

Apocalypse 1431

Chapter 1431

Translator: La0o9

Dusk.

As soon as Gu Qing Shan heard this name, Gu Qing Shan became speechless.

Little Dusk...

So this was where she was born.

He looked up at the old giant.

“I’m willing to mediate for you, can you take me there now?” he asked.

The giant delightedly replied: 「 The war has already begun, we must act swiftly and be on our way—— come, stand on my shoulder 」

Gu Qing Shan lightly leapt and stood firmly on the giant’s shoulder.

「 Brace yourself, I will begin to run 」

“Got it”

The giant swiftly began running as fast as he could towards the depths of the forest.

Dong! Dong! Dong! Dong!

Every step he took, a large shallow hole was left on the ground, his body moved like a series of blurred images that continuously traversed through a large distance.

Standing on his shoulder, Gu Qing Shan was able to feel the wind blowing at his face.

“How can that tree be saved?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

The giant replied with a booming voice: 「 I’m not sure, but the elves wield many high-level spells, while we have a deep level of understanding towards the Law of the Earth, perhaps if we joined forces, we would be able to save the tree 」

Gu Qing Shan pondered that answer but said nothing about it.

After the giant ran for a while, the sound of battle could be heard just ahead of them.

Spell explosions, weapons crossing, shouting, screaming, all of them overlapping with one another.

——the war was turning desperate already!

「 We’re going to arrive soon! 」 the giant spoke with a thunderous voice.

He ran up the mountainside before leaping over the peak.

The scene on the other side revealed itself to the two of them.

On top of a large grassy field stood an ancient tree that reached all the way to the sky, which was split into two large branches. The side that faced the rising dawn was completely dried up and withered; while the other side was also considerably arid, leaving only a few leaves behind that surrounded a small figure.

It was a small young girl who appeared to be 6-7 years old, she was slowly closing her eyes, silently leaning on the tree as if she was about to fall asleep.

Although she was incredibly young, Gu Qing Shan could still recognize her from her visage.

—there are no mistakes, she's Little Dusk!

Little Dusk's presence had already gotten so weak that she could lose her life at any moment.

Gu Qing Shan's gaze scanned around the great tree.

Countless elves and giants were fighting against one another around the Twin Tree of Fate.

They were competing for this final Guardian of Fate.

「 Visitor from the World Valley, please hurry and convince everyone 」 the old giant worriedly said.

“Don't worry, leave it to me”

Gu Qing Shan held the Earth sword tightly as he observed this.

[Reality's Most Amorous Man] could only be used once per day, but fortunately, Gu Qing Shan had many other methods of convincing others.

And truthfully, he was better at the most straightforward method of doing so——

Right as he was about to act, lines of glowing text appeared from the void of space:

[You've discovered the truth, Renedol's lie has been exposed]

[You've activated a certain ancient Causality Law technique]

[This was a Causality Law technique established by the Lord of Infinite Origins ages ago, immensely powerful]

Everything around him became stationary.

Boss' voice suddenly sounded.

He sighed heavily: "So this was the truth, regretfully, I did not know anything about this"

Gu Qing Shan consoled him: "No one is omnipotent and omniscient, not to mention, you were only 8 years old in the past, it was normal for you not to realize this"

From the void of space, a terribly rusty dagger appeared.

Boss spoke again: "This is the second Sealing Token. Take it and you will be able to activate a path with my technique that will lead you directly to the third Sealing Token's location"

Gu Qing Shan asked: "If that's the case, Reneedol wouldn't be able to prevent me from collecting the Sealing Tokens?"

"Indeed, this was the power from my past, she cannot stop it" Boss replied.

Gu Qing Shan remained silent for a split second, then suddenly asked: "Boss, I want to know. Is this place an illusion or the real history?"

"It was only because this was the real history that you are able to witness the truth—"

Boss' tone became firm and reminded him: "But you need to be careful, you can only get involved within the range of my Causality Law technique, other than that, it's best that you remain nothing but an onlooker"

"For what reason?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

Boss explained: "Outside the range of my technique, your actions might alter the course of history, which would cause you to be erased by the three Great Laws of Reality"

“This Causality Law was set up to be: ‘Find Renedol’s background and witness the truth’, that’s why you were able to move as you wished within this range, but as soon as you leave, I wouldn’t be able to protect you any further”

“Let us go”

Layers of light began to exude from the dagger, enveloping Gu Qing Shan within it.

Boss continued: “And now, I will take you to the location of the third Sealing T—”

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“Wait!”

Gu Qing Shan cut him off and said:

“Wait a moment, let me check Little Dusk’s situation first”

Boss replied: “You can’t go, if you do, you might change something”

Gu Qing Shan told him: “That’s fine. In the first place, I returned to the past in order to alter the course of history”

“You mean—”

“Yes, what I used was the Space-Time Divine Artifact, Explorer of infinite secrets, Distorter of History, Key of the Past, Fragment of the Traveler’s Proof, the Space-Time Coins”

Gu Qing Shan’s gaze was sharp as he continued: “Currently, I am the only person capable of distorting history, which is why I need to quickly examine her situation”

After a moment of silence, Boss suddenly said: “If you have the Distorter of History, then take three steps forward. If the three Great Laws of Reality reject you, then quickly retreat; but if not, then this is a different situation entirely”

Gu Qing Shan leapt down from the giant's shoulder and took three steps forward.

He was completely unharmed.

Boss' tone suddenly became rapid as he quickly explained: "This is the second situation; the three Great Laws of History have already prepared a spot for you!"

"What do you mean?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"It means that during this period of history, there was truly a visitor from the future who participated in the events of this era"

"That person is a predetermined visitor of history, while they're called a distorter, they actually ensured that history stays intact and unaffected— since you have those three coins, then that individual must be you"

"So that's why!" Gu Qing Shan exclaimed.

He flew forward, completely ignored the giants and elves who were fighting one another and used [Ground Shrink] to directly appear at the top of the Twin Tree of Fate.

Seven to eight elven barriers and over a dozen giant earthen seals activated at once.

Gu Qing Shan wielded the Six Paths Great Mountain sword and swung with all his strength.

All the techniques were destroyed at once.

Gu Qing Shan landed on the top of the tree and looked at the young girl.

Her back was still growing from the tree, but the tree had already become withered.

The young girl remained in a delirious state.

Her breathing was tiny, almost indiscernible as if it had completely stopped.

“Someone’s on the tree!”

「Hurry and stop him!」

The giants and elves stopped their fighting all at once and hurriedly rushed in front of the great tree.

Before they did anything, Gu Qing Shan shouted: “I am from the World Valley, the spirits of the Laws sent me here to save her!”

The elves and giants all stopped, temporarily ceasing their attacks.

“That’s what you said, but how do we trust you?” one of the elves loudly called out.

Gu Qing Shan ignored him and lightly clenched his fist.

An unnamed presence descended upon his body.

—[Blessings of the Past Worlds]!

Instantly, the deeper side of reality manifested in front of him.

Within the world of Laws, the behemoth laid still on the ground, still breathing its last.

“Please tell me how I can save this tree, how would I be able to save this girl of Fate?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

The behemoth shook its head, speaking with a dejected and sorrowful tone: 「 There is no longer enough time, Dusk will die very soon 」

Gu Qing Shan hurriedly asked: “Very soon? How much time is left?”

The behemoth replied: 「 One minute? Or perhaps two minutes— after all, the power of the Laws had all been taken by Reneedol, manifesting as the two wings of Fate 」

「 Unless Reneedol gave Dusk the power of one of those two wings, Dusk would not be able to survive. But Reneedol isn't here, and even if she was, she would not do such a thing 」

After explaining that, the Law Behemoth sighed, then disappeared together with the entire world of Laws.

Gu Qing Shan froze.

Dusk would die very soon?

But in the history I know of, despite experiencing many hardships in the future, she eventually lived to the modern age.

Suddenly, a thought flashed through Gu Qing Shan's heart.

...

“...during this period of history, there was truly a visitor from the future who participated in the events of this era”

“...this individual must be you”

...

Gu Qing Shan took a deep breath, then took out a black leather-cover handbook.

As soon as the book appeared, the Law Behemoth abruptly reappeared in front of Gu Qing Shan.

It had actively shown itself from the world of Laws and exclaimed in disbelief: 「 That is impossible! How could you have the power belonging to Reneedol and Dusk!? 」

Gu Qing Shan shook his head and said: “Please quickly tell me how to save her”

「 Give me the most powerful Card you have; I will turn it into the power of Fate and take one of the two wings from Reneedol! 」

Gu Qing Shan flipped open the Condemnation Codex.

[Divine Word] isn't strong enough.

[Crimson Demon Divine Spear] is still with the giant corpse.

Then the only choice left is——

Gu Qing Shan took one Card out of the codex.

[Divine Armor: Wing of the Condemnation Angel]

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Translator: La0o9

The Law Behemoth's voice boomed in Gu Qing Shan's ears:

「 Listen to me, you must completely give up this Card, only then would I be able to use it to take away one of Reneedol's two wings thanks to the mutually shared Fate between Reneedol and Dusk that it carries 」

“Take it, hurry and save Little Dusk” Gu Qing Shan said without hesitation.

He tossed the Card forward.

The [Wing of the Condemnation Angel] Card drifted in the air, then transformed into a ring of light that slowly penetrated into the Twin Tree of Fate.

Lines of glowing text appeared in the void of space in front of Gu Qing Shan:

[You've completely lost the Divine Armor: Wing of the Condemnation Angel]

[For a very long time in the upcoming future, the Condemnation Code will no longer produce any defensive armors]

Gu Qing Shan skimmed through but didn't care too much about it.

If he could save Little Dusk, he would even give up the Condemnation Codex itself, let alone just a Card.

As for the defense items---

Hah, let's wait until later.

Gu Qing Shan's gaze fell onto the great tree, only to see it slowly curled up and shrank, eventually manifesting as four arms that stayed behind Little Dusk.

She seemed to have sensed it; while still keeping her eyes shut, she smiled.

"Sister? Have you returned to save me?"

Little Dusk softly asked.

Gu Qing Shan stayed silent for a bit, then shook his head.

He wanted to tell her the truth, but Little Dusk was clearly in the middle of a crucial ceremony, so it was best that he didn't disturb her.

The Law Behemoth descended and looked down at her together with Gu Qing Shan.

He spoke with a tone carrying an indiscernible mood: 「 The power has finally converged in this place, the power of Fate that was previously formed had once again been divided 」

「 Fate had manifested this pair of sisters, who will obtain the corresponding power of Fate in accordance with their will, neither shall receive less, neither shall receive more 」

At this point, the rain began to subside.

A vast river of stars appeared in the sky.

The stars in the sky silently descended and circled around Little Dusk.

The Law Behemoth spoke: 「 Dusk, after your rebirth, you shall gain four kinds of power, or you can choose to discard all of these powers to pursue that which your heart desires 」

“Have I been saved?” the young girl slowly closed her eyes, then asked.

「 Indeed, you shall have four kinds of wondrous powers, or you can choose one of the two wings of Fate as the foundation of your strength 」

“Please tell me, what are these two wings?” the young girl asked.

「 One wing 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 Law Behemoth replied.

The young girl whispered: “I have seen the elves and giants from the moment I was born, going through countless years with them. While each of them have their own shortcomings, they were still wonderful living beings all the same. To protect them, I will also need the power to win against those disasters”

The Law Behemoth said: 「 Then your choice is—- 」

The young girl slightly frowned, then spoke after a while: “Those who protect others do not covet the power of others, I shall surpass all obstacles with my own strength”

As soon as she made that declaration, the four arms behind her back were instantly burnt to ash, before it was scattered into the void of space while glittering, eventually converging as a single pure-white wing on her back that opened to the left.

—it was only a single wing, but this pure-white wing that was attached to her back had emphasized her divine presence and dignity through its incompleteness, filled with a sense of stillness and elegance.

From the void of space, the sea of stars from above then descended onto her wing, giving off a glorious glow to complete its final embellishment.

「 The stars are the manifestation of Fate; they shall decorate your wing and guide your way 」 the Law Behemoth declared.

After saying so, the Law Behemoth disappeared.

It had returned to the world of Law, once again resting to recover its strength.

All of the supernatural phenomena that had appeared swiftly vanished.

The young girl opened her eyes again, looking around herself.

She saw the young boy standing in front of her.

—at this point, Gu Qing Shan was only eight years old, so it was impossible to tell how he would look even ten years later.

Little Dusk walked up to Gu Qing Shan, knelt on her knee, then muttered: “I could sense it, it was you who saved me”

Right as Gu Qing Shan was about to speak, lines of glowing text abruptly appeared on the War God UI.

[The Causality Law technique that the Lord of Infinite Origins have unleashed in this era is about to fade away]

[You are the only person who has the power of 'Distortion']

[You may choose to remain in this era, or follow the Causality Law technique to seek out the next Sealing Token]

[Please make your choice within the next minute]

Gu Qing Shan's eyes twitched.

The pair of wings of Fate.

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One wing allows its master to surpass all hardship and triumph against all enemies; while the other wing allows its master to absorb power and become the companion of the 'strongest one'.

Since Little Dusk had chosen the former, Renedol must be carrying the latter.

I need to keep this in mind.

He lifted Little Dusk to her feet, then said: "Dusk, I have to leave very soon, so you must keep two things in mind"

"Huh? What are they?" Little Dusk asked.

"Firstly, your sister is scheming, cold, and heartless, you definitely cannot trust her later on" Gu Qing Shan said.

Little Dusk smiled: "If there is a chance, I will try to convince her— please tell me the second thing"

Gu Qing Shan sighed, then stroked her head: "Remember well, if there is ever someone in the future who tells you that 'if you ever run into trouble, the only solution is robbery', then please trust his words"

Little Dusk froze.

“What is rob...bery? She asked.

A rusty dagger appeared and completely enveloped Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan’s figure slowly faded into the void, leaving behind one final statement:

“Take good care of yourself. Around the Age of Old, someone will tell you those exact words”

Before it finished, he had already left.

Little Dusk was stunned for a while, then finally muttered to herself: “Alright, I’ll keep it deep in my mind”

She looked around herself.

The giants and elves were all around her, slowly prostrating themselves.

「 Guardian of Fate, we are your subjects 」

The old giant respectfully said.

...

On another side.

Gu Qing Shan was rapidly flying through the endless fog of darkness.

He was thinking about something during his flight, then finally asked: “Boss, are you here right now?”

“I am” Boss responded.

“Then, are you still currently in the World of the Spire?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“Indeed. The one who set up this technique was myself in the past, so it has the power to bypass Space and Time” Boss replied.

Gu Qing Shan nodded, then said: “There was something I found a bit strange”

“Which part?” Boss asked.

“During your era, all the worlds existed as a single enormous continent where all living beings resided, while the underside of the world contained the manifestations of the Laws of Reality, was this the case?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“It was indeed”

Gu Qing Shan continued: “These Law Behemoths should be able to share knowledge to one another, but after Renedol fled to the World Valley, the Law Behemoth of World Valley helped her awaken the two Wings of Fate”

“It did” Boss replied.

Gu Qing Shan asked: “But in this case, the Law Behemoth of World Valley should have brought her back to the Jungle of Elves and giants in order to save the Twin Tree of Fate and Dusk—— why did they not do this? Was there actually discord between the Law Behemoths?”

Boss went silent briefly, then replied: “You have seen the essence of the issue. During our era, whether they were living beings or the Laws, everything must obey the natural order”

Gu Qing Shan was a bit surprised but slowly understood.

Survival of the fittest.

The weak will be buried in the past, only the strong may continue to enjoying anything and everything they wished.

Gu Qing Shan confusedly asked: "But in your era, resources were abundant and the Laws were all-powerful, why did such an order still exist?"

Boss didn't answer.

The fog of darkness around him faded away.

The world was plunged in wind and fire.

Screaming.

Crying.

Panicked voices, intense battles, as well as the sound of weapons striking each other filled each and every corner of the world.

Boss then explained: "Ten years after that, the flames of war completely erupted and the world fell into chaos. Gu Qing Shan, accompany my teenage self and witness the truth of this world"

His voice disappeared.

Gu Qing Shan's surroundings suddenly became clear.

Someone viciously shouted: "Brat, I'm going to kill you!"

A blade appeared in Gu Qing Shan's vision, swinging towards his neck.

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Translator: La0o9

The cold gleam of the blade was swung down, only to let out a chiming 'clang'.

A sword appeared in front of Gu Qing Shan's neck that firmly blocked the blade's attack.

The Earth sword.

"Ah? You're quite decent, being able to block my attack"

The other party was wearing a military uniform, smirking and scoffing, right as he pulled his sword back and swung down again violently.

At the very next moment.

He was abruptly sent flying away from Gu Qing Shan.

A black spear appeared where the man originally stood without so much as a drop of blood on it.

"Focus"

Shroud said.

He was now considerably taller than before, his physique was slender but healthy, his skin still appeared quite tanned, his eyes giving off a sharp and clear killing intent.

Gu Qing Shan nodded, then looked around himself.

They were standing near the river that connected the entire world, a small dinghy had fallen by the bank, two groups of unfamiliar people were fighting and killing one another.

Gu Qing Shan didn't see Renedol among them.

Other than Shroud, Gu Qing Shan couldn't recognize any one of them.

Having been sent forward by ten years, he didn't know anything that had happened in between, nor their current situation.

Gu Qing Shan drew his sword and called out towards Shroud: "Stay in front, I'll cover your back"

"Good!"

Shroud replied and leapt towards the enemies.

He seemed to be extremely angry, each of his attacks was delivered with his full strength, and almost no one could stop a single strike coming from him.

Occasionally, some powerful Combatants who did manage to stop the black spear would then be killed by Gu Qing Shan's follow-up attack from behind.

With their cooperation, they quickly made their way through the battle zone like it was an empty field.

But very strangely, Shroud wasn't communicating with the world, nor was he using the power of the Laws. He merely relied on his physical strength to skillfully control the spear in his hand.

So were the others.

Noticing this, Gu Qing Shan silently attempted to use his power.

—Huang Quan Origin power could still be used.

This is a power that belongs to the Samsara, not Origin power from the Laws of this current world.

But the origin power of the soul cannot be used.

Aside from that, when Gu Qing Shan attempted to sense the void of space, he discovered that Earth, Water, Fire, and Wind were all rejecting his contact.

It was quite similar to the Earth World.

So, what exactly happened?

While Gu Qing Shan was thinking, an abrupt shout resounded throughout the battle zone.

“Brats, you’re being too arrogant!”

A fully-armored Combatant appeared in front of them.

He raised his hammer to form a stance and shouted: “Who exactly are you?”

Shroud loudly replied: “I am—”

Before he even finished, a bolt of lightning shot out from behind him, striking the Combatant’s chest.

He was sent flying and died before he even hit the ground, his body rolled on the ground like a bag of dirt, leaving a long line of dirt and sand behind it.

Shroud turned around to look at Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan pulled his sword back, replying: "You can give him the chance to talk, but not the chance to survive."

Shroud said: "We're cutting our way back"

"Got it" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Shroud was about to charge forward, but then paused briefly: "Leave some of them alive, we still need to ask about Reneedol's whereabouts"

Gu Qing Shan paused, then replied: "Got it"

The two of them fought while returning to the others.

The strongest person on the enemy side was dead and everyone else wasn't much to deal with.

Since none of them was able to utilize supernatural abilities; no one was a match for Shroud's and Gu Qing Shan's combination.

Not too long after that, the battle ended.

Shroud propped his spear on one of their necks and shouted: "Speak, where did you bring that girl?"

The man hurriedly replied: "Don't kill me. After stealing your ship, our boss headed towards Hundred Martial City"

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Shroud put his spear away and urged Gu Qing Shan: "Hurry, we need to go now!"

"Wait!"

Gu Qing Shan held Shroud back, then looked at the other party: “Are you sure they were headed towards Hundred Martial City?”

“I’m sure, the bunch of you are so strong, why would I lie to you!” the man replied.

Gu Qing Shan’s eyes flickered, then looked around.

Other than him, they had also taken two other people as prisoners.

Gu Qing Shan raised his sword.

Three swords, each stabbed through one of their chests, pinning them all to the ground.

“Aarrgh!”

“I’ve already told you, why——”

“Spare me!”

All three of them screamed in pain.

Gu Qing Shan’s expression was unchanged and said: “Shroud, lead everyone to Hundred Martial City, I’ll wait here for your news”

Shroud looked at the three on the ground, then at Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan smiled and continued: “My swords are only an inch away from their hearts. Everything would be fine if none of them lied, but if they tried to fool you, I’ll chop them into pieces and feed them to the fishes in the river”

“Got it!”

Shroud replied and prepared to leave.

Seeing him about to head out, one of the three suddenly shouted out loud: “Don’t don’t don’t! It wasn’t actually Hundred Martial City; our boss was actually heading East!”

Shroud stopped.

Gu Qing Shan swung his swords.

The heads of the other two were sent flying.

“@#\$&*!” the man who talked was so shocked he started spouting nonsense.

Gu Qing Shan crouched down, looked straight at him and asked: “You aren’t lying this time?”

“Not at all! Definitely not lying! The boss had actually left using the Southeastern path— please spare my life!”

The man trembled and begged.

Gu Qing Shan stood up and grabbed his neck, then said: “Shroud, let’s head East”

Shroud was concerned about Renedol, so he replied immediately: “Got it!”

Everyone began to head East, swiftly running to their destination.

Around ten miles later.

They saw a collapsed horse carriage.

A mass of corpses.

A beautiful girl was standing on top of the carriage's trunk, seemingly bored.

Noticing the commotion from afar, she looked up and saw everyone.

"Shroud! You've arrived!"

The girl delightfully called out.

Shroud ran forward and hurriedly asked: "Are you ok?"

Reneedol smiled and replied: "Do I look like I'm not ok?"

She pointed at the corpses and said as if boasting: "Look, I killed all of them here"

At this time, Gu Qing Shan had scanned through all the corpses and said: "These people all died a different way, some were killed by magic, some by cold weapons, some by martial arts— how did you do this?"

"Did you use your powers of Fate?" Shroud also asked.

Reneedol was waiting for this question, so she pridefully boasted: "Their boss was the strongest, he tried to touch me on the way, so I absorbed his powers and killed him while he wasn't careful"

"After that, I felt that it would be too easy to kill them all, so I used the boss' power to kill his aide, then the aide's power to kill the squad leader, then use the squad leader's power to kill the minions"

Gu Qing Shan looked at all these people's corpses.

All of their bodies were riddled with wounds, a clear sign of being tortured to death.

While they were already dead, their faces still displayed an expression of disbelief and fear.

Gu Qing Shan silently pondered.

...

「—the other wing will help you absorb power, becoming the companion of the ‘strongest one’」

...

Recalling the Law Behemoth’s description when Renedol first obtained the power of Fate, Gu Qing Shan felt like he could understand this Fate-type ability somewhat.

Even while everyone couldn’t utilize supernatural powers, Renedol was still able to absorb other people’s abilities and unleash them by converting them into Fate-type abilities.

—-what exactly happened in this world?

Shroud sighed in relief, then said: “It’s a good thing that among the three Great Laws of Reality, only the power of Fate could not be sealed away—- it’s so hateful that my powers are temporarily sealed away and unable to protect you”

Renedol chuckled, then shook her head: “It’s ok. We’re currently in an era of chaos, so I can’t continue being lazy anymore”

Her gaze was profoundly still and continued: “The Law Behemoths are killing one another and disregarding living beings, only remaining in awe of Fate—- so this is time for me to step out and protect everyone”

Chapter 1434

Translator: La0o9

The group sat on the ground and rested near the carriage.

The corpses around them had already been completely cleared away.

“What happened to the Law Behemoths?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“I’m not sure, they seemed to have gone into conflict due to some sort of issue, eventually resorting to killing one another” Shroud replied.

“Yeah, they no longer bother to pay attention to us Professionals” another young man added.

“The Elders are already dead, the World Valley has now fallen into complete ruin, what do we do now?” another young girl asked.

Everyone gradually fell silent.

Gu Qing Shan looked at these young men and women.

There were six of them in total.

The World Valley was capable of communicating with every Law Behemoth in existence, so that domain was also the place that was the most heavily affected by their intense battle.

Only these few young men and women managed to escape.

Everyone’s gazes slowly gathered towards Shroud.

—-he was their leader.

Shroud hesitated briefly, then said: “When we’re resting later tonight, I’ll try to contact the World of Laws in search of the truth”

“Don’t” Renedol said, “Those Law Behemoths are still competing against one another, so if you enter the World of Laws, you’ll be directly ripped apart by their battle!”

Shroud shook his head: “The battle of the Law Behemoths affects those that cultivate World Power the most. Now that our combat strength is gradually fading, if we can’t resolve this issue soon, we won’t necessarily be able to deal with any enemies we might run into again.

He clenched his fist tightly and resolutely declared: “Renedol, I definitely won’t let anyone take you away again!”

Renedol became a bit flushed, then lowered her head without saying another word.

Gu Qing Shan stood up and started heading somewhere close.

“Rhode, where are you going?”

Someone asked.

Renedol and Shroud also turned to him.

Gu Qing Shan pointed at the horse carriage and said: “It’s getting dark. They’ve clearly brought this cart for a long journey, so I’m guessing that they must have packed some food supplies in here as well”

Everyone looked back.

The horse carriage now lay on its side, the horses that would have pulled it were nowhere to be seen, and the various items inside the carriage had laid strewn all over the ground.

“I’ll go search with you” Shroud said as he stood up.

The others swiftly followed.

They were in so much of a hurry back when they fled from the World Valley that they didn’t even have time to pack any rations with them.

After an entire day of fleeing, fighting, and tracking, all of them were hungry and exhausted.

Everyone searched the carriage and quickly found some ration in the trunk at the back of the carriage, as well as some simple kitchen utensils.

However, there were not many rations left.

“This isn’t even enough to split evenly between us, we need to think of a solution soon” Gu Qing Shan said.

“They have enough spices though. I know how to cook, how about I make something for everyone?” one of the girls offered.

“I also know how” as Gu Qing Shan said that, he was already rolling up his sleeves: “Let me do it, I frequently have to make food for myself, so I should be able to satisfy everyone’s palates”

He took the rations out, prepared the kitchen utensils, and swiftly got to work.

Seeing how neatly, swift, and skillful he was, everyone understood that he actually knew how to cook, so they left it all to him.

Not too long after that.

A large pot of steaming hot food was made.

“That smells good, what did you make?” Shroud asked.

“Jerky and noodles. I boiled a pot of water to soften the jerky then seasoned the broth, it should taste quite good now; and with the noodles as well, this should be just enough to fill everyone’s bellies halfway” Gu Qing Shan replied.

“It’s a good thing to even fill it halfway” Shroud said emotionally.

Gu Qing Shan evenly divided the bowls of noodles for everyone.

It was already nighttime, everyone had gathered all around and swiftly finished their meal.

Many of them praised Gu Qing Shan’s cooking.

After the meal was done, the girls volunteered to wash the utensils.

Shroud sat down on the grass and slowly closed his eyes.

“I’m going to begin now, don’t let anyone disturb me” Shroud said.

Renedol stood shielding him from the front and said: “Don’t worry, I’ll keep a look-out”

Gu Qing Shan and the others also each took station in a different direction.

Shroud was surrounded in the middle of the group.

Suddenly, his body moved a bit before disappearing.

Gu Qing Shan was quite shocked to see that.

Shroud could now enter the World of Law completely?

If that’s the case, he would definitely understand what happened in the World of Law better than anyone else.

While Gu Qing Shan was thinking, he suddenly felt an ill omen.

A faint smell of blood filled the air.

A second later, Shroud abruptly appeared from the void of space before he collapsed on the ground.

Pfft!

He spat up a mouthful of blood and fell unconscious.

Gu Qing Shan rushed in to prop Shroud up and searched him with his inner sight.

“He’s heavily injured! On the verge of death!!” Gu Qing Shan grunted in a low voice.

“Let me, I’m a practitioner of healing forces” one of the girls said.

Gu Qing Shan stepped away.

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The girl walked forward and put her hand on Shroud’s chest.

“He’s so heavily injured!” the young girl gasped.

“Can he be saved?” Renedol asked out of concern.

“He can be saved, but now that we can’t borrow the power of the world to use, the most I’d be able to do is ensure that he stays alive. To completely heal, it’ll take him several years of recovery” the girl replied.

Renedol fell silent, then crouched down to take a look as well.

“These truly are... extremely heavy injuries” she muttered in a low voice.

Gu Qing Shan sighed, then said: “Try and do what you can”

The young girl nodded, then began chanting an incantation to perform first aid.

Everyone felt sorrowful.

The strongest one among them attempted to forcefully contact a Law Behemoth but then ended up like this.

Suddenly, the sound of wind ripping through the darkness could be heard.

“Boss, there are a few brats here”

Someone loudly reported.

“Go take a look, turn all the boys into slaves, and the girls... hahaha!”

Another voice replied.

Everyone’s expressions changed and they hurriedly prepared to defend themselves.

Now that everyone was no longer under the care of the Laws of Reality, teenagers like them would naturally be weaker compared to adults.

“My healing can’t be interrupted” the other girl sat still on the ground with beads of sweat flowing down her forehead and hurriedly said.

The other boy loudly shouted: “Rhode, let’s charge!”

“Don’t be impatient, we need to protect Shroud, this is the most important thing to do right now” Gu Qing Shan said with a heavy tone.

He drew his sword and stood still without moving.

Renedol suddenly stepped out and said: “I’ll lead them away, everyone guard Shroud!”

Before the others could react, she had already leapt forward into the darkness.

A few moments later.

Voices emerged from the other side:

“Ahaha, this lass is quite the beauty!”

“She’ll know of—”

A curt scream was abruptly heard.

A moment of silence.

Several angry voices resounded: “She killed Fourth, hurry up and catch her!”

The sound of ripping wind slowly went away.

Gu Qing Shan’s gaze flickered a bit.

Everyone waited for a while longer, but no other voice sounded.

The remaining young men and women fearfully watched over Shroud while silently waiting for things to pan out.

Time became excruciatingly long.

“I’ve finished healing him” the girl stood up and spoke with an exhausted voice.

Gu Qing Shan scanned through with his inner sight.

Shroud’s injuries had basically been sealed up, but due to the lack of supernatural power, he had only recovered to the point where his life was no longer in danger.

“What do we do now? What happened to Reneedol?” the young girl worriedly asked.

The other young man said: “How about this, Rhode and I will go save Reneedol, you two girls protect Shroud”

“There is no other choice” the other girl replied.

“Rhode, let’s go” the young man turned to Gu Qing Shan and said.

“Don’t be impatient” Gu Qing Shan replied.

“What do you mean don’t be impatient!?! That’s the same thing you said earlier! Reneedol is currently in danger, running away by herself, we need to save her!” the young man angrily shouted.

The two girls also looked at Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan didn’t say anything and simply looked at the dark wilderness.

A few moments later, several figures slowly appeared.

“Hehehe, they are still a few here”

Several men carrying weapons appeared, observing the opposing young men and women.

All of their expressions changed.

“What did you do to Reneedol?” the young man shouted.

“What did we do? Hehe, care to guess?” a man with a fierce appearance mocked him while laughing, but his gaze was displaying some sort of fear instead.

The young men and women didn’t notice this detail.

They exchanged glances and sensed a deep level of despair.

Gu Qing Shan’s expression didn’t change at all, his gaze still looking afar.

Silent.

Complete stillness.

There was nothing in that direction of the wilderness.

Suddenly, a beautiful orange cat swiftly ran back, nimbly landing on Gu Qing Shan’s shoulder and spoke to him in a whisper: “Gongzi, I’ve seen everything”

No one was able to detect her.

Gu Qing Shan nodded, then said: "Enter my Thought Sea and tell me"

"Yes"

The orange cat turned back into an autumn-water like blue steel sword before abruptly vanishing.

Chapter 1435

Translator: La0o9

Let's rewind time a bit.

Right as Reneedol volunteered to stand out and stop the assailants by herself, Gu Qing Shan had already noticed something amiss.

"Shannu, use [Ghostly Shadow of Night] to take a look at what's happening" he sent his voice.

"Understood, gongzi"

A fluffy small orange cat landed on the ground, then started running rapidly after Reneedol.

Thanks to her ability [Living's Wisdom], Shannu was able to utilize Huang Quan Origin power without being affected by the Laws of this world.

In just a few moments, she had caught up with Reneedol.

Only to see Reneedol carrying a corpse while running away with several men chasing after her.

The orange cat pondered for a short moment before deciding to run at the same pace as Reneedol while staying close to her.

The two groups of people and one cat arrived at a military camp.

A man in a robe and wielding a scepter was being protected by a large number of people, standing in the middle of the camp.

Reneedol tossed the corpse to the ground, coldly looking at the other party and asked: "Wizard Rodri? You are the strongest person here?"

The man also observed her and said in surprised: "That's me, but I couldn't imagine that the one who was able to call upon me despite being such a long distance away was a young girl like yourself"

The men who were chasing after Reneedol also stopped.

They stood at the gate of the camp without attacking Reneedol, but they appeared to be clearly angry.

"Boss, we followed your orders and brought her here, but she killed one of ours"

"That's right, she was too cruel, Fourth only joked around with her a bit and she already killed him"

"Boss—"

Wizard Rodri waved his hand to signal his subordinates to stop talking.

He bowed to Reneedol, then asked: "For what reason did your excellency summon me?"

Reneedol told him: "Do something for me first, send your strongest men to kill the young men and women who were with me earlier"

"Understood" Wizard Rodri looked around at his men and pointed out several of them.

"All of you head out and kill them"

He ordered.

One of these men had been chasing Renedol so he angrily said: “Boss, this little brat immediately demanded things right as she just arrived, I think——”

Fwoom!

A purple burst of flames enveloped his body, letting out a light crackling noise.

The man uttered a long painful howl as he tried to douse the flames by rolling on the ground.

He looked like a moving ball of fire.

But he didn't die right away.

This technique was accurately controlled by Renedol to torture the man for 7-8 breaths' worth of time before burning him alive.

Wizard Rodri's pupils dilated.

“This is... my Law technique. The Laws have already rejected everyone, so how could you still utilize my powers?” he muttered in shock.

Renedol coldly looked at him and softly spoke: “Wizard Rodri, you sure know quite a few things, but over half of them are recovery-type spells, even your offensive spells weren't really powerful... What a piece of trash, if you can't even do what I ask of you...”

Wizard Rodri felt a chill, then shouted at his subordinates: “Hurry and go! Kill those brats!”

His men hurriedly went on their way and left the camp.

After those men had left, Renedol asked: "I heard that wizards are all well-learned scholars, and since I had been too single-mindedly focused on a certain pitiful fool, I lack an understanding of this world, so I want to ask you a question"

"Please go ahead, your excellency" Wizard Rodri replied.

"Who is the most powerful individual on this continent?" Renedol asked.

"The most powerful?" Wizard Rodri fell into thought.

He pondered a bit, then replied: "The people of the World Valley are the most powerful"

Renedol appeared hateful, then continued: "I once thought the same as well, but now that the Law Behemoths had given up on the living beings of the world, the more favored those from the World Valley were in the past, the more hardship they would have to endure now. Don't speak of them, tell me who is the most powerful under our current circumstances"

Wizard Rodri replied: "In the current circumstances where no one could utilize the power of Laws, those who practiced martial arts, trained knights, guns and explosive experts, as well as weapon-type Professionals should be the most powerful, they generally don't rely on the power of the Laws"

"What about wizards like you" Renedol asked.

"Before, wizards were powerful, but now that the elements of Earth, Water, Fire, and Wind could no longer be summoned only leaving us with mundane spells; our strength had been greatly reduced" Wizard Rodri meticulously explained.

As Renedol looked at him, her gaze now contained a bit more disdain.

Wizard Rodri instantly realized something ominous and hurriedly said: "Your excellency has the power of Fate, so naturally, your excellency is the strongest being of this era!"

Renedol completely ignored his flattering, then scanned with her eyes through all the Professionals in the camp and declared:

“So it turns out all of you here were actually weaklings”

An indiscernible fluctuation appeared from her body, manifesting into magical power.

Flames illuminated the darkness of the night while emanating scorching temperatures.

Standing within the flames, Reneedol muttered: “Worms, you all deserve to die”

Boom!

Flames began to erupt from her body, shooting in every direction.

“No! Your excellency, please spare me, I can be your servant!” Wizard Rodri shouted in despair.

Reneedol didn't say anything else and just left the countless men to scream in desperation.

The orange cat didn't bother watching any longer, she turned around and swiftly headed back.

...

At another location.

Gu Qing Shan's group was surrounded by those Professionals.

“What did you do to Reneedol?” the young man shouted.

“What did we do? Hehe, care to guess?” a man with a fierce appearance laughingly mocked him, but his gaze was displaying some sort of fear instead.

All of them exuded killing intent, they raised their weapons, and swiftly rushed towards the young men and women.

“Halt, this is a misunderstanding” Gu Qing Shan suddenly shouted.

The Professionalists didn’t bother to stop and instead sped up.

“Kill the boys, leave the girls. We’re going to use them first, then kill them!”

“Got it!”

The Professionalists exchanged such a conversation.

An abrupt hint of killing intent flashed through Gu Qing Shan’s calm eyes.

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He stood still, his hand turning into a blurred image as he struck the back of his three companions.

Before they even realized what happened, all three of them had fallen unconscious and collapsed.

At this point, Gu Qing Shan drew the Chao Yin sword, muttering as he looked at the charging Professionalists: “I need an unprecedented manner of death...”

His sword gleamed.

The Professionalists were sent flying.

Gu Qing Shan abruptly pulled his sword back.

—Chao Yin Thaumaturgy, [All Crossing Sea of Bitterness]!

While the men were still flying through the air, their sword wounds abruptly burst open as all the blood in their bodies was instantly drained.

All the blood gathered in mid-air before coalescing into a large sphere of blood.

The corpses fell to the ground.

“Go” Gu Qing Shan declared.

The sphere of blood turned into a bloody flash of light and hurriedly flew across the night sky, swiftly disappearing without a trace.

Only a single drop of blood was left for Gu Qing Shan to touch with his hand.

He instantly took that Professionalist’s appearance then took out his Samsara Wicked Mask and said:

“Shannu, stay here to guard Shroud and these people, I’m going to take care of Reneedol”

“Understood. Be careful gongzi, her ability is very unusual” Shannu said.

“That’s why I’m going to see it for myself” Gu Qing Shan replied.

He fully unleashed the might of a Star River Saint realm cultivator and abruptly shot into the sky, flying into the distance.

The wind was howling through the night sky, the scenery on the ground rapidly receding as he flew forward. After a few breaths’ worth of time, Gu Qing Shan had already found Reneedol.

He descended to the ground before nimbly landing in front of Reneedol.

Reneedol stopped.

She had never seen someone like this before.

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

The pair of slightly reddish glowing eyes appeared to be considerably eerie.

“Huh? You sure are powerful!”

Reneedol suddenly appeared interested.

Gu Qing Shan didn't say a single word and drew the Earth sword.

Sensing his killing intent, Reneedol's expression changed.

“Want to kill me?”

She abruptly disappeared without a trace.

Even when Gu Qing Shan released his inner sight, he still couldn't find her no matter how he tried.

“...The Orange Sovereign's [Ghostly Shadow of Night], how strange”

He muttered.

Reneedol didn't have the jade gourd pendant Adorable, but could still utilize its power.

This is going to be much harder than I thought.

Gu Qing Shan raised his sword.

With a single thought, he erupted with immense sword qi, manifesting as countless bolts of lightning that lit up his surroundings like it was daytime.

This sword strike contained the power of [Earth's Choice], prepared to completely destroy everything within the radius of a few hundred miles.

Renedol's voice suddenly resounded:

"I heard that the strongest group of Professionals are those who use weapons, and sure enough"

She reappeared, her iris glowing brightly.

Gu Qing Shan's heart felt heavy and instantly parried it with his sword.

Clang clang clang clang clang!

Numerous sword images appeared around his body, slashing a total of 36 times.

At the very next moment, Gu Qing Shan continued to parry another 72 strikes, his left hand then drew the Heaven sword, using both swords to stop another 144 strikes, up until it reached 1000 strikes.

—[Forgetting River Severance]!

Renedol was able to unleash this Huang Quan Divine Skill!

Gu Qing Shan stood still with swords in hand, swinging the twin swords to parry the entire [Forgetting River Severance].

While parrying it, he was silently shocked.

She could even use a Huang Quan Divine Skill without any restrictions, this is a bit like Shannu, as long as I'm able to use something, she would also be able to.

But [Ghostly Shadow of Night] during [Orange Sovereign Transformation] will need to borrow Adorable's [Spotless Jade] in order to achieve complete obscurement.

Without Adorable's permission, even Shannu wouldn't be able to borrow [Spotless Jade]

And yet Reneedol was able to ignore Adorable's will and use it without issues.

This is a bit terrifying.

After the Mind Sword Divine Skill was finished, it vanished without a trace.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly noticed a crimson thread appearing on his left hand, the other end coiling around Reneedol's hand.

—the thread of death.

Reneedol has resolved to kill me!

But unlike other Professionists who had lost their ability to use the Laws, I'm currently at my peak strength.

The most Reneedol could have would be a similar level of strength to me, so why is she so sure about being able to kill me?

Could it be that she's only been probing so far?

Her ability...

Might not necessarily be just to borrow others' powers.

As these thoughts continuously flashed through his mind, his spirit sense was giving off an increasingly stronger alarm.

“I knew it, you are the most powerful person I’ve seen in my entire life” Reneedol smiled.

Her single smile was so beautiful that it could turn a country on its head.

Endless darkness continuously spread behind her back, almost like the ocean depths.

She began walking towards Gu Qing Shan step by step, before casually telling him:

“Sword wielder, you’ve really opened my eyes”

“And now, I’m going to devour you”

At the very next instant, she abruptly crossed the dozen-meter distance between them to appear immediately in front of Gu Qing Shan.

——Divine Skill, [Ground Shrink]!

Chapter 1436

Translator: La0o9

A great sense of danger enveloped Gu Qing Shan instincts.

He didn’t know what Reneedol would do, but he instinctively sensed it was something ominous.

As Reneedol disappeared, she reappeared right in front of Gu Qing Shan.

——quite obviously, she was fully prepared to activate some sort of terrible power!

At that instant, Gu Qing Shan switched places with her.

[Shadow Shift]!

Reneedol paused, the technique she prepared had lost its target.

Behind her, Gu Qing Shan thrust his sword backwards!

“—movement technique, I know that as well”

Reneedol shouted as they changed places once again.

This time, it was Gu Qing Shan’s turn to miss.

However, right as their positions were switched back, Gu Qing Shan had already finished making his preparations.

Without a hint of hesitation, his twin swords swung around from his back, before instantly activating a new sword seal.

—-Heaven sword [Freezing Frost], Earth sword [Parting Fire]!

A blue and a red arc of light erupted from the swords, reaching Reneedol’s neck in the mere blink of an eye.

Even if Reneedol could use all of Gu Qing Shan’s abilities, she was still considerably weaker compared to Gu Qing Shan when it came to personal resolution and decisiveness in combat.

Facing these two Divine Skills, Reneedol didn’t have the courage to block the attacks and instead turned into a mass of fog, disappearing on the spot.

She reappeared a short distance away, observing Gu Qing Shan with a confused expression.

In that instant, both sides had exchanged blows, ending up with neither side being able to do anything against the other.

Gu Qing Shan was a bit surprised.

I was fighting with full strength, and yet things still ended up this way.

On the other side, Renedol asked:

“How interesting, this [Fog Realm Descent] is a World Technique, but the Law Behemoths aren’t paying any attention to the living beings of the world, so how are you able to use this World Technique?”

Gu Qing Shan stayed silent.

He looked down, only to see the red thread on his hand had abruptly scattered into numerous threads that coiled around his body.

The thread of death had literally tied him up.

—what other preparations has Renedol made?

While he was pondering on his next move, the girl in front of him had already spoken:

“I understand now, you’re carrying the power of Fate, you definitely have a Fate ability as well!”

Gu Qing Shan opened his mouth but stopped himself from asking.

—it’s not time yet.

Renedol completely ignored his silence and continued speaking: “Fate cannot see through Fate, so I can only use your abilities, but not see through how strong you truly are”

Her gaze became excited as she swiftly continued: “But that’s easy to tell—— I’ve never seen anyone else whose strength I can’t see through, which means you’re exceptionally powerful, perhaps even the most powerful, so——”

The darkness behind her opened up, manifesting as a huge all-encompassing net.

“I’ve determined that you’re the one I must devour”

Reneedol’s tone had become a bit insane.

As if it was alive, the net rapidly moved and began weaving itself, forming a featureless humanoid face that opened its mouth towards Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan felt alarms going off inside his head.

The red threads around his body were becoming increasingly thicker and tighter, inflicting him with a hallucination of a suffocating death.

Gu Qing Shan wanted to act but found that he was unable to move at all.

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

[You’ve been inflicted with the Fate Nightmare, you are temporarily unable to move]

Skimming through that, Gu Qing Shan’s mind moved quickly before he abruptly spoke:

“Your strength is certainly impressive; even the 7th strongest swordsman in the world like myself feels troubled dealing with you”

Right as Reneedol was about to use her ability, she froze.

7th strongest...

In the world?

She stared closely at Gu Qing Shan and slowly asked: "You're the seventh strongest swordsman in the world?"

"That's right, there are a total of ten Great Swordsmen, I rank the 7th among them all, hailed as Red Wraith, one worshipped by many" Gu Qing Shan replied without changing his expression.

Renedol appeared disappointed without any reserve, muttering to herself: "Red Wraith? You're very strong indeed, but my goal is..."

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Renedol subconsciously stopped her hand.

After a few moments of silence, she suddenly asked: "Red Wraith, who is the strongest swordsman in the world? And where is he?"

Gu Qing Shan replied with a grumble: "The strongest swordsman in the world is known by the name of Mara Heavenly King, he who resides in the far North"

Renedol said: "But I heard that the far North was a barren and desolate place"

Gu Qing Shan continued: "That's why the strongest among us likes to stay there"

Renedol didn't say anything in reply, as if thinking about whether or not Gu Qing Shan was actually telling the truth or not.

Gu Qing Shan could sense that she was regaining her calm, and was no longer as insane as before.

Even the featureless face behind her slowly faded away.

This woman.

—no, this girl is still too young.

—she wasn't dumb, but she also didn't understand the world very well, so I was able to easily deceive her.

Perhaps this was her only weakness, and as time went by, even this single weakness of hers would soon disappear.

Right as he thought of this, Gu Qing Shan suddenly asked: "You only received one kind of power from Fate, so how did you unleash that kind of attack earlier?"

Right as he asked this, he activated [See you once again]!

This wasn't any normal technique; it was a unique ability he obtained from the Sacrificial Dance.

Renedol's expression became blank and answered: "The two wings were ripped from each other, one half belonging to me, the other belonging to Dusk"

"But this division, also caused the power of Fate to become warped somehow"

"I don't even know what kind of ability I currently wield"

"It... is terrifying"

"I can't risk myself by using it arbitrarily"

After answering him, Renedol instantly returned to normal.

She stared straight at Gu Qing Shan, then took a step back: "If you're not the strongest swordsman, then I think there's no need for us to fight any further, killing you would only waste my power"

Gu Qing Shan didn't answer.

—-*Shannu, come.*

He couldn't move at all, only muttering in his mind.

At another location.

Gu Qing Shan abruptly looked up, sensing something.

“Gongzi, wait for me!”

She shot into the sky, turned into an autumn-water like blue steel sword and flew across the vast earth.

Pssh—

The sword pierced through Gu Qing Shan's chest, giving off sharp sword phantoms.

[Law Breaker]!

Gu Qing Shan instantly regained his freedom.

Reneedol exclaimed in shock: “That's impossible! A Fate formation should be the strongest!”

Her heavy presence from earlier had completely disappeared.

Gu Qing Shan drew the Six Paths Great Mountain sword from his chest, before muttering:

“Nothing is impossible, even Fate... can be changed”

He lightly dashed forward with indescribable grace, heading straight towards Reneedol.

As Renedol looked at him, she found that no matter where she attacked, it would soon prove useless.

—the other party's killing intent is growing thicker, accumulating power to unleash it all at once.

I won't be able to stop an attack from this sword!

Renedol clenched her teeth and quickly made up her mind, retreating into a mass of fog.

However, Gu Qing Shan was already prepared for this, so how could he allow her to escape so easily?

Instantly, a cold blade of sword phantom pierced the fog, skewering Renedol's body.

She uttered a sharp grunt of pain, but coldly told him:

"I'll definitely kill you the next time we meet"

The white fog was growing thicker.

Gu Qing Shan replied: "You're going to die right here and now; we won't be meeting each other again"

"Really? Unfortunately for you, my spell activated first— I'll be leaving, this grudge will be resolved on a later date"

Following Renedol's voice, a figure entered the fog and disappeared in front of Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan looked at that figure, then at the body that his sword had pierced through.

The white fog scattered.

Gu Qing Shan found an unfamiliar corpse hanging from his sword.

Chapter 1437

Translator: La0o9

Gu Qing Shan lightly flourished his sword, tossing the body on the ground.

It was an unfamiliar corpse with completely white hair, he had also curled up completely while being rigid and cold, which suggested that he died quite a while ago.

An old man.

Reneedol couldn't stop the Six Paths Great Mountain sword so she used this old man's corpse to receive the attack for her.

—why would she be carrying a corpse like this around?

Gu Qing Shan suddenly recalled the large featureless humanoid face behind Reneedol during their battle earlier.

Perhaps... this is related to that terrifying featureless humanoid face.

According to Reneedol's earlier answer, that thing was a mutation that emerged from the Wings of Fate.

When I helped Little Dusk take back one of the two Wings of Fate, I didn't expect that process to cause them to mutate.

Gu Qing Shan's gaze became heavy.

Since Reneedol was under the effects of [See you once again], she was probably not lying.

Not to mention—

Gu Qing Shan suddenly remembered that Little Dusk had chosen the wing to help her grow stronger.

But countless years later, Little Dusk was able to turn Gu Qing Shan into a Card.

What did she say at the time?

Gu Qing Shan carefully researched his memories and finally recalled the situation at the time.

...

“From today onwards, you will be my one and only partner” Little Dusk said.

...

Partner—

Companion.

That was clearly the power of the other wing!

Gu Qing Shan was silently shocked.

Among the two Wings of Fate, one helped its wielder grow stronger, while the other helped its wielder find the strongest companion.

When the two wings were divided, Little Dusk clearly chose to become stronger!

If Little Dusk had obtained an ability related to a ‘companion’, then what about Reneedol?

What kind of power did she obtain?

—most likely, that giant featureless humanoid face.

That would make perfect sense.

Gu Qing Shan sighed and felt all sorts of indescribable emotions.

Reneedol is definitely heading North.

She would search for the nonexistent Mara Heavenly King.

But it isn’t easy to kill her right now.

Even while I was wielding the Six Paths Great Mountain sword, I still felt an unimaginable sense of unease when facing that giant featureless humanoid face.

Even Reneedol herself was afraid of this ability and refrained from using it arbitrarily.

Gu Qing Shan pondered for a bit, then said: “Luo Bing Li, head back first to protect Shroud and the others, I’m going to examine this corpse for a bit before I return”

“Sure” Luo Bing Li replied.

The Heaven sword flew into the sky and disappeared.

Gu Qing Shan crouched down in front of the old man’s corpse and carefully searched it.

Unexpectedly, Gu Qing Shan found two crystal rocks inside his pocket.

“Memory crystals?”

Gu Qing Shan was surprised.

These were typically used to record images in the World Valley, never did he think that this old man would also be carrying the same thing.

Reneedol didn’t carefully examine his corpse?

Since she’s still a young girl right now, perhaps she’s still a bit hateful of corpses?

Suddenly, Boss spoke:

“This was the World Valley’s Grand Elder, the most powerful one among all the Elders”

“Are you sure?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“I can guarantee this. He very rarely appears but had once summoned both Reneedol and I— never could I have imagined that he actually died at Reneedol’s hands” Boss replied.

After a moment of silence, Gu Qing Shan said: "Perhaps Reneedol felt that he was the strongest, so she killed him"

"Let's take a look at what the crystals have recorded" Boss was eager to take a look.

Gu Qing Shan picked up one of the crystals and pressed it in his hand.

The crystal glowed.

A screen of light was projected in front of Gu Qing Shan.

Reneedol appeared on the screen.

She was cultivating, running, happily playing with Boss and the rest, completely clueless about the fact that she was being recorded.

An old voice spoke:

"Reneedol is too beautiful, the most beautiful girl I've ever seen in my entire life. She makes me feel my youth once again, awakening my slumbering heart"

Everything after that was excerpts of Reneedol's daily life.

Gu Qing Shan shook his head and put this crystal down, then picked the other crystal up.

A different scene appeared.

Nighttime.

By the banks of the River of Fate.

Reneedol was looking straight at the screen and softly asked: "Grand Elder, you summoned me here so late at night, was there something you needed from me?"

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A few moments later.

The old voice spoke: "Reneedol, you are the blessing of heaven, the girl favored by God, the most beautiful flower in this world. I can no longer control myself, I want to have you"

Reneedol's expression was calm, then she suddenly smiled: "Grand Elder, I assume that no one else would be able to discover us here today"

"Indeed, they have all fallen asleep, and they'll continue to sleep peacefully through the night" the old voice replied.

Reneedol lowered her voice and spoke: "Then what do you want me to do?"

The old voice fell silent and spoke in confusion: "I do not understand why I wanted to do this, but since it had gotten to this point, I—"

Reneedol cut him off and continued: "Show me your strength"

A black featureless humanoid voice appeared behind her.

The Grand Elder chuckled: "Naïve girl, perhaps you don't understand. I am the one who stands at the peak of this world, your little tricks are useless to me"

Reneedol didn't seem like she heard him at all and muttered: "It's extremely difficult to control, exceptionally so"

“Normally, I would never release it, but since you’ve already done the preparation for me, I’ll gladly see what it could do”

The black featureless face slowly opened its mouth.

“Devour him” Renedol excitedly said.

The screen flashed.

The Grand Elder suddenly uttered a panicked shout: “Wait a minute, what is this thing? Why ca—-”

Instantly, the screen began to spin around before finally disappearing.

The crystal went dim.

Gu Qing Shan was only able to see a curt scream right at the end.

He was stunned for a moment.

—-that happened in the era before the Law Behemoths began fighting among themselves.

The strongest person in World Valley was so easily killed, by a young girl, no less.

My intuitions were indeed correct, that thing would have been extremely tough to deal with.

It directly ignored any difference in strength!

Gu Qing Shan sighed.

Boss also sighed, then began speaking quickly: “I can’t be here for too long, so I can only tell you a certain thing in the short period of time that I can”

“What’s that?”

“Even when I was the Lord of Infinite Origins, whenever I looked back to the past, I would always find my memories of this period to be a bit unclear, as if I had forgotten about certain things” Boss replied.

“What do you mean?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

Boss’ voice became stern and spoke in a low voice: “It means that what happened to me during this period of time had been hidden away”

“That’s impossible” Gu Qing Shan resolutely dismissed that thought: “You used to be the Lord of Infinite Origins, no one should have been able to unknowingly influence you or tamper with your memories during that time”

Boss replied: “I also hope that it was only some sort of misunderstanding— for example because you time travelled to this era, there were certain things whose results have been confirmed, but the process was not— I feel a bit uneasy”

“What are you afraid of?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“I’m afraid that someone might have influenced me without me knowing it” Boss replied.

Gu Qing Shan was startled.

Boss continued: “In history, at midnight today— which was this very moment, the Laws will gradually return to normal, and the Law Behemoths would once again respond to the summon of living beings”

Gu Qing Shan pondered: “Which means, you’ll be healed very soon— and once again become the one with the most potential to grow into the strongest person in the world”

“Indeed, Reneedol would soon return to my side, but my memories during this period is a complete mystery”

“Not good!”

Gu Qing Shan shouted, then continued: “I’m going to return to watch over you right now”

He prepared to leap away.

Boss chuckled, then told him: “Gu Qing Shan, you’ll experience these next few days for the first time together with my past self, find out what exactly happened during this time for me”

“I’ve hidden the third Sealing Token at the very end of these few days”

“I’ll leave everything from this point onwards to you”

His voice disappeared.

Gu Qing Shan had flown into the sky and headed towards Shroud’s group.

Invisible fluctuations gradually spread all over the world.

The power of the Laws was rapidly returning.

...

At another location.

Renedol had also realized the change in the Laws.

She was currently heading North when she paused and slowly turned around.

“The Laws are recovering... it seems that things have taken quite an unusual turn”

She turned towards Shroud’s direction.

Should I head out to look for the so-called strongest swordsman, or return to our previous location in search of Shroud?

Reneedol didn't hesitate for long.

"I wonder if he had been killed by the people I've sent, if... he's still alive..."

"— he would definitely become the strongest"

Having decided on this answer, Reneedol swiftly turned around and began running towards Shroud's direction.

Chapter 1438

Translator: La0o9

From the shadows, a girl was heading forward from afar.

She looked like a spirit that had appeared from the darkness, exuding unparalleled beauty and grace.

Looking down on the empty wilderness, she displayed a confused expression.

"Dead? Or alive?"

She muttered.

Ooooooo—

The sorrowful strong wind continued to blow and there was a faint smell of blood in the air, but it couldn't help her discern what had happened here previously at all.

Reneedol narrowed her eyes, muttering: "I recall... that Red Wraith seemed to have a method of searching and scouting"

A vast inner sight began to expand from her forehead, scanning through a radius of 10 miles.

But still, she found nothing.

“Strange, did they disappear into thin air?” Reneedol muttered confusedly.

She had directly gained all of Gu Qing Shan’s abilities, becoming a Star River Saint realm cultivator that wasn’t any weaker compared to Gu Qing Shan.

— but she was currently still too green, and the things Gu Qing Shan had learnt were too diverse: scientific expertise, cooking, martial arts, swordsmanship, six arts of cultivation, acting, dancing, rapping, etc. She had only just begun to get used to his swordsmanship and still hadn’t even touched upon his other techniques yet.

She also wouldn’t know that the ‘Red Wraith’ she fought against previously was Rhode.

Which was why she would not be able to locate Shroud and the others.

Standing with the night wind for over half an hour, Reneedol still couldn’t understand how a group of people were able to vanish so thoroughly that not even their corpses could be found.

At the same time.

In the wilderness.

A few miles away from Reneedol.

Being obscured by 36 different concealment formations, Gu Qing Shan was busy putting corpses into his Inventory Bag.

The three young people were still unconscious, completely clueless.

Shroud was finally coming to his senses.

“Ah...”

He uttered an interrupted moan.

“How are you doing?” Gu Qing Shan asked in a whisper.

Shroud opened his eyes and swiftly understood his current state.

He wryly smiled: “I’m like a crippled person right now, having lost all of my powers— I didn’t think I’d be able to return alive”

“What’s going on in the World of Laws?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“I’m not sure either. When I entered the World of Laws, I immediately saw powers of mass destruction filling the entire world, most Behemoths were attacking one another like they had gone insane, and then—”

Shroud suddenly asked out of concern: “Where’s Reneedol? And what about the others?”

Gu Qing Shan’s eyes flickered.

The three others are lying just a bit away, but Shroud couldn’t sense them.

Seems like he had really lost his powers.

However, the Laws of Reality have recovered, he’ll slowly regain his powers as he recovers.

Gu Qing Shan replied: “They’re all fine, they’ve just left to find some food. Among all of us, you’re the one in most danger”

Shroud calmed his expression.

Gu Qing Shan asked: "What exactly happened?"

Shroud replied: "Do you still remember what I told you? I've always been able to hear voices that were explaining a certain event"

"Apocalypse" Gu Qing Shan affirmed.

Shroud continued: "But when I tried to listen to these voices earlier— I found that they had become extremely clear, almost like they were right in front of me, but there was one voice among them that was abnormal"

"An abnormal voice?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"Yes, I suspect that this voice wasn't part of the cries of despair, because not only did it notice me, it had also told me to no longer listen to these voices, and not to poke into other people's businesses" Shroud answered.

Gu Qing Shan looked at him with considerable confusion.

Another voice?

This seems to have gotten completely out of my understanding.

Gu Qing Shan sighed, then asked: "Then, how were you injured so badly?"

Shroud's expression was complicated as he answered him: "That voice told me to stop listening to the voices, but I thought that it was being unreasonable so I tried asking it about what was going on"

"What did it say?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

“It said that those things were all about to die, all of them were pushing against the Gate in an attempt to enter” Shroud replied.

“And then?” Gu Qing Shan asked again.

Shroud continued: “After that, I asked the voice what happened to the Law Behemoths, but before it could answer, something terrifying happened that overwhelmed my sense of danger, before I could react, I already became heavily injured and ejected from the World of Laws”

Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but fall silent as he heard the explanation.

Everything was so completely obscured that he couldn't even try to reach for an answer.

What exactly happened in the World of Laws? And what was that voice?

I can't really tell by just hearing Shroud's explanation.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly said: “Shroud, how did you enter the World of Laws, and can I do it as well?”

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Shroud explained: “You will need to form a covenant with the Laws of Reality and receive permission from one of the Law Behemoths in order to enter the World of Laws, otherwise, you can only summon them here in our world”

“How do I form a covenant with a Law Behemoth?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“Connect to the World of Laws, chant your name in your mind, then state your wish and see if any of the Law Behemoths are willing to answer you” Shroud replied.

“Sounds simple enough” Gu Qing Shan commented.

“No, it is actually exceptionally difficult. A Law Behemoth would normally never allow humans to enter the World of Laws” Shroud doused his thoughts.

Gu Qing Shan rolled up his sleeves, raised his hand, before clenching it.

Suddenly, an unnamed force manifested upon his body and began to spread deep into the void of space.

—[Blessings of the Past Worlds]!

The world slowly faded away like an illusion.

Gu Qing Shan saw a thin layer of fog enveloping himself.

“I am Rhode”

“I want to enter the World of Laws and see the truth behind the upheaval of the Laws”

Gu Qing Shan silently muttered.

One breath.

Two breaths.

Three breaths.

No answer.

Gu Qing Shan asked in wonder: “Shroud, back then, how long did it take you for a Law Behemoth to agree to form a covenant?”

Shroud was silently watching him from one side and replied: "This is a very hard thing to achieve. The Behemoths very rarely allow humans to enter their territory, even I had to spend several months in order to achieve this— I think it's best that you wait until I fully recover and slowly lead you into that process"

Gu Qing Shan regretfully replied: "From how things currently are, that would be the only choice"

Right as he said that, his body jerked as if he was abruptly pulled by something, then disappeared into the void of space leaving without a trace.

Shroud laid on the ground with his eyes wide.

"How did it happen so quickly?" he exclaimed in shock

...

On the other side.

Gu Qing Shan felt like he was being pulled by an immense force through the boundless void of space towards a faraway region of the space vortex.

The only thing he saw on his way was the void, there wasn't even a single living being.

Suddenly, Gu Qing Shan discovered that he had passed through some sort of barrier, his vision instantly became filled with light.

—-a vast area of flat, barren land.

Dozens of skeletons were walking aimlessly on the ground.

A single gigantic bronze pillar that connected heaven and earth stood at the middle of it all.

A giant corpse clad in full-body black armor was pinned onto the bronze pillar, unable to move.

The corpse was hanging on its head, seemingly already dead.

A deep voice resounded in Gu Qing Shan's ears:

"Youngster from the future, I cannot see through your past, present, or future, if you have something to tell me, then tell me what is your true name"

Gu Qing Shan was feeling a bit emotional.

This was an era of innumerable years ago, before Boss became the Lord of Infinite Origins, before the Awaitings had even entered the Reality Gate, and before the Apocalypses had erupted all over Reality.

Who could've expected that I would meet the giant corpse at this point in time?

"I am Gu Qing Shan, if you can see through Space and Time, you should know the relation between you and I" Gu Qing Shan said.

"Gu Qing Shan?" the giant corpse muttered, seemingly pondering something.

His head slowly lifted up, as if to peer into an infinite distance.

A few moments later.

He then uttered a heavy sigh, before saying: "...So that was the case... you are the person whose Fate was connected to me, no wonder you would appear at this crucial point in time"

Gu Qing Shan asked: "There was a voice who warned Shroud, telling him not to listen to the other apocalyptic voices, was that you?"

"It was me. His talents are considerable, but he shouldn't have listened to the voices outside the Gate, that would only quicken the pace of the Apocalypses' descent" the giant corpse replied.

Suddenly, a gap was torn through the void of space.

A small, soft-bodied bug fell out of the sky and landed on the ground.

“Wait a moment”

After the giant corpse said that, a piece of scale armor flew out from his body and stabbed the soft-bodied bug like a meteorite.

The soft-bodied bug uttered a curt scream, its body then swiftly melted, shrank down, and was fully absorbed into the scale.

The scale armor shook for a bit, then finally turned into a set of black skeletons that laid on the ground.

The skeleton slowly stood up, then began walking aimlessly on the ground.

Gu Qing Shan was stunned as he watched this.

When he first saw the giant corpse in the future, he saw countless black skeletons walking all over the ground, but didn't quite understand what they were.

Only now, when he returned to the Age of Immemorial did he finally understand these skeletons' background.

The giant corpse sighed, then continued: “This is already the 29th recent Apocalypse to appear—— the Reality Gate has been discovered, the age of apocalyptic calamity is about to arrive”

Chapter 1439

Translator: La0o9

Gu Qing Shan had countless questions in his mind, but knowing that he didn't have much time whenever he visited the giant corpse, he immediately asked: “Why exactly are the Law Behemoths fighting?”

The giant corpse replied: “The world spirit had divided and manifested into many Law Behemoths. In times of peace, they would stimulate the growth and diversity of the world, but now that the Behemoths have realized the incoming threat, they have begun to compete for the right to lead”

He seemed to chuckle, then continued:

“A cluster of flames contains both the Law of Light and the Law of Destruction, then does the initiative of this flame fall towards Light or towards Destruction?”

“Before, while there had always been conflicts between the Law Behemoths, there had only been insignificant skirmishes. But now that it is the era of the apocalyptic calamity, they need to select a sovereign who will lead all the Behemoths and living beings to resist the Apocalypses”

“So, have they decided on a leader?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

The giant corpse replied: “They have not—— during their war, they found out that if they continued this way, even before the Apocalypses descended, the world would have already been broken into innumerable pieces”

“Then——”

“Ignore them. They will eventually find a suitable way to unite the powers of the world”

At this point, the giant corpse’s tone became more serious: “And now, I have something else I need to tell you”

Gu Qing Shan felt a bit shaken and asked: “What is it?”

“You and I are currently both living in an obscured period of history, one whose process and details have yet to become determined” the giant corpse said.

Gu Qing Shan felt a bit confused and said: “How is that possible? According to the Laws of Causality, if the process isn’t determined, then what would happen to everything in the future? Illusions?”

The giant corpse explained: “Causality is determined, the future outcome had also been determined, but the process is actually the most important aspect of it all—— imagine it like a fish who swam through

the River of Fate from upstream to downstream, but we do not know what had happened to it on the way”

“What difference does it make?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

The giant corpse replied with a chilling tone:

“Just think about it, we only know that the fish has arrived downstream, but we don’t know if it had been replaced halfway through, or someone had caught it and placed something inside its belly, or if there were any ferocious pursuers who followed it there”

Gu Qing Shan was startled, then slowly understood.

This was a completely hidden period of history where no one knew what happened.

After that—

Reneadol killed all the Deities and headed into the Dusty World.

After the Inner Plane was destroyed, a terrifying monster whose background was unknown had taken over that place.

Boss’ original body was split in half, one half transformed into the Eternal Abyss, the other half became sealed inside the dark tunnel.

The cause of all of this was a complete mystery.

What was actually hiding in the fog to manipulate it all?

An entity?

Or an unknown Fate?

If that’s the case, then I don’t actually know anything at all.

The more Gu Qing Shan thought about it, the more cold sweat he could feel on his back.

The giant corpse continued: “There, you’ve understood. Causality is a very simple matter, but if we do not know the process, then there is no way for us to see through the truth behind the Causality”

“What do you think I should do now?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

The giant corpse replied: “The Lord of Infinite Origins had also realized the hints of this and thus made a certain correct decision during the fog of history, which was to forge the six Sealing Tokens within the ruins of the Pantheon”

“Gu Qing Shan, you must obtain these six Sealing Tokens no matter what, they must not come into the possession of anyone else”

“As you hold the seals, then no matter what happened in history, it would still be under your control. There would then be no issues”

The giant corpse paused for a brief moment, then continued: “How unfortunate, with my current powers, I can only tell you so much, you must leave now”

Following his words, a flash of blinding light manifested deep above the sky.

It was a violent arc of lightning that had struck the top of the gigantic bronze pillar.

Almost immediately, the entire bronze pillar was enveloped in lightning, with smaller rays of electricity arcing from it.

Boom!

The corpse remained still without saying another word, letting the lightning envelop him.

Gu Qing Shan saw a black piece of scale armor detaching from the corpse and flew in front of him.

The giant corpse’s voice was heard again:

“I can’t aid you any further”

“This is the evolution seal of [Mystery of All Beings Equal], take it”

“It will allow you to completely transform into a certain living being, even if your opponent has the power of Fate, they would not be able to detect you”

The scale directly entered Gu Qing Shan's body.

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

[You've obtained the supplement Laws of the Mystery of All Beings Equal]

[Your Mystery of All Beings Equal is evolving]

[This Mystery has been reinforced with a unique constructed Law, unless this Law is destroyed, no living being will be able to detect the real you]

[3]

[2]

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[1]

[Your exclusive Law: All Living Beings Equal, has been constructed]

[This Law has the property of exclusivity, without your permission, no one would be able to copy, steal, borrow, or utilize it]

[As you command this Law, any low-levelled disguises, illusions, or transformation techniques would not be able to deceive you]

Gu Qing Shan felt glad.

Renedol had gotten ahold of all my powers, but now, [Mystery of All Beings Equal] has evolved again.

It had become an exclusive Law.

Gu Qing Shan looked at the giant corpse and loudly called out: "Thank you, when I return to the future, I'll definitely think of a way to save you——"

Hoh!

An immense pulling force abruptly manifested on Gu Qing Shan's body and instantly pulled him away from this world.

Gu Qing Shan disappeared almost right away.

The giant corpse continued to be enveloped in the destructive lightning without uttering a single word for a very long time.

...

Within the concealment formation array.

Gu Qing Shan abruptly appeared from the void of space, landing on the grass.

The other three young men and women had also just awoken.

After the Laws recovered, they regained their powers and woke up much earlier than Gu Qing Shan had predicted.

The young man among them saw Gu Qing Shan suddenly reappearing and asked full of admiration: "Rhode, so you were able to enter the World of Laws?"

Gu Qing Shan looked at everyone, only to see them all, including Shroud, focusing on him.

There had always been very few people who could enter the World of Laws, and among the remnant members of the World Valley, Shroud was the only one capable of this.

Gu Qing Shan replied: "Yes, but after I entered, I didn't see any Law Behemoths. I only heard a voice that told me to tell Shroud—"

He made a very serious expression: "Don't continue to listen to the voices, they will only bring forth calamity"

Hearing him, Shroud displayed an understanding expression.

“I had also assumed that to be the case... truthfully, I’ve been able to sense some sort of threat recently...” he muttered to himself.

“Don’t mind me for now, hurry and heal Shroud” Gu Qing Shan urged.

The healing expert girl regained her senses, stood up, then rushed up to Shroud and began using a healing technique.

“My powers have returned—— I can guarantee to be able to fully heal Shroud’s wounds within a few more days” the girl delightedly said.

The other young man and woman also realized that their powers were recovering.

Having been sufficiently healed, Shroud’s pained expression slowly subsided, he slowly closed his eyes exhaustedly, perhaps preparing to sleep again.

As the others saw this, they said nothing and simply stood guard cautiously.

Suddenly, Shroud reopened his eyes and looked at Gu Qing Shan.

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

“Rhode, since you were able to enter the World of Laws, you’ve definitely drawn the attention of the Law Behemoths, so a Behemoth should have already arrived to form a covenant with you, why haven’t they arrived yet?” Shroud confusedly asked.

“Ahaha, I’m not really hopeful about that” Gu Qing Shan played dumb to gloss this over.

——the giant corpse directly pulled him towards his faraway sealed-off world, so he didn’t appear in the World of Laws for even a second.

Perhaps this was why the Law Behemoths didn't notice me?

Shroud refuted: "That can't be true. As long as you've entered the World of Laws, the Behemoths would definitely notice you, the key point is... which Behemoth favors you"

Since they were on this topic, Gu Qing Shan felt a bit interested.

"Shroud, which Law Behemoth did you form a covenant with?" he asked.

"The Behemoth who formed a covenant with me was the manifestation of the Law of Radiance—— it sensed that my power and it was well-suited, so I was chosen" Shroud replied.

"Well-suited..." Gu Qing Shan repeated that.

"Indeed, one of the Laws must be well-suited with you, but I don't know what it would be" Shroud continued.

Gu Qing Shan sighed, then said: "I might have an idea"

A second later, boundless black flames descended from above onto his body.

Chapter 1440

Translator: La0o9

Black flames drifted endlessly around Gu Qing Shan's body.

Standing in the circle of flames, he locked his gaze towards the empty wilderness as if he was staring closely at something.

He seemed to be quite confused.

“What’s the matter?” Shroud asked.

Gu Qing Shan’s lips twitched a bit, then answered: “What do Law Behemoths usually look like?”

Shroud replied: “They have many forms. Humanoid, beast-like, grass and flowers, stars, elemental lifeforms, etc. However, the supernatural phenomena around you took the form of black flames, which usually represent one of three Laws”

“Which three?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

Shroud answered a bit excitedly: “Darkness, Destruction, and Death—— I’m currently heavily injured, so I am unable to enter the World of Laws to help you see which of them is descending, but you need to keep something close in mind. When the other party arrives, you have to refer to them as an Overlord— after all, these Behemoths are sentient manifestations of the Laws of the world”

Gu Qing Shan closed his eyes, then said: “Overlord? I understand”

Shroud continued: “I’ve seen two out of these three Overlords—— the Overlord of Darkness appears as a man who is able to turn into a lion; the Overlord of Destruction appears as an elemental lifeform; when you enter the World of Laws, if you see a burning mountain of black flames, that would be it”

Gu Qing Shan then asked: “What about the Law of Death?”

Shroud paused for a bit, then replied: “Living beings cannot look straight at death. Unless the Overlord of Death shows itself on its own accord, you cannot search for it—— this is the common rule for all living beings”

“However, I have heard from the other Law Behemoths that the Law of Death manifests as a cloaked humanoid lifeform”

Gu Qing Shan paused briefly, before saying: “Then I’ll be going”

He abruptly vanished in front of everyone.

The young man commented with admiration: “Hah, I wonder when I’ll be able to head into the World of Laws and form a covenant with an Overlord”

Shroud smiled, then said: “Atley, the Laws have already recovered, why don’t you train your ability to communicate with the Laws of the World right away?”

Atley nodded: “You’re right, I need to seize my time and quickly grow stronger. When Reneedol heads out to face the enemy next time, I will definitely not stay behind”

Shroud was startled then asked: “What did you say about Reneedol?”

Atley replied: “When you fell unconscious, someone came to attack us, Reneedol volunteered to lead them away”

“WHAT!?” Shroud exclaimed in shock.

Suddenly, the other girl spoke up: “I’ve noticed this for a while now, but our current location is being protected by some sort of power that perfectly conceals it”

“When Reneedol returns, it would be very hard for her to find us” the girl who was healing Shroud added.

The young man named Atley said: “Now that we’ve regained our powers, how about we destroy this layer of protection to allow Reneedol to find us”

“Let’s hurry and destroy it!” Shroud struggled but still insisted.

The concealment formation array that Gu Qing Shan had set up was only meant to temporarily conceal them, so it was very easy to destroy the formation from the inside. As the three young people attacked it at the same time, they quickly managed to turn it into a mass of light and shatter.

...

Right at that moment.

A few dozen miles away in the wilderness.

Reneedol abruptly turned around.

“Found you...”

She activated [Ground Shrink] and instantly vanished.

...

The World of Laws.

This was the manifestation of the source of all the forces in this world, it may appear as nothingness, but it was actually filled with innumerable kinds of Origin powers.

These Origin powers were silently and consistently operating in the background of the world in accordance with their respective rules and attributes, maintaining the world's existence.

Gu Qing Shan didn't have to stand waiting in the void of space for a long time before a dark humanoid figure clad in a battle cloak silently manifested.

Gu Qing Shan swiftly understood and bowed: “Venerable Overlord of Death, I have come here to seek a covenant with you”

The humanoid figure stood there without saying a word and only raised his hand to lightly touch the void of space.

Burning flames manifested in mid-air to form a series of text:

[Death cannot open its mouth, otherwise, all things shall wilt]

Gu Qing Shan nodded to signal his understanding.

The text turned back into flames, then manifested as different text:

[Rhode, countless living beings have died at your hands, you are the individual with the highest level of suitability to Death]

[Now, are you willing to form a covenant with me?]

Gu Qing Shan asked: "What is the content of the covenant?"

Another line of text appeared:

[You shall provide me sustenance; I shall grant you the power of death]

—what a straightforward covenant.

After being granted the Law of Radiance's favor, Shroud was able to fight me to a draw.

If I can obtain the Law of Death's favor, my strength should also increase accordingly.

Gu Qing Shan silently pondered before asking a question: "Venerable Overlord of Death, may I ask how I would be able to provide you with sustenance?"

The burning flames manifested into another line of text:

[The deaths you bring shall become my sustenance]

Gu Qing Shan hesitated: "I usually don't kill people"

The cloaked humanoid figure silently stared at him.

The text changed to form three words:

[Are you serious?]

Gu Qing Shan paused and couldn't help himself from recalling his past battles.

Sometimes...

Life forces your hand.

Gu Qing Shan explained: "I am more than happy to form a covenant with you, but I'm truly not a murderous person, I hope that you can understand this.

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The Overlord of Death didn't reply.

A cluster of black flames slowly drifted in front of Gu Qing Shan.

The flames unfolded to form a simple covenant with only two lines:

[You shall provide me sustenance; I shall grant you power]

[—Overlord of Death]

This was the simplest covenant that Gu Qing Shan had ever seen.

However, since the one he was signing a covenant with was the manifestation of the Law of Death, no one would try to violate it.

Unless they wished to die.

Gu Qing Shan praised: "A truly loose covenant, I will sign it"

He placed his hand on the covenant of black flames.

Hoh—

The covenant turned into a cluster of flames that entered Gu Qing Shan's body.

Everything around him disappeared.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly felt his feet once again standing on the ground.

He had returned.

A surprised voice asked:

"Rhode, did you really form a covenant with an Overlord of Law?"

Gu Qing Shan's heart felt heavy, but his expression was unchanged as he looked over.

Only to see Renedol crouched next to Shroud while evaluating him with her eyes.

Gu Qing Shan rubbed his chin: "That's right, I did. What happened after you led those people away?"

Renedol raised her hand to show that it was bleeding, the healer girl was currently performing first aid.

Renedol explained: "Those people were acting on the orders of a swordsman called 'Red Wraith' who wanted to kill everyone who belonged to World Valley"

“Red Wraith? Why did he want to kill us all?” Gu Qing Shan appeared confused.

“Because he was wary of the World Valley’s power. He wanted to take advantage of his calamity of Law and completely eliminate all of us” Renedol explained.

“Then you——”

“I was no match for him and only barely managed to flee with my life. This place is most likely not safe either, we need to hurry up and flee” Renedol’s voice contained a hint of fear.

“Hmph, we’ve already regained our powers, if that Red Wraith dare comes to us, we’ll kill him!” Atley angrily said.

Shroud still appeared calm: “Renedol told me earlier that Red Wraith claimed to be the 7th strongest swordsman in the world, the few of us would most likely be no match for an expert of that level—— especially while my injuries have yet to fully heal. I’ll only become your burden”

Renedol’s eyes were moist with tears as she lowered her head: “Shroud, don’t you worry. We’re going to flee this place with you right here and right now. The inheritance of the World Valley will not cease because of that swordsman”

“I, Renedol, swear to ensure your survival!”

Shroud looked at her in surprise, then subconsciously took her other hand and held it tightly.

“Be at ease, Renedol. I’m definitely going to remember this so-called ‘Red Wraith’ swordsman. When I recover, we’re definitely going to find him and take our revenge!” Shroud declared.

Renedol wiped her tear and forced out a smile: “He’s too strong, we are no match for him”

“Renedol, don’t you worry, there will eventually be a day where I will make him pay for what he has done” Shroud resolutely declared.

“Hm, I believe you” Reneedol softly embraced Shroud, resting her chin over his shoulder: “None of us can die, because we are already the last people of the World Valley”

“Let’s go!”

Her words were filled with helplessness and sorrow.

Even the three others appeared sorrowful and sympathetic.

Gu Qing Shan looked at everyone, then at Reneedol.

Suddenly from inside his Thought Sea, Shannu commented with a strange tone: “What this girl said just now, I feel...”

Luo Bing Li muttered in thought: “That girl’s expressions earlier... gave me a very familiar feeling”

The Earth sword’s heavy mountainous voice resounded: 「 Oh no, this girl just grasped Gu Qing Shan’s acting skills 」

“Ah——” the two girls exclaimed in sudden realization.

The Chao Yin sword uttered a curt ‘oong’, expressing that this one was going to be hard to resolve.

Hearing the sword spirits’ conversations, Gu Qing Shan couldn’t help but rub his temples while feeling exhausted for some reason.

A while later.

Reneedol carried Shroud on her back as they crossed the wilderness, heading North.

The others followed behind her.

The North...

Gu Qing Shan was silently speechless.

—-the North was a barren and desolate place without people, rumored to be where the 'strongest swordsman in the world' Mara Heavenly King was residing.

This was my lie to Reneedol.

Reneedol believed it.

She didn't give up on Shroud but also didn't give up on heading North in search of the truth.

—-and now, she has learnt how to kill two birds with one stone.

Once she learns how to scam—-

No, that's not it.

Once she learns the art of strategically utilizing speech and language, wouldn't she become even harder to deal with?

Could this terrifying woman have turned out to be as scary as she was through learning my skills during the Age of Immemorial?

Silently thinking this, Gu Qing Shan felt nothing but a huge headache.

No, I need to resolve this issue as soon as possible...

While he was following behind the group, Gu Qing Shan silently contemplated a solution.

Behind him, a cluster of flames was flickering in and out of existence.

Chapter 1441

Translator: La0o9

As they were heading North.

The Law Behemoths had given up on fighting one another, allowing the world to return to its normal state.

Since Shroud was injured, everyone moved along very slowly.

Fortunately, the healing expert girl had fully regained her power, so she was able to heal Shroud's injuries once every hour.

After just half a day, Shroud's injuries had begun to subside.

"Thank you, little Epta¹" Shroud gratefully told her.

"It's fine, I just hope you'll be able to recover soon" the girl wiped the sweat from her forehead and said.

Her name was Epta, the youngest girl among the six of them.

The six of them—

Rhode, Shroud, Atley, Reneedol, Epta, Scarlet¹.

Three males, three females.

Among the three girls, Reneedol was the most powerful, Epta was an expert healer, while Scarlet's speciality lay in supportive combat.

Noon.

The group of six stopped under the shade of several trees in order to take a rest from their journey.

"Let me make something to eat" Gu Qing Shan offered.

Rhode's cooking skills were extraordinary, so no one objected.

Reneedol pondered for a bit, then offered: "Let me give you a hand"

—I think I also know how to make food, and apparently am quite an expert at it as well.

Gu Qing Shan delightedly said: "Very well, I'll go hunt a cute little deer. I'll be skinning it; you can help remove the innards"

Cute little deer.

Remove... innards...

Reneedol gave it some thought before silently giving up on the cooking skills.

—there's actually nothing special about cooking, why should I waste my precious time and effort on such a thing?

With a natural expression, she said: "Rhode, I think you should do it alone after all, it's best that I focus on taking care of Shroud"

Gu Qing Shan was a bit surprised, then said: "That's true, Shroud's safety is more important than anything else. Take care of him then, I'll head out to hunt"

—it seems that while she had obtained all of my abilities, she still wasn't me.

There are things that are suitable to me, but not to her.

...Earlier, she had already devoured the Grand Elder's power, so what's going on with her now?

There are two possibilities.

One, she has both the Grand Elder's and my powers.

Two, she had lost the Grand Elder's power, only retaining mine.

If the former was true, that would be terrifying.

If the latter was true, then I need to come up with a way to make her give up on my power on her own accord.

Gu Qing Shan pondered while heading into the forest to hunt.

Scarlet couldn't help but call out behind him: "Can you not catch a cute little deer?"

Epta also displayed a hopeful expression.

Gu Qing Shan didn't turn around and just answered them: "Alright then, we won't eat venison for lunch today"

Without waiting for the girls to sigh in relief, he continued: "——we'll eat a cute rabbit instead"

After saying that, his figure flashed before he disappeared into the forest.

Epta and Scarlet both froze.

Cute rabbit.

Can you please not say it like that?

If you put it that way, who would still want to eat!?

"Ah... I've never thought of Rhode as such a detestable person like this" Epta gritted her teeth.

"Seriously, no wonder he was able to form a covenant with the Overlord of Death" Scarlet complained.

Hearing that, Renedol slightly trembled.

Apparently thinking about something, she looked down at Shroud and asked: “How do you feel?”

Shroud replied: “Much better now. I can sense the Law of Radiance helping me heal my body. In about one and a half days, I’ll be able to fully recover”

Renedol displayed a satisfied smile and softly touched Shroud’s face: “That would be great”

“Are you worried about me?” Shroud asked.

“Of course, your talents are exceptional, so you will definitely become the strongest in the future”
Renedol answered without reserve.

The corners of Shroud’s lips curled up; his smile filled with warmth.

Renedol softly asked: “Shroud, the Overlord of Death... among the many Overlords, what level of strength would he be considered at?”

While cultivating on one side, Atley heard this and opened his eyes: “I remember hearing the Elders explain that all the Overlords should be of similar strength”

Shroud and Renedol exchanged glances.

Shroud sighed, then said: “Alright, since we’re the only ones left in the World Valley, I should explain this to you”

“The Elders explained it that way because they didn’t know which Overlord we would form a covenant with in the future. They were afraid that if we knew too much, we would displease some of the Overlords and lead to unnecessary disaster”

“There is actually a difference in power between the numerous Overlords. For example, among the Overlords of the Burning category, the Law of Destruction is naturally the strongest, so the Overlord of Destruction would also be the strongest; or among the Laws in the Growth category, the Law of Healing and Law of Recovery would be the most potent, but they are weaker in combat compared to the Law of Evolution”

This was the first time these young people have heard of this truth, so they didn't quite understand it.

Reneedol directly asked: "Rhode's Overlord of Death and your Overlord of Radiance, which is stronger?"

Shroud explained: "The Law of Death is a unique Law in the sense that all other Laws fear it; while the Law of Radiance is the exact opposite, as the majority of Laws wish to stay close to it— if comparing the power of these two manifestations of Law, they are actually parallels of each other at the strongest level"

"In other words, the manifestations of these two Laws were equally powerful?" Reneedol pursued the question.

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"Indeed, they're both exceptionally powerful. Both of them can greatly improve Rhode's and my strengths" Shroud affirmed.

Reneedol fell into thought.

Atley then commented: "But Shroud had been able to enter the World of Laws since long ago, his talents dictate that he should be far ahead of Rhode"

Epta grumbled: "That's right, a covenant carrier like Shroud would also gain the favor and support of a lot of Overlords, unlike Rhode who can make people unhappy just by cooking"

Scarlet also nodded.

Reneedol thought for a bit, then finally smiled: "That's true, we can't just consider the Overlord. In truth, the talents and characteristics of the covenant carrier is the real determining factor of their ultimate achievements"

Her gaze towards Shroud slowly became gentler.

...

At another location.

Gu Qing Shan had flown across a small mountain, landing on top of a branch of a tree.

He casually swiped his hand through the leaves and pulled out a colorful-patterned snake that was over 10-meter long.

“I found the soup base, now to look for something to make the side dishes” Gu Qing Shan muttered.

He glanced around, then suddenly lowered his body as if he sensed something.

Tock!

An arrow pierced deeply into the tree right above the branch he previously stood on.

“Damned brat, you’re a sharp one”

A voice begrudgingly grumbled.

Gu Qing Shan looked a bit further away and saw a burly man carrying a set of bow and arrows, glaring ferociously at him.

“I don’t think I know you, why did you attack me?” Gu Qing Shan cautiously asked.

The burly man was wearing a set of tattered armor that was still tainted with blood as if he had just returned from a battlefield.

“Why I attacked you? Why do I need a reason to do such a thing?”

The man grumbled, then put his finger on his lip and blew a whistle.

Over a dozen Professionalists showed themselves from the forest.

They were all similar to the burly man, each of them looked relatively tattered, as if they had just been through a desperate battle.

“What are you waiting for! Kill him!”

“I haven’t eaten anything for so long! Kill him!” someone called out.

“After running for so long, we’re finally safe. We need something to recover our strength” another person loudly shouted

All of them were very noisy.

The burly man shouted: “Halt! You idiots, we need to capture him and ask if he has any companions; if yes—”

He didn’t say anything else, but the others all understood.

They became silent.

The burly man cleared his throat and looked at Gu Qing Shan: “Brat... do you want to live?”

Gu Qing Shan scanned through these people with his gaze and chuckled: “Seven martial artists, three weapon wielders— from how you all look, did you take advantage of the time when the Laws lost their effects to do something but ended up being beaten to the point that you had to flee after the Laws returned to normal?”

All of them stayed silent.

“I’m right, aren’t I?” Gu Qing Shan shrugged.

“Kill him first! If he has any companions, they would definitely not be too far away” someone suggested.

“Right, we’re going to kill him!” the burly man shouted.

They all rushed towards Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan didn’t use his sword, or martial arts.

Reneedol could recognize all of them, and she could easily use her inner sight to check this place at any moment.

I can’t expose myself.

So the only choice is...

He held onto the colorful snake with one hand and picked up a dry branch on the ground.

Hoh!

A scorching black flame began to spread onto the branch before fully enveloping it.

The power of Death!

This was the Death Origin power of this world; how could a few foot soldiers stop it?

While Gu Qing Shan was studying the power of Death, some flames manifested as text in front of his eyes:

[I remember you saying that you normally don’t kill people]

Gu Qing Shan’s lips twitched, then sighed and said: “Life forces my hands”

The group of people was already about to reach him.

He swung the dry branch.

Fwoom!

The black scorching flames swept through everything in front of him.

The Professionalists were completely erased together with a part of the forest.

All living things died without exception.

The land was completely dried up.

A very large patch of empty land.

Chapter 1442

Translator: La0o9

The black flames howled as they rose up to the sky.

A large patch of land had been completely scorched, turning into a zone of profound grey death.

Gu Qing Shan lightly leapt forward and looked afar.

Not a single living being as far as the eye can see.

Suddenly, a figure appeared.

Reneedol.

She looked at the scene of carnage in front of her then asked: “Rhode, were you fighting just now?”

“A bunch of refugee martial artists and weapon users, they wanted to eat me, so I had no choice but to kill them all” Gu Qing Shan replied.

Reneedol looked at Gu Qing Shan for a bit and asked: “How much strength did you use?”

Gu Qing Shan became cautious for a brief moment, but naturally made an expression of disdain and replied: “Not even 10%— they might be impressive while the Laws lost their effects, but once we can use the power of the Laws, both martial artists and weapon users are nothing”

“Naturally” a male voice followed up.

Atley had also arrived.

He continued Gu Qing Shan’s words: “Our World Valley is definitely the strongest. If there hadn’t been an issue with the Law Behemoths, no one would have been able to act tough in front of us”

—nice support!

Gu Qing Shan silently praised.

Of course, this was also the truth.

The World Valley had always been known as the strongest.

Hearing their words, Reneedol couldn’t help but nod in agreement, still with a bit of confusion on her face.

Gu Qing Shan glanced at her, then suddenly said: "Reneedol, you startled me by suddenly appearing next to me, I almost attacked you since I thought you were an enemy"

"This was a kind of movement technique" Reneedol explained.

"Strange, I don't remember there being such a movement technique in our World Valley" Gu Qing Shan mumbled.

Atley laughed and said: "It's obvious, Reneedol must have taken an enemy's ability again"

"I did, it's from that Red Wraith" Reneedol replied.

—she just absorbed a swordsman's ability, but the situation suddenly changed once again and swordsmen are no longer very powerful.

That swordsman hadn't formed a covenant with a Law Behemoth, he couldn't even use world Origin power.

Even if that person was the 7th strongest swordsman in the world, if he doesn't know how to utilize the power of Laws, he could still not be considered a strong person in the truest sense.

Gu Qing Shan looked at her.

—-is she hesitating because of this?

Gu Qing Shan smiled and asked: "What's the matter? Do you think that the swordsman called Red Wraith is able to go against the power of the Laws?"

"Of course not, I'm just trying to think how powerful would the strongest swordsman in the world would actually be"

She was gazing far into the distance and appeared lost in thought.

Gu Qing Shan slowly calmed his heart.

Reneedol is obviously looking down on the '7th strongest swordsman'.

At the same time, every time she looked at each of Gu Qing Shan's abilities, she would subconsciously harbor this thought:

[Even an ability like this can only rank 7th among all the swordsmen in the world]

In Reneedol's eyes, the only thing she needed to care about was 'the strongest', only the one at the very top.

—due to this prejudice, she would naturally not try to understand and utilize those abilities too deeply.

Gu Qing Shan followed up: "I think that in the long term, Shroud would definitely become stronger compared to that swordsman in the future"

Atley and Reneedol both nodded.

"Right. Although I have Red Wraith's abilities, I've never really liked swords and swordsmanship, so I couldn't win against him, having no choice but to retreat" Reneedol replied.

Gu Qing Shan slowly said: "You'll need the type of ability that suits you"

"Like your power of the Law of Death, or Shroud's power of the Law of Radiance" Reneedol commented

Her gaze faced Gu Qing Shan's head-on.

Both of them fell silent.

Gu Qing Shan saw a crimson thread of death manifesting on Reneedol's body, one end coiled around her hand while the other end had coiled around his hand.

Behind Reneedol, heavy and gloomy fluctuations began to manifest, as if something gigantic was moving within it.

This was a manifestation of Fate, Gu Qing Shan could see it, but Atley couldn't.

—Reneedol had resolved to kill.

Now that Shroud was heavily wounded, he wouldn't know what was happening here.

And with Reneedol's strength, she would be able to easily conceal everything.

The atmosphere suddenly changed.

Reneedol narrowed her eyes.

She seemed to be preparing—

“Ahahaha...”

Gu Qing Shan abruptly laughed.

“What are you laughing about?” Reneedol asked.

Gu Qing Shan shook his head and continued to laugh.

—if Reneedol could absorb the power of everyone to use as she pleased, why would she need to say anything at all?

When Reneedol was first taken away, she used those people's powers to defeat each of them.

...

"...I felt that it would be too easy to kill them all, so I used the boss' power to kill his aide, then the aide's power to kill the squad leader, then use the squad leader's power to kill the minions"

...

She openly explained this to everyone.

She was toying with them while killing them.

—then, if she was toying around anyways, why didn't she just use the boss' power to kill everyone, but slowly reduced in level?

Furthermore, she had definitely devoured the Grand Elder.

She had the Grand Elder's power, but hadn't used it up to now.

From before, it might be because the Law Behemoths were fighting, but now that the Laws have returned, she's considering regaining the power of Laws from Rhode and Shroud.

—why not just continue using the Grand Elder's power?

The answer was clear.

She can only absorb and use abilities belonging to a single entity at the same time!

Having confirmed this, Gu Qing Shan continued to laugh and replied with a calm heart: "You have no idea what someone would need to do after forming a covenant with the Overlord of Death"

Reneedol stopped.

—that's true, I'll be able to obtain everything from him, including his covenant.

But if I accept his covenant, I would have to accept the terms of the covenant as well, since the power I obtain would come directly from the Overlord of Death.

This is karma.

Karma is a part of Fate, even I wouldn't be able to escape it.

"What does the Overlord of Death want you to do?" Reneedol asked.

“I was only interested in killing at the time, that’s why the Law of Death is suitable for me” Gu Qing Shan replied.

Reneedol asked while surprised: “You mean your powers require killing in order to activate?”

“That’s right, I need to provide sustenance for Death in order for Death to grant me power” Gu Qing Shan replied.

As he said so, a cluster of profound dark flames flickered behind his back.

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—Reneedol and Atley both turned to look at it.

The Laws resonated with Rhode.

This proves that Rhode is telling the truth, and that the covenant he formed was indeed what he said it was.

Reneedol pondered, then shook her head.

I can obtain Rhode’s power, but this power came from the Laws—

And the price for using it was killing.

This greatly limited its usage.

However...

A certain thought flashed through Reneedol’s mind.

The thought was unclear, but it was making her hesitant to simply give up.

Finally, she looked at the scorched land in front of them and leisurely said: “We’ve seen the power of the Law of Death— this is very terrifying, Rhode, perhaps one day, you will surpass Shroud”

“I can’t compare to Shroud. He’s the strongest, and will continue to be the strongest” Gu Qing Shan said that as a matter of fact: “His talents far surpasses mine, and he’s much more hardworking too”

Reneedol slowly gave up her intentions, her killing intent also faded away.

She turned around and returned.

— for a certain dream, goal, or wish, if an individual won’t even think about striving for it and instead actively gives up on it...

Then they would truly be unable to achieve it.

This was something that Reneedol understood.

Gu Qing Shan watched as the thread of death that connected him and Reneedol slowly broke away.

“Come, since you’re already here, help me hunt” he suggested.

“I can’t, I came running because I thought there would be a problem, but since there’s no issues here, I’ll return to take care of Shroud”

After saying that, Reneedol disappeared.

Atley shrugged: “Rhode, I’ll go back as well, I need to continue cultivating myself”

“Alright, do as you like” Gu Qing Shan smiled.

Atley flew away.

——both of them had left.

Gu Qing Shan stood still for a while.

It was only when a gust of wind blew past that he realized he was soaked in a cold sweat.

When he looked down, he found that the colorful snake in his hand was still alive, but it was squeezed so hard that it had fallen unconscious.

“Tch... so I was cornered to this degree”

Gu Qing Shan silently thought.

Reneedol's Fate ability is truly terrifying.

My spirit sense could clearly feel that it didn't care about any difference in strength.

As soon as it appeared, it was already impossible to resist.

Gu Qing Shan's strength was considerable, but he understood very well that while the current Shroud could fight with him on even grounds, he still hadn't actually exerted all of his strength.

In fact, he could still summon the pixies and Law Behemoths to aid him.

He displayed this capability when he saved Reneedol.

The power of a Law Behemoth cannot be disregarded.

The Grand Elder of the World Valley would definitely be stronger compared to Shroud.

And yet, even a Combatant of that level couldn't resist the Fate ability, he was devoured and turned into a substitute body.

Then, how would Gu Qing Shan fare?

Gu Qing Shan stood still.

The sky was already growing gloomy as the sun was setting.

The howling of the wind became increasingly more harrowing.

Rain began to fall.

Gu Qing Shan continued to stand still for a few moments, only after he couldn't sense any inner sight peeking at him did he finally mutter: "She had always needed [Longing]..."

As he recalled, Reneedol had needed Fei Yue's Fate ability for a very long time.

But now, she had already obtained it from me.

She simply doesn't know that yet.

—my soul has been released, so my capabilities are too varied and complicated, she has most likely still not discovered this ability.

"...I can't let you discover this ability..."

Gu Qing Shan's gaze became firm.

If Reneedol had the power of [Longing], everything she wanted to do would become a smooth sailing endeavour.

As she currently was, her only issue was that she was restrained by her lackluster understanding of the world, but in truth, no one could stop her Fate ability.

“Then... I have no choice but to force you to give up my abilities...”

Gu Qing Shan disappeared.

At the same time, another him appeared where he was and began heading into the wilderness once again.

—Shannu had disguised herself as him to continue hunting.

Gu Qing Shan put on his Samsara Wicked Mask and concealed his presence to its very limits, then hid in the dark clouds to ensure that he couldn't be detected.

Very slowly, he moved within the clouds towards the tree.

—-the tree where everyone else was resting.

Closer.

And closer.

Reneedol remained crouched next to Shroud, meticulously caring for him.

She was hoping from the bottom of her heart that Shroud would survive, grow stronger, and become the strongest.

Gu Qing Shan stopped briefly to observe the situation below.

A second later.

Renedol looked down at her arm.

A crimson thread had silently tied itself around her wrist.

“Huh?” she exclaimed in confusion.

Right at that moment, Gu Qing Shan formed a hand seal.

He dived directly down.

Renedol unleashed a gigantic sword image without hesitation.

Gu Qing Shan swiftly dodged it and pointed two fingers towards Shroud.

Two flying swords shot downwards, slashing at Shroud.

“Red Wraith, how dare you!”

Renedol’s face abruptly changed as she shouted.

Chapter 1443

Translator: La0o9

Everything occurred within a split second.

Two swords soared through the air like two bolts of lightning.

“YAH!”

Renedol grunted and leapt into the sky to intercept the swords.

Her hands abruptly turned into two blurred images that each unleashed a pale blue sword phantom.

Clang! Clang!

The two swords were blocked.

Reneedol instantly activated her Fate power.

In a split second, the giant featureless humanoid face swiftly and silently manifested behind her.

Right at that moment, the two swords drew two beautiful arcs as they avoided her and continued to fly towards Shroud.

“You—”

Reneedol was both angry and fearful.

If Red Wraith was attacking her, she wouldn't be so flustered.

She could simply use her strongest Fate ability and eliminate him.

But Red Wraith's target was Shroud.

Red Wraith had no intentions of blocking her attack, instead, he focused completely on controlling his swords to kill Shroud.

And now, the choice lies in Reneedol's hand.

—she had to make a decision right now.

Red Wraith had given up on stopping her, so she could use her terrifying Fate ability to kill Red Wraith.

Or.

She could turn around to save Shroud.

She had to make one of these two choices.

Reneedol turned to Red Wraith, only to see both of his hands had each formed a hand seal, the white mask on his face displayed no emotions, so she couldn't even tell what he was thinking.

— and the two swords were very fast.

All it would take was another split second for Shroud to be killed!

The others hurriedly ran up to try and help Reneedol.

But another sword had abruptly appeared, circling and weaving between them while also attacking them, forcing them to be on the defensive.

On the other hand, Reneedol could sense through her inner sight that Rhode was still hunting over a hundred miles away from them.

Rhode would not be able to make it back in time.

—there are no other choices, I can only rely on myself.

Reneedol bit her lip.

Shroud would become the strongest person in the future, he's my hope, and I will definitely not allow anyone else to kill him.

As for Red Wraith, he's only the 7th strongest swordsman.

How could his life be compared to Shroud's?

Renedol made her choice.

The featureless humanoid face behind her disappeared.

Her figure flashed backwards, having used [Ground Shrink] to chase after the two swords, unleashing another two sword phantoms.

Clang! Clang!

Two resounding heavy noises rang out, slightly forcing both swords back.

At the very next second—

The two swords abruptly turned into countless afterimages, unleashing hundreds of strikes like a rain of blades towards Shroud's vicinity.

Renedol's hands also moved rapidly, also unleashing hundreds of sword phantoms to block these attacks.

But that was only the beginning.

The two swords continued to dance; their speed eventually reached a certain limit as they had formed a shroud of swords without any openings.

Renedol's hands had also formed a shroud of swords.

The same technique, one to kill, one to save.

Clang!

The two shrouds of swords clashed.

The two swords once again descended, their attacks continuously quickened, leaving less and less gaps.

They had gotten so fast that they seemed almost invisible!

Reneedol had to focus almost all of her attention to ensure that not a single one of these attacks would reach Shroud.

“Red Wraith, I’m definitely going to kill you!”

While she was defending, Reneedol angrily shouted.

She had lost her chance to use the Fate Ability.

As soon as she stopped her hand, the other party would definitely kill Shroud while disregarding his own survival.

She could only use her swordsmanship to stop him!

Unfortunately, the scales of the battle gradually tilted.

—although Reneedol had grasped all of Red Wraith’s swordsmanship, there was too little time for her to get used to them. She also didn’t possess a preference for swordsmanship, so how could she exert them all to the extreme like Red Wraith himself?

And saving someone was much harder than killing someone.

She lacked Red Wraith's wealth of experience, so when she hurriedly tried to save Shroud from Red Wraith's sword, she had naturally chosen the non-optimal solution.

At a certain point, one sword phantom finally managed to slip by Renedol, flying straight towards Shroud.

Oh no!

Renedol's heart sank and hurriedly used her inner sight to observe it.

Shroud's injuries were still very heavy, so he couldn't do anything but lay helplessly on the ground.

The sword phantom was flying closer towards him.

——I won't save him in time!

Shroud is going to die; he's going to die by Red Wraith's sword!

Renedol's pupils dilate.

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She had no more time to think or hesitate, so she pressed her hand into the void of space.

Invisible power focused on her hand before spreading into the void of space.

"Someone come help me!" she shouted.

Boom!

The dirt and dust on the ground abruptly exploded as a large figure appeared out of nowhere to shield Shroud.

When the sword phantoms struck that figure, they disappeared without making even a noise.

The dust scattered.

A giant tree had suddenly manifested in front of them all.

A wrinkled face appeared on the side of the tree, observing Renedol:

「 I am the Overlord of Growth, arriving at the summon of the covenant bearer of the Overlord of Radiance 」

All the Overlords desired to gain more power from the Overlord of Radiance.

Renedol only felt lost for a second before quickly regaining her senses.

It's ok to lose the abilities of a swordsman.

Right now, I've gained Shroud's powers, capable of summoning Law Behemoths and unleashing more devastating attacks.

This is the only way to face Red Wraith!

Renedol loudly called out: "Please protect this wounded person, leave everything else to me"

「 Very well 」 the tree replied.

It reached out its many branches to surround Shroud and shield him within its body.

Reneedol sighed in relief.

Shroud is now safe.

It's time for Red Wraith to die!

Reneedol looked back up at the sky with bloodshot eyes.

But there was nothing there.

Red Wraith, who had been unleashing a rain of swords just a second earlier like he had to kill Shroud no matter what, had disappeared.

“...It's [Ground Shrink]”

Reneedol muttered, then attempted to release her inner sight to search for the other party.

But she had no inner sight.

She was surprised for a moment before realizing what happened.

I've absorbed Shroud's powers.

So now, I can't use Red Wraith's powers any longer.

“Hmph, you think you've gotten away?”

Reneedol clasped her hands together, muttering: “Earth, Water, Fire, Wind, all Overlords with good relations to Radiance, I hope to receive your aid. Please search for the individual who fought against me earlier”

Around her, clusters of colorful light manifested one after another.

These clusters of light intermingled and weaved between one another, almost as if they were communicating, then all disappeared.

A voice spoke up from the void of space:

「 Covenant bearer of the Overlord of Radiance, the one you are searching for is already dead 」

Reneedol was stunned.

Dead?

We were fighting just now, how did—

The voice continued: 「 His corpse lies 700 miles to the South, behind a large rock 」

“I’ll take a look!”

Reneedol immediately replied.

Her body shot into the sky, quickly flying South.

Not too long later.

She landed next to a big rock.

Sure enough, there was a corpse on the ground together with a shattered mask.

Reneedol looked at the corpse, carefully studying it for a long while.

Although this person wasn't wearing his mask, this physique definitely belongs to Red Wraith!

But his face...

I know this person.

This was one of Wizard Rodri's subordinates.

During the period of time when the Laws didn't respond to the call of living beings, I asked Rodri to send people to kill Shroud and the rest.

This man was among those sent out!

Reneedol stood still for a while.

[Mystery of All Beings Equal]?

She silently thought.

Red Wraith still isn't dead, he had merely used this Mystery to disguise as this person.

If that's the case, I would have no idea what Red Wraith truly looked like.

The more Reneedol thought about it, the more suspicious she became.

Strange...

The Overlords said that this was Red Wraith.

But since I've once seen through all of his abilities, I know that this was only a Mystery that allows someone to turn into someone else.

Could it be that not even the Overlords can discern the truths and lies with Red Wraith's Mystery?

In other words, even the 7th strongest swordsman in the world could deceive the Overlords?

That can't be right.

The 7th strongest... would definitely not have such a powerful ability!

If the Overlords aren't wrong, then this person is Red Wraith without a doubt!

He disguised himself as Wizard Rodri's subordinate for the sake of a scheme, and my appearance interrupted his plans.

Is that why Red Wraith had already attacked me twice?

Then, who killed Red Wraith?

Reneedol suddenly thought of something and looked at the other side of the rock.

Only to see several lines of text carved into the rock.

[Red Wraith's killer was the strongest swordsman in the world, Mara Heavenly King]

Faint sword qi was still slowly diffusing from the rock, almost as if it was reminding her to make sure to take a look.

Reneedol looked at the corpse, then at the text on the rock.

"This is... what exactly..."

Reneedol muttered, feeling like her head was about to explode.

Chapter 1444

Translator: La0o9

While Reneedol stood stunned looking at the corpse.

At another location.

Gu Qing Shan had dispelled [Mystery of All Beings Equal] and was walking through a sparse region of the forest.

He still had nothing but a single colorful snake in his left hand.

"I need to hurry up, everyone should be starving by now"

Gu Qing Shan muttered before he hung the colorful snake on a tree branch, then took out a longbow.

With a flick of the string, a sharp arrow flew over a thousand meters away, piercing the head of a leopard.

As the snake on the tree was about to move away, Gu Qing Shan caught and squeezed it until it fell unconscious once again.

He carried the snake towards the leopard.

“Great Overlord of Death, I have something to ask of you”

Gu Qing Shan said as he walked.

A cluster of black flames flickered and appeared next to him.

Gu Qing Shan quickly went into the topic: “Erm... it’s like this; since I’ve formed a covenant with you, you should have been able to see everything I did— can you not tell the other Overlords about what I just did?”

A row of burning black letters appeared:

[I am not acquainted with the other manifestations of Laws; they are all wary of me]

Gu Qing Shan nodded, then said: “There’s something else...”

“That Renedol is my enemy. She has the power of the Law of Fate, but I don’t want her to use my abilities— can you give me a hand?”

The burning flames paused briefly before manifesting as a new sentence:

[You provide me sustenance; I grant you power. That is the content of our covenant, other than that, I have no reason to help you]

Gu Qing Shan froze.

That's true.

Why should he help me?

Gu Qing Shan pondered for a few moments.

Entities associated with the Law of Death...

He recalled Anna, then thought of the dog at her side.

The dog that she called Hound Deity agreed to protect Anna after the promise of a wine cellar.

“Could it be that all beings associated with Death liked to drink?” Gu Qing Shan silently thought.

Although this sounds a bit ridiculous, I can't worry too much about it right now.

—my problem can only be resolved with the help of the Overlord.

Gu Qing Shan searched through his Inventory Bag and finally took out some precious snacks he made following Qin Xiao Lou's recipe.

“Please take a look, this is a part of my provision of sustenance, as well as a show of my sincerity” Gu Qing Shan said.

The burning flames manifested into another line of text:

[I require the death of living beings to absorb more power, not the food of mortals]

“But these things taste quite great. You should give it a try” Gu Qing Shan sincerely said while lifting the plate of snacks.

A short moment of silence.

One of the snacks on the plate disappeared.

A curt burp could be heard from the void of space, accompanied by a small bit of black fire.

— the manifestations of Laws might have been a part of the world spirit with their own privileges, but they were still lifeforms.

Very quickly, the text manifested again:

[I can't eat, no need to give me such things from now on]

“You aren't used to it? My apologies, I was in too much of a hurry” Gu Qing Shan quickly said.

— but since the Overlord of Death can eat, he should be able to drink as well.

Gu Qing Shan took out a bottle of chilled liquor.

This bottle was the real thing he wanted to test.

Gu Qing Shan poured two glasses of liquor, offering one of them to the black flames.

“To celebrate us achieving a covenant, I would like to present this precious treasure to you as an offering” Gu Qing Shan said.

The glass stayed still.

The burning text manifested:

[What is this?]

Gu Qing Shan was a bit surprised.

This Overlord has never seen alcohol?

Then I've made a mistake.

But since it had gotten to this point, Gu Qing Shan decided that he might as well see things through and closed his eyes:

“This, unlike eating food, is much better”

A short moment later.

The surface of the liquor moved slightly.

And then the black flames immediately enveloped the entire glass.

It was emptied in a split second.

Gu Qing Shan's eyebrows slightly twitched.

Huh?

One gulp?

Has he really not drunk alcohol before?

Seems like the Overlord of Death doesn't dislike the taste of alcohol...

Such thoughts flashed through Gu Qing Shan's mind.

The burning text appeared in front of him again:

[This tastes very nice indeed, please give me a bit more. As for the matter you spoke of earlier, let us discuss it a bit later on]

Gu Qing Shan was so delighted that he instantly handed the entire bottle over.

The bottle and the black cluster of flames both disappeared without a trace.

He has left

He seems kinda...

Quite unreliable.

...never mind, at least from the drinking perspective, all beings under the Law of Death click very well with me.

Gu Qing Shan silently thought.

...

On the other side.

Renedol had returned to their camp.

Atley, Epta, and Scarlet were all a bit embarrassed.

During the battle earlier, all three of them were restrained by a single sword, unable to help Renedol at all.

If Reneedol hadn't absorbed Shroud's power at the end, things might have turned out very differently.

"Did you manage to catch up to that swordsman?" Shroud asked as he laid on the ground.

"I didn't" Reneedol replied.

"It's ok, you've absorbed my powers so you can now summon the Law Behemoths as you wish, that swordsman would not dare to come again" Shroud consoled her.

Reneedol just answered with a curt nod, then sat down next to Shroud and turned to the other three.

That person clearly attacked with the intention to kill us.

So why are they still alive?

"Atley, I have a question" Reneedol said.

"What is it?" Atley asked.

"When I led the enemies away before, everyone should have been resting near the broken horse carriage, so why did everyone end up in a different place?" Reneedol asked.

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Atley explained: "After you left, some people came to kill us"

"And then what happened?" Reneedol asked.

Atley lowered his head, muttering awkwardly: "I'm not sure"

“Not sure?” Reneedol was surprised.

Epta explained: “We were unconscious”

Reneedol turned to Scarlet.

Scarlet nodded and confirmed Epta’s words: “After those people appeared, we all fainted without knowing why”

Reneedol suppressed her emotions and continued to pursue the question: “What about after that? Who woke up first?”

“I did”

A voice sounded from afar.

Everyone looked back, only to see Gu Qing Shan carrying a leopard on his back and a colorful snake in his hand as he returned to camp.

Gu Qing Shan tossed the leopard and snake on the ground, then took out a set of kitchen utensils and skillfully began to prepare for dinner.

He leisurely explained: “I was already in a different place by the time I woke up, everyone else was still unconscious, and then Shroud woke up. I didn’t want him to worry, so I didn’t tell him anything”

Shroud nodded.

Seeing that, Reneedol fell into thought.

All four of them told the same story, and Shroud also confirmed that they were telling the truth.

When the wizard sent those subordinates to kill them, I specifically took a look at them all.

At the time, the Laws were still unusable.

These guys couldn't utilize the power of Laws, so it should have been very easy for those people to kill them.

Rhode... woke up first.

He was the one whose strength was the closest to Shroud among this group.

Which makes sense.

Could it be that the strongest swordsman in the world, Mara Heavenly King was the one who arrived?

He was pursuing the 7th strongest swordsman, Red Wraith?

Wait a minute—

Be it the strongest or 7th strongest in the world, Red Wraith was the only one who actually said such a thing.

Who can guarantee that he was telling the truth?

Red Wraith's repertoire is too varied, there was even acting, dancing, rapping among them, so he was most likely not an orthodox swordsman, he could have been an impulsive liar.

If that was a lie...

Renedol looked around, scanning through each person.

Should I absorb each of their powers once?

But I've already absorbed the power of three people already.

Even I would feel exhausted if I utilize the power of fate too many times.

Renedol's gaze fell onto Atley.

Atley seemed dejected.

—this was how he had always been, wearing his heart on his sleeves.

Then Epta.

This girl knows her capabilities very well, fully committing herself to healing techniques in order to fit into any group battles.

She should also be safe.

Scarlet.

She's a smart girl.

Combat support-oriented Combatants had always been a role that tested one's capabilities to adjust to situations on the fly— like knowing what kind of reinforcement buffs to provide, what skills are necessary for retreating, what's the difference between ambushing and direct confrontations.

She... has a possibility of being the one.

Reneedol silently released her Fate powers.

All of Scarlet's abilities appeared in her mind, after which she looked through each of them in detail.

No, it isn't her.

Reneedol felt a bit tired, but also a bit more relaxed.

She didn't care to rest and turned her gaze towards the final person.

Rhode.

Rhode is a hateful person, other than the fact that he makes good food, he has no other good qualities to speak of.

A guy like him shouldn't be the one, but to make sure of it...

Under Reneedol's scrutinizing gaze, Rhode was preparing the snake for cooking.

He clapped his hands, then said: "I really don't want to skin it alive, but I'll tell you a secret: snakes can be used to brew wine"

From the void of space, a cluster of black flames appeared and touched the colorful snake.

The snake was dead.

Right as Renedol wanted to act, she suddenly recalled something and couldn't help but ask:

"Rhode, did you just use the power of Death to kill that snake?"

"Hm" Gu Qing Shan replied without much care.

"...Back then, how did you obtain your recognition by the Overlord of Death?" Renedol asked further.

"Because I personally killed 10,000 living beings, reaching the lowest requirement to be recognized by the Overlord of Death" Gu Qing Shan answered without changing his expression.

"10,000? How is that possible?" Renedol was unconvinced.

Never mind her, not even the others believed him.

There were skirmishes all over the world, but they had all been small-scale battles"

The age of peace had continued for so long because the Overlords enjoyed peace and hated large-scale wars. Such battles would only cause numerous Laws to become unnecessarily intertwined, causing a lot more trouble than they were worth.

"That's right, you were usually practicing and studying with us, where did you get the free time to kill that many?" Atley asked.

Gu Qing Shan pointed at the leopard on the ground and the snake: "I cook every day"

Everyone froze.

...That's right, he does all the cooking.

And cooking requires preparing the ingredients.

Preparing the ingredients...

I've never realized how much this word stinks of blood before this.

Gu Qing Shan smiled and turned towards Atley: "Do you want to form a covenant with the Overlord of Death?"

Seeing his smile, Atley felt a chill run down his back.

But the temptation of a possible covenant with the Overlord of Death made him ask in return: "Ah? Can I?"

Gu Qing Shan turned to the void of space and said: "I would like to recommend him, Overlord of Death, please make your consideration"

A few moments later.

Lines of burning text appeared in the void of space:

[In a single day, kill 30,000 living beings; then you may form a covenant with me]

Atley exclaimed in shock: "But Rhode had only killed 10,000, and it took him so long as well!"

The burning text changed to answer him:

[He was the first person to ever form a covenant with me, so he was favored]

Atley felt troubled and mumbled to himself: "30,000..."

The text continued to change: [Indeed, 30,000. If you can achieve this, you may form a covenant with me; or you can form a covenant first, then kill 30,000 living beings. If you can achieve this, the covenant will persist, but if you cannot and still hold onto the covenant, then...]

“Then what would happen?”

The burning text changed once again:

[I shall use your death to conclude this trial]

After reading those words, everyone couldn't help but fall silent.

Atley shrunk back.

Renedol turned to Rhode again.

—the Overlord of Death's covenant is too terrifying.

If I take on his covenant, what would I do if this Overlord of Death wants me to kill 30,000 living beings?

If I can't do it...

Renedol shook her head so slightly that it couldn't be seen.

—alright, I've already confirmed three people to be safe, there's no need to risk my life to probe Rhode.

This matter was most likely a struggle between the two swordsmen that I was unexpectedly caught in.

How unlucky.

Chapter 1445

Translator: La0o9

Gu Qing Shan was cooking.

His movements were quick and efficient, so the food was served in almost no time at all.

Everyone helped carry Shroud so that he could eat while leaning on a tree.

Gu Qing Shan prepared a bowl of soup and handed it to Reneedol.

Reneedol received the bowl, then fed Shroud bit by bit.

Epta used her healing spell on him again, while Scarlet used several supportive spells to aid and stimulate Shroud's body in recovery.

After finishing one bowl, Shroud gestured that he didn't want to eat anything else.

Atley searched for dry grass in order to make a small bed, then helped Shroud lie down.

Shroud closed his eyes and rested.

Gu Qing Shan silently nodded as he observed them.

These young people are still quite pure of heart, treating their wounded companion so well.

"Come, we should eat as well" Gu Qing Shan told everyone.

Several crude containers were laid on the ground, but the food inside was giving off an incredibly delicious aroma.

Everyone had been in combat while fleeing for a while, then so many things happened recently for the entire night all the way until dawn. All of them had been in a state of constant high alert, so it wasn't until they inhaled the aroma of the food that they noticed how hungry they were.

“We don’t have much, so I hope everyone can make do” Gu Qing Shan said.

They all sat on the ground, each took a set of utensils for themselves, then began to eat.

Gu Qing Shan’s cooking skills were naturally flawless.

Everyone happily ate until they were full. Even Renedol asked for seconds and drank two full bowls of soup.

At this point, she was still only a young girl who hadn’t even reached 20 years of age, having been through several battles in a row, she was quickly approaching her limit as well.

After the meal.

Epta and Scarlet volunteered to wash the utensils and clean up.

Atley stood on top of a tree to keep watch.

Renedol checked on Shroud a bit and found that he had already fallen asleep.

“Rhode, come here for a bit, I have something to say” Renedol said.

Gu Qing Shan walked to her.

“What’s the matter?” he asked.

Renedol said: “Where exactly should we head to now, I want to hear your opinion for a bit”

Gu Qing Shan showed a slightly panicked expression and said: "That Red Wraith could pursue us at any moment, so we should probably escape from this wilderness as soon as we can"

Reneedol paused.

Red Wraith is already dead, he died at the hands of the Mara Heavenly King.

I don't need to tell these people about this.

But should I pursue Mara Heavenly King?

Although Mara Heavenly King is stronger compared to Red Wraith, the Laws of the world have already recovered and Shroud would eventually surpass Mara Heavenly King to become the strongest.

Then, there would be no meaning in searching for Mara Heavenly King either way.

Reneedol pondered for a bit: "When I searched for traces in the wilderness earlier, I found that Red Wraith seemed to have left the area"

Gu Qing Shan sighed in relief and said: "Then, that's perfect"

"When you went out hunting earlier, which domain's people did you kill?" Reneedol asked.

Gu Qing Shan replied: "I'm not sure either, they seemed to have been constantly on the run. They wanted to eat me when they ran into me—— I think it's been quite a while since they last ate"

Reneedol muttered: "On the run... meaning, someone was pursuing them"

"Right" Gu Qing Shan said.

"Shroud still hasn't recovered; we should probably try to not offend anyone for now" Reneedol commented.

"We only need to avoid going in the same direction those people were fleeing from, that way, we should be able to avoid the pursuers as well" Gu Qing Shan said.

He recalled where those men were heading, then pointed Southwest and said: “This direction should be the safest, let’s head in that direction after this”

Right as he said that, Gu Qing Shan noticed numerous threads had appeared on his hand, reaching into every direction.

“Alright, as soon as Shroud wakes up, we should be on our way” Renedol said.

Gu Qing Shan nodded without a change in his expression.

Renedol went back to taking care of Shroud.

Gu Qing Shan stood still and silently sensed the meaning of these threads.

“An encirclement... that couldn’t be seen...”

He released his inner sight without hesitation to scan across the entire wilderness.

Nothing.

But Gu Qing Shan was able to sense something else was probing him in return.

Whoever they were, they were considerably skillful if they could prevent the clairvoyance of inner sight.

Never mind.

I’m currently Rhode, I can’t justify knowing such a thing.

—I can’t expose myself right now.

With that thought in mind, Gu Qing Shan went to help Epta and Scarlet put the utensils away.

Once that was done, everyone began to sit at the foot of several trees, preparing to rest.

The World Valley had already been destroyed, and after a long day of continuous battles, everyone felt tired both physically and mentally.

No one could predict what would happen in the future, so they had to take this chance to replenish their strength.

A minute later.

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Atley's voice sounded from the tree above.

"Everyone, stay on your guard. I feel like something isn't quite right"

Reneedol tiredly opened her eyes, flew to the top of the tree and asked: "What's the situation?"

Gu Qing Shan looked up with an intrigued expression.

—my inner sight couldn't discover anything, but Atley was already able to sense it.

On top of the tree, Atley hesitantly explained: "I can sense the wind around us turning a bit strange, they aren't moving at the same speed in every direction"

Reneedol sensed her surroundings, then turned back to look at Atley.

Her gaze was a bit strange.

"Why can't I sense anything?" Reneedol asked.

Atley opened his mouth, unsure of what to say.

Under the tree, Gu Qing Shan smiled:

“Atley, a Wind-type Law has recognized you, congratulations!”

Atley was slightly surprised, then became ecstatic.

“Are you sure?” he worriedly asked.

Shroud spoke:

“He’s right. You need to prepare yourself. Perhaps not too long later, an Overlord would take you into the World of Laws to form a covenant with you”

—perhaps sensing something, he had also woken up.

Gu Qing Shan told everyone: “Since there has been a change in the situation, everyone needs to gather around Shroud”

Reneedol and Atley both jumped down from the tree, Epta and Scarlet also gathered around Shroud.

Gu Qing Shan said: “Since Reneedol has Shroud’s powers, she should be the strongest one among us right now, so she’ll act first as soon as a situation occurs, I’ll make sure to follow up and act as necessary. Atley and Epta should protect Reneedol, Scarlet will focus on reinforcing Reneedol and me with her powers”

Everyone nodded one after another.

“What if a lot of people are coming?” Atley worriedly asked.

“Do you think that a lot of people are coming?” Gu Qing Shan instantly asked in return.

“I think so, the wind doesn’t seem to be able to reach us too well. There should be quite a large number of people” Atley replied.

“Then we can’t act alone. Everyone will focus on protecting Shroud as a priority, as soon as a battle breaks out, Renedol and I will open a path— they should be coming from the north, so we’re going to break out of the encirclement towards the South” Gu Qing Shan said.

Everyone nodded again.

Renedol suddenly realized something and looked at Gu Qing Shan.

Rhode.

—he managed to delegate a role for everyone in an extremely short time, while no one even noticed that they had subconsciously agreed with his arrangements.

The Law of Death had never favored any living beings, but he was selected by the Overlord of Death.

As expected, he has some redeeming qualities.

While Renedol was in contemplation, Rhode’s expression suddenly became stern as he gestured for everyone to keep their guards up.

Everyone silently trembled.

The air around them became silent, the atmosphere clearly becoming stifling.

Although they still couldn’t see anything, everyone could now sense something was amiss.

The grass was laying flat to the ground in large patches as if they were being stepped on by someone.

It was as if something invisible was making its way around the group's temporary camp.

"Don't make a sound, the other party doesn't seem to be aiming for us" Gu Qing Shan whispered.

Everyone made sure to keep quiet.

After a while.

As the entity was about to completely leave the camp behind.

A voice suddenly called out: "Boss, that girlie seems quite decent, should we take her with us?"

Another voice questioned: "Which one?"

"The one in white"

Gu Qing Shan suddenly felt tense.

Reneedol was wearing white.

She was the most beautiful girl in the world, not even the Grand Elder of the World Valley managed to resist her charm.

"Don't act, sit still and wait" Gu Qing Shan quickly said.

The group were all worried and silently remained still as the invisible figures continued to move around.

After a few moments later, the second voice spoke up again:

“You’re right that she looks decent, but we can’t take her with us”

Without waiting for the group to feel relieved, the voice continued: “Capture her, we’ll discard her at noon”

“Got it, boss” the other voice immediately replied.

This time, the group no longer stayed silent.

“So you have a death wish” Reneedol coldly scoffed.

A faint flow appeared around her body as she prepared to summon a Law Behemoth.

A unified gasp could be heard.

Someone called out: “They’re from the World Valley”

The voice that gave out the order abruptly became high as they shouted: “They are remnants of the World Valley! All hands ready, capture them!”

Chapter 1446

Translator: La0o9

When the invisible entities said that they wanted to capture Reneedol, the conflict had become unavoidable.

Shroud tried to move but wasn’t able to muster the strength to sit up.

Atley, Epta, and Scarlet were all anxious.

Reneedol was glowing like a sun on earth.

She chanted before anyone else could speak: “Law Behemoths who serve the Overlord of Radiance, please come to my aid!”

The immense glow rose all the way to the edge of the sky.

—-but not a single Law Behemoth appeared.

Reneedol’s expression changed and asked: “Shroud, what’s going on?”

Shroud was also startled: “I’m not sure either”

The radiant glow around Reneedol’s body was visibly turning dimmer before it slowly faded away.

Everyone appeared perplexed.

“The power of the Overlord of Radiance... is weakening” Shroud muttered.

Gu Qing Shan felt his heart becoming heavy.

He tried to call upon the Overlord of Death.

Instantly, a cluster of black flames manifested behind him.

—-fortunately, the Overlord of Death remained as powerful as before!

Right at this moment, a grey net appeared out of nowhere, catching Atley, Epta, and Scarlet.

The three of them were shocked and tried to struggle, but the net only tightened itself.

Loud laughter sounded from the void of space:

“Kill the boys, leave the girls, the most beautiful one will be left for boss Knight!”

Another net was then cast towards Renedol, Gu Qing Shan, and Shroud.

Gu Qing Shan raised his hand—

Two bursts of black flames manifested directly on top of the two nets.

Atley’s group was freed.

“There’s been a change in plans” Gu Qing Shan shouted.

Atley stood next to him, while Epta and Scarlet hid behind them.

Scarlet lowered her head and began chanting an incantation.

Gu Qing Shan instantly felt strength surging within his body.

The current situation was a complete mystery, the Law Behemoths had suddenly stopped responding to the Overlord of Radiance’s power.

The strongest one among the group had suddenly changed from Renedol to Rhode.

From the air, dozens of spinning frigid ice blades were shot towards their group.

Knowing that the situation was completely irreconcilable, Gu Qing Shan shouted: "I'll cover your backs, everyone start breaking through the encirclement towards the South!"

Black flames instantly engulfed Gu Qing Shan.

His body swiftly moved towards the spinning ice blades without hesitation.

Seeing that, Renedol carried Shroud in her arms and hurriedly called out:

"Everyone, follow me!"

Knowing that there was no time left to hesitate, the rest of the group swiftly followed her.

Scarlet suddenly turned around, stared closely at Gu Qing Shan, then shouted: "Rhode, don't die!"

"I won't!"

Gu Qing Shan roared in response, then landed on the ground while he remained completely engulfed in flames several hundred meters away, which caused a resounding explosion.

The black flames left a long trail behind him, reducing everything in his path to ashes.

Gu Qing Shan reached into the empty space and caught a half-burnt arm.

"A human arm"

Gu Qing Shan muttered to himself, then looked around his surroundings.

These people must be relying on some sort of concealment spell in order to remain invisible.

Gu Qing Shan crouched down and pressed one hand onto the ground, then quickly chanted an incantation from the Covenant of Death:

“Death is like a constantly accompanying shadow, and an appropriate price must be paid for offending it”

“Time to embrace Death”

Boom—

Black flames began to rapidly spread from the palm of his hand, enveloping his entire surroundings.

Desperate screams could be heard from every direction.

Corpses began to appear in Gu Qing Shan’s vision.

All of them were equipped with a complete suit of chainmail armor, a shield, and a blade.

An army?

As Gu Qing Shan was feeling surprised, a layer of ice abruptly manifested to stop the flames of death.

All the flames started to fade away.

The ice melted into white frost.

The ice and flames were evenly matched!

Gu Qing Shan narrowed his eyes, only to see a cavalry knight in heavy armor with a sword in his hand; he was also evaluating Gu Qing Shan from atop his horse.

Behind the knight, countless soldiers occupied the entire wilderness.

“Brat, you’ve killed quite a few of us”

A chilling voice filled with killing intent sounded from behind the knight’s visor.

Gu Qing Shan replied: “That’s because you wanted to hurt our people”

The knight laughed: “Hurt your people? Your World Valley has already been destroyed, of course, everyone else cannot be allowed to survive as well”

“Whose decision was that?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“Every powerful domain” the knight urged his horse forward, gradually gaining speed.

Gu Qing Shan lowered his head and opened his palm.

A cluster of black flames was lightly beating within it.

“It seems you’ve all suffered quite a bit mentally from being oppressed by the World Valley for so long” he probed.

The knight didn’t answer him and simply shouted: “You’re going to die right here and right now!”

A layer of frost manifested on top of his sword.

Behind him, a sea of vast frost and ice manifested.

——the Law Behemoth of Ice!

Gu Qing Shan's pupils dilated.

That's impossible.

Only those from the World Valley know how to form a covenant with the Law Behemoths, creatures from other domains could only use the power of the Laws to reinforce themselves, not directly summon a Law Behemoth like this!

What exactly happened?

During the short time when Gu Qing Shan was thinking, the knight had already approached him.

“Die——”

The knight uttered a cry.

Gu Qing Shan pointed one finger towards him.

The burst of flame shot out, carrying with it a bolt of blue lightning as it struck the knight's body.

[Dreamjolt]!

Gu Qing Shan had combined his Thaumaturgy with the power of Death.

The knight was instantly incapacitated and fell to the ground, his horse neighed in panic before it fled.

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The vast ocean of ice uttered a curt scoff, then vanished.

Gu Qing Shan stepped forward and caught the knight by his neck, lifting him into the air.

“Speak, how did you summon a Law Behemoth?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

The knight was still being burnt by the black flames, his entire body shaking as he continuously moaned in pain.

Gu Qing Shan pulled the black flames back.

Having walked by the verge of death and returned, the knight fearfully said: “The Overlord of Ice came to me, they said that I was talented with the Laws of Ice and wanted me to serve them”

“Serve them? What were you ordered to do?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

The knight didn’t respond.

Frost had developed all over his body, spreading until it fully encased him.

He was turned into a frozen corpse.

Gu Qing Shan was stunned.

To ensure that their secret was preserved, a Law Behemoth had directly attacked a mortal.

This was completely unprecedented.

Gu Qing Shan tossed the body on the ground, then looked towards the distance.

The army still hadn’t retreated.

Thousands of soldiers drew their weapons and readied their formation, all of them slowly approaching Gu Qing Shan.

The power of various Laws could be seen exuding from the bodies of some of them.

—they had all formed a covenant with an Overlord.

The power of a Law Behemoth was considerable.

So in an instant, they had been boosted to be as powerful as Shroud.

How is that possible!

There were too many of them that if Gu Qing Shan was surrounded, even he wouldn't be able to escape unscathed.

Gu Qing Shan suppressed his fear and quickly asked: "Overlord of Death, what exactly is happening here?"

From the void of space, a series of burning text quickly appeared:

[I've told you before, the Laws do not welcome me, I do not know about their matters]

After a short pause, another line of burning text manifested:

[But I can tell you a certain fact. Just a bit earlier, the Overlord of Radiance had ceased to exist]

Gu Qing Shan's expression changed.

The most powerful Overlord is dead?

What exactly happened?

Could these Laws be planning something?

Another line of burning text suddenly showed up:

[I can sense danger; those Laws seems to want to eliminate me as well]

Gu Qing Shan asked: “Aren’t they afraid of you?”

The black flames manifested more burning text:

[They still do, but they are also blatantly communicating with living beings with the promise of granting them power. Once those living beings and Laws of the world resonate, they would instantly absorb those living beings’ souls as well as all of their power—— they will soon surpass me]

“They could do that? If they do such a thing to the living beings of the world, wouldn’t that mean all living beings would go extinct?” Gu Qing Shan asked in disbelief.

[Indeed, they have completely forsaken the original rules of the world, everything is now in total chaos] the burning letters replied.

Gu Qing Shan fell silent.

The Overlord of Radiance has been eliminated.

Even the Overlord of Death could sense its imminent demise.

The Apocalypses still hadn’t arrived yet, but the world itself was already becoming more dangerous.

Gu Qing Shan sighed and asked: “Only death can bring you power?”

[Indeed] the burning text replied.

“Most likely, you’ve already predicted this situation before. That was why you were searching for a covenant bearer, wasn’t it?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

[Indeed. I am the guide of all living beings’ ends, he who leads the way into the world of eternal slumber, if my existence itself wasn’t at risk, I would not have wasted the effort to ally myself with a living being] the burning letters replied.

Gu Qing Shan looked at his surroundings.

Soldiers were approaching him in waves.

The boundless power of the Laws was emanating from their bodies.

What exactly are the other Law Behemoths planning to do?

Why are they trying to compete for living beings?

Are they trying to use mortal warfare to decide victory and defeat?

No—

The truth must be significantly more terrible than that.

Gu Qing Shan couldn’t help but sigh, then asked: “Why did you not absorb my soul and life?”

More burning text quickly appeared:

[Even when the Lord of Radiance was snuffed out, he still upheld his own persistence, otherwise, he would not be considered the essence of Radiance; as the Lord of Death, I shall too silently uphold the nobility of Death]

[Human Rhode, do not waste any more time, if you do not escape from the encirclement, you will die here!]

Gu Qing Shan's eyes flickered.

—innumerable soldiers had surrounded the forest, all of which were charging towards Gu Qing Shan.

“DIE!”

“KILL HIM!”

“I WILL TAKE HIS HEAD!”

They all viciously roared.

Gu Qing Shan shook his head and muttered: “I have a certain technique that I usually do not abuse because of how cruel it is”

A mass of black fog began to appear from his body.

“But when a group of Overlords want to gang up on and bully a mere mortal like I myself, then I have no other choice”

Fwooo— — —

The black fog spread in every direction, weaving through the layers of soldiers and continued to disperse increasingly further away.

In an instant.

All the soldiers collapsed.

A sense of bone-breaking pain, an unbearable suffering that ate into one's soul had afflicted all of them.

This torment was beyond what humans could endure.

“AAHHHH!”

“My hand!”

“What’s happening to my head!? What’s happening to my head!?”

“Save me!”

The bodies of these soldiers were beginning to morph.

They were evolving into a certain unique species, the suffering caused by this process had directly knocked most of them unconscious, while the rest were unable to do anything except to scream and cry while wishing for death.

——Demon Dragon Bloodkin.

The most terrifying power of the ancient war Soul Artifact created by the Bygone Era humans had been unleashed.

Observing these people, Gu Qing Shan fell into thought.

If I wait for a bit longer, these people would complete their conversion into Demon Dragon Bloodkins.

Their strength would then grow at an exponential pace.

——but there are no ‘ifs’ in this world.

Gu Qing Shan crouched down and pressed his hand against the ground, chanting: “Your lives shall belong to the Overlord of Death”

“Your powers will not be taken away by the other Overlords, as the entire existence of a Bloodkin shall return to me”

He paused for a bit, then whispered:

“Embrace your deaths”

Fwoom!!!

Boundless black flames disseminated from his hand and engulfed this entire region.

Chapter 1447

Translator: La0o9

Black flames swept through the ground.

The soldiers on the ground were either unconscious or experiencing immense pain.

They had no way to defend against such an attack.

Wherever the black flames swept through, the flesh and blood of the soldiers were instantly reduced to nothing, leaving only their skeletons behind. The skeletons would then continue to burn until they turned into ash, expelling their soul and all the powers previously within their body as black smoke.

After a bit, all the smoke from the bodies flew into the air and started converging.

They were converging towards Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan stood still and let the black smoke pour into his body from every direction.

“Ugh...”

Gu Qing Shan uttered a curt grunt.

The power from thousands of soldiers had formed a massive wave that would overwhelm the bodies of any normal mortal if they tried to absorb it.

Waves of pain were radiating throughout Gu Qing Shan's body, causing him to scowl.

—but his body was currently that of the Demon Dragon, having already absorbed the power of at least 3 other dragons, the current situation wasn't that tough for him.

A few moments later.

Once he had finished absorbing all of the black smoke.

Gu Qing Shan slowly closed his eyes as a giant dragon made of nothing but black smoke manifested behind him.

Burning text appeared in front of him—

[One final soldier remains, hiding 3,900 meters to your Southeast, underground]

Gu Qing Shan muttered: "Hm"

The giant dragon behind him rushed forward and enveloped his body.

He then transformed into a giant dragon several hundred meters in length and flew into the air.

This dragon whose entire body was clad in razor-sharp scales flew Southeastward, then directly struck the ground with all his strength.

Rumble rumble rumble!

The ground itself intensely shook.

A small bit of black smoke flew out from the ground before silently entering the black dragon's body.

“Hm...”

The black Demon Dragon grunted in satisfaction.

The burning text appeared again, asking doubtfully: [It was only a single soldier, why expend so much power?]

The black Demon Dragon turned back into Gu Qing Shan.

He released his inner sight to check his surroundings, confirming that there was no longer anyone left alive.

“Because Bloodkins mature very rapidly. I don’t want to deal with trouble in the future”

He explained.

The burning letters asked: [You’re afraid that the other party would return to kill you after maturing?]

“No, when a normal human turns into a dragon, the abrupt rise in power would result in a psychological imbalance, no one could predict what someone like that would do—— I can only feel assured with this power lying in my hands and my hands alone”

Gu Qing Shan replied.

——since his conception, Demon Dragon should have been able to infinitely absorb power from all living beings’ soul and body using the Bloodkin power, but he was under constant restraints by the Bygone Era Humans.

Furthermore, his soul, which originally belonged to the Wraith realm, was under their control, whose ruling power made sure to suppress his growth as much as possible; even resorting to killing him off in the end.

Without these dual restraints, no one would be able to tell just how many living beings the Demon Dragon would have devoured and how powerful he would have grown.

This power, later on, fell into Gu Qing Shan's hands.

He always made sure to keep the Demon Dragon Bloodkin power under check without abusing it because he knew just how vicious and terrifying this power was.

A gust of wind blew past.

The land was barren.

All the soldiers had died.

The battle was over.

"Did their deaths benefit you?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

Next to him, the burning cloaked figure almost seemed like it could manifest if they wished.

Burning text appeared in reply:

[My power is growing; the other Law Behemoths were able to sense my change and had been temporarily discouraged from offending me]

"That's a good thing" Gu Qing Shan smiled.

The burning text abruptly paused for a bit before changing:

[There are signs of death on your companions' side]

Gu Qing Shan's expression changed.

He pulled his aura back and directly used [Ground Shrink] to disappear from the wilderness.

...

There was a barren mountain at the edge of the wilderness.

Right as Gu Qing Shan reached the foot of the mountain, and found the cave, a cautious voice called out from inside: "Who is it!"

"It's me"

The voice delightedly exclaimed: "Rhode, you're back!"

Gu Qing Shan entered the cave.

This place was very narrow, there wasn't even enough space to fully hide someone inside.

Shroud was lying on the ground, once again unconscious.

Epta and Scarlet were guarding him.

—Reneedol and Atley were nowhere to be seen.

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"Where's Reneedol and Atley?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"Rhode, I don't know how to tell you..." Epta replied.

“What’s the matter?” Gu Qing Shan was surprised.

Epta was sobbing, unable to answer him.

Scarlet patted her shoulder and calmly said: “I’ll explain”

“Atley finally managed to form a covenant with the Law Behemoth of Wind, becoming powerful enough to take us to this place”

“But then Shroud suddenly said that the Overlord of Radiance had died”

Gu Qing Shan nodded, then asked: “What happened after that?”

“After that, Shroud abruptly coughed up blood and fell unconscious, his body also weakened more and more”

“—at that point, Reneedol noticed how bad things have gotten, so she immediately used her Fate ability to absorb Atley’s power and finally helped us escape pursuit”

Gu Qing Shan walked up and put his hand on Shroud’s head while examining him with his inner sight.

Shroud’s wounds haven’t gotten worse, but his life signs are growing weaker.

This is strange...

Gu Qing Shan said: “If there were two covenant bearers of the Law of Wind, our side should have gotten much stronger, so what happened? Why are both Atley and Reneedol missing?”

Scarlet lowered both her gaze and her head: “We ran into a group of unfamiliar Professionals. As soon as they found out that we came from the World Valley, they immediately wanted to kill us”

“In that battle, Reneedol was heavily injured”

Gu Qing Shan froze.

“Atley said that if everyone wants to kill us, we can’t continue like this”

“He left with Reneedol, saying that he wanted to find something to heal Reneedol’s wounds first”

“And then, you were left behind?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“Yes” Scarlet replied.

Gu Qing Shan’s gaze became sharp as he casually asked: “Epta’s main specialty was in the field of healing techniques, and he still wanted to bring Reneedol out to find someone else to heal her— did Reneedol not reject?”

Scarlet coldly chuckled: “Reneedol said that if so many of us stay together, it would be too easy to find us, so splitting up was a good idea and that they would return to find us once her wounds are healed”

Gu Qing Shan didn’t say anything else.

Epta is a healing expert, Scarlet is a support expert, both of them had their specialties, but they weren’t great combatants.

Shroud had lost the power of the Overlord of Radiance and fallen unconscious.

And yet at this point in time, they wanted to split up!

Never mind Reneedol, what happened to Atley?

Gu Qing Shan paced around the cave.

Epta was already crying out loud.

Scarlet’s gaze remained on Gu Qing Shan as if glued to him.

Gu Qing Shan carefully considered everything that had happened recently.

Suddenly, he recalled something he saw in the past:

...

“Reneedol is too beautiful, the most beautiful girl I’ve ever seen in my entire life. She makes me feel my youth once again, awakening my slumbering heart”

...

“I do not understand why I wanted to do this, but since it had gotten to this point, I—”

...

—these were the words of the World Valley’s Grand Elder.

Such a character would have already been standing at the peak of this world, capable of obtaining whatever he wanted.

Would he have tried to capture a young girl for something as obscured as ‘feelings’?

The Grand Elder...

And then.

When I first arrived, Reneedol had allegedly been captured by bandits.

Later on, it was also her who led the enemies away.

The invisible army earlier as well, they originally had other goals, but one of them suddenly noticed Reneedol and caused the conflict.

And then, there was Atley.

A simple young man like him who would even prepare Shroud’s beddings on his own accord also volunteered to take Reneedol away.

Gu Qing Shan abruptly stopped pacing.

How could there be so many coincidences in this world?

Atley is a young man who wore his heart on his sleeves, up till now, he had displayed only the will to grow stronger and not a single bit of affection for Reneedol.

And yet, he changed immediately after he formed a covenant with the Law of Wind.

It wasn’t his fault.

It was Reneedol...

Reneedol must have some sort of hidden ability specifically for the sake of charming males.

From what I've seen so far, this ability is most likely infallible.

Fortunately, she's still a bit wary of the Law of Death, otherwise, I might have been a target as well.

As he thought of this, Gu Qing Shan immediately said in his mind: "Shannu, if you notice me falling in love with Reneedol and trying to court her, I want you to stab me and use [Law Breaker] without hesitation"

Shannu coldly said: "Gongzi, I can't stop you from loving whoever you like, but if you want me to stab you, I will definitely not hold back"

Gu Qing Shan felt like something was a bit amiss, so he explained: "Shannu, you might be misunderstanding something, there's a possibility that Reneedol might have a charm-type Fate ability"

"Huh? What do you mean?" Shannu asked.

Gu Qing Shan analyzed the entire matter again.

"That's true, it seems like she really does have that ability" Luo Bing Li chimed in.

「 Indeed, I also feel like Gu Qing Shan's analysis is correct 」 the Earth sword added.

Chao Yin also vibrates loudly, seemingly agreeing with them.

Shannu paused slightly.

"So that was the situation, and here I thought gongzi had fallen in love with her"

Shannu's voice was now a bit warmer: "Don't worry gongzi, I will definitely not let that seductress tempt you or harm you in any way"

“Good, then I’ll leave that to you”

Gu Qing Shan said.

After that, he rethought through everything that had been occurring lately once again.

—when the Laws lost their effects, Reneedol abandoned Shroud without any hesitation and even sent people to kill him.

—just now, when the Overlord of Radiance fell, Reneedol abandoned Shroud once again, taking Atley with her.

This woman had also stolen Little Dusk’s powers, and if I hadn’t been there, Little Dusk would have already lost her life.

Gu Qing Shan’s gaze was now filled with killing intent.

Grand Empress of the Pantheon... originally, I’ve refrained from using any assassination techniques out of respect towards a powerful Combatant...

But if you’re someone like this...

While Gu Qing Shan was silently pondering this, Epta abruptly called out: “Rhode, Shroud is going to die!”

Chapter 1448

Translator: La0o9

Gu Qing Shan turned to Shroud.

At this point, Shroud was no longer breathing and even his heart rate had started slowing down considerably.

Gu Qing Shan released his inner sight to carefully examine Shroud’s current state.

—in truth, Shroud’s injuries were already getting better, and he hadn’t sustained any further injuries.

So why is he dying?

Gu Qing Shan was confused.

“Epta, you’re the healing expert, do you have any idea what’s going on?” he asked.

“I really don’t know” Epta’s expression was filled with despair: “He was clearly healing so well, so I truly have no idea why he would suddenly be weakened like this”

Gu Qing Shan attempted to use some healing hand seals, but they also didn’t do anything.

He was truly confused.

“Death...”

Gu Qing Shan suddenly asked: “Overlord of Death, do you know what’s happening to my friend?”

From the void of space, a series of black burning letters quickly appeared:

[I can sense that a part of his soul had entered the World of Law, most likely standing within the hall of the Overlord of Radiance]

[The Overlord of Radiance had been snuffed out, its hall would also close very soon. You need to head into the World of Law to understand clearly what had happened in order to save him]

Gu Qing Shan instantly replied: “Alright, but I don’t know how to enter the hall of the Overlord of Radiance”

[I can send you there] the burning letters said.

“Thank you”

Gu Qing Shan stood up and was about to head out, then suddenly recalled something.

Although Shroud's matter was urgent, there is something else that I have to resolve before that.

“Epta, Scarlet, I’m going to enter the World of Law to search for another part of Shroud’s soul, but once I leave, Shroud’s body would remain here undefended, unable to resist any attacks” Gu Qing Shan informed them with a serious expression.

The two of them were startled as they realized that.

“Do you have a solution?” Scarlet asked.

“I do, one of you must form a covenant with the Overlord of Death, only then would you be strong enough to fight and protect Shroud” Gu Qing Shan told them.

Epta was hesitant: “But ever since I was born I’ve never practiced anything but healing techniques. I’ve also never killed anyone before, and neither has big sis Scarlet”

“And also...”

She didn’t continue.

But both Gu Qing Shan and Scarlet understood what she wanted to say.

—to form a covenant with the Overlord of Death, one must kill 30,000 living beings in a single day.

For both Epta and Scarlet, this was an impossible feat.

Their lives could only be taken by the Overlord of Death.

That would be nothing but them heading straight to their deaths!

Gu Qing Shan also knew this.

But right now, I need to go save Shroud's soul, so I can only rely on these two girls.

Gu Qing Shan lowered his voice and told them: "Don't be afraid, it's only 30,000 people. In truth, I can give you a hand, there won't be any issues"

Epta went completely stiff from fear after hearing what he said, unsure of what to say.

Scarlet's eyes appeared hesitant, but then suddenly asked: "Rhode, do you think someone will attack us?"

Gu Qing Shan coldly snorted: "Of course, even though Renedol has left, our situation hadn't gotten even a single bit better"

Scarlet paused slightly, then said: "I'll do it"

Epta opened her eyes wide and appeared shocked: "Big sis Scarlet?"

Gu Qing Shan also turned towards Scarlet.

Scarlet shook her head: "I've always wanted to become the leader of a group, which was why I have been cultivating nothing but combat support techniques in order to better lead others, but from how things are, it's clear that our World Valley no longer has any other groups for me to lead"

"I need to save you, and save myself"

Recalling the summoning etiquette she had learnt before, she knelt on one knee and muttered: "I, Scarlet, request the covenant bearer of the world spirit, Rhode, to consign me to the Overlord of Death"

Gu Qing Shan gazed upon her with eyes full of praise.

Unafraid of death, and quick to make her decisions.

Such characteristics are rare.

He observed the young girl.

She wasn't eye-catchingly beautiful but she carried a sense of bravery in her expression, as if she wouldn't back down in front of any hardship.

Gu Qing Shan chanted: "Venerable Overlord of Death, I, Rhode, hereby consign a new covenant bearer; are you willing to bestow your grace and form a covenant with this mortal, thus allowing her to borrow your strength?"

A cluster of black flames appeared in the void of space:

[I shall allow it]

The black flames manifested out of nowhere, enveloped Scarlet, then disappeared together with her.

A short moment later.

Scarlet reappeared.

However, her expression was a bit strange.

"What's the matter?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"It's nothing!" Scarlet hurriedly told him.

"Have you formed a covenant?"

“I have”

“Good, then I’ll be going. If there are any enemy attacks, just try to hold on as long as you can, I’ll try to return as soon as possible”

After saying so, Gu Qing Shan clenched his fist.

Invisible power emanated from his body.

—[Blessings of the Past Worlds]!

Instantly, he left the cave and entered the World of Laws.

Scarlet stood still with an ever-changing expression.

“Big sis Scarlet, are you ok?” Epta asked her out of concern.

“I’m fine... Epta, I remember that during your previous birthday, you prepared a bit of alcohol for the Elders...” Scarlet said.

“Ah, I did” Epta replied.

“Do you still have the alcohol?” Scarlet asked.

“I do, the Elders didn’t drink a lot at the time, I still have 7-8 bottles with me” Epta replied.

“Give them to me, I need them”

“Alright, I won’t drink them anyways”

Scarlet accepted the alcohol, took out one of them and raised it into the air.

The bottle disappeared without a trace.

“Ah? What is this?” Epta was surprised.

Scarlet replied without changing her expression: “To provide sustenance to the Overlord”

She then popped one bottle open and took a sip herself.

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“Big sis, since when could you drink alcohol?” Epta was surprised again.

“This was the Overlord’s idea... they consider the act of drinking a catalyst to allow the covenant bearer to better become accustomed to the Law of Death, allowing me to better utilize their powers” Scarlet replied.

Scarlet took one sip, then another sip, and then another sip.

As I drink... the power of Death I carry seems to have grown a bit stronger...

Seems like that it was true.

The Overlord of Death hopes to have a drinking buddy.

Drinking alcohol can, to a certain degree, form a resonance with the Law of Death.

This truly is—

Unimaginable.

Right at this time, some commotion could be heard outside.

“Seems like it was this cave”

“Right, we need to kill all the brats inside”

“Let’s get to it”

Some people were talking.

Scarlet’s eyes became sharp.

Just as Rhode had said, someone really did come.

Who exactly exposed our location?

It couldn’t be Rhode; he is trying to save Shroud.

—was it Reneedol? Or Atley?

Why would they do such a thing to us?

Scarlet was seething with rage.

Several Professionals stood at the entrance of the cave.

“Aha, a bunch of brats, just as expected” one of the Professionals laughed.

The others also looked inside, seeing that there were only two girls and an unconscious boy on the ground, they felt relaxed.

“Hek hek, now that I think about it, killing these two little lass right away seems like such a waste to me” someone said with a grin.

Epta was scared stiff and hurriedly hid behind Scarlet.

Scarlet didn’t say anything, instead, she picked up the bottle of alcohol and drank the entire thing all at once.

Crash!

She tossed the bottle to the ground.

“Death is a beautiful slumber, once you’ve fallen into it, you shall never wake up again”

As Scarlet chanted the incantation, a cluster of black flames abruptly appeared on her hand.

“Embrace your deaths!”

Endless black flames erupted like a tidal wave towards the entrance of the cave.

Hoh---

The Professionals didn’t even get a chance to avoid it as they were instantly burnt to ashes.

Scarlet didn’t stop there; she reached her hands forward and muttered: “I can sense your existence. Come to me, slumbering guardian of Death”

The void of space broke open.

A cluster of flames manifested into a bird that lightly landed in front of Scarlet.

The bird observed Scarlet, then said: “I am the servant of the Overlord of Death— I truly must say, your talents with the Laws of Death are not at all lacking compared to Rhode”

Scarlet’s face was already flushed red, but she popped open another bottle of alcohol and said: “I can grow even stronger”

“Stop, if you continue to drink, you’ll actually become drunk” the bird hurriedly said.

...

Gu Qing Shan was moving through a chaotic world.

His body was clad in black flames, this was the power from the Law of Death that was leading his path.

As Gu Qing Shan continued to fly, the blurry and unclear images abruptly disappeared altogether.

A grand and luxurious palace appeared in his vision.

It gave off endless white light, exuding nothing but dignity.

Gu Qing Shan flew into the palace.

Only to see that everything within the palace had already been more or less damaged, even the statue at the center of the hall had been broken, its fragments scattered everywhere.

One person sat at the center of the hall.

Shroud.

He was silently watching the broken statue with a stunned expression.

“Shroud! What happened to you?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

Shroud replied: “I’m fine, I just don’t understand a few things”

“What don’t you understand? If you don’t return right away, your body is going to die, hurry up and come with me!” Gu Qing Shan called out.

Shroud shook his head and sorrowfully said: “I really don’t understand, the Law of Radiance illuminates all things, allowing the myriad Laws to foster and grow, so why was it surrounded and attacked by the numerous Laws, ultimately ending up destroyed?”

He turned around and looked at Gu Qing Shan.

“Rhode, the Overlords are trying to absorb the power of Radiance, dividing the Law of Radiance among themselves”

“It was clearly the Law of Radiance that helped them grow stronger, but they turned on and ambushed the Overlord of Radiance”

“Listen——”

Shroud pointed his hand into the void of space.

Various voices appeared all around the hall.

「 The era of Radiance is over, there is only one soul left within its Divine Palace 」

「 Destroy him, let me dissolve the power of the Law of Radiance 」

「 No, you’re too weak, the power of Radiance will overwhelm you, let me 」

「 Enough, no one would be able to endure that much power by themselves 」

「 That’s right. When the power of Radiance is dissolved, do not be greedy, just take as much as you can endure 」

「 Hurry! Put in more effort 」

This was clearly the voices of the Law Behemoths talking to one another.

Gu Qing Shan silently listened for a while.

Shroud's expression was filled with grief, the light on his body was growing increasingly dimmer.

Gu Qing Shan sighed, then said: "Let us return first"

"You don't understand. I am the final soul within the Law of Radiance, so as soon as I leave, this Divine Palace manifested from the pure power of Radiance would be divided among the other Laws" Shroud replied.

Gu Qing Shan shrugged: "So you're just going to sit there and cry?"

Shroud paused.

"They all think that the Law of Radiance is already a thing of the past, what do you think I should do?" he asked.

"Who cares what they think, and who cares what I think? In fact, do you think you should enact revenge or not?" Gu Qing Shan asked him in return.

Shroud was stunned.

"Don't pay attention to what other people think" Gu Qing Shan seriously told him: "You are the final soul entrusted by the Law of Radiance, so what do you think you should do? To let Radiance be destroyed, or act like a man, stand up, and do something about it?"

Shroud kept silent.

After a while, he lightly muttered: "If there exists no other Radiance in this world, I will be the only light"

The glow around his body abruptly erupted and gradually filled the entire Divine Palace.

Chapter 1449

Translator: La0o9

Shroud stood at the center of the Divine Palace, the glow on his body started growing increasingly stronger.

He walked up to the destroyed statue, knelt down on one knee, then chanted an incantation:

“Divine Artifact of Radiance, as the final light, I call upon you. If you are willing to follow me, then we would still have hope”

“If you are unwilling, when the Law of Radiance is completely destroyed, I will leave by myself”

After saying that, he silently waited.

After a few moments, nothing occurred.

Shroud stood up and sighed: “Very well, then I can only——”

Before he even finished speaking, the destroyed statue abruptly shattered into fine golden dust, which then manifested into a golden book.

“The Book of Prophesized Destiny!”

Shroud at this point was still a young man, so he couldn’t help but shout out in surprise.

The book opened by itself and manifested various lines of text for him to read.

After Shroud swiftly finished reading, he took the book with one hand before turning towards Gu Qing Shan and said: “We can leave now”

Gu Qing Shan asked: "What about this Divine Palace?"

Shroud patted the book and replied: "It's ok, the foundation of the Law of Radiance as a whole is inside this book, this Divine Palace is nothing but an empty shell now, left here to temporarily deceive those Law Behemoths"

He caught Gu Qing Shan's hand, opened the book with the other, then whispered: "Return to the mortal realm!"

The golden book gave off a bright flash of light that enveloped the two of them.

Immediately, both of them disappeared.

In the cave.

Gu Qing Shan abruptly appeared.

"You're finally back" Epta called out.

Gu Qing Shan turned around to look, only to see that Epta was sitting next to Shroud while she held Scarlet in her embrace.

Epta was also cautious, so she had unleashed a small defensive barrier that would be able to repel simple forms of spying and attacks.

Scarlet laid still in her arms, completely unmoving.

"What happened!?"

Gu Qing Shan's heart felt heavy and hurriedly asked.

“...Some people came, Scarlet then killed them all” Epta explained.

“Did she use up all of her powers? Or was she wounded?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“She drank too much” Epta replied.

Gu Qing Shan froze.

Epta explained everything that happened from the very beginning.

Gu Qing Shan slowly understood.

... How... did things become this way?

If that's the case, wouldn't that mean the one who made the entire domain of Death become addicted to alcohol was me?

At this point, Shroud slowly opened his eyes and struggled to speak: “Hurry, we need to hurry up and leave!”

—his wounds hadn't completely healed, so it was still a bit inconvenient for him to move.

“Will those Law Behemoths chase after us?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

Shroud hurriedly replied: “Yes. They originally wanted to divide the power of the Law of Radiance among themselves, so they'll soon notice that the Divine Palace is now completely devoid of power”

Gu Qing Shan sighed and said: “That's not good”

Shroud confirmed: "That is extremely not good, they'll definitely come to this cave to look for us, so we need to flee right now!"

"Got it, let's go!"

Gu Qing Shan carried Shroud on his back, and Epta also hurriedly got Scarlet to her feet when she saw them like that.

"Wait!" Shroud suddenly called out.

"What is it? We need to hurry" Gu Qing Shan said.

"But, where are Renedol and Atley?" Shroud asked doubtfully.

Gu Qing Shan paused.

Epta also had no words to say.

Everyone knew that Shroud and Renedol were a couple, having lived so many years together, and it was also Shroud who saved Renedol in the beginning.

However, just a bit prior when the Overlord of Radiance disappeared, while Shroud remained inside the Divine Palace of Radiance and looked like he was going to die, Renedol abandoned them.

Having formed a covenant with the Overlord of Wind, Atley also left with Renedol.

Gu Qing Shan was a bit hesitant.

I should tell Shroud about Renedol right away.

But Shroud's injuries hadn't completely healed, so suddenly hearing something like that would most likely be a huge blow to him.

If it worsens his wounds...

While Gu Qing Shan was hesitating, Scarlet briefly snapped out of her sleep, mumbling with an intoxicated tone: "The World Valley is already done for! Even Shroud with the most potential is done for! Atley considered us to be baggage and ran away with Renedol, we're so helpless, we couldn't do anything, the only thing I can do is to drown it all in alcohol, then— hic—"

Scarlet hiccup softly, then laid her head back into Epta's chest before falling back to sleep.

The atmosphere became a bit chilly.

Gu Qing Shan could only follow up: "Shroud, don't listen to Scarlet's mumbling. All of us staying together would make us too big of a target, so splitting up to flee was the right choice"

Shroud exhaled a deep breath, then said: "Renedol's choice was correct, if she followed us right now, that would only cause everyone to be in more danger"

His voice was a bit cold.

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Gu Qing Shan couldn't tell his emotions, only sensing that he seemed to have gotten extremely distant from everyone.

—but this couldn't be helped.

Nothing good would come with Renedol around.

Shroud briefly hesitated before he struggled to raise his hand.

A golden book manifested.

It opened by itself.

A small spherical pendant flew out of the book and hovered in mid-air.

“Rhode, put this pendant on, it can provide an aura that would obscure our traces” Shroud explained.

Gu Qing Shan received the pendant and held it in his hand.

Lines of glowing text appeared on the War God UI:

[Radiance Divine Artifact: Sheltering Prayers]

[Those who wear this pendant will obtain the three forces manifested from Light Origin power]

[Firstly, Light Origin: Those who wear this pendant will have their spells bolstered by 30%]

[Secondly, Protection of Light: Those who wear this pendant will have half of the damage that they receive be reduced by their surrounding light]

[Thirdly, Hidden Light: By holding onto this pendant with your hand, a hidden area within a radius of 100 meters will be created. Within this zone, you and your companions will not be traceable by any spells or techniques]

[Attention: The three powers above can only take effect during the day]

Gu Qing Shan exclaimed: “What a great treasure!”

Shroud continued struggling to speak: “All the treasures in the Divine Palace of Radiance are currently in my hands— we need to find a suitable place to take refuge. After my wounds have healed, we’ll consider our next step”

“You’re right” Gu Qing Shan replied.

He released his inner sight to carefully observe Shroud's expression.

Only to see that Shroud didn't seem to be heartbroken, nor had the mind to mention Reneedol.

...wait a minute!

This had always been the most difficult obstacle to resolve, could Shroud have always been charmed by Reneedol so that he would continue to stay by her side?

Gu Qing Shan's heart abruptly jumped.

Or perhaps...

When Reneedol first appeared, she was flowing down the River of Fate.

Could it be that ever since that time, she had already charmed Shroud, which caused Shroud to save her?

Gu Qing Shan felt a chill from his entire body.

If it was such a strong charming ability, no one would be able to prevent it..

He left the cave before regaining his bearing, then chose an irregular small path.

It was currently midday, the time when the light was at its strongest.

Thanks to the power of the pendant, the four people's traces vanished completely from the world.

...

At another location.

Reneedol was sitting in a luxurious horse carriage.

Atley lifted the curtains as he entered and cautiously asked: "Reneedol, are you ok?"

"I'm fine, I just need to rest for a bit" Reneedol smiled.

Atley blankly stared at her, greedily taking in her unparalleled beauty.

Reneedol muttered: "Shroud will most likely not be able to live for much longer, Atley, I'll have to rely on you from now on"

Atley said right away: "Don't worry, since I've already formed a contract with the Law of Wind, I'll definitely grow increasingly stronger, I'll be sure to protect you, Reneedol"

Reneedol's smile contained a bit more warmth.

She slightly leaned forward and looked straight into Atley's eyes: "Increasingly stronger... during this era, that wouldn't be enough, Atley"

Atley asked: "Then what should I do? Should I become the strongest in the world?"

"...No, you must become the strongest person in history, so that no one in the past, present, or future, would be able to surpass you. This is your goal, Atley"

"Only then, would you receive my affection"

Atley was shocked.

The most he had heard was for someone to become the strongest in the world, never did he consider that Reneedol would demand such a thing.

Then again, since Reneedol had demanded it, all I need to do is follow her wish.

Atley reached her hand forward, wanting to touch Reneedol's face.

Reneedol softly caught his hand and asked: “What I said, can you achieve it?”

“Reneedol... for your sake, I will definitely achieve it” Atley replied.

“Hm” Reneedol said satisfactorily.

Suddenly, the world disappeared around them.

The World of Laws had abruptly manifested.

Endless wind formed a tornado that gave off a resounding voice:

「 Go, mortals who had formed a covenant with me, traverse the world and search for that newly born Overlord of Radiance! 」

「 He carries countless treasures on him, he is the common enemy of all the Laws of this world! 」

Within the empty World of Laws, a dim light began to display a portrait.

Shroud.

Shroud’s portrait had appeared in the void of space.

「 Head out, search for him, kill him, and retrieve the treasures and Origin—— 」

「 Achieve this, and you shall be rewarded by all the Laws of this world! 」

The Law Behemoth of Wind angrily shouted.

Chapter 1450

Translator: La0o9

The portrait of Shroud's appearance had manifested itself in the void of space.

Reneedol swiftly looked at Shroud's portrait, then looked around herself.

Only to see the countless mortals were also standing inside the World of Laws.

These were mortals from all over the world who had been brought into the World of Laws.

They had only just formed a covenant with the Law Behemoths, thus obtaining the ability to utilize the power of Laws.

A few moments later.

Suddenly, innumerable Law Behemoths uttered a resounding roar and declared to all these mortals:

「 We have sealed-off Space itself 」

「 From this moment onwards, no mortal will be able to teleport or fly, persisting until the final remnant of Radiance is found! 」

After this declaration, the World of Laws slowly faded away from the mortals' visions.

Atley and Reneedol had both returned to the real world, still sitting inside the horse carriage.

“Atley, what do you think?” Reneedol asked.

—kill Shroud!

Aside from the Overlord of Death, all the Overlords had unified themselves to make this announcement.

“Kill... Shroud? Wasn't he already close to death? Could it be...”

Atley stuttered as he spoke these words as if he was unable to face this fact.

He then turned to Reneedol, then was startled.

Even though Reneedol was beautiful, her expression at this time was still fearfully terrifying.

“Atley, what do you think these Law Behemoths are trying to do?” Reneedol asked.

Atley blankly replied: “They want to kill Shroud”

Reneedol spoke in irritation: “The Law Behemoths should be all-powerful, so why didn't they kill him themselves and instead tried to borrow the hands of mortals to kill Shroud?”

Atley thought for a while, then shook his head: “I'm not sure either”

Reneedol's gaze displayed a bit of disdain, but retained a smile on her face as she said: “I guess that Shroud has something that ensured these Law Behemoths wouldn't be unable to find him”

Atley nodded over and over: “You're right, they said that Shroud was carrying countless treasures with him”

Reneedol fell silent.

Atley thought for a bit more, then excitedly called out: “Shroud is definitely still inside that cave, even if he had left, he shouldn't have left too far, maybe we should chase after—”

Reneedol didn't say anything and reached her hand out.

—there was nothing on it.

How regretful, I remember that Red Wraith seemed to have an ability to find any target he thought of; but to save Shroud, I couldn't help but give up on Red Wraith's abilities...

Renedol muttered to herself.

Carefully recalling everything that occurred recently, she couldn't help but feel endless dejection.

Damn it.

How could I have been so impulsive?

I've been changing my mind regarding this matter so easily that I ignored the predestined path of Fate.

For someone like Shroud, even if he falls into a state of imminent death, he would still be able to overcome the hardship and resurrect to become even stronger.

Otherwise, why would he have been hailed as the new leader of the World Valley?

The next time I run into this situation, I can't keep switching sides like this.

Renedol closed her eyes and silently thought of a certain individual's figure.

Red Wraith.

Although he was an enemy, he had always been completely calm when facing an enemy.

He was like the calmest hunter, even when I was about to utilize that ability and devour him, he still had the leisure to call himself the 7th strongest swordsman and successfully caused me to hesitate.

Renedol clenched her fist.

Why can't I face my problems as he does?

"A truly powerful individual... would definitely not be an indecisive one" Renedol muttered to herself.

Her gaze now contained a bit more power.

“Erm, Renedol, what should we do now?” Atley asked.

Renedol turned and looked at Atley.

—there are now many people that could form covenants with the Law Behemoths.

Then how much could Atley be actually worth?

He doesn't have Shroud's talents and he couldn't even compare to Rhode.

Even though the Law of Death is a bit hateful, at least Rhode had the bravery to stay behind and cover everyone's backs.

Renedol sighed, picked up a teacup on the table in front of her, then took a sip.

I can't continue like this.

From now on, I need to carefully consider the results before I act.

After silently thinking for a while, Renedol suddenly turned to Atley.

“Atley, do you think we'd be able to catch up to Shroud and the others if we return now?” she asked.

“Shroud was still injured, so even if they had left the cave, they wouldn't be able to flee too far. Our carriage was reinforced with the power of the wind, so there shouldn't be an issue with our speed” Atley replied.

“Atley” Renedol smiled and asked: “For my sake, are you willing to attack Shroud?”

Even though he was already prepared for such a question, Atley was still frightened to the point of trembling at the idea.

“1...”

As he opened his mouth, Renedol reached her hand out and lightly stroked his face.

Renedol gently told him: “Think very carefully before you answer me, remember, you only have one chance”

Atley felt his mouth and tongue to be completely parched, after swallowing a dry gulp, the hesitation he felt earlier had already been thrown completely away.

“How do you want to do it?” he heard himself asking such a question.

Renedol satisfactorily smiled.

“Actually, it’s quite simple...”

...

The side of the mountain.

Gu Qing Shan’s group of four was moving forward.

They were indeed not moving very quickly.

The Law Behemoths had banded together to completely seal off Space.

Their combined strength was too great, Gu Qing Shan couldn’t use any spatial techniques or movement techniques, nor could he teleport or fly.

Shroud was injured.

After every 10 minutes, Epta had to stop to heal him appropriately.

Scarlet had formed a covenant with the Overlord of Death, but she was completely wasted from drinking, so she had been sleeping the entire time.

Fortunately, they had the Radiance pendant.

The power of [Hidden Light] had formed a barrier in a radius of 100 meters around them, so they couldn't be detected by any sort of tracking technique.

"How are you feeling?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

Shroud briefly examined himself, then replied: "There is a treasure made specifically for the sake of healing within the Book of Prophesized Destiny, but I am unable to take it out at this point in time"

"Weren't you able to take the pendant out without issues?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"This is different, this treasure requires me to expend more power of Radiance in order to retrieve"

"Then—"

Shroud smiled, then said: "My powers have recovered somewhat, as long as Epta heals me one more time, I think I should be able to take that treasure out without any issues"

Gu Qing Shan instantly said: "Epta, let us rest here, treat Shroud's injuries one more time"

"Got it!" Epta replied.

They had stopped behind a large rock to avoid the wind.

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Gu Qing Shan carefully let Shroud down and had him lean his back on the rock.

Epta also carefully laid Scarlet down before beginning Shroud's treatment.

Gu Qing Shan was responsible for keeping watch.

He made sure to pay attention to even the smallest blade of moving grass while feeling highly anxious.

This place isn't too far away from the previous cave, we definitely shouldn't have stopped here.

But without fully healing Shroud, we wouldn't be able to move any faster.

—let's just hope that nothing happens.

Time became unbearably long.

After a long while.

Shroud opened his eyes, first looked at Epta, then at Gu Qing Shan.

"I really have burdened you guys during this period of time"

He said as he opened the Book of Prophesized Destiny and took out a glowing warm sphere of light.

"Radiance, heal my wounds, I am your companion"

Shroud muttered.

The sphere abruptly began to let out an intense ray of light that reached into the sky.

"This is too eye-catching; we need to leave right away after we're done" Gu Qing Shan frowned.

Before he could finish, the ray of light had already converged the power of light in the sky itself.

This sea of light descended from above, fully enveloping Shroud's body.

"Aarrghh—"

Shroud let out a painful moan.

He laid crouched to the ground with both of his eyes closed.

Immense power emanated from his body.

Who would've thought, after suffering these heavy injuries, his strength had actually improved!

"Give me a few more seconds, I'm going to resolve some of my hidden wounds as well" Shroud said, then closed his eyes again.

The power he was emanating just now had fully receded.

Gu Qing Shan and Epta both silently waited.

"Huh? What's going on?"

Scarlet rubbed her eyes as she sat up.

She was woken up by the earlier commotion, her expression was filled with annoyance.

"Shroud is about to recover"

Epta hugged her and happily cheered.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly turned around and looked down the mountain.

A horse carriage had appeared at the foot of the mountain, now rapidly heading towards them.

“The commotion Shroud caused earlier was too great, we’ve been discovered!” Epta exclaimed.

“Watch over Shroud and Scarlet, I’ll beat them back” Gu Qing Shan said.

He was prepared to fight.

At this point, Scarlet staggered as she stood up, hung onto Gu Qing Shan’s shoulder, then said: “Count me in if we’re fighting!”

“Can you fight?” Gu Qing Shan glanced at her.

“Just ask Epta, I’ve actually been bestowed the power of Death as well, I’m not any weaker than you are” Scarlet said.

Gu Qing Shan looked at Epta questioningly.

Epta nodded.

“That’s good, then let’s head out together” Gu Qing Shan happily said.

———*finally, an ally in combat.*

“Hm” Scarlet nodded resolutely.

Very quickly, the horse carriage approached them.

The carriage stopped at a safe distance away from them.

The door of the carriage opened.

And Atley disembarked.

“Atley...” Gu Qing Shan spoke in a deep voice.

“Hey, Rhode”

Atley’s gaze went past Gu Qing Shan and fell onto Shroud.

Shroud was laying on the ground, seemingly not breathing nor moving.

“Has he died yet?” Atley asked.

Scarlet couldn’t help but shout loudly in return: “Damn you Atley! That is Shroud, he is your friend, what kind of tone is that, huh!?”

Fwoom!

Intense black flames erupted from her body.

A black bird landed on her shoulder as she came closer and closer to Atley.

“If you keep talking to us with that tone, I’m going to butcher you!” Scarlet declared full of killing intent.

The black bird then took flight and abruptly turned into a giant bird of death that was hundreds of meters in length, circling above them.

Atley was shocked.

The presence was incomparable to normal Laws.

“You... you’ve formed a covenant with the Overlord of Death as well?” he stuttered in shock and asked.

Standing in the flames, Scarlet pridefully scoffed: “Hmph! Did you think only you and the Law of Wind—
—”

She suddenly stopped, sat crouched on the ground and opened her mouth.

Atley took a step back and assumed a defensive stance, solemnly asking: “What are you doing!?”

“Bleh—”

Scarlet threw up.

She continued to throw up for a while, so much so that she shed tears.

Atley froze.

—*—what’s going on?*

He couldn’t understand the situation at all.

Gu Qing Shan helplessly crouched down as well, patting Scarlet's back: "How much did you drink?"

Scarlet breathed heavily as she replied: "Two bottles"

Gu Qing Shan then asked: "How much do you usually drink?"

"I've never drank alcohol before, only fruit juice" Scarlet sincerely answered him.

Gu Qing Shan was speechless.

He carried Scarlet back to Epta, then returned to face Atley.

"Do you want to kill Shroud?"

Gu Qing Shan coldly asked.

Editor: Dr.Lock

Proofreader: Arya

Link to the WAO glossary page for all confusing terms and more:
<https://otakutl.blogspot.com/2020/02/wao-glossary.html>

Chapter 1451

Translator: La0o9

"Kill Shroud? Why would you think I'd do that?" Atley smiled and asked.

Gu Qing Shan ignored that and continued: "When things became dangerous, you and Renedol abandoned us, I really can't think of a reason why you would return at this point in time"

Atley shook his head: "We were still friends once; I don't want to make this difficult. Give me everything Shroud is carrying then I'll let you leave"

Long blades of green-colored wind manifested behind his back.

One of them abruptly disappeared.

Rumble— — —

The ground was split in half, reaching all the way to Gu Qing Shan's feet.

Atley triumphantly boasted: "Rhode, leave everything Shroud has behind, then you can bring Shroud, Epta, and Scarlet with you"

Gu Qing Shan was looking at him with a strange expression.

From the sky, the giant bird of death descended and landed on Gu Qing Shan's shoulder.

It turned back into boiling black flames that drifted behind Gu Qing Shan before manifesting into a long-handled black scythe.

Gu Qing Shan flourished the scythe in his hand and said: "Where did you get the confidence that you'd be able to make me submissively hand over Shroud's things to you?"

He lightly tapped his feet and abruptly rushed towards Atley.

Atley's eyes opened wide and shouted: "Cut!"

Over a dozen green blades of wind behind his back shot forward, striking the black scythe in Gu Qing Shan's hand.

The green glow and black flames clashed against one another, rising up all the way to the horizon.

The sky went dark for a brief moment, storm-force gusts of wind intensely swept in every direction, blowing the clouds directly above them away.

Gu Qing Shan rode the wind and returned to his original spot, brandishing his scythe once again: "I only used 10% of my strength just now. If you want to die, I'll make it into reality with my next strike"

Atley took a step back, cautiously looking at the scythe.

He could sense that the other party was truly holding back.

Otherwise...

Atley stayed silent for a bit, then abruptly said: "You're forcing my hands"

He reached his hand into the carriage and took someone else out.

Reneedol.

—Reneedol had been tied up so well that she couldn't even struggle.

Atley put two fingers together and manifested a green blade of wind from it.

He put the blade of wind against Reneedol's neck and shouted:

"Give me everything Shroud has, or else I'm going to kill her!"

Gu Qing Shan froze.

—*what kind of third-rate act is this?*

He turned to Renedol.

Renedol was glancing towards Shroud on the ground, her expression slightly surprised.

Not good!

Gu Qing Shan instantly felt alarms ringing and realized what had happened.

Renedol could directly obtain all of someone else's powers.

Since Shroud is silently lying on the ground, there could only be one reason why Renedol appeared surprised——

She had tried copying Shroud's powers instead of Atley's.

——she had realized that Shroud was recovering his strength!

Gu Qing Shan's heart felt heavy, so he swung the long-handled black scythe with his full strength.

A wave of black flames was cast forward from the scythe, manifesting as hundreds, as thousands of black flame birds that flew straight towards Atley and Renedol.

Atley was shocked and shouted: "Rhode, do you want to kill Renedol?"

He pulled Renedol with considerable force in front of him to use her as a shield.

Before the black flames even arrived, Gu Qing Shan had already leapt into the air, travelling several dozen meters forward and raised his scythe.

The scythe howled harrowingly as it slashed towards both of them.

Right at this point, the black flames had already arrived in front of Atley and Renedol.

As the black wave of flames arrived without leaving any space to dodge, Gu Qing Shan had melded into the darkness to reap their lives with his scythe.

In a mere breath's worth of time, he had completed this scenario.

— — — now that Reneedol had been restrained, it was already too late for her to unleash her Fate ability.

She had also just changed from Atley's Law of Wind powers into Shroud's Radiance powers, but Shroud is currently in a strange state where he no longer had a covenant with an Overlord.

For Reneedol, all of Shroud's current abilities were foreign, which she couldn't grasp in such a short period of time.

— — — this is the best and possibly only chance to kill her!

Another wave of black flames rained down from the scythe above.

"No— — —" Atley desperately called out.

Suddenly, the intense black flames all around them completely disappeared.

All supernatural phenomena had vanished.

A single person stood in front of Gu Qing Shan to stop his scythe.

Shroud.

He spat up some blood, then struggled to speak: "Rhode, don't kill Reneedol!"

Gu Qing Shan froze.

Scarlet shouted from afar: “Shroud, take a careful look at the current situation. The two of them abandoned you, now they’ve come to try and—”

Before she even finished her words, a curt grunt was heard, followed by the smell of blood.

Scarlet was stunned, unable to say the rest.

Shroud also turned around.

—-Renedol had somehow broken out of her restraints and used a dagger to stab through Atley’s heart.

“Renedol!”

Atley shouted and raised his hand, manifesting a howling green sphere.

Renedol tossed the dagger away and shouted: “Shroud, save me!”

Shroud rushed forward without hesitation, opened the Book of Prophesized Destiny, then released a halberd made of pure golden light.

The halberd shot forward and sent Atley flying.

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After he did that, Shroud spat up more blood.

Renedol hurriedly embraced him and sobbed as she spoke: “It was Atley who forced me to leave you, if I didn’t follow him, he said he would kill you!”

Shroud nodded and forced out a reply: “As long as you’re safe...”

Gu Qing Shan's expression turned grim.

Shroud was clearly at the most crucial point of recuperating, yet he risked it all to stop me and hit Atley away.

—this was Reneedol's charm ability!

Gu Qing Shan's figure flashed and flew towards the cliff just a few hundred meters away.

As he looked down, he saw that Atley had just fallen to the bottom of the cliff.

Gu Qing Shan followed the cliff down and quickly landed next to Atley.

—after Atley's heart had been pierced through, he received another full-power attack from Shroud, then rolled down an entire cliff, so he was already at his deathbed.

"Atley..." Gu Qing Shan crouched next to him and called out in a low voice.

Atley appeared to be unresponsive, blood continued to flow from his mouth.

"Atley!"

Gu Qing Shan silently transferred his spirit energy into the other party's body.

Atley's body shook, then regained his consciousness.

He abruptly caught Gu Qing Shan's hand.

"Rhode, I... I was deceived by a devil..."

His eyes regained their clarity and tears of regret began to flow.

His love for Renedol seemed to have vanished.

Gu Qing Shan pursed his lips tightly and said nothing.

Atley sobbed: "Rhode... I've always... considered you guys to be my brothers"

Gu Qing Shan held his hand tightly and whispered: "Don't say anything, we also consider you to be our brother"

"But... Renedol..." Atley hesitantly.

Gu Qing Shan's tone became even softer: "No one will blame you, I'll call Shroud here right away, we'll explain it to everyone, we'll all remain as good brothers"

Atley sighed in relief, then smiled satisfactorily.

He said nothing else.

Gu Qing Shan silently watched him.

This young man had already admired Shroud's strength and wished for nothing but to be stronger.

This young man, no matter how fearful he was, had never abandoned his companions, he had even made a bed for Shroud by himself.

But now, he is dead.

He died because of Renedol's charm and manipulation.

Gu Qing Shan closed his eyes.

A second later, he abruptly disappeared.

...

On the other side.

Reneedol embraced Shroud and gently asked: "How are your injuries?"

Shroud shook his head: "My most serious injuries have already healed. I was a bit heavy-handed just now, could Atley have—"

Reneedol shed tears: "I don't know what came over him, he even wanted to kill me earlier, I had no other choice but to act first"

Shroud's lips twitched as if he wanted to say something.

Suddenly, Reneedol felt a chill run through her entire body.

Some sort of extreme danger was causing her to tremble.

This was an unprecedented experience for her.

Shroud could also feel it.

They both turned in the same direction.

An unfamiliar person was standing on top of a rock.

He wore a pure-white mask painted with black shade to depict a pair of eerie thinly opened eyes that flickered between black and red.

He was wielding a single sword in his hand, completely stationary, devoid of any killing intent or presence. It was as if he was only an illusion or a shadow, something that didn't exist.

But anyone who looked closely at him would find themselves soaked in a cold sweat as if they were witnessing some sort of unprecedented ghost anomaly.

“Red Wraith!”

Reneedol exclaimed in shock.

As soon as she said that, Shroud had already disappeared from her embrace.

Reneedol was shocked.

This is [Shadow Shift]— — —

Space had already been sealed by the Law Behemoths; how could he still be so fast!?

Reneedol attacked without hesitation, only to find the golden light halberd that she unleashed had struck her instead.

One second.

One fleeting moment.

Victory and defeat had been decided.

Chills spread all over Reneedol's body.

In her last moments, the only thing she saw in front of her eyes was Red Wraith's mask.

His sword had stabbed so deeply into her neck that she couldn't even utter a single word.

At the very next moment.

“Release her!”

Red Wraith suddenly turned Renedol's body towards Shroud.

“Don't move, if you even twitch a single muscle then she dies” Red Wraith said.

Shroud had no choice but to remain still.

Red Wraith only paused for that single split second as he leaned into Renedol's ears and spoke with a hoarse voice: “Sparing no means to achieve a goal, you're not the only one who knows how to do that”

He lifted his sword.

Renedol felt heaven and earth turning around themselves.

The world became dark.

Chapter 1452

Translator: La0o9

A head flew.

Renedol's body collapsed to the ground.

Gu Qing Shan had already averted his gaze from her and turned towards Shroud.

He wanted to see if the charm Shroud was afflicted with would disappear or not.

—-if not, that would really be troublesome.

After all, Shroud had resurrected Reneedol from death once before.

Gu Qing Shan held the Six Paths Great Mountain sword tightly and made the appropriate preparations.

If there's no other choice, I'm going to stab him once.

At first, Shroud's expression was filled with sorrow, but then it quickly became full of confusion.

He stared closely at Reneedol's body, muttering to himself: "Why... had my affection towards her disappeared completely?"

—-he began to notice that his feelings and emotions had been tampered with.

Gu Qing Shan was still acting as the Red Wraith, so he couldn't really talk to Shroud, but he sighed out of relief.

Since Shroud no longer loves Reneedol and is even having doubts about the entire matter, he will soon be able to reach the truth.

As Rhode, I'll be able to help him with this process.

While Gu Qing Shan was thinking about this, he suddenly noticed something was wrong.

—-Shroud, Epta, and Scarlet had all become stiff as if they were frozen in time.

The wind had also stopped blowing.

The entire world had become silent and no longer making any noises.

Gu Qing Shan felt uneasy as if everything had been draped over with a dark shadow.

—-who could freeze time for the entire world?

This is the Age of Immemorial!

Gu Qing Shan asked in a low voice: “War God UI, did you discover something?”

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

[Time, Space, Fate, the three Great Laws of Reality are being controlled by some sort of force. The world will reset in 10 seconds]

Reset!

Gu Qing Shan was stunned.

This time, without waiting for Gu Qing Shan to ask, the War God UI began explaining right away:

[Attention, this so-called ‘reset’ is a reinstatement of everything from the beginning, the progression of Fate of all things and all living beings will return to their previous points in Time at their previous locations in Space]

Gu Qing Shan heard every word.

But he still couldn’t understand.

In the past, even while Lin was using the power of the three coins, she was only able to bring Gu Qing Shan and herself back to the Age of Old.

—-never had he heard of something that could bring all things and all living beings back to the past.

“What kind of force could achieve such a thing?” Gu Qing Shan couldn’t help but question.

[Fate Corrosion] the War God UI replied.

Gu Qing Shan was completely shaken.

Fate Corrosion was the side effect of parallel worlds consuming one another.

A weaker parallel world would be consumed by a more powerful parallel world.

The living beings of the weaker world would not be able to help their Fates from being altered to fit the more powerful one.

In a more powerful parallel world compared to this one, the Earth Creator was already dead.

So when the Fate Corrosion began, the Earth Creator couldn’t stop itself from dying as well.

— who was it then that was able to use an entire parallel world to kill someone?

Gu Qing Shan paused for a single moment before all of his hair stood on their ends.

Countless years in the future, the one who orchestrated the Fate Corrosion was none other than Renedol!

What exactly is happening right now?

Gu Qing Shan suddenly felt like there was an insurmountable force hiding in the shadows, silently manipulating it all.

[It’s starting!] the War God UI told him.

Gu Qing Shan took off the Samsara Wicked Mask and put it away.

He kept wielding his sword while remaining cautious of his surroundings.

The world went dark.

Suddenly, everything lit up once again.

Gu Qing Shan heard someone viciously shouting: "Brat, I'm going to kill you!"

A blade appeared in Gu Qing Shan's vision, swinging towards his neck.

The cold gleam of the blade was swung down, only to let out a chiming 'clang'.

Gu Qing Shan had swung his sword to block the attack.

"Ah? You're quite decent, being able to block my attack"

The other party was wearing a military uniform, smirking and scoffing, right as he pulled his sword back and swung down again violently.

At the very next moment.

He was abruptly sent flying away from Gu Qing Shan.

A black spear appeared where the man originally stood without so much as a drop of blood on it.

"Focus"

Shroud said.

Gu Qing Shan glanced at him, then back at their surroundings.

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They were standing near the river that connected the entire world, a small dinghy had fallen by the bank, two groups of unfamiliar people were fighting and killing one another.

Atley, Epta, and Scarlet were all here.

But Renedol wasn't.

...that's right, at this point in time, when I had just entered this period, Renedol had also just been captured by someone.

Everything had returned to this very first moment!

Gu Qing Shan suddenly recalled the giant corpse's words.

...

"Just think about it, we only know that the fish has arrived downstream, but we don't know if it had been replaced halfway through, or someone had caught it and placed something inside its belly, or if there were any ferocious pursuers who followed it there"

...

Gu Qing Shan's heart went completely cold.

I'm sure of it now, during this period of time, something or someone must have been observing Shroud's Fate.

Was it Renedol?

...No.

If she could control parallel worlds to reverse the three Great Laws of Reality, why would she need to find 'the strongest'?

She would have already been the strongest.

As Gu Qing Shan was rapidly contemplating on the answer, he also didn't stop moving and coordinating with Shroud to kill the enemies.

At the moment, the Law Behemoths were still fighting against one another, no longer responding to the call of living beings.

But with Shroud and Gu Qing Shan's strength, it wasn't a lot of trouble to deal with these people.

Not too long later, the battle ended.

Shroud propped his spear on one of their necks and shouted: "Speak, where did you bring that girl?"

The man hurriedly replied: "Don't kill me. After stealing your ship, our boss headed towards Hundred Martial City"

Without waiting for Shroud to speak, Gu Qing Shan chopped that man's head off.

He turned his sword towards another person—— it was this person who told them the truth the previous time.

The man trembled and cried out: "Don't kill me!"

Gu Qing Shan asked: "Where exactly did your boss bring that girl?"

The man spilled everything: "The boss had actually left using the Southeastern path—— please spare my life!"

Gu Qing Shan stood up, grabbed the man by his neck, then said: "Shroud, we're heading East"

Shroud was concerned about Renedol, so he immediately replied: "Got it!"

Everyone began heading Eastward, swiftly running to their destination.

Around ten miles later.

They saw a collapsed horse carriage.

A mass of corpses.

A beautiful girl was standing on top of a horse carriage.

Reneedol.

Gu Qing Shan stared closely at her.

But she hadn't paid attention to Gu Qing Shan yet.

"Shroud, you've arrived"

She said aloofly.

Shroud rushed forward and hurriedly asked: "Are you ok?"

Reneedol smiled and replied: "Do I look like I'm not ok?"

Gu Qing Shan continued wielding his sword as he slowly approached her.

She still hadn't reacted at all.

Gu Qing Shan glanced at the corpses around them.

The previous time—

These corpses were riddled with wounds, a clear sign of being tortured to death.

While they were already dead, their faces still displayed an expression of disbelief and fear.

At the time, Reneedol had even explained to them how she killed these people as if she was boasting to them:

"...I used the boss' power to kill his aide, then the aide's power to kill the squad leader, then use the squad leader's power to kill the minions"

Those were her exact words.

But this time, none of the corpses have any extraneous wounds, they were all killed with a single strike.

Gu Qing Shan paused for a short moment before asking: "Reneedol, how did these people die?"

"I killed them" Reneedol answered right away.

Gu Qing Shan was a bit startled.

At this point, Shroud sighed in relief and said: "It's a good thing that among the three Great Laws of Reality, only the power of Fate could not be sealed away—— it's so hateful that my powers are temporarily sealed away and unable to protect you"

Reneedol replied: "It's ok, I can protect myself"

Her gaze carried a bit of a chill as she continued: "The Law Behemoths are currently killing one another, completely ignoring us—— but if certain people wanted to take this opportunity to get rid of us from the World Valley, then they're sorely mistaken"

Everyone nodded in agreement to her words.

Gu Qing Shan also glanced at her.

Reneedol... seemed to have become a completely different person...

The personality suggested by her words and gestures is completely different from before.

What's going on here?

Regression?

Even if someone regressed, their personality would not abruptly change.

...I need to reconsider this.

Gu Qing Shan continued to ponder about this.

The three Great Laws of Reality were reconstituted, Time and Space had flowed backwards, everyone returned to life and their previous states in Time.

All of this was for the sake of changing to another Renedol?

Who...

Had the ability to do such a thing?

Gu Qing Shan fell silent, a very long silence.

Chapter 1453

Translator: La0o9

It soon became night.

Everyone found a clean patch of ground near the horse carriage where they could rest.

“We’re the only ones left” Epta sighed.

Shroud said with confusion: “Something seriously terrible must have happened, the Overlord of Radiance is no longer responding to my call”

Atley asked: “Why did our World Valley get affected the most? Did the Overlords feel displeased with us?”

No one responded to him.

The World Valley had already been completely destroyed.

What will happen to us from now on?

Everyone exchanged glances, only to see their mutual looks of concern and anxiety.

Gu Qing Shan glanced discreetly at Reneedol.

——Reneedol was also observing everyone.

She occasionally appeared to be in thought as she silently listened to their conversation.

In the end, did she regress?

Or was she taken over?

Gu Qing Shan pondered.

Parallel worlds...

In the great tomb of the Tomb of Myriad Beasts, to go against those Apocalypses, I used the Eternal Abyss Soul Artifact to summon many parallel world versions of myself.

——perhaps this Reneedol was also from a parallel world?

Gu Qing Shan silently questioned.

Suddenly, Reneedol lowered her head and silently chanted something.

A cold and gloomy presence emanated from her body, forming a giant face above everyone.

The face had no other features except for a large mouth.

The mouth opened slightly, then remained that way.

—this terrifying thing had been silently unleashed by Reneedol.

Gu Qing Shan simply glanced at it once before stopping altogether.

Other than him, none of the others noticed at all.

—only those with the power of Fate could see the manifestation of other Fate techniques.

It seems Reneedol was already suspicious of their little group.

After a while, Epta spoke up first:

“Shroud, all the Elders are already dead, what should we do now?”

Shroud hesitated briefly before replying: “Without the knowledge of the situation, it would be useless no matter what we do— I’m preparing to contact the World of Laws once again to investigate the truth”

“No” Reneedol abruptly refuted: “Those Law Behemoths are still fighting against one another; it would be very unwise of you to enter the World of Law at this point in time”

Shroud shook his head: “Our powers are slowly disappearing, if we can’t contact the World of Laws as soon as possible, we might not be able to defend ourselves the next time we run into our enemies”

Reneedol coldly questioned: “And you think the few of us here would be able to resolve that problem?”

Shroud froze, then slowly continued: “Reneedol, you’ve already been taken away once, I don’t want such a thing to happen once again”

Reneedol smiled, then followed up for him: "That's why, what we should do now is to find a place to hide and carefully observe the changes in the world, not recklessly head into the World of Laws to seek the truth"

Everyone turned towards Shroud.

Shroud was their leader, so he had the final say regardless of Reneedol's opinion.

Shroud hesitated briefly before turning to Gu Qing Shan and asked: "Rhode, what do you think we should do?"

Reneedol also turned to him.

The featureless giant face above her head also moved.

Gu Qing Shan acted like he didn't see it and leisurely said: "You can decide that by yourself, I'm feeling a bit hungry right now, so I'm going to look for something we can eat"

He stood up and headed towards the fallen carriage.

Reneedol stared closely at his back.

Atley called out in dissatisfaction: "Oi Rhode, why are you thinking about eating at a time like this?"

Gu Qing Shan replied without turning around: "We haven't eaten anything for an entire day, so we need to replenish some energy. Otherwise, we wouldn't have enough strength to resolve any upcoming problems"

When he said that, everyone finally noticed how hungry they currently were.

After an entire day of fleeing, pursuing, and battles, everyone had practically reached their limits.

Shroud stood up: "I'll go search with you"

...

A few moments later.

Gu Qing Shan and Shroud found some rations in the trunk at the back of the carriage, as well as some simple kitchen utensils.

"This isn't even enough to split evenly between us, we need to think of a solution soon" Gu Qing Shan said.

"They have enough spices though. I know how to cook, how about I make something for everyone?" Epta offered.

Gu Qing Shan rolled up his sleeves: "Let me do it"

He took out the rations, prepared the kitchen utensils, and rapidly got everything in order.

Not too long later.

A pot of piping hot food was finished.

"It smells so good, what did you make?" Shroud asked.

"It's probably noodles or something like that" Renedol appeared to be recalling it from somewhere and said.

Gu Qing Shan looked at her with a surprised expression.

“How did you know?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

Reneedol replied: “I just guessed”

Gu Qing Shan appeared confused.

Reneedol continued: “Alright, let’s divide it up already, everyone certainly needs something to eat”

“Ah, sure”

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Gu Qing Shan put out the bowls and began to split the portions evenly.

Above everyone, the featureless giant face had temporarily calmed down.

Gu Qing Shan acted like it didn’t exist while he silently pondered on Reneedol’s changes.

She stopped Shroud from heading into the World of Laws, released that terrifying thing, then prematurely mentioned the name of the food to probe and observe my reaction.

—-which means she remembered everything that happened before.

She felt suspicious of Rhode.

After all, during the final moments of the previous time, it was when Rhode headed down the cliff to check Atley’s situation that Red Wraith appeared.

Gu Qing Shan’s heart sank slightly.

“There, one for everyone”

He told them all.

It was already quite late into the evening; everyone had gathered around the same place and finished their food.

After that, the group still didn't really know what to do.

Shroud came up to Renedol and whispered something to her.

Renedol firmly replied: "The entire World Valley has already been destroyed, do you really think you're qualified to enter the World of Laws and observe the truth with your current strength?"

Having been refused again, Shroud could only give up.

Renedol then said: "Rhode, Shroud is always ignoring his own safety, you should tell him off sometimes"

Gu Qing Shan was a bit surprised and replied: "Shroud is our leader, how am I supposed to tell him off?"

Renedol continued to stare straight at him.

Gu Qing Shan scratched his head and said: "But he's always listening to you, so we'll just do what you say"

Renedol's gaze mellowed out a bit and said: "There's a small forest on that side, we should head in there to rest and continue on our way the next morning"

"Let's go everyone" Shroud called out.

Everyone responded.

That night, everyone stayed in the forest.

No one walked by the forest, nor did anyone try to offend Renedol.

Everything was fine, but since it was the first day of their escape, no one was able to sleep.

Epta and Scarlet were sitting together.

Atley and Rhode were asking Shroud for instructions on how to form a covenant with a Law Behemoth.

Renedol was cultivating by herself.

The featureless face remained above their heads, still motionless.

A bit after midnight, Renedol suddenly stood up and headed towards the edge of the forest.

“Where are you going?” Shroud went after her and asked.

“My stomach is feeling a bit unwell, so I’m going to relieve myself, don’t you dare sneak a peek” Renedol replied.

After saying so, she disappeared from everyone’s vision.

Shroud was startled, but also a bit awkward. He soon returned to his original spot, asking Atley and Gu Qing Shan:

“Where were we earlier?”

“You said that the Overlords would choose mortals that are suitable for them” Atley replied.

Shroud then continued.

While listening, Gu Qing Shan also fell into thought.

If—

Reneedol can remember everything that happened the previous time.

Then she had most likely left to find either the wizard or Red Wraith.

If she goes out searching for Red Wraith and Red Wraith doesn't show up...

Gu Qing Shan felt a bit uneasy.

During this period of time, he had to stay by Shroud's side to help Shroud see through this period of history.

If he didn't dispel Reneedol's suspicion, he would eventually have to face Reneedol's terrifying Fate ability.

While he was contemplating, Atley suddenly stood up.

"About that previous issue— Atley, where are you going?" Shroud asked.

"Taking a piss, I'll be right back" Atley replied.

Gu Qing Shan's eyes also flickered a bit and stood up: "I gotta go as well"

Both of them went into the forest and found a place hidden from view for themselves.

After a short while, both of them returned at the same time, sat down near Shroud and seriously listened as Shroud taught them.

...

At another location.

Renedol was standing in the wilderness.

The terrifying featureless giant face was still hovering above her.

—this place was very close to the camp of a wizard, but she wasn't interested in messing with them.

She was waiting for someone.

"It should be around this time and place"

Renedol muttered to herself and turned towards a certain direction.

The sky had now grown even darker, the darkest it had been during the entire night.

From the shadows, a person appeared.

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

That pair of eyes constantly flickering between black and red, which appeared incredibly eerie.

Red Wraith!

Sure enough, he had appeared.

Reneedol emanated clear killing intent and questioned: "I am Reneedol of the World Valley, who might you be? And why have you come here?"

The featureless face above her head slowly opened its mouth.

Chapter 1454

Translator: La0o9

"You're from the World Valley?"

Red Wraith repeated that.

He looked up at the gloomy featureless face above Reneedol's head and spoke with a hoarse voice:

"Very well, so you people and Mara Heavenly King were on the same side"

As he spoke, Red Wraith drew his sword and prepared a stance.

Waves of killing intent could be clearly felt from his body.

The atmosphere became extremely tense.

Reneedol's expression changed again and again.

Mara Heavenly King.

—this name once again.

Could it be true?

Does Red Wraith still believe that I'm an assassin that was sent after him?

Reneedol abruptly took a few steps back and said: "Wait a moment"

She abruptly disappeared.

Her presence was nowhere to be seen as if she had never actually stood there in the first place.

“Spatial technique... she now wields a kind of Spatial technique”

“Not only that, she no longer tried to copy my powers earlier...”

Gu Qing Shan silently pondered.

Although he didn't know how she changed, he could guess her intentions.

...

At another location.

Within the forest.

Epta and Scarlet were still discussing their future plans.

Shroud, Rhode, and Atley were sitting together to study the rules of forming a covenant with the Laws of the World; Shroud was answering their questions.

At this point, Renedol abruptly appeared.

“Ah? You're back” Shroud greeted her.

Renedol didn't even take a look at him and instead rushed forward and put her hands on Atley and Rhode respectively.

“Renedol, what are you—” Atley stuttered.

“Hah?” Rhode didn’t say quite as much, only uttering this single questioning word.

— he seemed to feel a bit repulsed by Renedol’s hand and wanted to move away, but still managed to stop himself.

A second later.

Renedol looked at the two of them, slowly relaxing her brows.

“Both of them are fine...” she muttered.

At this point, Epta and Scarlet also went close and asked confusedly: “Renedol, what’s the matter? Did something happen?”

Renedol smiled and leisurely replied: “It’s nothing, I’m just trying out a new technique, no need for everyone to feel surprised”

Her figure flashed and disappeared from their temporary camp.

Everyone exchanged glances.

“She’s acting strangely” Rhode couldn’t help but comment.

Everyone nodded in agreement.

...

A few moments later.

Renedol reappeared in front of Red Wraith.

“I’m sorry for making you wait” Renedol bowed and said.

Red Wraith lightly brandished his sword: "If you're one of the Mara Heavenly King's subordinates, then there's no need for chatter, one of us will die here"

Renedol smiled and replied:

"You are quite decently powerful, but we don't have to resort to useless mutual probing, because I'm not an assassin sent by Mara Heavenly King to kill you"

The terrifying gloomy face above her head disappeared.

"Oh?"

Red Wraith uttered a single word, seemingly surprised.

Renedol continued: "You are able to see my Fate ability and seem to have an exceptional Fate ability of your own, your swordsmanship is exceptional, a man of numerous talents, but you are only the 7th strongest swordsman in the world—— Red Wraith"

"You know me quite well" Red Wraith stared closely at her; his sword was still ready to strike at any moment.

Renedol displayed an indiscernible smile as if various different emotions were combined within it.

Red Wraith casually unleashed one strike.

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The pale blue sword phantom drew a long arc through the air as it flew towards Renedol.

Renedol stood still.

Oong—

The sword phantom howled as it went through her body and rapidly continued to fly further until it disappeared into the wilderness.

Reneedol was unharmed.

“Law of Space? You wield both the Law of Space and the Law of Fate” Red Wraith commented.

Reneedol replied: “That’s right. I’m not that moron, nor do I like unnecessary strife, I’m merely here to meet you and confirm a certain matter”

“A certain matter?” Red Wraith asked with a doubtful tone.

“You won’t understand...” Reneedol’s killing intent faded completely and spoke with a calm commentating tone: “I should be acting like I am angry towards you right now, but the real me doesn’t like to lie, so I’ll tell you the truth— whenever I see you, I couldn’t help myself from recalling a certain thing that you did, which brings me indescribable joy”

Red Wraith stood still for a while, then finally asked: “What exactly are you talking about?”

Reneedol just chuckled and replied: “You won’t understand. In short, you’re only the 7th strongest swordsman, so you aren’t a candidate in my eyes. I’m also not that moron, so I won’t hold any grudges against you, and we’ll be going our separate ways from now on, never to meet again”

She paused, then continued: “Right now, I only wish to observe the Law Behemoths as well as the truth about this world more than anything else”

“And so, farewell”

After saying that, she directly vanished.

The only person left in the wilderness was Red Wraith.

What was supposed to be an intense battle had suddenly ceased after Reneedol confirmed something.

Red Wraith continued to stand still.

——Reneedol thought that he didn't know anything, but he actually understood it all.

He was contemplating all of the other party's gestures, words, and actions so far in order to make a conjecture of the entire situation.

From her words, she recognized the original soul inside Reneedol's body; and from her attitude towards Red Wraith, she looked at the previous soul in disdain.

In other words...

Another soul had now entered Reneedol's body and inherited her memories.

They knew each other but had different abilities.

The previous Reneedol could copy other people's abilities, while this one was a spatial technique expert.

The only thing they have in common is the fact that they could both use that Fate ability.

Tch...

Gu Qing Shan's gaze became profound.

To send a new soul into a dead body, then reset the entire world to repeat the same timeline.

What kind of person would be able to achieve such a thing?

Gu Qing Shan looked at the darkness of the night, feeling like there was an endless thick fog in front of him, obscuring the truth from his eyes.

He sighed.

I originally thought that the 900 million World Layers were already dizzying enough to look at, but now I truly know that there isn't a single place that I wouldn't find confusing.

But this can't be helped, I have to make this entire matter clear.

Boss is my comrade; I definitely can't let anything happen to him in history.

Furthermore, Renedol had taken over the Wraith realm, then took the Samsara Delimitation Divine Sword from the Tomb of Myriad Beasts.

—-does she want to participate in the Samsara Clash for Supremacy?

How ridiculous...

Gu Qing Shan's heart suddenly jumped.

A voice resounded in his memory:

...

"The Era of the Samsara Clash for Supremacy is about to arrive"

...

This was something that the ferrywoman of the Forgetting River had confirmed with her own words.

Renedol, as well as the organization behind her— or an unknown entity behind her, had already grasped the Wraith realm in their hands.

Are they trying to participate in the Clash, or to destroy the Samsara?

Gu Qing Shan suddenly stopped thinking about this and put his sword away, then reached forward.

He opened his palm.

Nothing happened.

There were no black flames.

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

[Attention, the System had silently retained your memory during the reconstitution of the three Great Laws of Reality, but your bodily state had still reverted to how it was when you first entered this period of time]

Gu Qing Shan sighed in relief and said: “Thank you”

[No need, it was hard work to retain your memories, I’ve already deducted 2 million Soul Points] the War God UI replied.

Gu Qing Shan: “...”

However, he didn’t care about being petty with Soul Points right now.

Because he just thought of something——

At this point, I still haven’t formed a covenant with the Overlord of Death, then I can simply do it again.

In other words——

I have another chance to meet the giant corpse.

The giant corpse had previously told me that this was an uncertain period of history, meaning it should know more than what it had previously said.

What happened to Reneedol is too mysterious, I need to ask it again.

Chapter 1455

Translator: La0o9

Reneedol had left.

The only person in the wilderness was Gu Qing Shan.

He stayed standing there for a while.

Luo Bing Li silently asked him from inside his Thought Sea: “Aren’t you going to return? Wouldn’t there be an issue on Shannu’s side?”

“She’ll be fine, the only thing she needs to do is chat with Shroud and Atley, what I’m worried about is something else” Gu Qing Shan said.

「 What would that be? 」 the Earth sword asked.

“In Renedol’s impression, we’ve created two swordsmen, one was Red Wraith, the other was Mara Heavenly King” Gu Qing Shan explained.

「 Yes 」 the Earth sword replied.

“She now has Spatial abilities, capable of traversing a large distance at once, so she might head North and try to search for Mara Heavenly King” Gu Qing Shan continued.

Luo Bing Li understood what he meant and said: “If she couldn’t find any information regarding Mara Heavenly King no matter how much she searched, then that would be terrible”

「 That’s true, she would then find out that she had been deceived 」 the Earth sword said.

“If she finds out that Mara Heavenly King was fake, then Red Wraith could also be fake, and so could everything else” Gu Qing Shan concluded.

Luo Bing Li sighed: “That’s why people say that a lie must be hidden by numerous other lies, continuing without ending”

「 There was an idiom about this— there is no wall that could completely block out the wind 」 the Earth sword also commented.

Gu Qing Shan paused for a short moment, then called out to Shannu through his Thought Sea.

“What’s the matter, gongzi?” Shannu replied.

“Has Reneedol returned yet?”

“Not yet”

Gu Qing Shan nodded as he heard her.

Although Reneedol is interested in the Law Behemoths, the entire World of Laws is currently in the middle of a chaotic battle, so not even she had the courage to arbitrarily enter.

And since she hasn’t returned to the camp, the only thing she could have done was to search for Mara Heavenly King.

“Shannu, come here for a bit, we have something we need to do” Gu Qing Shan said.

“Yes” Shannu replied.

She stood up next to Atley.

“Rhode, where are you going?” Atley asked.

“To the toilet”

Shannu, who had disguised as Rhode, went into the forest and instantly disappeared.

After using [Ground Shrink] several times, she appeared next to Gu Qing Shan.

“What’s the matter, gongzi?” she asked.

“We don’t have much time, so we’re going to test out something right now” Gu Qing Shan quickly told her.

He waved his hand towards the void of space.

A gourd-shaped pendant appeared out of nowhere and hovered in front of Gu Qing Shan.

It playfully bobbed up and down as it circled around Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan held it in his hand and transferred a bit of Soul Points over.

The gourd pendant let out a glimmering faint glow.

Xiu—— xiu——

It lightly called out.

Gu Qing Shan carefully explained: “Shannu, listen well, I’m going to have Adorable grant me the ability it had saved, and since you have [Living’s Wisdom], you should essentially be another ‘me’ — I want you to try and see if you and I can use the same borrowed ability from Adorable at once”

Shannu understood and asked: “I understand, but what kind of ability are we going to borrow? And what are we going to do?”

Gu Qing Shan explained his plan to her.

One Red Wraith.

One Mara Heavenly King.

Since both these names had been stated, they couldn't be changed, and must continue to be used.

As for those two Wraith realm Divine Artifacts, if they happen to run into Reneedol in the future...

Gu Qing Shan could only say sorry now.

After listening to him, Shannu nodded.

She first used [Mystery of All Beings Equal] to transform into Qi Yan's appearance from the Suspended world.

Gu Qing Shan also transformed into a cultivator who died in the hands of the Desolate monsters during the Age of Old.

Through the All Beings Equal Law, both he and Shannu had completely turned into these people.

Two individuals whose backgrounds were impossible to investigate.

Everything was ready.

So they began.

Gu Qing Shan turned to Adorable.

Adorable let out a 'xiu', expressing that there were no issues.

"Good, then get ready——"

Gu Qing Shan shouted: "Adorable, grant me [Hundred Lanterns]!"

At the same time, Shannu also called out: “Adorable, grant me [Hundred Lanterns]!”

After trembling for a bit, Adorable uttered a ‘xiu!’

Two invisible waves emanated from Adorable onto Gu Qing Shan and Shannu.

Gu Qing Shan instantly spoke: “At the far North, there exists a swordsman called Mara Heavenly King. He is the strongest swordsman in the world, but he drifts about erratically without staying anywhere for too long, only those with considerable background and strength would know that he is indeed somewhere in the far North, but wouldn’t know the exact location”

Shannu then followed up: “Among the ten strongest swordsmen in the world, everyone else had all been killed by Mara Heavenly King, only the 7th ranked Red Wraith was still locked in a battle to the death with him. This was commonly known to everyone, a death battle between swordsmen that everyone are keeping their eyes peeled for a conclusion”

——Fate ability, [Existence]!

When Lin activated her Fate ability to turn into the 12-winged seraph, Adorable borrowed this almost miraculous Fate ability from her.

At this crucial point in time, Lin’s Fate ability had finally been used.

After using the ability, Gu Qing Shan turned to the War God UI.

A line of glowing text quickly appeared:

[You’ve used the Fate ability: Existence. While you’re using the All Beings Equal Law to take the form of this cultivator, you will be recognized as the strongest swordsman in the world, Mara Heavenly King]

Gu Qing Shan then turned to Shannu.

Shannu had now taken Qi Yan's form, her expression still a bit unsure.

"I can sense that my transformation has been recognized by the world— — Shannu, did you succeed as well?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

Shannu was a bit confused: "I simply tried my best to use [Living's Wisdom], but I'm not sure whether or not it had succeeded"

Gu Qing Shan thought for a bit, then said: "There's a camp of a wizard nearby, try showing your face and see their reactions"

"Yes"

Shannu maintained Qi Yan's appearance and vanished.

She had appeared inside Wizard Rodri's camp.

As soon as they saw her, everyone exclaimed in shock: "Red Wraith!"

Wizard Rodri stepped out in front of everyone and spoke in a cautious tone: "The 7th strongest swordsman in the world, Red Wraith. I know about you, why are you here?"

He had his staff ready to invoke a spell at any moment.

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Shannu glanced at him, then at the crowd.

Only to see them all in an alarmed state as if they were facing some terrifying enemy.

———to them, she was the legendary Red Wraith!

Although the atmosphere wasn't appropriate, Shannu still couldn't help herself smiling.

Success!

I was able to borrow Adorable's stolen Fate ability.

And also, this Fate ability is truly excellent.

She instantly vanished, having used [Ground Shrink] to return to Gu Qing Shan.

"It's done" she reported.

"Very well, then this lie has turned into the truth, we're going to head back now!" Gu Qing Shan said.

Shannu returned to her original appearance, then turned back into a sword and entered Gu Qing Shan's Thought Sea.

Gu Qing Shan also cancelled his 'Mara Heavenly King' transformation and turned back into Rhode.

I can't waste any more time.

Gu Qing Shan consecutively used [Ground Shrink] to return to their camp.

After waiting for two breaths' worth of time, he exited the forest.

At this point, the horizon was glowing slightly bright, Epta and Scarlet had both fallen asleep while leaning on one another.

Shroud and Atley were still deep in their conversation.

“Then, when we form a covenant with a Law Behemoth, will I be able to change my mind?” Atley asked.

“Why would you change your mind?” Shroud asked doubtfully.

“If— I’m just saying hypothetically, what if the other party isn’t the Law that you admire and you wanted to reject them?” Atley asked.

Shroud shook his head: “Law Behemoths are advanced lifeforms beyond our understanding, if you refuse them, no one would know how you would end up. This would also be dependent on which Law Behemoth you’re dealing with, and what their personality is like”

“Which means, it would be a huge risk?” Rhode chimed in.

He sat back down.

“That’s right, we mortals wouldn’t be able to discern the thoughts of the Law Behemoths” Shroud replied.

He then suddenly stood up and headed into the forest.

“Where are you going?” Atley looked at him and asked.

“Taking a piss” Shroud stretched his back.

Rhode stood back up: “I’m going as well”

Atley complained: “Rhode, you’ve gone three times already, are you sure your bladder isn’t damaged?”

Rhode glared at him.

He and Shroud each found a secluded spot to relieve themselves.

A few moments later.

They both returned.

“Shroud”

“Hm?”

“Reneedol has been gone for a really long while, where is she?” Gu Qing Shan absentmindedly asked.

Shroud stopped.

After some hesitation, he loudly called out: “Reneedol?”

No answer.

Shroud was a bit worried.

He fully unleashed his presence and shouted with all his strength: “Reneedol, where are you?”

His voice rang out loudly, spreading in every direction.

Still no answer.

Atley rushed towards them, even Epta and Scarlet were woken up and followed.

“What’s the matter?” Atley asked.

“Reneedol is missing” Shroud said worriedly.

Suddenly, a voice replied.

“I’m here”

Everyone turned back, only to see Reneedol slowly walking out of a thick bush, looking really worn-out.

Shroud sighed in relief, about to greet her.

Gu Qing Shan caught his hand.

“Wait, Shroud” Gu Qing Shan’s expression turned serious.

Shroud was a bit confused.

Reneedol also turned to Gu Qing Shan.

“Rhode, what’s the matter?” she asked.

Gu Qing Shan faced her gaze and asked: “Weren’t you going to the toilet, why did it take you so long to do so?”

Reneedol’s expression remained calm and replied: “It only took a bit long, what’s wrong with that?”

Gu Qing Shan shook his head: “...I feel like you’re somehow different from your previous self”

Everyone thought about it, then also agreed with his observation.

Indeed, after Reneedol was captured and was reunited with everyone, she had changed somewhat.

Her gestures, words, even her mannerism had become a bit different.

What's going on here?

Everyone had the same thought.

“How am I different?” Reneedol asked.

“You... aren't quite as close to Shroud as you previously were, and you frighten me a bit” Gu Qing Shan replied.

Reneedol smiled.

Of course, I wouldn't be the same.

But youngsters like you wouldn't see through something like soul substitution.

Even the Law Behemoths wouldn't be able to see through it.

With that in mind, she replied with a normal expression: “I really was relieving myself; it was because I had a stomach ache that it took so long”

Stomachache.

That was why it took so long.

Usually... no one would be able to refute these words.

But Gu Qing Shan didn't want to let her go so easily.

"Oh? You said that it took so long because you had a stomach ache?" he asked.

"That's right," Renedol replied.

"Very well, then where did you do it?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

Renedol froze, she even thought that she misheard him for a moment.

Gu Qing Shan asked with a very serious expression: "Excrements won't lie, so where did you do it?"

Chapter 1456

Translator: La0o9

Renedol suddenly smiled.

—-*Rhode is quite the cautious one.*

I just made a trip to the far North and asked a few normal people, but none of them knew about Mara Heavenly King.

While I was disappointed, I thought about it more carefully and tried asking the few Combatants who were there.

Those Combatants actually knew about Mara Heavenly King.

All of them said that Mara Heavenly King resided deep within the barren mountains of the North, but he moves erratically without a stable location.

One person might be lying about it, but if all of them said the same thing, then it might be true.

Furthermore, on my way back, I would occasionally even hear people mentioning how Mara Heavenly King was eliminating the top 10 swordsmen in the world.

And that Red Wraith was the only one left.

It seems like Red Wraith was the lesser-known type of person who hid a portion of his own strength.

Otherwise, he wouldn't have lived for so long.

—-*however, that's the swordsmen's business, completely unrelated to me.*

Reneedol's gaze passed through these young people in front of her.

More importantly... I was able to confirm that none of these youngsters was Red Wraith or Mara Heavenly King.

With that in mind, Reneedol shook her head and replied: "Alright, I admit it, I was doing something else"

"What were you doing?" Shroud asked.

Reneedol said: "Shroud, do you remember the Moon Festival two years ago? I gave you a statue that I made myself, I even explained how I've never made statues for anyone else and that you were the only one"

Without waiting for Shroud to answer, she turned to Epta: "Two months ago, I silently helped you beat up that boy who wouldn't stay away"

"Scarlet, I also remember 'that time' and your birthday"

She then silently whispered something to Scarlet.

"Atley, Rhode, I haven't gotten very well-acquainted with the two of you, but after I revealed so many things with them, that should be enough to prove my identity"

Rhode turned to the other three.

Shroud, Epta, and Scarlet all nodded, proving that Reneedol was correct.

—these weren't matters that outsiders would know about.

Tsk...

This woman is both calm and methodical, this one will be hard.

Gu Qing Shan felt even more cautious towards her.

Atley shrugged: "But then Reneedol, where exactly did you go earlier?"

Reneedol replied: "I discovered that my abilities had changed a bit, but I couldn't be sure, so I was silently testing them"

She walked up to Shroud and went directly through his body.

"Abilities related to the Law of Space?" Scarlet exclaimed in surprise.

"It is, I was afraid that I'd scare you" Reneedol smiled.

Everyone sighed in relief.

She had proven her identity as well as the fact that her abilities were undergoing change.

Reneedol was still Reneedol, but since she was in the period of developing her abilities, it was natural for her to feel tense and act a bit differently than normal, this was understandable.

"You scared me alright, I thought something happened to you" Rhode changed his opinion without revealing his true thoughts.

Reneedol looked at him and appeared full of praise: "Rhode, your caution was exceptionally necessary, I won't blame you, a group needs someone like that"

Rhode acted a bit embarrassed and shook his head: "Unfortunately, we've all lost our powers, I wonder how we'll survive from now on"

On the surface, he appeared to have let his guard down around Reneedol.

It wasn't just him. Having gone to the far North to confirm the swordsmen's strife, Reneedol had also let her guard down.

She once again observed the group.

—these youngsters are all clean.

They must possess some exceptional talent in order to become disciples of the World Valley.

There's no need to mention Shroud, he's definitely going to become the strongest.

Atley will also become suitable for the Law of Wind very soon.

Epta was already a healing expert, so as long as I guide her further, she'll only become even stronger at it.

Both Rhode and Scarlet would form covenants with the Overlord of Death.

These people would become the foundational members of my organization from now on.

Reneedol silently thought.

“Alright, it was just Rhode being overly suspicious, I hope you can forgive him” Shroud said.

“It's alright, let's return to the forest and continue to rest” Reneedol replied.

Just as they returned to their temporary camp and sat down, they all abruptly stood back up.

Atley's reaction was the loudest, as he jumped from the ground all the way to the top tree branch.

“Did you sense it?” he excitedly asked.

“I did, the Laws are returning... they are responding to my summon” Shroud replied with a deep tone.

Gu Qing Shan took notice of something and didn't reply.

Reneedol also didn't reply.

They both glanced at the sky.

It will soon be Dawn.

—The previous time, the Laws recovered at midnight.

But the timing seemed to have changed this time around.

After a quick glance, Renedol naturally appeared calm.

Gu Qing Shan was doubtful, but he also quickly understood.

—after my regression, a lot of things also changed in my homeworld and became different from my previous life.

Renedol's resurrection should be the same.

The world consisted of a series of coincidences that ultimately resulted in inevitability. Since Gu Qing Shan's group had chosen to act differently from the previous time, it was natural for other things to also be altered.

Renedol pondered for a bit, then walked up to the Rhode and said: "There's actually something I want to tell you"

"Huh? What's that?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

Renedol looked at him and said: "Rhode, in truth, I can see a lot of potential from you"

Gu Qing Shan appeared confused.

Renedol continued: "You should probably attempt and see whether or not you can form a covenant with an Overlord"

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Gu Qing Shan was surprised: "That quickly? I still haven't readied myself"

Reneedol paused slightly.

The previous time, it was probably because of Shroud's heavy injuries that Rhode attempted to contact the World of Laws as fast as possible.

This time, Shroud isn't injured.

Reneedol told him with a serious expression: "You can't keep relying on Shroud for everything. At least give it a try, we need more strength to protect everyone now"

Gu Qing Shan was a bit hesitant.

Through her memories, this woman is trying to persuade me to contact the World of Laws right away, but why?

He was a bit unsure, but ultimately decided: "Alright, I'll give it a try"

Shroud explained on his own accord: "Rhode, you must form a covenant with a Law of the World, then receive the permission from a Law Behemoth in order to enter the World of Laws, otherwise, you can only summon them in our world"

"What should I do specifically?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"Form a connection with the Laws of the World, chant your name, then state your wish and see whether or not there is a Behemoth willing to respond to you" Shroud explained.

"Sounds easy enough"

Gu Qing Shan rolled up his sleeves, opened his hand, then clenched it.

Suddenly, an invisible power manifested over his body and diffused into the void of space.

The world slowly disappeared like an illusion.

Gu Qing Shan saw a thin layer of mist that slowly enveloped him.

“I am Rhode”

“I want to enter the World of Laws and see the truth behind the upheaval of the Laws”

Gu Qing Shan silently muttered.

One breath.

Two breaths.

Three breaths.

His body jerked as if he was abruptly pulled by something, then disappeared into the void of space leaving without a trace.

Shroud opened his eyes wide.

“How did it happen so quickly?” he exclaimed in shock.

“Huh? That was on his first try” Atley said admiringly.

Epta and Scarlet were both shocked as well.

Reneedol silently nodded.

Once Rhode forms his covenant with the Overlord of Death, I'll gain another powerful subordinate.

After this...

The Law Behemoths would begin to form covenants with mortals en masse, and Atley would become favored by the Law of Wind.

At that point, I will be able to enact my plan...

...

At another location.

Gu Qing Shan only remained in the World of Laws for a split second before leaving right away.

He entered the empty space vortex and flew straight towards the extreme distance.

Until a certain point.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly felt himself going through some sort of barrier and entered a vast barren world.

Dozens of skeletons were walking aimlessly on the ground.

A single gigantic bronze pillar that connected heaven and earth stood at the middle of it all with a giant corpse clad in full-body armor pinned onto it, completely motionless.

The corpse seemed to have died an extremely long period of time ago.

Watching it, one couldn't help but feel a certain impression.

—before the world had even begun, the corpse was already there.

“As I thought, you’ve come again” the giant corpse spoke with a resounding voice.

He slowly raised his head and looked at Gu Qing Shan.

“Ah... so it was such a power...”

The giant corpse muttered in a low voice.

Gu Qing Shan seized the time and said: “I’ve just been here not too long ago, haven’t I?”

“Hm, I suppose you could say that, but you were able to retain your previous memories, that part is quite rare” the giant corpse said.

“That’s not the main point right now. Can you tell me what actually happened here?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“You and I are both within an obscured period of history. If you do not travel through the entire course of this history, it would remain obscured, and I would not know its secrets” the giant corpse replied.

Gu Qing Shan explained simply: “There was a person, she was dead, but the three Great Laws of Reality seemed to have reconstituted themselves and helped her revive, after which she seemed to have become someone else entirely”

“So it was them...” the giant corpse muttered.

“Who?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“It isn’t a simple thing to explain, I can continue for an entire day talking just about their history. You only need to understand that during a certain point in the future of this exceedingly long River of Time, the Apocalypse will surely destroy everything”

“This had occurred many times already”

“They were the only ones who managed to prolong their last breaths when the Apocalypse last destroyed it all”

Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but shake his head: “That doesn't make any sense, if the Apocalypse had destroyed everything, then how are they still alive?”

The giant corpse explained: “At the very last moment before the Apocalypses destroy it all, they would first kill themselves to create a land of the dead and enter the Dusty World, this way, the Apocalypses would no longer destroy them”

“Of course, it wasn't necessarily a good idea, because maintaining one's existence through such means was torture in and of itself, not to mention how tough it would be to revive once again”

“However, they would occasionally accumulate enough power, choose a body, then return to the mortal realm and take a look”

“Take a look at what?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

The giant corpse explained: “To take a look and see whether or not they could kill off all living beings, absorb the power of all things in the Laws of Reality, allowing themselves to escape from their bonds of death and be resurrected”

“Gu Qing Shan, they were the most powerful entities of the era before the previous total Apocalypse”

“They are the Myriad Deities of the Pantheon”

Chapter 1457

Translator: La0o9

Gu Qing Shan suddenly felt tense.

Because he had just recalled a significant detail.

The Living Being Sacrificial Dance seemed to be related to the Dusty World.

If the Sacrificial Dance is related to the Dusty World, then wouldn't I also be a member of the Pantheon?

I need to get this straight!

After thinking for a second, he resolutely asked: “Were the Myriad Deities of the Pantheon the ones who created the Dusty World?”

“No, you shouldn’t attempt to pry too deeply into the Dusty World, that would only cause you to become intertwined with the Dusty World, which can both be a blessing and a curse. Even I wouldn’t be able to save you from that” the giant corpse tried to dissuade him.

Gu Qing Shan sighed.

After the seven strikes of offering to the past worlds, I once asked the hoarse female voice about the Dusty World and the Twine of Cloud Atlas.

What did she say at the time?

...

「This twine of good luck is the key to making it past the layer of clouds. Keep in mind, you can only bring one additional individual with you at most on your trip, which is also the original owner of this twine」

...

——I’ve gotten intertwined with it a long time ago, how could I not try to investigate it?

At the time, after I completed the World Offering Dance and defeated the Soul Shrieker, the hoarse female voice told me to diligently practice the Dance for it to advance, but I’ve been so busy that I haven’t practiced it at all.

There isn’t much time, and having to explain it is too much trouble, so——

“Can you help me take a look at this dance?”

After saying that, Gu Qing Shan took a deep breath.

He puffed out his chest, levelled his head, shook his buttocks and leg, then lightly swung his hips.

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

[The fourth practice dance session has been initiated]

[3]

[2]

[1]

[Go—]

A second of silence.

Ding ding ding ding ding—

A series of cymbal hits.

Followed by loud rhythmic drumming!

Boom boom chak— boom boom chak—

Pishew~ Pishew~

Pishew~ Pishew~

Ding kaling— ding kaling—

Various noises rang out noisily!

Another notification popped up on the War God UI:

[Attention! Attention!]

[Because you haven't practiced dancing in a long time, your rhythm is in complete disorder]

[You must diligently practice for a long while in order to regain your dancing foundations]

Dancing foundations...

If life hadn't been forcing my hands, I wouldn't even need this dance!

Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but sigh.

However, even his background music was messed up right now, so there really was a serious problem.

Gu Qing Shan had no choice but to stop his dance posture.

All the noises then disappear.

A new notification appeared on the War God UI:

[You've stopped this practice session]

Gu Qing Shan lightly sighed, then looked at the giant corpse.

Giant corpse: "..."

Gu Qing Shan: "..."

Giant corpse: "....."

Gu Qing Shan cleared his throat and continued: "That's not the only one, I also have this"

He raised his hand.

A small purple twine was still tied on his wrist

The giant corpse sighed and spoke in a low voice: "Occult artifact, Twine of Cloud Atlas. If that's the case, you are the one who will awaken the Dusty World of the ancient past"

"This length of twine seems to be for leading the way" Gu Qing Shan replied.

“Indeed, if you’ve received it then simply follow it, because you no longer have a way of turning back. I won’t be able to tell you too much either, that would only cause unnecessary trouble” the giant corpse explained.

His voice was unprecedentedly cautious.

Gu Qing Shan asked: “Then the Pantheon—”

“Don’t worry, the item on your wrist has nothing to do with the Pantheon” the giant corpse resolutely confirmed.

“Then, what about my dance?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

The giant corpse stayed silent for a few moments and replied: “Don’t ask about that, I can only seize the time to tell you something else more urgent”

“That is?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“The Era of Apocalypses is about to arrive, so the dead Deities within the Pantheon would definitely not have the courage to appear in the world of the living at this point in time” the giant corpse explained.

“But they still did” Gu Qing Shan followed up.

“Which means that something must have appeared during the Apocalypse that was enough to attract them, forcing them to risk their lives and descend on to this world” the giant corpse replied.

At this point, the world around them seemed to have darkened slightly.

Rays of deep blue light slowly appeared on top of the bronze pillar while it was slowly converging towards it.

The all-destroying light illuminated the entire world.

“Do not attempt to investigate matters of the Occult”

“Go, Gu Qing Shan, your number one priority at this moment is to find the real reason why the Myriad Deities has descended once again”

“If you are able to achieve this, you might come closer to the truth and allow this obscured period of history to become firmer”

As soon as he finished.

An intense pulling force appeared on Gu Qing Shan’s body and yanked him away from this barren world.

Boom!

Lightning descended.

The giant corpse was enveloped in intense lightning, completely speechless.

...

In the forest.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly appeared from the void of space, landing in front of everyone.

Atley said admiringly: “How impressive, I wonder when I’d be able to achieve that”

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Gu Qing Shan looked at everyone, only to see that they were all looking at him, including Shroud.

“Finally, we have someone else who could also enter the World of Laws” Scarlet looked at Gu Qing Shan with glittering eyes.

“Did you see any Law Behemoth?” Shroud asked.

“I didn’t, I only made a trip there, so I think I’ll have to try it again” Gu Qing Shan replied.

“Then try again” Renedol urged him.

Gu Qing Shan was surprised: “Why are you even more worried about this than I am?”

Renedol smiled.

Rhode seems to be a bit sensitive...

She replied: “When I went out earlier, I heard a lot of disadvantageous news for our World Valley”

“What kind of news?” Atley asked.

“They want to eliminate every last person who managed to escape the World Valley’s destruction” Renedol replied.

“But why!?” Epta couldn’t help but exclaim.

“I don’t know, but it’s a fact that we need to improve our strength” Renedol replied.

Gu Qing Shan glanced at her.

Indeed, in about half a day, the Overlord of Radiance will be surrounded and would die at the hands of the other Law Behemoths, Shroud will also lose all of his powers.

Only the Overlord of Death would not participate in this.

This means the only person they would be able to rely on was Rhode!

I need to quickly form a covenant with the Overlord of Death, otherwise, when we run into the people of other domains, I would be forced to use Red Wraith’s swordsmanship to kill our enemies.

That would expose me right away.

Gu Qing Shan moved around a bit, then attempted to contact the World of Laws again.

Everyone didn't want to disturb him so they cautiously stood around.

A few moments later, Gu Qing Shan seemed to have recognized a certain familiar presence and abruptly looked up.

A cluster of black flames descended from above, landing on his body.

Shroud muttered: "The phenomenon is black flames? It seems the Overlord who paid attention to Rhode could either be Dark, Destruction, or Death"

Atley's gaze was locked on Gu Qing Shan's black flames, mesmerized by it.

Renedol commented: "I think it could be the Overlord of Death, this is a very unique Overlord"

"Indeed, mortals who bring about death in this world are favored by this Overlord" Shroud also commented.

"That can't be, how would Rhode be connected to the Overlord of Death with how he normally is?" Scarlet worriedly said.

Renedol glanced at her.

—after a little bit, you'll also be forming a covenant with the Overlord of Death, so why are you worried about him?

However, I can't say that.

The black flames enveloped Rhode and took him away from everyone's visions.

...

The World of Laws.

Gu Qing Shan didn't have to wait for too long before a cloaked humanoid figure silently appeared in front of him.

—once again.

Gu Qing Shan silently sighed, then bowed and spoke: "Venerable Overlord of Death, I have come here to seek a covenant with you"

The humanoid figure stood there without saying a single word and only raised his hand to lightly touch the void of space.

Burning flames manifested in mid-air to form a series of text:

[Death cannot open its mouth, otherwise, all things shall wilt]

Gu Qing Shan nodded to signal his understanding.

The burning text turned back into flames, then manifested into different lines of text:

[Rhode, countless living beings have died at your hands, you are the individual with the highest level of suitability to Death]

[Now, are you willing to form a covenant with me?]

Gu Qing Shan answered right away: "I am willing"

The letters paused for a bit before changing again:

[Aren't you going to ask what kind of covenant it is?]

Gu Qing Shan thought for a bit and agreed.

I shouldn't act like I know everything already, that would not be good.

He explained: "I can sense suitability between you and me, so I thought it would be best to save both of our times and directly get to the covenant"

The burning text manifested into a scroll and flew in front of Gu Qing Shan.

The flames unfolded to form a simple covenant with only two lines:

[You shall provide me sustenance; I shall grant you power]

[—Overlord of Death]

Following his previous reaction, Gu Qing Shan solemnly asked: "Venerable Overlord of Death, may I ask how I would be able to provide you with sustenance?"

The burning flames manifested into another line of text:

[The deaths you bring shall become my sustenance]

Gu Qing Shan hesitantly said: "I normally don't kill—"

At this point, he stopped himself.

Recalling what would happen later, Gu Qing Shan sighed and said: "I don't kill normal people"

[That is fine, you only need to kill your enemies]

Gu Qing Shan nodded and placed his hand on the black flaming covenant.

Hoh———

The covenant turned into a cluster of flames that entered Gu Qing Shan's body.

The covenant with the Overlord of Death had been established.

Another line of burning text appeared:

[You are a good person, Rhode, you may now leave]

“Wait a moment!”

Gu Qing Shan called out.

He took out something from his chest and respectfully said:

“To commemorate this covenant, I would like to offer you this precious treasure”

Chapter 1458

Translator: La0o9

Everything went smoothly.

Not too long after, Gu Qing Shan once again appeared in the forest.

“Did you succeed?” Shroud asked.

Gu Qing Shan opened his palm.

A cluster of black flames silently burning on the top of his palm

“Whoa!”

Epta and Scarlet both gasped.

“How powerful is this Overlord?” Atley excitedly asked.

Shroud explained: “The same level as the Overlord of Radiance, the strongest”

He casually opened his palm to release a brilliant sphere of light.

However, almost immediately, the light in his palm suddenly began to gradually dim.

“Huh?”

Shroud was surprised.

Gu Qing Shan’s heart felt heavy, while Renedol’s expression changed entirely.

Things were still following the predestined path.

The Overlord of Radiance was encircled by almost every Law Behemoth and killed.

It was the strongest Overlord, but it still couldn’t fight against their collective strength.

This sort of matter was impossible for mortals to interfere with, and even if they did, the results would still be the same.

No one would be able to go against so many Overlords within the World of Laws.

But after the Overlord of Radiance perished, all of its treasures were left in the Divine Palace of Radiance.

— and this entire trove of treasure would later fall into Shroud's hands.

Reneedol suddenly spoke up: "Perfect, now that Rhode has succeeded— I have something I want to tell everyone"

She appeared completely solemn, forcing everyone to turn towards her.

"Listen to me everyone, when my Fate ability was evolving, I was able to foresee a short vision of the future"

"In the near future, we will have to face a powerful and terrifying enemy, so much so that if we want to survive, we must now prepare for combat from this very moment"

The group all appeared unconvinced.

They then turned to the light in Shroud's hand, only to see that it was growing increasingly dimmer until it ultimately faded away.

"Reneedol, are you serious?" Shroud asked.

"I'm very serious. So now, everyone must follow my arrangements in preparation for what I've foreseen" Reneedol told them.

Her tone was calm yet decisive, carrying the natural presence of a superior.

“Rhode, Scarlet is also talented with the Law of Death, you should recommend her to the Overlord of Death and help her get used to that power as soon as possible”

Gu Qing Shan was surprised, but still nodded in agreement.

Reneedol then turned to Atley and said: “Rhode has been able to achieve that— Atley, you should quickly cultivate yourself as well, perhaps you might be able to form a covenant with an Overlord very soon”

Atley looked at the black flame in Rhode’s palm with admiration and asked: “Do you really think I’ll be able to succeed?”

“If you don’t try, you will never be able to succeed” Reneedol coldly replied.

Atley begrudgingly sat down in front of a tree and began to cultivate.

Reneedol turned around and continued to make her arrangements:

“Epta, I’ll tutor you tonight— Shroud, come with me for a little bit, I need to tell you about what happened with the Overlord of Radiance”

She led Shroud deeper into the forest, just the two of them.

“Rhode, do you think Reneedol is right?” Scarlet asked.

Gu Qing Shan pondered for a short moment.

What exactly is Reneedol thinking, making arrangements this early?

Shroud is the last covenant bearer of the Overlord of Radiance.

...Very soon, he will head into the Divine Palace of Radiance and obtain the treasure trove of the Overlord of Radiance.

All the Law Behemoths would learn of this, then scramble to search for him and take those treasures away.

And so, Renedol's current arrangements were actually the most correct course of action.

Gu Qing Shan pulled back his gaze and turned to Scarlet.

This girl is certainly suitable with the Law of Death.

Then...

"Scarlet, are you willing to give up supportive magic and become a spokesperson of Death?" he asked.

Scarlet was surprised by the question, her gaze also became a bit complicated.

"I used to want to become the leader of a team, but from how things are currently, I am personally too weak..."

"Indeed, there are no longer many comrades for you to support, so you have to become powerful yourself" Gu Qing Shan followed up.

"I heard that the Overlord of Death is the entity who governs over death, will they force me to kill?" Scarlet asked.

Gu Qing Shan purposely answered: "That is very possible. After all, the Law of Death grants us power, but we also need to use the death of living beings to sustain it in return"

Scarlet's gaze appeared a bit wary but eventually turned into resolve.

"I'm naturally willing to form a covenant with the Overlord of Death. This is my chance at survival, as well as the source of my strength to protect everyone" she softly answered.

Gu Qing Shan silently nodded.

As a young girl, despite her fear of the Law of Death, she was able to ultimately take this crucial step both this time and the last.

She is truly a talent worthy of nurturing.

This girl, Scarlet, was most likely Anna's predecessor from countless generations ago, so if nothing else, I still owe it to Anna to help her.

On the other hand, if I am able to train her well and turn her into a true Combatant, this young girl would also be able to provide assistance during this obscured period of history.

Having made up his mind, Gu Qing Shan took out a bottle of liquor and put it in front of Scarlet.

"Very well, then let us begin" Gu Qing Shan said.

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"What is this for?" Scarlet asked in surprise.

Gu Qing Shan cleared his throat, then silently explained: "When I consign you to the Overlord, it'll be your job to offer this bottle of alcohol to them"

"Offering alcohol... will help?" Scarlet was unconvinced.

"That's right, trust me" Gu Qing Shan replied.

He shoved the bottle into Scarlet's hand, then made a solemn expression and chanted: "Venerable Overlord of Death, I, Rhode, hereby consign a new covenant bearer; are you willing to bestow your grace and form a covenant with this mortal, thus allowing her to borrow your strength?"

A cluster of black flames appeared in the void of space:

[I shall allow it]

The black flames manifested out of nowhere, enveloped Scarlet, then disappeared together with her.

A short moment later.

Scarlet reappeared.

She had a complicated expression on her face.

“Is it done?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“It is, I didn’t think it would be so easy” Scarlet replied.

“It is not easy at all”

Saying that, Gu Qing Shan took out another bottle of liquor and put it in front of Scarlet.

“What now?” Scarlet asked.

“Now, you’ll be training your alcohol tolerance” Gu Qing Shan said very seriously.

He explained: “The stronger your alcohol tolerance is, the better you’d be accustomed to the Law of Death and obtain more power from it”

Scarlet opened her clear eyes wide, stared straight at Gu Qing Shan, then looked at the bottle of liquor, then pinched herself.

“Isn’t alcohol supposed to be the Elders’ drink during a ceremony? How would that grant me power?” Scarlet asked.

“About that, the reason for it is quite complicated. You can simply understand alcohol as the concentrated essence of sustenance, the more you drink, the more power you’d be able to gain. Let me show you——”

He opened the bottle and finished the entire bottle with a single gulp.

“Grant me the power of Death” Gu Qing Shan muttered.

Hoh——

Intense black flames boiled next to him before manifesting into a long-handled black scythe.

Gu Qing Shan held the scythe in front of himself for Scarlet to see.

“Can you sense its power?” he asked.

“I can, this scythe is so stylish, and very powerful as well” Scarlet’s gaze was locked on the black flame scythe, unable to move her gaze away.

“Try it” Gu Qing Shan told her.

Scarlet reached her hand to grasp the scythe.

Suddenly, her hand was repelled by a certain force.

“It rejected me” Scarlet muttered while feeling a sense of loss.

Gu Qing Shan carefully guided her: “This was because your suitability was insufficient. You will need to let the Law feel like you are its compatriot, a similar existence, a comrade worthy of its protection; to do this, you need a medium to quickly tighten your relations with the Overlord”

“How should I do that?” Scarlet asked.

Gu Qing Shan didn't answer, instead, he took out another bottle of liquor and placed it in front of Scarlet.

This time, Scarlet understood.

“Drinking this kind of beverage...”

She clenched her teeth, held the bottle with both hands, then tilted it upside down into her throat.

Crash!

The bottle was emptied and thrown to the ground.

Scarlet reached her hand to grasp the long-handled black scythe again.

She was able to grasp it.

At the same time, black flames began to burn more intensely behind her back.

“So it was like this, my power is increasing...”

Scarlet's eyes glowed brighter, then turned to Gu Qing Shan.

“What's the matter?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“Give me another bottle!” Scarlet said.

“...Let us go about this step by step” Gu Qing Shan cautiously told her.

“Why should we stop on the path of pursuing strength?” Scarlet asked doubtfully in return.

As soon as she said that, her expression changed as she staggered backwards and leaned on a nearby tree: “Rhode! What did you put in the alcohol?”

Gu Qing Shan froze and replied: “I didn’t put anything in there”

Scarlet couldn’t hang on any longer and fell limp to the ground.

She kept pointing weakly at Rhode.

Epta and Atley both heard the commotion and came running.

“What happened? Rhode, what did you do to Scarlet?” Atley asked with a strange expression.

Gu Qing Shan helplessly replied: “I really didn’t do anything”

“But I feel uncomfortable all over my body, something must have been wrong with your alcohol” Scarlet insisted while breathing heavily.

Epta didn’t say anything and simply walked up to examine Scarlet’s body.

“What happened to me?” Scarlet asked.

Epta looked at her with a complicated expression and whispered into her ear: “You’re drunk”

Chapter 1459

Translator: La0o9

Scarlet had fallen asleep.

She was sleeping very soundly while embracing the black flames scythe, denying anyone from taking it from her.

Epta carried her to a nearby tree in order to lie her down and rest.

“Can she really fight like this?” Atley was doubtful.

Gu Qing Shan smiled.

He was feeling happy because he recalled how Anna was.

During one of their drinking bouts, Anna once outdrank Zhang Ying Hao, Ye Fei Li, and Liao Xing; only Gu Qing Shan managed to barely beat her due to his cultivator constitution.

“It’s ok, once her alcohol tolerance goes up, she’ll only grow increasingly stronger” he replied.

“I don’t feel like...”

Atley mumbled in dissatisfaction as he went back to cultivating.

Only Gu Qing Shan remained.

He released his inner sight to observe that Renedol was returning to the camp by herself, with Shroud nowhere to be seen.

At this point in time, Shroud was most likely headed into the Divine Palace of Radiance.

Reneedol wouldn't kill Shroud at this point in time and instead do everything in her power to ensure Shroud's survival, after all, Shroud would be the one to retrieve those precious treasures within the World of Laws.

Reneedol must have told Shroud something.

Gu Qing Shan sighed as he was feeling a bit pressured.

Once Shroud retrieves the treasures of the Overlord of Radiance, the Law Behemoths would begin an all-out manhunt for him.

Other than that, there is also Reneedol.

I know that she's from the Pantheon, but not her intentions.

Suddenly, Gu Qing Shan's gaze became focused.

Reneedol had returned to the forest and was currently heading towards him.

She appears to be a bit different somehow...

A few moments later, Reneedol showed up in front of him.

"Rhode, where are the others?" Reneedol asked.

"Scarlet drank too much, Epta is taking care of her, while Atley is trying his best to achieve a breakthrough" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Reneedol nodded.

This was quite similar to the previous time, while we weren't under pursuit, everyone is still maturing on the same path as before.

Gu Qing Shan's gaze was focused above Reneedol's head with a surprised expression on his face.

—some flickering starlight had appeared above Reneedol.

Noticing his gaze, Reneedol casually replied: "This is my new ability, I'm still slowly figuring it out"

"Is that so"

Gu Qing Shan appeared surprised like normal but was silently feeling more and more cautious.

In the future, countless Deities would kneel below Reneedol's throne as an endless river of stars continuously manifested, matured, then collapsed behind her back.

According to the Four Pillar Gods of the past, Reneedol's entire Title should be [Pearl of Infinite Worlds, Master of the Star River, Blessed One of the Inner Plane, Grand Empress of the Pantheon].

And now, within this obscured history, Reneedol had managed to manifest her very first star.

Is this worth using up my one question for?

Gu Qing Shan paused for a brief moment before suddenly asked:

"Reneedol, where exactly did the star behind your back come from?"

—[See you once again] was activated!

It was now time for the noodles he made earlier to do their job.

Reneedol's expression instantly became blank.

She seemed to be reminiscing something as she blankly answered: “The Law Behemoth of Wind was wandering in our vicinity, wishing to find a mortal who could form a covenant with it. I devoured it and manifested this star”

Gu Qing Shan was completely shaken, his mind storming with various thoughts.

The previous Renedol only wanted to devour powerful Professionals.

But this Renedol is completely different.

She actually devoured a Law Behemoth!

They were lifeforms manifested from the Origin power and spirit of the world, wielders of the Laws themselves!

So even such entities cannot escape from Renedol’s devouring?

Gu Qing Shan controlled his breathing and heartbeat to ensure that Renedol wouldn’t notice anything.

The very next moment.

Renedol returned to normal.

She didn’t know what she had just said at all and calmly told him: “Rhode, I’m going to rest for a bit, keep an eye out around our vicinity and call me if anything happens”

“Should I call you if Shroud returns?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“Call me before anything else”

“Sure”

Renedol walked past Gu Qing Shan and was about to head deeper into the forest.

Suddenly, she stopped and looked at him.

“Rhode, all the Laws of the World fear two Laws in particular. The first is the Law of Radiance, while the second is the Law of Death; this was not only because of their might but also because Radiance can fuse with all the other Laws, while Death will destroy any other Laws on contact”

Gu Qing Shan appeared confused and asked: “What are you telling me about that for?”

Rhode continued with a knowing expression on her face: “Shroud’s talents had depicted that he would only grow increasingly more powerful. You must continue to cultivate your power of Death in order to ensure that you will always be able to stand by Shroud’s side”

After saying that, she went into the forest to search for a place to rest.

Gu Qing Shan’s gaze slowly became grim.

A monster who could devour even an Overlord is right next to me and Shroud.

When Reneedol and I fought before, the Fate ability [Longing] perceived my assured death.

From the looks of it, that perception was correct.

Who would be able to stop such a terrifying devouring ability?

If everything Reneedol had said was the truth, then---

She didn’t devour Rhode with the Law of Death because the power of Death would only destroy the other Laws.

Then why didn’t she devour Shroud?

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...Most likely, that is because the Overlord of Radiance was already dead, and Shroud still hadn’t matured, he still hasn’t grown to become the strongest entity in existence.

If one day, when Shroud truly becomes the next Overlord of Radiance...

Gu Qing Shan didn’t continue thinking about that, as he suddenly realized something else.

The first star Reneedol obtained represented the Law Behemoth of Wind being devoured.

In the future, countless stars would circle around her body, earning her the Title [Master of the Star River].

In other words——

She had devoured practically every other Law Behemoth!

Gu Qing Shan moved his hand slightly.

Her fingers slightly clenched closer like he wanted to grasp something.

At the same time, his four swords all hid within the void of space, silently waiting for his decision.

They were all preparing for combat!

But then, Gu Qing Shan stopped.

He was hesitating.

——should I kill her right now?

Not through direct combat, but through assassination.

As a sword cultivator, I wouldn't be able to exert my terrifying combat prowess at its strongest during normal battles, but under two other circumstances.

The first is in the middle of a battlefield while fully-armored.

The second is during an ambush while disregarding all rules of combat.

Last time, I killed Reneedol as Red Wraith using this method.

This time, I had to exhaust a lot of my means to make her stop doubting Rhode.

This way, no matter how powerful she was, as long as she stands close to me, I would be able to behead her before she could even react with a single strike.

Gu Qing Shan took a deep breath.

—after killing this one, there would only be the next.

The next Reneedol would gain all of the previous Reneedol's memories, learning that Rhode was Red Wraith.

She would not allow me to approach her again and instead immediately use her Fate ability as soon as she saw me.

I wouldn't be able to stop that Fate ability.

Tsk...

Killing her is meaningless, but not killing her would only allow her to grow stronger in the future.

At this point, Gu Qing Shan felt like he was stuck between a rock and a hard place.

After a while, he lowered his hand.

—after killing this one, there would only be the next.

But by not killing her, I'd still have the advantage of information over this Reneedol.

This includes her personality, ability, and plan.

The next Reneedol would definitely kill Rhode without any hesitation.

That would also be a completely foreign Reneedol who would refuse to give up any information to Rhode.

She would be much harder to deal with.

Gu Qing Shan silently sighed and decided against killing her.

Reneedol had now assumed that I'm a normal young man and was slowly letting her guard down around me.

This is crucial.

I should probably probe as much of her information as possible before making my decision.

While he was thinking, Atley suddenly ran out of the forest.

“Rhode, take a look at this for me” he said.

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

Atley showed his palm.

A green gust of wind drifted around his arm, slowly converged towards the palm of his hand, then eventually manifested a long blade of wind.

Gu Qing Shan smiled: “Congratulations, you’ve finally formed a covenant with the Law of Wind”

Atley confusedly said: “No”

“What do you mean no?”

“I... haven’t formed a covenant with the Law Behemoth of Wind, but I could still directly utilize the power of the Law of Wind” Atley fearfully said.

Suddenly, a flash of brilliant light appeared in front of them.

Shroud appeared out of nowhere.

He was holding onto a golden book while chanting an incantation.

The golden book opened by itself and shot out a small circular pendant.

——this pendant was the Radiance Artifact he took out the previous time that blocked out all tracking techniques.

Shroud put it on, then told the two of them: "We need to head out quickly, all the Overlords are searching for me!"

Gu Qing Shan's eyes flickered.

As expected, our escape will officially begin from this moment!

At some point, Renedol had appeared as well.

"No need to worry" she calmly said, "You were transported to this forest, so as long as we leave this place, no one would be able to find us"

"Atley, call Epta and Scarlet, we're heading out!"

Atley hurriedly dispelled the power of Wind in his hand and ran to call Epta.

Shroud suddenly called out: "Not good! Atley could already use the Law of Wind, so the Law Behemoth of Wind will most likely be able to locate us through him"

Renedol blinked, then whispered to him: "They won't, don't worry"

Shroud was confused.

Gu Qing Shan also acted confusedly and explained: "It's very strange, he hadn't formed a covenant but was still able to directly command the Law of Wind"

Renedol replied: "That's not strange at all. The Overlord of Radiance had died, but Shroud is similarly still able to command the Law of Radiance"

Shroud was surprised: "You mean, Atley is like me and has the potential to become an Overlord?"

“Indeed” Renedol confirmed.

Shroud sighed in relief.

Gu Qing Shan looked at Renedol, now even more confused about her intentions.

—--*seems like I'll have to make a few more meals to probe her true thoughts.*

While he was contemplating, the others had properly packed up to leave.

They randomly choose a direction and quickly fled the forest.

Chapter 1460

Translator: La0o9

The wilderness was vast.

After fleeing for an entire day, it wasn't until sunset that the group gradually slowed down.

Near the banks of the River of Fate where the wind couldn't quite reach, they found a patch of dried grass behind a cluster of rocks.

Shroud examined the golden Book of Prophesized Destinies shortly before informing everyone: “We're safe”

Everyone sighed in relief.

Atley said: “It's been a long time since I've ran this much and this far”

Renedol coldly replied: “The Law Behemoths have sealed away both teleportation and flying techniques, so you need to get used to our current fleeing method now, or else the first person to die when a battle breaks out will be you”

Gu Qing Shan glanced at everyone without paying too much attention before finally focusing on Scarlet.

Scarlet is now a covenant bearer of the Overlord of Death, so she would be able to play a huge role in combat.

Allowing her to quickly mature would fit both Reneedol's goal as well as my own.

At this point, Atley shook his head and sighed: "Alright then, can we eat? Do we even have anything we can eat?"

When he asked that, everyone suddenly realized how hungry they were and couldn't help but turn towards Gu Qing Shan.

"Let me rest up for a bit, then I'll go out hunting"

Gu Qing Shan breathed heavily and leaned onto a nearby rock.

As a Star River Saint realm cultivator, running for an entire day didn't really affect him, but Gu Qing Shan had to keep up an act and appear to be in the same state as everyone else.

This was the natural thing to do.

Everyone began to rest.

Scarlet laid completely flat on the dry grass.

She was still affected by her hangover and felt a bit uncomfortable.

Gu Qing Shan thought for a bit before approaching her and asked: "How are you feeling?"

Scarlet's complexion was a bit pale as she replied: "I'm still a bit dizzy— and really thirsty too"

Gu Qing Shan took out his flask and handed it to her.

Scarlet emptied the entire thing before letting out a small burp.

"What about now?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"I'm much better now, thank you, Rhode" Scarlet replied.

Her face was a bit flushed when she handed the flask back to Gu Qing Shan.

"No need to thank me, just take this"

Gu Qing Shan handed her another bottle of alcohol.

Scarlet's expression became stiff.

—during this repeat, Gu Qing Shan had already asked Epta for the remaining alcohol that she carried.

"Don't worry, this one is very light, it'll taste almost like normal water. Drink it slowly, but try to finish it before tonight" Gu Qing Shan smiled.

Scarlet couldn't help but ask again: "Will this really help me grow stronger?"

Gu Qing Shan pointed to her side with his chin.

Scarlet followed his gaze towards her other hand.

She was still hanging on to the black flames scythe.

This weapon of Death had remained in Scarlet's hand this entire time.

Scarlet hurriedly said: "I'm sorry, this is a weapon you manifested and I—"

Gu Qing Shan cut her off and said: "Finish that bottle, I'll give that weapon to you"

"You won't need it?" Scarlet doubtfully asked.

"I'm not very accustomed to using scythes" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Scarlet looked at the bottle in her left hand, then at the black flames scythe in her right hand, clenching her teeth:

"Ok, I'll drink"

"Wait!"

Another voice called out.

Atley.

He was staring at the bottle in Scarlet's hand, his throat visibly gulping as he looked like he wanted it no matter what.

"Rhode, give me a bottle of alcohol the same as Scarlet, I want to drink as well" Atley said.

"No" Gu Qing Shan resolutely refused: "I left this specifically for Scarlet, you can just drink water, don't touch the alcohol"

"I just want a little bit" Atley begged.

Gu Qing Shan glanced at him briefly before saying: "Then how about this? Come with me when I head out to go hunting and help me carry the prey, then I'll give you a bottle"

"Deal. Hunting is nothing but a small matter" Atley licked his lips.

His gaze was still focused on the bottle of alcohol in Scarlet's hand.

Gu Qing Shan stood up and said: "We're going to head out hunting, everyone rest up"

Shroud asked: "Need me to come with you?"

"It's fine, Atley will come with me" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Reneedol looked at Atley and said: "Don't cause too much commotion and draw attention to yourselves, that'll only cause trouble"

Atley wasn't too concerned: "We're heading out to hunt, not to kill people, don't worry"

Reneedol turned to Shroud.

Shroud flipped open the Book of Prophesized Destinies and said: "The good news is that it's very barren around here, so there aren't any large lifeforms, the bad news is that you'll most likely not be able to catch any prey"

Reneedol felt assured and said: "There aren't any Law Behemoths in the vicinity, it should be fine for you to leave"

Atley and Gu Qing Shan both headed out.

They followed the curve of the river upstream and quickly left the temporary camp behind.

While observing the water flow, Gu Qing Shan abruptly manifested a small bit of black flames on his hand and tossed it into the middle of the river.

The water exploded.

Some tattered flesh fell out of the water, then swiftly sunk back down.

Gu Qing Shan scowled: "Tch, the flames of Death is powerful, but it doesn't seem suitable for catching fish"

"We're going to eat fish tonight?" Atley asked, intrigued.

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"There's nothing but barren land around us and this river, what are we going to eat except fish?" Gu Qing Shan shrugged.

He then began to list: "We can make grilled fish, braised fish, boiled fish, fish soup, fish fillet—— wait, let me check how much spice we have left since yesterday"

Gu Qing Shan opened his bag and checked: "There's plenty of spices left, we can make grilled fish. This one is my specialty, I can guarantee that each one is grilled just right, then just add a bit of spice and it'll smell really good! After that, I'll make a pot of fresh fish soup for everyone to drink, that'll keep us warm for the night"

Atley felt hungrier just listening to him.

"Alright, let me give it a try and see how many fishes I can catch" he mumbled.

He put his hand over the river and slowly released a green glow from his palm.

He continuously infused the power of the Law of Wind into the water before suddenly—

Boom!

A column of water abruptly shot up.

An intense gust of wind then blew towards them.

Splash splash splash!

Over a dozen fishes landed on the ground.

“Ahaha, well done Atley, we got our dinner” Gu Qing Shan happily smiled.

“Ahaha, that’s nothing but a walk in the park” Atley replied.

“Oh really? The Law of Wind is really impressive, it seems like I’ll have to get you to go hunting with me a lot more from now on” Gu Qing Shan said.

He put all the fishes away, then picked out the fattest one and began to cut it open on the spot.

“Why are you cutting it open already?” Atley doubtfully asked.

Gu Qing Shan appeared nervous and said: “It’s been a long time since I cooked fish, so I wanted to make one first as a test”

He skillfully made a fire, skewered the fish using a tree branch, then grilled it while occasionally sprinkling a bit of spice.

Not too long later.

The fish was grilled golden brown, exuding an alluring fragrance.

“Rhode, you were too humble, your cooking skills are definitely second to none” Atley praised.

“I think it’s about good enough” Gu Qing Shan smiled.

He stood up with the skewer and said: “I’ll give this fish to Epta, she’s been taking care of Scarlet for the entire day, so she’s definitely a bit hungry”

“What for? It’s going to be cold by the time we make it back, it’ll be better to give it to me now”

Atley took the skewer from Gu Qing Shan and bit into the fish without hesitation.

“How does it taste?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

Atley was eating like he’d been starving for days; he didn’t even have the time to answer Gu Qing Shan and simply raised a thumbs-up at him.

“Oh right, I still owe you a bottle of alcohol” Gu Qing Shan face-palmed.

He then took out a bottle and handed it to Atley.

Atley finally let go of the fish to receive the bottle and chugged it down.

“Good alcohol! I had almost forgotten——”

He paused for a split second before continuing: “——that you promised me a bottle of alcohol, phew!”

Gu Qing Shan said: “Hurry up and finish it, we have to head back”

Atley nodded and continued to eat it in large bites.

Gu Qing Shan looked at how starved he looked and just smiled.

During their previous rest, Renedol cautioned Atley a lot more than usual, almost like she was paying close attention to him.

It wasn't worth taking notice of; since they were all friends, speaking one or two more words to one another wasn't enough grounds to draw any conclusions.

Other than that insignificant small detail, when Atley formed a covenant with the Law Behemoth of Wind the previous time, he was only able to release a few wind blades when he fought against Gu Qing Shan.

So how could Atley, who had only just grasped the Law of Wind this time around, control it intricately enough to use it for catching fish?

Perhaps he was truly considerably talented when it came to the Law of Wind.

This was also an insignificant small detail, not to mention that Gu Qing Shan didn't really understand the Law of Wind very well.

If it was anyone else, they wouldn't find those details worth taking note of.

But Gu Qing Shan took note of them.

— he had always been an overly cautious person who never let even the smallest detail escape his eyes, even if these details were insignificantly small, he would still attempt to investigate and confirm them.

This attitude was his greatest asset in surviving through the numerous Apocalypses that he had faced.

And so, he noticed how Atley was eating in a different manner compared to before.

—it was as if Atley had been starving for so long that he had forgotten the taste of food.

The previous Atley wasn't like this.

More importantly, Atley was a considerate individual.

When Shroud was wounded, he took meticulous care of Shroud, even before his death, he cried out that he considered them his brothers.

Would such a young man take Epta's grilled fish for himself?

I've specifically said that Epta had worked the hardest among us, so I wanted to leave the first fish for her.

If this was the real Atley, he would only urge me to quickly head back so that the fish wouldn't get cold for Epta.

Indeed, this was only a grilled fish, another insignificant small detail.

Epta wouldn't care about being the first or second one to eat, and Gu Qing Shan wouldn't care about who ate his food first.

After all, they did catch a lot of fish, and it didn't take long to grill just one.

They were all insignificant small details.

But within these insignificant small details, a person's true personality and thoughts would be exposed.

"That tastes so good, Rhode, can you make me another one? I can't feel satisfied with just one"

Atley was still not filled.

“Alright” Gu Qing Shan smiled, “As a cook, we always hope that our food is welcomed by others”

Hearing that, Atley patted his shoulder: “Rhode, you’re a good person”

Gu Qing Shan crouched down and began cutting open another fish.

—ignoring his companions and only paying attention to his own appetite.

Another wrong detail.

This individual...

Is no longer Atley.

Gu Qing Shan put the prepared fish onto another tree branch and began grilling it over the open flame.

For some reason, he suddenly recalled the Tomb of Myriad Beasts and the great tomb.

Something had occurred there that left a deep impression on him, something that almost took his life.

—the Samsara War Shaman’s soul substitution.