

Worlds' Apocalypse Online –

Chapter 1787 - City war! –

Chapter 1787: City war!

——the siege had begun!

The gigantic nine-clawed golden dragon violently slammed itself towards Star Gazer city.

Right behind the battering ram, the heavenly beings of the Heavenly Palace were charging forward like a black cloud consisting of locusts, ready to jump in and destroy everything as soon as the metal shell of Star Gazer city was pried open!

However, Gu Qing Shan just happened to return right at this point in time.

In that instant, he only managed to do a single thing——

“Paper sheet, activate [Intermediate City Concealment]!”

Gu Qing Shan swiftly shouted.

——[Intermediate Law: City Concealment]

[Description: By focusing the population's Merits, Star Gazer city will be completely concealed within the void of space, no entity or entities would be able to detect or attack Star Gazer city]

From the void of space above Star Gazer city, the paper sheet slightly fluttered.

In an instant, invisible Samsara Origin Power flowed continuously from the paper sheet into Star Gazer city.

Fshu!

Star Gazer city completely vanished.

At the very next moment, the nine-clawed golden dragon battering ram flew unstoppably through where Star Gazer city was previously, carrying with it intense gusts of wind.

It continued to fly through the distant sky, heading towards the end of the world.

That was dangerous!

If I had been one second late, Star Gazer city would have been struck!

Gu Qing Shan sighed in relief.

“We’re safe for now” he turned back and told Li An.

Only to see that Li An was still in shock.

If Star Gazer city was destroyed, all the Chosen Saints in Star Gazer city would have no choice but to be scattered in the great tomb, losing their place of refuge from danger.

Gu Qing Shan looked back towards his city.

At the moment, there wasn’t a single person in Star Gazer city, as everyone had gone out to explore the great tomb and collect Merit.

——which means, this was a planned ambush by the Heavenly Palace.

『 I wasn’t able to contact you despite trying several methods, it’s a good thing that you managed to come back in time, otherwise, Star Gazer city would have been destroyed without question 』 Li An explained.

“Hm, it was also because I had a bad feeling that I took the time to come back” Gu Qing Shan replied.

He stared closely at Li An and saw a line of text appearing above Li An’s head:

[That really was fortunate, otherwise if the city had been destroyed, we would have been done for]

These were Li An’s thoughts.

Through [Overlooking Soul], Gu Qing Shan was reading her thoughts.

In the sky outside of Star Gazer city, the horde of heavenly beings swiftly retreated and returned to the Heavenly Palace.

——if Star Gazer city is on guard, it won’t be quite as easy to take it down anymore.

The Heavenly Emperor’s tired voice reverberated from the distance:

「 Gu Qing Shan, you might have returned just in time this once, but you won’t necessarily be so lucky again the next time 」

Gu Qing Shan temporarily remained silent without answering him.

The fake and real Heavenly Emperors...

Are really difficult to deal with.

The real Heavenly Emperor has ventured out in search of the Human realm grave.

While the fake Heavenly Emperor is constantly keeping his attention on Star Gazer city.

As soon as I leave Star Gazer city, I'd give the fake Heavenly Emperor an opportunity to take advantage of.

He can issue a siege at any moment.

On the other hand, if I continue to remain here to guard Star Gazer city, I would indeed be able to keep it safe; but the real Heavenly Emperor would be freely exploring the Human realm grave, continuously moving deeper into it while leaving me far behind.

I can't leave, but I can't NOT leave either, this is quite the dilemma.

Gu Qing Shan paced back and forth around the ship's deck, continuously pondering idea after idea, strategy after strategy.

『 What are you thinking about? 』 Li An asked.

“We can't keep remaining passive like this, we need to retaliate somehow” Gu Qing Shan replied.

『 You're the City Lord, what about summoning everyone back so we can launch an attack on the Heavenly Palace? 』 Li An suggested.

“That won't do...” Gu Qing Shan muttered.

The real Heavenly Emperor might have disguised himself to join Star Gazer city.

As soon as I issue a summon, he will instantly find out.

The Heavenly Emperor is an old monster that has lived for countless years with plenty of unknown cards up his sleeves, so if I want to attack the Heavenly Palace, it's best that I don't alert him.

Then——

I can only rely on myself for this counter-siege.

With that in mind, Gu Qing Shan looked up at the paper sheet in the sky.

“I want to upgrade Star Gazer city”

He muttered in his mind.

A magnificent consciousness immediately radiated from the paper sheet to respond to Gu Qing Shan’s request.

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

[Total Merit value of Star Gazer city’s population:]

[368,000]

[The following city functions can be awakened:]

[...]

Gu Qing Shan scrolled across the long list of city functions but was unable to make a decision.

——there are many Apocalypses constantly moving around the wilderness.

That elongated skull might even return at any moment.

So just because I have 368,000 Merits doesn’t mean I can use them all up at once.

Gu Qing Shan was facing a difficult choice.

Either he could leave a stockpile of Merit and only upgrade the city’s defensive capabilities.

Or he could use up all his Merits at once and choose an especially powerful function to retaliate against the Heavenly Palace.

——how should I choose?

Gu Qing Shan carefully studied the various city functions available before finally deciding on two of them.

“Initiate attack, the target is: the Heavenly Palace!”

Gu Qing Shan ordered.

Above Star Gazer city, the paper sheet began to radiate brilliant light as if to signify that it was ready.

“The means of attack——” “Unique Repulsion weapon: [Big Stink Egg]!”

A blob of gooey green substance manifested outside of Star Gazer city.

『 What is that? 』 Li An asked.

“[Big Stink Egg], a relatively cheap repulsion tool” Gu Qing Shan explained.

“Fire!”

He ordered.

The gooey green blob immediately shot towards the Heavenly Palace——

Splat!

Just like a real egg, the [Big Stink Egg] was stuck to the outer barrier of the Heavenly Palace, unable to go inside.

『 It was blocked! 』 Li An couldn't help but comment.

“It's ok, just wait for a moment” Gu Qing Shan replied.

His gaze was still locked on the line of text hovering in the void of space:

[Unique Repulsion weapon: Big Stink Egg]

[An extremely foul weapon, the consolidation of all things that are stinky in the Samsara. Nothing can stop its smell, no living being can tolerate it, even the most ferocious Apocalyptic monster would not choose to remain near it and instead move away as soon as possible]

[Usable once a day, duration: 1 hour]

At this point, some commotion could be felt from within the Heavenly Palace.

“It stinks!” a heavenly being called out.

He rode in a cloud, attempting to flee into the wilderness.

Numerous heavenly beings swiftly followed him without pause, all of them trying to flee as far as possible.

The Heavenly Emperor furiously roared: 「 Come back—— 」

He stopped talking.

——motherfucker!

This really isn't the kind of smell that people are supposed to take in.

「 Dismissed! We're going to temporarily avoid it 」 the Heavenly Emperor loudly declared.

The remaining heavenly beings pinched their noses and followed the Heavenly Emperor as they fled the Heavenly Palace, flying as far as they could.

Li An looked at the stinky blob.

It was stuck to the void of space around the Heavenly Palace, slowly spreading and rolling down its side.

It looked almost like a pile of excrement that roused a sense of discomfort just by looking at it, let alone the heavenly beings who were made to smell it at relatively close distance.

『 What would that accomplish? You didn't manage to kill anyone, and the Heaven Palace is still intact 』 Li An asked.

“Hm, this was the cheapest function, so I suspect that the heavenly beings didn't bother to take a closer look at it” Gu Qing Shan replied.

『 You mean, you still have another plan? 』 Li An asked.

Gu Qing Shan said: “I already unlocked another city function, I'm just waiting until they all flee before I use it——.”

While he spoke, Star Gazer city began to move.

Its metallic body swiftly and orderly began to detach, shift, transform, and reassemble into a mobile mech that was several hundred meters in height.

『 This is—— 』 Li An appeared shocked.

“I used up almost all of our Merit, so whether or not we succeed will depend on this” Gu Qing Shan replied.

——I can't let the Heavenly Emperor keep taking cheap jabs at me from the side.

I want to focus on exploring the Human realm grave, so I need to completely remove Star Gazer city's worries from now on.

Since I'm already here, I'm going to decide victory once and for all!

Gu Qing Shan stood still in the void of space, his attitude more serious now compared to ever before.

The metallic ground began to open, from which an ethereal mass of light emerged that lightly draped over his body.

A cold mechanical voice spoke up:

[The Light Armor is enclosed, please begin to take over control of the Star Gazer mech]

"Clear, initiating takeover"

Gu Qing Shan took a step forward in the air.

The mech that Star Gazer has transformed into also took a step forward.

"Axe of Annihilation" Gu Qing Shan grumbled.

From the void of space, intense scorching lightning manifested in the palm of the mech, which then transformed into a pulsating giant Axe of Annihilation.

"Charge!"

Gu Qing Shan then motioned running forward while wielding a battle axe.

The Star Gazer mech also copied this motion, gripping the battle axe tightly as it charged straight towards the Heavenly Palace.

The giant mech gradually sped up more and more, with each step causing the earth to rumble intensely.

Observing this, Li An's heart felt like it almost wanted to jump out of her throat.

At this point in time, the giant mech was still in the state of [Intermediate City Concealment].

In other words——

The heavenly beings of the Heavenly Palace had no idea that Star Gazer city had transformed into a mech, manifested a giant axe, and began charging straight at them.

Li An finally couldn't contain her voice anymore and muttered in a screeching voice: 『 You're trying to—— 』

“That's right, to destroy this Heavenly Palace once and for all!” Gu Qing Shan roared.

He suddenly stopped running and raised both hands into the air, mimicking the motion to throw something forward with all his strength.

The giant Star Gazer mech also stopped running just outside the range of the [Stink Egg]'s influence——

The mech then swung the giant pulsating axe over its head and violently threw it towards the Heavenly Palace!

Chapter 1788: Star Gazer Deus Machina

A resounding impact!

The gigantic battle axe connected with the Heavenly Palace as a spinning ring of plasma, causing a thunderous boom.

The giant Star Gazer mech waved its hand.

The battle axe slowly detached itself and flew back into the giant mech's hand.

At the same time, several structures on the Heavenly Palace that had already been destroyed, together with the rubble all over the ground, began to transform into pure Samsara Origin Power and flew towards the Star Gazer mech.

——during the first attack of the Heavenly Palace on Star Gazer city, Gu Qing Shan had already realized a certain fact.

The paper sheets hovering above the two cities would utilize Merits from its Chosen Saints to protect the cities and prevent them from being attacked by Apocalyptic monsters within the great tomb.

But if an attack arrived from the other city, the paper sheets would not automatically defend.

Sure enough.

Star Gazer city's attack connected right away.

The destroyed portions of the Heavenly Palace were turned into Samsara Origin Power and were absorbed by Star Gazer city without trouble.

Lines of bloody red text swiftly appeared:

[Absorbing Samsara Origin Power]

[Evolving]

[Advanced Technological city-scale weapon: Star Gazer Deus Machina (basic) has been slightly improved]

[You need to further upgrade your Star Gazer city to allow 'Star Gazer Deus Machina' to become more powerful]

Skimming through these messages, Gu Qing Shan made his decision without pause.

He grumbled: "Full Offense mode, engage weapons!"

Thousands of tiny hatches immediately started opening on the surface of the Star Gazer mech, from which numerous components flew out towards the battle axe.

The battle axe made of lightning rapidly changed its shape, transforming into a long blade that radiated distorted dark light.

Gu Qing Shan stood hovering in the air with the posture of wielding a blade.

The Star Gazer Deus Machina tightly gripped the hilt of the blade with its hands and raised it into the air——

Shiii!

Layers upon layers of space were actively moving away from the edge of the blade wherever it passed.

The dark light blade easily cut through the layer of light outside of the Heavenly Palace and violently tore through its structures.

Rumble rumble rumble——

Large patches of structures collapsed into pure Samsara Origin Power that flowed into the Star Gazer Deus Machina.

「 STOP! 」

From the far distance, the Heavenly Emperor's shout reverberated.

The Star Gazer Deus Machina looked up.

Only to see that in the far distance, the army of heavenly beings had gathered around the Heavenly Emperor, all of them forming the same hand seals as they declared in unison:

「 Eradicate Evil! 」

Numerous colorful heavenly lights manifested from the heavenly beings' bodies before gathering on top of the Heavenly Emperor's hand.

[Thousand Immortals Demon Eradicating Formation]!

The Heavenly Emperor placed his hands together forming a hand seal and pointed his finger towards the Star Gazer Deus Machina——

A pillar of colorful light that was at least two dozen meters in diameter shot out, instantly traveling the long distance to strike the Star Gazer Deus Machina's body.

The Star Gazer Deus Machina was forced a single step backwards.

“Self-scan!”

Gu Qing Shan swiftly ordered.

A mechanical voice responded: [Damage value: 0]

“No damage?” Gu Qing Shan was shocked.

The mechanical voice responded again:

[Report]

[A Chosen Saint city manifested by the Samsara does not take any damage from Samsara living beings]

Gu Qing Shan was ecstatic.

If the heavenly beings couldn't do anything to the Star Gazer Deus Machina, then the result of this siege was already determined.

The Heavenly Emperor also noticed this fact.

“Oh no... I wouldn't have left the Immortal City if I knew this before...”

He muttered anxiously.

The giant mech once again raised its dark light blade to violently assault the Heavenly Palace.

The sound of impact resounded across every direction.

Large arrays of structures started collapsing one by one, being converted into larger and larger chunks of Samsara Origin Power as they rushed unhesitatingly into the Star Gazer Deus Machina.

The Heavenly Palace was already on the verge of collapse.

The Star Gazer Deus Machina pulled its blade and raised it high into the air once more——

This is going to be the decisive strike!

“Destroy it!”

Gu Qing Shan roared.

His hands swung down.

Following his motion, the Star Gazer Deus Machina’s dark light blade came down on the Heavenly Palace with its full might!

The results were clear——

Right at that instant, the Heavenly Emperor’s figure flashed.

He reappeared directly above the Heavenly Palace and reached one hand out to receive the dark light blade.

They clashed.

A ring shape suddenly manifested in the air, which exploded into a deafening noise.

Like a cannonball, the Star Gazer Deus Machina was shot backwards and rolled uncontrollably several times on the ground, only being able to stop after readjusting its posture.

『 How is that possible! 』 Li An exclaimed.

Earlier, the Heavenly Emperor attacked with the total combined power of himself and all the heavenly beings, but it couldn’t cause the Star Gazer Deus Machina any damage at all.

But now, when the Heavenly Emperor suddenly attacked again.

With only his own power, he stopped the full force of a Chosen Saint city!

“Self-scan!” Gu Qing Shan grunted.

[Damage value: 0, artificial combat intelligence evaluation: the other party did not use their full power] the mechanical voice responded.

Gu Qing Shan’s expression changed and ordered: “Switch to Defense mode immediately”

[Understood]

The Star Gazer Deus Machina once again stood up firmly in the wilderness, now placing the blade in front of itself like a shield.

Gradually, the blade transformed into a giant shield glowing in starlight, which fully covered the Star Gazer Deus Machina.

——the Star Gazer Deus Machina was sent flying with a single parry.

Was the fake Heavenly Emperor that powerful?

Such a thought crossed Gu Qing Shan’s mind.

Unfortunately, he had so little information right now that the truth remained clouded in the fog, and there was no way for him to see through it all.

The Heavenly Emperor was now standing in the void of space, his eyes coldly glancing behind himself.

The paper sheet had begun to release a colorful heavenly light to envelope the Heavenly Palace again.

It was being repaired at an extremely slow pace.

This process would expend plenty of Merits, but the city itself was no longer on the verge of collapsing and had temporarily stabilized.

The Heavenly Emperor slowly turned back to face the Star Gazer Deus Machina.

For some reason, he appeared annoyed.

Just like that, he stood hovering in the void of space while staring coldly at the Star Gazer Deus Machina, not attacking, but not retreating either.

“What do you want?” Gu Qing Shan couldn’t help but ask.

He stood with his hands clasped behind his back, casually replying: “This level of combat... is too laughable...”

Gu Qing Shan remained silent.

——this was the first time he had seen someone so arrogant in the middle of a battle.

This fake Heavenly Emperor’s... personality seems to have changed...

“Let’s just be frank, you don’t have the courage to personally attack a Samsara Chosen Saint city, just in case...” Gu Qing Shan purposely cut his words short to see the Heavenly Emperor’s reaction.

The Heavenly Emperor didn’t show any expressions on his face, there wasn’t even a hint of emotion.

“The Samsara will become my weapon sooner or later, so if I damage it now, it and I will be estranged”

He casually replied.

——as if he was stating an obvious fact.

Gu Qing Shan stared closely at the other party while feeling speechless.

This attitude.

As expected, not the same fake Heavenly Emperor from before.

Could he have been possessed...?

Even the fake Heavenly Emperor wielded countless Heaven realm’s Immortal Crafts, capable of leading the army of heavenly beings to unleash that incredible attack earlier.

If not for the fact that Star Gazer city won’t receive any damage from any Samsara living beings, it might have been too much for it to take just now.

Then...

What kind of person would be able to possess the Heavenly Emperor like that?

Gu Qing Shan subconsciously felt a chill run down his back.

As various thoughts crossed his mind, he suddenly realized something.

A few days ago, something belonging to a Sequence attacked me from above the sky.

I couldn't do anything except to activate [Virtue] and endure it until the entirety of Luo Shui city was destroyed.

It wasn't until it broke through the ground all the way into the Elements Purgatory that the Samsara finally acted.

The monster that called itself the Supreme Lord of Annihilation was captured by a casket and put into a world filled with caskets.

Indefinitely.

This sort of outcome would be more than enough to cause any of these 'vultures' to feel a chill.

Perhaps...

It's not that this guy doesn't want to act against the Star Gazer Deus Machina.

Gu Qing Shan turned to him.

Only to see that he was staring closely at the Star Gazer Deus Machina while observing the surroundings.

... He... seems to be probing something.

Perhaps he's afraid that the Samsara would act again so he decided to probe and discern where the Samsara draws the line first.

Only by knowing where the line is drawn would he be able to eliminate the owner of Star Gazer city!

Did I assume correctly?

Gu Qing Shan stopped his train of thought here and commented: "It seems that you have to kill me first before you can obtain the Samsara, then try to use it for some sort of purpose"

The Heavenly Emperor coldly looked at him.

Their gazes met.

Gu Qing Shan activated [Overlooking Soul].

Empty.

It was completely empty.

The other party had absolutely zero thoughts.

On the contrary, Gu Qing Shan's mind fell into a state of nothingness, making it so that he almost couldn't come up with a single thought.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly snapped out of it and stopped [Overlooking Soul]

The Heavenly Emperor indifferently muttered: "[Overlooking Soul]... so it was a power of the Saint realm, you wanted to know my thoughts, but regretfully——"

He knows about [Overlooking Soul]!

"Regretfully, what?" Gu Qing Shan asked with a heavy tone.

"Other than the Samsara, no living being or thing is worth a strand of my thought" the Heavenly Emperor's eyes became drooped and replied with a bored tone.

Gu Qing Shan's heart slowly sank.

It's unmistakable, the other party is no longer the fake Heavenly Emperor.

This tone is a bit similar to the real Heavenly Emperor.

——that monster who has lived for over ten million years!

"So you know about [Overlooking Soul]?" Gu Qing Shan tried asking.

"Of course I do—— the fact that you possess a Saint realm ability makes you qualified to become my subordinate" the Heavenly Emperor commented.

He casually waved his hand.

At the very next moment——

The entire world vanished.

Everything turned into emptiness, with only the Heavenly Emperor and the Star Gazer Deus Machina still remaining in place.

Gu Qing Shan was shocked.

Immediately, lines of bloody red text swiftly appeared:

[The other party has summoned a Phase Realm, you are about to enter a world under their possession]

[Warning!]

[Absolutely do not leave the Star Gazer Deus Machina, it is the Samsara's link with you, which can ensure that the Samsara is constantly monitoring the current situation]

[It is your only saving grace]

Chapter 1789: The Heavenly Emperor's identity

“...You interrupted my exploration and forced me to return...”

The Heavenly Emperor said indifferently.

Gu Qing Shan replied: “You're the one who tried to attack Star Gazer city first, and what do you want, saying something like that now?”

“Die” the Heavenly Emperor curtly said.

As soon as he said that, the void of space around them started to tremble.

A completely new world manifested.

Gu Qing Shan noticed that there were numerous pipelines all around them.

—these pipelines covered every single direction of this world, connecting heaven and earth together, they reached endlessly deep into unknown directions and were made of unknown materials.

Gu Qing Shan cautiously muttered: “This place is...”

“Where you die” the Heavenly Emperor replied.

He lightly waved his hand.

Dozens of thin long tubes shot out from the surroundings towards the Star Gazer Deus Machina.

As they ran into the tower shield in front of the Star Gazer Deus Machina, they moved around it almost as if they were sentient.

Then swiftly attached themselves deeply into the Star Gazer Deus Machina.

“Once all the Samsara Origin Power is sucked dry, I assume you won’t be able to control this city anymore” the Heavenly Emperor said with his hands still clasped behind his back.

Gu Qing Shan was shocked.

Without waiting for him to react, the tubes immediately began to absorb the Star Gazer Deus Machina’s power.

The Star Gazer Deus Machina was rendered immobile almost instantly.

It seemed to have run into some sort of unsolvable error.

After that, all the tubes pulled back in unison with considerable force——

The giant mech was swiftly dismantled into hundreds of components, which followed the tubes back into the pipelines where they originated from.

Gu Qing Shan blankly stood still.

Everything happened so suddenly that he appeared to be stunned and was unable to process what was happening at all.

The Heavenly Emperor calmly spoke: “You have one last chance to save your life, pledge your allegiance to me”

A mystical rune manifested in front of him.

The rune then hovered towards Gu Qing Shan without a sound.

“Imprint your real name within the rune, then pledge your allegiance to me. In consideration of the fact that you possess a Saint realm technique, I won’t torture you” the Heavenly Emperor replied with an ultimatum.

He then turned around, seemingly uninterested in Gu Qing Shan’s choice.

——it was as if everything had already come to an end, and nothing unexpected could possibly occur.

After remaining silent for a few moments, Gu Qing Shan spoke: “I refuse”

“So you want to die? No, I’m going to inform you that that will be impossible—— I will extract your soul and leave it here in my world so that you would undergo a million years of unceasing torture” the Heavenly Emperor casually said.

Gu Qing Shan replied: “Defeat my Star Gazer city first, then speak”

——wasn't Star Gazer city already destroyed?

Gu Qing Shan stood still, completely empty-handed, yet he still said something so strange.

Even stranger was that the Heavenly Emperor didn't refute his words.

"A very interesting person, one rarely comes by" the Heavenly Emperor muttered.

"This is also quite an interesting occurrence" Gu Qing Shan also commented.

The two of them fell into silence.

As if to confirm something——

After a few more moments, the Heavenly Emperor asked: "How did you find out?"

Gu Qing Shan replied: "I am the City Lord of Star Gazer city, if the city gets so much as a tiny scratch, it will ask me to mobilize the Merits of its Chosen Saints to repair it"

"But it didn't use any Merit just now?" the Heavenly Emperor asked.

"Indeed" Gu Qing Shan replied.

The Heavenly Emperor nodded.

At the very next moment.

The pipeline world vanished completely.

Gu Qing Shan found that he was still on top of the Star Gazer Deus Machina's control platform.

A mass of light was draped around his body, constantly reading his motion so that he could control this mothership-level mech.

——it turned out everything that just happened was an illusion.

Without a sound or warning, Gu Qing Shan's senses had been deceived and led him to believe that he was unceremoniously defeated.

If he hadn't noticed that the Star Gazer Deus Machina didn't give any response at all, Gu Qing Shan would have believed that he was actually defeated by the Heavenly Emperor.

"If not for this Samsara city, you would have lost" the Heavenly Emperor commented.

“I’m sorry, but this is a Samsara city” Gu Qing Shan shrugged.

“I’m starting to truly feel intrigued with you, this time, you can really become my subordinate” the Heavenly Emperor said.

“But why do you refuse to fight me?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

The Heavenly Emperor didn’t answer.

“Wouldn’t everything be resolved with a fight? What we’re participating in is the Samsara Clash for Supremacy, wouldn’t a battle be the quickest way to victory? What are you so wary of?” Gu Qing Shan pursued the question.

The Heavenly Emperor looked straight at him and replied with a slightly more solemn tone: “I merely don’t want others to be the oriole”

“The only cities here are ours, who else are you afraid of?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

The Heavenly Emperor didn’t continue to answer.

Gu Qing Shan slowly understood.

——the living beings of the Huang Quan and the Asura realms aren’t participating in this great tomb exploration either.

Could the Chosen Saints of these two Samsara realms be watching things play out from the sidelines?

No, that definitely should not be the case.

There must be a lot more that I don’t know about.

While Gu Qing Shan was thinking this, the Heavenly Emperor reached his hand out and tapped the void of space.

“Young lifeform, perhaps you do not know what the world truly is like” the Heavenly Emperor said.

“I’m all ears” Gu Qing Shan replied.

As they spoke, a completely new world manifested around them.

This was a Magic-type world.

With a flash, the world turned into a Technology-type world.

Before Gu Qing Shan could clearly see the city and the people inside, the world flashed again.

This time, a Savage-type world appeared.

As Gu Qing Shan saw several barbarians holding bone clubs in their hands, the world flashed again in front of his vision.

A gloomy dark world appeared all around him.

Within the cold frigid water, various shadowy creatures silently moved back and forth.

Numerous worlds were flashing in front of his eyes at dizzying speeds.

The Heavenly Emperor spoke: "In the beginning, I created life and civilization merely to pass the maddening long flow of time"

He gently traced his finger through the void of space.

A child manifested.

As the child landed on the ground, an entire world rapidly unfolded around him.

With time seemingly sped up, the child quickly matured and became an adult, living a happy life with others similar to him in this world.

"But very quickly, I discovered the limitation of living beings" the Heavenly Emperor continued.

"What's the limitation of living beings?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"Like this man here—— whenever I write certain encryptions onto his genes, his body would reflect the corresponding changes, he would become prone to outbursts, easily angered, being unfocused, easily distracted, and easily lose control"

"His body creates his thoughts, and his thoughts hold his entire life in their hands"

As he spoke, the man suddenly got into an argument with a stranger in a diner where he was eating.

He killed several people.

The vision flashed forward.

He was being executed.

With a wave of the Heavenly Emperor's hand, everything around them disappeared.

"That was only a relatively unorthodox example, I merely wanted to say that such is the sorrow of living beings, everything they are is under my control, as dictated by their fates"

"Did you also create the living beings of the Samsara?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"I also tried creating a few of them, but after the Samsara placed them through reincarnation once, I would usually lose my absolute control over these living beings— — this was greatly interesting. No one has ever been able to cancel the destinies that I personally established within living beings, but the Samsara could"

"For that reason, it is my supplement, a part of me— my weapon"

"And so?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"Gu Qing Shan, you are the combination of living beings and Apocalypse, I've already put you through a test, and you've just proven yourself adequate" the Heavenly Emperor replied.

He gave Gu Qing Shan a profound look and continued: "Come with me, and I will tell you every secret in existence. Whatever you wish to know, I can answer it, as there are no secrets above my knowledge within the Boundless Void"

Gu Qing Shan's heart started to beat faster.

Secrets.

He couldn't help but think back to that day in the rain, when the Heavenly Emperor killed three envoys of three Sequences using a single secret.

—if I was told that killing secret, how should I deal with it?

If the Sequence seals off my senses again, the Heavenly Emperor would definitely notice.

The other Sequence envoys couldn't even attempt to resist.

If I manage to survive that secret, the Heavenly Emperor would feel even more interested in getting rid of me.

Not good...

The difference in strength is too great, there's no way to actually fight him.

This monster who has lived through countless years——

This Heavenly Emperor——

Was in fact a Creator Entity 1 of the Boundless Void!

...

At another location.

The Human realm.

“There’s a restaurant called Green Building, rumored to be the best in the world at spirit cooking” a lively female voice commented.

“But this restaurant is very far away from us, I feel like we shouldn’t try to go there just yet, after all, it’s more important to search for our senior brothers and senior sister” a different, gentle female voice said.

“Wan Er, are you sure... that it was called the Green Building?”

An immature female voice called out, carrying with it a sense of doubt.

“Yes I am, Shifu. It’s really strange right? I also felt that it was strange when I heard it” the lively female voice answered.

A few moments later.

The immature female voice suddenly said:

“Let’s go, we’re heading to the Green Building right now”

“Shifu, we should really look for the senior brothers before anything else” the gentle female voice helplessly complained.

The immature female voice replied: “The two of you joined Bai Hua sect quite late, so it’s natural that you don’t know some of the older stories... if my guess is right, one of your senior brothers is definitely at the Green Building right now!”

“”WHAT!?”” the two female voices exclaimed.

Chapter 1790: Their first clash!

“I can promise you one thing”

Gu Qing Shan said.

The Heavenly Emperor silently looked at him, waiting for what he wanted to say.

Gu Qing Shan continued: “During this crucial period of exploration of the great tomb, Star Gazer city is willing to live in peace with the Heavenly Palace—— we can agree to a ceasefire to avoid benefiting the Sequences hiding in the shadows”

“Is that it?” the Heavenly Emperor asked.

Gu Qing Shan chuckled and replied: “What else do you want? I’ve already asked Star Gazer city for a confirmation, if you are the City Lord of the Heavenly Palace, it’s impossible for you to also become the City Lord of Star Gazer city”

“What if I can?” the Heavenly Emperor said.

Gu Qing Shan paused briefly and exclaimed: “That’s impossible!”

My guess was correct.

——the Heavenly Emperor really is hiding inside Star Gazer city.

Only a citizen of Star Gazer city would qualify to become its City Lord.

Since this Creator Entity was able to directly take control over the fake Heavenly Emperor, they must be capable of a terrifying secret technique that I haven’t heard of.

Then...

How many people can they take control of at once?

Following this train of thought, if I pledge my allegiance to them, would they be able to take over me and my existence?

If they can take control over countless living beings, would they be able to turn all living beings into a spare body?

That’s such a nasty ability.

Just by imagining that little bit, Gu Qing Shan had already started to feel a chill in his stomach.

With so little information, this was the extent of what he could consider.

As for what exactly the other party’s ability was, or if it had deeper applications, Gu Qing Shan couldn’t even begin to make conjectures about it.

Seemingly thinking of something, the Heavenly Emperor absent-mindedly muttered: “Nothing is impossible in this world, after all, even the Samsara has appeared...”

He then remained silent for a while.

Gu Qing Shan had no idea what he was thinking about at all.

Even without taking anything except information into consideration, the difference between them was too great.

“Alright, let’s not prolong this any longer, Gu Qing Shan” the Heavenly Emperor suddenly said.

“Sure, what exactly do you want?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“Pledge your allegiance to me and become my subordinate” the Heavenly Emperor demanded.

“That’s not possible” Gu Qing Shan replied.

“You should give it some more thought—— in reality, I won’t need to spend too much force to kill you” the Heavenly Emperor said.

Gu Qing Shan chuckled.

“If this was any other time, I’d believe in these words without question. In fact, you wouldn’t even pay attention to a tiny ant like me, but right now——”

He continued: “Right now, I’m inside the Star Gazer Deus Machina, and the Samsara Clash for Supremacy has already begun”

“So you think I can’t act against you?” the Heavenly Emperor scoffed.

“Try it if you dare” Gu Qing Shan snapped back.

After the monster from an unknown Sequence was forced into a casket by the Samsara, nobody tried to attack me directly.

Even when this Creator Entity has taken over the Heavenly Emperor’s body, they only stopped me so that I can’t keep attacking the Heavenly Palace.

What else did they do?

That’s right.

——an illusion.

They used an illusion to try and win without a fight.

From beginning to end, this Creator Entity has actively avoided a direct confrontation.

This shows that they're still afraid.

They're afraid of angering the Samsara like the previous one.

And that is my hope of survival.

The Heavenly Emperor's expression remained cold, seemingly not at all angered by Gu Qing Shan's words.

He stared closely at the Star Gazer Deus Machina and muttered:

"...The two cities can attack one another, most likely, this is tacit permission from the Samsara. It wants to use this hostile competition to observe the Chosen Saints, especially Chosen Saints who can become a City Lord"

"Then..."

The scenery around them vanished in a flash.

As his vision became clear again, Gu Qing Shan found himself standing on top of the barren wasteland once again.

The great tomb river was still flowing rapidly across the wasteland.

The Star Gazer Deus Machine was standing a bit away from the Heavenly Palace.

While the Heavenly Emperor was standing right in front of the Heavenly Palace, casually waving his hand.

——the big stink egg that was stuck to the outside of the Heavenly Palace was sent flying into the far distance before completely vanishing.

"Very well, then I shall fight you once using the rules of the Samsara, this way, no one would be able to say anything" the Heavenly Emperor declared.

He then hovered backwards until he landed on top of the Heavenly Palace's central building.

A wave of miraculous fluctuations began to radiate from his body.

Standing in the distance, Gu Qing Shan noticed it right away.

Lines of bloody red text quickly appeared:

[Warning, the other party has invoked the power of Miracles]

[The power of Miracles has surrounded your body with the following setting:]

[During the next battle between the two cities, you will be defeated, which will lead to your death]

Gu Qing Shan scanned through the message and asked without pause: “Why didn’t he simply invoke a miracle where Star Gazer city would be destroyed by the Heavenly Palace?”

The Supreme Sequence replied: [This is the Samsara Clash for Supremacy, which the Samsara is constantly monitoring. If he directly used a miracle to destroy a Samsara city, it would be too unfair, in fact, he could have simply used a miracle to declare himself the master of the Samsara—]

[Do you think that the Samsara would accept such a master?]

“I understand, then I still have a chance” Gu Qing Shan sounded glad.

He fell down on the spot.

He was dead.

A second later, he suddenly stood back up on his feet and looked at the void of space in front of him.

A few more lines of bloody red text appeared:

[You died once]

[One of the two established outcomes of the miracle has been fulfilled]

[The power of Miracles had established another outcome: During your battle with the Creator Entity, you will be defeated]

Gu Qing Shan swiftly read through the messages and turned towards the Heavenly Palace:

“Let the battle begin!”

“I accept defeat!”

Instantly, more lines of bloody red text appeared:

[—You have been defeated!]

[Both established outcomes of the miracle has been fulfilled]

[Following this, the power of Miracles will no longer be able to interfere with your battle]

Gu Qing Shan asked right away: “Can’t the Creator Entity repeatedly use the power of Miracles?”

[Within a short span of time, miracles cannot occur repeatedly on the same individual] the Sequence answered.

“Why not?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

[Because it’s a ‘miracle’] the Sequence replied.

“Got it” Gu Qing Shan said.

He turned towards the other party.

Now that I’ve dispelled the power of Miracles, what else can the Heavenly Emperor do?

All of a sudden, the Heavenly Emperor could be seen looking at him with a look of disdain.

“Shrewd trickster... very well, I shall take your life myself...”

1

He then pointed his hand towards the Heavenly Palace.

The paper sheet that was hovering above the Heavenly Palace began to give off a bright colorful light that flowed into the city below.

The Heavenly Palace began to rumble.

“So many Merits...” Gu Qing Shan appeared solemn.

The Heavenly Emperor was using a huge amount of Merits to repair the Heavenly Palace and rapidly upgrade it at the same time.

I can’t wait any longer!

A mechanical tunnel opened up on the Star Gazer Deus Machina’s back.

Gu Qing Shan then reached behind his back and pulled out a glowing black light blade from inside the tunnel.

He rushed forward——

“Don’t interfere!”

The Heavenly Emperor casually waved his hand.

The Star Gazer Deus Machina was sent flying like a blurred image, only stopping after skidding a long distance on the ground.

Gu Qing Shan quickly reconsidered the situation.

His power alone is far above the level of Star Gazer city at this point in time.

But unlike the Sequence monster from before, he doesn’t dare to destroy a creation of the Samsara.

Which means——

He needs to fight using a method recognized by the Samsara.

Behind the Heavenly Emperor, the Heavenly Palace was now giving off an almost solid aura of rainbow light.

——the Heavenly Emperor wants to control the Heavenly Palace’s attack and destroy Star Gazer city with it!

That is a method recognized by the Samsara!

Gu Qing Shan clenched his teeth and pressed a button on the blade.

The entire blade rapidly collapsed upon itself before once again reassembling into the shape of a giant machine gun that glowed with blue light.

Tak tak tak tak tak!

The giant machine gun started blasting off with bright bursts of fire.

The Heavenly Emperor glanced over and casually drew a huge black circle in the void of space.

All the howling bursts of fire entered the huge black circle and vanished without a trace.

“It’s useless, both you and your city will be obliterated today” the Heavenly Emperor casually declared.

Gu Qing Shan turned towards the Heavenly Emperor’s back.

The Heavenly Palace was still continuously transforming, seemingly attempting to morph into some sort of ancient mythical artifact.

Gu Qing Shan said regretfully: “Seems like I truly won’t be able to defeat you today”

“Then you’ve accepted reality, I will be coming for your life soon” the Heavenly Emperor said.

“No, I still have a secret technique I haven’t used” Gu Qing Shan said while overflowing with killing intent.

“Oh?” the Heavenly Emperor looked at him with a faint sarcastic expression on his face.

But Gu Qing Shan was dead serious.

That’s right, despite the current circumstances, he still had a secret technique.

This was something he learnt the first time he met Little Dusk, when they were fighting together against a group of bounty hunters.

That was——

Gu Qing Shan grunted: “Transform”

Instantly, the Star Gazer Deus Machina knelt down on the ground and started to restructure itself in such a short time that it looked chaotic.

——it had turned into an interstellar warship!

The original form that Star Gazer city was in!

Gu Qing Shan ordered: “Warp”

[Initiating warp] a mechanical voice responded.

The air around the interstellar warship began to become distorted.

At the very next instant.

The giant spaceship that was several hundred meters in length had vanished into the void of space, nowhere to be seen over the barren wasteland.

—it had fled.

While that seemed like it would take a long time, everything actually occurred in the blink of an eye.

The Heavenly Emperor was still standing on top of the Heavenly Palace with one hand raised, ready to receive the attack.

A cold breeze blew past.

The wasteland was now literally devoid of anything noteworthy.

His opponent was no longer there.

1

“He tricked me...”

He slowly lowered his hand and looked down at the Heavenly Palace.

When Gu Qing Shan attacked the Heavenly Palace earlier, the city had almost collapsed, so it took a bit too much time to both repair and upgrade it.

Even now, the Heavenly Palace’s upgrade was still unfinished.

Star Gazer city was an advanced technological weapon, so it had the capability to change its combat mode depending on the situation.

For example, transforming its shape and employing various means of mobility.

—not to mention the functions granted to it by the Samsara.

Gu Qing Shan... seems to have a relatively profound understanding of technology...

Which means...

After remaining silent for a few moments, the Heavenly Emperor finally confirmed his suspicions.

“It seems... I won’t be able to catch up...”

He muttered in a low voice, displaying clear irritation for the first time.

Chapter 1791: The Creator Entity’s substitute body

The river was calm and winding as it continued to flow.

At a relatively secluded location away from the tomb river.

There weren't any strange creatures here, nor were there any graves, and especially no wandering Apocalypses.

The Star Gazer Deus Machina was hiding here.

The giant mech that was over a few hundred meters in height was standing firmly on the ground, its body parts constantly in operation, almost as if it was ready to fight at a moment's notice——

But with a closer look, it was actually ready to flee.

『 How is it? 』 Li An asked.

“They didn't give chase” Gu Qing Shan replied.

He was continuously paying close attention to even the smallest movements of the grass in the wilderness to prevent the Heavenly Emperor from getting the jump on them.

Li An commented, still a bit fearful: 『 We finally escaped—— how did he suddenly become so terrifying? 』

“You thought that he was terrifying?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

『 Yeah, he was ridiculously strong, just looking at him from a distance, I already felt a sense of fear in my heart 』 Li An answered.

Gu Qing Shan didn't say anything else and began to fall into thought.

Li An has no idea what happened to the Heavenly Emperor.

And there are certain things that I should just keep to myself instead of telling her, otherwise, it would cause her danger.

For example——

Through that conversation with the Heavenly Emperor earlier, I've confirmed that he at least has one identity within Star Gazer city.

He's hiding in Star Gazer city!

Now that Star Gazer city is no longer within the Heavenly Emperor's sight, the battle between two cities can't help but proceed silently.

Then, what would the Creator Entity behind the Heavenly Emperor do?

If they wanted to find Star Gazer city, they simply had to return to the second identity and they'd instantly find out where Star Gazer city was!

This couldn't be helped.

Every Chosen Saint that has joined Star Gazer city would be granted a natural compass in their minds that constantly points them towards the direction of the city.

And now, the Creator Entity has decided to stop the exploration altogether and focus all their attention on destroying Star Gazer city!

What methods do I have to deal with that?

Gu Qing Shan thought for a long while until he eventually shook his head.

——there are countless Chosen Saints who decided to join Star Gazer city.

It's impossible to discern who could be the Creator Entity.

And what if I did find out who they were?

Gu Qing Shan paused and looked up.

The paper sheet that originated from the Samsara was still hovering in the sky above the city.

Gu Qing Shan used his thoughts to ask the paper sheet:

“I have a question, can the City Lord kick other Chosen Saints out of their city?”

The paper sheet quickly gave a response.

The answer was yes.

This was one of the privileges of being a City Lord.

Gu Qing Shan silently nodded.

If kicking someone out was possible, the most important thing to do right now is to find the Creator Entity among the countless Chosen Saints.

——how should I do that?

Gu Qing Shan fell into thought again.

Not only do I need to find the Creator Entity, but I also need to kick them out of Star Gazer city before they can notice.

Only then would Star Gazer city be completely free of their monitoring.

And I would feel assured to keep exploring the Human realm graves.

But there's a problem here.

——how many substitute bodies did the Creator Entity put into Star Gazer city in total?

There are other issues as well.

——would the envoys of other Sequences feel tempted as well?

Numerous thoughts continuously flowed through Gu Qing Shan's mind.

There are too many things to worry about.

He finally shook his head and sighed: "Let's just deal with them one at a time"

『 Deal with what? 』 Li An asked.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly turned around and looked straight at her: "I want to focus completely on exploring the great tomb, so I'm going to be passing on my City Lord privileges"

『 Passing it on? Do you have any idea what you're saying!?! 』 Li An exclaimed.

"Of course I do"

Gu Qing Shan nodded to affirm her that he had already thought it through.

He looked up at the Samsara paper sheet and loudly said: "Help me make an announcement to all Chosen Saints of the city, I want to pick out a group of seven people who will be governing Star Gazer city together"

Not too long afterwards.

All Chosen Saints who were part of Star Gazer city were informed.

Star Gazer city wanted to pick out a group of people to be at the center of its power.

A total of seven people.

And that Gu Qing Shan was preparing to abdicate his seat to focus on exploring the great tomb.

The rules he established were very simple: a fight between all competitors until the final stage.

The strongest seven people would each receive a seat of power and govern Star Gazer city together.

This immediately shook everyone.

Some immediately made their way back without hesitation.

Others had gathered together and started discussing this news.

Some only hesitated briefly before putting the news out of their minds and continued to explore the great tomb.

...

Within the Human realm graves.

Two blade wielders, one tall, one short, suddenly stopped mid-flight.

“Did you hear the news?” the tall person asked.

“Hmph, picking out seven people to govern Star Gazer city together? We don’t need to think too much about that” the shorter person replied.

The tall person agreed: “The mission that the Sequence gave us was to quickly explore the great tomb and awaken the Ultimate Grave; as for taking control of Star Gazer city, that might sound alluring, but then...”

“But since that guy is there, the others might as well just take a shower and go to sleep” the short person followed up.

The tall person shook his head: “I originally thought that this Gu Qing Shan was a smart guy, who knew he’d do something so silly?”

The short person scoffed: “He most likely heard about ‘that’ and is trying to surrender as quickly as possible”

“If that’s the case, he really is smart” the tall person replied.

The two of them exchanged glances and saw the complicated look in the other’s eye.

The Heavenly Emperor killed three Sequence Envoys at the same time.

No one knew how exactly he did it.

In theory, those envoys should have been the top cut of their respective Sequences, each of them alone would not be much weaker compared to a Creator Entity.

Let alone all three of them together.

And yet, all three of them were killed—

Or rather, they were completely erased without leaving any traces of their existence, not even their soul remained.

The Sequences also stayed silent without saying anything.

This caused everyone else who was hiding to feel incredibly shocked.

No one else dared to try and attack the Heavenly Emperor, only focusing on reaching the final grave as fast as possible.

If Gu Qing Shan had given up on Star Gazer city, someone else would naturally come to take it off his hands.

That would be the Heavenly Emperor.

He is the only other person with a city—

The Heavenly Palace.

No one would dare to stand against him right now.

Which meant, he would also obtain the second city.

...

20 fighting rings.

Each of them was filled with competitors fighting a chaotic battle.

Every Chosen Saint who wanted a piece of the Star Gazer city 'cake' had participated in this competition.

Gu Qing Shan didn't show himself at all and had allowed these Chosen Saints to fight as they pleased.

He was hiding in the heart of Star Gazer city, silently monitoring the situation outside the city while also observing the battles through 20 sets of detailed life-feed holograms.

“The Creator Entity... is cold, emotionless, arrogant, and hates regular competition between regular living beings”

“But I haven’t caught anything yet”

“They might have not entered any of their substitute bodies yet”

“Only when the last seven people remain will they show up...”

Gu Qing Shan silently fell into thought.

Time slowly passed.

Very quickly, only seven people remained.

Gu Qing Shan looked through the seven portraits and pointed at one of them.

In that portrait, a young man stood with his hands clasped behind his back.

Gu Qing Shan commented: “I’ve been observing him for a while—— this Zhang Yun fellow has consistently displayed indifference in his demeanor; even during battle, he would only ever need one attack to defeat his opponents. Have him come up first”

[Understood] a mechanical voice answered.

...

At another location.

The fighting ring where Zhang Yun was.

A mechanical voice announced:

[Congratulations, you’ve obtained the right to govern Star Gazer city, please step up]

A flight of stairs appeared in front of Zhang Yun.

Zhang Yun curtly looked at the ascending stairs without a single thought in his mind.

During the numerous years up to this point, he had seen too many of these ridiculous selection competitions.

From the looks of it, Gu Qing Shan has already given up on this city.

That's good news.

After all, I didn't waste much effort on it, and gaining control over Star Gazer city sooner is better than later.

This way, I'd have two Chosen Saint cities in my hand, and my chances of obtaining the Samsara in the future would also increase.

Zhang Yun kept his hands clasped behind his back and followed the flight of stairs up several floors until he eventually reached a mechanical city square.

Gu Qing Shan was standing at the very center of the city square.

"Welcome, Zhang Yun, from today onwards, you will be one of the seven governors of the city" Gu Qing Shan smiled and said.

"Why did you give up on this city? Did you think you were no match for the Heavenly Palace?" Zhang Yun asked with sarcasm in his voice.

Gu Qing Shan paused briefly before answering with a smile: "That's right, let us get straight to business. As one of the seven governors, you'll gain control over 1/7th of Star Gazer city, in other words, you now control a part of this city"

"What do you mean by that?" Zhang Yun frowned and asked.

"Ah, perhaps you didn't know. Star Gazer city can transform into a giant mech called the Star Gazer Deus Machina, and each of the seven of you will have a part of the complete authority, which corresponds to one specific part of the mech" Gu Qing Shan explained.

"Then, which part do I control?" Zhang Yun asked.

"The head, the two arms and legs, as well as the torso each have an owner already, so the part you're in charge of is the buttocks!" Gu Qing Shan answered with absolute seriousness.

Zhang Yun didn't say a word.

The buttocks?

You dare put me in the butt!?

An invisible terrifying presence began to radiate from him.

Gu Qing Shan's 3D hologram was completely blown away by this presence and vanished.

From the darkness, his voice spoke up: "I recognize this presence, [Overlooking Soul] has also confirmed that he's a person without any thoughts, kick him out"

Pah—

Zhang Yun vanished right in front of Gu Qing Shan's vision.

His identity as a member of Star Gazer city was stripped away, which teleported him to a random location in the great tomb.

Still standing in the heart of Star Gazer city, Gu Qing Shan fell into thought again.

The Creator Entity shouldn't be someone who casually underestimates others.

If that was the case, he wouldn't have been able to live for so many years.

Then, the reason he did something like that right in front of me was to feign that I managed to notice, find, and kick him out.

If he did that so that I let my guard down—

He must have had another substitute body.

Among... the other six.

"Show me the combat footage of the other six" Gu Qing Shan ordered.

[Understood] a mechanical voice answered.

Six screens appeared in front of Gu Qing Shan.

Every battle of the other six winners, from their first to their last, was rapidly displayed for Gu Qing Shan to see.

All six of them had various unique personality characteristics.

Nobody was quite as arrogant as the Creator Entity and looked at the world with half an eye opened.

Even when using [Overlooking Soul] to examine them, no issues could be discerned.

How reassuring.

Gu Qing Shan then shook his head.

—the fake Heavenly Emperor was originally the same.

It wasn't until the Creator Entity took over his body that his personality changed significantly and thoroughly became the Creator Entity.

How can I discern that?

Gu Qing Shan suddenly recalled something.

He ordered right away: "Have them all come to meet me, silently remind them to be polite, say that I'm someone who's very heavy on etiquette"

[Understood] a mechanical voice replied.

A second later.

A mechanical voice spoke to each of the other six at the same time:

[Please follow me to meet the City Lord]

[—a friendly reminder, he's someone who's very heavy on etiquette]

The six of them nodded with understanding.

They quickly arrived at the mechanical city square where Gu Qing Shan stood.

"Greetings, City Lord!" all six of them spoke in unison.

Gu Qing Shan nodded and began explaining: "From today onwards, all of you shall be the governing echelon of Star Gazer city"

Among the six, a muscular man suddenly halted on the spot as his eyes gradually became devoid of emotions.

"Die!"

He spat out a single word before turning into a gust of wind and instantly arriving in front of Gu Qing Shan.

He raised his hand to prepare an attack——

Bang!

Suddenly, the muscular man was sent flying backwards like a tornado.

——Red Dragon Origin Hex!

"Kick him out"

Gu Qing Shan said.

Chapter 1792: The Heavenly Emperor's Divine Eyes

That Red Dragon Origin Hex was nothing but an emergency measure.

After everyone politely greeted the City Lord, if someone was suddenly taken over and tried to attack——

Their attack would only hit themselves.

Even if the Creator Entity had avoided Red Dragon Origin Hex, Gu Qing Shan would also be notified of it by the Supreme Sequence without delay.

“Perhaps that person has some sort of grudge against me, no need to pay attention”

Gu Qing Shan turned back to the other five and earnestly explained.

The five of them exchanged glances before one of them stepped out and clasped his fist: “City Lord sir, can we be granted our corresponding authorities now?”

Gu Qing Shan smiled and said: “Wait a moment, there's one final test”

“One final test?” the five of them asked in unison.

“That's right”

As Gu Qing Shan answered, he couldn't help but think back to the Creator Entity's words——

...

“In the beginning, I created life and civilization merely to pass the maddening long flow of time”

“...but after the Samsara placed them through reincarnation once, I would usually lose my absolute control over these living beings...”

“...”

...

Gu Qing Shan's eyes abruptly flickered.

All living beings that they created would escape their control after those living beings had undergone a single reincarnation within the Samsara.

Inversely, living beings that had not undergone reincarnation even a single time would remain under the Creator Entity's absolute control!

—and what I need to do is to catch these living beings!

While also maintaining my own safety.

Gu Qing Shan retreated into the darkness and was teleported away.

As he entered a secret room within Star Gazer city, he ordered: "Project a real-time image of me in front of the five of them"

[Understood] the mechanical voice answered.

When they saw the City Lord leaving, the five people were very surprised, but then they suddenly noticed Gu Qing Shan's projection.

"City Lord sir" they respectfully greeted him again.

Gu Qing Shan nodded and looked over the five of them: "At this moment, all of you are about to become the new rulers of Star Gazer city"

"But before that, you all must pass my test"

"What kind of test?" the five of them subconsciously asked.

"This test will assess your observation skills, your learning skills, your judgment, as well as body strength coordination. It will be an all-rounder test" Gu Qing Shan solemnly explained.

"What exactly is it?" someone tried asking.

Gu Qing Shan clapped his hands.

"Music, on" he called out.

A lively rhythm immediately began to play within Star Gazer city.

Bsh bsh pow—

Bsh bsh pow—

Gu Qing Shan began to move his body.

"Come, let's get warmed up first"

“One two three four, two two three four, three two——”

He told the group of five as he danced.

All five of them opened their eyes and mouths wide, but couldn't help but started moving their bodies following his urging.

Lines of bloody red text appeared in front of Gu Qing Shan's vision:

[You've initiated the Three Lives Dance]

[From this moment on, you will be able to observe the three lives of your dance partners]

[Attention, as the amount of Merits you possess is insufficient, I can only convert them into a limited amount of Prayers, so you will only be able to see short glimpses]

Only short glimpses?

Glimpses are already enough!

Gu Qing Shan stepped forward and danced rapidly like a blurred image, swiftly finishing the whole Three Lives Dance in no time at all.

“Dance, gentlemen, this is your test!”

He loudly urged.

The five people awkwardly tried to follow him to very little effect.

——the Three Lives Dance was extremely difficult to learn, let alone grasp. Even Gu Qing Shan had to dance with Shroud for an entire year while traveling forward through time before he managed to be so skillful with it.

Gu Qing Shan stopped his dance steps and clenched his fist in mid-air, calling out: “Come, show me their previous lives!”

In an instant, five screens showing the exact same thing appeared in front of him.

Gu Qing Shan's expression changed.

The screens were all showing him nothing.

In other words, these five... have no previous lives.

It was as if they suddenly appeared out of nowhere.

Nobody could know how they became Samsara living beings.

Just like the Sequence envoys, they must have qualified for the Samsara Clash for Supremacy through unknown means.

But thinking back, since the Creator Entity had mentioned such a thing, it was obvious that the Samsara tacitly permitted entry to these outsiders.

It only needed these participants to undergo reincarnation a single time before they become pure Samsara beings.

But, wouldn't that also be a loophole?

——considering these people haven't actually undergone reincarnation.

Gu Qing Shan muttered: "Continue, take a look at their most distant incarnation"

All the screens remain blank.

Afterwards, something seemed to be moving, growing increasingly clearer——

It was a black length of tube.

Each of these tubes were connected to a separate individual, while these people's bodies appeared to be just a husk.

No innards, no flesh, no souls.

Literally empty husks!

Gu Qing Shan felt nothing but a chill down his spine.

Suddenly, lines of bloody red text popped up:

[Warning!]

[Disrupt your Sacrificial Dance immediately!]

Gu Qing Shan swiftly made his decision and undid his posture, allowing the power of the Dance to dissipate.

——no matter what happened, he trusted the Supreme Sequence.

It had accompanied him for the longest time, something that his parents left him.

A second later.

The five screens instantly vanished.

The moving black tubes within the screens had also disappeared.

Without waiting for Gu Qing Shan to ask, lines of bloody red text quickly appeared:

[You and the Sequence have jointly witnessed the truth]

[We've discovered a legendary void monster]

[It isn't some Creator Entity, but the @\$*\$ feared by all living beings: ????]

Gu Qing Shan asked in surprise: "Why are there only question marks? Do you also not know its name?"

Lines of bloody red text appeared to answer him:

[Gu Qing Shan, you've once hunted an Apocalyptic monster that mustn't be seen or heard, so you should know that the names of certain entities must not be invoked, otherwise, you would instantly become food for them]

"I understand that, but aren't there some sort of method where you can pass on a little bit of information to me?" Gu Qing Shan shrugged.

Two large bloody red words immediately popped up:

[ABSOLUTELY NOT!]

Gu Qing Shan was shocked by these words.

The Sequence very rarely used enlarged text to display information unless it was something that must be emphasized.

But even then, there hadn't been many occasions where this happened.

"You seem to be quite cautious?" Gu Qing Shan tried asking.

Lines of bloody red text appeared:

[Originally, I also assumed that they were a Creator Entity of the void, but it's fortunate that you've learnt the Living Being Sacrificial Dance—— thus becoming the successor of the Sacrificial Dance; and also you were able to fully grasp the Three Lives Dance during the battle in the Age of Immemorial. It was because of both these factors that we were about to witness the truth]

[I can only inform you that both the Heavenly Emperor and the Creator Entity are nothing but vessels that it has taken over. Its main body isn't here, and we would draw its attention if I reveal anything else about it]

[At that point, no one would be able to save you, Gu Qing Shan]

Gu Qing Shan fell into silence.

This is related to the Boundless Void... where nothing is sure...

Most of the time, you wouldn't even be able to tell the backgrounds or foundations of some random monster that you come across.

This is simply the truth of the Boundless Void.

In the past, Kitty once said that there were only two classes of opponents: beatable and unbeatable.

She was still being relatively cordial about it.

In truth, another conclusion could easily be drawn from the way she and Barry usually lived.

—whenever they met a monster outside of their own civilization, a slightly crueller way to categorize them would be:

Alive, or dead.

—things can be eaten and things that I'd be eaten by.

Gu Qing Shan sighed.

No wonder the other party looked down on me so much, directly attacking me without a care of any consequences.

That was because it was more than qualified to do such a thing.

Gu Qing Shan shrugged: "Eating a Creator Entity as well as the Heavenly Emperor, if I can't even try to discern what such an entity is, there's no winning this Samsara Clash for Supremacy"

The Supreme Sequence replied:

[The only good news is that the Samsara has been able to observe everything, the will of the Samsara will most likely respond accordingly]

“The Samsara? What will it do?” Gu Qing Shan tried asking.

[Unsure, but only the Samsara would have certain unique capabilities, and only the Samsara would be able to inform you what that entity is without it noticing]

Gu Qing Shan was surprised: “Is the Samsara that impressive?”

[That’s exactly why all the Sequences have arrived to compete for it] the Supreme Sequence replied.

While Gu Qing Shan was thinking, a mechanical voice spoke up:

[The five competitors had waited for a long time, they are requesting to talk with you]

Gu Qing Shan turned back to the monitor.

All five winners were still waiting for him.

——waiting for him to announce the results.

Gu Qing Shan was a bit speechless.

All of them are spies... and there’s no telling how many people from their side have managed to infiltrate Star Gazer city...

“You know what... aside from the evil creatures, kick everyone else out” Gu Qing Shan said.

“Also, issue a summon to all the evil creatures”

[Understood] the mechanical voice answered.

In an instant, all five winners vanished from Gu Qing Shan’s sight.

They’d been kicked out of Star Gazer city and teleported to random locations within the great tomb.

Suddenly, two lines of bloody red text appeared:

[Attention]

[The will of the Samsara has arrived!]

From the void of space, a radiant pillar of light descended from above and crashed straight into Gu Qing Shan’s body.

Lines of bloody red text swiftly showed up as reminders:

[During the previous war of civilizations, you've thoroughly defeated the Corruption Sequence]

[As your reward, your Samsara Divine Skill: Heaven's Decree – Tribulation Lord has finished evolving]

Gu Qing Shan was surprised.

After I won, [Heaven's Decree] has entered hibernation.

Perhaps...

The Samsara wanted to borrow this Dharma to do something?

He continued to read the bloody red text:

[Attention, in consideration of your performance up until this point as well as your identity as the successor of the Heavenly Dharma, your identity as a Huang Quan realm's Chosen Saint, your identity as the Wraith realm's only Chosen Saint, your identity as the successor of the Cessation Dance, as well as being the City Lord of Star Gazer city, you've obtained the twice-evolved Heavenly Dharma——]

[Heaven's Decree – Heavenly Emperor's Divine Eyes]

Chapter 1793: Eternal Mind Seizer

[You've obtained the twice-evolved Heavenly Dharma——]

[Heaven's Decree – Heavenly Emperor's Divine Eyes]

[Unique, Instant Skill]

[Description: Any techniques that can kill you will instead be under your control and attack your enemy, additionally, any enemies you kill while the eye technique was active would be forcefully sent to Huang Quan to undergo reincarnation]

[Whenever you're in a near-death state, you can invoke this Skill once, each usage would consume half the of the Merits that you currently possess]

[——Disrespect towards Heaven will be punished]

Gu Qing Shan was shocked.

This ability... can only be used while near death, but it's still extremely powerful.

There used to be a loophole in the Samsara.

—any outsiders who entered the Samsara would remain under outside control as long as they managed to not reincarnate.

For example, the substitute bodies that were kicked out of Star Gazer city just now.

They were still under the absolute control of the unknown monster and could have been taken over at a moment's notice.

But now, the Samsara has given me an eye technique that has undergone evolution twice.

—I can forcefully send anyone I want to head into Huang Quan for reincarnation.

That makes perfect sense.

If that's the case...

The Samsara is actually borrowing my hands to patch up its previous loophole.

Seems like my victory against the Corruption Sequence raised my standings with the Samsara quite a bit.

While he was thinking, a few more lines of bloody red text appeared in the void of space:

[Compared to any Sequence Envoy, as the successor of the Heavenly Dharma and City Lord of Star Gazer city, you are too weak]

[It isn't just you, but no Chosen Saint can compare to them at all]

[The Samsara has taken notice of this situation and is currently observing the circumstances with a solemn gaze]

[—Make sure your performance is good enough and the Samsara might make a decision that would benefit Chosen Saints as a whole]

Gu Qing Shan silently nodded after he finished reading.

It already gave me a Divine Skill.

As well as its attention.

The Samsara has naturally noticed that the Heavenly Emperor is somehow inappropriate.

And now even the Supreme Sequence has given me a reminder.

It seems... I'll need to make a show out of this...

How should I...

Gu Qing Shan lost himself in his thoughts.

Suddenly, a mechanical voice snapped him out of it:

[The evil creatures are currently making their way back to Star Gazer city]

[Some have already arrived and are requesting an audience with the City Lord]

Gu Qing Shan regained his senses and said: "Alright, bring me there, I should indeed meet them"

He let one of the mechanical arms pick him up and swiftly took him to the mechanical city square within Star Gazer city.

Numerous mechanical parts could be seen moving on his way.

But a large number of areas were still completely greyed out, the strange and advanced technology within them were still sealed off, unable to activate.

A few moments later.

A large hole opened up on the ground of a platform above the city square, from which Gu Qing Shan emerged.

A Gloom Shadow Devil and Blazing Flame Demon were standing below the platform, silently waiting for something.

Gu Qing Shan's arrival immediately drew their attention.

「 Old Gu, it almost seems like you just kicked everyone who isn't an evil creature out of the city, doesn't it? 」 the Gloom Shadow Devil laughed.

"Ah, I did. There was a spy among them, but I couldn't locate him, so I had no choice but to kick them all out" Gu Qing Shan greeted him back.

The Gloom Shadow Devil and Blazing Flame Demon looked at him with highly impressed looks on their faces.

Gu Qing Shan noticed two lines of text hovering above their heads:

[Kicking everyone out just because he couldn't find the spy? What a madman...]

[Goddamn, old Gu is a real devil among devils]

1

Gu Qing Shan discreetly shook his head.

I just instinctively used [Overlooking Soul].

It seems my nerves have been stretched quite thin recently.

Following his original plans, Gu Qing Shan would have kicked everyone out.

But he gave up on that idea at the very last moment.

——these evil creatures were all old acquaintances and friends, so kicking them all out without warning would be a bit awkward.

More importantly, it was me who first called on them for help, and it was all because they put in the effort to gather Merit Stones that this Star Gazer city could finally be built.

If I want to do this——

It's best that I do a serious filtration of members, even if I have to use up all of the remaining Merits that I have.

"Alright, let us wait for a little bit, you two, we'll begin once everyone have gathered" Gu Qing Shan said.

The two old evil creatures nodded with understanding and left things to his discretion.

After waiting for a while.

Everyone had finally gathered.

Standing on the high platform, Gu Qing Shan used a microphone to amplify his voice:

"Alright—— brothers, sisters, and everyone else; I trust that everyone already knows the situation. In order to discern who's the Heavenly Emperor's spy, I've already kicked all extraneous members out of Star Gazer city"

"And now, to better discern if there's a spy among us, I'm going to be conducting a second round of filtration"

Filtering spies?

All the evil creatures below immediately felt tense.

Old Gu is a great business partner.

But everyone here have heard of the terrifying things that he was capable of whenever he felt like being cruel.

『 How exactly are we going to discern the spies, old Gu?』 a Demon King couldn't help but tried asking.

Gu Qing Shan replied: "No need to worry, I have a flawless solution for this—everyone will only sweat a little at most"

"But if someone refuses to cooperate and not follow my lead, then don't blame me for getting heavy-handed"

While keeping the microphone in one hand, he slightly raised his other hand to form a dance posture.

"Now everyone below, just follow my lead——"

"Music, on~"

Lively music began to play.

Gu Qing Shan first began with wiggling his shoulders, shaking his body, then skillfully moving his feet.

As he danced on stage, the evil creatures below the platform hurriedly copied his dance steps and twisted their bodies as well.

Bsh bsh pow~

Bsh bsh pow~

The Three Lives Dance!

As the music picked up the pace, the evil creatures chaotically danced.

A bunch of Evil Lords, Demon Kings, Beast Saints, and Devil Kings were sweating bullets as they followed Gu Qing Shan's dance.

——it couldn't be helped, old Gu already made it very clear that not dancing means you're automatically a spy.

Everyone was just moving their bodies as much as possible without actually caring about how good their postures looked.

As long as they kept dancing.

Among the evil creatures, the only one whose dance actually looked good was Li An.

—she was originally a descendant of the old heavenly beings, and being a Tianma, she had experience with alluring living beings.

On the platform.

Numerous images were flashing in and out of Gu Qing Shan's vision.

These images were the three lives of each evil creature, but no one could see them except Gu Qing Shan, who was relying on the power of the Sacrificial Dance to sneak short glimpses into them.

The dance was eventually finished.

Gu Qing Shan looked at the void of space in front of his vision.

Two lines of bloody red text remained there:

[Your Merits have been nearly exhausted]

[Remaining Merits: 3]

Only three Merits remain.

But then again, [Heavenly Emperor's Divine Eyes] doesn't require a specific amount of Merits, it only says that I'll spend half of my Merit every time I use it.

In that case—

I can use it twice?

That should be enough!

Gu Qing Shan stopped dancing and wiped the sweat from his face with a towel before pointing at a few evil creatures:

“Kick”

Almost instantly, all the evil creatures that he picked out vanished from Star Gazer city.

While the evil creatures were silently feeling cautious, Gu Qing Shan laughed heartily and waved his hand dismissively: “Alright everyone, all the spies have been kicked out, everyone can now freely explore without worry”

All the evil creatures cheered as they slowly stopped feeling in danger.

Gu Qing Shan sent his voice towards Li An: “You should head out first, I have something I need to take care of here”

Noticing his intentions, Li An slightly nodded and vanished after forming a hand seal.

Gu Qing Shan then beckoned the Gloom Shadow Devil from earlier to come closer:

“Good brother, stay here for a bit, I have something I need to ask you—— everyone else can go”

Only the Gloom Shadow Devil remained.

He curiously asked: 「 Old Gu, what do you want from me? 」

“I wanted to ask you about some methods of acting covertly, no worries, I’ll pay for them, equivalent exchange” Gu Qing Shan said.

「 That’s not a big issue at all, no need to mention money, by the way, how much are you thinking? 」 the devil calmed down and casually said.

“Depending on what I learn, you know how I am, no need to worry about that” Gu Qing Shan replied.

As the two of them continued their talk, everyone slowly but surely left the city square.

Gu Qing Shan silently issued a few orders to thoroughly isolate the entire city square.

“Can you demonstrate the basics of Shadow Walking for me? I’m quite interested in this unique ability of your race” Gu Qing Shan said.

「 Sure 」 the Gloom Shadow Devil happily agreed.

It then began to demonstrate the footwork as well as explain them one by one.

Gu Qing Shan observed for a while before he silently called out:

“Supreme Sequence”

[What is it?] the Sequence answered.

Gu Qing Shan silently said: “Now you can tell me, what exactly was that monster?”

[If I invoke that monster’s name, it will immediately sense it and personally arrive to kill you] the Sequence replied.

“No worries” Gu Qing Shan stared straight at the Gloom Shadow Devil and muttered: “There’s a reason I specifically left one substitute body for it to use right here”

[Are you sure?] the Sequence asked.

“Enough to give it a try” Gu Qing Shan replied.

After a short pause, the Sequence answered: [Very well]

Lines of bloody text then began to appear in front of Gu Qing Shan’s vision:

[We’ve witnessed a terror from legends of the ancient past]

[The Sequence has confirmed beyond a doubt that the legends were not false]

[That monster—]

[It is the Demon of magic’s decline, the Body-collecting Insect, Lord of all living beings’ despair, the void-born Eternal Mind Seizer]

[As soon as you see its name, it will have already sensed you]

Gu Qing Shan suddenly turned to look at the Gloom Shadow Devil.

[Overlooking Soul]!

Empty.

Nothingness.

Nothing could be felt, everything had fallen into what seemed like eternal blankness.

The Gloom Shadow Devil suddenly stopped moving and began to approach Gu Qing Shan.

Its gloomy eyes abruptly turned empty, and the grey fog that surrounded its body began to gather and gently lifted it into the air.

An unnamed presence had manifested around its body.

In an instant, the void of space around them had begun to shift, the entire Star Gazer city was nowhere to be seen.

Countless black tubes started showing up in the world around them, all of which reached endlessly far into the unseen void.

Each of the tubes was connected to a body, which included humans, elves, demons, devils, beasts, monsters, giants...

Countless bodies.

Countless black tubes.

Gu Qing Shan looked around himself and appeared surprised: "Are you sure you want to make such a big scene? I thought you wanted to make me your subordinate"

The Gloom Shadow Devil spoke with an indifferent tone: 「 A dishonest bug like yourself should best become a spare body, only then could I feel assured 」

Boom——

The Gloom Shadow Devil abruptly began to exert its overwhelming presence.

Gu Qing Shan tried his best to endure it, but couldn't even stand properly before he was blown away by the strong wind manifested by the presence.

The Gloom Shadow Devil continued to speak with an emotionless cold tone: 「 Gu Qing Shan, your soul will become my sustenance, and your existence itself will belong to me 」

At the very next moment.

It vanished.

Chapter 1794: Scheme and battle

Gu Qing Shan reached towards his back and instantly wielded his bow.

Thunderous booms echoed across the world.

Blurry images of arrows was released one after another.

Despite trying its best to avoid, the Gloom Shadow Devil was still struck by one of the arrows.

The intense kinetic energy sent the devil rolling backwards like a cartwheel.

Lowering his bow, Gu Qing Shan displayed a mocking expression.

“The Heavenly Emperor isn’t here, while the Gloom Shadow Devil and I are both normal Chosen Saints with our powers sealed, what deluded you to think that you could win against me?” he calmly said.

The Gloom Shadow Devil casually agreed: 「 You’re right 」

Its body turned into a pool of blood.

From among the numerous black tubes, one of them lowered itself and placed the body of a giant in front of Gu Qing Shan.

All the tubes then retracted themselves.

The giant opened its eyes.

「 This is a giant that does not belong to the Samsara, he still has access to all of his powers, just enough to kill you 」 the giant declared thunderously.

“Kill me?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

「 That’s right, you’re going to die 」 the giant said.

With a thunderous battle cry, the giant swung its arm with all its strength, and smashed its own head with a single hit.

——-Azure Dragon Origin Hex!

Gu Qing Shan stood cross-armed with his bow and shrugged: “Use your true power, otherwise, I’d think that you just wasted your countless years of living—— actually, maybe you lived for so long that you’ve become dumb instead?”

The black tubes around them began to twist chaotically.

One after another, the substitute bodies were being placed down to face Gu Qing Shan.

Powerful Combatants of various races woke up one by one.

They all remained quiet while focusing their powers, ready to act at a moment’s notice.

In a single blink——

These Combatant puppets acted in unison, using their own techniques, weapons, and unarmed strikes against themselves.

『 Impossible... I know that you have a Dragon Hex that will take effect as soon as anyone talks to you, but I didn't say a word 』 an insectoid voice spoke up.

Gu Qing Shan cleared his throat and replied: "You didn't say a word, but I'm tacitly recognizing that you were calling my name in your mind, so I tacitly answered in my mind"

—that was why the Dragon Hex still took effect.

Complete silence.

The insectoid voice spoke up again:

『 I hate dragons, a bunch of low-life scoundrels... 』

Gu Qing Shan suddenly felt his body stiffening up.

At some point, a sharp black tube had already pierced through his back.

"Gah... argh..."

Gu Qing Shan fell down to his knees and started coughing up blood by the handful.

An insect noise reverberated across the world, which turned into a voice in Gu Qing Shan's mind:

『 Pitiably insignificant being, forcing me to personally act—— Dragon Hexes can't affect me in any way, while you can't even take a single attack from me 』

Gu Qing Shan tried to endure the intense piercing pain and focused his mind.

The visage of vast endless land began to manifest behind his back.

—[Virtue!]

[Virtue: The true power of a Saint Pillar (unique)]

[Description: By selecting a source of attack, all damage caused by that source will be jointly shared by you and your surroundings. You will gain the seed of that attack's power, then nurture it through the power of the Earth God until you obtain it as your own]

[To provide for all, nurture all, and grow all, such is the Virtue of the Earth]

As soon as the Saint Pillar's power was activated, all the black tubes around Gu Qing Shan were shattered instantly as they began to spew out a strange black liquid.

From that location all the way to the end of his vision, all the black tubes were shaking intensely.

This world of black tubes was sharing the damage from the Eternal Mind Seizer along with Gu Qing Shan.

Rumble rumble rumble rumble rumble!

The world of black tubes began to collapse.

Originally, Gu Qing Shan was standing on top of a huge black tube, but now that it had shattered, he began to fall into the darkness below.

『 That must have been your ace in the whole, but unfortunately... 』

More sharp black tubes abruptly shot out from the void of space around them, before piercing deeply into Gu Qing Shan's body.

“ARRGGH!”

Clenching his fists tightly, Gu Qing Shan uttered a horrifying and painful scream.

He looked as if he had just been dunked repeatedly into a pool of blood, his body skewered by numerous tubes and held up in the air.

The tubes then began to absorb the power from his body—

Until eventually, when Gu Qing Shan's consciousness had all but faded, his eyes slowly shut.

『 This is the end, I will recreate your body from the beginning 』 the voice said.

Right at that moment, a few lines of bloody red text suddenly appeared right next to Gu Qing Shan:

[You're in a near-death state]

[You've lost the following amount of Merits: 1.5]

[Heaven's Decree – Heavenly Emperor's Divine Eyes has been activated]

Gu Qing Shan abruptly opened his eyes.

Two rays of colorful light shot out from his eyes all the way into the sky, shining through the countless black tubes towards the infinite void of space.

He saw the body of an insect that was glittering with beautiful colors.

Eye technique, activate!

Cak cak cak cak cak cak——

The black tubes that were attached to him began to give off consecutive noises as they swiftly returned all the powers they took, then detached themselves from his body.

At this moment, these black tubes were under his complete control.

This was the power of the Samsara Heavenly Emperor!

“Go”

Gu Qing Shan grunted.

The black tubes all shot into the sky towards the colorful insect.

The insect uttered a surprised noise.

『 You—— how can you control my thought feelers? 』

Gu Qing Shan didn't answer and simply shouted: “All of you, go!”

Under his feet, the numerous black tubes began to move at the same time, all aiming towards the insect.

The sky above him became chaotic.

An invisible force was continuously attacking the black tubes, striking them until they became scattered pieces.

Gu Qing Shan only observed it for a short period of time before bloody red text began to pop up:

[You've activated the 'Millions of thought feelers that takes over bodies' technique]

[Attention, this is a part of the Eternal Mind Seizer's body that was manifested through its thoughts, whenever an enemy harbors any sort of thought, they are capable of entering that thought, infiltrating that soul, and eventually take complete control over them]

Gu Qing Shan felt a bit shocked.

An enemy will be attacked by these thought feelers simply by having a single thought.

Unless someone specifically cultivates soul techniques, or if the difference in strength between the two is quite considerable, this technique alone is already unbeatable.

He looked up at the sky.

The thought feelers were still moving frantically following his orders, but none of them could even come close to the Eternal Mind Seizer's body.

Oh no.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly remembered something.

During many of his encounters with this entity, they'd consistently had zero thoughts, their mind had always been completely blank!

In other words, this technique couldn't do anything to them.

Suddenly, something flashed in the void of space.

All the black tubes were diced into tiny pieces and left to fall like black snow.

The insect noise could be heard again, this time with a bit of caution in its voice:

『 Within the Boundless Void, there are always abilities that even I haven't witnessed, how unexpected that a bug like you somehow managed to take control of my thought feelers 』

『 Unfortunately... 』

『 You still have no chance at survival at all, because my strength is already far beyond your wildest imagination 』

『 I know every secret there is to know, have witnessed every truth there is to witness, not even the Sequences dare oppose me 』

『 The only thing I care about is the Samsara 』

『 So you can—— 』

Gu Qing Shan suddenly cut it off and loudly declared: "So the one thing that might be able to kill you is also the Samsara!"

He raised a broken sword fragment and shouted: "Again!"

The sword fragment gave off a solemn and shrill noise.

A strange power began to emanate from it and slowly envelopeed Gu Qing Shan.

——this time, it truly was Gu Qing Shan's last stand.

He had activated [Govern Spirit]!

[This Samsara Delimitation Divine Sword fragment contains the unique power: Govern Spirit]

[Govern Spirit: You can die at a moment's notice, until you wish to be revived again]

Gu Qing Shan collapsed on the spot, his presence completely fizzling out.

He was an inch from death.

Right at that moment, he suddenly opened his eyes wide.

He had activated the [Heavenly Emperor's Divine Eyes] at a moment of near-death.

——the final activation he could for now!

[Description: Any techniques that can kill you will instead be under your control and attack your enemy, additionally, any enemies you kill while the eye technique was active would be forcefully sent to Huang Quan to undergo reincarnation]

Lines of bloody red text instantly popped up:

[Govern Spirit has recognized you as its master]

[You now possess Govern Spirit!]

[You can use it to attack your enemy]

Gu Qing Shan focused his mind.

The unseen solemn presence shot into the sky through the numerous black tubes, through even the invisible barrier, and directly struck the large colorful insect's body.

[Govern Spirit] had struck!

Gu Qing Shan stood up from the ground.

A furious insect noise could be heard reverberating from the sky:

『 Such a technique——- no, it can only cause me to die for a split second, then I can return to life again—— 』

Its voice was suddenly cut short.

A completely different presence had abruptly manifested from the void of space.

A slightly yellow presence.

Another world had silently arrived from a place unknown and became overlapped with this black tube world.

A giant black mountain, and the violently flowing Forgetting River.

Countless Deities were flying back and forth in the sky before eventually settling down on top of the Grand Tie Wei mountain, silently observing the black tube world from above.

They saw Gu Qing Shan as well as the giant colorful insect whose body was as big as the world itself.

「 What is this... 」 someone muttered in shock.

“Shhhh— don’t say a single word, this isn’t something we can interfere in” another Deity next to him immediately cut him off.

The entire world had fallen to silence.

『 How could Huang Quan appear!? No, I should be able to return to life after an instant! 』 the insect noise furiously called out.

Gu Qing Shan sighed and replied: “Fairly speaking, that’s how [Govern Spirit] works, but my eye technique doesn’t think so, that’s why they’re currently contradicting”

“I assume——”

“The Samsara wants you to remain in Huang Quan instead of reviving”

Fwooo——

The violent water from the Forgetting River abruptly swelled up and flowed like a reverse waterfall onto the giant insect in the sky.

At the very next moment.

All the supernatural phenomena disappeared.

The Huang Quan world, the black tube world, everything was gone.

Gu Qing Shan found himself standing on the mechanical city square of Star Gazer city with nobody around, only him and his body riddled with wounds.

I'm back!

He sat directly on the ground.

The cold metallic sensation of the floor finally affirmed him that this was reality.

— I managed to send that insect that could devour a person's soul and take over their body with just a single thought to Huang Quan.

Gu Qing Shan laid exhausted on the ground.

In a moment of life and death, things could have gone either way.

It's a good thing that my gamble worked out.

This is a feat that goes beyond the restraints of power, accomplishing something that no living being has ever been able to achieve, so not even the Samsara can criticize me in any way.

And also...

He looked towards the void of space where a few lines of bloody red text were hovering:

[You've activated Virtue and received several attacks from the Eternal Mind Seizer]

[Virtue has collected the seed of the Eternal Mind Seizer's power]

Suddenly, all the text disappeared.

The ground began to tremble intensely.

The world, the void of space, even the unknown edge of the world felt like they were quaking.

"What's going on? Why do I sense anger from the will of the Samsara?" Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but ask.

At the very next moment, new lines of text appeared in front of Gu Qing Shan's vision:

[Warning!]

[The Eternal Mind Seizer is one of the most powerful entity within the Boundless Void]

[It concentrated the power of 80 billion outside living souls into a single attack and was able to free itself from the Huang Quan realm's restraints]

[—it has escaped!]

Chapter 1795: Undoing the seal

Star Gazer city.

Gu Qing Shan was sitting by himself on the mechanical city square.

A few lines of bloody red text silently hovered in the air:

[The first time you activated Heavenly Emperor's Divine Eyes, your total Merit value was 3]

[From that point, you've activated Heavenly Emperor's Divine Eyes twice]

[Your current Merit value is 0]

Bah—

An immense force struck him.

Gu Qing Shan was sent directly outside through the large wilderness and rivers before gently landing on the ground.

Even the City Lord wasn't allowed to remain within Star Gazer city if their Merit became zero.

Gu Qing Shan sighed and pulled himself to a nearby secluded location to rest.

—who could've thought, even after all that planning and scheming, even after exhausting all of my Merits, I still couldn't kill the Eternal Mind Seizer.

Huh?

Wait a minute.

I'm thinking right now, why aren't they trying to pick a fight with me again?

Gu Qing Shan was a bit surprised.

Suddenly, a voice spoke to him:

「 The Samsara and I are now with you. We have something we need to do right now, but I have something I must say first— 」

「 I've never thought that [Govern Spirit] could be used that way 」

——this was the voice of the Samsara Delimitation Divine Sword.

Not too long ago, when Gu Qing Shan fought against the Lord of Annihilation and took its seed of power with [Virtue], the sword took that seed.

From then on, it had remained silent.

Up until now.

The broken fragments flew out by and began placing themselves together into the form of a cracked sword.

「 That insect was quite a bit above the Samsara's imagination, it... wasn't a void monster 」 the Divine Sword explained.

Gu Qing Shan was surprised again.

——not a void monster?

Then, what kind of place did it come from?

A different world system?

Or perhaps a Sequence?

With that in mind, Gu Qing Shan asked: “Can its background be confirmed?”

The divine sword answered: 「 It was a monster only spoken of in legends, there is almost nobody that has survived an encounter with it, so there are very little records, only a few off-handed mentions. Now that its original form had been witnessed and it managed to escape, the Samsara has gotten completely serious 」

“Then, are there any countermeasures?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

「 ...This is what I wanted to tell you, the Samsara wants to borrow your ability to analyze that monster 」 the divine sword explained.

“Me? What can I do?” Gu Qing Shan shrugged.

「 Although you are still very weak, your Earth Pillar God powers are unique within the Boundless Void, being able to collect that monster's seed of power—— while I can sustain that seed of power and hand it over to the Samsara, allowing the Samsara to evolve and create a countermeasure for it 」 the divine sword replied.

Gu Qing Shan sighed.

I had to dance on the verge of life and death for so long to obtain this seed, and now you're telling me to hand it over——

The divine sword continued: 「 Of course, you can also choose to keep the Eternal Mind Seizer's seed of power and leave the Samsara Clash for Supremacy right now, that way, you'd have a chance to become an entity as powerful as it was 」

“Stop, I just need to hand it over right?” Gu Qing Shan answered right away.

Now that everyone has fallen into slumber, I will most likely require the Samsara's help to awaken them and allow them to exist normally in this world.

Furthermore, what good would it do for me to obtain the Eternal Mind Seizer's powers?

Even the original Eternal Mind Seizer had to plan for so long just to infiltrate the Samsara Clash for Supremacy for a chance to obtain the Samsara.

——nothing can compare to the Samsara.

「 Can you give up the Eternal Mind Seizer's power so easily? That power managed to triumph over countless Combatants in the Boundless Void, it's practically unbeatable; even the Samsara couldn't restrain it with the Huang Quan realm 」 the divine sword asked.

“So what? Didn't I manage to trick it despite all that? Come, take the seed of power from me, I guarantee I won't even bat an eyelid” Gu Qing Shan patted his chest and declared sternly.

This is a matter of stance, so I need to answer resolutely!

「 Very good, your mind isn't clouded even after obtaining such power, very praiseworthy 」

The divine sword told him.

From the void of space around it, a faint light began to manifest and gently flew towards Gu Qing Shan, circling around his body.

From the tomb river that was a bit further away, some monsters of obscure shapes began to appear.

They were attracted by the commotion here, wishing to take a closer look.

The divine sword then began to give off an even brighter light to fully envelope Gu Qing Shan.

This light was so vast and unending that it had practically warded off the darkness around this entire region.

But the approaching monsters appeared confused.

——they couldn't see anything at all.

After waiting for a few moments, without being able to find anything, the monsters dejectedly returned to the river and swam away.

Within the light, Gu Qing Shan could feel an indescribable power slowly surfacing from the depths of his soul.

This is...

The Eternal Mind Seizer's seed of power.

This power gradually manifested an illusion behind his back.

——endlessly long black tubes that filled one's vision, continuously stretching into the unknown void.

Various fragmented and complicated information suddenly appeared in Gu Qing Shan's mind.

This fragmented information when placed together bestowed Gu Qing Shan with a sense of enlightenment.

"...A larva..."

Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but mutter these words.

As soon as he did, everything around him disappeared, replaced by a certain world filled with darkness in front of his vision.

Countless black tubes, countless corpses.

The black tubes were thoroughly absorbing everything there was to absorb from the corpses, turning them into pure sources of power as they siphoned that power into a colorful insect cocoon in the center of them all.

——the Eternal Mind Seizer!

As Gu Qing Shan silently observed it, he felt an increasingly growing chill from his stomach.

A single cocoon was absorbing the power from all of these corpses.

A cocoon...

Could it be evolving?

Following a lapse of his attention, the scenery disappeared.

Gu Qing Shan noticed that his connection to the Eternal Mind Seizer had been severed.

As the seed of power had disappeared, this was permanent.

He opened his eyes to look at his surroundings.

I'm still standing in the wilderness near the riverbanks of the tomb river.

The light surrounding him was flowing and becoming more intense.

After illuminating the surroundings for a while, the light returned inside the Samsara Delimitation Divine Sword.

「 Go! Return to the Samsara! 」

The divine sword trembled continuously as it sustained the full power of the light before abruptly shivering.

The brilliant light shot into the sky, tearing through the darkness of the night sky before vanishing without a trace in mere seconds.

At this point, the divine sword finally spoke again:

「 What did you see just now? 」

“I had a sudden but clear thought, it was almost like that Eternal Mind Seizer——- was just a larvae” Gu Qing Shan shrugged and answered.

「 How could you tell that it was only a larva? 」 the divine sword pursued the question.

“I don’t know why I drew that conclusion either” Gu Qing Shan replied.

The divine sword didn’t say anything else.

From the sky above, a sheet of paper swiftly descended.

The sheet of paper silently hovered in front of Gu Qing Shan’s vision, it was overflowing with light, but didn’t contain a single letter.

Gu Qing Shan looked at the sheet of paper, then at the divine sword.

「 Take it, you’ve given up too much, this is the Samsara’s reward for your efforts 」 the divine sword said.

“Then I won’t hold back” Gu Qing Shan replied.

He caught the sheet of paper with his fingers.

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

[You’ve discovered a hidden legendary ferocious creature]

[You’ve renounced the Eternal Mind Seizer’s seed of power to the Samsara so that it can evolve]

[The Samsara has rewarded you with a mission:]

[Reforge the divine sword]

[Once you’ve completely reforged the Samsara Delimitation Divine Sword, all of your sealed powers will return]

Gu Qing Shan quickly skimmed through the message.

The divine sword explained: 「 You’ve now become that monster’s enemy, so in consideration of this, the Samsara has allowed you to regain your full power after reforging me 」

“In other words, I’d regain my cultivation and be allowed to use sword techniques again?” Gu Qing Shan asked, a bit unsure.

「 That’s right, even your Spirit Arts can be used—— Spirit Arts are advanced void techniques that are on the same level as Samsara Divine Skills. The Samsara has given you permission to regain all of your powers to participate in the advanced confrontation against the Sequence Envoys 」

Gu Qing Shan sighed in relief.

Words couldn't describe just how tough his battles had been up to this point.

He had to practically squeeze his wits dry every single time.

“That's great... then I'll think of a way to reforge you now”

He excitedly said.

「 No need 」 the divine sword replied.

“Huh?” Gu Qing Shan doubtfully asked.

「 The only thing you need to do is to come with me to retrieve my hilt, that way, I'd be complete 」 the divine sword explained.

“Then— what about reforging?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

「 It's a very long story, all you need to know is that the Samsara has silently afforded you a lot of conveniences 」 the divine sword replied.

“Huh?” Gu Qing Shan was very confused.

「 ——In reality, I was never actually broken in the first place, what you've all seen thus far is a disguise 」 the divine sword explained.

The cracks on its body swiftly vanished without a trace.

It had returned to become a flawless indifferent sword——

Except for its hilt.

「 Come, take hold of me 」 the sword told him.

Gu Qing Shan only paused for a brief second before he reached his hand out to grab the sword tightly.

Seemingly sensing his emotions, the Samsara Delimitation Divine Sword gave off a lasting and resounding sword ring.

Instantly, lines of bloody red text appeared one after another:

[A sword has been discovered]

[Your powers are about to be unsealed]

[The Samsara is no longer rejecting you, so you will no longer be kicked out of the Samsara Clash for Supremacy after regaining your full strength]

[Undoing security measures]

[Secret Art: River Crossing Iron Sword has been unsealed]

[Secret Art: Swallow Returns has been unsealed]

[Secret Art: Drawn Shadow has been unsealed]

[Secret Art: Torrent has been unsealed]

[Asura Divine Skill: Rahu's Eclipse of Sun and Moon has been unsealed]

...

[Your Spirit Art: Realm Spirit Descends has been unsealed]

[Currently unsealing Title Skills, your Title: Shen Wei General has been unsealed]

[Title: Starflame War God has been unsealed]

[Title: Dragon King of Atrocity Jail has been unsealed]

[Fist technique: Ethereal has been unsealed]

[Bow technique: Snowdrift has been unsealed]

[World Technique: Fog Realm Descent has been unsealed]

[Thaumaturgy: Orange King Transformation has been unsealed]

[Eye technique: Forgetting River Slash has been unsealed]

...

[—You have awoken!]

Gu Qing Shan closed his eyes before opening them again.

“Finally, I'm back”

He muttered with eyes filled with fighting spirit.

Chapter 1796: Borrowed power

Gu Qing Shan was flying through the night sky.

Flying——

It had been so long since he had experienced flying by himself again.

After his powers had been fully unsealed, he only lost two abilities, which were [Govern Spirit] and [Repel Evil].

The sword fragments that contained those powers had been retrieved and once again became part of the Delimitation Divine Sword.

Other than that, nothing else had changed.

“Sequence” he silently called out.

[I’m here] the Supreme Sequence answered.

“Now that I think about it, the information you gave me regarding both the Samsara Delimitation Divine Sword and the Eternal Mind Seizer weren’t completely accurate, were they?” Gu Qing Shan complained.

[You’ll understand soon enough]

The Sequence only gave that reply and stopped responding to him.

Gu Qing Shan couldn’t do anything but shrug it off and continue flying.

Regardless of the situation, if the Sequence wanted to deceive him, it had more than enough chances before this.

——if it doesn’t want to talk, then there must be a reason.

Intense wind continued to howl in his ears.

Gu Qing Shan could see Star Gazer city in the distance.

His figure flashed and directly appeared inside the city using Ground Shrink.

There were still quite a lot of people in the city.

A figure hurriedly flew towards Gu Qing Shan from above the city.

Li An.

『 That wink you gave me earlier— what was the issue? Was that Gloom Shadow Devil a spy? 』 Li An asked.

“That’s right, I’ve already killed him” Gu Qing Shan replied.

Li An suddenly opened her eyes wide and said with shock: 『 Have you recovered your powers? 』

“Yeah, after doing a few things, the Samsara fully unsealed my powers” Gu Qing Shan nodded and smiled.

『 That’s great, you need to follow me right away 』 Li An said.

“What’s the matter?” Gu Qing Shan wasn’t aware of the situation.

『 You only left the evil creatures and humans from the Beast King realm in Star Gazer city, so the Chosen Saints who were kicked out without a reason felt like they were treated unjustly. They’ve gathered around the city and are stopping our people from going out 』 Li An explained.

Gu Qing Shan sighed, feeling quite a headache.

At the time, I really had no other choice but to do what I did.

Now, the Eternal Mind Seizer has turned into a cocoon.

The threat has temporarily been dealt with.

Then, how should those who were kicked out be treated?

“I’ll take a look” Gu Qing Shan said.

He gently expanded his Inner Sight in every direction from the city and quickly found the Chosen Saints who were stuck in a stalemate.

Ground Shrink——

Gu Qing Shan instantly vanished and reappeared within the crowd.

『 The City Lord is here! 』

「 Old Gu! 」

“He still has the gall to show up?”

“Cheh, double-crossing bastard”

“He kicked us out——”

The voices gradually grew lower and lower until it thoroughly disappeared.

Silence.

All the Chosen Saints stared straight at Gu Qing Shan without saying a word.

Because the power fluctuations that Gu Qing Shan radiated were very clear.

——he had regained his strength!

Gu Qing Shan cleared his throat and spoke: “Let me solemnly give everyone my apologies. It was because of an emergency that I had to kick everyone out earlier, but now that the issue has been resolved, if anyone of you wishes to return to Star Gazer city, I’ll take you back in”

Someone called out: “You kicked us out at your convenience, now you’re ‘letting’ us back in? You think we’re some sort of cattle?”

Gu Qing Shan sighed and announced again with a louder voice: “I’ll apologize to everybody again, if you accept it, you can return with no extra strings attached; if you don’t want to, you’re free to join the Heavenly Palace”

He casually formed a hand seal in his mind.

A single flash of light darted across the entire area, before it disappeared without a trace.

A thin slash mark, only as thick as a strand of hair, could be seen on everyone’s neck.

Everyone couldn’t help but feel a chill.

He has already regained his powers, so it would be a breeze for him to kill anyone and everyone here.

Gu Qing Shan clapped his hands loudly:

“Alright, I’ve said everything I wanted to say, after you make your decisions, hurry up and go back to your own tasks. This is a special time with special circumstances, it’s better to seize your time and do what you have to do instead of gathering here and complain, anyone who refuses to listen will get their heads cut off”

The evil creatures were the first ones to dismiss themselves.

Then everyone began to leave one by one.

About 70-80% of the Chosen Saint crowd had already left, only a few groups of 3-5 people remained.

These people were all standing motionlessly while keeping quiet.

As more and more Chosen Saints started to leave, the presence they gave off also started to change.

Some of the bystanders who were there to watch things play out finally noticed that the atmosphere was strange.

These people... were ridiculously strong, even stronger compared to Gu Qing Shan whose powers had been unsealed.

So those bystanders swiftly fled the scene.

Gu Qing Shan's expression remained unchanged, silently standing still.

He had also noticed that these people were all around the Heavenly Emperor's level of power.

—their identities were quite obvious, they were the envoys of various Sequences!

After waiting for a short while.

Finally, someone spoke up: "Although others can't tell, as Sequence Envoys, we can clearly sense that you are the combination of a living being and an Apocalypse"

「 A monster that will never be recognized 」

『 Indeed, an ominous being 』

"You will never be accepted, and can never be converted under any Sequences"

『 Such an individual... this is as far as he can go... 』

The Sequence Envoys exchanged words.

"Alright, no need to discuss who I am, just say whatever it is that you need to say" Gu Qing Shan cut them off.

『 Are you in a hurry or something? 』 a Sequence Envoy asked.

“I do happen to be in a hurry to find something I lost” Gu Qing Shan replied.

A topless muscular man laughed heartily: “Ahahaha, perhaps you still don’t understand, at your level of power, even after it’s unsealed, you’re still nothing to us”

He cracked his neck, seemingly about to teach Gu Qing Shan a lesson.

Gu Qing Shan casually said: “When the Heavenly Emperor killed three Sequence Envoys at once, I thought he was going a bit overboard, but now it seems having all of you die here is a good idea”

The muscular man froze.

Everyone else also started to lose their calm.

The Heavenly Emperor’s matter was still a shock to them.

And now, Gu Qing Shan was saying something so similar.

“You’re bluffing” the muscular man grunted.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly started laughing maniacally: “If you really want to die so badly, then I’ll grant you that wish”

“There is a secret”

“You all don’t even have the qualifications to listen to it and you dare come to pressure me!”

“Listen well——”

He abruptly raised his voice and started murmuring with a frenzied but methodical tone: “You people and the living beings of this realm are all the same, nothing but a bunch of pitiful fools; no one will be able to escape from the prison——”

Before he went any further, everyone in front of him vanished without a trace.

The Sequence Envoys were transported away as quickly as possible.

Once they realized what happened, they were all standing in different locations of the great tomb.

The muscular man appeared surprised and tried asking the void of space: “Why did you suddenly transport me away?”

A voice answered him from the void of space: [To protect your life]

The muscular man wasn't actually an idiot, so he realized what happened right away and asked with a heavy tone: "It was a secret that mustn't be heard?"

[You will die if you hear it] the voice from the void of space replied.

The muscular man appeared surprised: "What kind of secret was it exactly— wait, the three envoys that the Heavenly Emperor killed, did they also die like that?"

[Correct] the voice confirmed.

The muscular man fell silent.

A secret that mustn't even be heard.

But then, how come Gu Qing Shan knows such a secret?

There's only one answer.

He isn't as simple as he seems.

—he must still have some sort of hidden hand that hasn't been shown.

Other than this, there are no other explanations.

After a while, the muscular man sighed in relief and muttered to himself: "It seems I shouldn't mess with this Gu Qing Shan fellow for now, otherwise, a secret is more than enough to kill..."

This same scene was occurring with every single Sequence Envoy.

...

Gu Qing Shan remained standing still with a bored expression on his face.

What he said earlier was indeed the beginning of the Heavenly Emperor's secret.

In reality, he only knew the beginning, as the rest of the secret was redacted by the Supreme Sequence.

But since this secret has been used to kill somebody once already, the Sequences should be wary and would immediately act to save their people as soon as they recognize the beginning—

This way, those Sequence Envoys should be too scared to mess with me for the time being.

They will be wary of that secret.

And that's more than enough.

I'll have time to take care of my own business.

Otherwise, I'd have to waste brain cells killing them all as well.

If nothing else, it's tiring.

With that matter finished, Gu Qing Shan silently called out: "Hey... Sequence"

[What is it?] the Supreme Sequence replied.

"Even if I'm not welcomed anywhere, I'm still carrying you, the Supreme Sequence, with me, why do they all look down on me so much?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

[Other than you, nobody knows that I am the Supreme Sequence. All they will sense is that you're in possession of a very low Sequence] the Sequence explained.

Gu Qing Shan felt a sense of epiphany.

——so that's the reason!

My current strength is still far from enough to sustain the Supreme Sequence.

In the unlikely event that the ones related to an Apocalypse Sequence found out that I have the Supreme Sequence, something undesirable might occur.

No wonder the Supreme Sequence had sometimes purposely given me wrong information, leading to me making wrong choices.

But come to think of it, those occasions had only ever been insignificant matters, sometimes they had even resulted in positive circumstances.

Not to mention, if it really is such a low Sequence, how could it have brought me back in time?

How could it have taken control over all lower Sequences and traveled through the Reality Gate to arrive in this Boundless Void?

"A relatively appropriate stratagem" Gu Qing Shan sighed and said.

[This Sequence learnt that from you] the Supreme Sequence replied.

"From me?" Gu Qing Shan asked in surprise.

[Indeed——- don't ask me what I learnt, we won't discuss this] the Sequence answered.

Gu Qing Shan swiftly agreed.

He called out the Samsara Delimitation Divine Sword and asked: "Can you sense where your sword hilt is?"

「 Naturally, let's go 」 the sword replied.

"Let's go"

Chapter 1797: The sword, the blade, and the strongest!

Within the tomb river.

A strange monster was bobbing up and down as it flowed down the river.

The skull with the elongated cheeks.

It was constantly exuding a violent aura as it solemnly moved along the tomb river.

If anything appeared, it would immediately notice.

——it only got struck by the brick the previous time because it had let its guard down.

But the situation seems to be a bit different now.

As soon as it appeared, everything fell to absolute silence.

The other monsters who were hiding in the shadows had already fled, scared that they might be targeted by this Apocalyptic monster.

——Gu Qing Shan also didn't want to anger it.

He was hiding behind a large rock near the banks of the tomb river while concealing his presence, silently waiting for the elongated skull to leave this area before he kept moving.

After moving continuously for over 10 hours, this location could be said to be relatively safe, so he was taking a short rest.

If he kept heading a few hundred more miles in this direction, he'd reach the depths of the tomb river.

There would be a lot more monsters there, with danger at every corner.

Gu Qing Shan originally intended to recuperate his strength here.

But he didn't expect to run into the elongated skull monster.

“Why hasn't it left?”

Gu Qing Shan silently thought.

The elongated skull seemed to be drifting around this area, refusing to leave because it had sensed something.

Not only did it refuse to leave, but it was also blocking Gu Qing Shan's way forward.

It was causing a considerable delay.

Gu Qing Shan waited for a while longer, then couldn't help but ask the Delimitation Divine Sword:

“How far away are we?”

「 With your speed, there's only around half a day's journey left 」 the Delimitation Divine Sword answered.

“In other words, we're very close” Gu Qing Shan muttered.

「 But the situation would only become increasingly more complicated and dangerous as we progress, you should prepare yourself well 」 the Delimitation Divine Sword replied.

Gu Qing Shan nodded without replying.

The Delimitation Divine Sword continued: 「 In this situation, I can actually provide you with more support—— as soon as you hear me explain my Thaumaturgies, you'd be recognized as my wielder 」

Gu Qing Shan said: “If I did that, I'd gain the Deific Authority that corresponds to you and would no longer be able to obtain the Six Paths Great Mountain sword, right?”

「 That's right, we represent different Samsara Deific Authorities, so you will have to choose between me and the Six Paths Great Mountain sword, it's impossible to obtain both 」 the Delimitation Divine Sword affirmed.

Gu Qing Shan smiled wryly and sent his voice: “Then there's nothing I can do, I want to find my original sword”

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「Suit yourself, but you won't be able to use any of my powers, and the road up ahead will become even more dangerous」 the Delimitation Divine Sword said.

“It's fine” Gu Qing Shan replied.

He decided to just sit down behind the rock, closed his eyes, and got comfortable.

Time slowly passed by.

Above the tomb river, the elongated skull continued to circle around for a while, having found nothing, it finally decided to give up and started floating downstream the tomb river.

——this place was finally quiet again.

Gu Qing Shan silently felt glad and prepared to resume his journey without taking any more breaks.

But after the first few steps, he had to stop.

In front of him.

A figure slowly appeared from inside the river.

It was a feminine figure with a mask on her face and a full set of armor.

1

Her arms were crossed behind her back, her steps were firm and steady, slowly making her way in front of Gu Qing Shan from within the river.

——it turns out that a living person had been hiding inside the river this whole time.

No wonder the elongated skull refused to leave.

But the fact that this female wasn't discovered by the elongated skull until it gave up and left suggested that she had some skills.

“I don't think we've met?” Gu Qing Shan clasped his fist and greeted her.

He carefully thought back and confirmed that this masked female wasn't among the Sequence Envoys who came out to pressure him earlier.

If she was there, he would definitely not forget.

“You have a choice to make, Gu Qing Shan”

The girl spoke with a grim tone.

“What choice?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“To either kill me, or be killed by me” the girl declared.

Gu Qing Shan took a close look at her and took a few steps back.

After waiting for a few breaths’ worth of time, she asked: “Why aren’t you attacking?”

“There’s no grudge from the past, and no animosity recently, I can’t kill such a person”
Gu Qing Shan replied.

The girl muttered: “Really now... you’ve always been like that...”

Gu Qing Shan frowned.

That girl is wearing a mask so I can’t see her face, but not only did she manage to avoid the elongated skull’s search, but she even knows about my habits.

That’s a bit strange.

Gu Qing Shan asked: “Do you have some business with me?”

The girl didn’t answer.

Her figure became blurred and vanished from where she was standing.

In that instant, Gu Qing Shan drew the Delimitation Divine Sword from the void of space——

And slashed the air!

Clang——

His sword had received a strike from a blade, which caused an intense shockwave to blow in every direction.

The trees and bushes around them couldn’t endure the will behind the sword and blade, so they were swiftly reduced to dust in the wind.

Both of them took a step back.

Gu Qing Shan held up his sword as defense.

“If you won’t kill me, then die!”

The girl stepped forward again, brandishing her blade into tens of thousands of blade images that ferociously struck towards Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan raised his sword into a middle stance and thrust it forward, producing tens of thousands of black sword images that bloomed like a lotus to receive the barrage of blades.

Secret Art, [Drawn Shadow]!

Within the torrent of clashing metal noises, the girl suddenly heaved a loud cry as her figure moved through the maze of strikes.

“DIE!”

Both of her hands were grasping the blade tightly, forgoing any sort of technique as she charged straight at Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan’s eyes grew cold.

What a ferocious woman, deciding to move through the blade images with her bare body while ignoring the injuries she sustained.

She’s willingly taking injuries in exchange for the initiative.

——the initiative to kill the enemy!

The blade was raised.

Gu Qing Shan didn’t attempt to defend either and thrust his sword straight towards the girl’s heart.

[Swallow’s Return]!

Seemingly unfazed, the girl exerted her full strength into her blade to rip through the void of space while aiming at the top of Gu Qing Shan’s head!

As if she was aiming for mutually assured destruction!

What a ferocious blade style!

Gu Qing Shan’s heart jumped, but didn’t have the time to use any other techniques, so he could only tilt the point of his sword slightly——

Secret Art, [Despairing Rise]!

Clang——

The sound of clashing metal rang across heaven and earth.

Sword qi and blade qi were scattered everywhere, an opening was ripped into the sky itself, causing all the plants and debris around them to be erased.

The girl completely canceled out the force of the strike by tilting her body slightly, then turned her blade and attempted another slash.

Capable of reacting to a Secret Art so flexibly, and even attempting a counterattack.

Gu Qing Shan's pupils become dilated, his attitude becoming even more serious.

——this is a battle-experienced opponent!

Wielding his sword with both hands, he thrust forward.

[River Traversing Iron Sword]!

A gigantic sword phantom emerged from the sword to receive the frigid blade slash.

At almost the exact same time——

Gu Qing Shan had already leapt into the air to receive the girl's downward slash.

Heaven and earth were messed up.

Like a lightning storm, the sword and blade boomed repeatedly as they clashed, so loud that they drowned out everything else in their surroundings.

After a few seconds, two streaks of light could be seen pursuing one another, crossing repeatedly before they descended on the ground at the same time.

The earth cracked and spread from the shockwaves that radiated from their landing positions.

In the crater.

The blade was propped across Gu Qing Shan's neck.

While the sword had already struck the girl's mask.

The girl didn't move.

Gu Qing Shan gently lifted his sword and moved the mask away from the girl's face.

A beautiful but familiar face appeared in front of Gu Qing Shan's vision.

Ning Yue Chan.

"You knew it was me?" she asked.

"After the first few strikes, I started to realize that it might be you" Gu Qing Shan replied.

That answer seemed to satisfy Ning Yue Chan.

"Why are you here? I thought that you were also reinforced with an [Order]" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"I gave it up" Ning Yue Chan replied.

"But why?" Gu Qing Shan wondered.

"I prefer pure combat" Ning Yue Chan answered.

"Are you a Chosen Saint?" Gu Qing Shan asked again.

"It's a long story" Ning Yue Chan said.

Gu Qing Shan went silent.

Their battle just now must have caught the attention of others.

Very soon, people would arrive to examine the situation.

It might have attracted some Apocalyptic monsters out to hunt as well.

There's too much to talk about.

It seems there won't be an opportunity to have a nice and long chat.

Ning Yue Chan glared at him briefly and muttered: "I originally shouldn't have shown myself, but I felt a bit worried so I waited for you here"

"Worried about what?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

Suddenly, some tiny commotions could be heard from outside.

Ning Yue Chan's expression twitched a little bit before she placed her hand on Gu Qing Shan's chest.

Her voice slowly became gentle:

“Regarding swordsmanship, you’ve definitely improved a lot; but from the shadows, whenever I watch you being so busy with scheming and planning for everything, I was worried that——”

“To save everything, you’re gradually letting yourself be consumed by countless schemes, slowly forgetting what you truly have to do”

Gu Qing Shan appeared shocked and parroted her words: “What I truly have to do...”

“You should understand what I mean” Ning Yue Chan sternly asked: “As cultivators, what is our foundation and basis?”

She stared straight at Gu Qing Shan for a while.

Behind her, the scene of an intense war slowly unraveled itself.

Within that world, there was nothing except battles where one exerted everything one possessed, every single individual was constantly cheering for battle, howling and roaring for killing.

“Gu Qing Shan, as brilliant as you are, you can defeat countless enemies with nothing but wits, so you surely have a way to resolve your issues from their roots”

After saying that, Ning Yue Chan took a step back to enter the world of war.

At the very last moment, she seemed to have recalled something and smiled.

“Once this is all over, I will be coming for your love”

In an instant, the entire scenery vanished.

She had left.

Gu Qing Shan stood still, falling into deep thought.

At this time, a monster with a humanoid face and eight sharp claws appeared above the crater to look down.

「 A living person, hek hek hek... 」

A blurred shadow flew up and split the monster’s head in half.

The blurred shadow swiftly returned and hovered next to Gu Qing Shan.

The Delimitation Divine Sword.

「 More people will be coming to examine the situation soon, aren't you going to leave? 」 it reminded him.

Gu Qing Shan nodded absentmindedly, but didn't move an inch.

A few moments later.

He suddenly called out in his mind: "Sequence"

[I'm here] the Supreme Sequence answered.

Gu Qing Shan said: "Up until now... I've always been forced to move forward... unable to do anything but use everything at my disposal to compete..."

[What are you trying to say?] the Sequence asked.

Gu Qing Shan considered his words: "I'm just thinking, now that you've become the Supreme Sequence, can I still issue a War God Quest?"

[Naturally yes] the Sequence answered.

Gu Qing Shan said: "Then I want to issue a Quest right now"

[What is the objective for this Quest?] the Supreme Sequence asked.

"—To become the strongest"

Gu Qing Shan calmly answered.

The Supreme Sequence fell silent.

Without a sound, lines of bloody red text began to pop up in the void of space one after another:

[You've found the correct goal]

[The Quest to awaken all Sequence members have been temporarily aborted]

[New Quest accepted: The Strongest!]

[The Sequence will begin to absorb all hidden power to convert into the highest possible Sequence at this point in time]

[The list of powers, sorted by time obtained is as follow:]

[No.1: The Eternal Mind Seizer's seed of power]

[No.2: The Lord of Annihilation's power]

[No.3: The Silent Light Apocalypse's power]

2

[...]

Chapter 1798: The Supreme Sequence's [Entropy Solution]!

"You retained so many kinds of power secretly?"

Gu Qing Shan asked in surprise.

While talking, he also started to peel off the broken armor he was wearing.

—this was a mortal realm armor that the Heavenly Palace had prepared, although it was quite high-quality, it was still impossible for it to endure his battle with Ning Yue Chan just now.

The Sequence didn't answer him and only gave a new notification message:

[I will temporarily hibernate, some time will be necessary to gather all the various powers and activate one function of the Supreme Sequence]

All the text then faded and disappeared from Gu Qing Shan's vision.

—the Sequence seemed to have fallen into hibernation.

At this point, the commotion outside of the crater was growing increasingly louder. Evidently, the battle earlier drew a lot of attention and they'd all arrived to examine the situation.

Gu Qing Shan snapped out of his deep thoughts and leapt out from the crater.

Only to see that nearby, a group of 18 heavenly beings were facing against two Sequence Envoys.

"You're the Lord of Star Gazer city!"

The 18 heavenly beings exclaimed and swiftly assumed battle positions.

Gu Qing Shan curtly glanced over these people before turning his gaze towards the two Sequence Envoys.

One of the Sequence Envoys was tall, the other short, both of them were wearing baggy black robes while gloomy luminous fogs slowly swirled around their bodies.

The luminous fog had obscured their facial features, making it impossible to discern who they were.

—compared to the 18 heavenly beings, Gu Qing Shan's attention was more focused on these two Sequence Envoys.

"You have business with me?" Gu Qing Shan purposely asked.

Noticing that it was Gu Qing Shan, the two of them exchanged glances and muttered: "Retreat!"

The two of them swiftly turned around to leave.

Suddenly, one of the 18 heavenly beings called out: "These two are from Star Gazer city, they want to call reinforcements to save the City Lord!"

"Don't let them go!" another heavenly being shouted.

They belligerently surrounded them.

Gu Qing Shan was a bit surprised, but quickly realized what happened.

—these heavenly beings still didn't know what happened in Star Gazer city, nor did they know the real identities of these people.

The situation was also unexpected for the two Sequence Envoys.

"A bunch of insects being led around the nose by the Samsara dare to mess with us?" the taller person scoffed.

"Die" the shorter one said.

Without him doing anything in particular, a mass of fog had descended to envelope the heavenly beings.

The fog soon dissipated.

The 18 heavenly beings were all lying on the ground, dead.

The short Sequence Envoy looked at Gu Qing Shan, feeling a bit hesitant.

"Come on then, try me" Gu Qing Shan grinned.

The short person sneered, wanting to say something in retaliation, but the taller person had already pulled him away and retreated.

This region once again became silent.

The bodies of the 18 heavenly beings started to shift and change into monstrous forms.

——these were their original forms.

Looking down at their corpses, Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but sigh.

These wraiths were really clueless, attempting to block the path of those Sequence Envoys, didn't they know that these were entities that could go toe-to-toe against the Heavenly Emperor and the Creator Entity?

Gu Qing Shan blankly stared at these corpses and muttered:

“Ning Yue Chan, thanks to you... I've snapped out of it...”

His expression gradually became solemn.

18 heavenly beings were equivalent to 18 distinct Samsara Divine Skills.

——even without evolving, they were still bona fide Divine Skills.

But they couldn't even take a single attack from a Sequence Envoy.

How sorrowful.

Everyone desires to possess the Samsara, but how many have actually stopped to consider what kind of master would the Samsara choose?

Up until this point, I've been doing the same thing as other Chosen Saints, doing everything in my power to complete the Samsara's challenges and requests.

By borrowing the Samsara's power, I managed to repel the Eternal Mind Seizer, then used the Eternal Mind Seizer's secret to repel the Sequence Envoys.

That might look impressive, but what about reality?

Schemes are nothing more than that, a type of strategy and a means of improvisation; they can be considered to be a part of an individual's strength, but never all of it.

“Power... it's been a very long time since I last bolstered my own power...”

Gu Qing Shan muttered to himself.

The Samsara is the ultimate weapon of all living beings, it would definitely not choose a weakling as a master!

Even before considering that, if somehow the Samsara decided to choose me in the end, would it be ridiculously laughable if I turn out to not be strong enough to exert its power?

I've spent so much effort, and yet I forgot about the basis of a cultivator.

Gu Qing Shan sighed.

—that's right, the deciding factor will be to improve my own strength.

The stronger I become, the more strategies I'd be able to employ.

With both wits and strength, my chances of obtaining the Samsara would be doubled.

Suddenly, the Sequence spoke:

[Your current advantage is that you're at Impossibly Unknown realm]

"What's good about Impossibly Unknown realm?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

[No one can see through your exact level of power, this is a great chance to abruptly grow stronger] the Sequence replied.

"Is your conversion done?" Gu Qing Shan grinned and asked.

[Indeed]

Lines of bloody red text swiftly appeared:

[All energy has been absorbed]

[Unlocking Apocalyptic ability:]

[Entropy Solution]

[This is one of the unique Apocalyptic abilities of the Supreme Sequence]

[Activation condition: Whenever you defeat a target more powerful than yourself, you can activate this ability]

[Description: All will return to eternal destruction, while you absorb power from it]

After reading the description, Gu Qing Shan became speechless and shrugged:

“This ability... how do I use it?”

A new line of text appeared in front of his vision:

[Once you've killed a more powerful opponent, you'd understand how to use it]

“Fine” Gu Qing Shan said.

A more powerful opponent...

That won't be easy to find at all.

Since no Chosen Saint has unsealed their power, I'm the relatively strongest of them all.

—if I knew about this ahead of time, I wouldn't have let those two Sequence Envoys escape.

He suddenly noticed something and jumped away, taking refuge in a natural crevice several thousand meters away from the crater.

From downstream of the tomb river, something was floating against the flow.

The elongated skull!

Perhaps the commotion drew its attention, so it hurriedly came back from downstream to check the situation.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly had an idea and silently asked:

“Sequence... can I obtain power from killing Apocalyptic monsters?”

[Naturally yes] the Supreme Sequence answered.

Gu Qing Shan's lips slowly curled up with burning killing intent.

This wasn't the first time he ran into this monster, and his powers were no longer sealed, so he actually had all his means of combat available to him.

Today, right at this moment, he decided to eliminate this irritating Apocalyptic monster!

Above the tomb river.

The elongated skull was slowly moving ashore.

It naturally noticed the wraith corpses, so it flew over them and looked down to examine them.

Gu Qing Shan was still hiding in the shadows, carefully making considerations.

He didn't know the extent of the elongated skull's defenses, nor did he know if it was especially tenacious or not.

The Delimitation Divine Sword—— I can't exert any of its unique abilities or Thaumaturgies, so in my hands, it's the same as a regular sword.

If I tried to use it as a normal sword to attack the Apocalyptic monster——

If I can't kill it no matter how many techniques I use and it simply looks at me, then I'd be done for.

But, are there other methods to kill the elongated skull while only using a single attack?

He quickly considered his options and pulled out a jade brick from his chest.

——this brick was very useful, so maybe I should use it to start the battle.

Gu Qing Shan took a deep breath and silently evaluated the elongated skull's position.

At one exact point, he exerted his strength and threw it!

The jade brick drew a beautiful curve in the air and heavily struck the elongated skull right at the back of its head.

Abruptly, the elongated skull turned around and looked straight at the jade brick.

It recognized this brick!

「 UGAEEEEEWWWWW—— 」

The elongated skull uttered a furious roar.

The entire jade brick instantly entered nothingness and vanished without a trace.

The jade brick had been stripped of its position in time and space and fell into eternal nothingness, no longer able to escape.

At the same time.

A mass of fog appeared behind the skull.

Gu Qing Shan threw a single punch while standing within the fog.

[Ethereal – Grand Mountain]!

The elongated skull became frozen.

Within ten breaths' worth of time, it would lose all of its thoughts, unable to even become angry.

Gu Qing Shan took a deep breath and jumped forward, his hands constantly shivering as he readjusted his body state.

“If it retaliates, I'll die right away, so...”

He muttered to himself.

He then gently touched the tip of his toes to the ground, his entire body seemingly entering a miraculous rhythm.

And finally, he uttered a resounding roar before throwing a second punch.

[Ethereal – Myriad Shadows]!

[After one of your punches hit an opponent, you can activate Myriad Shadows]

[Myriad Shadows: An infinite barrage of hundreds of ten thousand strikes, each punch is equal to 1/10000 of your power, but Myriad Shadows will continue to persist as long as you don't tell it to stop, your enemy will also fall into a constant state of being hit, unable to change this state no matter what they do]

[——Fist of Infinite Striking]

In an instant, Gu Qing Shan's hands turned into a blur before it turned into a barrage of hundreds of ten thousand fists, all of which struck the back of the elongated skull's head without pause.

While being struck hundreds of ten thousand times by [Myriad Shadows], the elongated shadow couldn't display any sort of reactions.

The only thing it could do was stand still and continue to be hit!

But this kind of fist technique didn't contain even a single bit of power, how could it possibly destroy it?

An instant had gone by.

A layer of blood-colored glow slowly manifested around Gu Qing Shan's body.

A certain unique power has been activated.

Bam bam bam bam bam!

Around the elongated skull, bursts of bloody fog descended one by one, manifesting into spirits of varying forms.

A blood-colored giant, a bloody-eyed salamander, a guillotine, a blood-colored shadow demon, a blood spirit magus...

This was the Spirit Art: [Realm Spirit Descends]!

[During battle, whenever you strike an opponent an appropriate number of times, you will be able to summon a Blood Sea realm spirit of a different power level to eliminate the enemies that stand in your way]

[After striking the opponent 3 times, the first Blood Sea realm spirit will descend]

[After striking the opponent 27 times...]

[After striking the opponent 133 times...]

All the spirits surrounded the elongated skull while continuously unleashing their attacks.

They continuously appeared, attacked with all their power, then vanished.

But as soon as they vanished, they would instantly reappear and unleash the same attack again.

—because Gu Qing Shan's fists hadn't stopped a single time!

Hundreds, thousands, ten thousands, millions of punches literally rained down upon the elongated skull like a storm.

Whenever he reached the appropriate number of strikes, the spirits of the Saint realm would appear and attack the elongated skull using the full force of a realm spirit.

“HAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA!”

Gu Qing Shan roared.

Infinite punches.

He continued to punch, and punch, and punch, and punch, and—

Until the barrage of punches abruptly disappeared and no longer manifested.

All the Saint realm spirits had also left.

It was only now that Gu Qing Shan slowly pulled his hands back while breathing heavily.

In theory, unless he intended to stop, the fist technique [Myriad Shadows] would continue to persist.

Unless——

The enemy could no longer be attacked.

Chapter 1799: The true value of [Entropy Solution]

Only a pile of bone fragments was left on the ground.

Standing in front of the bone fragments, Gu Qing Shan heaved a heavy sigh of relief.

Lines of bloody red text hovered in front of his vision:

[You've defeated an Apocalyptic monster stronger than yourself]

[You received 10,000 points of Merits]

[Attention: The Sequence can convert Merit into Realm Force or other power of different quality, 5% transaction fee]

2

[——You may now activate Entropy Solution]

Gu Qing Shan was speechless.

You're the Supreme Sequence, even with such a grandiose name, you're still going to charge a transaction fee?

Can't you be more flexible?

He swiftly turned his attention to something else.

"I don't understand... why is the first unlocked function of the Supreme Sequence called [Entropy Solution]?" he asked.

A line of bloody red text appeared to answer him:

[You've witnessed the various Worlds Apocalypse Online and have been personality reinforced with the imitation low Sequences created by the Awaitings, what do you think about them?]

Gu Qing Shan thought back to it and replied: "In the beginning, I thought that... those Human Regiment, Dragon's army, Demon King, and so on and so forth all belonged to the [Order] faction"

Wait.

[Order]—— Sequences——

An idea suddenly popped up in Gu Qing Shan's mind.

A second later, a new line of bloody red text appeared in front of his vision:

[To return disorder and redundancy to eternal destruction, that is Entropy Solution]

Gu Qing Shan silently read these words and displayed a complicated expression on his face.

Is that the true meaning of Apocalypse?

"But what about the Silent Light and End of Time? What they destroyed aren't disorder and redundancy" Gu Qing Shan said.

[Apocalypse is eternal destruction, but those who sustain Apocalypse Sequences have their own will] the Supreme Sequence answered.

Gu Qing Shan sighed.

The Worlds Apocalypse Online – Supreme Sequence has been with me this entire time.

It possesses immense power of destruction but has always supported me in combat, using my will as its standard.

They're essentially the same.

In that case, the [Chaos] modules that the Awaitings of [Chaos] created must have been based on a different kind of Sequence.

The Corruption Sequence has mentioned that there are numerous Sequences, including Apocalypse, War, Revolution, Gloom, Authority, Corruption, and so on and so forth.

I wonder, which type of Sequence did the Awaitings of [Chaos] use as the basis for their creation?

And what did the Eternal Mind Seizer mean by 'cage'?

Gu Qing Shan once again realized that the Boundless Void was filled with secrets and mysteries, and it was impossible for him to come up with a correct answer right now.

So he decided to not waste his thoughts and stopped thinking about unnecessary matters as he muttered:

“Activate [Entropy Solution]”

A dark light filled with destructive aura descended from the void of space.

The dark light enveloped the bones on the ground while its other end reached into the endless void.

As Gu Qing Shan looked up, he sensed an overwhelmingly vast and boundless presence from the other end of the dark light.

“Primal Chaos...”

1

Gu Qing Shan muttered to himself.

It turns out that 'eternal destruction' actually meant 'to return to Primal Chaos'.

Primal Chaos is the beginning of everything.

Primal Chaos is the source of all that exists, even compared to the concepts of living beings, all things, and worlds, it is still the utmost profound mystery among the Laws of Reality, from which everything is derived.

It doesn't exist in life or death, nor is it nothingness, it is the beginning of all, the most primal form of literally everything.

When all living beings and all things enter Primal Chaos, they would cease to exist as their very concept would be thoroughly assimilated with Primal Chaos.

A few more lines of text once again appeared in front of Gu Qing Shan's vision:

[Entropy Solution has been activated]

[Apocalypse Sequence: Holder of Myriad Creation Normalization has succumbed to eternal destruction]

[From this point, your luck will decide——]

Originally, Gu Qing Shan was solemnly observing the situation, but he abruptly opened his eyes.

“Hey, why did my luck suddenly become a factor?” he couldn’t help but ask.

[Because the results cannot be predicted in any way]

The Sequence explained: [Primal Chaos is the great progenitor of everything, no one can possibly predict its thoughts, I also cannot guess what kind of rewards would be bestowed from Primal Chaos through this Entropy Solution]

Gu Qing Shan didn’t say anything in return and instead silently digested the huge amount of information contained within that answer.

He had no way of even guessing that [Entropy Solution] would be such an ability.

However,

Just the fact that he was essentially making a transaction with Primal Chaos was extraordinary.

1

The Sequence continued: [Attention, regardless of what reward Primal Chaos grants you, it will always provide a type of energy that will help you grow stronger—— this energy is called Primal Chaos Reinforcement]

Gu Qing Shan silently committed the term ‘Primal Chaos Reinforcement’ to mind.

[Aside from Primal Chaos Reinforcement, you might also randomly receive additional positive energy] the Supreme Sequence added.

Gu Qing Shan appeared fascinated: “So that’s how it was, I finally understand the value of [Entropy Solution], I’ll always profit from it one way or another”

[Only if you manage to kill opponents that are stronger compared to yourself—— take a look, it’s here!] the Supreme Sequence called out.

A sprite of silver light descended from the sky and silently entered Gu Qing Shan’s body.

Instantly, a line of bloody red text appeared:

[You've received the Primal Chaos Reinforcement: hips]

[—The softness of your hips has been tripled]

3

Reading this notification, Gu Qing Shan became practically speechless.

“So this is the so-called Primal Chaos Reinforcement?” he struggled to speak.

[Primal Chaos is unpredictable, no one can predict what the reinforcement will actually be, that is also the essence of Primal Chaos Reinforcement] the Supreme Sequence solemnly explained.

A second later, a sprite of purple light also descended and entered Gu Qing Shan's body.

Another notification popped up in front of his vision:

[You've received the unique specialized magic: Ungolden Touch]

[Ungolden Touch: without paying any price, you can turn gold into metal iron]

1

[—If you're willing to expend a little bit of life span, you can even turn gold into scrap metal!]

2

After reading the whole description, Gu Qing Shan felt a sense of helplessness.

Suddenly, an additional sprite of golden light also appeared from the void of space and entered his body.

Another notification popped up on the Sequence:

[You've received the power of Apocalypse Awakening]

[Apocalypse Awakening: If a living being once possessed the power of a Sequence, you may once again awaken the Sequence's power in them]

1

Gu Qing Shan's eyes lit up.

Soft hips or something can be ignored.

Ungolden Touch is also just an extra.

The most important benefit for me is actually this last ability.

Apocalypse Awakening!

With this power, I'd be able to——

Gu Qing Shan suppressed his excitement and took out the Reincarnation Gloom Orchid from his chest, raising it into the air.

[Moon Invitation], activate!

A thin red thread of light appeared in front of him as it swiftly opened up into a gate of light that opened with a bang.

A man wearing a black leather jacket with a bottle of beer in his hand stepped out from the gates.

"I didn't even manage to finish this bottle before I was forced into slumber..."

The man downed the entire bottle in one gulp, threw the empty bottle away, and grinned.

Barry!

Iron fist Barry!

Gu Qing Shan stepped forward and bumped fists with Barry.

"Yo, what's the situation?" Barry asked.

"It used to be very complicated, but now it's a lot simpler; the main point is that we need to fight" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"A fight huh, seems like I came out just in time" Barry started cracking his neck.

"Every person I summon can only retain one of their abilities—— boss Barry, which ability did you keep?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"Me? Of course it's my ability to not die" Barry shrugged.

His most powerful ability was the fact that he could not die while in the middle of combat.

During the war with the Soul Shrieker, they relied on Barry alone to stand and endure the brunt of the war.

If not for him, a lot more people would have died.

Gu Qing Shan grinned and said: "That alone won't be enough, want to join me for a really big catch?"

"How are we doing that?" Barry asked.

Gu Qing Shan reached his hand out and patted Barry's shoulder.

—-Apocalypse Awakening!

In an instant, a ring of blurry dark blue light appeared in front of Barry.

Barry nodded to the void of space and said: "Ah, Lady Darksea, long time no see, if possible, please help me initiate the regiment UI"

[Naturally—— Gu Qing Shan, long time no see] a female voice spoke from the void of space.

"Long time no see, we can finally fight together again" Gu Qing Shan greeted her.

Barry stood still and grunted: "Equip!"

A silvery-white armor suddenly manifested from thin air, scattering into numerous components before they attached to his body.

——after being reinforced by [Order], Barry had been trapped within the Temporal Oasis this entire time, but he had been constantly focused on nothing but to grow stronger.

He was a true soldier!

"Regiment Subordinates!" Barry grunted again.

12 metal soldiers appeared around his body.

These soldiers instantly entered combat mode, each taking either a defensive or alert position around Barry and Gu Qing Shan.

Among them, four metal soldiers went in a different direction to scout their surroundings.

“How’s that?” Barry asked.

“We can attempt a big catch no problem” Gu Qing Shan shrugged and replied.

2

Chapter 1800: The War Sequence

At the depths of the tomb river.

“Three Thousand World Hundred Thousand Myriad Gods Overlord Fist of Annihilation!”

A battle cry resounded.

From the river, several white-scaled snakes that tried to lurch at them were repelled.

The snake sovereign hissed as it rapidly slithered within the grass while approaching Gu Qing Shan and Barry.

It was quite sly, choosing to slowly circle around the two of them instead of leaping forward immediately.

“Ahahaha, it’s been a long time since I had snake soup!” Barry cracked his knuckles.

“I’ll make it” Gu Qing Shan crossed his arms and said.

“That’s great to hear, no need to worry about killing the snake——”

Barry slammed the ground with his fist.

The slithering big white snake was instantly knocked into the sky.

Barry clapped his hands.

Two rows of metal soldiers that were standing behind him raised their rifles.

Tak tak tak tak tak tak!

The sound of gunfire resounded.

The big white snake was juggled constantly in the air, unable to retaliate at all.

“Fresh snake meat!”

Barry roared while continuously striking the snake from the distance.

The big snake's blood rained down like a shower, making it look like it was on its deathbed, but then it suddenly turned into a huge gust of wind that avoided Barry's fists.

As the gust of wind flew forward, it circled several times around Barry before the big white snake showed itself again.

It plunged its teeth into Barry's arm, refusing to let go no matter what Barry did.

"So you were venomous" Barry grinned.

He grabbed the snake's body with both hands and ripped out a huge chunk of snake meat using his teeth.

Being hurt, the big snake couldn't help but loosen its jaws.

"Fool, this great one has already eaten even sh——- has made a living in too many worlds to even keep count, you think your venom is actually going to do something?"

Barry ridiculed the snake.

He kept a tight grip on the snake's body and started slamming it back and forth on the ground.

Gu Qing Shan was standing nearby, originally preparing a pot to make soup, but suddenly noticed something.

"I'll leave this place to you, I'm going to take a look ahead" he said.

"What's the situation?" Barry asked.

"Some uninvited guests, let me deal with them" Gu Qing Shan replied.

He stepped back into a mass of white fog and directly reappeared several thousand meters away, the pot in his hand having been exchanged for a sword.

He swung the sword.

A tidal wave of blue sword qi rushed forward, eclipsing everything in his vision.

——-Secret Art, [Torrent]!

Suddenly, a monster emerged from the tidal wave of swords.

It was wearing a suit of rock armor with magma flowing across its entire body, but even so, it appeared mostly humanoid.

A line of bloody red text suddenly popped up:

[Warning]

[You've encountered a former War Sequence Envoy who survived, codename: Fierceness]

[This is a high-rank War Sequence member, they lost their rationality after being trapped in the great tomb, but their battle instincts remain, please proceed with caution]

——a high-rank War Sequence member.

Gu Qing Shan's expression turned a bit serious.

Last time, I met a Corruption Sequence's tree, who would have thought that I'd run into a War Sequence lunatic here?

"A living person..."

A stifled voice could be heard from inside the rock armor.

Wild killing intent began to radiate from the magma armor without holding back.

Gu Qing Shan became focused. He instantly sheathed his sword and instead threw a punch from a distance.

——[Ethereal – Grand Mountain]!

Fierceness immediately went stiff.

Gu Qing Shan's hands swiftly turned into a barrage of punches that all struck the other party without fail.

At the very next moment, he suddenly disappeared.

Ground Shrink!

A blazing arm had appeared from the void of space and turned the place he was standing previously into flowing lava.

Reappearing a few hundred meters away, Gu Qing Shan turned back to look.

Only to see that one Fierceness remained still, but another Fierceness was climbing out from the ground.

"So that's how it is..."

Gu Qing Shan muttered.

[Ethereal] fist techniques had a very high level of priority, so in order to avoid it, the opponent must have prepared a counter-spell beforehand that would instantly activate if they were somehow restrained.

The two Fierceness once again melded back into one, his body gradually grew larger until it became a magma giant that was several dozen meters in height.

「 Such a level of fist technique, you have the qualifications to fight me—— 」 the magma giant uttered.

“Really now?” Gu Qing Shan replied.

The magma giant raised his arm into the air and abruptly struck its own face.

Red Dragon Origin Hex – Twist!

Gu Qing Shan was silently observing this, but then suddenly drew the Delimitation Divine Sword and used it to shield his side.

An immense force suddenly struck him!

Bam——

He was violently sent flying into the depths of the tomb river, which caused a sky-high splash.

The magma giant slowly stepped towards the tomb river while declaring excitedly:

「 So it was a Dragon Hex, but I also have the Fire Ring of Shared Suffering, it seems we will have to do this the old-fashioned way 」

A beautifully patterned ring of fire then began to manifest under his feet.

Shu!

Right as Gu Qing Shan leapt out of the water, he looked down at his feet.

Only to see a similar ring of fire also manifesting under his feet.

The magma giant grinned ferociously and muttered: 「 It's over 」

“Why?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

「 —This Fire Ring is the essence of the War Sequence, insect, you definitely cannot endure as much damage as I can, so you're going to die first 」 the magma giant answered.

Gu Qing Shan sighed and commented: "The one lucky thing for me is that you're already insane, so you actually answer everything I ask"

Yellowish sword phantoms started to manifest from inside his iris.

—[Forgetting River Slash]!

Clang clang clang clang clang——

[Realm Spirits Descend] automatically activated, which summoned clusters of blood-colored light from the sky.

"GO!"

With a single thought, Gu Qing Shan's sword had unleashed three consecutive strikes:

[Parting Fire], [Freezing Frost], and [Sun Moon Eclipse]!

A gigantic but invisible gust of sword-infused wind rushed forward and struck the magma giant's chest, which sent it flying.

At the same time, Gu Qing Shan was also sent flying and crashed into a nearby mountainside.

The entire mountain crumbled into debris and dust.

「 Gahahaha! 」

The magma giant laughed maniacally while sporadically boasting: 「 I have countless means to take your life, but what I enjoy the most is to use the Fire Ring of Shared Suffering to torture my enemies to death while watching the desperate expression on their faces 」

Gu Qing Shan's gaze became sharp.

A blood-colored giant manifested.

「 YAAAAA——」

It uttered a resounding roar and punched the magma giant's head into the ground.

Gu Qing Shan was similarly knocked into the ground.

The blood-colored giant couldn't help but stop and asked from a distance: 「Oy, youngster, are you ok?」

No answer came from the distant hole in the ground.

The blood-colored giant hesitated.

Although it was summoned to attack the enemy, it was not simply a weapon, so it knew how to be flexible.

The magma giant's mind was still completely chaotic, so he continued to laugh maniacally: 「Ahahaha, come and kill me if you dare, although you're still going to die first!」

Their surroundings suddenly fell into silence.

A second later.

A dull harrowing voice sounded from inside the hole that Gu Qing Shan fell into:

「Do you really think I can't endure attacks as much as you can?」

Rumble——

The ground started to shake.

A huge black shadow leapt into the sky and eclipsed the sun.

Creation from the Age of Old, the supreme Soul Artifact of War——

Demon Dragon!

It opened its vertical iris and stared straight at the magma giant on the ground.

The magma giant didn't expect such a thing at all, so he was stunned.

The Demon Dragon took a deep breath and uttered a resounding roar that echoed through the entire region:

「Hey you, that magma giant over there——」

Its voice was suddenly interrupted.

The magma giant suddenly jumped up from the ground and screamed in horror: 「 A dragon! Why didn't you just say that you were a dragon! 」

He immediately jumped into the tomb river and transformed back into humanoid form as the water was heated into steam, before transforming into a streak of fire as he ran away in the blink of an eye.

2

—as if he saw some sort of vengeful devil that was going after his life.

The Demon Dragon was completely shocked as it hovered mid-air, unable to even continue its Azure Dragon Origin Hex.

After a while, it finally turned back to human form and slowly landed on the ground.

That Fierceness fellow...

Has he perhaps tasted the bitterness of fighting a dragon before?

—otherwise, why would he run even faster than a scared rabbit?

Gu Qing Shan felt a bit embarrassed.

I shouldn't have stopped my Hex, otherwise, whether that Fierceness had been able to flee or not would be questionable.

The actual process of the battle doesn't matter.

What matters is the fact that I lost a good target for [Entropy Solution], so I can't make another transaction with Primal Chaos.

Sha... sha... sha...

Footsteps could be heard.

Barry slowly emerged from inside the forest while dragging a dead snake with one hand.

“You're done?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“Uhm, this is for dinner” Barry handed the big snake's corpse to Gu Qing Shan before heading back into the nearby bushes.

“Where are you going?” Gu Qing Shan called out.

“The snake’s venom was too potent, I need to excrete it the old-fashioned way” Barry calmly replied.

“...” Gu Qing Shan.

From what I’ve seen, there really was a very good reason why you and your sister used to frequently have diarrhea in the past.

He fell into deep thought.

The Delimitation Divine Sword emerged from the void of space and circled around the dead snake before flying back.

「 I suggest you two speed up 」 it said.

“Are we still very far away?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

「 With your speed, you’ll arrive in about 5 minutes 」

「 —My sword hilt is nearby 」