at the thread on his hand, then said: “Alright, let's go ahead and follow the tunnel”

“But there seems to be some sort of power within the tunnel that's restraining us here” Zhao Xiao Seng said.

“No need to worry”

Gu Qing Shan raised his hand and quickly drew talismans in the void of space.

A total of five talismans were drawn at once, circling around their bodies.

— the wraiths' teleportation talismans!

Under the power of these talismans, their figures flashed forward and started flying towards the other end of the tunnel.

Gu Qing Shan was still a bit unwilling to let it go, so his gaze occasionally passed through the walls of the tunnel, slashing the Life Talismans that covered the walls.

Initially, after the Life Talismans crumbled away, it was still an ocean that appeared.

But as Gu Qing Shan and Zhao Xiao Seng continued moving forward, the ocean abruptly disappeared, replaced by the scene of a destroyed world.

The entire world was in ruins, only occasionally could some small animals be seen among the ruins, scavenging for food.

As they continued further, the scenes of ruin being shown outside the Reality Wall continued to change.

Sometimes, it was a sea of never-ending flames; sometimes, a world of poisonous fog; sometimes, the only thing outside the Reality Wall was the void.

Since they were flying at high speed, the foreign apocalyptic scenes only flashed briefly through their visions.

Finally, when Gu Qing Shan used Mind Sword to slash away another portion of Life Talismans, he saw something completely different.

A giant whose height reached even the sky above was slowly trekking across barren land.

It was the only left living being in this world.

Where did it come from? Why is it here?

Gu Qing Shan couldn't stop, otherwise, he would have tried to communicate with this giant.

In his spirit sense, the pursuing troops were approaching closer and closer.

Right at this point, a fork appeared ahead of them.

The tunnel split off into three paths, one leading downwards, one leading forward, and one leading to the left.

“Benefactor Gu, which way should we go?” Zhao Xiao Seng asked.

Gu Qing Shan looked down and saw that the black thread on his hand was reaching into the path on the left.

“This way”

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Gu Qing Shan flew into the left path.

Zhao Xiao Seng swiftly followed.

After moving forward a bit more, Gu Qing Shan once again couldn't help himself using his gaze to cut open the wall.

The abandoned Life Talismans crumbled into ash to reveal the transparent Reality Wall.

The other side of the wall was a series of structures covered in wild grass.

Overgrown grass and vines, a series of train cars, fallen to one side, completely broken.

There wasn't a single person on the train platform, only a few pieces of bones.

Gu Qing Shan was confused, but could only continue to fly forward.

They were flying as fast as possible to avoid the wraiths' pursuit.

Suddenly, the five Life Talismans faded.

The two of them hovered in mid-air, no longer moving forward.

Gu Qing Shan drew five more Life Talismans in the void of space.

They began to burn and circle around the two of them—

But they continued to remain in place, not moving forward at all.

Gu Qing Shan looked around.

Only to see that the walls here no longer had any Life Talismans on them.

The Reality Wall had been completely exposed to the two of them.

—on the other side of the wall, Gu Qing Shan was able to see endless darkness, only occasionally would there be some glowing insects that flew through the darkness, continuing forward after going past their gazes.

Gu Qing Shan tried and found that at this point, the spatial restraints within the tunnel had disappeared here, so they would be able to fly freely even without Life Talismans.

“It seems this place is no longer under the wraiths' control” Gu Qing Shan commented.

“Indeed. But benefactor Gu, look ahead” Zhao Xiao Seng pointed at the gloomy end of the tunnel and spoke in a whisper.

“I can see it” Gu Qing Shan also replied in a whisper.

There was an unimaginably wide platform at the very end of the tunnel.

This platform was made out of nothing but white bones, perfectly laid out at the end of the path.

From the looks of it, the platform was purposely constructed at the end of the tunnel specifically to receive any entities that arrived here.

Gu Qing Shan and Zhao Xiao Seng flew forward, landed on the platform, then carefully observed it.

There was nothing but endless darkness ahead of them, there was nothing to be seen both above and below, only a pile of bones that were stacked so high that it became this platform.

At the very top of the platform, a single transparent glowing bone stood straight up, almost like a staff or scepter.

“Benefactor Gu, what do we do now?” Zhao Xiao Seng asked.

Gu Qing Shan looked down and saw that the thread that represented their pursuers had abruptly disappeared, while the thread that represented what he was looking forward was still reaching deep into the darkness.

Strange.

Why would the wraiths stop pursuing us here?

Gu Qing Shan carefully contemplated the implications of this.

He walked up to the highest point of the platform, then placed his hand on the transparently glowing bone.

A line of glowing text appeared on the War God UI:

[Staff of Secret Summoning]

[The summoning incantation: By my body, thrown towards the end of destruction, witness the return of the Samsara]

[Attention: This is a ceremonial staff purely for the sake of summoning a certain entity, its only use is summoning]

Gu Qing Shan held the white bone staff in his hand and made his considerations.

“Benefactor Gu, what do we do now?” Zhao Xiao Seng asked.

Gu Qing Shan regained his senses and sighed.

He suddenly laughed and explained: “Ever since we entered the tunnel, we’ve only seen strange and unusual things, but we don’t actually know anything at all—— to escape this clueless state, I will now discard all my worries to attempt something that I don’t know the results of”

“Amitabha, that is a thing of romance” Zhao Xiao Seng clapped his hand.

“Aren’t you afraid of dying?”

“I am, but Buddha had said that life is a journey, and in the end, men have to attempt something risky once in their lives”

Gu Qing Shan was surprised: “Did Buddha really say such a thing?”

Zhao Xiao Seng clasped his hands together: “Not yet, but after I become the Buddha, I’ll be the one to say it”

“Good” Gu Qing Shan was a bit impressed by his determination and praised.

Since Zhao Xiao Seng didn’t object, he raised the bone scepter and chanted in a whisper: “By my body, thrown towards the end of destruction, witness the return of the Samsara!”

Fwoom———

From the faraway darkness, two green giant glowing spheres suddenly appeared.

While these two green glowing spheres were still far away, they were as large as windmills, emitting intense green light that illuminated Gu Qing Shan and Zhao Xiao Seng’s body from afar.

Following that, a ghostly visage slowly appeared.

———the two green glowing spheres were actually its eyes.

Just its eyes were already so large, it truly is a wonder just how large this ghostly being’s body would be.

It uttered a resounding angry howl: 「 WHO WAS IT? WHO SUMMONED ME HERE AT THIS CRUCIAL POINT IN TIME!?’ 」

Rumble!

Rumble!

Rumble!

The platform and the tunnel both trembled intensely.

—while Gu Qing Shan and Zhao Xiao Seng were stunned, the ghostly being approached the platform step by step.

“Sounds like it’s in a really bad mood” Zhao Xiao Seng shrank and slowly retreated behind Gu Qing Shan.

“Indeed, it sounds like we found some trouble” Gu Qing Shan drew his sword and commented.

He then thought of something and asked in a low voice: “Do you still think this is romance?”

Zhao Xiao Seng took a deep breath, then clasped his hands: “Amitabha, this kind of romance is a bit too much for me”

Chapter 1404

Translator: La0o9

The ghostly being stood in the darkness and lowered its body, gazing upon Gu Qing Shan and Zhao Xiao Seng.

Its entire body was covered in black fog, leaving only its head exposed, its pair of glowing green eyes with its double pupils stared at Gu Qing Shan, closely approaching him.

「 This clear fluctuation, I can sense the power of Life Talismans emanating from your body 」

「 ...Another wraith who wishes to participate in the Samsara Clash for Supremacy. Did you manage to avoid those stronger ones, risk everything to come here in hope that I grant you the Chosen Saint¹ position? 」

Usually, in this situation, when someone faces this question, they would most likely follow up positively in hope of prolonging the conversation and discerning the situation.

However, Gu Qing Shan didn’t answer and silently held the black thread in his hand.

The other end of this thread is attached to that ghostly being.

A faint sensation could be felt from the thread that reached all the way to Gu Qing Shan's heart.

—relying on some sort of mystical sensation that the thread was transmitting, he could sense the other party's anger and killing intent.

There are numerous reasons for this anger.

But only a single explanation for killing intent.

Gu Qing Shan naturally understood the subtleties.

At this point, he had gone through numerous answers in his mind, as well as gained a deeper understanding of the Fate-type Ability, [Longing].

I don't know this monster.

I have no information.

However, this doesn't matter, as I am able to directly sense the other party's attitude and emotions.

This Fate-type Ability truly is the greatest tool for survival.

"That's not it" Gu Qing Shan casually replied, "I'm not a wraith, I'm the Huang Quan realm's Lord of War who entered this place to get rid of the wraiths. I only awakened you due to a moment of carelessness"

The ghostly being's head pulled back, then abruptly jerked forward again with its pair of glowing green eyes opening even bigger.

「Huang Quan realm? You said that you're a being of the Huang Quan realm?」

It shouted, its voice full of surprise.

The killing intent that came from the ghostly being faded somewhat, from what Gu Qing Shan felt from the black thread.

That's good, it seems my thoughts were correct.

Most likely, this monster is an entity that granted certain things to the wraiths, but for some reason, it had gotten hostile towards the wraiths.

"I am indeed from Huang Quan" Gu Qing Shan replied.

He took out the Devil King Warden Rod, held it in his hand, then circulated his power through it.

A faint yellow glow representing the power of Huang Quan appeared on his body, illuminating everything in the darkness.

The monster quickly spoke: 「 How strange, how very strange. You are a Chosen Saint of Huang Quan realm, yet you came into the Wraith realm and summoned me—— what exactly are you planning? 」

A sense of expectation and restlessness could be felt from the black thread.

Gu Qing Shan was able to sense it.

He went silent for a short moment, pondered numerous answers in his mind, then finally gave one: "The Samsara Clash for Supremacy is about to begin, I'm here to learn about my enemies"

The ghostly being suddenly looked up at the sky and laughed out loud.

「 Ahahaha, what a great Huang Quan Lord of War indeed, so you intended to defeat the Chosen Saint of the Wraith realm before the Samsara Clash for Supremacy even began—— that is certainly quite the idea 」

It stopped laughing and continued with a sarcastic tone: 「 Unfortunately, the wraiths could even wield the power of Great Flood, they've already selected three Chosen Saints among themselves, each with their own Title, who are respectively the Fate Obstruction Wraith, Giant Frame Wraith, and Karmic Fire Wraith 」

「 Little one from Huang Quan, while you might have reached the Star River Saint realm as they did, you are still alone, unable to fight against three Wraith Chosen Saints at the same time, nor could you oppose the Great Flood 」

「 Even if I granted you a Chosen Saint status, it would still be meaningless 」

「 Return 」

After saying so, it shook its head and turned around, preparing to go back into the darkness.

The black thread trembled slightly as Gu Qing Shan felt the other party's regret and disappointment.

Following that, the black thread snapped.

This meant that the other party had given up on talking to him, no longer wishing to have anything to do with him.

Recalling all of its words until now, Gu Qing Shan had numerous thoughts running through his mind.

This ghostly being could grant me the Chosen Saint status for the Wraith realm!

If that's the case, it was similar to the one-horned demon that granted me the Huang Quan Chosen Saint status.

Perhaps they are the same kind of entities.

—however, this ghostly being believes that I can't oppose the Great Flood or the wraiths, so it is about to leave with disappointment.

Then, what should I do now?

If I let this opportunity go, I would most likely not be able to see this entity again.

From its tone, it could be inferred that it has a certain level of influence to the Wraith realm. Even if it can't make me a Wraith Chosen Saint, it would still be able to aid me in other ways.

I can't let this chance slip by!

Countless thoughts were quickly moving through Gu Qing Shan's mind.

The Great Flood.

An Unlivable Apocalypse.

How exactly would I be able to win against the Great Flood?

The big shots of Void City couldn't even stop the omens leading to this Apocalypse.

I wouldn't be able to stop this Apocalypse either.

—it's impossible.

For the current me, Great Flood is true despair, a gap that I cannot cross.

Gu Qing Shan's heart felt heavy.

The ghostly being was gradually moving into the shadow, disappearing from Gu Qing Shan's sight.

Gu Qing Shan forced himself to calm down and continued to think.

—I have no way to oppose Great Flood.

Then what other means do I have to convince this ghostly being to remain?

Suddenly, Gu Qing Shan recalled the one-horned demon's words when he was facing the Star River Tribulation:

...

「So it was the Huang Quan Devil King and Lord of the Samsara Divine Mountain. For you to obtain the [Ethereal] inheritance, you must have gone through numerous arduous battles 』

「The status you've obtained and the feats you've managed to achieve are almost unheard of 』

「——It seems the Saint Selection of the Huang Quan realm can now end 』

...

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A certain thought flashed through Gu Qing Shan's mind.

He shouted towards the figure in the darkness:

“Your grace, I can definitely kill all of those wraiths, they are all no match for me”

“Even Great Flood cannot compare to the power that I’ve obtained!”

Gu Qing Shan circulated the Huang Quan Origin power throughout his entire body, then abruptly unleashed four consecutive fist strikes into the void of space!

While they were all attacking nothing, each of them exuded a completely different aura and power.

[Grand Mountain]

[No Pardon]

[Myriad Shadows]

——[Null Tribulation]!

The first three strikes were no issues, but Gu Qing Shan could not unleash [Null Tribulation].

Even only for show, even as a mere casual strike, the fourth fist strike had still far surpassed his capabilities.

As soon as he raised his fist, this fist strike instantly sucked dry the Huang Quan Origin power in his entire body.

Supernatural phenomena suddenly manifested.

The empty world of darkness disappeared in front of Gu Qing Shan’s eyes, turning into innumerable arcs and sprites of light.

Every kind of form had disappeared.

All living beings and all things, the representation of everything no longer existed, Gu Qing Shan's gaze could only see the Laws, as well as the Origin power that made it all.

After that short moment.

Everything returned to normal.

Gu Qing Shan's legs became like jelly as he collapsed to his knees, breathing heavily.

His stamina and Huang Quan Origin power had all been fully consumed.

Originally, Huang Quan Origin power was a kind of force within the Samsara, capable of exerting the power of [Null Tribulation], but was limited by Gu Qing Shan's strength, only the very beginning of this strike was unleashed.

—-*did it accomplish its goal?*

The black thread reappeared, one end coiled around Gu Qing Shan's hand, the other hand reaching into the empty darkness.

Gu Qing Shan looked towards the darkness.

The pair of glowing green eyes with double pupils once again appeared.

The ghostly being had directly bypassed a large distance in order to appear in front of Gu Qing Shan.

「 So you were the inheritor of [Ethereal], how unimaginable, for someone of your strength to obtain [Ethereal], it is completely outside of my expectations 」 the ghostly being judged him and commented.

“I didn't either, I only killed a monster” Gu Qing Shan admitted.

“What kind of monster was it?” the ghostly being asked interestedly.

Gu Qing Shan described it.

「 Impossible, even 10,000 of you wouldn't be able to kill it 」 the ghostly being resolutely denied his words.

Gu Qing Shan could only explain the entire process.

The ghostly being looked at him, completely speechless for a while.

「 A firefly was able to destroy the scorching sun, no wonder... 」 it muttered emotionally.

Gu Qing Shan tried asking: “Your grace, you seem to understand [Ethereal] very well”

「 [Ethereal] is a core fist technique passed down within the Samsara, each Deity of the Samsara is able to utilize [Ethereal] to re-manifest the sufferings of the Samsara's past 」 the ghostly being appeared reminiscent and commented.

“Comparing this technique to Great Flood, which one does your grace think is stronger?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

The ghostly being recalled its senses and spoke as it looked at him: 「 Naturally, [Null Tribulation] is stronger, this was power capable of crushing the Grand Tie Wei Mountain—— then most likely, your Deific Authority was ‘Samsara Mountain God’, because only the Grand Tie Wei Mountain would record the power of [Null Tribulation] as preparation for the Samsara's future evolution 」

“Since I have a chance to defeat the other wraiths, I ask that your grace grant me a Wraith Chosen Saint status” Gu Qing Shan sincerely spoke.

The ghostly being's eyes suddenly became even brighter as it spoke solemnly:

「 Cultivator, I want to see your Six Paths Great Mountain sword 」

Gu Qing Shan swiped his hand through the void of space.

An autumn-water like blue steel sword suddenly appeared and hovered next to him.

The ghostly being stared closely at the Six Paths Great Mountain sword for a while, then suddenly spoke with a weeping voice: 「 That is good... although she had forgotten everything of the past, her spirit remained the same, still retaining her presence in the past 」

The black fog around its body completely faded, revealing a body full of shocking wounds.

Over half of this ghostly being's body was already gone, leaving only pieces of scrap flesh sticking to the frame of its skeleton.

From the looks of it, it had gone through quite an intense battle.

「 My last power... shall be used to manifest your Chosen Saint power, but this power will temporarily be hidden, otherwise it would surely draw the attention of the other Wraith Chosen Saints 」

A yaksha mask slowly descended from the darkness, hovering in front of Gu Qing Shan.

The ghostly being's two eyes became dim, its entire body crumbling into dust, fading away within the darkness of the void of space.

「 As my power has been used up, I shall completely disappear, the rest shall depend on yourself— of course, on this sword of yours as well, you will have to take good care of her 」 the ghostly being told him.

Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but ask: "Do you know the Six Paths Great Mountain sword? Why did you immediately recognize me after you saw the Six Paths Great Mountain sword?"

The ghostly being smiled gently.

It completely scattered away in the wind, leaving one last statement:

「 You must be a true sword cultivator in order to receive this sword's recognition 」

「 That is enough 」

Chapter 1405

Translator: La0o9

The ghostly being had disappeared.

It left a single yaksha mask hovering in front of Gu Qing Shan.

This yaksha mask was the manifestation of the last of the ghostly being's power, so it was completely different from any other yaksha masks Gu Qing Shan had ever seen.

It was not disgusting.

It was a pure-white mask painted with a pair of thinly opened eyes using black shade, other than that, it was blank.

If one took a careful look, they would find that the shades that made up the irises of the mask flickered between red and black, appearing like they were both moving and not, highly animated.

Lines of glowing text quickly appeared on the War God UI:

[This is a unique yaksha mask, never before seen within the lengthy flow of history]

[Samsara Wicked Guise: Jade Cultivation]

[This mask is able to unleash the Wraith realm Divine Skill: Jade Cultivation Deep Shadow (one-of-a-kind)]

[Jade Cultivation Deep Shadow:]

[Jade Cultivation: You are able to choose any treasure to have the mask gain that treasure's ability, forming a Guise Hex that's stored within the mask to be used as you wish]

[Deep Shadow: The ability you gain will be automatically improved by one stage, always more powerful than compared to the original, but this fact will be hidden and not displayed on the mask. Furthermore, by wearing this yaksha mask, your power will be converted to a form of your own choosing, others will never be able to see through your backgrounds]

[Attention: A Guise Hex must be activated using a power of the Samsara, or one of the two great Origin powers. For example, your Huang Quan Origin power, or origin power of the soul]

[Guise Hexes are infallible]

[Special note:]

[A single-use spell had been affixed to this mask: Single Temporal Teleportation, it will activate in ten breaths' worth of time, please wear the mask and prepare yourself]

Single Temporal Teleportation!

Gu Qing Shan carefully pondered the implications of these words.

Why 'single temporal', and not 'single directional'?

Without much time to think, Gu Qing Shan couldn't do much but said:

"Xiao Seng, we're going to be teleported away very soon, can you take refuge within the Cang Hai Heavenly Ark?"

"Teleport where?" Zhao Xiao Seng asked.

"I don't know either— I have no idea where this would transport us— most likely, it will be like earlier, the kind of risk and romance that you said you liked" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Zhao Xiao Seng didn't say anything.

He took out the glittering golden Cang Hai Heavenly Ark, placed it in the void of space, then silently formed a hand seal.

At the very next moment, he disappeared.

The Cang Hai Heavenly Ark firmly flew into Gu Qing Shan's hand.

Zhao Xiao Seng's voice sounded from the ark:

"Benefactor Gu, you can go ahead and seek romance, please let me out when it's safe again, Amitabha"

Gu Qing Shan looked at the heavenly ark in his hand speechlessly.

There wasn't much time left, so he put the heavenly ark away and put the Jade Cultivation mask on.

After two breaths' worth of time, the mask suddenly gave off spatial fluctuations.

Gu Qing Shan disappeared from where he stood.

After he left, the entire bone platform began to collapse and soon completely disappeared into the endless darkness.

...

Heaven and earth turned around themselves.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly found himself standing on top of solid ground.

It was blurry around him with barely any light.

On the ground, there were several corpses that were already rotten a long time ago. It was a mystery how long ago they had died, but overall, no one cared about them.

Various tools laid scattered all over the ground, which included a pickaxe, a basket, a wheel barrel, a rucksack, and a small box with a talisman on the cover.

A faint breeze blew past him from deep inside the cave, mixed with the sound of rocks being hit by metal.

Gu Qing Shan only managed to check the situation very briefly before he suddenly heard a sharp sound of something slicing through the wind behind him.

Someone is ambushing me!

A sharp sensation could naturally be felt, so the other party was extremely malicious, prepared to kill in one strike!

Gu Qing Shan had already been cautious, so he drew the Earth sword without any hesitation and swung upwards behind himself.

A cold gleaming sword phantom abruptly manifested in the darkness.

Bam!

The assailant was sent flying, crashed into the rocky wall, and stopped moving.

Gu Qing Shan continued to wield his sword and slowly stepped forward.

The man was a wraith cultivator with tattered clothing, his mask had fallen off from being struck by Gu Qing Shan's [Life Seeker] Secret Art, freezing his malicious expression on his face.

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He was dead.

His weapon was a pickaxe, which had also been cut in half by Gu Qing Shan's sword and sent flying into the distance, now fallen on the ground.

"Strange, why did he want to kill me?" Gu Qing Shan whispered to himself.

He released his inner sight to look through this series of tunnels and passages made of rock, observing the entire underground situation for several hundred miles.

Wherever his inner sight reached, he saw corpses laid all over, quite a few cultivators who were still alive were avoiding everyone else, specifically choosing secluded underground tunnels, hiding.

They were cautiously protecting their own baskets which contained a mixture of minerals and rocks.

—these people are attacking each other to compete for these rocks?

They aren't particularly powerful either, as they were assigned to dig for rocks and minerals in this place. Most likely, even in the Wraith realm, these people are at the very bottom of the social ladder.

The very bottom...

That is the perfect unassuming beginning, no wonder that ghostly being teleported me to this specific location.

Gu Qing Shan retracted his inner sight and once again observed the corpse in front of him.

Suddenly, Gu Qing Shan felt an indiscernible fluctuation coming from his own mask.

—[Jade Cultivation] had been activated!

Gu Qing Shan was able to sense two items.

A pickaxe.

And a yaksha mask.

——they belonged to the cultivators who ambushed Gu Qing Shan, the only items that cultivator had.

Gu Qing Shan sensed it briefly and quickly recognized the power that those two items possessed.

The pickaxe naturally had the ability to break through rocks to reach minerals, so it wasn't anything special.

The yaksha mask also didn't contain any surprising ability, only a single supportive Guise Hex:

[Mineral Location]

[While wearing this Guise Hex mask, your ability to sense minerals would be greatly improved]

In a few short moments, Gu Qing Shan pondered numerous possibilities and immediately chose this ability.

“I want this”

He silently said in his mind.

Following his thought, a grey mass of fog quickly appeared from his mask.

[Deep Shadow] had activated!

Gu Qing Shan's mask slowly gained more markings and designs until it became the exact same mask as the yaksha mask on the ground!

To gain the same Guise Hex, it was natural that the mask had to gain the same appearance!

"That's perfect, I might truly be able to..."

Gu Qing Shan suppressed his emotions and looked into the void of space.

Lines of glowing text had appeared on the War God UI:

[Your Jade Cultivation mask had gained the Mineral Location mask's ability]

[Due to the effects of Deep Shadow, that ability had been improved by one stage]

[You've obtained a Guise Hex of one higher level:]

[Mineral Pinpointing]

[Wearing this Guise Hex mask will grant you the ability to see through the mixed energy of rocks and ore, directly sensing the locations of precious minerals]

The line of glowing text flashed and disappeared.

Gu Qing Shan released his inner sight to observe himself and found that his mask appeared exactly the same as the mask on the ground, having not changed at all despite the improved Guise Hex.

Gu Qing Shan silently stood there for a long while before he sighed and muttered to himself:

"Finally, I can be considered to have truly entered the Wraith realm"

He crouched down and put his hand on the cultivator's body.

[Mystery of All Beings Equal], activate!

He quickly transformed into the exact same cultivator on the ground.

His face, his physique, his characteristics.

—–and the exact same yaksha mask!

Gu Qing Shan hid the body away, then draped the tattered clothes around his body and before he secured his mask.

“So, now I should probably start digging?”

He picked up the pickaxe and the basket, before heading deeper into the mines.

Chapter 1406

Translator: La0o9

At the depths of the mine.

A secluded passage.

Gu Qing Shan crouched down in a dark corner, took out the Chao Yin sword and asked: “Chao Yin, I’m going to try and see if I can borrow your power”

—–if [Jade Cultivation Deep Shadow] can allow me to use my swords’ abilities and even improve them by one level, that would simply be unimaginably powerful!

Gu Qing Shan circulated his Huang Quan Origin power and infused it into the mask.

The Samsara Wicked Mask called [Jade Cultivation] began to exude an eerie power.

Suddenly, the Chao Yin sword began sobbing in a stifled voice.

“What’s the matter?” Gu Qing Shan asked in surprise.

The Earth sword’s heavy mountainous voice resounded: 「 You can’t, Gu Qing Shan, your mask can absorb our powers, but this absorption is an immense demerit to us 」

Luo Bing Li’s voice also followed up: “If the Earth sword and I were to combine into the Abyssal Soul Artifact, we would be able to resist this mask—— but now that the Earth sword and I are in a separated state, if you used the mask on us, it would harm our foundations from the perspective of Law”

Gu Qing Shan asked: “Shannu, what about you?”

Shannu replied: “Gongzi, I’m not afraid of the mask, so if you want to take a Thaumaturgy from me, you can do it”

Gu Qing Shan was startled and asked: “Then, would you get hurt?”

Shannu replied: “I won’t, but I might fall into a long slumber”

“How could I do that?” Gu Qing Shan sighed and concluded: “It seems that everything within the Wraith realm is wicked in one way or another. I can’t easily use them”

He gave up on that thought and began heading into the deepest parts of the tunnel.

“Xiao Seng, you can go out now” Gu Qing Shan muttered.

Zhao Xiao Seng abruptly appeared.

He quickly sensed the chaotic situation of the mine.

The situation outside was still under riot, with the mining cultivators attempting to kill each other in order to take the minerals for themselves, the fluctuations of energy could be felt even here.

“Benefactor Gu, where are we? What’s going on with those wraith cultivators?” he asked.

“We are currently inside a mine; we need to lay low for a bit, the situation right now is a bit chaotic” Gu Qing Shan said.

Zhao Xiao Seng took a deep breath.

In the air, the stench of blood was getting increasingly thicker, desperate cries and screams kept on resounding without a stop.

There were people dying at every waking moment.

“Amitabha” Zhao Xiao Seng truly couldn’t help himself, displaying a sorrowful expression and clasping his hands together into a praying motion: “May these people be led away to a better place after death, Namo Ksitigarbha Bodhisattva” (TN: it’s a Buddhist prayer)

Gu Qing Shan whispered: “Someone’s coming”

The two of them both retracted their power fluctuations.

Suddenly, a series of hurried footsteps could be heard, just before a cultivator wearing a yaksha mask leapt out from the darkness.

His clothes were full of blood marks, the pickaxe in his hand still dripping with blood. As soon as he saw Gu Qing Shan, he laughed maniacally: “Bahahaha, Old Fifth Chen, you coward, so you were hiding in this branch mine— hand over all the Cloud Pattern Immortal Jade you dug up or I’m going to kill you!”

Gu Qing Shan’s expression didn’t change at all as he reached his hand to grab his sword from the void of space.

Zhao Xiao Seng held his hand down.

“What is it?” Gu Qing Shan leisurely asked, but his tone contained some killing intent.

Zhao Xiao Seng appeared sorrowful and whispered: “This man’s heart of killing might be intense, but he is still a living being. Why don’t benefactor Gu just give the minerals to him and avoid falling into Huang Quan after death due to accumulated killing karma”

Gu Qing Shan was surprised, then changed his tone: “Fake monk, I really didn’t expect you to actually have such a kind heart”

He pulled back his hand and kicked his basket over.

Gu Qing Shan wasn’t someone who lived to kill, so when his companion had asked for it, he would also not kill.

—since Zhao Xiao Seng had asked me not to kill, he definitely has a way to reasonably resolve this matter.

The cultivator on the other side caught the basket and counted, muttering under his breath: “Right, the Cloud Pattern Immortal Jade mine had only just been discovered half an hour ago, being able to dig up this much is already your limit”

After saying that, his killing intent faded somewhat.

“Amitabha, benefactor has received the minerals, please leave now” Zhao Xiao Seng said.

The cultivator was about to leave, but then he looked back at Zhao Xiao Seng.

He turned towards Gu Qing Shan, then at Zhao Xiao Seng again, displaying an expression of abrupt understanding.

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“Old Fifth Chen, you sly dog, you actually brought a helper into the mine!”

The cultivator decided not to leave and instead stepped forward again.

“What now?” Gu Qing Shan asked Zhao Xiao Seng in a whisper.

Zhao Xiao Seng smiled bitterly, keeping up his praying motion: “This one’s greed and killing heart had both acted up, let me talk to and persuade—”

He was abruptly cut off from the other side.

That cultivator shouted with a voice filled with killing intent: “Oi, monk over there, what did you dig up here?”

“Amitabha, benefactor, there is no need for you to be so obsessed with mere rocks, in truth—”

The cultivator cut him off again, insulting him: “I don’t need your damn nonsense, baldie. Hurry up and hand over whatever ore you’ve hidden away!”

Zhao Xiao Seng became silent.

A large metal club abruptly appeared in his hand.

The large metal club flew like a bolt of lightning—

Bam!!!

Intense wind picked up, the ground shook.

Immense violence ensued.

Some pebbles and dust were even falling from the roof of the tunnel.

Gu Qing Shan stood waiting silently for a few moments before walking up to pick up the yaksha mask.

—-this cultivator's mask was the same as old Fifth Chen, both only equipped with an ability to find minerals.

It seems that everyone in the mine was the same rank without any clear distinction.

He couldn't help but ask: "Xiao Seng, didn't you say you wanted them to be led by Ksitigarbha Bodhisattva?"

"Leading them is the Bodhisattva's matter, but sending them on their way is Xiao Seng's matter" Zhao Xiao Seng replied.

Apparently feeling that his words were a bit belligerent, Zhao Xiao Seng put the metal club away and awkwardly followed up: "Benefactor Gu, I'm actually not bald, it's just that my hair is a bit thin. And since my heart seeks Buddhism, I purposely shaved my head"

Gu Qing Shan was speechless.

So that was the real reason why you attacked.

He was asking about the ore, who cares about your hair?

You're just too sensitive!

Gu Qing Shan looked at the mass of pulpy flesh on the wall, then sighed: "It would have been better to just let me erase him with my sword, at least it wouldn't be like what you did here, splattering blood all over the place"

“Amitabha, Xiao Seng’s anger was indeed roused, but he dared call me baldie, this alone Xiao Seng cannot forgive”

“...Zhao Xiao Seng”

“Yes?”

“I think that even after the Apocalypses are over, you still wouldn’t be able to tonsure...”

Gu Qing Shan waved his hand, summoning the basket back in front of them.

Gu Qing Shan took out a long piece of green jade from inside the basket and commented: “It seems this entire riot was caused by the discovery of this ‘Cloud Pattern Immortal Jade’ ore vein”

Zhao Xiao Seng explained: “I know this kind of ore. It contains 500 times as much spirit energy as regular spirit stones, a type of crucial currency among high-levelled cultivators”

Gu Qing Shan nodded: “No wonder they were all so maniacal— if this was truly an ore of such value, someone would most likely come to suppress this riot very soon”

While they were talking, a loud voice resounded throughout the entire mine.

“All mining cultivators are to stop your struggling. You have 30 breaths’ worth of time to leave the mine, anyone still inside will be killed without question!”

Gu Qing Shan glanced at Zhao Xiao Seng.

“Amitabha, benefactor Gu, I leave everything else to you now. If there is an issue when it comes to battle or time, you’re welcome to call me for help” Zhao Xiao Seng said.

“I understand ‘battle’, but what do you mean by ‘time’?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“Other than delivering living beings from torment, if there is any mistake you make during your time with the wraiths, Xiao Seng would be able to use temporal magic to aid you a bit”

Zhao Xiao Seng’s figure disappeared without a trace.

He seems to have a connection with the Cang Hai Heavenly Ark that allowed him to return to that treasure at a moment’s notice.

Several breaths’ worth of time had gone by while they talked.

Gu Qing Shan quickly picked up a pickaxe, carried the basket on his back, then headed to the entrance of the mine with a set of tattered clothing.

Chapter 1407

Translator: La0o9

All the mining cultivators were gathered on the rocky sand pit outside of the mine, then ordered to not move a single muscle or else they would be killed without pardon.

The wraith cultivators had taken full control of the mine and began to investigate the reason behind the riot.

One minute later.

Long pieces of dark green jade with natural cloud patterns were laid neatly on the ground.

“Cloud Pattern Immortal Jade, how unexpected for this barren mine to have such a good thing”

A wraith cultivator with tanned skin commented.

He was wearing a crimson-colored mask with several lines of black markings to signify a wrathful cruel expression.

“Sir, the mine’s manager had been brought here” someone reported.

“Oh?”

This cultivator turned around to take a look.

Two of his men had been restrained and led a short old man in front of him.

The short old man prostrated on the ground, trembling and said: “Lord Xue, this subordinate isn’t useless. This one simply didn’t expect that Cloud Pattern Immortal Jade would be dug up, and since money moves the heart, the situation simply couldn’t be controlled”

The wraith who was referred to as lord Xue nodded: “Indeed, when these mining cultivators saw Cloud Pattern Immortal Jade, they would definitely go completely mad”

He patted the short old man’s shoulder and consoled: “I can understand your hardship”

The short old man sighed in relief, about to say something else, only to have his head lifted up.

Lord Xue held his head in one hand and clenched the other into a fist, mercilessly striking his body.

Pffft!

The short old man’s body was immediately struck, turning into a mass of blood and was sent flying a long distance. During flight, the mass scattered into a mixture of white and red substances that dyed the floor of the mine entrance red.

The wraith called Xue took off the short old man’s yaksha mask, threw his head to the ground, then spoke with disdain: “It’s bad enough that you failed your job, but you actually had the courage to even make excuses”

He created some water and washed his hand like nothing happened.

Complete silence.

The mining cultivators who were still dissatisfied now didn't even dare to complain under their breaths.

After a long while, lord Xue finally finished washing his hand, dried it off with a white towel, then ordered: "Get me the five mining squad captains"

"Understood"

The wraiths went among the mining cultivators and took four people out.

Gu Qing Shan found, to his surprise, that he was actually a captain.

Under a group of wraiths' scrutinizing gaze, he and three other mining cultivators were forced in front of lord Xue.

One of the wraiths reported: "Sir, four of them had been brought here, the fifth squad's captain is already dead, his corpse smashed into a pulp and is still within the mine. Should we carry him out to examine as well?"

"If that squad captain is dead and so be it, I'm not interested in looking at his dead body"

"Yes sir"

Lord Xue then asked: "I am interested in something else, how many people died in the mine?"

"A total of 71 people, please take a look, sir"

A jade tag was presented to lord Xue.

“So much manpower was killed, tch” lord Xue spoke in irritation.

He took the jade tag and carefully examined it.

Everyone else silently waited.

Gu Qing Shan snuck a glance and noticed that several red threads had appeared from lord Xue’s body, appearing on the bodies of the four squad leaders.

—these were the threads of fate that only he could see!

Gu Qing Shan silently reached his hand out to touch the thread and sensed it.

A sensation of death could be felt from the thread.

This person is planning to kill the four mining squad captains!

And I’m one of them.

What now?

While Gu Qing Shan quickly pondered this, lord Xue had already walked in front of them.

Lord Xue looked at the four squad captains, asking: “Who is the first squad captain, old Ninth Zhao?”

“I am” a lanky cultivator replied.

“Every mining cultivators of the first squad is dead, but you’re alive—”

Lord Xue slowly spoke and made a gesture with his hand.

Old Ninth Zhao was cut in half from a distance, falling dead on the spot.

Lord Xue waved his hand to take back the man's mask, then curtly asked: "Who is the second squad captain, Huang Third?"

"Sir, I am"

Next to Gu Qing Shan, another person replied.

The cultivator worriedly looked at lord Xue with one hand on his stomach.

As Gu Qing Shan glanced over, he saw a not inconsiderable wound on Huang Third's stomach that was still bleeding.

Lord Xue changed his tone and said: "The second squad of mining cultivators are all alive, you did very well"

Hearing that, Huang Third was delighted and said: "Sir, when the riot began, I ordered them all to form a defensive formation and held down a narrow mine shaft, I also stayed at the front to make sure that everyone survives the entire carnage"

Lord Xue praised: "Strong and resourceful, volunteering to be in front, well done"

He made a gesture.

Before the delight on Huang Third's face managed to fade, his head already detached from his body, the bloody head rolling far away.

Complete silence.

The mining cultivators all looked at lord Xue with confusion.

Lord Xue seemed to still not care at all, taking Huang Third's yaksha mask and shook his head: "You were wounded too heavily, you're essentially a cripple now"

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"The mine is a busy place, there's no place for useless people"

He walked in front of Gu Qing Shan.

Sensing the killing intent from him, Gu Qing Shan clasped his fist and bowed:

"Sir"

"Hm, you are the captain of the third squad, Chen Fifth?" lord Xue lightly moved his hand and asked.

"It is I, sir. This time's riot wasn't anyone else's fault sir, it was all my fault" Gu Qing Shan spoke up first.

Lord Xue's fingers stopped.

"Your fault?" he asked.

"Yes sir, it was all because of me" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Lord Xue's expression couldn't be seen at all through his crimson yaksha mask.

He stared straight down at Gu Qing Shan and asked: "This riot occurred because of the unexpected discovery of the Cloud Pattern Immortal Jade vein, how was that related to you?"

Gu Qing Shan sighed and said: “I can’t lie to you, sir. In truth, I was the first person to discover the Cloud Pattern Immortal Jade vein”

“Oh? You seem quite fortunate” lord Xue replied, his voice didn’t suggest any sort of strong emotions one way or another.

Gu Qing Shan continued: “It wasn’t because of luck, I am telling you the truth, sir. Around half a month ago, I’ve been able to sense things— I discovered that I was able to sense the unique aura of the ores in the mine”

“But I couldn’t believe it at first, after all, my Guise Hex was only [Mineral Location]. It wasn’t until many days later that I noticed this ability had nothing to do with the Guise Hex, it was an ability that I awakened myself”

Lord Xue said: “Continue”

Gu Qing Shan said: “After a while of sensing and practicing, I found that my ability was growing increasingly stronger, almost to the point of being able to pinpoint the locations of various ores and minerals”

“After that, I dug up the first piece of Cloud Pattern Immortal Jade, which brought about this riot”

Lord Xue fell silent.

Without knowing it himself, he had already clenched his hands tightly.

The ground is the foundation of a world, the place which houses the most Origin power of that world, capable of nurturing countless precious and powerful minerals. But the underground is a complete mess that couldn’t be explored using inner sight, so the only method even now was to dig it out.

And yet he awakened an ability to detect underground minerals?

Lord Xue suddenly felt a bit uncertain and turned to the other mining cultivators, shouting: “Was what he said the truth?”

The mining cultivators were all completely clueless.

Everyone only remembered that they were fighting over Cloud Pattern Immortal Jade, who would remember how it all started?

Not to mention, during the riot, those who managed to dig the jade up first were all key targets to be stolen from, so they were already more or less killed off.

Seeing how clueless they all were, lord Xue finally couldn't restrain himself any longer and catch Gu Qing Shan's hand, giving his orders: "Men, lead the way, we're heading into the mines!"

Gu Qing Shan appeared fearful and shaken as he asked: "Sir, what are we going to do?"

Lord Xue's tone was a bit impatient as he answered: "No need to fear, I'm merely going to confirm what you said, go!"

He brought with him two rows of subordinates as he hurriedly pulled Gu Qing Shan into the mine.

The corpses inside the mine hadn't been cleaned up, so the ground was still filled with marks of blood and bodies that gave off a terrible smell.

However, no one was bothered by that as they headed deeper into the mines.

Lord Xue asked his subordinates: "How much was found in this Cloud Pattern Immortal Jade vein?"

"Sir, in the Cloud Pattern Immortal Jade vein found this time, a total of 327 kilos were found, they have all been accounted for"

"Nothing out of the ordinary was found?"

"Nothing at all"

“Very good” lord Xue turned to Gu Qing Shan and asked: “Your name was Chen Fifth?”

“Yes sir, I am” Gu Qing Shan nodded.

“This mine was originally a barren mine, so if you were truly the one who discovered the Cloud Pattern Immortal Jade vein, this Xue Nu ¹will not blame you, instead, you will have made a great contribution— but now, you need to prove a certain fact: that you truly have the ability to find mineral veins” lord Xue told him.

He let go of Gu Qing Shan’s hand.

Gu Qing Shan walked out, stood in the middle of the mine and silently activated the improved version of [Mineral Location]: [Mineral Pinpoint].

Out of nowhere, a sense of heavenly understanding appeared in his mind.

Gu Qing Shan noticed that he was able to clearly sense the location, type, and quantity of various mineral ores around himself, although the range wasn’t too great.

He could only sense the mineral distribution within a radius of 20 miles.

That was enough.

Gu Qing Shan took a few steps forward, then said: “Sir, there is a small spirit stone vein here”

“Oh?”

Lord Xue replied, then gestured to his subordinates.

They all took out their own pickaxes and began digging where Gu Qing Shan had pointed.

“How deep do you think it is?” lord Xue asked.

“Around 20 meters” Gu Qing Shan replied.

Seeing how confident he was, lord Xue nodded: “Good”

Time slowly passed.

The white-grey rocks were slowly dug out into a mining strip, where a mass of spirit energy could be abruptly sensed flowing out.

One of the subordinates loudly reported from inside the mining strip: “Sir, we’ve made the discovery!”

“Get out of the way, let me take a look!”

Lord Xue shouted, pushed everyone aside, then hurriedly came in to examine it.

A moment of silence.

“Ahahahaha!” lord Xue abruptly began laughing like mad.

He returned, then patted Gu Qing Shan’s shoulder: “Brother Chen Fifth, you truly are fortunate”

Gu Qing Shan stood still, appearing a bit awkward.

He hesitantly said: “This little one only knows how to dig for minerals, please teach me more, sir”

Chapter 1408

Translator: La0o9

An airship soared through the clouds, currently heading Northward.

In the cabin of the airship, Xue Nu and Gu Qing Shan were sitting across from one another, several beautifully plated dishes of food were prepared on the table, and Xue Nu was even personally pouring a cup of wine for Gu Qing Shan.

Xue Nu smiled brightly: “Chen Fifth, your mining ability is extremely impressive. Once we return to the estate, the first thing we’ll do is to remove your ‘Fifth’ name, you shall be treated the same as I, granted the ‘Nu’ eponym by the estate’s quartermaster, becoming peers of the same generation”

Gu Qing Shan asked: “It was only an ability for the laborious mining job, do I truly have the qualifications to obtain the ‘Nu’ eponym?”

Xue Nu pointed at him and smiled: “You definitely would be able to!”

“But why?”

“I won’t lie to you, the outside situation has basically stabilized, and the Eternal Abyss—”

Right at this point, Xue Nu instinctively paused, then corrected himself:

“Let’s just say that everything is going well, and the estate requires newcomers like yourself. Your days of enjoyment have finally arrived” he said.

Gu Qing Shan became focused.

It took so much effort to finally hear something of decent importance, how can I let that go?

“Big brother Xue, what did you say was going on with the Eternal Abyss?” Gu Qing Shan asked with interest.

“That’s the war matter, you don’t need to care” Xue Nu replied.

“I see”

Gu Qing Shan nodded, but he quickly churned his thoughts.

He sent his voice: “Zhao Xiao Seng”

“I’m here” Zhao Xiao Seng replied.

“Can you return Xue Nu and me to before our conversation?”

“I can’t, without a large-scale supportive formation, I can only reverse time flow for a single individual”

“Then, please return Xue Nu to the state of a few breaths’ worth of time earlier” Gu Qing Shan said.

Zhao Xiao Seng explained: “With my current abilities, I could reverse him back three breaths’ worth of time, and after doing so, I can’t use this temporal ability again for a day. So you need to grasp your chance”

“Got it, go ahead” Gu Qing Shan replied.

“Sure’

A second later.

Xue Nu began to do everything in reverse, returning to three breaths earlier.

——it was like watching a tape reversing itself.

Xue Nu acted exactly the same as before, smiling at Gu Qing Shan and once again told him: “Chen Fifth, your mining ability is extremely impressive. Once we return to the estate, the first thing we’ll do is to remove your ‘Fifth’ name, you shall be treated the same as I, granted the ‘Nu’ eponym by the estate’s quartermaster, becoming peers of the same generation”

Gu Qing Shan picked up the bottle, poured Xue Nu a glass full of alcohol, then sincerely said: “Without big brother Xue, this Chen would have nothing. This Chen will definitely never forget big brother Xue’s guidance”

Seeing him expressing such clear attitude, Xue Nu felt pleased and laughed: “Come, let us brothers cheer for this occasion”

The two of them raised their cups and finished them both in one gulp.

Gu Qing Shan once again poured him a full cup and raised his own: “Big brother Xue, I won’t lie to you. Mining cultivators like us don’t know many things, we stay for our entire lives in the mine, so we’re completely clueless about the outside world. I hope that big brother Xue would be able to educate me better, this Chen Fifth would be truly grateful”

“Here! Let me take the first shot!”

Gu Qing Shan took the initiative to drink first.

Xue Nu laughed delightfully, then also finished his cup.

Gu Qing Shan poured him another cup.

“Big brother Xue, if there’s anything you need in the future, if this Chen even hesitates a little bit to help, I wouldn’t be a man anymore”

—these three statements had displayed his attitude very clearly to Xue Nu, delighting him to no end.

Xue Nu raised his cup on his own accord towards Gu Qing Shan for a toast.

Gu Qing Shan also finished his cup in one gulp.

Shannu silently reminded Gu Qing Shan from inside his Thought Sea: “Gongzi, this alcohol is too strong, please don’t drink too much”

“It’s ok” Gu Qing Shan replied.

Luo Bing Li sighed and muttered: “Who would have thought that a sword cultivator like Gu Qing Shan would one day sit to drink and make merry with a servant like this”

“Gongzi is only doing this for more information” Shannu replied.

Luo Bing Li smiled: “I didn’t say that what your gongzi is doing was wrong, I’m just saying that it’s so tough for someone as straightforward as him to do such a thing”

Gu Qing Shan suddenly cut in: “There are many other bitter and sour things in this world that cannot be resolved even if I wanted to, there’s nothing tough about doing something of this level— take care and pay attention to your surroundings, I’m feeling a bit uneasy”

Hearing him say that, his four swords instantly became cautious.

Gu Qing Shan placed the cup down, then said to Xue Nu: “Let us drink”

Seeing how open he was when drinking, Xue Nu nodded: “Very well, brother Chen, I will definitely take good care of you from now on, don’t worry”

Gu Qing Shan appeared hesitant to speak, then asked: “Big brother Chen, but all I have was only an ability for a laborious job like mining, do I truly have the qualifications to obtain the ‘Nu’ eponym?”

Xue Nu pointed at him and smiled: “You definitely would be able to!”

“But why?”

“I won’t lie to you, the outside situation has basically stabilized, even the Eternal Abyss— — never mind. Just know that we’re already close to victory”

At this point, Xue Nu instinctively changed the subject and continued: “Chen Fifth, it was your greatest fortune for you to be taken into the estate by me, you should know, I am a direct servant of the Wraith Lord”

Gu Qing Shan smiled a bit, asking: “Big brother Xue, what did you say the Eternal Abyss was earlier?”

Just as Xue Nu was about to shake his head, Gu Qing Shan continued: “Big brother Xue, if you know something, please don’t hide it from this little brother. This little brother will have to follow your steps from now on, if I didn’t know anything I would be a country bumpkin by the time we arrive at the estate, wouldn’t that only harm your reputation?”

In the heat of the moment earlier, Xue Nu had grandly declared that he would take good care of him, so he couldn’t really just gloss this over right away.

Not to mention, he can be considered one of my people from now on anyways.

“Alright, I’ll tell you about it, but don’t go around spouting it everywhere” Xue Nu told him with a firm expression.

“Don’t worry, big brother, I know no one else but you, so I won’t arbitrarily tell other people” Gu Qing Shan replied.

Xue Nu then explained: “The enemy of our world, the Eternal Abyss, is about to be done for”

“What exactly is the Eternal Abyss?”

“A very powerful monster—— before it was destroyed, the three rulers of our world would naturally work together as one, but now that the defeat of the Eternal Abyss’ is imminent, the three rulers would begin to compete for the status of the Wraith realm’s Warlord¹”

Gu Qing Shan asked: “Is this status exclusive?”

Xue Nu replied: “Indeed, we are servants of the Wraith Lord Fate Obstruction—— every servant in the estate is encouraged to compete for as much of an advantage as possible for the Wraith Lord. Once the Wraith Lord becomes the one and only true ruler of the Wraith realm, our positions would also ascend by proxy”

Gu Qing Shan now understood.

——I came to the right place this time.

To be able to directly enter Wraith Lord Fate Obstruction’s estate, I would immediately stand on a very high platform from the very beginning. Regardless of whether I want to climb higher, obtain more information, or even come into contact with Fei Yue’s entourage, I would have plenty of opportunities.

Even Zhao Xiao Seng excitedly sent his voice: “Amitabha, this is a great thing, we’ve managed to directly infiltrate a Wraith Lord’s estate!”

———one could not overstate just how difficult of a thing this was!

Life Talisman expertise, the [Jade Cultivation] mask, [Mystery of All Beings Equal], the Fate ability [Longing], the ghostly being’s teleportation, the mine’s riot, it was all of these factors that finally made this infiltration possible.

Gu Qing Shan maintained his calm and asked: “Big brother Xue, why would this little brother be granted the ‘Nu’ eponym right as I enter the estate?”

Xue Nu laughed and pointed at Gu Qing Shan: “Weapons, treasure tools, talismans, Hex Guises, all of them require precious minerals and materials, don’t they? Your arrival would greatly improve the estate’s mineral collection efficiency; while this can’t be said to be pivotal in the overall bigger picture, it is still extremely important”

Gu Qing Shan nodded: "This little brother understands"

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He poured Xue Nu another full cup, preparing to ask something else.

Suddenly, a subordinate entered the ship's cabin and reported: "Lord Xue, the mine's new manager had been assigned to his post, he wishes to meet you"

"I'm currently drinking with my little brother Chen; I don't have time to see him" Xue Nu impatiently replied.

The subordinate said: "Do you have any other orders sir? This one will relay it"

Xue Nu replied: "Tell him that there was still one squad captain left that I didn't have time to kill, it's his job to kill them now"

"Understood"

"And also, kill all the mining cultivators who were wounded to threaten them, I'd like to see if they try another riot after this"

"Yes sir"

The subordinate accepted his orders and left.

Xue Nu turned back and smiled to Gu Qing Shan: "Brother Chen, come, let us continue drinking"

Just as the two of them raised their cups, Gu Qing Shan froze.

A black thread had silently appeared around his hand, the other hand reaching outside the cabin of the ship towards an unknown place.

This is...

Gu Qing Shan sensed it briefly and detected a connection from the thread.

This connection felt like someone that he hadn't met for a very long time suddenly appearing in their vicinity.

An acquaintance seemed to have arrived...

Who would that be?

Gu Qing Shan's heart began beating faster.

This place was the Wraith realm, regardless of who they were, being discovered means that they would have a terrible end.

The airship abruptly shook.

Immense power fluctuations could be felt from the faraway void of space, followed by intense wind.

Xue Nu immediately stood up and shouted: "What happened? Report immediately!"

A subordinate swiftly appeared, quickly reporting to him: "Sir, a spy from the Eternal Abyss had been detected 500 miles ahead of us"

"Spy? Who is facing the enemies?" Xue Nu asked.

“That Abyssal creature is extremely powerful, all of our forces in the vicinity had arrived to surround and kill it— sir, what should we do?” the subordinate asked.

Xue Nu hesitated a bit, waving his hand: “You’re dismissed, give me some time to think”

“Yes sir”

The subordinate left.

Gu Qing Shan’s gaze lit up, his mind quickly turning.

An Abyssal creature!

An Abyssal creature that could arrive at the Wraith realm!

—--in the night after we defeated the Soul Shrieker, I summoned Barry, Boss, Ye Ru Xi, Anna, and Lady Darksea for a secret meeting.

Regarding the spies from the Eternal Abyss...

Boss seemed to have mentioned that.

What did he say at the time?

Gu Qing Shan quickly remembered.

...

“That’s why the Eternal Abyss had tried to come up with a few solutions, unfortunately, they weren’t put into practice in time

Boss said this at the time.

“Solutions? Did you already have them prepared?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“Using the power of the Eternal Abyss, we created a group of completely new Abyssal forms, which carried the unique characteristics of the wraiths” Boss explained.

“So you wanted to infiltrate the enemy’s ranks?” Barry asked.

Boss nodded: “We specifically chose a group of the most excellent members of the Abyss to use these Abyssal Forms, then did everything in our power to send them into the Wraith realm, wanting to destroy them from inside”

...

That's right.

Before the Eternal Abyss awakened, it had actually sent a group of its best people into the Wraith realm.

However, since I've managed to enter the Wraith Lord's estate, I'm currently in an extremely advantageous position, there's no need for me to risk it by doing other things.

I only need to stay in hiding and find an appropriate opportunity to finish what I have to do.

Victory or defeat no longer lies with the Eternal Abyss.

It lies in my hand.

Gu Qing Shan clenched his hand, then looked at the black thread.

Wait a minute.

Could it be...

While he was thinking, Xue Nu suddenly asked: "Brother Chen, do you think we should go to see this little show?"

Gu Qing Shan hesitated: "Big brother Xue if they managed to infiltrate our world, they must be an extremely powerful one"

"That's right" Xue Nu confirmed.

Gu Qing Shan made a fearful expression like a mining cultivator should have in this situation: "Then let's not see this show at all, we had better leave first"

Xue Nu chuckled and replied: "Bahahaha, very well, then let us head back to the estate first"

While they were talking, a frigid female voice resounded throughout heaven and earth:

"You think just the bunch of you are enough to stop me!?"

Boom———

Another resounding explosion rocked the airship.

Gu Qing Shan completely froze.

This is...

Lin.

So she had already arrived in the Wraith realm at this point in time!

Gu Qing Shan looked down and fell silent.

The intense fluctuations of the battle howled as it approached them, causing the airship to continuously tremble and shake.

The battle was becoming increasingly more intense.

More and more wraiths were arriving from every direction.

They were gathering towards this battle.

“En——circle——” someone shouted this order.

Sensing the outside battle situation, Xue Nu triumphantly said: “The encirclement had already finished, that one won’t be able to escape no matter what it does”

“So quickly?” Gu Qing Shan was surprised.

Xue Nu boasted triumphantly: “Those Abyssal monsters have no idea that we’ve already discovered their movements since long ago and made the preparations. We’ve already eradicated a few groups—and this won’t be an exception”

Gu Qing Shan was stunned.

A few moments of silence later.

He slowly stood up.

“Brother Chen, what’s the matter?” Xue Nu asked doubtfully.

Gu Qing Shan’s gaze focused on Xue Nu.

He sighed and said: “Friend Xue, I had planned to stay with you for a long time, becoming a bad influence up until the very moment I killed your Wraith Lord—— but it seems I’ll have to give up on this plan”

“Friend Xue, I’m going to borrow your head for a bit”

A stream of cold wind appeared from the color of autumn water, slashing through Xue Nu’s neck.

Chapter 1409

Translator: La0o9

The cold gleam flashed and disappeared in an instant.

This sword didn’t contain overwhelming sword qi or extreme power, quite the opposite, it seemed extremely normal but it was fast.

——extremely fast!

While Xue Nu still had a look of confusion, his head was already sent flying.

Gu Qing Shan instantly formed a hand seal.

He caught the headless body, used a wind isolation hand seal to stop the blood from spilling out, then immediately caught the head, placing it on the ground.

Everything occurred in a single moment, it happened so fast that no one outside managed to sense it.

The airship continued to head forward.

Gu Qing Shan seized his time, put on his white Samsara Wicked Mask and activated [Jade Cultivation]!

In an instant, an indiscernible fluctuation enveloped the crimson mask.

—— Xue Nu's mask!

"I want this"

Gu Qing Shan communicated with the Samsara Wicked Mask through his thoughts.

Lines of glowing text swiftly appeared in the void of space:

[Ghost Killer Mask]

[This mask contains the following Guise Hex technique: Killing Rend]

[This hex requires activation with a hand seal, will rip open flesh on contact, turns into striking force against weapons]

[If 'Deep Shadow' is used, the Guise Hex can be improved by one stage, do you want to use it?]

Gu Qing Shan answered right away: "Use it"

All the glowing text disappeared as new lines of notification appeared in the void of space:

[You've activated 'Deep Shadow']

[Ghost Killer Mask had been upgraded]

[This mask contains the Guise Hex technique: Spatial Rend]

[This hex does not require activation with a hand seal, activated through speech, will rip open flesh on contact, sends weapons flying when struck]

[Spatial Rend had been manifested into a Guise Hex and stored inside your Samsara Wicked Mask]

Gu Qing Shan's pure-white mask swiftly turned into crimson red, several long black lines suddenly manifested on top of the mask, depicting an angry expression.

———just like Xue Nu's mask!

"Shannu" Gu Qing Shan sent his voice.

"Gongzi, I'm here" Shannu appeared out of thin air.

Gu Qing Shan took out Chen Fifth's original mask and gave it to her: "This is an urgent situation, turn into Chen Fifth and stay here"

"Yes"

Shannu activated [Mystery of All Beings Equal], slowly transformed into Chen Fifth's appearance and put on the mask.

Gu Qing Shan put his hand on Xue Nu's body, also activating [Mystery of All Beings Equal] to turn into Xue Nu.

He cleared his throat, then spoke loudly using Xue Nu's voice and tone: "Brother Chen, stay here and wait for me, I'm going to take a look at the situation"

While saying so, he put Xue Nu's head and body into his Inventory Bag.

Shannu also replied loudly: "I understand, big brother Xue, please be careful:

Gu Qing Shan nodded towards Shannu, held the Samsara Wicked Mask in his hand, then turned around and walked to the deck of the ship.

The subordinates on the deck of the ship had already heard his voice, so they all bowed to greet him:

"Lord Xue"

Gu Qing Shan clasped his hands behind his back and asked: "Hm, how is the battle situation?"

One of them reported: "The Abyssal creature was indeed impressive; it is currently fleeing towards the Southwest direction and has nearly broken through our encirclement. More of our experts are heading there"

Gu Qing Shan looked into the distance.

An immense presence gave off violent fluctuations as it moved away.

Around that presence, the wraiths had formed large formations to create an encirclement, hurriedly pursuing it.

The sound of explosion and desperate screams were mixed with one another erupting all over on the ground below.

—*—*from the looks of it, Lin's actions have been completely exposed.

She's trying to break through the encirclement.

Unfortunately...

Gu Qing Shan released his inner sight to carefully observe the situation and found his heart sinking.

—-the forces of the Wraith realm are continuously gathering here, they will continue to hound her like a pack of hungry wolves, forcing her to fight until she finally loses her strength.

While Gu Qing Shan's mind was in chaos, a sudden thought crossed his mind.

Strange...

Why isn't she using her Fate ability?

With [Existence], she should be able to escape the battle immediately.

Perhaps, there's an activation condition for [Existence]?

Gu Qing Shan went silent for a short moment.

He put on his mask and ordered: "I'm heading out to check the situation, the bunch of you join them as moral support"

One of the subordinates hesitantly asked: "Sir, won't you take a few of us to protect you?"

Gu Qing Shan coldly replied: "You think you can?"

That subordinate lowered his head without saying a word.

Gu Qing Shan ordered: "All of you are weak, there is no need for any of you to join the battle—- just stand around the encirclement and cheer, make sure everyone knows that our estate didn't raise a bunch of cripples"

After saying so, he leapt up and flew ahead, disappearing without a trace.

Another subordinate praised: “Lord Xue had gotten stronger again, us following him would only burden him. It’s best that we follow his orders and do our jobs”

The other subordinate nodded in agreement.

One of them entered into the cabin of the ship and told ‘Chen Fifth’: “Stay put on the ship and don’t run anywhere, we’re going to join the fray on sir’s order”

“Ah, yes” Shannu hurriedly replied.

That subordinate nodded, left the room, then flew away with the rest of the subordinates towards the direction of the battle.

Only Shannu remained on the airship, silently waiting.

...

Gu Qing Shan flew above the clouds, quickly heading towards the direction of the battle.

Suddenly, he discovered several other wraith cultivators were flying as fast as they could through the clouds.

As a certain thought crossed his mind, Gu Qing Shan gave chase.

He loudly called out: “Everyone please wait, I am Xue Nu from Wraith Lord Fate Obstruction’s estate!”

Hearing him declare such a considerable background, the wraiths were shocked.

——while he was only a servant, he was still a servant from the Wraith Lord’s estate, who dares ignore him?

They stopped, waited for Xue Nu to catch up to them before clasping their fists and greeting him:
“Greeting, sir Xue”

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Gu Qing Shan also clasped his fist and replied: “Spatial Rend”

The hex was activated through speech.

Wind became blurred as they passed through those wraiths’ bodies.

Their bodies were instantly cut apart into numerous pieces, falling to the ground in a mass of blood.

Gu Qing Shan formed a hand seal.

Instantly, all the flesh and blood were collected.

From the moment he acted up to when he cleaned up the mess, it only took enough time to clasp their hands, and since there wasn’t anyone else around, everything happened without a single soul noticing it.

Several masks were also retrieved by Gu Qing Shan.

Three of them had been destroyed by Spatial Rend, only two of them could still be used.

Each of these masks contained a Guise Hex of considerable power; if these five people had attacked all at once, even a Wraith Might would need to be cautious.

Unfortunately, they ran into Gu Qing Shan.

——Gu Qing Shan didn't like to give others a chance to act.

Taking a look at these masks, Gu Qing Shan casually chose one of the intact masks, then used [Jade Cultivation Deep Shadow] to turn his mask into the same thing.

He picked out some of the flesh and blood from before, used [Mystery of All Beings Equal], and fully took on their appearance.

"This time, no one will recognize me" Gu Qing Shan lightly muttered.

He checked the direction of the battle.

The wraiths had gathered more and more, from the ground all the way to the sky like a mountain of people, just to surround a single place.

Lin still couldn't escape from the encirclement!

The intense energy fluctuations of the battle crackled like exploding thunder.

Gu Qing Shan took a deep breath before he unleashed all of his Huang Quan Origin power.

Thanks to the Samsara Wicked Mask, his Huang Quan Origin power instantly manifested as Wraith Origin power, turning from faint yellow to dark black.

From afar, he looked almost like a demon king who had immersed himself in the shadows!

Gu Qing Shan activated [Ground Shrink], his body flashing consecutively and traversed the thousand-mile distance and appeared on the outside of the encirclement.

Quite a few wraiths turned around, talking about themselves: "This presence... a Wraith Might had arrived"

“Who is he?”

“Which Wraith Might is this?”

“No, this presence is even more overwhelming compared to a Wraith Might... he must be a commander under the Wraith Lords”

While he was still facing his Sumeru Lord realm Tribulation, Gu Qing Shan was already able to fend off the Wraith Might Cang Wu Zhang.

Currently, he had already passed his Star River Saint Tribulation, having become the Chosen Saint of Huang Quan, his spirit energy fully converted into Huang Quan Origin power, so both his cultivation realm and strength had far surpassed any Wraith Might.

With his current strength, he could even fight against a Wraith Lord!

As Gu Qing Shan raised his presence to the very limit, he abruptly shouted: “Make way for this great one!”

Like a comet, he rushed towards the encirclement, the terrifying presence of Wraith Origin power exuded from his body, causing the wraiths to all open their eyes wide.

—this is a top-level Combatant who would be of pivotal importance to the battle!

With that in mind, the wraiths swiftly made way for him.

Gu Qing Shan went past hundreds of wraiths to enter the encirclement, only to see a lanky tall woman busily fending off numerous wraiths.

Lin.

As expected, it was Lin!

While he was busy fighting off the wraiths, she still noticed Gu Qing Shan’s appearance.

—-the strongest wraith so far had arrived!

Lin's presence rose to a limit, speaking in a cold tone: "You're courting death"

Gu Qing Shan laughed: "You think you can still escape? All of you, take distance, I'm going to finish her off!"

While laughing, he sent his voice to Lin: "It's me"

Lin was a bit shaken, then cautiously sent her voice back: "Who are you?"

"Three coins, twin swords Heaven and Earth" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"Not enough, too many people know about these matters, that isn't enough to prove who you are!" Lin swiftly replied.

Her killing intent abruptly rose.

It would be a good thing if this was the real person, but if he isn't and still manages to know so much, he's definitely a serious adversary!

Gu Qing Shan could sense her sharp killing intent.

I can't stop now; I need to take this chance while all the wraiths haven't reacted yet to—-

With numerous thoughts circling through his mind, Gu Qing Shan ultimately sent his voice helplessly: "Lin, at the Inheritance Site of the Death God, you kissed me"

All of his Origin power turned into sharp sword qi and shot towards Lin like a sword that could cut through everything.

The wraiths who had her surrounded swiftly took distance to give him space.

Gu Qing Shan arrived in an instant!

He clenched his fist and violently swung towards Lin.

At this point, Lin's killing intent had receded, she opened her fist to form a palm and took half a step back.

———the three coins and the twin swords Heaven and Earth were matters that both of them had gone through together.

But the most important factor was the kiss.

Other than Anna, there wasn't anybody else at the scene.

This was more than enough to prove his identity.

"Damn you!"

Feeling her face a bit hot, Lin shouted out loud with unclear emotions.

She raised her hand and lightly caught Gu Qing Shan's fist.

White fog abruptly manifested!

Layers upon layers of white fog swirled like a storm, instantly enveloping Lin.

At the very next instant, the two of them disappeared without a trace.

The wraiths who were standing around waiting to see Gu Qing Shan's attack all froze on the spot.

The air became silent.

One breath.

Two breaths.

Three breaths.

"Where are they? Where did they go?" someone shouted.

Chapter 1410

Translator: La0o9

An airship floated in the air.

In the cabin of the ship, white fog suddenly manifested.

Gu Qing Shan and Lin both appeared.

"Who is this?" Lin looked at Chen Fifth and cautiously asked.

Gu Qing Shan nodded to Chen Fifth.

Chen Fifth disappeared as Shannu returned to sword form and to Gu Qing Shan's hand.

Lin lightly sighed and quickly told him: "I'm currently afflicted by countless wraith hexes and the Wraith realm's defensive Causality Law, I can only suppress it temporarily, but it will erupt sooner or later— I can't remain here for too long!"

“I’ll help you dispel them” Gu Qing Shan replied.

“You know how to solve wraith hexes?” Lin asked.

“A little bit, but you’re currently afflicted by over a dozen tracking techniques and a large-scale Causality Law, so I won’t be able to solve them all in a short period of time—— can you endure some pain?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

Lin scowled and coldly replied: “We haven’t seen each other for just a few days and you’re already looking down on me?”

Gu Qing Shan said nothing else.

He drew the Six Paths Great Mountain sword and said: “Endure it”

Lin looked at him without moving.

The sword flashed.

Lin was stabbed.

“Ah... are you preparing to kill me?” she asked, still scowling.

“No, this is the method to dispel all your hexes—— Shannu!” Gu Qing Shan replied.

The sword abruptly vibrated as numerous dark and light shadows emerged from Lin’s body, shattered, then disappeared.

[Law Breaker]!

Lin brushed off some cold sweat on her face and leisurely said:

“This is the first time I’ve seen someone dispel a hex like this”

Before she even finished, Gu Qing Shan applied some force to pull back and withdrew the sword from Lin’s body.

Putting the Six Paths Great Mountain sword away, he formed a healing hand seal and placed his hand on Lin’s wound.

Lin took some time to examine herself and sure enough found that the countless hexes, as well as the Wraith realm’s defensive Causality Law, had all vanished.

She looked down at Gu Qing Shan’s hand on her body, lightly smirking as she asked: “Enjoying yourself?”

Gu Qing Shan kept his head down without looking up at her and solemnly said: “The wound was deep, wait a bit longer while I heal you”

Seeing how awkward he was acting, Lin suddenly chuckled.

After the kiss, I accepted the Eternal Abyss’ mission to enter the Wraith realm.

Who could have expected for Gu Qing Shan to already be here!?

“You aren’t doubting me?” Gu Qing Shan suddenly asked.

Lin smiled: “That punch of yours looked violent, but you used the martial scripture I taught you”

She looked at Gu Qing Shan and replied: “The people of the Bygone Era have all either died or disappeared through the Reality Gate, I’m the only one left”

“Ah, I see” Gu Qing Shan replied.

Lin continued: “Little man, I really didn’t expect to see you again in the Wraith realm— how did you get in?”

Her body was tall and lanky, around the same height as Gu Qing Shan, so she draped her arm around Gu Qing Shan’s shoulder and played with his hair.

—we’ve already kissed, what’s the use of acting aloof or embarrassed?

Gu Qing Shan awkwardly replied: “You can read my mind, I thought you would have known about my situation already? Also, you still have the Fate ability [Existence], so why were you still discovered by the wraiths?”

Lin didn’t answer and instead replied:

“The barrier protecting the Wraith realm was even more powerful than we had all imagined, all the new Abyssal forms who had attempted to infiltrate had already been captured and killed, only I managed to break through and enter”

“Why were you the only one who managed to enter?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“Because I was the strongest” Lin replied.

Gu Qing Shan had no choice but to nod in agreement.

Lin was no longer the Abyssal Fate Weaver from the past, when she left the Death God’s Inheritance Site, she had already obtained an even stronger Abyssal form.

Her current power far surpassed the time of their competition during the Age of Old!

Lin took out a new ring and held it in her hand.

“The Wraith realm’s barrier works like this——”

“The stronger you are, the more damage you’ll receive when entering the Wraith realm, so I dismissed my Abyssal form, returned to human form, then further sealed my strength to its lowest state, only then was I barely able to enter”

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Gu Qing Shan realized what had happened and said: “Then, all of your abilities are currently sealed?”

Lin replied: “Indeed, even so, I was afflicted by the Causality Law tracking technique, surrounded by countless wraiths as soon as I entered this world. I didn’t even get the chance to release my power once again”

Gu Qing Shan sighed: “I already knew that the Wraith realm wasn’t an easy place to force your way into, but I didn’t realize it would be this difficult”

Lin smiled and continued: “If not for your sword earlier, I would most likely have been in a constant state of pursuit, ultimately falling at the hands of the wraiths”

She took a step back, then put the ring on her finger.

“And now, it’s time I release my Abyssal form and recover my power”

Following her statement, supernatural phenomena began to manifest.

Clouds of flames bloomed one by one around Lin’s body giving off illuminating light.

Standing in the flaming clouds she muttered: “As witnessed by the Abyss, by my thoughts of the past, reforge my present combat form”

Without any sound, she seemed to have completely changed.

The clouds of flames drifted around Lin's body, manifesting into a bright red battle armor engraved with numerous unknown gems.

The light of flames continued to beat, by the time they finally disappeared into Lin's body, they manifested as a total of 12 layered angel wings.

"A 12-winged Seraph..." Gu Qing Shan blankly muttered.

—so the Eternal Abyss had created a suit of angel armor, capable of turning Lin into a seraph!

Having finished donning her new form, Lin glanced at Gu Qing Shan.

Her gaze slowly changed.

"So, quite a few things have happened huh, and you only returned to this moment in time by using [Distortion]" she sighed.

—she had regained the ability to read Gu Qing Shan's thoughts.

"That's right, to fight against the Wraith realm, I couldn't afford being trapped in the Temporal Oasis, having no choice but to make early preparations" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Lin stayed silent for a bit before saying: "I have to go"

"Go?" Gu Qing Shan asked in surprise.

"Yeah, the Eternal Abyss discovered something unusual, so unusual that it might be even more important than the war itself"

Lin lightly muttered: "In the country of angels, there exists a Seraph who had been sealed away for countless years, she was the most powerful combative angel, so having felt the changes in the world of the angels, she had finally reawakened"

Gu Qing Shan was startled and asked: "Did you just use [Existence]?"

Lin glanced at him, then nodded: "From now on, I've become a Seraph, other than yourself, every living being in the infinite worlds will recognize that an entity like myself exists in the world of the angels"

"Then, only those who had witnessed you using [Existence] wouldn't be fooled?"

"Correct"

Lin placed something in Gu Qing Shan's hand, stroked his face a bit, then explained: "The Eternal Abyss believes that the Wraith realm isn't simply a world. If it cannot find out the true secrets of the Wraith realm, the Eternal Abyss would never be able to defeat it"

Gu Qing Shan looked down, only to see that it was a pocket watch.

The minute hand of the watch was constantly moving.

Suddenly, it gave off a clear 'ching kaling' chime.

Lin said: "It's time, I have to go now"

Gu Qing Shan quickly asked: "Wait a moment, then what should I do now?"

Lin smiled and replied: "You? Just do the same thing you did back during the Age of Old"

She held another pocket watch in her hand and lightly pressed it.

Instantly, the world around them completely disappeared.

Holy aria, fresh flowers, a water fountain, palaces, and various other scenes typical of an angelic world appeared one after another.

Lin took a step backwards and entered the angelic scene.

She looked at Gu Qing Shan and finally told him:

“The pocket watch was something given to me by the Eternal Abyss, most likely, there are some secrets to it as well”

“I need to become a Seraph now, take care of yourself, after a while, we will definitely meet again”

Hoh—

Lin disappeared.

The scene of the angel world vanished.

Gu Qing Shan found himself still standing in the airship.

He looked down.

The pocket watch in his hand was still ticking forward.

Chapter 1411

Translator: La0o9

Lin.

She simply left.

While she was inside the Wraith realm, she was able to simply disappear in front of Gu Qing Shan's eyes and enter the angel world.

Gu Qing Shan was absolutely sure that Lin did not trigger the Wraith realm's barrier when she left.

Which means---

She's still within the Wraith realm?

Or rather, the angel world is actually a part of the Wraith realm?

Gu Qing Shan tried thinking for a while but still couldn't come up with anything to clear the situation up.

This couldn't be helped, there were so many secrets within the infinite world, let alone a place like the Wraith realm that actively hid everything that it could.

Gu Qing Shan sighed, then looked at the pocket watch in his hand.

This was a grey pocket watch with a thick cover, it seemed unassuming at a glance, constantly giving off a ticking noise.

As time passed, so did the black clock hand on the face of the watch.

A second later, lines of glowing text appeared on the War God UI:

[Detected item: Non-fusion-type World Linking Device]

[This linking device had been prepared with the function to jump between completely sealed-off worlds]

[At certain fixed intervals, you are able to utilize this linking device to jump to another world connected to this current world]

[A Technological masterpiece!]

Gu Qing Shan looked at this 'pocket watch' and stood still.

Non-fusion-type World Linking Device...

The key lies within the words 'Non-fusion-type' and 'Linking'.

Gu Qing Shan asked: "War God UI, what is 'Non-fusion-type'? And what's 'Linking'?"

The War God UI deducted his Soul Points, then answered: ['Non-fusion-type' means the worlds that do not fuse with one another, they use their own unique method to create a closed-off cycle structure]

[Such linked worlds are governed by extremely strict travelling conditions that ensure no one is able to travel from one world to another]

['Linking' is an exception to this rule, by fulfilling certain conditions unrelated to the official ones, one is able to jump between these linked worlds without restrictions]

[That is the end of the answer]

Gu Qing Shan pondered for a long while.

This answer included a great deal of information.

He suddenly recalled many things.

"A closed-off cycle structure..."

While thinking, he suddenly felt startled.

Isn't the Samsara a world with essentially a closed-off cycle structure?

As for 'Linking', wouldn't that mean that one would be able to jump from the Heaven realm to the Huang Quan realm, then from the Huang Quan realm to the Human realm?

Could it be---

He took a closer look at the clock face.

Only to see the clock face had been divided into six scales, four among them having a corresponding symbol.

One of them was the face of a wraith.

The second of them was the wings of an angel.

One was a dark tunnel.

And the final symbol depicted a gate.

A gate that Gu Qing Shan had seen before.

— the Gates of Hell!

At this point, the hand on the clock was pointing towards the angel wings.

Lines of glowing text appeared:

[Attention: Activating the Non-fusion-type World Linking Device right now will send you into the angel world]

[By spending 10,000 Soul Points, you will be able to directly jump to that world]

[Attention, once you jump to the angel world, you will temporarily be unable to return to the Wraith realm until enough time had passed for the clock hand to point to the Wraith realm scale]

Gu Qing Shan looked at the face of the clock for a little bit and finally noticed that the hand of the clock was moving at the same rate as a normal clock.

In other words, at certain times in the day, this pocket watch is able to take me to a specific world as depicted here.

—from how the watch was designed, it most likely originated from the Wraith realm.

It was most likely not an easy feat for the Eternal Abyss to obtain such a thing.

Suddenly, Gu Qing Shan recalled a certain thing.

In Void City, when I was attacking the Church, the fake Yu Juan prepared to retreat.

What did he do at the time?

Right, he looked at the clock face on the wall, then said—

...

“We’ve stalled for long enough, let’s first return to Heaven before we head to that place”

...

Gu Qing Shan silently nodded.

It’s quite clear now, that Holy Son of the angels was waiting for the time to enter the angel world that was connected to the Wraith realm.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly felt himself trembling.

This was a subconscious trembling.

On instincts alone, he was able to detect some sort of grand hidden secret being revealed to him bit by bit.

Initially, he had thought that the Wraith realm was only a fragmented Samsara world.

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As he came to the Wraith realm, he discovered a large tunnel connected to numerous dying or dead worlds, leading to some unknown place.

When he believed that he had gotten a clear picture of the situation, Lin appeared.

She used a pocket watch to leave the Wraith realm and headed into the angel world.

And gave him this pocket watch.

There were a total of six scales, but only four worlds marked out.

What does this mean?

Gu Qing Shan muttered: "Six scales, four of which had already connected to other worlds. Then, what do the two empty scales represent? War God UI, do you know?"

[Empty scales represent the fact that it still hasn't connected to any worlds] the War God UI replied.

"In other words, the six scales were made in preparation for six worlds, four among them are ready, leaving only two worlds remaining" Gu Qing Shan said.

[Correct] the War God UI replied.

Six worlds.

The Samsara.

Could the wraiths be trying to create another Samsara?

What exactly are they trying to do?

When that Holy Son's clone left, he told me something.

...

"The Era of the Samsara Clash for Supremacy is approaching, and we... are preparing to destroy the entire Samsara to fix the future era"

...

So far, that seems to be possible...

—no, that can't be.

Gu Qing Shan quickly realized something.

Xue Nu once said:

"...but now that the Eternal Abyss' defeat is imminent, the three rulers would begin to compete for the status of the Wraith realm's Warlord"

...

The position of Warlord within the Samsara is meant to prepare for the Samsara Clash for Supremacy in the future.

If they wanted to destroy the Samsara, why did they have to participate in the Saint Selection and compete for the Warlord position?

Xue Nu was the subordinate of a Wraith Lord who was in the middle of a drinking bout, having just considered me a lackey on his side, so he most likely didn't have a reason to deceive me.

While the Holy Son of the angels was cautious of me, so he had every reason to not tell the truth.

Gu Qing Shan pondered, then once again looked at the pocket watch.

— the two empty scales of the clock face meant that there is a quota of two other worlds for them to fill.

Once these six worlds have formed a closed-off cycle structure, what would the wraiths attempt?

The more he thought about it, the more Gu Qing Shan felt fearful, as if he had fallen into boundless darkness.

The truth of this secret was too grand and too intricate, it was a plan countless years in the making with countless smaller calculations and machinations already prepared, slowly formulated over time.

Suddenly, Gu Qing Shan was startled.

Within his inner sight, he saw countless wraiths from the sky to the ground performing a carpet-style search.

They were quickly approaching the airship.

Shannu's voice came: "Gongzi, the wraiths are about to arrive, should I turn into Chen Fifth?"

Gu Qing Shan hesitated.

Initially, he had intended to save Lin, then hide her on the airship and secretly escape with her on the way to Wraith Lord Fate Obstruction's estate.

I've managed to save Lin, but she also showed me this unbelievably grand secret.

What now?

Gu Qing Shan only thought for a brief moment.

"It's ok, we can't use this identity anymore" he shook his head.

"Why not? Gongzi can disguise as Xue Nu, while I can take Chen Fifth's place" Shannu doubtfully asked.

Gu Qing Shan replied: "Xue Nu most likely had a considerably high position, as soon as he died, the people of the Wraith Lord's estate would have already been notified— we have to leave now"

"Then where should we go?" Shannu asked.

"Let me give it a try first" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Suddenly white fog manifested to envelop him, but then quickly faded away.

Lines of glowing text appeared on the War God UI:

[Your World Technique: Fog Realm Descent, is restricted by the Laws of the closed-off cycle world structure, unable to bypass the Causality barrier]

[You cannot leave the current world to enter the Reality Wall tunnel]

Gu Qing Shan sighed and said: “Sure enough, even I can’t bypass a closed-off cycle structure”

The sound of wraiths could now be heard from outside the airship:

“This is Wraith Lord Fate Obstruction’s airship”

“Where are the people inside?”

“They were part of the search team as well”

“Was there anyone else on the ship?”

“Let’s take a look”

Gu Qing Shan stopped hesitating and summoned white fog around himself again.

He disappeared.

...

In the depths of a mine.

A secluded branch of the mine.

The white fog faded away, revealing Gu Qing Shan’s figure.

Chapter 1412

Translator: La0o9

A thick stench of blood could still be faintly smelled drifting from the other branches of the mine.

Earlier today, a Cloud Pattern Immortal Jade vein was discovered in the mine, causing the mining cultivators to riot, leading to Xue Nu arriving at the scene to suppress the commotion, killing the mine's manager as well as two squad captains, then leaving with Chen Fifth. Before he left, he also issued the order to kill the remaining squad captain as well as all the mining cultivators who were currently wounded.

Having killed so many people and after cleaning up the aftermath, the sun was now setting.

Naturally, this meant that today was no longer suitable for mining, and since he had exerted his newfound authority, the mine's new manager had ordered everyone to take the rest of day off, restarting regular operation tomorrow.

Gu Qing Shan concealed his presence and remained hidden inside the dark mine.

He didn't do anything and simply stood there waiting.

—waiting for time to pass.

Until finally.

At midnight.

Gu Qing Shan took out the pocket watch.

The hand of the clock had moved past the angel wing symbol, now pointing at the dark tunnel.

Ding ding!

The pocket watch gave off a resounding chime.

Lines of text quickly appeared in the void of space:

[Attention: Activating the Non-fusion-type World Linking Device right now will send you into the dark tunnel]

[By spending 10,000 Soul Points, you will be able to directly jump to that world]

[Attention, once you jump to the dark tunnel, you will temporarily be unable to return to the Wraith realm until enough time has passed for the clock hand to point to the Wraith realm portion]

[Would you like to pay the Soul Points?]

“Yes”

A gust of invisible wind appeared around Gu Qing Shan’s hand, slowly infusing itself into the pocket watch.

Ring ring ring ring ring!

The watch gave off a resounding chime.

Instantly, the world around him disappeared.

The endless dark tunnel became overlapped with the mines, displaying various apocalyptic sceneries.

Gu Qing Shan took a step back to enter the new scenery.

The Wraith realm faded away from his vision.

The surrounding scenery gradually became clear and manifested as a profoundly long tunnel.

Gu Qing Shan looked around and found himself standing in the middle of an endless abyss, the platform of bones could no longer be seen anywhere.

—so, after going around the Wraith realm, I still ended up returning here.

“I remember when Zhao Xiao Seng and I ran into a fork in the road, I chose the left path, but there were still two other paths, one leading forward and one leading downward” Gu Qing Shan muttered.

Since he had already reached the end of the left path, it would probably be a good idea to return and try one of the other paths.

But before that—

Gu Qing Shan casually pulled a colorful rooster statue out from his chest.

At a time like this, even a little bit of information goes a long way.

Gu Qing Shan pulled on the comb of the colorful rooster.

The rooster came back to life.

“Hah, you’re still alive?” the rooster cautiously looked around and asked.

“I’m alive, but there are too many secrets regarding this place, so I need some information” Gu Qing Shan replied.

“What’s that in your hand? Let me take a look” the rooster said with interest.

Gu Qing Shan gave it the pocket watch.

—-the rooster was in truth a function of the War God System, [War God Intelligence], so Gu Qing Shan didn’t feel hesitant about it.

Catching the pocket watch, the rooster moved it around a bit in his hand, then said: “How strange, according to the legends, this was supposed to have 12 portions... who had hidden them all?”

“You know about this device?” Gu Qing Shan quickly asked.

“I do. In the past, when the Awaitings entered the Reality Gate to avoid the Apocalypse, they met the masters of this artifact——” the rooster explained.

Gu Qing Shan continued to listen, but the rooster didn’t say anything else even after a long while.

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“And then?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

The rooster’s gaze was straight, his mouth kept completely shut and remained still as if he didn’t hear him.

“Hey, what’s wrong with you?” Gu Qing Shan impatiently asked.

The rooster whispered in reply: “Don’t bother me, what I’m doing is called staying as still as a statue”

“...Why do you have to stay as still as a statue?” Gu Qing Shan asked doubtfully.

“I was reading a daily-release novel recently, whenever a character uses this type of speech that gets cut off in the middle, the author would usually stop the chapter right there as a cliffhanger—— just take a look at your anticipating and disappointed expression right now, ahahaha!”

The rooster suddenly became animated again, laughing while holding his belly with his wings, causing even his comb to shake.

“...” Gu Qing Shan silently looked at this rooster, silently muttering to himself that he’d show this chicken how he liked to boil chicken the next time he summoned him.

—-but I still need him right now, otherwise, I wouldn't have another way to learn what happened in the past.

—-but I'm definitely going to give him what he deserves next time!

Gu Qing Shan silently swore to himself.

“Brother chicken, your cliffhanger was quite good, here's a bit of my sincerity, you can take it first”

Gu Qing Shan transferred 20,000 Soul Points to him.

Having received these Soul Points, the rooster was in high spirits.

“Ah— it's like this, your pocket watch originated from four of the most powerful monsters in the void, the certified bosses of all the void monsters, hailed as the Four Evil Gods of the void”

“Why were they called Evil Gods?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

The rooster explained: “As soon as the Awaitings entered the Reality Gate, the four Evil Gods immediately discovered them; they also discovered that the Awaitings were almost all heavily injured”

“These four monsters were afraid that if the Awaitings were to fully recover, they would steal their positions as overlords of the void, so while the Awaitings were still heavily injured, they took that chance to ambush and devour several of these heavily injured Awaitings”

“This resulted in the anger from both the [Order] and [Chaos] factions”

“Four powerful Awaitings acted together, battling these four monsters for several days in a row until they were ultimately defeated and they took the right to rule over the Void from them”

“—-As you know, these four most powerful Awaitings were later hailed as the Four Pillar Gods of the void: Earth, Water, Fire, Wind”

“From that moment onwards, the four void monsters who were defeated ran away, vanishing without leaving any traces”

“That artifact in your hand was one of the toys that those Four Evil Gods created”

At this point, the rooster suddenly went closer to Gu Qing Shan's ear and whispered: "This dark tunnel was actually also their masterpiece"

"Gu Qing Shan, you must find the artifact left by the four Evil Gods, although I don't know what it is, it is definitely within this tunnel"

"Perhaps that artifact would be able to help you"

After saying so, the rooster turned back into a colorful statue and remained still.

Gu Qing Shan put the colorful rooster statue away.

The Four Evil Gods.

In other words, entities who were strong enough to directly face someone of the Earth Creator's caliber.

However, this tunnel is like a bottomless abyss without an end, how am I supposed to find the artifact that they left behind?

A black thread manifested from the void of space, coiling around his wrist.

The other end of the black thread reached into the tunnel ahead.

Gu Qing Shan was stunned.

He found that he was able to sense the information arriving from the other end of the black thread.

It was leading him to the artifact he was searching for.

After a long while, Gu Qing Shan finally sighed and muttered: "[Longing]... truly deserving of being a Fate-type ability"

When he first obtained this ability, the War God UI once gave him a reminder:

...

[Special attention: This is an extremely unique and rare Fate Talent; it is as deep as the ocean depths and as miraculous as any miracle. You must carefully study it in order to understand its true value]

...

It was only now that Gu Qing Shan had started to uncover the true power of this Fate-type ability.

—as soon as it was necessary, Fate would immediately provide guidance, truly a Divine Skill among Divine Skills!

He finally started to understand why the wraiths coveted this Fate-type ability so much.

—I wonder how Fei Yue and the others are doing.

And Crow as well.

He won't truly be getting married to a Wraith lord, right?

Following Gu Qing Shan's thought, another black thread gradually manifested and coiled around his left hand.

As soon as the new thread appeared, another thread appeared out of thin air to coil around it.

The two threads became intertwined, eventually turning into a single thread.

Suddenly, Fei Yue's voice was heard from the thread"

"That's great, you've finally learnt how to use this Fate-type ability"

Chapter 1413

Translator: La0o9

"You can communicate with me through [Longing]?" Gu Qing Shan asked in surprise.

"Of course I can, I just didn't think you'd realise the talent's capability this late" Fei Yue said.

Gu Qing Shan awkwardly said: "I'm sorry, so many things had transpired that I didn't have time to think about it before"

"How's the situation on your side?" Fei Yue asked.

Gu Qing Shan then explained what he had been through to her, omitting the rooster's words.

After hearing him, Fei Yue instantly asked: "You've received the Non-fusion-type World Linking Device? No wonder it was so tough to enter the Wraith realm, so this place was originally the ruins of the Four Gods"

"Four Gods?" Gu Qing Shan repeated.

"Yes" Fei Yue didn't say anything else, apparently feeling like this was some sort of common knowledge in the void.

—having lived for countless years within the space vortex of the Void, entities like her naturally knew many void monster secrets.

She had assumed that Gu Qing Shan was the same, so she didn't bother telling him anything else.

Fei Yue continued: "We need your help right now"

Gu Qing Shan skipped over his previous thoughts and asked: "What's your current situation? Where is Crow? When will the wedding happen?"

Fei Yue sighed and answered him dejectedly: "Crow will be getting married to the Wraith Lord in three days— we had assumed that we would be able to at least try something when we arrive, but we were all escorted in to a large palace that was covered in 49 different Causality Laws manifested into a barrier, unable to escape"

Xiao Die's voice suddenly came from the other side: "That's why, you need to come and rescue us"

She grumbled: “If not for this Causality barrier, the wraiths wouldn’t be able to contain us at all”

Gu Qing Shan was surprised, but then quickly realized.

Xiao Die knows about me, so she’s definitely hoping that I’d be able to use the Six Paths Great Mountain sword to destroy the Causality barrier.

—the same barrier that covers this world!

When I said I wanted to sneak into the Wraith realm alone, Xiao Die also told me about how strict the Wraith realm’s defenses were, as well as the powerful Causality Laws that they utilized.

Lin was also greatly affected by this Causality barrier when she entered the Wraith realm.

A barrier created from pure Causality Laws—

Have the wraiths’ expertise and grasp on Mysticism gotten so advanced?

While Gu Qing Shan was silently thinking, he suddenly sensed something.

Shing... Shing...

A faint echo seemed to be emerging from inside his body.

This light noise originated from the Coin of the Earth.

At the same time, Gu Qing Shan saw the black thread on his hand suddenly becoming thicker.

The thread pulled on his hand, pointing towards the deeper end of the tunnel.

How strange, what’s going on?

Gu Qing Shan quickly pondered over this.

At this time, the blind nun also spoke up: “But then, there is also the Great Flood, which we cannot fight against— in reality, if all of us were to disregard it all and fight, we wouldn’t be scared of the Wraith realm or any of the Wraith Lords, it’s the fact that they could control the Unlivable Apocalypse and these Causality barriers that makes them so hateful”

Fei Yue also said: “Gu Qing Shan, Xiao Die told me that you have a sword that could break Laws, could it even break Causality-type techniques?”

“There is no problem” Gu Qing Shan replied.

Fei Yue’s emotions calmed down slightly as she continued: “Let’s not act rashly for now, we’ll prepare a few more techniques. Firstly to summon you through the Threads of Fate; and secondly, once you’ve broken the Causality barrier, all of us will be ready to flee without leaving any traces for the wraiths to pursue”

“How long will it take?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“Two days— two days later, I’ll contact you again” Fei Yue told him.

“Alright, take care of yourselves then” Gu Qing Shan said.

“Hm, you as well” Fei Yue replied.

The two intertwined black threads were then cut off.

Gu Qing Shan stood still, staring at the black thread that had just gotten thicker.

After thinking for a while, he focused his mind on a certain question.

Where is Lin?

As soon as he thought about it, another black thread appeared on his hand, pointing straight towards the profound dark tunnel.

This thread was a lot thinner, not as thick as the other one.

The thicker thread was giving off an urging sensation.

Tch—

This Fate-type ability is truly both miraculous and mysterious.

“If that’s the case, I’ll first follow this Thread of Fate to find out what exactly is going on” Gu Qing Shan made his decision.

He flew along the tunnel, quickly arriving at the fork in the road again.

Three paths.

He came out from the left path leading to the white bone platform.

The other two paths led downward and forward.

Since he couldn’t release his inner sight here, Gu Qing Shan could only crouch down to take a look at the downward path.

This tunnel was unusually calm, but it contained soundless wind.

—this wind was blowing from the end of the path, carrying with it an indiscernible sensation.

Numerous tiny noises were clacking, squeaking, snickering by his ears, but as soon as he focused on the noises, he couldn’t hear them at all.

This sensation was very familiar to Gu Qing Shan, it was almost like——

The sound of innumerable dead people and corpses moaning.

Could it be, this path leads straight towards Huang Quan?

No.

Gu Qing Shan quickly dismissed this guess.

The downward path contained immeasurable despair and death, if it was merely countless dead people or souls, it would be normal to him, and this sensation wouldn't be here.

Gu Qing Shan shook his head and turned towards the other path.

——the forward path.

The thread on his hand was leading him into the forward path.

This tunnel was relatively normal.

As Gu Qing Shan stared closely at this path, he felt an unclear resonance appear in his heart.

As if something was waiting for him inside.

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Strange...

If the Four Evil Gods were the ones who constructed this tunnel, what would they have left that would resonate with me?

Gu Qing Shan drew two swords, prepared himself, then began flying into the tunnel.

Unexpectedly, this tunnel wasn't long at all.

Gu Qing Shan soon reached the end of this tunnel.

A sealed-off wall was blocking his path, some text written in an ancient language was left on the wall:

[Resting Room of God]

The black thread pierced straight into the wall.

The resonance in Gu Qing Shan's heart was growing increasingly stronger, so he slowly stepped forward.

All of a sudden, a golden ray of light flew out from his chest, hovering in mid-air.

—it was the Coin of the Earth.

It flickered some light towards the wall, before returning to Gu Qing Shan's body and vanishing.

A second later, a cold mechanical voice sounded from inside the wall:

[Welcome back, owner of the Coin of the Earth, Earth Pillar among the Four Pillar Gods, Matriarch of Myriad Earths]

Matriarch of Myriad Earths!

Gu Qing Shan's mind was storming.

Wasn't the Earth Pillar of the Four Pillar Gods the Earth Creator? Why did this thing say it was the Matriarch of Myriad Earths?

Could it be, this was the ruins left by the Matriarch of Myriad Earths before their defeat by the Earth Creator?

Or rather—

The true determinant of the Pillar God was actually the Coin of the Earth!

If that's the case, the real overlords of the Void were actually the four Pillar Gods' artifacts?

While Gu Qing Shan was still pondering about it, the wall parted ways.

A line of glowing text appeared on the War God UI:

[You've discovered the Matriarch of Myriad Earths' resting room]

A flash of light appeared in front of Gu Qing Shan and took him in.

The very next moment.

Gu Qing Shan found himself standing in the middle of a spacious dark location.

This place was eerily silent.

Various terrifying corpses had been bound tightly to the ground by long black chains.

They all had different appearances, their features and characteristics also appeared completely distinct, many of them belonged to different void species that Gu Qing Shan could not recognize.

"Ah..." Gu Qing Shan scowled.

Numerous malicious shadows drifted in front of his eyes, only after he had swung at them with his swords did they disappear without a trace.

These monsters had died for countless years but still gave off such overwhelming presences that they were able to manifest into these shadows.

It was truly unimaginable how strong they were while they were still alive!

The darkness slowly faded.

Pure white light filled this entire space.

Gu Qing Shan continued to observe the surroundings and found that the monsters weren't simply being restrained by the chains; there were also various markings on their bodies, some of the monsters were only partially dissected with strange tools still sticking out from their bodies.

This looks almost like---

A science laboratory!

Could it be, the Matriarch of Myriad Earths was actually a technological being?

Gu Qing Shan recalled the Earth World.

In that world, all supernatural powers couldn't be used, only technology was present!

This made sense!

The Earth Creator obtained the Coin, the Earth World, and even asked me to resolve a problem that it couldn't resolve!

Although he was able to confirm this answer, Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but feel a bit strange.

One of the most powerful monsters in the Void was actually a scientist, this fact made him a bit disorientated.

The cold mechanical voice from before sounded again, although it was much gentler now:

[You've disposed of everything except a single projection and creation]

[Reporting: After you departed, the project you left has been completed and brought into use]

"Which project?" Gu Qing Shan cautiously asked.

[Technological Causality Law Barrier]

The mechanical voice began to present: [Causality Law techniques and weapons have traditionally only belonged to Mysticism. Unwilling to accept this fact, you attempted research through technology, then borrowed the power of the other three Gods to create the artifact 'Grasp of World's Infinite Rejection'. Further research on the creation of Causality Law Barriers had been conducted, which had now come to fruition]

"How does technology achieve Causality? Wait a minute, first tell me, how do machines remedy the issue of lacking discernment between Cause and Effect?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

[Energy is about to be fully expended, the resting room had faced considerable damage, initiating self-destruct sequence]

[Please immediately retrieve the 'Twelve Scales Grasp of Duo-faced World's Infinite Rejection']

From the void of space, an artifact flew and lowered itself in front of Gu Qing Shan.

As Gu Qing Shan took it, he found that it was a black watch.

The watch had a total of twelve scales, with four of them already lit up and eight of them were still dim.

The mechanical voice sounded again:

[In accordance with your previous orders, once you've retrieved these two items, all evidence will be completely disposed of]

[3]

[2]

[1]

[Disposal initiated]

Instantly, everything disappeared from Gu Qing Shan's vision.

The resting room was nowhere to be seen.

He had returned to the tunnel, but the wall from before had disappeared.

In front of him was now a never-ending abyss of darkness, just like the tunnel after the white bone platform had collapsed.

The War God UI abruptly lit up

[Attention]

[You've obtained the 'Twelve Scales Grasp of Duo-faced World's Infinite Rejection', please wear it on your wrist in order to activate its function]

Chapter 1414

Translator: La0o9

Observing the black watch, Gu Qing Shan wasn't in a hurry to put it on.

A dark green sprite of light suddenly emerged from the watch and flew in front of Gu Qing Shan's eyes.

The sprite of light slowly expanded into lines of ancient text in mid-air:

[The 'Twelve Scales Grasp of Duo-faced World's Infinite Rejection' has been delivered, relaying the information now:]

[After the Technological Causality Barrier was completed, it was taken away and is now no longer under your control]

[All knowledge regarding this project will be transferred to you telepathically, please be prepared to receive it]

After Gu Qing Shan finished reading, these letters converged once again into a sprite of light before entering his forehead.

The War God UI instantly began displaying messages:

[Detected foundational knowledge: Non-Mysticism scientific Causality Barrier structure general knowledge and schematics]

[Would you like to accept this foundational knowledge?]

[Note: this knowledge is considered to be Technological-type knowledge in the form of pure information, no power or technique is accompanied by it]

Gu Qing Shan recalled what he learnt about [Order], [Chaos], as well as the inheritance within the Tomb of Myriad Beasts and couldn't help but sigh emotionally: "As I thought, pure knowledge is still the best, especially when it isn't accompanied by any conditions"

"Yes, accept it"

Following his statement, a lot of foreign knowledge instantly appeared in his mind.

The first line was a general conclusion:

[Causality Laws are a power belonging to Mysticism]

[The basic principles of using technology as a means to command Causality Laws lies within the discernment of Cause and Effect]

[Firstly, through a large-scale simulation, statistically listing and analyzing a certain 'Cause' from the perspective of the Laws]

[Secondly, state the desired 'Effect', forming a connection between the 'Cause' and 'Effect' in conjunction with each individual, thus depicting the construction of a Causality and trend of progression]

[Thirdly, calculate the required forces and energy to fulfil the connection of the Causality, using various technological techniques in conjunction, to calculate the progression of 'Karma' ¹from the perspective of Laws]

[Fourthly, using the power of the Coin of the Earth to strip all supernatural forces, maximizing 'Karma' to connect 'Cause' and 'Effect']

[Fifthly...]

[The above statements are a general summary of the phenomenon. From a technical perspective, the Causality Barrier will be manifested through the following nine steps:]

...

It took Gu Qing Shan a total of 2 hours to fully comprehend all the content.

These were the thoughts and ideas of the Matriarch of Myriad Earths in the past.

Because Causality Law techniques were practically impossible to research, it attempted to research from the direction of world-class barriers and shields instead, hoping to achieve a breakthrough from this.

But before the research was finished, it had left.

And now when this technological research project bore fruit, someone had stolen it.

Fortunately, Gu Qing Shan was able to inherit the corresponding knowledge.

What should he do now?

Gu Qing Shan opened his eyes and slowly pondered.

— he had paid attention to a certain concept within the creation of the Causality Law barrier.

'Karmas'

['Karmas' are the threads of fate, the connection between all living beings and all things, determinants for the beginning, progression, and ending of 'Cause' and 'Effect']

This was the descriptor of 'Karma' from a technological perspective, but it had given Gu Qing Shan a different line of thought.

He raised his hand and looked at the thread being wrapped around his hand.

[Longing]

The Threads of Fate.

"It is necessary to strip all supernatural power to maximize the power of 'Karma', of the Threads of Fate"

"In other words, the Threads of Fate would directly relate to the 'Cause' and 'Effect' of everything"

A certain thought flashed through Gu Qing Shan's mind.

He stood completely stunned, as if he was struck by lightning.

Causality.

Karma...

As if he had achieved enlightenment, Gu Qing Shan continued to stand still for several breaths' worth of time before he slowly sighed.

"The power of Fate... is too grand..."

He couldn't help but mutter to himself.

At this point, he recalled the skill's description——

[Longing: You are able to see the connections between all things or all living beings, understand this connection, and even able to perform certain things to these connections]

[Special attention: This is an extremely unique and rare Fate Talent; it is as deep as the ocean depths and as miraculous as any miracle. You must carefully study it to understand its true value]

After thinking about it for a few more moments, Gu Qing Shan took out the Cang Hai Heavenly Ark and called out: "Zhao Xiao Seng"

"Amitabha, I'm here" Zhao Xiao Seng swiftly replied.

"Take me back into Kunlun, I have something I need to confirm" Gu Qing Shan said.

"You want to enter as well? Then there would be no one to watch over the heavenly ark, both of us would be in danger"

"It's ok, I'll have someone else keep watch—— Shannu, help me guard this for a while"

"Understood, gongzi"

A second later, Gu Qing Shan abruptly disappeared without a trace.

He reappeared inside Kunlun.

At the same temple from before.

Zhao Xiao Seng stood in front of Gu Qing Shan, doubtfully asking him: “Benefactor Gu, why did you come inside?”

“To confirm a certain thought” Gu Qing Shan replied.

He put up his hand and focused his mind.

Following his thought, a black thread manifested out of thin air, one end coiling around his hand, the other end connected to Zhao Xiao Seng’s hand.

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Zhao Xiao Seng didn’t feel it at all.

—This was the power of fate, predestined events from the profound unknown that cannot be recognized by anyone.

Gu Qing Shan took a few steps back, then said: “Xiao Seng, I’m going to go outside for a bit, I want you to try and find me inside Kunlun city”

“Find you for what?” Zhao Xiao Seng was still confused.

“I’m confirming something, so just keep trying to find me” Gu Qing Shan replied.

Zhao Xiao Seng told him: “Amitabha, I’m extremely familiar with Kunlun city, so unless you purposely hide, I would be able to reach you very quickly”

Gu Qing Shan smiled and said: “Then let’s give it a try, we’ll conclude this after one hour”

His figure flashed as he flew out from the temple.

Zhao Xiao Seng sighed, his hands clasping into a prayer moment: "Amitabha, to save the world of Kunlun and Jasper Pool, this Xiao Seng will have to play hide-n-seek with someone"

He flew out of the temple and began to search for Gu Qing Shan.

...

One hour later.

The streets of the city were full of people.

Zhao Xiao Seng stood next to a wall, soaked with sweat while breathing heavily

Kunlun city was the place he was born, raised, and cultivated in.

Even though this was a huge city, he had a perfect grasp of it like the palm of his hand.

And yet he couldn't find Gu Qing Shan at all!

"How strange, it's impossible that I couldn't find him"

"Where exactly is he hiding... not in Jasper Pool, I hope?"

Zhao Xiao Seng muttered, unable to help but look towards the palaces in the sky.

Suddenly, a voice sounded from among the crowd: "Time's up, there's no need to look for me any further"

Zhao Xiao Seng turned around.

Only to see Gu Qing Shan smiling brightly as he walked forward from the other side of the street.

“Amitabha, benefactor Gu, where exactly were you hiding?” Zhao Xiao Seng curiously asked.

Gu Qing Shan was completely relaxed and casually replied: “I was taking a stroll around the city”

“You must be lying— I checked every bit of ground in the city a total of five times, but I still couldn’t see you” Zhao Xiao Seng solemnly refuted.

Gu Qing Shan was in a good mood, so he patted his shoulder: “You couldn’t find me because there was no ‘Karma’ between us”

“No ‘Karma’?”

“That’s right, I’ve managed to confirm what I wanted to know. Send me out first, there’s one more crucial matter I need to learn about while I still have time”

“...Alright then”

A few moments later.

Gu Qing Shan reappeared inside the tunnel.

“Gongzi, are you ok?” Shannu worriedly asked.

“I’m fine” Gu Qing Shan replied.

Shannu then turned into a sword and went back into his Thought Sea.

Gu Qing Shan stood still, then paced back and forth in place while deliberating.

He had gotten a deeper level of understanding towards the Fate-type ability [Longing]

Now, it's about time I check the 'Twelve Scales Grasp of Duo-faced World's Infinite Rejection'.

—-that name is way too long, it's such a mouthful.

I wonder what exactly it can do?

According to the War God UI, I have to wear this on my wrist in order to activate its function.

Gu Qing Shan stopped thinking any further and put the black watch on his wrist.

Instantly.

The entire tunnel disappeared from his vision as a completely new world manifested around him.

This was a completely empty world.

Three people were already waiting there.

The three of them each kept a certain distance from one another, their expressions suggesting that they were all staying cautious.

Gu Qing Shan first looked at them, then at the empty world, feeling a bit confused.

He picked out the kind-looking person among them and asked while clasping his fist:

"I'm sorry but, why did I suddenly appear in this place? And who might you be?"

The man glanced at him, then asked: "A newcomer?"

Gu Qing Shan was a bit surprised.

The man then appeared sympathetic and sighed: "A pitiful one"

"Pitiful?" another person followed up, "I feel like he's lucky instead"

The third person coldly said: "Indeed, because he only has to face death today"

Suddenly, the empty world disappeared, and the four of them landed in the middle of a grassy wilderness.

The other three swiftly pulled their weapons.

Someone sighed and muttered: "It's starting soon..."

Gu Qing Shan looked at how they were preparing for combat in surprise, but couldn't really understand why.

Chapter 1415

Translator: La0o9

Three people in front of him.

The first was a burly martial artist wearing a gauntlet, he was cautiously observing his surroundings;

The second was a young man that seemed to be either 15 or 16, wearing a black Japanese-styled uniform with a poker face;

The final person was a dark-skinned tall and lanky man, he left his upper half bare, wearing a necklace with three skulls and a grass skirt, quite a belligerent individual at first glance.

They were all preparing themselves for battle while quickly observing their surroundings.

—apparently because Gu Qing Shan was a newcomer, the young man and the tall lanky man both ignored him.

The kind-faced martial artist was the only one who talked:

“Listen, newcomer”

“You must be a Combatant of considerable strength among those from the world you were born in, correct?”

Gu Qing Shan was a bit surprised.

His words weren’t exactly incorrect.

Watching his expression, the martial artist continued: “Each of us who were transported here represents the worlds we come from as the most powerful individuals there”

“In this place, you will have to complete a never-ending series of probing missions. If you succeed, you will survive and your world will also benefit; otherwise, you die”

“Die? If we’re all so powerful, how would we die?” Gu Qing Shan doubtfully asked.

The martial artist looked confusedly at Gu Qing Shan and asked: “Although you’re a newcomer, how come you don’t know anything at all?”

Gu Qing Shan was also confused.

This place was created by the Four Evil Gods, by the Matriarch of Myriad Earths’ standard alone, everything should have been very well-designed, so there should have been some sort of tutorial for newcomers like myself.

But there was nothing.

Gu Qing Shan replied: “I accidentally entered this place—— perhaps it was unexpected for people like me who entered this place?”

The martial artist explained: “You should have received a short summary of what happened before anything else, then obtained a weapon best suited to your expertise as well as a miniature storage device to keep everything that you collect during these missions”

Gu Qing Shan shrugged: “There was nothing”

The martial artist scratched his head in confusion: “That’s strange...”

The other two have been gazing indifferently at a distance for the past while, only now did they both turn towards Gu Qing Shan.

The young man pondered: “A newcomer; and one that hadn’t received any guidance from the four Gods...”

The grass-skirt dark-skinned lanky man smirked: “A pitiful fellow, he has no idea what he has to face”

The three skulls on his necklace lit up at the same time, giving off hundreds of thousands of burning ghostly flames.

He began to exude killing intent.

Gu Qing Shan glanced at him, took a step back, then waved dismissively: “What are you holding killing intent for, you still want to fight at a time like this? I’m betting that you’re no match for me, so don’t bother wasting your life”

The dark-skinned lanky man spat in disdain, then mumbled to himself:

“Completely clueless... what a self-centered newcomer—— just in time too, my supplies are about to run out, and my insects also need to suck in some souls in preparation for the next mission”

The young man crossed his arms: "If you leave his flesh and blood to me, I'll give you a hand. We can save some stamina this way as well"

"Deal" the dark-skinned lanky man replied.

The young man smirked, slowly lowered his hand and pulled out a long sniper rifle from the void of space.

"You first, I'll cover" the young man said.

"Sure"

The dark-skinned lanky man slightly lowered his body, preparing to charge forward.

Gu Qing Shan stood still without moving.

A faint glow flickered within his iris before vanishing.

His Secret Art [Water Flow Severance] had evolved into a Huang Quan Divine Skill, and a Huang Quan Divine Skill wasn't something to be trifled with.

I've finished preparing [Forgetting River Severance] since a while ago, and despite how strong these two were, it's still a far cry from being able to survive being attacked by my gaze.

Right as the air of battle had gotten extremely intense, a cold mechanical voice resounded:

[The third stage mission is about to begin]

[Prepare to accept your new mission:]

[There is a ruin in the barren meadow, after arriving there, you will find a strange corpse sitting in the depths of the ruins]

[Please attempt to contact that corpse, after confirming that there are no dangers, prepare for your next orders]

[Attention, the mission had begun]

[Any actions unrelated to your mission will result in deduction of your assessment, up until you face the baptism of the Apocalypse]

The mechanical voice vanished.

The young man and the lanky man's expressions both changed.

"Ah, we don't have time to kill him" the lanky man said regretfully.

"The mission is more important"

The young man said and immediately flew away.

He cautiously maintained a stable flight speed as he headed deeper into the wilderness.

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The lanky man glanced at Gu Qing Shan for a short while before flying away as well.

— they've left.

The martial artist also looked at Gu Qing Shan and said: "I also need to leave, otherwise both I and my world will be erased"

"This is the punishment for a failed mission" Gu Qing Shan asked.

“Yes” the martial artist replied.

The cold mechanical voice sounded again: [Please immediately proceed, or you will be erased]

The martial artist exchanged glances with Gu Qing Shan.

The martial artist said with an unwilling tone of voice: “Let’s quickly go!”

Gu Qing Shan could see the anger and helplessness in the martial artist’s eyes.

At this point, the martial artist was no longer concerned with Gu Qing Shan and quickly flew away into the wilderness as well.

Only Gu Qing Shan remained here.

“Hah, what a ridiculous thing. Also, War God UI, why didn’t you even give me a notification?”

He sighed and randomly asked.

After his Soul Points was deducted, the War God UI replied: [Because you didn’t have a mission]

“Huh? I didn’t have one?”

Right as Gu Qing Shan was about to chase after them, he stopped as he heard this.

[That’s right, you don’t] the War God UI confirmed.

His Soul Points were deducted again.

Gu Qing Shan opened his mouth and was about to say something when a series of tiny clickclackering noises sounded.

When Gu Qing Shan looked down, he saw that the face of the black watch on his wrist was moving.

On the clock face, the 12 scales were divided into 2 portions, the upper half, from numbers 9 to 3, was white; while the lower half was black.

The clock hand quickly moved along and pointed at one of the scales inside the white portion.

Eleven.

The hand of the watch was pointing exactly at the number '11'.

A mechanical voice sounded from the watch: [Connection complete, identity confirmed]

The cold mechanical voice from earlier sounded again from the void of space.

[Your excellency, Matriarch of Myriad Earths, the trash collector mission had begun, please wait patiently to confirm the results]

Gu Qing Shan scowled in surprise.

———this 'Twelve Scales Grasp of Duo-faced World's Infinite Rejection' seems to be hiding some sort of plan devised by the Four Evil Gods of the past.

Although they are already dead, their plan still continues.

Gu Qing Shan pondered and asked: "What is the content of the current trash collector mission?"

The mechanical voice replied: [To investigate the situation of the ruins within the 11th scale. After preliminary exploration, this location has been confirmed to still hold great danger]

[To prevent the exploration from injuring your excellency, the mission system has been utilized to summon manpower and conduct fodder-type exploration]

[In consideration of your presence within this mission, the mission rank has been raised by two stages]

[Exploration has begun!]

A flash of light descended from above to envelop Gu Qing Shan

[To prevent any dangers from harming your excellency, a barrier of the highest intensity had been deployed, as soon as any dangers are found, your excellency will be transported away as a priority]

[Your excellency, the exploration has officially started]

Before Gu Qing Shan could say anything, a screen of light appeared in front of his eyes.

In the wilderness, the real-time circumstances of the three people from before were being displayed, making it convenient for Gu Qing Shan to observe them.

Gu Qing Shan observed as the three of them entered the ruins, avoiding layer after layer of danger, before finally arriving in front of the corpse.

They swiftly took out the tools that had been prepared and began to examine the corpse.

While Gu Qing Shan was observing them, the mechanical voice continued:

[Your excellency, no Apocalypse were encountered up to this point of the mission, it has been smoothly completed]

[Please wait for a moment as I return the three fodder members in front of your excellency for them to make their reports]

A second later, the screen of light flashed.

The martial artist, the young man, and the dark-skinned lanky man appeared just a bit away from Gu Qing Shan.

The three of them were all startled.

“What? You’re still alive after not participating in the mission!?” the martial artist exclaimed in shock.

The other two were also looking at Gu Qing Shan in disbelief.

The mechanical voice sounded again:

[Kneel, mortals. Then report your findings to your God]

Chapter 1416

Translator: La0o9

In the wilderness.

A martial artist.

A young man.

And a dark-skinned tall lanky man wearing a grass skirt and three skulls for a necklace.

All three of them were kneeling in front of Gu Qing Shan.

A gust of wind blew past, the air exuded a clear sense of vicissitude and age.

—this world had been in existence for who knew how long.

Gu Qing Shan sighed, pulled back his gaze, then looked at the three of them.

“It’s tiring to talk while kneeling, and it also harms one’s self-esteem, I actually don’t prefer things to be like this”

He awkwardly said: “So—”

“Can I have them stand up?”

A second later.

The mechanical voice replied: [The grace of God can naturally grant mortals unique privileges, if you so authorize, they can naturally stand up]

Gu Qing Shan said with satisfaction: “Then, stand up”

Gu Qing Shan walked forward to help the martial artist stand up.

The other two also followed.

Gu Qing Shan made a surprised expression, pointing to the young man and the dark-skinned man: “Ah, I didn’t tell you two to stand up”

The two of them froze.

The mechanical voice sounded again: [So that was the case. Mortals who weren’t granted God’s grace, kneel!]

The young man and dark-skinned man stood still.

The mechanical voice became frigid: [Your mission rewards have been cancelled, if the both of you do not kneel, you shall be cancelled with it]

Shu!

Shu!

The young man and dark-skinned man swiftly knelt down.

Between life and death, the choice was very easy.

Gu Qing Shan didn't care to look at them, he simply looked at the martial artist and clasped his hand: "May I know, which world from the void did you come from?"

The martial artist looked at Gu Qing Shan and answered as if he was in a trance: "God above, I'm from the #7961 tunnel world"

A screen immediately appeared in front of Gu Qing Shan's vision.

At a certain part of the dark tunnel, the Reality Wall was displaying a certain world.

In that world, there were various giant beasts as well as martial artists that possessed a special bond with those beasts.

Lines of small text appeared:

[A total of 36,000 worlds have been thoroughly explored and are under control]

[The world codenamed #7961 among the tunnel worlds is a Savagery-type world, its civilization is built on the foundation of martial arts]

Observing that part of the Reality Wall, Gu Qing Shan recalled what he saw when he entered the tunnel.

At the time, after he removed the Life Talismans that covered the wall, he saw an ocean world, worlds destroyed by the Apocalypse, as well as a giant who was trekking across a dead barren world by himself.

--so there actually existed so many worlds inside the tunnel.

But no one even knows about this fact at all!

The Wraith realm had hidden the entire dark tunnel away, making it impossible for anyone to know the secret of the tunnel!

Countless years ago, this was where the Four Evil Gods ruled.

--were they the ones who constructed this place?

Gu Qing Shan looked at the martial artist, then continued to ask: "What did you find out? You may tell me now"

The martial artist replied: "We've examined the corpse and arrived at a certain conclusion through analysis"

"As usual, this corpse fell at the beginning of the Era of Apocalypses, when countless Apocalypses rushed inside at the instant when the Reality Gate was opened. Before this corpse died, it managed to fend off a total of 31 Apocalypses but was completely annihilated by the 32nd Apocalypse"

Gu Qing Shan asked: "Were there any other findings?"

The martial artist reported: "Before it died, the corpse seemed to have attempted to flee, we have deduced from its posture that it was heading in a certain direction, but to know more about the circumstances at the time, further exploration must be conducted"

As soon as he finished, a screen of light appeared.

The screen flew down in front of Gu Qing Shan and displayed a line of small text:

[Your excellency Matriarch of Myriad Earths, in consideration of your direct presence, the exploration authority has been transferred to you directly]

[Everything will now be under your command; you may personally issue the next mission]

Gu Qing Shan silently read these words as his thoughts were let loose.

Without any hesitation, he understood a certain crucial fact.

—the dark tunnel wasn't created by the Four Evil Gods.

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Because they are still exploring this place even now!

Gu Qing Shan slowly exhaled.

What exactly is this tunnel?

At least 36,000 worlds were hidden in this tunnel; furthermore, there were even some Apocalypses that rushed through right as the Reality Gate was opened.

As well as the ruins of that past era!

Even without thinking, Gu Qing Shan knew that the moment of the Reality Gate's opening was when the Awaitings came through.

But what sort of civilizations did these ruins belong to?

Who knows?

Does anyone even know?

Even the Four Evil Gods are still constantly recruiting foddors to explore the clues bit by bit.

Lady Fusi once attempted to peek into the Wraith realm, but she was prevented from doing so by some sort of mystical power, unable to even reach this place.

At this moment, Gu Qing Shan felt like he was standing under a boundless sea of stars, with each star representing a secret, not only was it impossible to adapt to, there was also no way to avoid seeing them.

He closed his eyes, deeply inhaling and exhaling twice.

“You’ve done very well. You may take your corresponding rewards and return”

He told the martial artist.

The martial artist was in disbelief: “I’m allowed to not participate in the follow-up mission?”

Gu Qing Shan put his hand on the screen of light and before he declared: “Change the number of participants in this mission to two, the martial artist from the #7961 tunnel world may return to his world, concluding this mission”

[As you wish] the mechanical voice spoke.

A flash of light descended from above, enveloping the martial artist.

He disappeared right away.

Gu Qing Shan then turned to the other two, continuing: “Issue a new mission, continue to explore along the corpse’s fleeing direction, only stopping when results are achieved”

“If the mission failed... then they are definitely dead”

“If the mission succeeds, reward them— — right, what’s the usual reward?”

The mechanical voice spoke up in response: [Normally, the reward would time that they were allowed to continue living, but if the mission was completed exceptionally well, they would be rewarded a certain amount of World Origin power. The World Origin power would help their world become more powerful, capable of producing more treasures]

Gu Qing Shan glanced at them, then said: “Follow this same rule”

[As you wish]

The mechanical voice told the two kneeling people: [A new mission has been issued]

It repeated Gu Qing Shan's words.

After it finished, Gu Qing Shan told the two of them: "Very well, I am a very fair person. If you are able to do your job well, I would not hesitate to reward your effort"

The two of them stood up.

The dark-skinned lanky man said: "Even if what you said isn't true, we would still have to follow your words, don't we?"

He stared straight at Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan nodded: "Indeed. While you were assuming power, one of you wanted my soul, and the other wanted my corpse, so now that I'm assuming power, I want the two of you to work for me—- that is completely fair"

The dark-skinned lanky man couldn't say anything to refute that, so he silently turned around and went back into the wilderness.

The young man followed behind him.

They quickly went far away.

Gu Qing Shan continued standing in place.

A screen of light appeared in front of him, displaying the scene of them speeding through the wilderness.

They returned to where the corpse was, then continued to head deeper into the ruins.

Suddenly, the ground began to slant down.

A deep downward cave could now be seen.

[We've discovered a cave] the dark-skinned man reported.

His voice was relayed to Gu Qing Shan through the screen of light.

"Continue exploration"

Gu Qing Shan ordered.

The dark-skinned lanky man and the young man cautiously made their way into the cave.

On the screen, their surroundings turned dark but slowly became clear in front of Gu Qing Shan's eyes.

After observing them for a while, Gu Qing Shan suddenly had an idea.

"During the next mission, I want to specifically pick out the participants myself, will that be possible?"

The mechanical voice responded: [Naturally, among the 36,000 worlds under the four excellencies' control, your excellency is free to choose any of them]

Gu Qing Shan nodded: "Very well, I want to choose a few people from the Wraith realm"

Chapter 1417

Translator: La0o9

The cold mechanical voice spoke: [Your excellency, during the next mission, you may select the Wraith realm as well as any manpower within it for yourself to utilize]

"Got it"

Gu Qing Shan looked at the screen, then continued paying attention to the exploration mission.

On the screen, both the dark-skinned lanky man and the young man were heading downwards into the cave.

After going underground, both of them became considerably more cautious.

They slowly moved in the darkness, occasionally stopping to observe their surroundings.

From the screen, he could only see the two of them as well as certain parts of the underground ruins within the darkness.

“Status report” Gu Qing Shan said.

The young man spoke to the screen: [Other than the naked eye, all clairvoyance techniques are rendered useless. Fortunately, there is a path here; while it is mostly covered in dust, it could still be made out]

“Continue following the path, report what you see at the end of it” Gu Qing Shan said.

The two of them continued forward.

A few moments later.

The dark-skinned lanky man reported: [There is a blurry object up ahead on the right, most likely a remnant of the original building here, we need to move ahead to take a more detailed look]

“Proceed” Gu Qing Shan replied.

His gaze followed their movement.

Very quickly, the two of them arrived at a relatively spacious area.

Ahead of them, a large platform could be seen, the majority of it had already collapsed, leaving only a scene of ruin.

[Most likely, this platform originally had a stone statue, after countless years, the statue had been completely destroyed] the young man reported.

“Can you put the statue back together?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

The young man replied: [There are too many fragments, it will most likely consume a lot of time to find every part of the statue]

[The statue is worthless; we should be looking in other places] the dark-skinned lanky man followed up.

“Put the statue back together, I need to take a look” Gu Qing Shan ordered.

The young man and dark-skinned man exchanged glances, then helplessly crouched down to try and find the broken fragments of the statue.

Around 10 minutes later, they finally collected every last piece of the statue they could, piling them on the ground.

The dark-skinned lanky man placed his hand on the fragments and chanted: [Return to form]

All the fragments began to hover and converge in the air, slowly forming a statue.

Suddenly, the screen in front of Gu Qing Shan disappeared.

The sound of desperate screams resounded in his ears.

Heaven and earth turned around themselves.

At the very next moment, Gu Qing Shan found himself already returned to the dark tunnel.

Everything was silent, once again not a sound to be heard.

“What just happened?” Gu Qing Shan couldn’t help but ask.

A mechanical voice responded from the black watch:

[Your excellency, the two foddors had discovered a statue that cannot be looked at, they are dead]

[For the sake of your safety, I had instantly activated teleportation magic to transport you out of the 11th scale’s ruins]

Gu Qing Shan was surprised.

Dead?

That dark-skinned man and the young man couldn’t even react and simply died?

“A statue that cannot be looked at... do we have any records regarding these things?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

The mechanical voice responded: [From the statistical results of many explorations, the foddors came into contact with a ‘statue that cannot be looked at’ a total of three times, all of which ended up with total wipeout. For that reason, they were coined as ‘statues that cannot be looked at’]

“Do we have any further information regarding these statues?” Gu Qing Shan asked again.

[There is none] the mechanical voice resolutely replied.

A total wipeout...

Gu Qing Shan suddenly realized something.

—this place is a location that even the Four Gods of the Void had to carefully tread through.

If it is so dangerous, why did the Four Evil Gods decide to investigate it in the past?

Gu Qing Shan's thoughts churned for a bit, then suddenly said: "I want to select new members to continue this exploration mission"

[Please select the world and individuals you wish to employ] the mechanical voice spoke.

"The Wraith realm" Gu Qing Shan replied.

A screen appeared in front of him from the void of space.

A dark temple appeared on the screen.

[This is the most powerful world: Wraith realm's wraith temple. You may now select the people you need] the mechanical voice spoke.

Gu Qing Shan put his hand on the screen, declaring: "The individuals I select are Fate Obstruction, Giant Frame, Karmic Fire, the three Wraith Lords"

[Please issue a mission] the mechanical voice spoke.

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“The mission is still to explore the 11th Scale ruins, have them enter the cave from earlier and perform the same search” Gu Qing Shan replied.

[As you wish]

...

The Wraith realm.

The three Wraith Lords were not currently at the wraith temple.

They were standing outside a large palace with numerous wraiths standing behind them.

Wraith Lord Giant Frame took a step forward and sent his voice into the palace: “City Lord Fei Yue, we have something to announce”

A few moments later.

Fei Yue’s voice came from inside the palace: “Speak”

Wraith Lord Giant Frame clasped his fist, then said: “After much consideration, we have decided that the grand wedding will be conducted earlier”

Fei Yue abruptly raised her voice: “You clearly said that the wedding would occur in three days, why did you suddenly move it ahead? Are you treating my marriage as a joke?”

Wraith Lord Giant Frame didn’t say anything, but Wraith Lord Karmic Fire took a step forward and spoke: “City Lord Fei Yue, I’ll say it very clearly. We are currently in urgent need of your power, regardless of——”

He abruptly stopped.

An unusual fluctuation descended from the sky, falling on the three Wraith Lords’ bodies.

“This is—”

“What kind of trick is this, why were all three of us chosen at the same time!?”

“Hurry, to the wraith temple!”

The three Wraith Lords vanished all at once.

The group inside the palace that was prepared to fight were surprised.

The Ominous Demon Tower’s master asked: 「 What just happened? Why did they suddenly flee? 」

Xiao Die replied: “I’m not sure, they clearly arrived with the intention to coerce Fei Yue, so why did they suddenly leave?”

Fei Yue didn’t say anything and coldly looked outside the palace: “We might not know, but the wraiths outside definitely do”

Everyone looked outside.

Only to see the Wraith Lords’ subordinates all stood still without moving.

Crow suddenly spoke: “Oh boy, with the way they seem, those three Wraith Lords are definitely going to come back eventually”

...

Gu Qing Shan stared closely at the screen.

Only to see the three Wraith Lords suddenly appearing inside the wraith temple.

Warp fluctuations had already surrounded their bodies, but right as they were about to be transported away, the three Wraith Lords all jumped onto the high platform.

Their bodies slowly became petrified.

——they had turned into three statues!

At the same time, the mechanical voice suddenly spoke:

[Your excellency, the individuals you've selected have rejected the summon]

Gu Qing Shan asked: "They can even reject?"

The mechanical voice explained: [Among the 36,000 worlds, no mortal is able to reject the summon of the Four Gods, but these three have the same level of authority you do, allowing them to reject the summon]

Gu Qing Shan pondered: "Why do they have the same level of authority as the Four Gods?"

The mechanical voice responded: [Because outside of Earth, Water, Fire, and Wind, there exists a fifth authority, this authority has granted them the ability to reject the summon]

Gu Qing Shan questioned right away: "Who does the fifth authority belong to?"

The mechanical voice answered: [There are no corresponding records]

"Is the fifth authority higher, or the Four Gods' authority higher?"

[The fifth authority] the mechanical voice replied.

Gu Qing Shan stopped talking.

He stared closely at the three statues on the screen while his thoughts continued to churn.

The wraiths.

They have a lot of secrets.

What kind of entity would be able to grant them an authority comparable to that of the Four Gods?

The Four Gods were investigating this dark tunnel, then what about the wraiths? What are they doing here?

...I definitely need to make another trip to the Wraith realm to see what exactly is happening in this place.

To the Wraith realm...

Gu Qing Shan had a sudden thought.

He took out the pocket watch and opened it.

There were six scales on the pocket watch.

—*this was an artifact given by the Eternal Abyss.*

Gu Qing Shan put the pocket watch by his wrist, right next to the black watch.

The black watch has twelve scales.

This was an artifact left by the Four Evil Gods.

Gu Qing Shan looked at the pocket watch, then at the black watch.

Tick tock, tick tock, tick tock, tick tock...

In the silent darkness, the two watches were giving off the sound of rhythmic ticking.

Chapter 1418

Translator: La0o9

Tick tock tick tock tick tock...

In the silent darkness, the two watches gave off a rhythmic sound of ticking.

At the moment, the surroundings were completely silent, there was nothing else in this dark tunnel, only the sound of two ticking watches continued without stopping.

The pocket watch had six scales on its clock face, depicting a total of six worlds.

On the other hand, the twelve-scale watch also had six scales that were completely black outside of the six worlds on the white portion of the clock face.

“I should have realized this sooner; these artifacts must be related somehow...”

Gu Qing Shan muttered to himself.

Suddenly, a resounding voice echoed in the darkness:

[Ally of the Grand Emperor, Advisor of the Grand Emperor, Envoy of the Grand Empress, the three of you shall learn of the Pantheon’s past, the beginning of the Era of Apocalypses...]

Gu Qing Shan suddenly looked up.

There was nothing nor anyone else in the dark tunnel.

But the entire dark tunnel was lighting up.

It glowed brighter and brighter, practically turning into a sea of light.

Lines of glowing text quickly appeared in the void of space:

[Attention!]

[The three items you're carrying are resonating with the dark tunnel]

Gu Qing Shan replied: "I can tell"

He took off the Abyssal ring, the black watch, as well as the pocket watch, placing all three of them together.

These three items gave off a tiny ringing noise that resonated with the entire dark tunnel.

"The Abyssal ring, the Non-fusion-type World Linking Device, and the Twelve Scales Grasp of Duo-faced World's Infinite Rejection—— what exactly is going on?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

The War God UI answered: [The System does not know for sure either, but the resonance of these three artifacts seems to have activated some sort of function of the dark tunnel]

Gu Qing Shan was surprised.

Even though he had faced countless sudden and difficult situations, he still didn't know what to prepare himself for at this moment.

The world around him scattered.

A different world appeared.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly found himself standing inside a sky-high divine palace among the clouds.

This divine palace's structure was very familiar, almost like———

The Inner Plane.

Suddenly, the world slowly collapsed and began to shrink.

"I didn't expect that you'd truly be able to achieve this. Conveniently, I'd be able to borrow the power of this vision to inform you a few things"

A voice spoke up.

Gu Qing Shan looked up to see a figure slowly manifesting in the dark void of space.

He stood in front of Gu Qing Shan.

Boss.

Gu Qing Shan wasn't at all surprised and said: "You gave me the Abyssal ring from a long time ago, telling me that it was proof of my alliance with the Abyss. In other words, even back then, you'd already predicted what would happen today?"

Boss replied: "The Book of Prophesized Destiny was able to predict it somewhat, but more importantly..."

"What?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"I saw infinite potential in you. You are a being of the Samsara, yet you had a close relationship with the Awaitings, so as you grow increasingly more powerful, you would have met her sooner or later" Boss explained.

"Who is she?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

Boss replied: "You already know the answer"

After a moment of silence, Gu Qing Shan recalled the vision of the future that he saw during the Spirit Wanderer state---

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...

A woman clad in boundless starlight stood facing Xie Dao Ling.

"After countless years, I've finally found you. And now, you will be permanently destroyed"

After saying so, the woman attacked Xie Dao Ling.

...

---*Reneedol!*

With a look of realization, Gu Qing Shan replied: "Why does she want to get rid of those from the Samsara?"

Boss explained: "Because she fears the Samsara. She was able to see things that the myriad Deities could not, so she actively attempted to destroy the Samsara. But after many years of trying, she discovered that it was impossible"

"From that point on, she began to unite the Samsara fragments for herself to use, just like with the Wraith realm"

Gu Qing Shan carefully imagined: "The Fate Corrosion was also her work"

"Indeed, the Wraith realm was under her rule and command" Boss confirmed this.

---the entire course of events had been made clear.

Gu Qing Shan sighed, asking: "Boss, why did you appear now? To help her kill me, or to help me kill her?"

Boss didn't give him an answer and instead spoke emotionally: "I currently... have lost all of my strength, what do you think I would be able to do now?"

"But you have the reinforcement of [Order], from this point on, you will only grow increasingly stronger" Gu Qing Shan said.

Boss smiled, then sighed: "But I will never be as strong as I used to be"

"Used to be?" Gu Qing Shan sharply asked.

"Indeed—— I think you should know what my Title is" Boss said.

Gu Qing Shan replied: "The Abyssal King, the Exiled Apostle, the Peerless Fallen One, Greatest Above the Star Crown, Great Lord of Infinite Origin"

Boss continued: "In the past, I only had a single Title, everyone hailed me as the 'Great Lord of Infinite Origin'"

"Why did everyone call you that?"

"Because innumerable worlds were born and grew on my body, all living beings survived and enjoyed the wonders of life—— up until the day of the Reality Gate's opening, causing the Apocalypses to pour in and destroy my body"

Gu Qing Shan was speechless.

He had thought of a certain shocking answer and calmly replied: "Don't tell me, the Eternal Abyss was actually your previous body?"

Boss shook his head: "Of course not"

Gu Qing Shan exhaled a long sigh.

Boss continued: "It was only a part of my body"

Gu Qing Shan froze.

Usually, whenever they talked about the Eternal Abyss, Boss would always act like there was nothing worth talking about.

It was only now that Gu Qing Shan knew this incredible truth.

Boss seemed to have noticed something and continued: "There isn't much energy left in the vision, I won't have much time to tell you a lot of things either, so let me quickly summarize what happened in the past"

"On the day that the Reality Gate opened, I was attacked by innumerable Apocalypses, a portion of my body brought the Myriad Deities with it and escaped, creating a place of refuge, which was the Inner Plane"

"My body turned into the Eternal Abyss that protected the Inner Plane, while I underwent reincarnation through death, becoming the Grand Emperor of the Myriad Deities"

"But Reneedol was unwilling to accept that"

"Because there was a greater and nearly infinite amount of power inside my body that was left under the Pantheon¹"

Boss pointed below their feet.

"The black part of the twelve scales are the destroyed ruins of the Pantheon"

"That portion of my body has been hidden within those scales"

Gu Qing Shan cut him off and asked: "And Reneedol has been searching for your body?"

Boss replied: "Indeed, this leftover portion of my body contains an immense power, and as she is deeply fearful of the future, she covets the power that I originally wielded"

“Gu Qing Shan, you cannot allow her to obtain my original body, otherwise, everything will truly become irreversible”

Boss sighed exhaustedly and said: “The current her... is no longer the same as the past her”

Before he even finished, Boss’ body vanished.

Gu Qing Shan found himself back inside the dark tunnel.

Complete silence, as if nothing had happened at all.

Lines of glowing text swiftly appeared on the War God UI:

[The vision’s power had been fully expended; your conversation is over]

Chapter 1419

Translator: La0o9

Their conversation was over.

Boss’ figure disappeared.

Gu Qing Shan recalled the other party’s expression, silently pondered for a short minute, then sighed:

“You trusted the wrong person”

Boss entrusted the entire Inner Plane to Renedol.

But the Grand Empress then became the direct cause for the destruction of the entire divine kingdom within the Inner Plane.

Even Boss himself died again at her hands, becoming dependent on the Eternal Abyss. After many long years, she had even borrowed the power of Fate Corrosion to attack the Eternal Abyss again.

From his gaze, Gu Qing Shan could tell that he still had feelings for Reneedol.

—seriously, why was he so enamoured with such a woman?

Gu Qing Shan sighed again.

Perhaps, I should help Boss regarding this matter.

We were studying about romance online, while he was killed by the same woman twice, truly a terrible fate.

—when I return, I'll probably have Ye Fei Li teach Boss and me a lot more about it.

Master of romance teaching on the scene.

Discarding his extraneous thoughts, Gu Qing Shan looked back at the three items in his hand.

They were still vibrating nonstop, resonating and exuding power.

Lines of glowing text swiftly appeared in front of Gu Qing Shan's eyes:

[The three artifacts are about to become damaged to undergo a new change]

[If you do not want to lose them, the System can use your Soul Points to stop this from occurring]

[Attention, this change includes the power of Space and Time, it is irreversible]

[You must quickly make your decision, furthermore, there is no room for regrets]

Gu Qing Shan paused for a moment.

The Abyss ring might have a possibility of granting me an Abyssal form.

The Non-fusion-type World Linking Device will allow me to travel freely to and from the angel world, the Wraith realm, Huang Quan realm, and dark tunnel.

The Twelve Scales Grasp of Duo-faced World's Infinite Rejection will afford me even more choices, allowing me to restrain the three Wraith Lords without coming into contact with them.

If these three items are all damaged, how would I return to the Wraith realm to save anyone?

But this reaction between them was clearly something that Boss had prepared.

Regardless of what happens, I should help Boss.

Gu Qing Shan sighed and said: "Ignore it, let them fuse"

[Understood, the System has stopped interfering] the War God UI replied.

A second later, one sprite of light each emerged out of the watch, the pocket watch, and the ring.

As soon as these three sprites of light appeared, the three artifacts broke into a bunch of components, thoroughly destroyed.

The three sprites of light converged into one, forming a black glove that directly equipped itself over Gu Qing Shan's hand.

Lines of glowing text suddenly appeared on the War God UI:

[You've worn the Sealing Token glove]

[You are about to receive the Great Lord of Infinite Origin's power bestowal]

[Preparing to head towards the first black scale]

[Attention]

[That scale is a ruin, but as you have the Sealing Token glove, you are about to enter a certain point in the past of that ruins]

[5]

[4]

[3]

[2]

[1, warp!]

Gu Qing Shan vanished.

...

Ding! Ding! Ding!

The clear chime of a bell.

Gu Qing Shan found himself standing on the roof of a large cathedral.

The weather was clear.

Numerous horse carriages were moving below, the hustle and bustle were unbelievable. It was as if they were holding a grand ceremony of some kind.

Gu Qing Shan was stunned.

Wasn't I supposed to arrive at the Pantheon's ruins?

Why did I suddenly travel through time?

Lines of glowing text quickly appeared on the War God UI:

[The Lord of Infinite Origins hid the Sealing Token in a certain moment of the past]

[Currently, you've arrived at an ancient Technological-type civilization]

[Technological-type worlds are under the protection of the Earth God, where humans rely more on the progression of technology and science to develop their civilizations]

[Supernatural power is reduced to an extreme degree in this place]

[—naturally, the Earth God is no longer here]

[As long as you spend Soul Points, you will be able to utilize your supernatural powers thanks to your status as the Earth God]

After hearing that, Gu Qing Shan silently muttered: "That's simple then, what should I do next?"

Right at that moment, a solemn dignified voice sounded from his glove:

"I am the Lord of Infinite Origins"

"Man of the future, I do not know who you are, but I have seen a short vision from the endless time"

"On a certain day after my reincarnation, you shall become my comrade, one both trustworthy and would bear the same risk as I"

"I am about the die"

"My dead body definitely cannot be discovered or returned to activity by anyone, as such I have sealed it within the six black scales"

"The ruins are filled with Apocalypses and dangers, such that not even I can arbitrarily infiltrate them, thankfully, we have the power of time"

"You shall head into the civilizations of the past in search of my body"

"Do not worry, I've hidden it very well, aside from yourself, no one would know the truth— not even my most beloved Reneedol"

This statement was filled with pride in one's ability, extremely similar to Boss later on.

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Indeed, these were the words of when Boss was still the Lord of Infinite Origins, from the time before the opening of the Reality Gate.

With his power at the time, he would most likely have been able to instantly prepare many things in the future.

But then, why was he not able to predict Reneedol's changes?

Perhaps, it was only after Reneedol entered the Dusty World that she underwent that sudden change?

Gu Qing Shan silently sighed, then continued to listen.

"The glove shall take you to each of the scales in search of six 'Sealing Tokens'"

"Go, only you shall be able to find those Sealing Tokens"

“Without the guidance of Fate, even if others reach the corresponding scales, they would still never be able to find them”

The voice faded.

Gu Qing Shan looked towards this world.

The world of history behind the ruins.

Where do I need to go find the Sealing Tokens in this sea of people?

He released his inner sight to observe this ancient Technological-type world.

His inner sight passed through the city, the mountains, rivers, farms, towns, then through other cities...

A few thousand miles, ten thousand miles, then a hundred thousand miles, his inner sight continued to expand, but he still couldn't see the ends of the world.

This isn't a small world at all.

In that case, it will truly be tough to conduct a search.

Even if Renedol was able to find the ruins, she wouldn't be able to find the tokens.

Even if she manages to reach this era of the past, it would still be impossible.

Because there weren't any clues.

After pondering for a bit, Gu Qing Shan slowly realized something.

“Guidance of Fate...”

“No wonder the wraiths covet Fei Yue's power so much”

Muttering to himself, Gu Qing Shan raised his left hand and opened his palm.

Sealing Token.

I want to find a Sealing Token of the Lord of Infinite Origins.

He silently told himself.

A black thread abruptly appeared out of thin air, one end wrapping around his hand, the other reaching into the void of space, pointing towards a certain direction in the city.

Fate ability, [Longing].

Boss must have seen me obtaining this power in his vision of the future in order to arrange things this way.

Gu Qing Shan didn't want to waste a single moment and used Soul Points to take flight.

He followed the guidance of the black thread to continue flying in the sky.

Closer.

Increasingly closer.

Gu Qing Shan slowly saw a luxurious castle.

Most likely, this was the palace of a certain kingdom.

Gu Qing Shan's figure flashed and descended, flying around the palace.

His movement was so fast that mortals had no way of noticing him.

Finally, he entered the vault of the castle and found a small box in a corner.

The black thread was pointing at this box.

Gu Qing Shan walked up and gently opened the box.

A glittering gem as bright as the stars silently sat inside the box.

—*—everything is proceeding very smoothly.*

Thanks to [Longing] and the Sealing Token glove, Gu Qing Shan reached the first Sealing Token without any trouble.

“This is a Sealing Token?”

Gu Qing Shan took the gem out of the box.

Sure enough, lines of glowing text appeared on the War God UI:

[You’ve received the first Sealing Token]

[Your Sealing Token glove has been activated once again]

[Attention]

[You are about to enter the next ruined world]

[5]

[4]

[3]

[2—]

Suddenly, a woman appeared in front of Gu Qing Shan.

She was beautiful to an extreme limit, countless stars drifted around her body while she herself exuded immense power, the strength of which had far surpassed the limit of Gu Qing Shan's recognition.

Renedol!

She stared straight at Gu Qing Shan and shouted: "Who are you? Why were you able to find a Sealing Token?"

Seeing that she was about to attack, Gu Qing Shan suddenly clasped his fist: "Greetings, sister-in-law!"

Renedol's expression froze.

Having stalled for this short moment, the final line of text appeared on the War God UI:

[1, warp!]

Instantly, Gu Qing Shan disappeared from this world.

Chapter 1420

Translator: La0o9

As soon as Renedol showed up, Gu Qing Shan sensed an omen of death.

He never thought that there would come a day where he couldn't even mount the thought of resistance when facing someone.

Numerous countermeasures flashed through his head in that single moment, but he couldn't find any solution in order to defeat the other party.

—*too strong.*

She is too powerful!

It was because he had no solution against her that he said 'sister-in-law'.

Reneedol's killer expression froze during that single moment.

Most likely, she couldn't even imagine that someone would ever call her that way.

And thus, Gu Qing Shan was able to smoothly warp away.

Heaven and earth turned around themselves.

Thud!

Gu Qing Shan fell in the middle of a lush forest.

His vision was obscured by a thick blanket of greenery, various wild beasts and insects were calling out in every direction while Gu Qing Shan leaned on a large tree, breathing heavily.

When he saw the real Reneedol just now, Gu Qing Shan was able to thoroughly sense her power.

Lines of glowing text appeared on the War God UI:

[You've arrived at an ancient Savagery-type civilization]

[This is the era of the past of the second scale among the six black scales]

[This world of Savagery was under the protection of the Water God; its living beings rely more on the power of nature to develop their civilization]

[Supernatural power is immensely bolstered in this place]

[Please be careful]

Gu Qing Shan's gaze scanned through the forest, then stopped a short bit of distance away.

A White Frost Blade Tiger was glaring at him.

—when Gu Qing Shan appeared, he startled a herd of deers and caused them to flee.

The White Frost Blade Tiger's hunt was interrupted.

"Sorry about that, it wasn't on purpose" Gu Qing Shan said.

At the same time, countless thoughts were moving in his mind as he attempted to come up with a solution to his current predicament.

Once Reneedol pursues me again, I won't be any match for her.

What now?

—*is there anybody stronger than Reneedol?*

If there isn't, is there anyone capable of hiding me from her?

A thought flashed through Gu Qing Shan's mind.

"I need a place where Reneedol would not be able to discover my tracks"

He silently muttered in his mind.

As he looked down, there wasn't a black thread on his left hand.

—*this represents a certain fact.*

In this world, regardless of where I try to hide, Reneedol would be able to detect me.

Furthermore, from the depths of heaven, a red thread appeared to coil around his hand.

Thanks to [Longing], Gu Qing Shan instantly understood what this meant.

—this thread represented certain death!

The other party will arrive soon!

With Reneedol's capabilities, she most likely searched through every nook and cranny of the dark tunnel.

While I've gone across an entire scale, skipping through countless worlds, Reneedol would most likely still be able to reach me in no time at all.

Roar!!!

The White Frost Blade Tiger leapt straight at him.

Gu Qing Shan sighed, then lightly slapped the void of space.

Against such an animal, he didn't even need to use his sword or his fist; it would be enough with just his hand's natural strength infused with some Huang Quan Origin power.

If someone were to observe this, they would only see Gu Qing Shan lightly pressing his hand on the Frost Blade Tiger's head, before causing it to immediately drop dead.

After pressing his hand on the Frost Blade Tiger's body, Gu Qing Shan activated [Mystery of All Beings Equal]

—he had no other choice right now.

All the techniques and power he possessed currently were no match against Reneedol.

He was only left with [Mystery of All Beings Equal] that originated from the giant corpse in the isolated world which had even gone through one evolution.

While Reneedol is powerful, Gu Qing Shan could still sense how powerful she generally is.

Meanwhile, among all the entities that Gu Qing Shan had witnessed, only the giant corpse's strength was truly impossible to discern!

And only this Mystery bestowed to him by the giant corpse would have a possibility of obscuring him from Reneedol!

Gu Qing Shan transformed into the White Frost Blade Tiger, swiping his claw to put the White Frost Blade Tiger's corpse away, before hiding into the tall grass.

However, in order to hide from Reneedol's pursuit, it was a bad idea to simply rely on a conjecture.

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Gu Qing Shan stared closely at his left hand— now his left front paw, attempting to activate the Fate ability: [Longing].

"I need a place to hide that Reneedol would not be able to discover"

Gu Qing Shan silently muttered in his mind.

On top of his white claws, the black thread did not appear.

However, the red thread had been cut off.

This red thread circled several times around him, as if attempting to search for his tracks, but couldn't find it no matter how much it tried.

A second later, the red thread faded away.

Gu Qing Shan exhaled in relief.

*— — —after I turned into a White Frost Blade Tiger, Reneedol couldn't detect me any further.
This meant that the evolved [Mystery of All Beings Equal] was able to shroud me even from Reneedol.*

Just as Gu Qing Shan wanted to leave.

The White Frost Blade Tiger from earlier had been hungry for an entire day, but just as it was about to successfully hunt a few deer, I cut it off.

But now that I've turned into it, my stomach is also rumbling.

— — —hunger can wait, the more urgent thing right now is to find a safe place to hide!

With that in mind, the White Frost Blade Tiger retracted all of his presence and prepared to run away.

Suddenly, from a bush not too far away, a towering beast slowly appeared.

A large bear.

It stared closely at the White Frost Blade Tiger with saliva dripping from the corner of its mouth.

It was also hungry.

Before the White Frost Blade Tiger even moved, a figure descended from above.

Reneedol!

This woman clad in starlight descended between the two beasts, then swiftly examined the Savagery-type world that she had arrived at.

“How strange, my pursuit Divine Skill shows that he has completely disappeared... Did he teleport to another world?”

Reneedol muttered.

—she was able to see these two wild animals, but in this forest, there were countless beasts struggling, competing, and hunting for prey.

This bear and tiger were mundane.

The White Frost Blade Tiger’s gaze flickered, appeared cautious, then started growling while baring his fangs.

—as a feline, it was natural for him to be cautious.

But the bear was different.

The bear looked at Reneedol, then at the White Frost Blade Tiger before it scratched its head.

It was confused.

The White Frost Blade Tiger is prey that can fill its belly.

But what exactly is this prey that’s glowing?

—with its intelligence, it wasn’t able to discern which of these two prey would be more delectable so it fell into a brief confusion.

However, it quickly resolved this little internal issue.

A small bear's stomach is small, so a choice must be made.

But as a big bear, I want both!

—roar!!!

The bear uttered a resounding roar, then charged to attack Renedol who was closest to it.

At this point, Renedol had finished examining this entire world but still couldn't find any traces of that cultivator.

When the bear charged at her, she didn't even bother to look at it and simply muttered:

"Beast"

The bear turned into a mass of flesh and blood as it abruptly flew backwards.

—the mass of flesh and blood was reduced to nothing in an extremely short period of time.

The scene was so terrifying that it seemed to have scared the White Frost Blade Tiger.

Ng Yao—

The White Frost Blade Tiger uttered a frightened shriek and ran away as fast as possible without looking back.

Renedol would naturally not care about the survival of a mere wild beast.

When she found that she wasn't able to find Gu Qing Shan, she took out a talisman.

A blood-colored talisman.

"Order, dispatch everyone in the Wraith realm and Huang Quan realm!"

Renedol muttered.

Chapter 1421

Translator: La0o9

The Wraith realm.

The Wraith temple.

The three statues slowly came back to life.

"That teleportation power..."

"Has disappeared"

The three Wraith Lords Fate Obstruction, Giant Frame, and Karmic Fire stood on their respective worshipping platforms and exchanged glances.

"While the power has disappeared, but that was truly strange. Why did it happen to choose all three of us at the same time?" Wraith Lord Fate Obstruction asked.

Wraith Lord Giant Frame replied: "I think that might not have been a coincidence, should we report it?"

Wraith Lord Karmic Fire replied: "We probably should, after all... this matter isn't only highly unusual but also related to the ruins, she would most likely find it interesting"

“Then let us report it first, then set Fei Yue’s matter in stone” Wraith Lord Fate Obstruction took out a blood-colored talisman and was about to activate it.

Suddenly, a flare talisman flew towards them from the void of space, manifesting Reneedol’s appearance in front of the three Wraith Lords.

“Grand Empress!”

The three Wraith Lords were shocked but swiftly knelt down on one knee each to greet her.

“Dispatch everyone to world #977 in the fourth scale” Reneedol coldly ordered.

“Understood!” the three Wraith Lords replied in unison.

Wraith Lord Giant Frame then said: “Your majesty, the war with the Eternal Abyss is at a stalemate, does your majesty think...”

Reneedol glanced at him, then ordered: “Wraith Lord Cang, you’ll be in charge of the entire war situation. Fate Obstruction and Karmic Fire will remain here before heading into the world I mentioned in order to prepare for that operation!”

“Understood” the three Wraith Lords replied in unison again.

Reneedol’s figure disappeared, turned back into a blood-colored talisman and shot into the void of space.

The three Wraith Lords stood up.

“She has left” Wraith Lord Karmic Fire commented.

“Hm, from the direction she’s heading, she most likely is heading towards the Huang Quan realm”
Wraith Lord Fate Obstruction replied.

Wraith Lord Giant Frame then clasped his fist towards the other two Wraith Lords and said: “I’ll leave this place to you two, I need to head into the Void to confirm the situation, then head back to the wraith temple to assume command and defeat the Eternal Abyss as planned”

“Be at ease on your trip—- ah, I heard that a bit of disturbance had occurred at the Yama Heavenly realm that your son is in charge of”

“That’s right, both the Yama Heavenly realm and the Sumeru Mountain must be closely monitored, especially in the upcoming future. Her majesty cannot divide her attention, so we must ensure that there is no issue with any of them” Wraith Lord Fate Obstruction said.

Wraith Lord Giant Frame wasn’t at all concerned: “Those two places have been under our rule for much too long, there wouldn’t be any real issue, my son Wu Zhang should be able to deal with them just fine”

With how confident he was about the matter; the other two Wraith Lords were naturally unable to refute or say anything else.

With their conversations finished, the three figures disappeared from the wraith temple.

...

A White Frost Blade Tiger was speeding through the forest as if it was running for his life.

He would occasionally glance at his front paw.

No one but himself could see it, but there was a black thread tied to his front left paw.

[Longing]

Only [Longing] would lead him to the second Sealing Token of the Lord of Infinite Origins!

The White Frost Blade Tiger had only just run half-way there before he abruptly made a turn before heading towards a cave.

Within a 10-mile radius, this cave is the only one with others of the same species, so it was most likely the home of the White Frost Blade Tiger that I killed.

Reneedol was too powerful and too horrifying, Gu Qing Shan wasn't confident that he had indeed been able to deceive the other party.

Right now, I can't immediately head towards the Sealing Token or it would expose my identity.

At that point in time, even if I manage to escape, Reneedol would know that I can turn into different living beings.

She would surely come up with a countermeasure to that.

In which case, the next Sealing Token would be impossible for me to reach.

While thinking that, Gu Qing Shan entered the cave.

As he entered, two other White Frost Blade Tigers greeted him.

Gyao—

A White Frost Blade Tiger uttered a questioning growl.

Roar.

Gu Qing Shan randomly answered.

His stomach was still grumbling as he casually walked to a corner of the cave and laid down, resting.

—just like a real White Frost Blade Tiger.

Seeing him like that, the other two White Frost Blade Tiger followed, leaned on his body and lightly licked him.

Gu Qing Shan was surprised.

What's going on?

Gyao...

One of the White Frost Blade Tigers gently growled, seemingly saying something.

Ooo...

The other White Frost Blade Tiger also growled, seemingly asking for something.

Gu Qing Shan slowly sat up, feeling a bit unclear.

Since he was now a White Frost Blade Tiger, he naturally understood what they wanted.

—these two White Frost Blade Tigers were females.

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They were threatening him that if he wasn't able to procure any food, they would leave tomorrow.

After that, they would never allow him to mate with them ever again.

Roar!!!

Gu Qing Shan roared in a low tone.

While roaring at the two tigresses, he also pointed at the cave entrance with his tail.

The two female White Frost Blade Tigers froze.

They didn't expect the male tiger to react that way.

The atmosphere became stiff.

Gu Qing Shan's tiger eyes appeared cruel as he glared at the two tigresses.

The two female White Frost Blade Tigers took a step back.

While they were also White Frost Blade Tigers, they were a bit weaker compared to this male tiger.

Furthermore, while his roar was still the same as before, it somehow carried an unnamed presence that caused even their minds to feel a bit scared.

—since when did this male tiger become so impressive?

Gu Qing Shan ignored the two tigresses, turned around, then once again laid down at a corner of the cave.

He put both paws on the ground, laying his head on it and closed his eyes.

—his attitude was clear!

I'm too hungry to keep up this act, what else do you want?

I'm not going to look for food, leave if you want to.

Seeing how the male tiger closed his eyes and began to rest, the two tigresses were still stunned from the shock.

After a few moments, they exchanged glances before silently leaving the cave.

Gu Qing Shan opened his tiger eyes, then closed them again.

—don't be ridiculous, Reneedol is still in the forest, how could I do anything that would even have a chance of exposing me?

Now that the two tigresses have left, I no longer need to spend the effort to act as a male tiger and react to the tigresses.

I only need to literally lay low.

Gu Qing Shan silently laid there for a while.

He suddenly opened his eyes.

A large number of wraiths had appeared outside.

More and more cultivators were gathering, all of which knelt in front of Reneedol, ready to heed her orders.

Very quickly, they all scattered to the corners of this world.

Most likely, they were searching for something.

I can't expose myself, nor head out in search for the Sealing Tokens, this is going to be troublesome...

Gu Qing Shan's gaze flickered a bit as he silently pondered a countermeasure.

As a White Frost Blade Tiger, the only thing I can do right now is to hide.

And then what?

Suddenly, Renedol's voice resounded throughout the entire world: "Be careful with your search, if that artifact exists in this world, then any destruction to this world could cause it to be damaged"

"Furthermore, divide yourselves up, some of you will be heading into the surrounding 75 worlds to search"

The wraiths responded with resounding unison: "Understood!"

Renedol's presence disappeared from this world.

—after using various clairvoyance techniques, she was sure that the person had left this world.

And so, she was preparing to head into other worlds in search of him.

Gu Qing Shan silently listened, changed his posture, then continued to lie in place.

It's not a good idea to keep remaining in this cave either.

What exactly should I do?

While he was thinking, his ears twitched.

Two figures entered the cave.

—the two tigresses from before.

The tigress on the left held a hare in its mouth.

While the tigress on the right was even more impressive, dragging a deer into the cave!

Both of the prey was completely dead.

Gu Qing Shan slowly stood up and growled in a low tone.

Roar?

The two tigresses were holding onto the prey with their mouths, so they couldn't answer. They both dragged the prey in front of Gu Qing Shan.

The two tigresses then looked at Gu Qing Shan, growling in an intimate and gentle tone:

Ooo (don't be angry)

Ooo— (family will provide for you)

This was what they wanted to express.

Gu Qing Shan looked at the hare and the deer.

The hare was a grey adult hare, quite a substantial meal.

While the deer was a buck, still fresh.

Chapter 1422

Translator: La0o9

In the cave.

Gu Qing Shan looked at the hare and the deer, then at the two tigresses, looking a bit hesitant on what to do.

Gyao— (eat)

Ooo Ooo— (don't stay hungry, you need strength)

The two tigresses both growled.

Gu Qing Shan faced their gazes, completely speechless.

Indeed, a wild hare can be used to make braised rabbit, steamed whole rabbit, rabbit skewers, spicy rabbit soup, vegetable rabbit soup, ginger-infused rabbit broth, herbal rabbit soup, even the head has its own uses; while there are even more ways to cook the deer— since it is a male buck.

But this isn't the time to be thinking about those things!

The things I should be concerned about is how to take the second Sealing Token while staying hidden from the wraiths.

I didn't think the two tigresses would return while I was wracking my brain over this.

Suddenly, another figure appeared outside the cave.

Roar!

The two tigresses uttered a threatening grumble.

A burly male White Frost Blade Tiger slowly trudged into the cave.

It was bigger than Gu Qing Shan, bulkier than Gu Qing Shan, and seemed more ferocious than Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan naturally acted like he was cautious, shielding the two tigresses and the quarry behind him while growling threateningly.

The male tiger on the other side moved its eyes around, observing the interior of the cave.

This place is quite nice.

A large cave.

There are two tigresses and even food.

As long as I can chase this hateful guy away, this place will become mine.

The male tiger's gaze then locked on Gu Qing Shan as it uttered a series of low roars in return.

Gu Qing Shan didn't pay much attention to it.

He felt as if this scene in front of him was informing him that he had forgotten something.

Gu Qing Shan stared closely at the male tiger.

—how did this guy reach this place?

Did it slowly follow the two tigresses here?

The mantis stalks the cicada, unaware of the oriole behind.

A thought flashed through Gu Qing Shan's mind.

Wait!

I was so reliant on inner sight that I forgot just how powerful my opponent was.

Renedol's presence might have disappeared, but that doesn't necessarily mean that she had actually left this world!

If she truly wanted to leave, she would only need to give out the order and take a large number of people with her.

But she made a worldwide announcement as if she was afraid that someone wouldn't be able to hear her.

She purposely made that announcement to distract me.

Unless I'm wrong, she must be hiding in the shadows, silently accumulating her strength for the moment when the Sealing Token is excavated.

This time, she would not freeze up.

She would definitely do everything in her power to restrain me!

Gu Qing Shan's back was soaked in a thin layer of cold sweat.

Seeing him turning blank, the opposing male tiger took the opportunity and pounced on him without hesitation!

Gu Qing Shan wrestled against that tiger.

He wasn't too concerned about it, he was simply keeping up his act while pondering over his countermeasures.

This entire world has been surrounded by the wraiths.

And Reneedol might be hiding in the shadows.

How should I resolve such circumstances?

If I were her...

Oh no.

The other tiger abruptly leapt onto Gu Qing Shan's back and began biting him.

While Gu Qing Shan was in the middle of thinking, he got tired of being bothered, so with a slight shake of his head, he wrestled the tiger on his back to the ground, then bit at it in retaliation.

That male tiger was so badly hurt that it jumped and hurriedly fled outside the entrance of the cave.

I was wrong!

This enemy is too cruel, he was completely unfazed no matter how I attacked him as if he didn't care about being bitten or scratched.

The male tiger fled without hesitation.

Gu Qing Shan sat still, using his tongue to lick the blood from his claws.

Seeing how impressive he was, the two tigresses both approached him and cautiously sat next to him with a gaze of respect and intimacy.

Gu Qing Shan didn't have time to care about them, so he took the time he was licking the blood to activate the Fate ability: [Longing].

“Hurry, Fei Yue, hurry and establish contact with me!”

He silently muttered.

A black thread silently manifested, wrapped around his tiger claws, then quickly extended into the void of space.

Gu Qing Shan anxiously waited.

Currently, Reneedol is hiding somewhere in this world, silently waiting for the Sealing Token to appear.

But this does not mean that she is a patient individual.

If the Sealing Token does not appear even after a while, she would surely go to find Fei Yue for her matured Fate ability.

Only Fei Yue's Fate ability would be able to locate the Sealing Tokens.

Reneedol would surely force Fei Yue to immediately get married and take her Fate ability for her own sake.

With that in mind, Gu Qing Shan shouted once again: “Fei Yue, the situation is very urgent, quickly contact me!”

The black thread on his claw violently pierced into the void of space.

The other end disappeared.

At the very next moment.

Another black thread descended from the sky that connected to Gu Qing Shan’s thread.

A doubtful voice spoke:

“Gu Qing Shan, why were you in so much of a hurry to find me?”

Fei Yue!

Gu Qing Shan silently exhaled in relief.

“What’s the current situation on your side?” he asked.

“Just now, the three Wraith Lords came to force my marriage, but something abrupt occurred so they went away” Fei Yue replied.

Gu Qing Shan silently thought about that.

The Wraith realm had mobilized a large amount of manpower here in search of the Sealing Tokens—

“Fei Yue, do you have any way to form a two-way warp formation on your side and mine?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“After our previous conversation, I used the power of the Threads of Fate to accumulate everyone’s power and create a two-way warp formation, but the only issue is that the Causality Law barrier only allows entry and not exit” Fei Yue answered

“Only allow entry and not exit? There’s no need to worry about exiting, for now, I just need you to immediately transport me to your location!” Gu Qing Shan said.

Fei Yue sharply asked; “What happened?”

“There’s no time to explain, hurry! Transport me over!” Gu Qing Shan replied.

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Knowing that Gu Qing Shan wouldn’t joke or act when it came to this matter, Fei Yue instantly replied: “Wait for a moment, I need to cooperate with miss blind nun to do this”

Gu Qing Shan asked: “How long?”

Fei Yue replied: “Ten minutes”

Gu Qing Shan quickly shouted: “Too slow, I need you to first send me over there, the reverse warp can be left for later!”

Feeling her heart turning heavy, Fei Yue said: “Maintain that Fate technique, we’ll immediately bring you to us after five breaths’ worth of time”

“Got it” Gu Qing Shan replied.

He was temporarily assured.

Five breaths of time would be more than enough for me to resolve everything that I need to do.

Gu Qing Shan turned towards the two female White Frost Blade Tigers.

The two tigresses were lying in front of him, lowering their heads while growling gently, almost as if they were flattering him.

Gu Qing Shan tapped both of their heads with his paw.

The two tigresses became stunned.

Countless unheard-of knowledge had suddenly appeared in their minds.

—there were some beast cultivation methods among the knowledge he received from the cultivation worlds of the past, which were suitable for these two tigresses.

They have hunted for me, so I'll repay them with cultivation knowledge.

Not to mention, this world is under the protection of the Water God, so it should be easy for anyone to begin cultivation.

After finishing that, Gu Qing Shan put the hare and deer into his Inventory Bag.

Both of them were fresh wild game, so it would be easy for him to make great dishes out of them after a bit of preparation.

After this war was over, they would both become precious cooking ingredients to be enjoyed.

A second later

The black thread on Gu Qing Shan's claw abruptly grew bigger with various runes clearly flowing along the surface.

And with a flash of light, he disappeared.

It wasn't until a while after he had left that the two tigresses slowly regained their senses.

Seeing their dignified mate no longer here, they both lowered themselves to the ground and began moaning sorrowfully.

...

The outermost layer of the Wraith realm.

A tiger was being quickly transported towards this world when he swiftly returned to human form.

Gu Qing Shan.

He took out the Six Paths Great Mountain sword and held it up in front of himself.

A few moments later.

As if it had touched something, the Six Paths Great Mountain sword cut open a gap.

Gu Qing Shan went through the gap and vanished.

As he entered the Wraith realm, the gap swiftly closed behind him.

The palace.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly appeared.

Everyone was here.

“What exactly is going on?” Xiao Die asked.

Right as Gu Qing Shan was about to talk, a female voice resounded from outside the palace:

“Men, disengage all of our Causality Law barriers”

“Fei Yue, I have something to tell you right at this moment!”

Everyone was shocked and quickly drew their weapons.

Fei Yue deeply sighed: “So it was already time for us to lay it all down and fight”

“Don’t!”

Gu Qing Shan quickly explained: “That is the Grand Empress of the Pantheon—— none of us would be a match for her. In fact, these Causality Law barriers were only established by her subordinates”

Before everyone could digest his words, Gu Qing Shan had already assumed his Archfiend appearance and hid among everyone else, continuing: “Fei Yue, agree with her to buy us some time; Crow, how exactly did you disguise as Fei Yue? If you’re merely crossdressing, you no longer need to do that, she would definitely be able to see through it”

Everyone here was a top-tier Combatant of the Void, having been through countless struggles in their lives, so they immediately understood the gravity of the situation right as Gu Qing Shan explained it.

Everyone put their weapons away together with their killing intent.

Fei Yue raised her voice: “Who is outside? Why are you demanding to see me without even announcing your name?”

Crow quickly explained to Gu Qing Shan: "It isn't crossdressing, but one of Fei Yue's Fate techniques. I would temporarily take on her fate, making everyone assume that I'm actually her"

A Fate technique.

Who could guarantee that Reneedol wouldn't be able to see through a Fate technique?

Gu Qing Shan suddenly had second thoughts.

Perhaps, we should use this chance to probe and see if Reneedol could actually see through a Fate technique?

If she couldn't, that would be extremely great.

Crow suddenly continued: "If that woman was truly the legendary Grand Empress of the Pantheon, then the Fate technique I'm carrying would definitely not be able to deceive her"

Gu Qing Shan's expression changed.

Crow's ability had just activated!

Crow also realized that what he said was bad, so he hurriedly continued: "But I would still have a way to distract her"

As soon as he finished talking, all the light barriers around the palace disappeared.

A woman clad in starlight appeared from the void of space.

Reneedol had directly shown herself.

Everyone present couldn't help but take a step backwards.

「 This sensation, truly... 」 the Ominous Demon Tower's master blankly muttered.

—truly a despairingly vast amount of power.

Simply by looking at her, anyone could tell that her power was insurmountable, which made it impossible for them to even mount the thought of resisting her.

Reneedol ignored Crow and looked straight at Fei Yue:

“I currently have no time to be playing along with your little tricks”

“Fei Yue, you need to immediately swear your allegiance to me, or to immediately get married”

Everyone stayed completely silent, still shaken by her power.

Fei Yue smiled bitterly, shaking her head: “So all this time, I've been trying to struggle against an existence like yourself”

She appeared both dejected and sorrowful.

This attitude made Reneedol smile just a little bit.

“I've always been very busy, and since you were still young, I've had no mind to pay attention towards your matter”

“But things are now different, Fei Yue, I need you right now”

Reneedol coldly said.

Chapter 1423

Translator: La0o9

Reneedol softly stated: “Fei Yue, I will give you two choices, immediately pledge your allegiance to me, or immediately get married to a Wraith Lord”

Fei Yue was speechless.

Everyone was speechless.

Who had the courage to reject the words of the Grand Empress of the Pantheon?

However, as Fei Yue had given [Longing] to Gu Qing Shan, it was impossible for her to help the Grand Empress of the Pantheon no matter how much she wanted to do so.

—let alone the fact that she didn't want to.

“You forced my mother to death, and now you want me to serve you?”

Fei Yue questioned.

Expression was still calm, but her body was trembling uncontrollably.

Noticing this Reneedol smiled: “No, the real one who forced your mother to her death was your father—
— he was driven by benefits, hoping to hand you to me in exchange for power and authority”

After saying that, Reneedol waved her hand.

A figure descended from above, landing in front of everyone.

Hong Yi Jue.

The previous City Lord of Void City, Fei Yue's father, was now restrained in the void of space by an invisible force.

He fearfully looked at Reneedol.

At this point.

Everyone finally understood why Hong Yi Jue's expression was the way it was during their conversation at Void City.

It turns out that he had the unbeatable Grand Empress of Pantheon behind urging him!

Reneedol's expression remained the same as she spoke down to Fei Yue: "If you hold an irreconcilable grudge towards him, I can help you kill him to ease the hatred in your heart"

Fei Yue didn't give an answer.

Hong Yi Jue desperately begged: "Your majesty, I've always remained loyal to you, conquering countless worlds in your stead, please have mercy!"

Reneedol didn't bother to look at him and curtly said: "Fei Yue, I can even grant you complete rule over the entire Wraith realm, as well as the right to kill every wraith who had ever disrespected you"

"As long as you immediately pledge your allegiance to me right now"

Fei Yue appeared confused, then asked: "In truth, I have one thing that I do not understand even now"

"What is that?" Reneedol asked.

"With how powerful you are, you surely have countless methods to completely strip me of my powers"
Fei Yue said.

This was truly a confusing matter to her.

After a bit of hesitation, Reneedol gave her a direct answer: “I suppose it doesn’t matter if I told you. Before her death, your mother performed a highly troublesome Fate technique, ensuring that other than yourself, no one would be able to force you to use that ability”

Fei Yue nodded.

She knew this but didn’t know that even Reneedol felt hindered by this Fate technique.

Reneedol continued: “Even if you actively granted this power to someone else, the one who used your Fate ability, [Longing], would surely have a child with you in the future. This is the arrangement of Fate, and I must remain in awe of it!”

“WHAT!?” Fei Yue opened her mouth wide in shock, completely stunned.

Everyone else was also surprised.

However, this fact didn’t matter too much in the grand scheme of things, so everyone was only surprised.

— that was because they didn’t know that Fei Yue had actually given the Fate ability [Longing] to Gu Qing Shan.

Everyone here assumed that Fei Yue had only given Gu Qing Shan a Fate ability to communicate with them.

The only people who were truly shocked were Fei Yue and Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan was completely flabbergasted.

Fei Yue didn’t turn around at all and sent her voice to everyone: “Just now, she said that she could not violate Fate— this proves that she also wields the power of Fate, otherwise, she wouldn’t understand the consequences of Fate even better than I do”

She sent her voice to Gu Qing Shan alone: “Don’t worry about the child just yet, I didn’t know about that as well, furthermore, we’re about to die at her hands already”

Gu Qing Shan replied with a curt ‘hm’.

He quickly readjusted his mentality.

It truly was not the time to care about this, the most urgent matter currently was to think of a way to escape from Reneedol!

Fate-type Professionals are the rarest as well as the most terrifying.

—-but then, what is Reneedol’s Fate ability?

Gu Qing Shan silently asked himself and sent his voice: “Crow”

“What?” Crow asked.

Gu Qing Shan said: “Just now, when [Weal in, Woe out] activated, you added something at the end”

Crow replied: “Yeah, I said that ‘I still have a way to distract her’, so I’m trying to wrack my brain on how to do it”

Gu Qing Shan encouraged him: “Do your best, you’ve gotten married so many times, you definitely understand women very well”

“Don’t falsely assume you can understand women” Crow advised him, then doubtfully continued: “However, this woman is too powerful, I don’t even know what she’s been through, so I have no idea where I should start”

—-what Reneedol has been through?

Gu Qing Shan thought for a bit, then answered him: “She had, for power or something else unknown, killed her lover, then went on to eliminate every hidden threat to herself— I only know so much”

“Killed her husband? That’s a woman without any sense of security, I’m definitely never going to marry such a woman” Crow commented.

Gu Qing Shan was speechless, then urged him: “Hurry up and come up with something”

At this point, Reneedol spoke again:

“Fei Yue, give me your answer”

Fei Yue did her best to retain her calm, her emerald eyes exuded the last bit of her resolution.

“I refuse to serve you” she declared.

Hearing Fei Yue’s answer, Reneedol’s expression turned frigid.

Immense power radiated from her body, crashing like a giant wave upon everyone.

Standing there, they felt like they were fighting against the flow of a tsunami, unable to even mount the power to control themselves.

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Reneedol coldly snorted, then told her: “I’m going to have you marry to Wraith Lord Karmic Fire, Bai Yuan”

“Don’t even attempt any resistance, or I shall kill every last one of your friends here, then torture you into submission in the cruelest possible way”

Fei Yue’s expression became pale, everyone else also fell into despair.

This was an impossible battle.

Someone suddenly shouted: "Wait!"

Everyone turned back, only to see that it was Crow who was disguised as Fei Yue.

At this point, he was still dressed like a woman.

Observing him, a hint of killing intent appeared on Renedol as she spoke: "You have an objection?"

Crow hurriedly said: "Milady hates those evil men, all of them are weaklings who dart around milady like detestable flies— you are also a woman, why would you want to force another woman this way? Must you force milady to marry someone that she doesn't want to?"

Gu Qing Shan silently praised.

—if Renedol truly loved Boss, why did she kill and discard him?

Crow had successfully found a pivotal point.

Renedol trembled.

While they weren't sure what she was thinking, her killing intent had indeed faded a bit, deciding against attacking them.

Gu Qing Shan immediately sent his voice to Fei Yue.

Fei Yue was startled, but then told Renedol: "I won't refuse to get married, but can't you at least find me someone that I can tolerate? Why do you have to force me to get married to Karmic Fire Bai Yuan? I'd rather be tortured to death before I get married to him!"

Reneedol looked at Fei Yue with a complicated expression on her face, apparently deep in thought.

“This matter...”

She slowly said this, then abruptly turned resolute: “Isn’t up to you!”

For some reason after declaring this, Reneedol shook her head and turned around to leave.

As she reached the entrance of the palace, she paused and said:

“Fei Yue, the most I will give you is fifteen more minutes to make your decision. I hope that you will be able to grasp your fate well”

After that, the numerous layers of Causality Law barriers reappeared to envelop the palace.

Reneedol’s figure slowly disappeared as she went outside.

As soon as she left, everyone swiftly began to move.

“Fifteen minutes”

“Hurry!”

“Make the reverse warp formation immediately, we’re leaving”

“It will need around ten minutes at least”

“Do everything in your powers, save as much time as we can!”

Fei Yue released a black thread.

The blind nun, the Ominous Demon Tower’s master and everyone else all acted at once, surrounding the thread to create a reverse warp formation.

Gu Qing Shan fell into thought.

Crow's words seemed to have touched Reneedol.

How strange.

What exactly did she go through?

"Are you curious how I did it?" Crow asked with a low voice.

"I am, what exactly was she thinking?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"I don't know either. But I used to know a woman who only got married to me in order to suck all of my powers dry; she believed that women were the perfect creatures and that all men should die" Crow explained.

"It's a good thing you noticed in time" Gu Qing Shan commented.

"According to what you said as well as my own instincts, I could sense that the Grand Empress of the Pantheon was extremely heartless towards men, and yet she gave Fei Yue a choice, so I purposely said what I did" Crow continued.

Everyone turned back to look at him

Xiao Die sighed: "Truly, only someone who had gotten married 99 times like you would be able to come up with such a solution"

"This is going to work only once; we need to seize our time and flee" Crow shrugged.

A few moments later.

Fei Yue and the blind nun both declared:

“Finished!”

Fei Yue said: “Hurry, the warp formation has been completed, we have to leave immediately, we’ll deal with other issues as they come up!”

The Ominous Demon Tower’s master then said: 「 With so many of us here, warping would cause noticeable continuous fluctuations. Does anyone here have a spatial tool with them? It’s best that only one person warps away while carrying the spatial tool with everyone inside 」

“I do”

Gu Qing Shan took out the Cang Hai Heavenly Ark.

“Xiao Seng! Take them all into the Kunlun world”

“Got it” Zhao Xiao Seng answered.

Flashes of light appeared from the Heavenly Ark and took everyone inside.

The only person left in the palace was the one maintaining the formation, Fei Yue.

As well as Gu Qing Shan.

Their gazes met.

“I’ll leave it all to you” Fei Yue casually said.

“Got it” Gu Qing Shan raised his hand.

A black thread coiled around Gu Qing Shan's hand while the other end connected to Fei Yue's thread.

Fei Yue was then also taken in by a flash of light before she disappeared.

Gu Qing Shan held the Cang Hai Heavenly Ark in one hand, while his other hand was lightly placed onto the formation with the black thread attached to it.

The formation gave off a flash of light.

The warp had begun!

Gu Qing Shan felt heaven and earth turning around themselves as he instantly vanished.

Chapter 1424

Translator: La0o9

The Wraith realm.

The palace.

After everyone was warped away.

One minute had passed.

Two minutes, then three minutes, then four minutes, then five minutes.

The dozens of layers of Causality Law barriers around the palace were once again undone, Reneedol then reappeared while radiating starlight from all over her body.

“Fei Yue, state your——”

Reneedol Abruptly stopped.

Her beautiful countenance suddenly became cruel.

“How funny, I gave you time to make your decision and you dared to run away?”

Reneedol coldly scoffed.

Immensely powerful gusts of wind appeared from all around her body, blowing in every direction.

The entire palace was reduced to fine dust.

Reneedol stood atop the levelled ground and muttered: “Someone capable of breaking through a Causality Law barrier... who could it be?”

She abruptly vanished.

...

Let’s rewind time by five minutes.

At another location.

As the warp fluctuations faded, Gu Qing Shan appeared in the world of the Water God.

The two tigresses could no longer be seen, they most likely have already left to find something.

“Are we going to hide in this world now?”

Fei Yue’s voice sounded from the Cang Hai Heavenly Ark.

Gu Qing Shan replied: “No, we have to leave immediately, Reneedol will arrive in this world very soon”

Reneedol appeared right after he took the first Sealing Token.

So he decided to not take the second Sealing Token for now.

His number one priority right now was to survive.

Xiao Die spoke: “This place doesn’t have a Causality Law barrier, so if we want to leave, we can leave immediately. But the issue is where to?”

Gu Qing Shan replied: “Any place will do, Reneedol is going to arrive soon, we need to leave this place first, everything else can be left for later”

Fei Yue was surprised: “You mean she knows about this place? Blind big sister, your spirituality teleportation is the strongest type of warping technique we have, please take us away immediately!”

“Got it” the blind nun swiftly agreed.

A second later, Gu Qing Shan felt another wave of warp fluctuations around his body.

He entered a zone of emptiness, then gradually started to fly into the distance.

Not too long later, the empty void slowly became filled by darkness, causing Gu Qing Shan to feel like he had lost his sense of movement.

Like a man drowning in the middle of an ocean, he couldn’t move despite how hard he tried.

Lines of glowing text quickly appeared in front of Gu Qing Shan’s eyes:

[You've entered a spirituality teleportation state]

[As soon as you left your current world, you have exited this state and were caught by a different unique force]

[Attention, only you as an individual was brought out of Space and Time by this unique force]

Gu Qing Shan's heart felt heavy.

Has Reneedol already arrived?

That shouldn't be it, she said that she would return for Fei Yue's choice after fifteen minutes.

Because of how strong the Causality Law barrier was, they would have easily been trapped inside for several more days without any issues; and due to how strong she was, she should have calmly waited for that duration.

—time wasn't up yet, so she shouldn't have been able to detect that we've escaped.

On the other hand, a Combatant of the blind nun's level would not make an elementary mistake in creating something like a warp formation.

Then, what's going on here?

"Gongzi, something is off" Shannu's voice sounded.

Gu Qing Shan pondered: "Hm, it was most likely not Reneedol, otherwise she would have appeared already. Let's stay still and look out for any changes"

The darkness around him slowly faded away.

A flash of bright light.

Waves crashing all around.

Gu Qing Shan felt like he was immersed in moving water.

A line of glowing text appeared in front of his vision:

[The first Sealing Token you obtained has been automatically activated]

[It seems to have a unique mission]

[Attention, the following is a recorded message]

Sure enough, a voice then sounded by Gu Qing Shan's ear:

"Having reached the second sealing location but not taking the Sealing Token, you must have run into issues"

Boss' voice.

Gu Qing Shan confirmed: "Indeed, Renedol is keeping a close eye on me, as soon as I retrieve the second Sealing Token, I would simply be pointing the way for her to capture both me and the Token"

Boss continued: "I was able to predict this possibility, so now you must traverse a different path in order to avoid her"

"What path?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"The path inside the seal"

After answering him, Boss stopped talking.

Gu Qing Shan stood still, then suddenly found that he was holding a Card, on which the following lines of text were written:

[You are now my closest friend, taking on your alias as Rhode]

[In the very beginning, my name was Shroud]

A second later.

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The Card crumbled into sand before fading away, disappearing without a trace.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly found himself turned into a 7-8 years old child.

A regretful old voice sounded by his ears:

“You’ve done all you can, but it is too late, she is already dead”

His vision became bright.

A foreign world unfolded around him.

Sunlight.

Forest.

River.

A group of people were standing by the banks.

On the ground lay a small and petite body who seemed to be around 7-8 years old as well, one that had already lost all signs of life.

It was a young girl.

The one who just spoke earlier was a thin white-haired old man wielding a staff decorated with bones.

Observing his surroundings for a bit, Gu Qing Shan quickly understood the scene in front of him.

Everyone tried to save this young girl from the river, but she was already dead.

“Elder, is there really no hope at all?”

An immature voice asked.

Gu Qing Shan followed the voice to see that the one who asked was another child who looked to be 7-8 years old.

His skin was very well-tanned, but his eyes were shining incredibly bright and were full of spirit.

The elder sighed, then stroked the young boy’s head:

“Shroud, you were very heroic when you saved her, but not everyone is able to escape from the quagmire of death”

The boy stayed silent for a bit, then turned around to look at Gu Qing Shan.

“Rhode, can we really not save her?” Shroud asked.

Gu Qing Shan looked at the young girl’s body.

Her heartbeats have stopped for far too long.

She really can’t be saved.

Gu Qing Shan nodded and said: "Shroud, the Elder is right"

The other people around them also chimed in:

"This girl seems to be unfamiliar; she isn't someone from our Valley"

"That's right, take a look at the brand on her arm, she was most likely a slave who fled from somewhere and died as she fell into the water"

"Since the river had brought her body to us, let us bury her here"

"Perhaps, someone might even come to receive her corpse soon"

"Yeah"

Shroud walked forward and crouched down, studying the young girl's body a bit closer.

While the young girl was already dead, her expression carried a sense of peace and relief, as if she wasn't opposed to her ultimate fate.

Watching her for a while, Shroud suddenly smiled.

"What's the matter?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"Rhode, I've seen the scene of countless living beings at their deaths, but this was the first time I've seen someone so calm in the face of their own end"

Pausing for a brief moment, Shroud continued: "She is worthy of my salvation"

After saying that, the young boy reached his hand out and lightly knocked on the void of space.

Poof!

A green-robed pixie the size of his thumb appeared.

“Shroud, want to play today?” the pixie happily asked.

“No, I want to ask you to save someone today” Shroud said.

“This girl? Oh my, she’s already dead, it’s going to be a lot of trouble to save her” the pixie answered with a troubled tone.

“It’s ok, I know your rules, I’ll pay for it” Shroud replied.

He turned to Gu Qing Shan and gestured with his hand.

Gu Qing Shan searched himself and sure enough, found a bag of money.

He handed the bag to Shroud.

“I’m sorry Rhode, our treasures will probably be all used up now” Shroud said apologetically.

“It’s ok” Gu Qing Shan replied.

This seems to be the beginning of everything, and I’ve returned to the point when Boss was still young.

He prepared himself to observe further and collect more information, looking to see what were Boss’ intentions when sending him into this piece of memory.

Hearing him, Shroud turned the bag upside down and shook.

Various gems of every color fell to the ground.

The pixie exclaimed in shock: “Whoa, there are so many rare gems here, this one could only be found on top of a snowy mountain, this one from the depths of a volcano, and this one...”

The pixie suddenly regained his senses and swiftly put all the gems away.

After that was done, he took out a blank certificate with a serious expression, then put it on the young girl’s body in a dignified manner.

“This is the pixie’s certificate of reincarnation, an extremely precious item. If her name appears on it, that means that our pixie Quipcraft is able to resurrect her through reincarnation” the pixie explained.

“But what if her name doesn’t show up?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

The pixie sighed: “Then even we pixies would not be able to save her, I would have no choice but to return all of your gems”

Everyone waited for a while.

A word slowly manifested on the empty certificate.

[Reneedol]

Chapter 1425

Translator: La0o9

“Rhode, have you seen the Pixie Kingdom yet?” someone asked.

“Me? No, I haven’t” Gu Qing Shan replied.

“Ahaha, Rhode’s lying, he’s just joking with us” Shroud laughed out loud.

Everyone also laughed, even the Elder chuckled and told him: “Rhode, hand the Pixie Kingdom to me”

This time, Gu Qing Shan was unsure.

Earlier, I found a bag of money, then, do I have any other things on me?

Gu Qing Shan searched inside his tattered bag again and found something else.

A small wrinkled white flower.

“The Pixie Kingdom!”

The Elder took the flower, then muttered in a whisper: “Witness a new life”

The nearly wilted white flower flew away from his hand and began spinning in the air, quickly turning into the air itself.

Everything on the ground also changed accordingly.

A lush green meadow, numerous bushes of flowers, and houses of countless colors.

The pixies could be seen here, chasing, playing, making merry with one another without a care in the world.

As soon as the children and the Elder appeared, the pixies noticed them.

“Ah, the morons in the World Valley!”

“That’s right, the morons with the fewest numbers!”

“Why are you here?”

The pixies asked.

Shroud replied: "Hello everyone, our certificate has shown to be effective, please help me save a certain person"

The pixies surrounded and looked at the young girl on the ground, then looked at the name on the certificate

"Reneedol" one of the pixies muttered.

A white glow abruptly appeared around the pixie's body, which turned into a strong but gentle fragrance that drifted in every direction.

"This is a name favored by Fate!" another pixie exclaimed in shock.

The pixies turned serious.

They landed and stood around the young girl.

A pixie wearing a crown cleared his throat and asked: "Who was it that wanted to save this girl?"

"It was me" Shroud replied.

"So it was Shroud" the pixie fixed his crown to appear more dignified, then asked: "Why do you want to save her?"

"There's no special reason, I simply want to save her since I can" Shroud replied.

The crown-wearing pixie spoke: "Ah, foolish young man of the Realm race, as you have paid enough gems, we shall take a look to see who would descend upon this place today"

He took out a golden apple, placed it in the young girl's hands, then whispered: "Law Behemoths, today is the day of us pixie's offering. Perchance a Master of Law would be willing to arrive and consume this body without karma of death and direct it to a newborn dawn"

All the pixies became silent.

The world itself became silent.

This ritual was so divine that even the most stubborn pixie held its breath.

Gu Qing Shan saw with his own eyes how a pixie was about to sneeze, but to maintain the solemn atmosphere, had taken out a sledgehammer to literally knock itself out.

Something seemed to have arrived in the silence.

The young girl's body floated into the air before she was consumed by two rows of razor-sharp flaming teeth.

The owner of that giant maw still hadn't shown itself, only the maw was visible.

A gigantic eye with a striped vertical iris manifested in the sky, carefully looking at the ritual below.

After consuming the young girl, that entity spoke to the pixies with a resounding voice: 「 I have taken her body and robbed her soul of a place to reside, having no choice but to return to your world and accept her new Fate 」

A mass of fog manifested.

This fog then converged to form the body of a young girl with eight arms behind her back.

The voice from the void of space spoke: 「 After your rebirth, you shall gain eight kinds of power, or you can choose to discard all of these powers to pursue that which your heart desires 」

The young girl slowly closed her eyes, then asked: “Have I been saved?”

The entity from before repeated: 「 Indeed, you shall have eight kinds of powers, or you can live as you wish. You may choose now 」

The young girl kept her eyes closed, perhaps thinking of something as her eyebrows became furrowed, before shortly after raising her voice: “I want to triumph against Fate. I want to cut down every sin in existence”

As soon as she made her declaration, the eight arms behind the young girl’s back were completely burnt away, scattering into ash in the air before reforming as a pair of black wings behind her back.

In the sky, the striped vertical iris looked at the young girl and profoundly declared: 「 Reneedol, you possess two wings: one shall help you surpass all hardship and triumph against all enemies; the other shall help you accumulate power and become the companion of the strongest one 」

「 The stars are the manifestation of Fate; they shall decorate your wings and guide your way 」

From the void of space, a river of stars descended from above onto her wings, which gave off radiant light.

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This scene was so beautiful and so divine that everyone couldn’t help but watch in awe.

As the crocodile eye observed this, its body slowly faded away.

All of the supernatural phenomena that appeared swiftly vanished.

The young girl opened her eyes again, looking around herself.

She saw the numerous pixies as well as Shroud and the others.

She walked straight to Shroud before she knelt on her knee: "I can sense it; it was you who saved me"

Shroud helped her stand up and smiled: "It's fine, don't take it to heart"

Their eyes met.

Shroud's eyes were filled with warmth and joy, a bright smile on his face.

The young girl's profoundly still eyes reflected Shroud's joy.

"To triumph against Fate and to cut down every sin in existence; this isn't just a joke, this is what you truly desire, yes?" Shroud asked.

"It is" the young girl answered.

Shroud looked closely at the pair of wings with countless stars behind her back, then muttered: "How great, then from today onwards, there will be a new Profession in this Reality"

"You were the one who saved me, please grant my Profession a name" the young girl lowered her head.

Shroud thought briefly, then smiled: "Then it shall be known as the Angel of Condemnation"

"Yes" the girl replied.

...

Renedol then remained with Shroud and the rest.

Being taken care of by Shroud, she was given a cave that was connected to both of Shroud's and Gu Qing Shan's caves.

After they helped her settle in, it was already dark.

Everyone else had already left.

Shroud and Gu Qing Shan were also preparing to leave.

Shroud finally said: "Reneedol, this place is called the World Valley. If you are not strong enough, you would never be able to leave, so from tomorrow onwards, you will join us to learn the method to become stronger by the Elder"

"Alright" Reneedol replied.

Shroud nodded, then left the cave with Gu Qing Shan.

The two of them head back to their own places.

At this point, Gu Qing Shan wasn't too concerned about learning more about this world and instead whispered: "Shroud, why did you insist on saving her?"

Shroud asked in return: "Then, what would you do if you were in my shoes?"

Gu Qing Shan sighed.

It was correct to save her, but this salvation ended up with countless Deities perishing in the future.

However, all of that happened later on, and who could guarantee that they were able to foresee the future?

The Earth Creator was able to, but it still ended up dead.

Lady Fusi was able to as well, but she still has to continuously exert herself for the sake of the future.

On this day, Boss saved Reneedol, but countless years later, she killed him.

Fate is truly fickle and contradictory.

“...Shroud, have you fallen for that girl?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

Shroud didn't expect him to ask such a thing, so he sincerely answered: “That's a matter of the adults— and from what I've seen, I see that even the adult men like to hang out with men, women usually aren't their concern”

Gu Qing Shan refuted: “Hanging out is one thing, but women are a different matter”

Shroud asked: “Which matter?”

“Love— you're still young, you'll understand when you grow up” Gu Qing Shan replied.

“Rhode, are you saying you understand it?”

Shroud appeared full of curiosity.

“Of course I do, not like you later——” Gu Qing Shan managed to stop himself halfway through.

Shroud suddenly scoffed: “You fraud”

“Why did you call me a fraud?” Gu Qing Shan curiously asked.

Shroud replied: “I just used an investigation technique earlier and found that while you weren't lying, you only assumed that you understood”

“...Really?” Gu Qing Shan asked in surprise.

“Really” Shroud replied.

“I don’t believe it” Gu Qing Shan insisted.

“It’s the truth. The skill doesn’t lie, you don’t actually know anything about love at all, Rhode” Shroud told him very seriously.

“...”

“It’s ok, Rhode. You’re only eight years old, it’s still very early for love”

“...Thanks”

Chapter 1426

Translator: La0o9

A figure moved along the ground like flowing water, swiftly manifesting as seven figures.

Shroud observed his surroundings before shouting: “Found you!”

He casually tossed a mass of frost forward.

As soon as the frost left his hand, it turned into a glittering icicle spike that whistled through the air as it flew towards one of the figures.

Bang!

All the other figures disappeared, leaving only one figure who stopped the icicle.

The 8-year-old Gu Qing Shan.

“How did you know that I was here?” Gu Qing Shan asked in surprise.

——this was a movement technique Secret Art of the Hitman Guild, [Flowing Shadow Steps], yet it was seen through by Shroud at a single glance.

Shroud laughed: “Both your feet were on this world, of course, I would be able to sense which one was the real you”

As he said so, he had already leapt forward, now wielding a flaming saber in his hand.

Gu Qing Shan wielded a standard long sword from the Valley and parried his attack before instantly activated a Secret Art——

[Raising Despair!]

Gu Qing Shan unleashed three consecutive attacks in a row, each one faster and more ferocious than the last, striking Shroud’s saber again and again.

The first strike forced him back.

The second strike sent him flying.

And the third strike was a violent downward swing from above!

Shroud landed on the ground and used his flaming saber to block Gu Qing Shan’s third strike with all his strength.

With a resounding ‘dong’, both of them were forced to take a step back.

They were evenly matched!

This time, it was Gu Qing Shan's turn to be completely surprised.

Shroud was able to stop my Secret Art.

Although I wasn't fighting with my full strength, Shroud is still only 8 years old!

"How interesting, your sword is able to exert three consecutive strikes with different levels of power, you must have spent a lot of effort into it" Shroud pondered deeply.

"But you still managed to block it" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Shroud laughed, then replied: "That's because I borrowed the power of the world. When you attacked, I stopped you together with the world itself"

He raised his hand and pressed down from above.

An alarm immediately rang in Gu Qing Shan's mind as he began to swing his sword into blurred images.

Clang clang clang clang clang clang!

Boundless frost began to converge to form blades of ice that unleashed a flashy rain of attacks thanks to the power of the wind.

After one whole breath's worth of time, Gu Qing Shan swung a total of 700 times to completely defend against the attacks.

Shroud explained: "This is the power of Water and Wind, I am merely guiding them, but the power of Earth, Water, Fire, and Wind in this entire world is gathered inside my body— you were fighting against an entire world"

Gu Qing Shan shook his head: “Magic can’t be this powerful, what kind of technique are you using?”

“A World Technique” Shroud smiled and replied.

Gu Qing Shan was surprised.

Shroud told him seriously: “Rhode, you should listen a bit more carefully during the Elder’s lectures, if you are able to grasp the foundation of World Techniques, you’d be able to leave the Valley more easily”

“Hm, I understand” Gu Qing Shan replied.

— they teach World Techniques here?

World Techniques are abilities of unimaginable power.

Boss said that he brought me to this era because there was another path to reach the Sealing Tokens.

But now, it seems like I’ll be able to learn quite a few things from this era...

A figure walked in from outside the sparring ring.

Reneedol.

“It’s time for class” she looked at the two of them, finally resting her gaze at Shroud.

“Let’s go” Shroud patted Gu Qing Shan’s shoulder.

...

Just like that, the lesson was over.

Everyone went out towards the practice field and attempted to test what they had comprehended from the class.

Gu Qing Shan tried a few times, but still couldn't quite grasp the feeling.

"It's ok, continue experimenting"

The Elder stroked Gu Qing Shan's head and consoled him.

Gu Qing Shan looked towards the center of the practice field and saw Shroud with his eyes closed silently hovering in mid-air.

Four kinds of light were continuously circling around him almost like they were alive, pulsating and expanding.

"Shroud's talent is truly great" Gu Qing Shan exclaimed emotionally.

"That's right, he's a member of the Realm race, capable of communicating with the world at birth; most likely, he will go on to become the strongest among all of you— that's a good thing as well since that means the young girl that he saved would also become stronger with him" the Elder said.

Gu Qing Shan's gaze flickered a bit.

He saw Renedol standing just a bit away from Shroud with a book in her hand. As she chanted the incantations, she was easily able to unleash the power of various spells.

"This is the feeling of holding power in my own hands..." Renedol muttered.

Gu Qing Shan stopped watching.

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"Elder, is it really hard for normal people like us to communicate with the world?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

“This would depend on how deep your understanding of the world is. If you are able to understand the world, it would naturally embrace you in return, but Shroud’s talent is one-in-a-million, his ability to communicate with the world has far surpassed anyone I’ve ever seen” the Elder replied.

Gu Qing Shan nodded.

Boss was naturally the strongest, otherwise, he wouldn’t have become the ‘Lord of Infinite Origins’ later on.

“He truly is very strong” Gu Qing Shan commented.

The Elder smiled: “Indeed, he would eventually see through even more secrets behind the Laws, surpassing this old man”

The Elder patted Gu Qing Shan’s shoulder and turned to leave.

Gu Qing Shan fell into thought.

Let’s ignore Boss for now, I need to seriously study the knowledge of the World Valley.

—I’ve already managed to create my own World Technique, and the Elder has already explained the corresponding knowledge earlier, so I should take this chance to carefully think about this.

With that in mind, he walked to a secluded corner of the practice field, sat cross-legged, then began contemplating.

The Elder said that the essence of a so-called World Technique was to utilize the four Origin powers of Earth, Water, Fire, and Wind to invite the descension of a thread of the world spirit, then use this thread to resonate with the world and unleash powerful techniques.

Before...

When I first created a World Technique, I had to specifically venture out to find a fragment of a world destroyed by [Chaos] and collect the remnant of the world spirit from it in order to complete that technique.

Which means the crucial point of this process is to communicate with the world spirit.

What methods do I have to communicate with the world spirit?

After a moment of silence, Gu Qing Shan reached his hand out and clenched tightly.

Invisible fluctuations began to radiate from his body.

—-[Blessings of the Past Worlds]!

From the deep unknown, Gu Qing Shan suddenly felt a suffocating sensation.

While sitting down, he had lost the ability to breathe.

The thing in front of him was the practice field, but Gu Qing Shan was able to see through that and witness the truth of the world underneath.

—-an immensely grand and unparalleled entity was moving through the void of space.

Any of its actions, including the mere act of hovering, could easily destroy the entire World Valley, but it had easily restrained this power, only exuding the tiniest bit of it to stimulate the growth of all things and all living beings.

“A Law Behemoth...”

Gu Qing Shan muttered.

Law Behemoths were life forms manifested from the Laws of Reality, branches of the world spirit.

The Elder had also mentioned that they were currently too young and that it would already be impressive if they could establish contact with a branch of the world spirit.

Instantly.

The scene disappeared.

Gu Qing Shan began breathing heavily, his head was soaked in sweat while he was exhaustedly trying to breathe any bit of air he could.

“Rhode!” Shroud called out to him from afar.

He flew in front of Gu Qing Shan and excitedly said: “Earlier in the world of Laws and Origin power, I saw you— you’ve finally succeeded!”

“Thank you” Gu Qing Shan slowly backed off to lean against a wall, readjusting his heavy breathing.

Seeing him like this, Shroud smiled: “It’s always like this the very first time, once you manage to control the degree at which you release your mental power, you’ll end up much better”

“Got it”

Gu Qing Shan was also feeling a bit ecstatic.

He had never imagined that he would be able to observe another face of the world.

That was the essence and truth of the world itself.

For people from Shroud’s era, this might only be the foundation of one’s growth, but this was the first time Gu Qing Shan had even come into contact with it.

He benefited a lot from that.

Shroud suddenly lowered his voice and whispered: “Rhode, when you entered the world of Law just now, did you hear some sort of voice?”

“Voice?” Gu Qing Shan asked doubtfully.

“Yeah, did you hear someone talking to you?” Shroud appeared nervous.

“The Elder said that we wouldn’t be able to hold a conversation with the branches of the world spirit until we’re older, isn’t it still too early for that?” Gu Qing Shan replied.

“Not the world spirit, I’m talking about another voice” Shroud said.

Another voice?

Gu Qing Shan pondered a bit, then shook his head.

Shroud instantly appeared to be disappointed, but then quickly regained his composure and said: “It’s ok, you’ve only just managed to succeed for the very first time, maybe you’ll hear them in the future”

“What kind of voice did you hear?” Gu Qing Shan couldn’t help but ask.

Shroud hesitated, then looked up to observe their surroundings.

At this point, the Elder had already left, most of the children had also dismissed themselves from the practice field with only a few people left.

Shroud whispered: “I heard many desperate screams and cries for help, these voices sounded like they were full of despair, but they were too distant from us that I was only able to faintly hear them”

Gu Qing Shan frowned and appeared completely serious.

He asked in a soft voice: “Shroud, try recalling it a bit more clearly, what were those voices saying?”

Shroud appeared confused and replied: “I couldn’t understand those languages, but the emotions mixed within those voices were the same, so I had summarized them all into a word that we rarely ever use”

“What word is that?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

Shroud pursed his lips a bit before he uttered a single word: “Apocalypse”

Chapter 1427

Translator: La0o9

For some reason, Gu Qing Shan felt a sense of ridiculousness.

It was supposed to be Ye Fei Li who had the ability to hear everything in existence, but it turned out Boss was able to do this as well.

—except for Boss, this wasn’t an ability, but a technique.

A World Technique.

Techniques were more complicated, not quite as straightforward as abilities, but they could be made to be more intricate, containing more unimaginable power.

“You were able to hear ‘Apocalypse’?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“Yes” Shroud scratched his head: “I was able to sense that the voices were uttered by those living beings at the very moment before their deaths”

“Did you tell the Elder about this?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

Shroud appeared confused again, telling him: “I’ve asked the Elder. He said that our world only has the two circulating realms of Life and Death; all living beings and all things exist within the Life realm, but will eventually head into the eternal dusk of the Death realm”

“Did he say anything about the Apocalypse?” Gu Qing Shan pursued the question.

“He said that ‘Apocalypse’ is a word purely used in prophecies and prediction, a word to describe a possibility, but hadn’t actually occurred yet” Shroud replied.

“Let us change the question then, where do you think you heard the voices from?” Gu Qing Shan asked again.

Shroud pondered for a long while, then finally answered: “I feel like these voices did not come from this world, as they are very faint—- but the only thing outside of this world is the Boundless Void, so this is very strange”

Gu Qing Shan fell into thought, temporarily turning silent as well.

After one whole day, he had understood a lot more about this world’s common sense.

The World Valley is a high-level place of inheritance.

In this era, the ‘world’ refers to a single place where all living beings exist, the equivalent to Reality.

Outside of the world, there is only the Boundless Void.

At this point, the concept of parallel worlds didn’t exist, nor are there any parallel worlds.

Then where exactly did the screaming voices of ‘Apocalypse’ come from?

Gu Qing Shan had a sudden thought.

“You said that these voices were very faint—- can you describe or give some sort of analogy to this sensation?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

For an 8-year-old child, this question could be quite challenging.

After pondering for another while, Shroud seriously answered him: "It's like... you're talking to someone on this side of the mountain, but I just happen to hear you on the other side"

Gu Qing Shan continued: "If that's the case, isn't it more like you're listening from the other side of a door?"

Shroud's eyes instantly shined and began nodding excitedly: "Yes, that's exactly it, the people from outside the door are constantly screaming and crying in desperation, although I couldn't quite hear them clearly, I'm sure that this is the case!"

Gu Qing Shan silently sighed.

Barely 8 years old.

Capable of hearing voices from outside the Reality Gate.

Boss' power in this era is truly unimaginable.

Shroud resolutely clenched his fist and said: "I can sense it, once I've become stronger, I would be able to hear more things"

A voice suddenly called out:

"Then let us try our best and grow stronger together"

When the two of them looked, they saw Renedol heading towards them.

"It's time for dinner, Shroud, I want to eat with you"

She told him without reservation.

“Ah, sure, but let me change my clothes first. Wait here for me with Rhode”

After saying that, Shroud immediately ran off.

Reneedol had no choice but to stand with Gu Qing Shan and waited together.

Gu Qing Shan couldn't read anything from her gaze.

After thinking for a bit, Gu Qing Shan asked:

“Reneedol, what were you running from before you fell into the water?”

——this was the first chance he had gotten to ask the other party about why she had drowned herself.

Reneedol replied: “I was a slave in the Jungle of Elves and Giants”

“The Jungle of Elves and Giants!” Gu Qing Shan exclaimed in shock.

That place was a forest bigger than an entire world, situated in the north of the World Valley, relatively far away.

Reneedol lowered her gaze and spoke in a low voice: “That's right, it was that forest that forbids entry from all foreign living beings. Me and my older sister could not endure the enslavement of the giants, so we wanted to flee towards the elven side, but we were caught by the giant patrols”

“To cover for me, my older sister was caught by the giants—— she was eaten by them right away”

“I had to flee by myself and had no choice but to jump into the rushing water out of fear of being chased by the giants. In the end, I died of exhaustion, before I was saved by all of you”

Gu Qing Shan's thoughts turned a bit and asked: "What kind of creatures are the giants of the Jungle?"

"Cruel, malicious, selfish, heartless" Renedol replied.

Gu Qing Shan felt interested and wanted to ask more when Renedol said.

"Rhode, you like to continuously ask about people too much, that would drive people away from you"

Gu Qing Shan froze.

Renedol turned around and headed towards the cafeteria.

"It's rude to peek into others' past—— wait here for Shroud, I'm going to eat first"

She left.

Gu Qing Shan stood still, his gaze slowly became profound.

"An individual who swore to triumph against Fate and to cut down every sin..."

He muttered to himself.

Suddenly, his surroundings became dark.

Everything outside a certain distance became isolated from the darkness.

Boss' voice sounded again:

“I’ve never once questioned Reneedol’s answer, nor have I ever tried to investigate it. Most likely, I’ve already fallen for her at first sight”

“But at a certain point in the future, when I finally wanted to know the truth, it was already too late”

“To that end, I created a Causality Law technique”

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“The Causality Law was as follows:”

“Prove Reneedol’s words, or see through her lie. Once you’ve achieved this goal, you will automatically obtain the second Sealing Token”

“This is a Causality Law that I established myself, so not even Reneedol would be able to avoid it!”

“Gu Qing Shan, you can remain in this era to continue cultivating, or you can help me confirm the truth and obtain the Sealing Token”

“All in all... I no longer have any other friends”

“You will have to decide this by yourself”

Boss’ voice slowly faded away.

Gu Qing Shan stood still and silently listened.

Search for the truth, and I’ll obtain the second Sealing Token.

Or ignore the search for the Sealing Token entirely and remain in this era to cultivate with Boss?

If that’s the case, would I be able to become as powerful as the Lord of Infinite Origins?

No.

There’s no meaning in living in the past.

In the end, even Boss’ body was destroyed by the Apocalypses.

—the real thing I need to do right now is to ensure that Reneedol wouldn’t be able to obtain the other part of Boss’ body!

Gu Qing Shan took a deep breath before he gathered his bearing, then began running into a secluded corner of the Valley.

...

The river.

The river was rapidly rushing from the distant upstream, passing through the World Valley as it continued to curve and wind downstream.

Standing at the bank of the river, Gu Qing Shan looked upstream.

This world only had a single river like this, one that connected all civilizations and all regions.

In many civilizations, it had been once hailed as the River of Fate.

Renedol was brought to the World Valley by flowing down this river.

Gu Qing Shan quickly entered the water.

The water was frigid, intense, and completely enveloped his body as if it was urging him to move with the flow.

“Alright, guess I’m going to make a trip to the Jungle of Elves and Giants to investigate”

Gu Qing Shan muttered.

He began moving against the flow and headed up the river.

...

At another location.

The World of the Spire floating through time in the Temporal Oasis.

Boss was standing alone on the roof of a lone spire, holding a glass of wine in his hand as he silently watched the frigid rain pouring on this world.

Even though it had been countless years, the memories of distant yesteryear that had faded away would occasionally resurface clearer than ever.

They were reminding him that everything still wasn't over yet.

"Reneedol..."

He sighed with a slightly lonely expression.

The rain shower was pouring even more intensely.

Suddenly, a figure flew in from afar and landed next to him.

"It's not a good habit to soak in the rain" Barry commented.

He offered Boss a cigar.

"I can't get used to smoking this" Boss declined.

Barry lit a fire with his finger to light the cigar, then teased him: "What? You're crying here alone cause I beat you up earlier this afternoon?"

Boss' eyebrows slightly twitched, his voice now had a small hint of anger.

"Damn it Barry, you said it would be a boxing match, so where the hell were you aiming at?"

"Ahahaha, what a naïve guy. Victory in a fight calls for every last trick in the book, if you can't even act shamelessly, what could you actually achieve?"

“Shameless? I’ve never gotten into debt everywhere like you people”

The two of them exchanged a long mutual stare.

Boss suddenly accepted the cigar, then lit it up.

“I’ll say this first, when I beat the shit and piss out of you later on, don’t cry for mercy” he leisurely said.

Barry smirked and replied: “I’ll feed you every bit of shit and piss you excrete”

Boom!

Thunder cracked in the distance.

The two of them flew into the air and went straight into physical close combat in the rain shower.

At a distance.

A certain bar several dozen miles away.

Kitty scoffed, then jokingly said: “Crude men— I bet 20 credits that my brother wins”

Zhang Ying Hao pushed his glasses up, pulled out 30 credits from his pocket and threw it on the bar counter.

“Big sis Kitty, this is the romance of men— I bet that Boss wins”

Ye Fei Li, who was playing with a handheld console as usual, casually tossed a few coins onto the table and said: “I bet that Barry wins”

Zhang Ying Hao stared straight at him.

Ye Fei Li didn't look up and explained: "This is wrestling, not a deathmatch, Boss lost the moment he accepted, not shameless enough"

Anna was listening from the very beginning and also nodded her head in agreement: "Right, Barry is really dirty when it comes to fighting, I'm betting on Barry"

After saying so, she raised a bottle of liquor and chugged it down.

"Oi, where's your bet?" Zhang Ying Hao asked.

Anna clapped her hands.

Laura jumped up and slammed a huge bag full of colorful crystals onto the table.

Everyone fell silent.

"Your bet is too much, we're only playing around here, can you not go overboard?" Zhang Ying Hao struggled to keep a calm voice.

Chapter 1428

Translator: La0o9

Ten miles.

Walking upstream on top of the surging river, Gu Qing Shan continued moving along the winding path continuously for ten miles.

His surroundings began to change.

Lines of text appeared on the War God UI:

[You've left the domain of the World Valley]

[At this very moment, you have entered the domain of Wild Nature City]

[A temporary mapping function has been activated and is currently recording map data according to the discovered path]

The War God UI is recording map data!?

Gu Qing Shan looked at these lines of text in surprise, then looked at the banks of the river on both sides.

This region was extremely sparse with only barren sand beaches on both sides.

While continuing forward, Gu Qing Shan asked: "War God UI, what kind of place is Wild Nature City?"

[Unclear, the Laws of Reality only displayed this name] the War God UI replied.

"You can see the names manifested by the Laws?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

[You can also communicate with the Laws; you're just not used to it yet] the War God UI answered.

Gu Qing Shan face-palmed himself.

That's true, I've just learnt how to observe Origin power and the world of Laws——

Gu Qing Shan continued to move forward for a while, but felt a little impatient and decided to go onto the river bank.

Taking a deep breath, he silently clenched his fist and activated [Blessings of the Past Worlds]

Thanks to this blessing, he once again attempted to contact the Origin of the world!

Suddenly, everything around him became transparent.

A gigantic figure appeared from the void of space and spoke in a thunderous loud voice:

「 Youngster from the World Valley, welcome to Wild Nature city 」

As the voice disappeared, so did the figure.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly sensed a trove of new knowledge appearing in his mind.

*—Wild Nature City can be considered to be a completely different civilization from the World Valley.
In this place, wild beasts are the main proponents of civilization and development.*

After absorbing all of this knowledge, Gu Qing Shan's body became limp as he collapsed to his knees.

“Hoh... hoh... hoh...” he breathed heavily, attempting to ease the fatigue brought by his communication with the Law Behemoth.

This only happened because I overexerted myself in order to communicate with the world.

Shroud is already an expert, capable of using the power of Laws in combat without even feeling exhausted.

Gu Qing Shan sat still to rest while continuing to compile his newfound experience before finally standing back up.

“The power of the world...”

He was feeling a bit impatient to try it again.

This was the most foundational desire of a living being, wishing to receive the recognition and protection of the world itself, as well as its cooperation.

Gu Qing Shan drew the Earth sword and formed a stance in place.

He took a deep breath and held it.

Then he began to use his own will to reach out to the Laws of Reality.

After a while, Gu Qing Shan's body slumped abruptly.

A wild and unrestrained force had descended upon his sword.

Boundless wind was drifting around his sword, blowing the sand around him into dust devils, gathering and becoming increasingly greater until it eventually became a wall of wind and sand that connected heaven and earth.

Gu Qing Shan lightly lifted his sword until it was level with his shoulders.

At that instant, he sensed a sort of hallucination.

He felt like he was the world itself.

Gu Qing Shan took two deep breaths, slowly relaxed himself, then spoke:

"Thank you, I don't need it right now"

Instantly, he receded away from that state.

The hallucination from earlier could no longer be felt.

The sky-high sandstorm gradually subsided, proving that something had indeed occurred just now.

Standing in the wind, Gu Qing Shan lightly sighed.

“Using the world as my sword... I’ve never even imagined such a thing. How would this kind of swordsmanship even continue to develop?”

Gu Qing Shan fell into thought.

My swordsmanship had converged from ten thousand swords to a single strike and is now currently in the process of diverging to become ten thousand swords again.

Xie Gu Hong was a wielder of seven swords.

But now, I seemed to have gained a different kind of enlightenment.

How would the path of my swordsmanship continue from this point on?

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Wielding his sword, Gu Qing Shan stood blankly.

At this moment, heaven and earth became silent, his surroundings went still.

Gu Qing Shan stood alone on top of the sandy banks with his head lowered to the ground, pondering his swordsmanship without uttering a sound.

Night shifted into Day.

Morning dew had settled on top of leaves.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly spoke: “There are no issues with the path of my swordsmanship, it is still turning one sword into ten thousand swords”

“However...”

“Above one sword diverging to ten thousand swords, there exists an even higher realm!”

As soon as he said this, Gu Qing Shan suddenly felt like a set of restraints had come undone, his entire body felt like it had disappeared and became one with the world.

He subconsciously let go of the Earth sword.

Chao Yin, Heaven, Earth, and Six Paths Great Mountain sword, all appeared around him at once.

“Release!”

Gu Qing Shan uttered a curt shout.

The four swords shot forward, simultaneously unleashing attacks in different directions.

The Chao Yin sword unleashed a light-blue sword phantom, Secret Art [Crescent Slash]!

The Heaven sword unleashed two thrusting sword phantoms in opposite directions, Secret Art [Swallow Returns]!

The Earth sword split off into countless black sword images, Secret Art [Drawn Shadows]!

The Six Paths Great Mountain sword thrust forward, unleashing a tsunami of sword phantoms towards the surging river, Secret Art [Torrent]!

With his gaze, Gu Qing Shan’s iris glittered with a faint yellow glow before unleashing countless invisible slashes towards the sky.

Divine Skill, [Forgetting River Severance]!

In an instant, Gu Qing Shan had unleashed five Secret Arts!

In the past, he only needed a single strike to kill an opponent, but now, he could simultaneously unleash several Secret Arts without any delay.

The Earth sword's heavy mountainous voice resounded:

「 Excellent, truly impressive. I really can't imagine how others would be able to stop your attacks 」

Luo Bing Li commented: "With five strikes attacking all at once combined with my [Heaven's Choice], it would only become even more powerful!"

Shannu said with delight: "Gongzi, congratulations, your swordsmanship had improved one step further"

Chao Yin sword let out a doubtful 'wu wu' sound.

The Earth sword explained: 「 Chao Yin, he isn't simply controlling ten thousand swords at once like before. Each of these attacks contains his full strength, each sword seal is filled to their limit, it's completely incomparable to a simple Sword Saint 」

The Chao Yin sword was still a bit doubtful, but after a while, it gave off a chime and became relaxed once again.

The Earth sword said: 「 Yup, if you can't understand, you don't have to, just follow his lead and show off your might 」

Gu Qing Shan sighed emotionally: "It was only today that I finally managed to comprehend the principles behind diverging one sword into many; but my Great Master, Xie Gu Hong, had already managed to realize these principles during the Age of Old, a true unparalleled hero of humanity, no wonder those Divinities were so wary of him"

Xie Gu Hong was able to unleash seven sword strikes simultaneously, each one consisting of his full strength; it didn't take much to see just how terrifying that would be.

No wonder sword cultivators were always so feared the more advanced a cultivation civilization became.

Recalling the heroic sacrifices of the cultivators in Xie Gu Hong's generation, Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but feel sorrowful again.

Fortunately, I was ultimately able to obtain the twin swords Heaven and Earth, not letting their efforts go to waste.

At this point, a line of glowing text suddenly appeared on the War God UI:

[You've reached the lowest required threshold for comprehending 'Enemy-killing Sword Technique']

[The 'Enemy-killing Sword Technique' hidden within the Coin of the Earth is slowly awakening]

[Once you've fully grasped the divergence of one sword into many, you will enter a state of enlightenment and officially begin to comprehend his Bygone Era sword technique]

Skimming through those words, Gu Qing Shan felt like another heavy set of restraints had been lifted off of him and sighed in relief.

My swordsmanship that had been stagnant for so long is finally improving again, such a joyous thing.

But even more worthy of celebration is that my swordsmanship had reached divergence into five swords, and it would only diverge even more in the future.

Right at this time, [Enemy-killing Sword Technique] has finally begun to awaken.

I'm looking forward to it very much, I wonder how far the Bygone Era humans were able to develop their swordsmanship.

With that in mind, Gu Qing Shan felt a little bit less interested in Wild Nature City.

How could something from outside possibly compare to the results of one's own achievements?

He flew back onto the river and began walking upstream again, moving against the water and wind.

On his way, he crossed many other domains like the Metal City, Merlin's Hut, the Barren Wetlands, Dragon Cavern, and Gear Fort, witnessing all sorts of unimaginable things.

Gu Qing Shan discovered that each domain was under the protection of a different Law Behemoth.

As he thought about it, this was similar to the future where each world had its own world spirit.

It was quite wondrous.

After several days of travel.

He finally reached his destination.

— the Jungle of Elves and Giants.

Chapter 1429

Translator: La0o9

From a distance, one could see the black clouds far upstream of the river.

The closer he got to the Jungle of Elves and Giants, the colder and more frigid became the river water. This coldness completely ignored Gu Qing Shan's passive protection and was directly affecting his body and soul.

— what a miraculous river this was.

Bolts of lightning were streaking across the sky.

Heavy rain and storms descended on the ground.

The sky was dark.

Standing in the middle of the river, Gu Qing Shan felt doubtful.

— it feels like something has occurred in this forest.

He became cautious, slowed down, then slowly flew towards the riverbank.

Finally, his feet landed on top of solid rock.

His surroundings instantly went dark.

Two lines of glowing text quickly appeared:

[You've left the Gear Fort domain]

[You've entered the Jungle of Elves and Giants domain]

Gu Qing Shan thought briefly, then began flying backwards.

He went away from the Jungle of Elves and Giants, returning to the river.

The sky eased up.

The world lit up again.

Although it was still a bit gloomy, it wasn't quite the complete darkness that he saw in the forest.

"How strange, it seems as if this darkness belongs to the jungle itself"

Gu Qing Shan pondered, then once again returned to the rock on the riverbank.

The world went dark once again.

Gu Qing Shan formed a Presence Concealment hand seal, then attempted to release his inner sight.

In the void of space, various jumbled-up forces were clashing against one another in complete chaos.

Gu Qing Shan's inner sight was limited within a radius of several dozen meters around himself, unable to extend any further.

—something has definitely happened here.

Having determined this, Gu Qing Shan swiftly became cautious.

Wielding the Earth sword in his hand, Gu Qing Shan entered the jungle step by step.

It was even darker inside the jungle, making it impossible to see anything with the naked eye.

Occasionally, a flash of lightning would light up the surroundings, but only for an instant.

Gu Qing Shan slowly moved forward through the intense rain.

After walking for a while, he suddenly stopped.

Not too far away from where he was, a thin and feeble man had fallen with a pool of blood under him but was still moaning in pain.

He wore tattered clothing made out of wood bark, both his arms and feet were bound by shackles, his expression was weak and drained.

Most importantly, there was a brand on his arm.

—-the brand of a slave.

The exact same one as the brand on Renedol's arm!

The large beads of rainwater were mercilessly striking his body, thoroughly soaking him.

Gu Qing Shan walked forward as he let go of the Earth sword, then lifted his clothes to examine his wounds.

Noticing someone approaching, the man mustered his strength to look up and beg: "Save... save me..."

Gu Qing Shan formed a healing hand seal, lightly pressed his hand on the other party's wounds and asked: "Who are you? Why are you here?"

He was looking at the set of shackles.

The shackles were clearly engraved with a set of intricate runes that gave off the fluctuation of the restraining power of Law.

— — —after he was able to communicate with the Laws of Reality, he had gained the benefit of being able to sense the general usage of any artifacts imbued by the power of Law.

All of this man's powers were being sealed away.

How strange, if Reneedol was also a slave, why did she not have any restraints when she was discovered?

“Ahhh...” the man moaned, slowly regaining his spirits.

Lifeforce was flowing throughout his body to heal his wounds.

It was only now that the man had gathered enough strength to answer Gu Qing Shan:

“I’m a slave caught by the Jungle Elves. A war had recently broken out between the elves and giants, so slaves like us had taken advantage of the chaos to flee”

“How did you become a slave for the elves?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“I came from upstream of the River of Fate, a mercenary from the Silver Kingdom—”

While Gu Qing Shan was listening, he heard an abrupt thunder crack in the sky.

Without hesitation, Gu Qing Shan swung his sword towards the sky.

Clang!

An arrow was sent flying.

Gu Qing Shan stood up and shielded the man from any other dangers.

“Who is it that won’t even ignore a man that is already on the brink of death?” he coldly asked

Two figures appeared from between the trees.

One man, one woman.

Their bodies were firmer yet still appeared more delicate compared to humans, their hair was respectively blond and black, both of them wielding a longbow in their hands.

They were Jungle Elves.

They were a species that belonged to a highly-developed civilization and were frequently being graced by unconditional gifts from the various Laws of Reality, which made them both powerful and wealthy.

“You’re decently strong, no wonder you have the courage to save a fugitive” the male elf observed Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan shrugged and explained: “I have no intention of fighting you, but this man is heavily injured, so I simply wanted to save him”

This elf should be quite skillful with assassination techniques.

The arrow shot by taking advantage of the thunder crack was quite powerful.

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The female elf stared closely at Gu Qing Shan and questioned: “Who are you? Where did you come from?”

“I’m from the World Valley” Gu Qing Shan replied.

“Ah? Then... please prove your identity” the male elf said in surprise.

With a slight wave of Gu Qing Shan’s sword, invisible power could be felt descending and drifting around the sword.

At this very moment, the two elves fell into a hallucination that this boy in front of them was the avatar of the Jungle itself.

“Capable of communicating with the world to obtain the power and protection of the Law Behemoth, as expected of someone from the World Valley”

After saying so, the two elves put their longbows away and bowed respectfully towards Gu Qing Shan.

Their attitudes had gotten a lot better.

“Please wait a moment, we need to report this to the Capital” the female elf said.

She produced a canary, then quickly spoke to it.

The canary took flight and swiftly disappeared without a trace.

Gu Qing Shan asked: “Why did you want to kill this person earlier?”

“Your excellency, this is our slave, so it is our privilege to treat him as we wanted” the female elf explained.

Gu Qing Shan crouched down again, using a healing technique to heal the man’s body and muttered: “I’ve always thought that the elven civilization was an advanced one, not one that still condones slavery”

The man on the ground coughed loudly, propping himself with both hands, attempting to stand up.

Despite trying many times, he still couldn’t succeed and instead left several claw marks on the ground.

Gu Qing Shan looked at the claw marks.

The chaotic marks formed two words: [Hurry run]

Gu Qing Shan stood still without changing his expression.

After thinking briefly, he took out the Six Paths Great Mountain sword and cut open the man's shackles.

The man's eyes opened wide, his entire body started erupting with an unnamed presence.

"You were actually able to destroy their restraints— let's run!" he shouted.

"Wait a moment, we won't be able to leave just yet" Gu Qing Shan leisurely said.

The man was surprised, then his expression changed.

Boom!!!

A bolt of lightning streaked across the sky, illuminating their surroundings.

On the surrounding grass fields, on top of the uneven jungle terrain, on top of the tree branches, there were elves all around them.

They had been surrounded.

Gu Qing Shan looked to the other side and saw that the look of respect on the original two elves' expressions was no longer there.

"Ahahaha, a slave from the World Valley would definitely be able to do a lot" the male elf laughed.

Gu Qing Shan doubtfully asked: "So it's your habit to randomly grab people you see?"

“Only curs can serve the noble—— go!” the female elf ordered.

Gu Qing Shan sighed.

At some unknown point, the sword he was wielding had already disappeared.

The rain had stopped.

Darkness even more profound compared to the night sky shot up from the ground of the forest, ripping apart everything around Gu Qing Shan and the man.

Chao Yin sword, [Drawn Shadow].

Heaven sword, [Drawn Shadow].

Earth sword, [Drawn Shadow].

Six Paths Great Mountain sword, [Drawn Shadow].

All four of his swords had turned into images, unleashed the Secret Art and bloomed all the way to the sky!

Oooooo———

The sharp noise of the swords rang out and faded into the distant sky.

One breath.

Two breaths.

Three breaths.

Splish splash.

Rain began to fall once again.

And with it, came a shower of blood.

Standing in the middle of the rain, Gu Qing Shan flourished his sword.

“A noble had never needed anyone to serve them, only disgusting people do”

He casually commented.

The man next to him was completely shocked.

“Are... the people from the World Valley all as strong as you are?” he couldn’t help but ask.

Gu Qing Shan shrugged and replied: “I’ve only just joined them today, I’m a new student”

“Then, why did you come here?” the man asked.

Gu Qing Shan replied: “Ah, something happened on our side, since I’m a newcomer, I was sent to seek out family members and such—— do you know a slave called ‘Reneedol’?”

“Slave!? You’re joking. The elves would definitely not grant this name to any slaves!” the man shouted out loud.

Gu Qing Shan was also unsure, so he asked: "Why is that?"

The man explained: "This is the best word within the language of the elves and giants. I've only just understood the implications behind this word after staying in the elven country for the past few years"

Gu Qing Shan was a bit surprised.

If that was the case, then Reneedol wasn't actually a slave at all?

But she was clearly wearing slave garments and had a slave brand on her arm.

"I've also studied Elvish, but I still don't know what the word 'Reneedol' represents in their language" Gu Qing Shan said.

The man lowered his voice before he translated its meaning: "A beautiful flower fluttering in the dawn wind"

Chapter 1430

Translator: La0o9

Gu Qing Shan fled with the man for a bit before hiding behind a large tree.

"Have you ever seen this girl?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

A mass of light manifested on top of his hand to display Reneedol's form.

The man shook his head: "Never seen her. In the elves' territory, we're only allowed to do the lowest of lowly jobs, there are a lot of places that servants aren't even allowed to enter"

"What about slaves then?" Gu Qing Shan questioned further.

“They’re the same, and if such a beautiful girl really was a slave, she would definitely be the personal belonging of a certain Elven Lord, I would never have been able to see her” the man replied.

Gu Qing Shan commented: “Furthermore, the elves would not grant the name ‘Reneedol’ to a slave”

“Yes” the man affirmed.

Gu Qing Shan briefly pondered and said: “Don’t speak”

He raised his hand to form a clenched fist.

——[Blessings of the Past Worlds]!

A suffocating sensation struck him.

Gu Qing Shan didn’t sit still this time, instead, he began to adjust the state of his body and mind, preparing for the descent of the World’s Law.

——he was gradually figuring out the correct method to no longer burn himself out right away.

The darkness around him slowly faded as a different world that was hidden in the darkness appeared within Gu Qing Shan’s perception.

A boundlessly vast and grand entity laid there, slowly breathing their last.

Gu Qing Shan was surprised.

“The Law Behemoth... seems to be injured”

He silently recalled the Elder's teachings, then began to respectfully ask that entity with a tone of concern:

“Venerable lord manifestation of Law, I am Rhode of the World Valley, how may I be of use to you?”

That entity twitched a bit, then weakly replied: 「 So it was someone from the World Valley, no wonder you were able to see me, but you cannot help me, I will require nothing less than the lengthy passage of time in order to recover 」

Gu Qing Shan cautiously asked: “What happened here?”

The Law Behemoth replied: 「 A certain ominous Fate had begun. And I, as the foundation of Law, one directly responsible for this karma, I cannot put the truth of Fate into words. The silence stance is one I must assume 」

Gu Qing Shan said: “You do not need to explain anything, venerable one, please give me a small bit of insignificant guidance and I shall look for the truth myself”

The Law Behemoth spoke: 「 Very well, I can tell you one thing. At the border between the elves and giants, there exists a great tree that covers the sky. That is the Great Tree of Fate, something that I had invited many other Law Behemoths to aid me in the sowing of the seeds for. Originally... 」

「 Hah 」 the Law Behemoth sighed heavily, then continued: 「 If you can reach the tree before it withers away, you will find your answer 」

「 Be on your way, boy from the World Valley. The elves and giants have already begun their war, if you are late, you will never be able to arrive 」

The Behemoth then disappeared once again.

The world of Law and Origin power had vanished from Gu Qing Shan's vision.

The profound sensation from before had disappeared, but Gu Qing Shan still had no idea what the other party was talking about.

Perhaps I will only learn the truth by personally taking a look.

Gu Qing Shan wiped the sweat from his forehead and lightly sighed.

—I'm still a bit tired.

I wonder when I'd reach Boss' level, capable of reinforcing myself with the power of the world in order to use in long-term combat.

While he was thinking, a series of noises would be heard from the dark forest.

Sha... sha... sha...

Gu Qing Shan concealed his presence, lowered his head, and silently waited.

Not too long later, 7-8 figures appeared within his inner sight.

It was a group of humans with both men and women, all of them were wearing tattered clothing, some of them were still wearing shackles on their legs.

"They're on our side" the man said.

He put his fingers on his mouth and imitated the call of a bird.

The group of men and women stopped.

One of them made a gesture for the others not to move.

He stepped forward and whispered: "Silver Arrogance"

The man then imitated a long bird call.

The other man relaxed, then waved to everyone behind him:

“No need to worry, it’s Little John”

The others smiled.

“It’s ok, it’s sir Knight”

“He also managed to escape!”

“Come on, let’s follow him”

They whispered to one another.

Gu Qing Shan asked the man called Little John: “Why didn’t you just show yourself earlier? Was the secret signal really necessary?”

Little John explained: “It couldn’t be helped; the elves like to disguise themselves as runaway slaves and slaughter those who lower their guards”

Gu Qing Shan shook his head: “This forest is truly dangerous”

Both sides met up.

Gu Qing Shan looked at the group of people.

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Both the men and women appeared to be healthy and well-built, but because of the shackles they were carrying, their powers were sealed off, unable to exert any strength.

Gu Qing Shan drew his sword and broke their chains.

“Head in the Southwest direction, there’s a small winding path there that will eventually take you straight to the River of Fate, as soon as you follow the River of Fate downstream, you’ll regain your freedom” he told everyone.

They all uttered a stifled cheer.

“But we still haven’t gotten our revenge” Little John suddenly said.

He wiped the rainwater off his face and loudly told everyone: “Have you forgotten the suffering we’ve faced being enslaved by the elves? If we won’t come up with a way to get back at them for that humiliating period, what kind of warriors would we be!?”

Seeing how their fighting spirits were about to be relit, Gu Qing Shan scowled: “What revenge? With just a few of you here, you’re no match for the elves at all, just go”

When Little John was about to say something else, Gu Qing Shan didn’t want to waste any more time.

He equipped the Title [Reality’s Most Amorous Man] and activated its Title Skill.

Gu Qing Shan told them: “The giants and elves are about to go to war. If you really want to take revenge, head to a city either upstream or downstream and recuperate yourselves, once both sides have suffered enough casualties and settled back down, there would still be time for you to take revenge”

Everyone was surprised.

“That makes sense” Little John confirmed before anyone else.

“My god, he really convinced me”

“That does make a lot of sense”

“Indeed, that’s the best plan”

“Come, let’s head out!”

Everyone discussed among themselves, then quickly prepared to leave.

Little John handed a silver medallion to Gu Qing Shan and patted his shoulder: “You’ve saved all of us, please keep this medallion and come visit Silver Arrogance at any time, I’ll be sure to thank you for everything”

Gu Qing Shan accepted the medallion and urged them: “Make sure to stay safe on your journey, now go”

Little John nodded resolutely.

He took a few steps back, turned around, then followed everyone.

Gu Qing Shan stood still.

It was only when they couldn’t see him any longer that he softly said: “Come out”

Dong.

Dong.

The earth trembled.

A giant that was ten meters in height walked out from the darkness.

「 Small and feeble lifeform, what was the power you used to focus on me? 」 the giant asked.

“Sword will” Gu Qing Shan replied.

「 I was able to sense your will, so I waited until they had left before I came out to see you 」 the giant said, then took a step back and slightly bowed.

He appeared to be quite old.

Seeing that, Gu Qing Shan also clasped his fist.

Reneedol said that the giants were a cruel, malicious, selfish, and heartless race.

But the giant I see here doesn't seem to want to fight.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly recalled the giants he had seen within Huang Quan.

Not all of the giants there were always immersed in killing and slaughter.

Some of them even helped me in the end.

Gu Qing Shan retracted his killing intent and asked: “Your grace, why did you remain hidden in the darkness to peek at us?”

「 I had seen everything that happened earlier. Not only were you powerful, but you also spoke words that made a lot of sense, and your words were not only easy to the ear but also contained the power to subconsciously change one's thought process— I want to invite you to join us and become the mediator between us and the elves 」 the giant said.

Gu Qing Shan was a bit surprised.

“Mediate?” he asked.

「 Yes, there really is no issue with Reneedol leaving us, as there was still the other fruit born by the Twin Tree of Fate. While she is still tiny and weak, both of our races could cooperate to raise and nurture her, helping her grow 」 the giant said.

Gu Qing Shan replied: “Wait a minute, can you explain everything to me from the beginning?”

The giant sighed, then said: 「 The war has already begun, we do not have much time. I can only summarize what happened for you 」

“Please go ahead” Gu Qing Shan nodded.

The giant cleared his throat, then said: 「 Long, long ago, the Twin Tree of Fate bore two fruits, handing down with them a prophecy. It was said that these two fruits require the shelter and aid of our races of giants and elves in order to grow 」

「 Once they had awoken, the elves and we giants would each welcome a powerful Guardian of Fate of our own 」

「 These two guardians were both immensely powerful, capable of helping us giants and elves triumph against many of our future plights, becoming the most powerful civilizations on this world 」

「 ——when the two fruits appeared on the tree, one of them took up the position to heed the light of dawn, blocking the light from reaching the other fruit, displaying both its immense beauty and potential 」

「 The elves favored this fruit of Fate, calling her ‘Reneedol’ 」

「 They meticulously protected this fruit, even resorting to secretly interfering to ensure the majority of the Tree of Fate’s power to nurture and raise this fruit 」

Gu Qing Shan couldn’t help but ask: “What about the other fruit?”

The giant replied: 「 The other fruit had never said a single word, it was only when we discovered the elves’ shameless act and prepared to fight against them that she finally spoke up 」

The giant appeared reminiscent, then explained: 「 That fruit told us that ‘Reneedol’ was her older sister, that her older sister was only desperate to grow stronger that she was in so much of a hurry, so she begged us not to be petty for her sake 」

「 As the guardian had spoken, we could no longer compete against the elves 」

「 Most of the Twin Tree of Fate’s power continued to be absorbed by ‘Reneedol’, leaving only the littlest bit left for the other fruit 」

「 After many years, during the past few days, the fruit called ‘Reneedol’ suddenly sucked the Twin Tree of Fate’s power completely dry, then silently left this forest before the tree withered 」

「 ——the elves did everything to help her grow, only for her to ultimately discard them 」

「 And so, the elves are now trying to compete against us for the remaining fruit 」

The giant uttered a heavy sigh, then continued: 「 In this current situation, we giants and elves really should not be fighting a war, but gathering both of our races’ power to think of a way to save the Twin Tree of Fate 」

「 This would be the only way for the remaining fruit to also survive 」

「 She is our only remaining hope 」

Gu Qing Shan’s heart suddenly began beating faster.

He maintained his calm and lightly asked: “Please tell me the name of the other fruit”

The giant replied: 「 She resides at the back of the tree, never once had she been able to see the light of dawn, nor the immense sunlight at noon, only at sunset would she be able to bask in the final rays of dimming radiance 」

「 Because of that, we called her—— Dusk 」