

Apocalypse 1781

Chapter 1781

The beetle was dead.

Its body turned into a layer of grey fog that shot towards the sky.

A giant tree slowly manifested from within the grey fog.

—–the Tree of Holy Wishes!

It then spoke with a booming voice:

「 We shall support you with our full capabilities, helping you triumph over your enemies—– 」

「 Apocalypse, War, Circulation, Gloom, Authority, and other Sequences 」

Gu Qing Shan opened his eyes wide and impulsively asked: “When you say ‘Apocalypse’, do you mean those insects?”

The giant tree answered: 「 It isn’t just those insects, all entities who wish to destroy living beings and all Sequences that aim to lead living beings down a wrongful path, all of them are our enemies 」

「 And so, we absorb all sources of power and submit them to Corruption—– for the sake of all living beings 」

「 But not every living being would necessarily understand the sacrifices we have to make 」

「 Such a path, are you willing to accept it? 」

Gu Qing Shan purposely appeared excited and clenched his small fists: “I am willing!”

「 Very well 」 the giant tree happily answered.

Its visage disappeared.

All the grey fog in the sky then immediately rushed into Gu Qing Shan's body.

His vision became blank.

Gu Qing Shan then noticed that everything had disappeared.

And he had returned to the venue of the ritual.

Around him, the clerics were still devoutly reciting their prayers.

While the transparent projection of the giant tree was giving off various miraculous fluctuations.

—so I guess I passed their test?

Lines of bloody red text continuously appeared in front of his vision to explain the circumstances:

[The Tree of Holy Wishes is only a Basic Corruption-type Holy Artifact]

[This is the extent of its power]

[—congratulations, you've gained the recognition of the Tree of Holy Wishes, thus obtaining the means to form a covenant with it]

[It will help you accomplish one event, after which you will be converted to a corrupted being as established by the covenant]

[Attention: You can choose to accept the covenant, but that will result in a lot of trouble afterwards; you can also choose to reject the covenant, which would then cause the Corruption Ritual to temporarily fail, and they will perform the ritual for you again at an appropriate time]

Skimming through the text, Gu Qing Shan understood right away.

It seems like this ritual isn't guaranteed to succeed every single time.

My body is still so young after all, any other child of the same age might not even be able to say anything under the shock and fear.

Furthermore, this Holy Artifact is only of the 'basic' level.

It's quite suitable for this era, considering how this Magic-type civilization is currently also at a basic stage.

Gu Qing Shan silently asked: "Can I really form a covenant with it?"

The Sequence answered: [Your soul will turn rotten, all of your desires will be infinitely amplified only to forever plague you—— if you are willing to accept such a fate——]

"Then can I?" Gu Qing Shan asked to confirm.

[You still cannot, since the Samsara and I are both observing you] the Sequence replied.

Gu Qing Shan shrugged.

A second later, the tree began to speak in its booming dignified voice:

「 Child of exceptional talent, there is nothing in this world that I cannot accomplish 」

「 You can ask me for anything you wish to accomplish and I will help you with it 」

「 In exchange, you will become a higher entity, from which you shall join our Holy Church and become the envoy of God who wanders this mortal realm 」

Gu Qing Shan thought briefly and stated: "I want you to help me... become the most powerful wizard in this world, for my power to reach a point that no one else could possibly catch up to, then I want you to summon all members of the church to bear witness"

The Tree answered: 「 With your background and innate potential, I shall grant that wish 」

“Then it is decided” Gu Qing Shan replied.

A single leaf flew down from the tree and began to unfurrow itself in front of him.

The leaf contained everything they’d discussed just now in the form of a covenant that emanated a strange presence.

As soon as Gu Qing Shan became the most powerful wizard, he would be converted into a corrupted being under the witness of all worshippers of Corruption.

Gu Qing Shan briefly read through the covenant and nodded.

Hoh——

The leaf then burst into flames and burned itself to ashes.

The covenant had been set.

The giant tree then spoke with its booming voice towards the church members:

「 From this point, all of you must support his cultivation with everything you have, so that he may become the greatest wizard in this realm as soon as possible 」

「 There is no need to hesitate, as his innate talent allows it 」

After saying that, the giant tree’s projection slowly faded away.

Everything returned to normal.

Gu Qing Shan turned to the cardinal.

Only to see the cardinal with a gentle intimate expression on his face, smiling as he said: “Gourde, follow me, I will take you to the grand library, where all the books related to magic will be yours to choose— of course, we will also arrange for various experts to mentor you”

The other bishops also smiled.

—the Tree of Holy Wishes guaranteed with its own words that this child can become the greatest wizard in the world.

Furthermore, he’s going to be one of us.

What’s the harm in buttering him up a bit earlier?

“Thank you for your goodwill, but before studying, I have something I need to do” Gu Qing Shan said.

“What is that?” the cardinal asked.

“I want to... eat something first”

“No problem!”

...

Time quickly passed.

Three months went by in the blink of an eye.

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On this day, the Grand Holy Church was hosting a grand ceremony.

All of the Church’s followers were being summoned back to the Sanctuary, which resulted in the biggest pilgrimage this world has ever seen.

It was said that this ceremony was being hosted for the Church to confer a young Divine Wizard.

This Divine Wizard's power...

Was said to have surpassed everyone in the world, the absolute greatest.

As this explosive news passed around, not only did the Church's followers enter into a frenzy, but the various kingdoms also became anxious.

They were requesting the Church to receive ambassadors who would come to witness the ceremony.

Normally, the Grand Holy Church would take the initiative to send out invitations to these kingdoms, but this time, they denied all these requests instead.

It was said that this was the Divine Wizard's decision.

Regardless, as time went by, it was finally time for the ceremony to begin.

At the venue of the ceremony.

The Pope was standing on top of a high platform, leading all the followers of the Church as they recited their prayers.

Gu Qing Shan was resting at the back.

He was silently listening to the pious waves of prayers that were growing increasingly more fervent followed by the thunderous applause immediately after the prayers ended, feeling nothing but boredom.

It wasn't until someone came to invite him onto the platform that he regained some of his spirits and followed two rows of bishops up onto the platform.

The Pope first made the introductions.

Then the cardinal made another introduction.

— and finally, it was Gu Qing Shan's turn to speak.

He walked up to the platform and cleared his throat: "Very well, let me be frank—"

"I'm not interested in magic, nor do I enjoy using magic"

"The only moment when I feel the most ecstatic is when I personally cut my enemies down with my own hands"

"I really regret studying magic as well, but it couldn't be helped, as it was necessary to achieve one of my short-term goals"

The entire venue was silent.

Suddenly, thunderous applause resounded across the entire area.

Look at that!

Such tone, such confidence, such aura!

These are words that none other than the Divine Wizard would dare to say!

Not expecting to receive such a reaction, Gu Qing Shan appeared a bit embarrassed before he continued: "For an individual, even if they become corrupted, it's still easy to save them; but for a civilization, I need to remove the root of corruption step by step. This means that there is a lot I must do, for example: a media war, a culture battle, forms of production and creation, perhaps even altering subconscious influences"

"All in all, it would be very troublesome, and I need to complete all of this before I can begin to drive the process of civilization forward"

"I can't wait for that long, so I'd like to apologize—"

Gu Qing Shan's tone gradually became gentle as he continued: "So keep this in mind everyone, next time, don't let yourself be deceived by people, whether for power or for anything else, you should properly consider what you would lose in exchange for power"

"However, there's no need for you all to worry, after all, your level of corruption is still very shallow. I've specifically asked and ensured that everyone here will still enter Huang Quan after death"

"Finally, please take a look at the results from three months of my cultivation"

"May fire purify all"

"--[Fireball]"

Gu Qing Shan raised one hand into the air.

Supernatural phenomena immediately occurred---

In the sky immediately above the platform, a scorching silhouette of the sun manifested.

This scorching sun silhouette was larger than the entire area of land owned by the Church.

The scorching sun released heat so intense that all the structures underneath it, regardless of material, were beginning to burn.

All the corrupted beings of the church felt shocked but were unable to flee at all.

After all, this was the irresistible light.

Gu Qing Shan lowered his arm.

The scorching sun then descended, imitating his gesture.

A thunderous boom reverberated across the entire world.

An immense pillar of flame rose from the ground, and the scorching heat waves of the impact spread for several hundred miles from the Sanctuary, melting everything within its vicinity.

The heatwaves swept away everything in their path, reducing everything to nothingness.

It wasn't until several dozen seconds later that the sound of impact finally ceased, allowing the world to return to silence.

Gu Qing Shan hovered in the air with his arms crossed to observe the results.

"Hm... good enough, that should be everything that was needed to be taken care of"

He muttered to himself.

Suddenly, gloomy grey fog began to manifest out of thin air, which then took the form of a gigantic tree.

Gu Qing Shan clapped his hands and praised it: "Well done, you actually brought every follower in front of me, that really saved me a lot of time and effort"

「 You betrayed us! 」 the giant tree grumbled in anger.

"I don't remember saying that I would treat them well" Gu Qing Shan replied.

A single leaf detached itself from the tree and lightly hovered in front of Gu Qing Shan.

——the Covenant of Corruption.

The giant tree spoke in a rumbling low tone: 「 I have completed my end of the covenant, then now it's your turn to be converted into a corrupted being 」

Gu Qing Shan glanced at the leaf.

How could I let my soul undergo something like corruption?

Not to mention, the Samsara is still observing everything.

Without hesitation, he equipped the Title [Pure Love Gang].

Title Skill: [Going Cold]!

Su Xue Er's [Infinite Evolution] was then disabled, replaced by the old pixie's ultimate Quipcraft!

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Gu Qing Shan cleared his throat and said with a fully justified tone:

"Sorry, I'm playing dirty"

Chapter 1782

「 Playing dirty? 」 the giant tree coldly scoffed.

"That's right, I've decided not to join the Corruption faction, after all, the world's civilization is still waiting for me to drive it forward, I need to become a man who serves the people and carry the era on my shoulders, so how could I be related to Corruption in any way?" Gu Qing Shan puffed out his chest and declared.

Lines of bloody red text quickly appeared:

[Your words resonate with the will of the world, your dirty play has been recognized by the world, by the Samsara, and naturally, by the Supreme Sequence]

[Furthermore, the Tree of Holy Wishes is only a Basic Holy Artifact from the Corruption Sequence, its power is insufficient to go against the will of the world]

[—Playing Dirty has been successfully performed]

Gu Qing Shan sighed in relief.

After all, he was a human, while the pixie race's Quipcraft had a very strict prerequisite for invocation—
—

The invoker must be a pixie.

The only reason he managed to do so this time was that the entire world was standing on his side.

This occasion also served as a warning to Gu Qing Shan.

—certain abilities are specific to certain races, so it wouldn't always be as easy as simply copying and using them.

Hearing his words the Tree of Holy Wishes slowly fell silent.

After a while, it spoke again: 「 The Corruption Sequence has remembered you, from today onwards, you shall become the common enemy of Corruption. One day, a corrupted being will eventually kill you and subject you to eternal suffering, never to be graced by salvation 」

「 Where there are living beings, there exists Corruption 」

「 ——You cannot stop the grand tide of history! 」

After declaring that, the Tree of Holy Wishes slowly faded into the void of space.

It had left.

This time, Gu Qing Shan fell into silence.

Where there are living beings... there exists Corruption...

I've eliminated all corrupted beings in this world, but there are still countless normal people here.

After I leave, if those people want to walk the path of corruption, what would happen?

Perhaps the Corruption Sequence had left some sort of preparation?

Gu Qing Shan hovered in the sky and slowly became lost in his thoughts.

"This world... is still a low-level Magic-type civilization..."

He mused.

——the most advanced spell in this entire world is Frost Storm.

Frost Storm's area of effect is approximately 500 meter-squared, which can only be considered an intermediate spell within a developing Magic-type civilization.

If a normal person decided to pledge themselves to the Corruption Sequence, there's a possibility that they would obtain a spell or technique that surpasses this spell.

It's still quite tempting.

At the very end, that tree said——

...

「 You cannot stop the grand tide of history 」

...

History.

Grand tide.

Gu Qing Shan pondered for a while before he suddenly thought of something.

His expression slowly became serious.

"No wonder the Samsara wanted me to deal with this world's troubles"

"If things really are the way I think they are... then the Corruption Sequence... is much more frightening than other enemies"

The flames on the ground gradually ceased as the scorched earth slowly solidified once again under the frigid wind.

The magical powers supporting that [Fireball] earlier had disappeared.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly turned in a certain direction.

Only to see a group of people dressed in wizard robes cautiously flying towards him.

“You are— the Divine Wizard, Gourde?” an elderly wizard asked.

“I am” Gu Qing Shan admitted, then asked: “You are?”

“We are the court wizards from various big kingdoms. Originally, we were supposed to act as ambassadors to participate in the ceremony; but we didn’t expect the Church to reject entry for all of us, so we were preparing to head back. To our surprise, not too long after we left, such a huge explosion occurred on the grounds of the Sanctuary— so we gathered together and hurriedly returned to observe what exactly happened here”

Gu Qing Shan was surprised.

—so they were the Combatants representing the various forces of this land.

Most likely, they were the only Combatants within the ambassador groups capable of flight who could quickly arrive to examine the situation.

“Wizard Gourde, what happened here?” a middle-aged wizard asked.

“As you can see, every last trace of the Divine Church has been destroyed” Gu Qing Shan replied.

Everyone looked around their surroundings.

A thoroughly ravaged land.

Fire magic had completely erased all the structures that once stood here.

Aside from the Divine Wizard Gourde, everyone was dead.

The leader wizard sighed: “Such immensely powerful magic, just what kind of character could have unleashed such force?”

Gu Qing Shan explained: “It was a terrifying evil being, he called himself the Devil King of Huang Quan who climbed out of hell to destroy all that is divine”

The Devil King of Huang Quan?

—-we’ve never heard of such an evil being before.

All the wizards were stunned.

Gu Qing Shan rubbed his hands regretfully: “I fought and managed to kill him— but before dying, he was unable to accept this result and gathered all of his power to unleash a [Fireball], which destroyed the entire Sanctuary”

The wizards took another look at the scorched earth.

“A... [Fireball]? Wizard Gourde, are you sure you aren’t joking?” the leader wizard was unconvinced.

“Indeed, perhaps you all haven’t had a chance to directly sense that kind of power—”

Gu Qing Shan raised his hand and chanted: “Law of Ice, manifest!”

A frigid full moon suddenly appeared far above his head.

“My god...!” one of the wizards exclaimed.

All the wizards hurriedly put up their magic shields, but none of the shields managed to even ward against the icy cold from above.

White frost rapidly climbed up their robes, hair, staves, and even their eyebrows.

“Quickly dispel your magic! Gourde, your excellency!”

The leader wizard shouted in a panic.

Gu Qing Shan waved his hand dismissively.

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Instantly, the glowing full moon scattered into snow that slowly fell to the ground.

The snow fluttered and accumulated in one area, forming a layer easily over 10 meters thick.

Feeling like they had been spared, the wizards all chanted an incantation to remove the frost from their bodies.

“Such... incredible magical attainments...”

Someone blankly muttered.

“Wizard Gourde, with such terrific strength, no wonder you were able to kill the Devil King of Huang Quan” the leader wizard said with admiration in his voice.

Gu Qing Shan replied: “Unfortunately, the entire Sanctuary has been destroyed by that monster...”

He suddenly clenched his fist and teeth with firm determination: "I must rebuild the Sanctuary, and rebuild the Divine Church"

The wizards were all speechless.

—this person is only a young man at 15 years old, and yet he already possesses unrivalled magical prowess.

What extent would he be able to reach once he fully matures?

But it couldn't be helped.

His strength today is already far beyond anyone's capability to resist.

That frost technique just now was already more than enough to eliminate a country's capital city.

And quite clearly, he manifested it with nothing but a casual wave of his hand—

What would happen when he seriously performs his techniques?

In that case... the only choice is...

"Great Divine Wizard, may we be of assistance?" the leader wizard asked.

"That's right, our Eagle Empire is willing to fully support your excellency in rebuilding the Sanctuary" another wizard immediately followed up.

"The White Mountain Kingdom as well"

"We of the Nine Stars Republic are also willing to help you, Great Divine Wizard"

"Our Moonset Empire as well..."

The wizards stated their stances one by one.

Gu Qing Shan nodded with satisfaction and said: "Very well. Once I've rebuilt the Sanctuary, I will teach everything I know to the countries and individuals who have aided me"

Hearing that, all the wizards' eyes lit up.

...

One day later.

Gu Qing Shan arrived at the White Mountain Kingdom.

After displaying his strength, he received the full support of the royal family without a pause.

“I don’t need money or anything of the sort, neither do I need people, but I want to take a look at the royal family’s records of heritage”

The White Mountain king felt a bit surprised.

“If the Divine Wizard is willing to take a look, then... bring me the heritage scroll of our White Mountain royal family” he gave the orders.

The so-called heritage scroll was actually the royalty family tree, as well as the records of the country’s history, achievements, and so on and so forth.

They represented the royal family’s glory, so it was something that the royal family was more than willing to make public.

Very quickly, the scroll was brought.

Gu Qing Shan opened the scroll and began to take a careful look at it from the most recent era.

During many eras, only mundane events occur around the royal family.

Gu Qing Shan carefully reviewed the vast history contained within the scroll, continuously heading further back in time until he finally saw something out of the ordinary at the beginning of the scroll.

“Your majesty, it is said that the White Mountain royal family once received help from some wizards at the time of this country’s establishment, was that true?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“Indeed, according to historical records, they were a group of mysterious wizards. After my ancestors established this country, they only left a certain thing as a memento before vanishing” the king answered.

“What was it?” Gu Qing Shan asked with intrigue.

“Ah, it was a blade that grew out of a tree. Legend has it that whoever manages to pull the blade out would become the Saint King of White Mountain kingdom, leading the White Mountain clan to glory”

The king then shrugged: “Many have tried, but no one has ever succeeded”

“Oh? Can I take a look?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“Of course”

Everyone entered the royal garden to observe the tree of legend.

A blade was thrust into the trunk of the tree, seemingly unmoved by time or weather.

“This is the first time I’ve ever witnessed a legendary artifact like this” Gu Qing Shan said.

The White Mountain king chuckled and said: “Your strength is unquestionable, but you don’t seem to know much about these minor mortal matters. In reality, such legends and miracles exist in almost every kingdom in this land”

“Really? There’s one in every kingdom?”

“Indeed”

Gu Qing Shan’s expression became serious.

“Can I give it a try?”

“Please go ahead, but there’s no need to feel dejected if you can’t pull it out, plenty of exceptional individuals in history did not manage either”

“I understand”

Gu Qing Shan stepped forward and stopped in front of the blade.

If what I think is true—

He reached his hand forward and grabbed the hilt of the blade.

It was immediately pulled out without resistance.

A solemn and dignified voice resounded throughout the void of space:

「 You possess talent and power, an exceptional being, worthy of my— 」

The projection of a giant tree silently manifested.

Its voice suddenly stopped.

「 ——Why you again!? 」 the giant tree exclaimed.

Gu Qing Shan looked at the Tree of Holy Wishes and remained silent.

——there are definitely plenty of traces of Corruption left in this world.

A weapon.

A book.

A piece of jewellery.

Perhaps even an incantation.

Or maybe a secret ritual.

As soon as a living being with exceptional innate talent triggers these things, they might be able to summon the Corruption Sequence right away.

There are hidden seeds everywhere.

How should I deal with this?

Chapter 1783

The blade crumbled into ashes in Gu Qing Shan's hand before being scattered into the wind.

The Tree of Holy Wishes had given up on the summon.

It vanished.

"Your excellency Divine Wizard, what's going on?" the White Mountain king questioned in shock.

Gu Qing Shan smiled wryly and explained: "The thing that appeared just now was a devil from Huang Quan. Somebody tampered with your clan's history, if someone managed to pull out this sword, they would immediately summon those monsters and become one of their allies"

"WHAT!?" the king was horrified, but then quickly realized something: "If that's the case, then the many artifacts of this nature across the land were all of the devils' scheme?"

Gu Qing Shan remained silent.

If artifacts are the only thing that remains, by getting rid of them one by one, there would eventually be a day when all of them are cleaned up.

However...

While he was thinking, lines of bloody red text suddenly popped up in front of his vision:

[You've witnessed the real circumstances of this world]

[The Samsara might want to inform you of something, prepare yourself, its will is descending--]

Everything around him vanished.

The world became void.

Standing in the middle of endless nothingness, Gu Qing Shan suddenly sensed a grand consciousness.

This sensation was the same as when he communicated with the spirits of myriad incomplete worlds in the past.

Unlike before, compared to the world spirits he'd seen in the past, the Samsara's will was much grander and more overwhelming, incalculable and incredible.

If an analogy might be made, the past incomplete world spirits were like insects and worms, while the Samsara's will felt like boundless space.

As time went by, thoughts began to form in Gu Qing Shan's mind.

He understood what the Samsara was trying to say.

Lines of bloody red text swiftly followed:

[The Samsara is issuing you a request:]

[The Corruption Sequence has corroded two layers of the Human realm graves, the first is the low-level Magic-type world you're in, the second is a mid-level Magic-type world]

[Please expel the corrosion of Corruption from these two Human realm graves]

[—You've temporarily gained the ability to travel between these two worlds]

[Attention: Very few Chosen Saints can draw the direct attention of the Samsara, please seize your chance well]

[Once you succeed, you will surely be well rewarded]

The lines of bloody red text suddenly flashed.

The boundless emptiness around Gu Qing Shan gradually faded away, replaced by various scenery.

He found himself standing on the street of a city.

Numerous people were walking in both directions of the street.

This was a highly prosperous city.

Two lines of text hovered in the void of space:

[You've arrived at a mid-level Magic-type world]

[You can return to the low-level Magic-type world at any time]

Gu Qing Shan scanned his eyes across the text and couldn't help but sigh.

So I need to deal with the Corruption issue in two separate Magic-type worlds at once, this really is difficult.

He walked along the busy street and stopped in front of a restaurant.

It was currently the lunch rush, and this restaurant seemed to be quite popular, as there were almost no seats left.

Gu Qing Shan couldn't help himself from entering as he sat in front of a table.

A waitress swiftly arrived at his table and placed a menu in front of him, asking: "Welcome, what would you like to eat?"

Gu Qing Shan examined the menu.

Only to see that the menu was filled with many exotic dishes that he had never tasted before.

He arbitrarily chose a few of them and handed the menu back to the waitress.

The waitress then pulled several Cards out of thin air and laid them on the table.

"Corruption is the foundation of civilization"

She muttered.

Poof poof poof poof!

The Cards instantly vanished, replaced by the dishes that Gu Qing Shan had ordered.

"Enjoy your meal"

The waitress respectfully bowed, and then left him to himself.

Gu Qing Shan stared down at the steaming hot delicacies in front of him in utter shock.

It wasn't until a few moments later that he picked up his utensils and used them to sift his food around.

"Hm, no issues... the Cards only acted as a means of storing food..."

He muttered to himself, then began to eat.

The food didn't taste bad, but Gu Qing Shan's attention wasn't focused on the cooking.

He was paying attention to the waitresses.

Each time these girls served the customers' orders, they would recite a chant, sometimes it would be 'Corruption exists with you', other times, it would be 'Thank the True God for granting us food'.

More often than not, the customers would also reply to these chants.

After observing for a little bit, Gu Qing Shan gradually lost his appetite.

He casually used magic to manifest a few coins, placed them on the table, then left the restaurant.

"Would you like a ride?" someone asked him as he walked through the door.

Gu Qing Shan paused briefly and replied: "Sure"

"Where would you like to go?"

"It's my first time here, I'd like to go sightseeing around the city"

“I could tell that you weren’t a local, so you were a tourist as expected—— I can be your guide around our beautiful city, free of charge”

“Thank you”

“You’re welcome, praise the Corruption Codex”

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The man smiled as he drew a Card from his pocket and tossed it on the road next to them.

Poof!

A hovering horse carriage appeared in front of Gu Qing Shan.

The man sat down on the coachman seat in front, then gestured to Gu Qing Shan: “Please go ahead and sit inside”

Gu Qing Shan embarked and firmly sat down.

The carriage began to move.

He leaned on the window and silently observed the scenery outside.

—-in this city, everyone was used to using magic in the form of Cards for many aspects of their daily lives.

Gu Qing Shan even saw several stores that placed Cards of various kinds in their display window.

Whenever people would greet one another, they would first say something to praise the Corruption Sequence.

In fact, by focusing his mind as the horse carriage rode across a school, Gu Qing Shan managed to hear a teacher explaining the world's history, in which the role of Corruption had been exaggerated to extreme ends.

At the city center, several merchants had just walked out of the city lord's manor.

They praised: "The city lord's Corruption Arts are getting more profound day by day, being able to promote trade to this degree"

"Indeed, his understanding of Corruption is far deeper compared to ours"

"Highly respectable"

The horse carriage rode past the merchants and continued forward.

Just a bit further ahead of them was the Divine Church.

—similar to the low-level Magic-type world, this was also a Church belonging to the Corruption Sequence.

Many people were gathered around the main square of the church, openly singing gospels of praise to the True God of Corruption for blessing them with a good life.

In the graveyard behind the church, a funeral was being conducted.

The holy father recited: "—And his body shall return to rot, while his soul belong to Corruption"

Everyone loudly cheered.

The family members of the dead appeared glad.

The horse carriage continued.

Gu Qing Shan felt more and more uneasy as he watched on, finally unable to help himself: "Stop for a moment"

The horse carriage slowly stopped.

"What's wrong, sir?" the coachman asked.

"Is that a bookstore over there?"

"Yes"

"Help me buy a few books, anything related to history and military will be fine, preferably some bestsellers" Gu Qing Shan casually used magic to condense some mana silver coins.

"Very well, please wait a few moments"

The coachman swiftly bought the books and brought them back to Gu Qing Shan.

The carriage continued forward.

Sitting in the carriage, several books were hovering in front of Gu Qing Shan, quickly flipping through their pages.

After about 5 minutes, he had finished reading all of its contents.

The books fell down by themselves and neatly lined up on a small table next to him.

Gu Qing Shan sighed and muttered: “To this degree, it’s even more terrifying compared to the previous world...”

He couldn’t help but feel a chill on his back.

——Gu Qing Shan wouldn’t bat an eyelid regardless of how gory or horrible a battle would be.

But the current circumstances were making him shiver.

This sense of terror was even heavier compared to him having to face two Unfathomable Apocalypses.

——Corruption had thoroughly integrated itself into the heart of every person, turning into a value that they all recognized.

Every single person in this world, from generation to generation, followed the will of Corruption as they lived their daily lives, matured, and built their civilization.

From birth to death, everyone respected it, maintained it, and revered it without being told to.

——because Corruption was their civilization, it taught all the people here how to exist.

These living beings willingly gave everything to Corruption, the thought of retaliating against the will of Corruption didn’t even exist in their minds.

“A cultural invasion? No... the invasion has already succeeded...”

“This is a thorough distortion of civilization”

Gu Qing Shan sighed full of emotions.

This world is even more prosperous compared to the previous low-level Magic-type world.

The worldview and beliefs of living beings here have been thoroughly set in stone.

How exactly should I do this?

Trying to convince them is useless.

Murder...

Murder can eliminate the living beings, but not their beliefs— they essentially are part of the Corruption faction already.

This is more terrifying compared to the Apocalypse.

An Apocalypse only kills people, sometimes a few, sometimes a lot.

During the process of destruction, living beings would inevitably struggle, risking their lives to retaliate, even attempting to overcome the Apocalypse.

But Corruption doesn't kill anyone.

It only alters everything and turns all living beings into its servants.

—so that they worship it as a God.

After thinking for a while, he told the coachman to stop again.

“How are you feeling, would you like to continue riding, sir?” the coachman asked.

“This is fine, thank you” Gu Qing Shan replied.

He disembarked from the carriage, made his way into a secluded alley, then took flight while there wasn't anyone around him.

For the next while, he visited each of the countries he saw in the books to personally examine their circumstances.

Everything wasn't too different from how the history books described them.

Frankly speaking, such a conclusion could be drawn right now:

This world's sky, earth, and all of its resources belonged to the Samsara, but its living beings already belonged to the Corruption faction.

—this was a world belonging to the Corruption Sequence!

Chapter 1784

On a mountaintop.

Gu Qing Shan was standing on top of a boulder as he silently looked at the void of space in front of himself.

A total of 12 magic mirrors were floating in the air, each displaying a different location from the world.

Whether they were a good person or not, everyone born into this world must undergo a so-called 'baptism', through which they would join the Corruption Sequence.

At birth and at death, they must follow the teachings and instructions of the Corruption Codex.

Everyone followed the will of Corruption without exception.

As soon as anyone went against the arrangements of the Church, they would automatically be labelled a heretic; not only would they have to face the jeers and ridicule of society as a whole, but they would also earn a ticket heading straight towards the gallows.

After observing for a long while, Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but shake his head.

It's very simple to destroy this world, but the majority of living beings in this world are actually innocent.

Their only fault is being born into a society that indoctrinates them from the very moment that they're born, gradually and subconsciously altering their sense of value until it's unrecognizable.

Is there a way to change all this?

Gu Qing Shan fell into deep thought.

After a long while.

He silently chanted an incantation.

He vanished from the mountaintop and reappeared several miles away, inside the Sanctuary of the Church of Corruption.

No one could see him.

He walked straight into the great library of the Sanctuary, trying several incantations before he finally gained access.

He then began to study the secret magical tomes that were stored here.

The day went by, followed by night.

A total of three whole days.

Gu Qing Shan finally finished reading all the magical tomes within the library.

From these magical tomes, he managed to discern the highest level of power in this world.

—-it could only be considered 'acceptable' at most.

“Corruption bestows living beings a certain level of aid in exchange for their religious worship, but... it doesn't dare to allow this civilization to develop without limits...”

Gu Qing Shan muttered to himself.

If this civilization was allowed to develop without limits, the standard level of knowledge and understanding will gradually be raised, which could even reflect on their grasp of knowledge, resulting in an inevitable outcome——

They will begin to study the Laws of Reality, gradually gaining a more profound understanding of the essence of this world.

In that case, they would start to have increasingly more independent thoughts, wishing to experiment with various different paths.

Gu Qing Shan closed the book he was reading and paced around the room for a little while.

“Please send me back to the basic Magic-type world”

He said.

The world sensed his request right away.

Gu Qing Shan immediately vanished from the world he was in and returned to the basic Magic-type world.

...

“Do you really intend to rebuild the Church?” the White Mountain king asked.

“Indeed, I will rebuild the Church and spread the essence of magic across this entire world, helping each country in its development from every aspect”

He then took out a small bowl filled with liquid and placed it in front of the White Mountain king.

“What is this?” the White Mountain king asked.

“A body-conditioning elixir, it will help promote your majesty’s longevity” Gu Qing Shan replied.

—-it was only because of the overwhelming mental strength and analysis capabilities he obtained from rapid evolution that he managed to develop Magic to the point that a longevity elixir was possible.

The White Mountain king picked up the small bowl, still a bit unconvinced.

“You can give it a try, I’m willing to stay here and wait” Gu Qing Shan smiled and said.

“If this is true, then our White Mountain kingdom will surely support the reconstruction of the Church as much as we can” the White Mountain king answered.

“Then I thank you in advance. I will first rebuild the Sanctuary before inviting the countries of this world to give us the aid we were promised” Gu Qing Shan replied.

After saying that, he vanished from in front of the White Mountain king.

...

Where the Sanctuary originally stood.

The land was still charred and ruined.

Standing in the air, Gu Qing Shan muses: “First, a roof...”

With a wave of his hand, rock and minerals hidden deep underground began to break through the surface, rapidly being refined into metal by magic.

Gu Qing Shan manipulated the metal, melting it before forging it into well-designed buildings.

He waved his hand again.

All the buildings fell back to the ground, and then became connected with the rocks that were still underground to form a sturdy and solid foundation.

The buildings were neatly lined up next to one another to form a magnificent array of structures.

These structures appeared holy and divine, almost as if the will of the world was imbued into them, supporting Gu Qing Shan in doing what he was doing.

Furthermore, as all the buildings were made from pure refined metal, it was practically a miracle.

Gu Qing Shan picked out another group of various metals and began to engrave knowledge onto them, describing the essence and nature of magic.

After a few days, he promoted all types of magic to an advanced degree.

“It’s probably still a bit lacking at this level”

Gu Qing Shan thought about it for a while and decided to continue researching magic.

As time went by, he understood how to achieve a body molded by the Laws of Reality using magic, and finally the way to achieve Godhood.

Gods, to be frank, are still living beings, albeit their positions were very high on the world’s natural order, being capable of directly commanding the Elements and utilizing the Laws of Reality to their benefit.

At this point, all the ambassadors of the world’s Kingdoms and Empires had arrived at the Sanctuary.

Gu Qing Shan temporarily stopped his research to go meet them.

“Everyone, let us be quick—”

Gu Qing Shan then chanted an incantation under his breath.

Immediately, frozen spikes began to manifest far above the sky where he was standing.

“Everyone here should already know the truth about the tree inside the blade”

“Perhaps there are those who aren’t willing to believe my words”

“But that doesn’t matter, as the frozen spikes in the sky that I summoned with my power will now become Heaven’s Punishment”

“Whenever someone touched those devil’s artifacts and become one of them, they would only face a single outcome—”

“Death”

“Other than that, I’m honored to inform everyone here of something”

“I’ve grasped the secret to reaching Godhood through magic, and I’m preparing to spread it to the world for all magic wielders to learn”

“Our world as a whole will undergo a great leap of development”

“—Starting now”

Gu Qing Shan twitched his finger.

All the metal pages began to hover by themselves in the air, opening themselves for the ambassadors to observe.

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As one of the magic wielders among them studied the page, he appeared almost intoxicated.

“This is— this is the 8th stage of Wind magic, we’ve never been able to reach this level before!” he exclaimed in his frenzy.

None of the others said a single word.

All the wizards and knights in the room had fallen into enlightenment from staring at the metal pages.

Gu Qing Shan only observed this scene for a short while before he began to ponder the next matter.

Aside from strength, there's another very important matter.

The world's living standards, culture, and health are what normal people care about the most.

All of this will take a lot of effort.

Unfortunately, not everyone can use magic, otherwise, there's no need to go through so much trouble—
—-wait.

Why can't I just come up with a method to turn everyone into a magic wielder then?

Only those with powerful mental strength would be able to mobilize the Elements, in other words—

As long as there's a way for everyone's mental strength to become stronger, everyone would have the potential to become a magic wielder, even if they're only a 1st stage wizard!

Everyone in the entire world would be a magic wielder!

That's what a true Magic-type civilization should look like!

With that in mind, Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but feel a bit excited.

"Let me consider for a bit, how can I improve the mental strength for normal people..."

...

10 years later.

Gu Qing Shan once again appeared in the intermediate Magic-type world.

There was practically no change in this place, everyone was still immersed in their worship of the Church of Corruption.

Gu Qing Shan pressed his hand on the ground and muttered:

“I need the Five Elemental Roots of this world... if you permit it, I will be taking them with me...”

A few moments after he said that, the Samsara responded to his request.

Clusters of colorful light began to emerge from below the ground, all of which were hovering in front of Gu Qing Shan.

Watching these clusters of light, Gu Qing Shan explained: “If I fuse the Elemental Roots of this world with the basic Magic-type world, the living beings of the basic Magic-type world will become stronger, while the living beings of this world would be unchanged”

“And now I’m confident—— so I intend to have these two worlds fuse with one another”

“Don’t worry, there would be no large-scale conflicts, after all——”

“The difference in level is already too great”

As soon as he finished speaking, the Elemental Roots fell into his hand and transformed themselves into a colorful thread.

——the Samsara had permitted his idea.

As Gu Qing Shan caught the colorful thread, lines of notifications popped up in front of his vision:

[You’ve obtained a Thread of Law]

[This is the Thread of Law belonging to an intermediate Magic-type world within the Samsara]

[If you bring it to another world, that world will be pulled by its Thread of Law and gradually fuse with the second world into a new world]

Gu Qing Shan curtly chuckled, then teleported back to the basic Magic-type world.

Standing at the highest point of the Sanctuary, he casually cast the Thread of Law away.

The Thread of Law then melted into the void of space.

The two Magic-type worlds began to fuse together.

...

On this day.

In the intermediate Magic-type world.

A branch of the Church of Corruption was holding a public notice.

A priest was standing on a platform and reciting with a booming voice: "As your mind and body pledge themselves entirely to God, God will recognize your piety, God has boundless power—"

Boom!

A loud explosion suddenly occurred in the sky.

Immediately after that, a golden light descended from the sky and crashed on the empty land in front of the Church.

A huge crater was formed on the ground.

Many powerful bodyguards accompanied the bigshots they were hired to protect and examine the situation.

Only to see a man with a pair of wings whose entire body was glowing with golden light standing at the bottom of the crater.

"Who are you?" one of the bishops shouted.

“Me?” the man appeared apologetic and replied: “My apologies, I just achieved Godhood today, so I made a small mistake while operating the Weave—”

The bishop immediately interrupted him and sternly scolded: “Insolent! How dare you call yourself God, this is heresy of the highest severity! Men, kill him!”

“Sir, yes sir!”

Everyone attacked at once.

Colorful magic flashed all over the sky.

The man simply stood still without moving, waiting for all the spells to subside.

—these people are really weak.

The man thought to himself, but still humbly asked: “Excuse me, can I ask which rural village is this?”

Complete silence.

Everyone stared straight at him.

Only to see that they hadn’t even touched even a hair on his body.

The dignified presence of Law continuously radiated from his body, which manifested into supernatural phenomena.

Could he really be God?

Everyone shivered.

Suddenly, the man's expression shifted a bit.

Several more figures swiftly descended from above the sky.

These figures all radiated a presence superior to that of the golden-winged man.

If that man was God, then what are these people?

"Rex, you moron, why are you still so careless even after becoming a God?" one of the figures asked.

"Ahaha, I remembered one of the formulas wrongly, so I made a mistake" Rex answered.

"Ah, everyone look, there are Huang Quan devil structures here, I remember them being depicted similar to this in our textbooks" another figure commented.

"What?"

"Really?"

"Sure looks like it, yeah"

Rex looked closely at the Church building and exclaimed happily: "There's a reward for destroying these devil structures, let me!"

He casually swung his hand.

The entire Church was reduced to ashes.

Chapter 1785

A pillar of holy light rose to the sky.

From within the Sanctuary of Corruption, the Pope, 3 Cardinals, 6 Holy Maidens, 12 Archbishops, and 36 Holy Casters as well as 50 Holy Knights had gathered under the same roof.

“Are we clear?” the Pope asked.

“Yes sir. In the rural land behind the Sanctuary, many unfamiliar places had suddenly manifested, in which there were ample resources, numerous people, as well as vast unclaimed lands” a Diviner reported.

One of the Cardinals knelt on the ground and excitedly said: “Your Grace, according to the Corruption Codex, such a situation is extremely rare, but it is also the perfect opportunity to convert people to our faith, this is the chance for all of us to earn more contributions!”

“That’s indeed the case, we all thought that it was only a legend, who could predict that it would actually occur” another Cardinal commented, full of emotions.

Everyone was immersed in this discussion, all of them eager about its prospects.

A sense of unspoken fervor and excitement had overtaken the room.

— — — the fact that such a miracle had occurred was proof that everything written in the Codex was true.

Additionally, the prospect of conquering an unknown land, as well as its people, and collecting its riches was always something to be excited about.

The Pope brandished the scepter in his hand and declared with a dignified expression: “Declare a Divine Mandate, gather the troops, we shall march on to take over and spread the will of Corruption upon the new land!”

“Yes sir!” everyone responded in unison.

“I will delegate the specific arrangements. The 3 Cardinals will each take command of a legion; the Holy Casters and Holy Knights will return to your posts; summon the Holy Armies of Punishment, Redemption, and Disciplinary; I will personally lead the charge into the new lands!” the Pope declared.

All the followers cheered in joy.

The entire war machine of the Church of Corruption was swiftly mobilized.

In merely 2 hours, the Church’s legions had all been assembled and began their march under the Pope’s lead across the rural land, heading towards the newly manifested unknown lands.

The closer they approached the unknown lands, the slower the Church’s army marched.

Everyone was high-strung with caution.

The scouting groups rendezvous with the main army and reported:

“Report— there is a village ahead of us, relatively small, and loosely guarded”

“There is a circus and a group of strangely-dressed people, apparently conducting some sort of celebration”

The Pope’s tense expression became relaxed.

He looked towards the village in the distance and saw the bright lights from inside, occasionally even seeing fireworks exploding in the sky.

The wind carried the faint sound of cheers, enjoyment, and even applause from the distance.

—-sure enough, they were conducting some sort of celebration.

“Does the village have any protectors?” the Pope asked.

“They do not— actually, there is an old man. He seems to be a normal villager, but I heard everyone coming in and out of the village call him ‘Gatekeeper’, perhaps he was originally a guard or something of similar nature” the scout reported.

The bigshots of the Church gradually calmed down.

It’s only a village.

They’re completely unguarded and are even in the middle of some celebration.

Look at our army.

Strict discipline, armed to the teeth, and morale higher than ever before.

—it’s going to be very simple to conquer this village.

We might even be able to find out the forces in power as well as the structure of the countries in this unknown land from them.

“Send my orders, all troops march forth!”

The Pope loudly declared.

“Yes sir!” the commanders all responded in unison.

The entire Church army charged towards the village—

The iron heels of the war horses gradually became faster.

In just a few breaths’ worth of time, the vanguard troops had already reached the entrance to the village.

As the scouts reported, the one standing guard at the village entrance wasn't any sort of militia or soldier, but merely an old man.

The old man was wearing slippers with a fan made of straw in his hand, currently lying on a reclining chair.

He was happily smoking a pipe, seemingly about to fall asleep.

Suddenly, he opened his eyes and looked outside the village.

"Why are there so many people here?" the old man muttered as his expression changed.

He leapt to his feet and narrowed his eyes to silently observe the Church's army.

Uniforms of the Church of Corruption—

Sharp weapons and shining armors—

A large army with overflowing morale—

There were also the Pope, Cardinals, and Holy Knights who donned different garments, their hands wielding things like a glowing scepter and swords.

He then silently sensed the presence they gave off—

The old man suddenly realized what was going on!

He took a deep breath and turned around, calling at the top of his lungs towards the village: "An unexpected surprise! An especially pleasant surprise!"

“——The people of the mainland’s Cosplay Federation have arrived. Everyone, come out and welcome them!!!”

The entire village went silent from the shout.

Followed by intense cheers that felt like they shook the sky.

Numerous villagers rushed towards the entrance of the village, including the performers of the circus who were originally putting on a show.

“Whoa, it’s true!”

A young girl said with her eyes glowing brightly as she looked at the strict and orderly army of the Church.

A young boy standing next to her commented: “Look, the theme they’re going for this time is ‘the beings of Huang Quan’, it’s the same style of dress”

The young girl’s mother hugged her from behind and pointed at the Pope: “Look, that must be their leader, he looks the ugliest”

Everyone laughed in response.

The Pope’s expression went red with rage and ordered: “All troops, draw your weapons”

Shing!

The uniform sound of weapons being unsheathed resounded across the rural land.

The army emanated nothing but killing intent.

But this only drew even more applause from the villagers.

A clown from the circus clapped his hands while commenting earnestly: “That’s the real Cosplay Federation for you, their clothes were made to the strictest quality, their expressions and acting is also very genuine”

The teddy bear mascot next to him took off their headpiece, to reveal a muscular man inside.

The man praised: “Performers from the big city sure are different from small-time circuses like us, I really should learn a thing or two from them as the ringmaster”

The Pope really couldn’t take it anymore.

—-comparing me to a circus, what unbridled heresy!

The Pope chanted an incantation and shouted: “O’ Lord, grant me the power to level this village”

To be able to level an entire village including its inhabitant meant that this was a spell of great power, not something that a single person could complete by themselves.

All of his Cardinals, Archbishops, Holy Maidens, and Holy Knights chanted the incantation in unison to help the Pope complete this spell of extreme difficulty.

A few moments later

Divine Punishment, [Earthquake]!

Rumble rumble rumble—-—

The ground began to tremble.

At first, the villagers' expressions changed, feeling a bit nervous, but they quickly calmed down.

"Papa, it was only a Quake spell of this degree!" a young boy called out.

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"That's right, so are you ready?" his father smiled and asked.

"I'm ready" the young boy replied.

Next to the young boy—

"I really respect them" the circus' clown clenched his hands and said with excitement.

"You're right, I also respect them to no end" a man in an elephant mascot costume next to him also couldn't help but clap his hand profusely.

"Let our circus also contribute to their performance" the muscular man in the teddy bear costume commented.

"Then——"

The people of the circus exchanged glances.

The teddy bear mascot man shouted: "I'll control the quake"

He silently chanted an incantation while rapidly moving his feet in a special dance.

Miraculously, as he danced, the quaking on the ground began to become rhythmic and started following the beat.

Boom bada boom.

Bada bish bada!

Boom bang boom~

The clown called out: "Ringmaster, I'll be the accompanying music"

He took out over a dozen types of different instruments and placed them in the air while chanting an incantation.

Immediately, those instruments started to follow the rhythm of the earth to perform a wild dance.

The elephant costume man jumped forward onto the empty ground in front of the village and waved to the villagers.

"Come on everyone, let's dance!"

The man called out loudly.

He then began to perform a strange dance following the music and earthquake.

The children were the first to loosen their restraints and ran onto the 'stage' with cheers.

Followed by the adults.

And then the elderly as well.

Boom boom bang~ boom boom bang~

Boom boom boom boom shiiiiiiil———

The festivities have reached an absolute high point!

...

On the other hand.

The Church's army.

The Pope: "..."

The Cardinals: "..."

The Holy Knights: "..."

No——

The Pope declared: "Divine Punishment——- meteor from the sky!"

All the followers of the Church pooled their power together to support the Pope's prayer incantation.

The spell was complete!

A single giant meteor was rapidly descending from the sky above.

The Pope heaved a sigh of relief, barely hanging onto his scepter to make sure he didn't fall from using up all of his strength.

This is the [Falling Meteor] spell!

——all of you will die!

The Pope gritted his teeth and thought to himself.

Sure enough, someone noticed it with the revelling crowd.

“Big sis look, a shooting star!” a young boy exclaimed.

“Ahaha, we just learnt that in class yesterday, I’ll make one too” a young girl next to him chuckled and said.

She put her hands together into a pose and began to chant the incantation.

A magnificent meteor shower was immediately summoned in the sky.

“Big sis is so skilled” the young boy cheered.

The young girl was also surprised and muttered to herself: “A few days ago, his excellency the Divine Wizard announced across the entire world that everyone will soon become explosively stronger, no wonder I managed to summon over 30 meteors...”

Under the meteor shower, everyone danced to the music, enjoyed the Cosplay Federation’s performance, and had an exceptionally good day.

The Pope was already stunned.

He saw very clearly how a single young girl summoned that meteor shower just now.

In the end, all the meteors were blown away by a muscular man in a teddy bear costume with a single breath, which then turned into glittering fireworks that remained in the sky, almost like numerous floating lanterns.

The Church's army was so nervous they didn't dare act recklessly.

Blowing meteors away with one's breath was so unimaginable that they couldn't even fathom how such a feat could even be possible.

Bloody hell—

Bloody hell, what kind of world is this?

Everyone unanimously arrived at the same thought.

While the Pope was still stunned, the old man who was guarding in front of the village earlier suddenly appeared in front of him.

The old man appeared very serious.

"What an exceptional performance! I'd like to thank you for your heartfelt acting on behalf of our entire village" the old man said earnestly.

The Pope opened his mouth wide, unable to utter a single word.

The old man then took out a bag of coins, ignored the Pope's reluctance, and shoved it into his hand.

"Take it, consider it the gratitude of us village folks"

Gratitude...

The Pope looked down at the bag of coins, unable to contain himself any further.

"Village elder, I have a question" the Pope said.

“Go ahead” the old man smiled.

“Your village... who’s the strongest person here?” the Pope cautiously asked.

“Ahahaha, that’s a bit embarrassing to answer, we only have one God in our village, take a look—— he’s that teddy bear over there” the old man pointed to the dancing crowd.

“——He’s a God of Holy Light, but he became unemployed recently, so he came back to the village to start a circus”

The Pope turned his gaze towards the teddy bear.

Only to see that the teddy bear was still dancing while controlling the earthquake.

1

——in reality, the earthquake was already over from a while ago, but under the teddy bear’s precise control, the earth has turned into a dance floor.

Such incredible power!

This requires an inconceivable level of understanding regarding the Laws of Reality

“Unemployed?” the Pope blankly muttered.

“That’s right, everyone is a God nowadays, so being a low-level God doesn’t make it any easier to find a job”

The old man appeared worried and patted the Pope’s shoulder: “Your Cosplay Federation is from a big city, so you should know the same struggles he faces —— after our harvest festival is over, maybe you can have a drink and console him for a bit”

The Pope fell into a long silence.

For some reason——

He felt like something deep in his heart was shattering.

Chapter 1786

Early morning.

A beautiful blonde girl flew into the sky as her figure rapidly weaved among the clouds.

She occasionally tossed some colorful spells forward, then swiftly chanted their counter-spells to cancel them out.

Training one's casting ability early in the morning was beneficial for improving work efficiency for the whole day.

— even Gods preferred to enter a cultivating state immediately as the day began.

The blonde girl was one of many Gods of the Deep Wood, so she profoundly understood this fact.

After completing a round of casting training, she hovered in the sky, several ten thousand meters above ground, with her eyes closed, preparing to enter deep meditation.

Suddenly, she sensed something and reached her hand into the void of space to grab it.

A magical Card was delivered by the wind and neatly landed in her hands.

The Card depicted a suit of divine and dignified female armor, the size of which was exactly suitable for her.

A faint voice could seemingly be heard from the Card:

[This is a suit of armor of great power, come closer, put it on, and the entire world will lay at your feet]

The blonde girl opened her eyes wide.

She stared closely at the Card and asked: "Can it really promote my divine powers to become more powerful?"

A voice replied from the Card: [Indeed, you only need to give it a try and you will trust my words without worry]

After hearing that, the blonde girl ripped the Card in half.

She then began to laugh joyfully, so much so that she couldn't even stop herself.

From the void of space, a different girl with black hair appeared.

"Sect sister, what are you laughing about?" the black-haired girl curiously asked.

"Aha, you don't understand, I just experienced something especially funny"

"What's that?"

"A Corrupted Item appeared and tried to tempt me"

"Ah? Really!? You're rich then!" the black-haired girl exclaimed.

"That's right, now all I need to do is report to the Divine Council and pass the lie detector test, then I'll be granted the corresponding privileges" the blonde girl chuckled smugly.

The black-haired girl displayed a look of admiration, then suddenly asked: "Sister, do you think someone would be so dumb that they get tempted and accidentally become a Corrupted being?"

“Even an idiot wouldn’t be that stupid, after all, the Weave is constantly monitoring the world’s magic, whenever something out of the ordinary occurred, every God would notice the unnatural reactions” the blonde girl shrugged.

The black-haired girl sighed: “Hah, when will I be as lucky as you are, getting into contact with a Corrupted Item like this...”

The blonde girl replied: “I’m heading to the Divine Council to report this morning’s matter— how did that unique teleportation spell go again?”

She thought about it briefly and muttered: “Dispel superstition, seek truth”

Shu—

The blonde girl vanished from the sky.

...

The Divine Monitoring Council.

This was the world’s center of power established by Gu Qing Shan.

The young man from years ago had now become a grown adult who held absolute power.

Seated on the Supreme Seat, he was constantly monitoring 36 different magical screens.

As the two worlds completed their fusion, an all-out war of culture and civilization was slowly being engaged.

—except the two sides weren’t on the same playing field at all.

The people of the corrupted world were like frogs that had just been let out of their well, only witnessing actual truth and reality for the very first time.

They were deeply shaken by a civilization populated by only magic users with numerous Gods walking among men.

Their beliefs had completely collapsed.

Change was slowly but surely seeping into the minds of everyone.

With a casual wave of his hand, Gu Qing Shan dismissed the magic screens.

He then stretched his back.

The confrontation seemed to only have begun.

But as far as he saw it, the issue had already been dealt with.

Establishing a magical world wide web – the Weave, then teaching the method to achieve Godhood through magic to the entire world, allowing the world as a whole to reach almost the same level as the ancient Age of Gods.

These so-called Gods were nothing but organisms whose existences were comprised of the Laws of Reality.

The Samsara permitted such a thing to happen——

Because this wasn't a trick or ruse to deceive living beings, but rather using Truth to educate everyone, allowing them to understand the essence of the world.

——for Gu Qing Shan, this wasn't a particularly difficult matter.

“After so many years... it’s finally going to complete”

Gu Qing Shan muttered to himself, full of emotions.

Suddenly, lines of bloody red text appeared in front of his vision:

[Attention]

[The Samsara has recognized your actions]

[It has inferred the results of this trend of development, and judged that you have obtained victory during this confrontation against the Corruption Sequence]

[You will now return this Divine Wizard’s body, which the Samsara will accept]

Reading it all, Gu Qing Shan appeared a bit regretful.

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This body had used Su Xue Er’s [Infinite Evolution], and was capable of using the old pixie’s [Playing Dirty] Quipcraft.

—because his opposition was a type of Sequence, in order to prevent any unexpected situations from occurring, Gu Qing Shan had continued to maintain [Playing Dirty].

This body was now essentially that of a pixie that possessed the power of a magical God.

“After the Samsara takes this body away, what does it intend on doing?” Gu Qing Shan couldn’t help but ask.

[Most likely a ‘Chosen One’ will be selected to enter this body and continue to play your role] the Supreme Sequence answered.

“Alright, then what do we get?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

[Wait a moment, the Samsara's will is descending]

A moment later.

Gu Qing Shan felt himself being isolated from the entire world to enter a region of complete emptiness.

Once again, the Samsara descended upon this emptiness and communicated with him through it.

Gu Qing Shan instantly gained a sense of understanding.

At the same time, lines of bloody red text swiftly appeared in the void of space:

[Attention: You've completed the Samsara's request and earned 100,000 Merits]

[You will also obtain two privileges]

[Firstly, your Samsara Divine Skill: Tribulation Lord is about to enter hibernation and complete its evolution in 12 hours, thus evolving into a higher level of the Heaven realm's Dharma!]

[Secondly, you are allowed to instantly travel between the Human realm grave and Star Gazer city]

[You must make your choice immediately, would you like to return to Star Gazer city, or continue to explore the Human realm grave?]

Gu Qing Shan appeared happy.

The Heaven realm's Dharma being able to evolve to the next level was an unquestionably good thing.

Right as he was about to choose to continue exploring the Human realm grave, he realized something.

—wait.

I've been in this world for so many years, how much time has passed on the outside world?

He tried asking.

[1 year in the grave is 1 hour outside] the Sequence answered.

Gu Qing Shan sighed in relief.

—so not much time has actually passed.

But I can't let my guard down either.

Although the Heavenly Emperor in the Heavenly Palace was a fake, that Heavenly Emperor had still made an attack on Star Gazer once.

For some reason, Gu Qing Shan felt a bit uneasy.

He pondered for a few moments.

I'm currently risking my life in the Human realm grave, but if I'm not careful and let the fake Heavenly Emperor somehow destroy or takeover Star Gazer city, I might as well not be doing this.

"I choose to return to Star Gazer city immediately!" Gu Qing Shan said.

At the very next moment.

He felt himself separating from the body, then rapidly moved through countless worlds to return to Star Gazer city in an instant.

As he landed on solid ground, he looked down at his body.

—yup, this is my original body.

『 Gu Qing Shan, you made it back just in time! 』

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A worried voice sounded into his ears, it was Li An.

“Huh? What’s the matter?” Gu Qing Shan turned around to look.

『 All the people of the Heavenly Palace have returned—— they’ve temporarily stopped exploring the Great Tomb, almost as if they’re preparing for something 』 Li An hurriedly explained.

Gu Qing Shan swiftly walked up to the deck of Star Gazer city to observe the Heavenly Palace.

Only to see that immense light was radiating above the Heavenly Palace, with numerous heavenly beings gathered at the main square of the city, all of which had focused their gazes on him.

In just a few moments, a gigantic offensive formation had manifested in the void of space outside of the Heavenly Palace.

The runes surrounding this offensive formation gradually grew brighter as it exuded a ferocious presence.

A gigantic object began to appear at the center of the formation.

——it was a battering ram in the shape of a nine-clawed golden dragon, its size a little bigger compared to both cities combined.

『 After collecting their Merit, the Heavenly Palace had once again upgraded their [Limited Basic Long-distance Bombardment] to ‘Advanced’ —— I’m worried that we won’t be able to endure it 』 Li An said with considerable worry in her voice.

Gu Qing Shan silently observed the gigantic battering ram.

The real Heavenly Emperor is an entity that has been alive for over ten million years, so he's currently exploring the Human realm grave.

The fake Heavenly Emperor remained in the Heavenly Palace to oversee business here.

This fake Heavenly Emperor——

He's trying to——

『 They're laying siege! Gu Qing Shan! 』 Li An exclaimed.

Gu Qing Shan turned towards the main square of the Heavenly Palace.

Only to see that the fake Heavenly Emperor was holding a flag in his hand before heavily swinging it down:

「 Open—— fire—— 」

Following this order, all the heavenly beings began to move.

They rode on clouds as they formed into formations to attempt an attack on Star Gazer city.

In front of all the heavenly beings——

The battering ram was violently moving towards Star Gazer city with seemingly unstoppable force!