

## Apocalypse 801

### Chapter 801

Gu Qing Shan was incredibly shaken.

*This was the part of my deduction that was least likely to be wrong.*

*And yet it was actually the only thing that was wrong.*

*What Xie Gu Hong took was a Bygone Era sword technique, not the phantom images technique.*

*—-then where did the phantom images technique come from?*

*If it came from the Desolate race or the Eternal True God, why did they give such a powerful spell to humanity?*

*Seems like there are still a lot of variables that I still haven't accounted for during this era.*

Gu Qing Shan stood in front of the floating jade tag and fell into thought.

He once again scanned the jade tag with his inner sight.

“Enemy-killing Sword Technique...”

“Why does this sound so familiar?”

Gu Qing Shan muttered as he tried to recall where he heard this before.

All of a sudden, he placed his hand on his Inventory Bag and began to search through it.

The thing he wanted to find was so big that he found it almost right away.

—-a mega-sized jade tag.

This was from Xie Gu Hong.

Xie Gu Hong put his entire life's experience and techniques into this jade tag.

Gu Qing Shan once took a brief glance through it so he had already seen the name 'Enemy-killing Sword Technique'.

But at the time, not only was the requirements to study 'Enemy-killing Sword Technique' too high for him, but the name was also so simple that he didn't pay much attention to it.

*Who would've thought, this was actually a Bygone Era sword technique!*

*The Bygone Era...*

*What kind of swordsmanship did that era practice?*

Gu Qing Shan already couldn't wait to study this sword technique.

Right next to where this sword technique was recorded, Xie Gu Hong had written a note:



“What does gongzi mean?”

“Before I surpass Master, I won’t study this sword technique”

“Gongzi, you really are a steadfast person” Shannu praised him.

“Let’s stop talking and go”

“Yes, gongzi”

Gu Qing Shan took out a warp talisman and infused it with his spirit energy.

He immediately vanished from the 36th floor and was teleported away.

...

The Desolate world.

Within the wilderness made completely from demon stones.

Inside an underground cave.

Gu Qing Shan appeared.

When they came here, there were a total of 4 people, but only Xie Gu Hong and Gu Qing Shan came back.

The white-haired old man and the burly man were both subordinates of the Eternal True God, they both betrayed humanity.

Xie Gu Hong was given the forging method of the twin swords Heaven and Earth from the old man, he himself also took the ‘Enemy-killing Sword Technique’ and had already left.

So Gu Qing Shan was here by himself.

He released his inner sight to observe the surroundings.

On the surface outside of the cave, the horde of monsters was still everywhere, taking up every single spot in the direction heading deeper into the Desolate world.

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Most of the monsters on the outside weren’t too powerful.

But the closer one got to the fortress wall, the more terrifying the monsters became.

This was the sea of monsters that the Lord of Desolation—— no, the Soul Shrieker had set up. Without Shadow Origin Power to conceal oneself, no one would be able to cross it.

Gu Qing Shan thought for a short moment, slowly left the cave and stopped behind a hidden dune of rocks.

He opened his palm.

A coin appeared in his hand.

This was the coin that the figure of light gave him. It can only be used once to return to the Primordial Heaven Realm's Sky Beyond Heaven at any time.

Gu Qing Shan went silent briefly.

"System, do you still need Soul Points now?" he asked.

[Ting]!

The War God System replied with a clear chime: [Naturally, the more Soul Points, the better]

Gu Qing Shan nodded.

He didn't even bother to ask why the System still needed Soul Points, he simply hid behind the dune of stone and silently waited.

A few moments later.

His expression shifted.

An intense rumble resounded across the entire world.

The chaotic tide had arrived!

This was a phenomenon caused by the power of the demon stones accumulating inside the void of space to the very limit, mixing and clashing before erupting.

The monsters were troubled.

They stopped looking around and stuck close to the ground, afraid that they would be caught in the chaotic tides.

—since there were so many types of different powers into the chaotic tides, if one of them happens to counter them, it would be very bad to get caught in it.

Gu Qing Shan's eyes shined.

He silently triggered his sword technique.

The Chao Yin sword and Six Paths Great Mountain sword both appeared from the void of space.

"Go!" he uttered.

The two swords let out a faint vibration as they flew into the sea of monsters.

The first monster was beheaded by the Chao Yin sword.

Before it died, it only managed to let out a high-pitched shriek.

But the chaotic tides were so loud that it drowned out its shriek, unable to transmit too far.

—all the monsters were currently doing their best to avoid the chaotic tides so they didn't have the time to worry about other monsters.

Taking his chance, Gu Qing Shan used numerous Secret Arts and expended his spirit energy like no tomorrow.

The two swords weaved and moved all over——

The chaotic tides were dyed red in blood!

The lives of the monsters in the vast wilderness were like a bountiful harvest waiting to be collected, and the two swords were the harvesters.

At a certain point, a sharp 'Kih' was heard.

The Chao Yin sword spun in the air and returned.

It was hit by some sort of strange power.

Gu Qing Shan couldn't help asking: "Are you ok?"

The Chao Yin sword vibrated briefly, turned back into a streak of light, and continued harvesting the monsters' lives.

Gu Qing Shan observed for a while more.

Occasionally, the Chao Yin sword would take a hit.

Since the Six Paths Great Mountain sword had the [Invincible] and [Law Breaker] properties, none of the powers managed to affect it, allowing it to kill the monsters without interruption.

Gu Qing Shan decided to throw the frost Blade out as well, using it to cast large AOE ice techniques.

Finally, the cries of the monsters managed to overpower the sound of the chaotic tides.

Partly because Gu Qing Shan killed too many of them.

But also because the chaotic tide was gradually coming to an end.

Some of the more powerful Desolate monsters had already noticed Gu Qing Shan's ambush, quickly regained their composure from the fear of the chaotic tides, and charged towards his location.

*Roar!!!!*

The monsters were all roaring in anger.

*There isn't much time left.*

*If I kill more, there might be a problem.*

Gu Qing Shan waved his hand.

The Blade and swords quickly came back and disappeared into the void of space behind him.

Gu Qing Shan activated the coin in his hand.

It gave off a faint light.

At the very next second, Gu Qing Shan disappeared without a trace.

He returned to the Grand Divine Palace inside the Sky Beyond Heaven.

The figure of light was waiting here.

Luo Bing Li was still busy creating the jade disk.

As soon as Gu Qing Shan returned, both of them noticed him.

Luo Bing Li acted indifferently and continued to create the jade disk without looking up.

The figure of light greeted and couldn't help asking: 「 How was it, your Divine Majesty, were you able to find any secrets? 」

“Naturally, I found out everything”

Gu Qing Shan replied and gestured to the other party not to be in too much of a hurry.

He glanced at the War God UI.

——notifications of the Soul Points he obtained was still scrolling up like crazy on the War God UI.

## **Chapter 802**

A single line of glowing text remained in the middle of the War God UI.

This was the overall combined details of the previous battle.

[Through this combat, you obtained 7651 Soul Points in total]

[Remaining Soul Points: 11578/600]

Gu Qing Shan glanced over it.

If this was before, about 10,000 Soul Points wasn't much.

But now that the War God System took a large portion of Soul Points each time, each Desolate monster he killed only gave him Soul Points in the single or double digits.

So being able to accumulate that much Soul Points was already quite enough for Gu Qing Shan.

*What can 10,000 Soul Points do?*

*Not much, but it's enough for me to find cultivation scriptures among Xie Gu Hong's inheritance. After cultivating for a few days, I'll be able to break the final chains and achieve Void Wanderer realm cultivation.*

Gu Qing Shan silently sighed.

——unfortunately, after transforming into the God of Frost and Chill, one thing kept happening after another that required my full attention. Even now I don't have the time to cultivate.

All those thoughts in his head only took Gu Qing Shan a mere breath's worth of time in the real world.

「 Your Divine Majesty, what were you thinking about? 」 the figure of light asked.

“I was thinking of how to face our real enemy” Gu Qing Shan sighed.

This was a true sigh.

After all, an existence at the Soul Shrieker’s level would cause anyone to feel despair as an enemy.

「 The true enemy? What does that mean? 」 the figure of light doubtfully asked.

“It is as you think, the Lord of Desolation is actually not a big problem”

While saying that, Gu Qing Shan was silently thinking of the proper words to express this information.

The figure of light only needed to think briefly to understand what Gu Qing Shan meant.

It seems the Divine King really did find out something!

The figure of light was very shaken and asked: 「 Your Divine Majesty, what exactly did you find out on your trip to the Desolate world? 」

“The Lord of Desolation wasn’t actually the source of our race’s deterioration. In fact, the Desolate race themselves were being manipulated” Gu Qing Shan replied.

He told the figure of light everything that happened in the Daoist temple.

Naturally, he couldn’t tell him about the [Human Regiment]’s awakening, nor about the Devil King Warden Rod. Gu Qing Shan glossed over the process of interrogating the old man with him using the power of the Divine race.

——as the Divine King, the God of Frost and Chill’s power had already reached the peak of Paragon realm.

No matter how immortal or eternal that white-haired old man was, he was a mere Void Wanderer realm human cultivator, he shouldn’t even be an issue for the Divine King.

After hearing Gu Qing Shan’s recollection, the figure of light went into a long silence.

Luo Bing Li also pursed her lips, thought of something in the past, and continued looking down without saying a word.

The Winds of Chaotic Tribulation.

The Eternal Abyss.

The Tie Wei fortress wall.

The manipulated Desolate race.

The terrifying True God: Soul Shrieker.

As well as the unbelievable truth: the twin swords Heaven and Earth were only components of a weapon from the Eternal Abyss.

The figure of light looked at Gu Qing Shan.

「 If that really was the truth, everything now makes sense 」

「 We never thought that the truth of history would be that way 」

He spoke dryly.

Such a shocking secret was hidden so deep inside the Tie Wei fortress walls by the Desolate race that none from the Divine race managed to uncover it until now.

It was only today that the truth of history was discovered by a Divine King from a fragment of a parallel world.

Gu Qing Shan asked: “You are the collective consciousness of all Divinities, the dying will of all dead Divinities as well as those who remained. Do you have a way to fight against such a situation?”

The figure of light said nothing.

The entire Grand Divine Palace was silent.

Gu Qing Shan waited for a while before chuckling.

“That’s right, we couldn’t even go against the Desolate race, nevermind the undying Eternal True God behind them”

Saying so, he turned around, walked up the stairs, and sat down on the Divine Throne.

「 Your Divine Majesty, you seem to be very calm 」 the figure of light commented.

“Against looming despair that our Divine race cannot overcome no matter what, even I can’t come up with any ideas” Gu Qing Shan replied.

He glanced over the figure of light and looked down at Luo Bing Li.

She was still lowering her head and concentrating on creating the jade disk without displaying any fearful expressions.

Indeed, as a top cultivator of humanity, she was purposefully not looking at Gu Qing Shan to avoid rousing the figure of light’s suspicion.

A brief thought crossed Gu Qing Shan’s mind and he glanced back at the figure of light.

*In theory, after finding out such a huge secret, the figure of light should have immediately left this world and triggered all of the Divine race’s preparations.*

*But he wasn’t doing anything.*

*From the looks of it, this matter had already gone far above all of the Divine race’s preparations.*

*Their preparations were only meant to deal with humanity.*

*But against an Eternal True God?*



*Completely hopeless.*

*—-in other words, the Divine race had already reached the end of their rope, they had no choice but to make a final decision.*

Gu Qing Shan remained emotionless, both hands resting on his throne as if immersed in his own world, wondering about any solution he might be able to come up with.

In truth, he was only waiting.

Waiting to see how the figure of light would act.

After a long while of silence, the figure of light couldn't help speaking: 「 How about we find the Golden Flame Divinity, he might—- 」

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“No!”

Gu Qing Shan immediately cut off the figure of light's words and spoke with a seemingly slow but actually fast tone: “What the Golden Flame Divinity cares about is only his future, I do not feel relieved about telling him the truth”

「 What does your Divine Majesty mean? 」 the figure of light asked.

Gu Qing Shan's voice became low: “Think about it for a bit, what is the first thing he's going to do after he knows about this?”

The figure of light replied: 「 Use everything he knows and help us face this problem 」

“That is not the case. If we were to force an existence from the future like himself to make a decisive choice at certain moments—-”

“For example, if he had to choose between saving us or kill Gu Qing Shan, I believe that he would discard us without hesitation and kill Gu Qing Shan”

“Because Gu Qing Shan is related to his future”

“While we only exist in our past. To him, we are already dead, we're not worth him saving”

「 He might not be that way, and there were no such moments in history 」 the figure of light said.

Gu Qing Shan clenched his fist and looked straight at the figure of light: “This King shoulders the future of the entire Divine race, I will not take even the tiniest risk. That is why we are having this discussion about what he would do in such a situation”

The figure of light said nothing.

Gu Qing Shan continued: “Unless he can prove that he still holds goodwill towards the Divine race of this era, only then am I willing to share the secret of the Eternal Abyss with him”

The figure of light thought briefly and spoke: 「 Please release the Golden Flame Divinity, your Divine Majesty, I shall lead him into a small test so see what kind of choice he would make 」

Gu Qing Shan froze.

*What?*

*Does that mean the Divine race was able to create a few secretive fragments of time among the phantom images?*

But he didn't have the time to consider that right now, Gu Qing Shan uttered without changing his expression: "Men!"

Six Divine Guards came into the audience hall.

"Go and release the Golden Flame Divinity" Gu Qing Shan ordered.

「 Understood 」

The Divine Guards received their orders and left.

The figure of light bowed to Gu Qing Shan: 「 Your Divine Majesty, I will bring him away, if the answer I receive is as you assume, I will return 」

"You are dismissed" Gu Qing Shan replied.

The figure of light left the Grand Divine Palace.

The only people left in the audience hall were Gu Qing Shan and Luo Bing Li.

It was now that Luo Bing Li sent her voice to Gu Qing Shan through inner sight.

"What are you thinking? Why did you reveal such a big secret to the Divine race?" she doubtfully asked.

"Only by knowing about the threat of the Soul Shrieker would they loosen their oppression of humanity" Gu Qing Shan replied.

He stretched his back, looking a bit exhausted.

That was natural, he had been in a strained mental state ever since before arriving at the Desolate world until now, constantly on the lookout to deal with every variable that might appear. Even someone like Gu Qing Shan would feel drained.

Luo Bing Li carefully recalled the previous conversation and asked again: "You also let the Golden Flame Divinity go. He is someone who came from the future that knows everything about what we did, are you going to be so careless that you let the figure of light take him away just like that?"

Gu Qing Shan yawned: "That wasn't carelessness. To make a profit, first, you need to take a small loss"

"I don't understand" Luo Bing Li replied.

"Don't worry, after the Golden Flame Divinity makes his choice, they will surely return here"

"Why would he return at all?"

“I was the only Divinity in history that managed to find the truth of history; the only Divinity who’s actively working to change the outcome of the Divine race; the only Divine King that had awoken. The figure of light wouldn’t be willing to let go of someone like me so easily”

Luo Bing Li thought briefly before asking: “If I were the Golden Flame Divinity, I would probably not save these Divinity from the past and focus on accomplishing my mission and save my future—— but what if the Golden Flame Divinity wasn’t how you and I think he was? What if he really tried to save these Divinities in history?”

“Who cares, that’s only a small issue”

Gu Qing Shan said without much care.

He even took out a bottle of liquor and poured himself a cup, slowly enjoying it on his throne.

Luo Bing Li looked up at Gu Qing Shan in surprise, unable to grasp what he was thinking.

Seeing his attitude, she really didn’t want to bother asking again, but this was such an important matter that she wouldn’t feel assured without asking.

“This is a great kind of liquor, you’ve been through a lot lately as well, want some?”

Gu Qing Shan offered.

“Gu Qing Shan, this isn’t a small issue, the Golden Flame Divinity came from the future——”

Before Luo Bing Li finished speaking, Gu Qing Shan cut her off: “So what if he is? If he gave up on saving Divinities from the past, the figure of light would naturally take my side”

Luo Bing Li pursued: “Then what if he decided to save the Age of Old Divinities? What are you going to do then?”

“That would be even better. Since he had proven his loyalty to the Divine race, I would be able to get him to serve the Age of Old Divinities better—— don’t worry, this king is going to use him very thoroughly”

Gu Qing Shan casually answered.

He poured another cup and sent it flying down, telling her:

“I suggest you take a short rest, drinking a little bit would allow you to relax yourself better”

“Relax myself...”

Luo Bing Li muttered and was unable to keep herself from taking the cup.

The liquor inside the cup was a transparent topaz color, fresh and alluring.

“The Eternal True God wasn’t only the one behind everything, it was also an unbeatable opponent, do you have a way to deal with it now?” Luo Bing Li asked.

“Not yet, so we still have a lot to do from now on. Right now, the most important thing is to let loose a little bit. Otherwise, if my mental state is too high-strung, it would be easy for me to make a mistake” Gu Qing Shan told her.

“On the contrary, I feel like drinking liquor right now would make it easier to cause mistakes” Luo Bing Li replied.

“That’s true, that’s why we’re drinking Spirit Fruit Liquor brewed by the Divine race. The ingredients used to make this liquor were all extremely rare, capable of rousing vitality within the drinker. There’s also a special fragrance coming from the liquor that makes it unforgettable. The brewing method has never been passed on to humanity ever before”

Gu Qing Shan raised his cup, nodded to Luo Bing Li, and drank the entire thing.

Looking at Gu Qing Shan, Luo Bing Li suddenly realized something.

They were currently inside the palace of the Divine race’s king, drinking the Divine race’s specialty liquor.

Regardless of the future, this was an unprecedented moment in human history.

Luo Bing Li pressed the cup in front of her lips and took a light sip.

A pure and fresh fragrance lingered at the tip of her tongue, an endlessly deep taste.

### **Chapter 803**

Gu Qing Shan’s homeworld.

The North Pole.

The wooden cabin at the top of the mountain.

A pair of eyes opened and looked around.

There was nothing but total darkness.

Countless voices were speaking to him.

As if many creatures or people were urging him to let himself go and sate his thirst for killing.

*I want... to kill...*

All of a sudden, a loud sound of electronic music began to play from within the darkness.

This sound was so familiar that it immediately drowned out all the other voices and woke up his memories.

*Hm...*

*This is the game I’m the most familiar with.*

*This upbeat electronic music is from the 2nd stage of that game. When the mid-BOSS character appears to block the path, this music would start playing.*

*It was very simple to defeat the mid-BOSS, I just needed to jump, attack, jump, dodge and repeat this over and over while paying attention to my cooldowns.*

Abruptly, the sound of music was distorted and disappeared.

— — — *what?*

*Someone actually died during such a simple fight?*

He couldn't help but try and push forward in the darkness.

The wooden coffin covered in complicated patterns was opened.

Ye Fei Li leapt out from the coffin.

After taking a look at his surroundings, he froze.

A man wearing a black leather jacket was lying on the ground in front of the fireplace, snoring with a bottle of booze in his hands.

On the other side, a feminine catgirl who wore black stockings and a short skirt was sitting with her back to him, mashing the buttons on her controller.

“Put something on first before you say anything— — tch, after evolution, you got even whiter huh?”

The girl said that without turning around.

Ye Fei Li finally noticed that he wasn't wearing anything.

He hurriedly looked around.

A set of neatly folded clothes was right next to his coffin.

Ye Fei Li quickly put on the clothes and sat down next to the girl.

“Kitty— —”

“Call me big sis Kitty”

“Ah, yes, big sis Kitty, that stage just now, you can't win like that” Ye Fei Li said very seriously.

He already remembered that this young girl with a pair of cat ears who had an air of pure beauty and bewitchment at the same time was Kitty of the Justice Iron Fist Club.

— — and he was also a member of this club, their newest member.

Hearing that, Kitty shoved the controller into his hand: “My HP is going to 0 soon, can you still pass the stage?”

“Others might not be able to, but it's no problem for an expert of my level!”

Ye Fei Li happily said.

— — *don't joke with me, I can pass this simple stage with my eyes closed.*

He took the controller and seriously took over the character on the screen, dodging the BOSS' attacks while looking for a chance to retaliate.

A few seconds later.

The character on the screen got hit again and died.

Ye Fei Li scowled.

*That was really embarrassing—*

*But there wasn't much HP left, I died with only one hit.*

*Am I going to take this loss and make a fool out of myself in front of big sis Kitty?*

*No, I'm going to use my true powers!*

Ye Fei Li became fully focused on the game.

On the other hand, countless bloody faces appeared in the void of space, trying to jump into his body. But they were all stopped by some sort of invisible power, unable to come close.

Ye Fei Li didn't seem to be aware.

While staring at the screen, Kitty was constantly moving her hands to throw the bloody faces straight into the space vortex without fail.

Barry was snoring, but had one eye opened, coldly staring at those bloody faces.

—-when a World Destroyer evolves, innumerable evil thoughts and desires would be derived from their bodies, manifesting as spirits that try to take over control of their bodies.

If a World Destroyer was controlled by their spirit, they would lose their rationality and emotions, thoroughly turning into a killing machine.

The World Destroyer would then massacre all of the living beings on that world, absorb the world's power and essence in order to evolve again, and turn into a more powerful Apostle of Destruction.

Fortunately.

Kitty and Barry were here.

They were silently protecting Ye Fei Li

Everything was going well.

Once Ye Fei Li's situation becomes better, they could simply send him into the Tower of Infinite Worlds to train himself.

...

A few ten thousand years ago.

The Primordial Heaven Realm.

Inside a certain phantom image.

The Sky Beyond Heaven.

The Grand Divine Palace.

A certain conversation continued:

“I still feel that it’s not suitable to drink too much alcohol, there could be a lot of issues”

Luo Bing Li said cautiously.

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She already had two cups, currently enjoying her third.

Gu Qing Shan had already finished an entire bottle, took out a roasted chicken wrapped in lotus leaves, slowly closed his eyes and savored its scent.

“How fragrant...” he muttered.

“Oi, you’re currently the Divine King, if you eat roast chicken right here, after they come back from the trial, your act might be exposed right away” Luo Bing Li reminded him.

Looking at her serious expression that didn’t fit the cup of liquor in her hand, Gu Qing Shan said without worry: “Tests and trials have always taken a lot of time, we’re in no rush. Not to mention, no one is going to barge in here without permission”

“The Soul Shrieker” Luo Bing Li coldly said.

Gu Qing Shan glanced at her.

He raised the chicken and gestured to ask if she wanted some.

Her momentum was broken as she angrily answered: “No, I’m not hungry”

Gu Qing Shan broke off a chicken drumstick and explained: “At this point in time, the Soul Shrieker will silently wait for the twin swords Heaven and Earth to be forged, it won’t try to disturb the peace of humanity and the Divine race”

Saying so, he began to eat.

All of a sudden, his Inventory Bag trembled a bit as the Adorable jade gourd flew out by itself.

The jade gourd hovered in front of Gu Qing Shan and let out a faint squeak.

*Xiu...*

At the same time, a line of glowing text appeared on the War God UI.

[Jade pendant: Adorable is requesting you to give it 300 Soul Points]

Gu Qing Shan looked at his Inventory Bag in surprise, then glanced at the jade pendant floating in front of him.

*—my Inventory Bag is still tightly closed.*

*This jade gourd is able to go in and out without minding the Laws of Space?*

Gu Qing Shan reached his hand out, grabbed the jade gourd and poured in another 300 Soul Points.

Having received the Soul Points, the jade gourd squeaked happily before going back into the Inventory Bag.

Gu Qing Shan scanned his bag.

Inside the Inventory Bag, the jade gourd had once again fallen silent.

*—-from the looks of it, it fell asleep again.*

Gu Qing Shan sighed.

*Eat then sleep, sleep then eat again?*

*This really is...*

*So envious.*

*This Bygone Era artifact... should be reliable, right?*

*In the worst case, it'll be like raising a pet.*

While consoling himself, Gu Qing Shan finished his chicken drumstick.

He drank another bottle of liquor before happily leaning back on the throne to digest his food.

Looking at his state, Luo Bing Li was a bit speechless and said: "Are we just going to stay here like this?"

Gu Qing Shan asked: "How's the jade disk going?"

"The toughest parts have all been made, as long as I want to, the rest can be completed right away" Luo Bing Li answered.

"In other words, we can take it and leave any time we want" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"Indeed, we can leave right now, as long as you stop acting as Divine King" Luo Bing Li confirmed.

"Do you think I'm going to stop now?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"I don't see the point of continuing, you can go on your way to find the Heaven sword again right now"

Luo Bing Li stared at him, then abruptly asked: "Or... are you going to give up because you know this is a scheme of the Soul Shrieker?"

Gu Qing Shan sighed.

*It's impossible to stop humanity from forging the Heaven sword, and I can't give up either.*

*No matter what kind of scheme or hidden plans there are, I have to save the Earth sword.*

*If the Earth sword is a component of some other weapon, I'll destroy that weapon as well.*



“Come, let us take a look at the current situation”

As he said so, a cluster of cold mist began to pour out from Gu Qing Shan’s hands.

The cold mist manifested the form of a lifelike cultivator.

Gu Qing Shan spoke: “The current situation is like this, humanity can’t win against the Divinities, at most, one or two humans might be able to defeat a Divinity, but this is meaningless”

While he spoke, the cold mist swirled and shifted as the human cultivator turned into a Divinity with a cold flame burning in between his eyebrows.

“The Divinities are currently ruling over humanity, but they can’t win against those truly powerful Desolate monsters”

The Divinity faded into the mist and once again manifested as a terrible monster.

“The Desolate monsters only listen to the order of the Lord of Desolation, who is actually the Soul Shrieker”

The mist once again swirled and turned into an eerie half-man, half-woman creature.

“The Soul Shrieker is a creature that cannot be reasoned with, as well as our greatest enemy”

“The Desolate monsters are under its rule, so they won’t listen to us either”

“Which means, the only power we can exploit is the Divinities”

Gu Qing Shan waved his hand and dismissed the cold mist in the air.

“In other words, even if I make it to the final moment of humanity and find the Heaven sword, if the Soul Shrieker shows up, there would be no one to help me escape from the sure-death situation”

“That’s why I need to prepare a bit more power, even if this power comes from the Divine race”

“Other than that, I still want to investigate just how much preparation the Divine race had made to prevent them from showing up at the true final moment and interfering”

Hearing his long-winded explanation, Luo Bing Li was finally convinced: “I understand, then I’ll wait until you come up with something”

Seeing the other party convinced, Gu Qing Shan finally relaxed.

Luo Bing Li was the one responsible for the path leading to the forging of the Heaven sword. She basically held the same status for humanity as the figure of light for the Divinities, so it was necessary to tell her his plan so that no cracks would form between them.

*Not to mention, I spent 90,000 Soul Points to turn into the God of Frost and Chill.*

*Now that the War God UI is acting like a housewife that takes a huge cut out of all my earnings, I’m not going to be able to earn that much Soul Points again in a short time.*

*Furthermore, while I hold this Divinity’s form, I basically have the same level of power as he did.*

*If I return to my human form, my strength and these ice abilities would greatly weaken.*

*No way I'm going to turn back so easily.*

## **Chapter 804**

Gu Qing Shan sat on the Divine Throne and silently waited.

He was waiting for the figure of light to return.

The Golden Flame Divinity's choice would affect his entire plan from this point onwards.

If the Golden Flame Divinity manages to pass the figure of light's trial, Gu Qing Shan will have no choice but to accept his participation.

Time went by.

One day after another.

Five days had already passed since the deaths of the previous Divine King and the God of Frost and Chill.

In two days, a new Divinity would be born.

Gu Qing Shan has decided to wait for one last day.

If the figure of light still doesn't return, he was ready to give up this identity and leave with Luo Bing Li.

At a certain point, two Divine Guards came into the Grand Divine Palace and knelt on the ground:

「 Sire, the Light Divinity had arrived, he wishes to see you 」

“Is he alone?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

「 Indeed, sire 」 the Divine Guard answered.

Gu Qing Shan grinned and spoke: “Let him in”

A few moments later.

The figure of light was escorted into the Grand Divine Palace.

He bowed to Gu Qing Shan: 「 Greetings, your Divine Majesty 」

“And the results were?” Gu Qing Shan asked him directly.

The figure of light silently sighed and answered in a low voice: 「 As your Divine Majesty predicted 」

Gu Qing Shan looked at the figure of light and asked curiously: “What did you have the Golden Flame Divinity do?”

「 I led him into a phantom image that was completely taken over by our Divine race and told him that Gu Qing Shan was inside that phantom image 」 the figure of light replied.

“That obviously wasn't the truth” Gu Qing Shan said.

「 Yes, I created an illusion to see that in an extreme case, would he discard the Divine race as a whole. To see would he, for the sake of killing his target, ignore the lives of his ancestors 」 the figure of light explained.

Gu Qing Shan continued: “And then, to kill Gu Qing Shan, he really did sacrifice the benefits of the past Divine race”

「 Indeed 」 the figure of light replied.

Gu Qing Shan waved his hand dismissively and curtly asked: “You didn’t kill him?”

「 I returned here right away 」

“What for?”

「 The one who triggered the phantom images was the human cultivator Gu Qing Shan from several ten thousand years later. We initially thought that if we helped the Golden Flame Divinity kill him and take humanity’s secret from him, we would be able to change everything 」

「 But now, we learnt the truth from you—— in the face of the unbeatable threat that is the Soul Shrieker, the human called Gu Qing Shan was no longer important 」

The figure of light paused briefly before speaking again, a bit hesitant: 「 All of our preparations wouldn’t be able to win against the King of the Desolate race or his 7-colored spear, let alone the Eternal True God, we couldn’t think of anything at all 」

「 Faced with this truth of history, which road should the Divine race take? 」

Hearing this, Gu Qing Shan also fell into thought.

This was also the problem he needed to think about for humanity.

——the Soul Shrieker would definitely not allow anyone to ruin its plan.

When the previous Divine King clumsily imitated humanity and created a Samsara world, he was immediately killed.

Who could escape from the hands of such a powerful and cautious existence? Who could go against it?

Luo Bing Li stood on one side with a cold and blank expression, but also showed a bit of hesitation on her face.

She understood how difficult this was going to be, as well as the threat that both humanity and the Divine race faced.

But what could she do?

At this very moment, the Divine race’s guide, humanity’s guide as well as the cultivator who reopened the phantom images of the Age of Old were all standing in the Grand Divine Palace.

And they had all fallen deeply into thought.

The Grand Divine Palace was completely silent.

A few moments later.

Another Divine Guard flew in and knelt on the ground, reporting:

「 Sire, the Golden Flame Divinity returned, he is requesting to see you 」

Gu Qing Shan glanced at the figure of light in surprise.

“Does he know that he was inside an illusion?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

「 He did not 」 the figure of light replied.

Gu Qing Shan muttered: “I had thought that he would return to the future after killing the fake Gu Qing Shan, so why did he return here...?”

Gu Qing Shan sat still for a moment.

He suddenly smirked and ordered: “Summon the Divinities and all 16 Divine Guards to the Grand Divine Palace, make sure that no one is missing”

「 Understood 」

The Divine Guard took his order and left.

Once all the Divinities have gathered at the Grand Divine Palace, Gu Qing Shan ordered again: “Let the Golden Flame Divinity in”

「 Yes 」

A few moments later.

The Golden Flame Divinity entered the Grand Divine Palace.

He looked at all the Divinities gathered here in shock, feeling a bit complicated.

*Since I know all of the God of Frost and Chill's abilities and weaknesses, if I suddenly attack, I might be able to successfully ambush him.*

*That way, no Divinity except me would be able to take the Heaven sword.*

*Sadly, this God of Frost and Chill that knows about his own future death is too cautious.*

*Seems like I have no choice but to try and do this openly.*

While he was thinking, the Divine King on his throne had already spoken:

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“Golden Flame, are you here to bid us farewell?”

The Golden Flame Divinity regained his calm and smiled triumphantly: 「 Your Majesty, that is indeed so, I've killed Gu Qing Shan 」

The audience hall was silent.

The Divinities all stared closely at him.

The figure of light said nothing.

Luo Bing Li glanced up at Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan asked him, seemingly intrigued: “So you found him? How did you kill him?”

The Golden Flame Divinity sighed: 「 I had to make some sacrifices, exchanging the flesh of some of our brethren in exchange for the Desolate race’s trust, allowing us to enter the Desolate world in pursuit of Gu Qing Shan. After that, it was very simple 」

“Congratulations” Gu Qing Shan replied.

The Golden Flame Divinity nodded and spoke emotionally: 「 I must leave now and return to my era. Since the past was changed because of me, a domino effect should’ve already taken place in the future, I need to return and quickly deal with the aftermath 」

Gu Qing Shan gracefully waved his hand and spoke: “Do as you please”

The Golden Flame Divinity stood still.

“Is there anything else?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

「 There is something else, it’s about the Heaven sword 」 the Golden Flame Divinity replied.

Gu Qing Shan slowly told him: “The Heaven sword... that artifact is actually related to an unimaginable trap. If you want to pursue it, I won’t stop you”

The Golden Flame Divinity tried asking: 「 What about you? 」

“Me?” Gu Qing Shan shook his head, “For the sake of our race, there are no choice for me but to attempt to sought it out”

「 In other words, a battle would surely happen between us 」 the Golden Flame Divinity declared.

“Don’t worry about me, if you can obtain the Heaven sword, I will even wish for you to live long and prosper” Gu Qing Shan grinned.

The Golden Flame Divinity couldn’t understand at all.

*—regardless, this God of Frost and Chill has most likely gotten the help of the figure of light, he might very well be able to leave this phantom image and become my competitor.*

*From how history went, the Desolate race didn’t seem to know about the Heaven sword at all.*

*While humanity created the Heaven sword, their strength is nothing to fear.*

*Within the Divine race, the only one who can compete with me for it is this God of Frost and Chill.*

*In other words, as long as I defeat him, the Heaven sword is mine!*

The Golden Flame Divinity felt determined.

He gathered his strength and exuded a golden light that shined all over the palace.

「 Come, God of Frost and Chill, fight me! Let's see who is qualified to obtain the Heaven sword! 」

The Divinities were all shaken.

It was quite rare for someone to try and challenge the Divine King for his throne, so normally no one would try and interfere.

Who could've thought that this Divinity from the future would try to challenge the Divine King?

How would the Divine King deal with this?

The Divinities all focused their gazes at Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan glanced at the figure of light.

The figure of light remained silent.

“What is your choice?” Gu Qing Shan asked one last time.

The figure of light looked back at him but said nothing.

Gu Qing Shan nodded and spoke: “Very well, then I will decide”

He leaned forward on the Divine Throne and questioned the Golden Flame Divinity: “So you want a fight?”

The Golden Flame Divinity's fighting spirits rose all the way to its peak as he shouted: 「 That's right, a fair battle between the two of us, let everyone here sees who is more qualified to pursue the Heaven sword! 」

Gu Qing Shan calmly asked: “One last question, what will you do when you obtain the Heaven sword?”

The Golden Flame Divinity froze briefly before answering: 「 I will use it to change our Divine race's future 」

Gu Qing Shan asked again: “So you want to take it back to your future?”

The Golden Flame Divinity nodded.

——wasn't that already obvious? Is this Divine King an idiot, asking so many things like that, what is he trying to do?

On the throne, Gu Qing Shan sighed and appeared disappointed.

The Divinities were becoming rowdy.

「 We can't let him take the Heaven sword away 」

「 That is a very powerful weapon that can change everything 」

「 He already killed Gu Qing Shan yet he still covets the Heaven sword 」

「 That's not right, what would happen to us if he took the Heaven sword away? 」

「 The Heaven sword must be ours, we must change our future of inevitable death 」

The Divinities whispered.

Then their voices became louder.

All of a sudden, a Divinity whose body was clad in golden light came forward.

「 You dare to challenge our Divine King? First, you must go through me! 」

The Golden Flame Divinity's expression changed as he tried to stop him: 「 Wait a minute, I just want the Divine King—— 」

He couldn't say anything else.

The other Divinity had already charged at him.

Since the Golden Flame Divinity didn't want to be wounded, he had no choice but to retaliate.

The battle began!

The Divinities stood still, silently observing the battle.

The figure of light also remained silent without trying to stop them.

Luo Bing Li sneaked a glance at Gu Qing Shan.

Only to see that Gu Qing Shan had already leaned back on his throne, shifting his body into a position that was more comfortable to observe the battle and even crossed one leg over the other.

## **Chapter 805**

The battle ended as fast as it started.

After all, the Golden Flame Divinity came from the future, and he had done thorough research on almost every Divinity in the past.

He himself wasn't weak, and since he knew their weaknesses and abilities, he quickly defeated his opponent.

Gu Qing Shan simple declared:

“Restrain him”

16 Divine Guards as well as countless Divinities surrounded the Golden Flame Divinity at once without waiting for him to use any powerful attacks.

No matter how powerful the Golden Flame Divinity, he wasn't a match for so many Divinities from the Age of Old, so he was easily captured.

He shouted in discontent: 「 Divine King, you don't even have the courage to fight against me in a fair battle! 」

Gu Qing Shan calmly replied: “My life is worth more than your ‘fairness’”

He made a gesture.

An endless cold chill began to rise from the Golden Flame Divinity’s feet.

Transparent white ice climbed up the Golden Flame Divinity’s legs, froze him in place, and kept spreading up his body.

Wherever the chilling frost climbed, the Divinity’s golden glow faded.

The Golden Flame Divinity’s expression finally warped.

If he wasn’t from the future, he would have been just as clueless as the other Divinities here and not know about the truth of his technique.

This was the God of Frost and Chill’s hidden ultimate technique, [Frost Extinction].

Freezing air at absolute zero temperature would put all living beings into permanent silence.

Even the Golden Flame Divinity wouldn’t be able to escape from it.

But such a powerful technique naturally had a big flaw——

It required time to accumulate, thus making it tough to actually hit an enemy with.

But because the Golden Flame Divinity was being restrained by the other Divinities, when used on him, this technique has no weaknesses.

「 How dare you!? I am your brethren from the future! 」 the Golden Flame Divinity shouted.

“You have never lifted a finger to help us Divinities from the Age of Old. You’ve even made a disappointing choice right at the very end” the Divine King replied without any emotions.

The frost continued to spread.

The Golden Flame Divinity hurriedly looked at the figure of light and shouted: 「 My mission is over, please send me back, I don’t want to stay here any longer! 」

The figure of light hesitantly glanced at Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan shook his head, controlled Elemental Ice with both hands to continue casting [Frost Extinction] and spoke:

“You represent the future”

He seemed to have fallen into a long thought as he spoke very slowly.

“But you represent a future that we do not wish for”

While he was speaking, the Golden Flame Divinity was still being restrained by other Divinities. Unable to even retaliate, he was soon turned into a frozen statue.

*Shu!*



An icicle spear manifested in the air and shot straight at the statue.

The frozen statue broke into countless miniature pieces and fell to the ground.

The Golden Flame Divinity who came from the future was killed in the hands of the Divine King, just like that.

The Divine King's voice resounded from the top of the divine throne:

"When your life returns to eternal silence and slumber, the era of the past, our present, shall use your tomb as the base to grow and create a new future"

"A new future for our Divine race"

None of the Divinities inside the Grand Divine Palace said anything.

They all knelt down on one knee and respectfully bowed to the Divine King on his throne.

No one had ever seen such an icy technique before.

Earlier, some people had indeed silently criticized the Divine King for not taking the challenge. But now that they had seen how the Divine King killed the Golden Flame Divinity in a single attack, they fully believed that there was no point for a battle in the first place!

The Divine King will surely change the fate of everyone's death and lead us to surpass the Desolate race!

The Divinities looked at the Divine King with awe and respect.

While the Divine King was looking far into the void of space, seemingly staring at his vision of the Divine race's future, his body clad in a deep sense of dignity and solemnity.

——in truth, he was reading the glowing lines of text in front of his eyes.

[You've killed the Golden Flame Divinity]

[He was a powerful Divinity that came from the future]

[After going through deduction by the System, actual Soul Points obtained: 20]

Gu Qing Shan silently sighed regretfully.

*Cling clang!*

A coin fell out from the pieces of ice.

Gu Qing Shan showed a doubtful expression as the coin floated into the figure of light's hand.

*Another coin?*

*Why were there so many coins in the Age of Old?*

*The coins of the Strife Zones were rumored to be forged by the Divinities.*

*But... those coins were supposed to be passed down from the Age of Old, finally gathered and used as the main currencies by the Daemons of the Strife Zones.*

Gu Qing Shan could no longer underestimate the coins.

Since he didn't have a lot more to say, he dismissed the other Divinities from the palace.

The audience hall quickly became empty.

Gu Qing Shan then asked: "What was that coin?"

The figure of light replied: 「 It was a coin that could locate Gu Qing Shan. I was the one who gave it to Golden Flame, what a pity that he couldn't live up to our trust 」

Gu Qing Shan was surprised: "Why could this coin locate Gu Qing Shan?"

The figure of light replied: 「 Because he was the only outsider within the phantom images. We could sense this disturbance in the timeline through the coin and use it to chase after him 」

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He then glanced at Luo Bing Li.

Understanding what he wanted to say, Gu Qing Shan casually swung his hand and sealed Luo Bing Li within a block of ice.

*— — —it seems the figure of light is about to explain a very crucial secret, I can't do anything but make her put up with it for now.*

The figure of light then started speaking: 「 The coins represent value and power, artifacts of the Bygone Era humanity 」

*The Bygone Era!*

Gu Qing Shan couldn't help scowling.

The coins of the Strife Zones were all created by the Divinities from the Age of Old, containing various knowledge and abilities, and it turns out they all came from the Bygone Era humanity!

The figure of light continued: 「 Humans liked to bestow various powers to the coins, giving them value to be exchanged as currency 」

「 After humanity left, there weren't too many coins left in this world, most of which were collected and kept by the Desolate race 」

「 They were a bunch of fools 」

「 We used many methods and agreed to numerous treaties to obtain the chance to approach the coins 」

「 As you know, your Divine Majesty, our Divine race's most powerful trait is our ability to learn and imitate 」

「 Through imitation, we obtained a part of the coins' mysteries, as well as a shocking secret 」

"What is that secret? Gu Qing Shan asked.

The figure of light stared at him for a long while without saying anything.

“What is it? If it can’t be revealed, you can simply tell me so” Gu Qing Shan casually declared.

The figure of light shook his head: 「 There is a condition to learning this secret 」

“Tell me”

「 I need to ask you something. Is your will to save the Divine race still as firm as it was at the beginning? 」

“Of course”

「 Then you must promise me, after learning this secret, you must leave the current phantom image and come with me to another. Furthermore, at the final moments of the Age of Old, you must enter that true moment in history 」

「 Your Divine Majesty, I shall assist you with everything I have, while your responsibility will be to lead the Divine race out of this threat of extinction 」

Gu Qing Shan thought briefly and nodded: “I promise”

The figure of light then explained: 「 Do you know why the Bygone Era humanity had to leave the Primordial Heaven Realm? 」

“I do not”

Gu Qing Shan sat up straight and answered with a serious expression.

He could tell that he was about to hear an unprecedentedly shocking secret.

Sure enough, the figure of light continued: 「 The strongest suit of our Divine race is learning and imitation. Through studying the Desolate race’s collection of coins, we managed to determine the three most precious Bygone Era coins 」

「 These three coins represented the highest value among all the Bygone Era coins, as they displayed an unimaginable hidden connection between three forces 」

「 These three forces were: The Great Bramble Tree, The Angel of Condemnation, and The Demon King of Order 」

「 Once these three kinds of power are gathered in one place, the power they create can make all things go in reverse, revive the dead and make the fate of all living beings back down 」

Gu Qing Shan silently listened.

His heart skipped a beat.

*The Angel of Condemnation!*

*That’s Little Dusk!*

*Thinking back, I once asked her if she knew the secret of the coins.*

*What did she tell me at the time?*

...

*“No, you can’t use the same standards as wealth to consider truth and secrets. Each of the coins numbered 900 and above all holds their own meaning, none of them are more important than the rest”*

*Apparently recalling something, Little Dusk’s voice became faint and puzzled:*

*“All the coins numbered 900 and above are equal, except... the final three coins, each of which only has one copy...”*

...

*So that’s why.*

Gu Qing Shan regained his senses.

*It turns out Little Dusk herself represents a kind of ultimate power.*

*No wonder that fake ‘God’ would rather go back on their words in front of trillions of living beings than to give Little Dusk back to me.*

*It wanted Little Dusk’s power!*

Gu Qing Shan thought for a few moments, then suddenly asked: “I know that this is a shocking secret, but I don’t understand how this is related to why the Bygone Era humans left the Primordial Heaven Realm”

The figure of light purposefully lowered his voice and replied: 「 According to what we learnt, we found that the Bygone Era humanity didn’t actually know about this in the beginning 」

「 They only found out later on that by using the three coins as the catalyst to trigger the three forces that corresponded to each coin at once, this ultimate power would be created 」

「 The Bygone Era humanity was naturally joyful. But when they used this power to go through Space-time to alter everything and change the course of fate, they also brought an unknown threat to the Bygone Era humans 」

“Threat?”

「 Indeed, the fate of living beings, as well as Space-time itself, was constantly being changed through this power. This acted like a beacon that transmitted its signal across the fog of time, the Eternal Abyss as well as many other unknown locations 」

「 And terrifying beings of unknown powers that resided within those locations caught those signal 」

「 Perhaps, the Soul Shrieker that you mentioned came to this world at that time 」

「 Humanity wasn’t willing to forego the power of the three coins, so they tried to fight against the terrifying beings 」

「 They built some sort of unbreakable defense to stop those beings from peering inside—— from what we know now, that is the Tie Wei fortress wall that you mentioned 」

「 But in the end, the Bygone Era humanity found that they simply weren't a match against those beings 」

「 That is why humanity chose to enter the Gate of the World to leave the Primordial Heaven Realm 」

「 As soon as they left, the power fluctuations stopped, the unknown terrifying beings also gradually left 」

At this point, Gu Qing Shan couldn't help asking: "And so you tried to replicate those three coins? Did you succeed?"

The figure of light sighed: 「 We failed countless times, never once did we succeed 」

Gu Qing Shan nodded and muttered: "Which means, these three coins that have been passed on since the Bygone Era up until now, or perhaps even to the future, there have ever been only one copy of each"

## **Chapter 806**

Gu Qing Shan once obtained a coin that could summon a fridge out from thin air.

Originally, he thought this was a magical artifact created by the Divinities.

But as time went by, he gradually found that the coins contained more varied and important abilities as well as secrets within them.

He even had a replicated coin that allowed its user to go back 5 minutes in time.

——and now he had found out the truth about the coins.

They were in fact creations of the Bygone Era humanity, it was natural for them to contain unimaginable powers and secrets.

"Let me guess, our Divine race then tried to replicate a lot of the Bygone Era coins" Gu Qing Shan asked.

The figure of light replied: 「 Indeed. After you died, the next Divine King would be the first to discover the secret of the coins. From then on, we would continue to replicate many coins over and over again. Aside from the three coins that I mentioned earlier, the replication of the coins never stopped 」

Gu Qing Shan cracked his head unnaturally and commented: "It's quite uncomfortable to hear someone else discuss your own death"

The figure of light replied: 「 After you come with me and experience more history, you will gradually get used to it 」

Gu Qing Shan lightly asked: "Then where are the final three coins now?"

「 During the period of time when our relations with the Desolate race was at its best, they allowed us to communicate with them, thus learning the secret of the coins—— they do not know about this secret, but the coins were still theirs 」 the figure of light replied.

“Haven’t you ever tried to bring the three coins back?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

「 As soon as a member of the Divine race enters the Desolate world, we would be noticed right away. That’s why we imitated the Bygone Era humans and created a spell that allowed us to disguise as humans—— I’ve already used that technique on you once. After using this spell several times, we finally managed to obtain the three coins 」 the figure of light said.

“Then what are you waiting for? You can already use the power of the coins” Gu Qing Shan asked doubtfully.

「 We couldn’t 」 the figure of light sighed, 「 The power of the three coins could only be activated by the three existences that they represent. We managed to contact the Great Bramble Tree and discovered the resting place of the Angel of Condemnation 」

「 Because of the coin, we were able to convince the Great Bramble Tree to help us once 」

The figure of light continued: 「 As for the Angel of Condemnation, we used the coin to awaken her—— - but she didn’t remember anything that happened during the Bygone Era at all, as if she lost all of her memories 」

Gu Qing Shan squinted his eyes and questioned: “How did that happen? Was it because the Bygone Era humans were afraid that she remembered how the three powers were used?”

The figure of light replied: 「 Possibly, that is why we told her that she was our creation and took care of her quite a bit in making her accept her identity 」

Gu Qing Shan was speechless.

——*so that’s what happened.*

*She had already existed during the Bygone Era, but she lost her memories of it.*

*In hindsight, considering how naïve that girl was, it was almost inevitable for her to be deceived...*

*The card deck she has was probably not a creation of the Divine race but rather one of the inheritances from the Bygone Era humanity.*

*No wonder a mere Lapis-grade card was already that powerful!*

*If she was at her peak, I really can’t imagine what kind of power she would be able to exert.*

*With Little Dusk’s background and power, no wonder the Divinities were so wary of her in the end!*

Gu Qing Shan spoke without batting an eye: “Out of the three kinds of powers, you said that you’ve managed to obtain two, only the Demon King of Order was left—— this seems to be an [Order] of humanity, you weren’t able to borrow the power of this [Order]?”

The figure of light replied: 「 This was the most difficult part. The Demon King of Order must be created by the [Worlds Apocalypse Online: Demon King Order], only a single one of them could be born at all, and we couldn't afford to let the Demon King be created 」

“Why not?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

「 Because the birth of the Demon King represents the fact that [Worlds Apocalypse Online: Demon King Order] had reached maturity. This was a key factor in awakening the other [Orders], as long as the Demon King is willing to, it can awaken any other [Order]— and we definitely would not allow that to happen! 」

The figure of light's voice suddenly became solemn: 「 Once the other [Orders] awaken, humanity would quickly enter an era of rapid growth, and our rule would end 」

Gu Qing Shan asked: “Then why did you release this [Order] in the first place?”

The figure of light replied: 「 The awakening of the [Orders] were arranged by the Bygone Era humans before they left, we simply couldn't stop it. Even the combined might of the Desolate race and ours only managed to change the order in which they appear 」

Gu Qing Shan fell into thought.

*So the root of every problem was still with the [Demon King Order].*

*For humanity as a whole, this [Order] was the cruelest of all the [Orders], combined with the deceit and provocation of the Divinities, humanity naturally considered it to be their enemy.*

*And by nature, the [Demon King Order] wouldn't be well-received, because only one person could ever reach the peak of this System and become the Demon King.*

*Only after the Demon King appeared can the other [Orders] awaken one by one and humanity can prosper once more.*

*The Bygone Era humanity definitely didn't expect that after so many years, the [Orders] were still sleeping while their brethren were enduring slavery under the Divine race, the Desolate race as well as the Eternal True God.*

*How pitiable...*

Gu Qing Shan asked after thinking for a short while: “After my death, how did the Divine Kings of the future cope with the [Demon King Order]?”

「 Whenever someone was discovered to carry the [Order], humanity and us would seek them out and kill them 」 the figure of light replied.

“Can members of our Divine race carry the [Order]?”

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「 Unfortunately, we cannot 」

Gu Qing Shan then asked: “If that’s the case, I still have one crucial question I need answered—— is it only the Demon King who can transfer the power into the coin and blend it with the other two types of power?”

The figure of light replied: 「 That isn’t so, once the [Order] evolves to reach the level necessary for the Demon King to descend, any carriers of the [Order] at that point would be able to do it as well, but like this, the power obtained will be weakened 」

Gu Qing Shan replied: “Then, I have a solution”

The figure of light was surprised.

「 You... have a solution? 」 he asked with a shaken voice.

Despite countless years, the Divine race never came up with a way to deal with every problem, yet now the God of Frost and Chill said that he had a solution.

“Listen, here’s how we’re going to do it” Gu Qing Shan cleared his throat and spoke seriously: “We must choose a human and help them carry the [Demon King Order], but we must strictly monitor that human’s pace so that they do not grow to become the Demon King. Once we obtain enough power of each type for them to fuse and use, we kill that human”

The figure of light was speechless

He was completely shocked by this suggestion.

Through the long years of history, the Divine race has never once considered allowing humanity and the [Order] to associate with one another, hoping that their relations would become strained to the point of no return.

This idea was as dangerous as dancing at the edge of a cliff, one wrong step and they would fall to their demise.

But if they were to use a human to obtain the power of the [Order], then kill that human, there would be no longer any threat to them and they would achieve their goal.

It was that simple.

This was very doable!

Inside the giant block of ice, Luo Bing Li’s closed eyes were also moving a bit.

Both Gu Qing Shan and the figure of light didn’t notice this.

The Grand Divine Palace fell silent.

A while later.

The figure of light spoke: 「 Even if they are not yet the Demon King when the [Order] evolves enough to summon a Demon King, that human would still become unprecedentedly powerful, it would be very hard to kill them 」



Gu Qing Shan coldly replied: “We will use the might of the entire Divine race”

The figure of light fell silent for even longer.

And then, it spoke: 「 This is a very serious gamble, one wrong step and we could fail 」

“We would all die in the future anyway, if that is how it was going to be, what’s the loss in taking a gamble?” Gu Qing Shan replied.

The figure of light said: 「 If we want to do this, we will need a suitable human cultivator, who do you think we should use? 」

Gu Qing Shan replied: “Of course, it should be Gu Qing Shan”

The figure of light froze briefly before asking doubtfully: 「 Why him? 」

“Because Gu Qing Shan came from the future, he knows about the [Order] so he would accept becoming a carrier a lot more easily”

Gu Qing Shan patiently explained: “According to the Golden Flame Divinity’s words, in the future, the [Demon King Order] has yet to give birth to a Demon King, many of the other [Orders] were still sleeping, and humanity was hostile towards the [Demon King Order]”

“Because of this, he would definitely not try to become the Demon King or awaken the other [Orders]— — he probably doesn’t even know about their existence”

The figure of light questioned: 「 Why would he accept to help us? 」

“The Heaven sword— — I will promise to help him obtain the Heaven sword” Gu Qing Shan replied.

「 The Heaven sword? 」

“Indeed, Golden Flame had said that Gu Qing Shan carries the Earth sword with him, and we found out that both the Earth sword and Heaven sword were the Eternal True God’s scheme, weapons that ‘he’ wants to be forged”

Gu Qing Shan gave the figure of light a bit of time to swallow all of this.

A short while later, he continued: “Once the twin swords Heaven and Earth both appear, the Eternal True God would show up without a doubt— — it has been waiting for that very moment”

“Even without us doing anything, Gu Qing Shan will die”

“Because of that, before helping him obtain the Heaven sword, we shall help him carry the [Order] and evolve into a state capable of summoning the Demon King, use him to fuse the three kinds of powers together, and then— —”

「 And then— — 」 the figure of light subconsciously repeated.

“And then he can go ahead to his meeting with the Eternal True God and receive his death”

Gu Qing Shan's voice came become light again: "At that time, we would be able to use the power that transcends Space-time to escape from the end of this Era and escape from the Desolate race's slaughter"

"Even if we invoked any terrifying unknown existences during the process, they would be problems for the Eternal True God and Gu Qing Shan to face"

"While we of the Divine race will be able to travel through time into the future several thousand years later"

"All of our brethren shall survive"

"The future of the Divine race will have been changed by us!"

### **Chapter 807**

Hearing that, the figure of light fell into thought.

The natural vigilant heart of the Divine race made it so that he couldn't accept cooperation with humanity so easily.

Indeed, up to this point, the Divine race hadn't tried to cooperate with humanity even once.

But there were no other solutions, and the Divine King's suggestion opened a completely new possibility— one that the Divine race had never tried before.

The figure of light fell into thought for over a minute before asking again: 「 Why Gu Qing Shan? 」

Gu Qing Shan replied: "Because he understands the [Orders], he knows how to make it evolve as soon as possible"

"And also because he isn't a person of this era, he also came from the future— just look at the Golden Flame Divinity, they both do not care about the future of their brethren during this era. He would not give up his own benefits for the sake of humanity from this era"

"He will surely cooperate with us in order to obtain the Heaven sword"

"Furthermore, he is weak. According to the Golden Flame Divinity, he hasn't even reached the initiation standards. Even if he carries the [Order], his strength would be a lot lower and much easier to kill compared to cultivators of this era"

"Even if something unexpected happens, we would still be able to kill him without much trouble"

"If everything goes well, we can let him take the twin swords Heaven and Earth to the Eternal True God, that would be the moment when both he and the [Order] will meet their end"

The figure of light refuted: "Even after all carriers of the [Order] dies, the [Order] would not perish, it would only fall into slumber"

"The [Order] would fall into slumber? That would not affect our plan, in fact, it would be even more advantageous to us, is it not?" Gu Qing Shan replied.

The figure of light paced back and forth, contemplating that suggestion.

He hesitated, apparently struggling with himself and sighed: 「 This is an extremely crazy thought. We have never thought to rely on humanity, nor have we ever relaxed our countermeasures against the [Order], yet now we would need to take advantage of their power 」

“Only by using everything that can be used will our Divine race be able to obtain true rebirth!” Gu Qing Shan clenched his fist tightly and declared.

「 But... even after so long, Golden Flame and I weren't able to catch Gu Qing Shan, are you sure you would be able to find him? 」 the figure of light questioned.

Gu Qing Shan grinned.

He could tell the other party was now feeling tempted.

“Leave that small matter to this king. Just because that foolish Golden Flame couldn't do it doesn't mean this king could not”

Gu Qing Shan slowly declared.

The figure of light has apparently decided as he spoke quicker and quicker: 「 Good, then I shall leave dealing with Gu Qing Shan to you. I will need to make preparations on the Great Bramble Tree and the Angel of Condemnation's sides before meeting up with you again 」

Gu Qing Shan replied: “Don't worry, when you return, I guarantee I will have found Gu Qing Shan and reached an agreement with him”

The figure of light stared closely at him for a long time without saying anything.

“What is it?” Gu Qing Shan smiled while silently preparing to fight.

「 You are the craftiest and most flexible Divine King I've ever seen, that is fortunate for our Divine race 」 the figure of light commented.

“All for the Divine race” Gu Qing Shan spoke with conviction.

「 Indeed, all for the Divine race 」

The figure of light praised him.

He flew out of the Grand Divine Palace and disappeared from the Sky Beyond Heaven, no longer seen.

A few moments later.

Gu Qing Shan slowly calmed down.

He leaned back on the divine throne, his eyes appeared a bit disassociated.

To completely analyze the situation and formulate a strategy, made swift decisions and convinced the other party in such a short time, even someone like him felt a bit exhausted.

Closing his eyes, Gu Qing Shan waved his hand.

The block of ice around Luo Bing Li melted and disappeared.

As soon as Luo Bing Li regained her senses, she quickly looked straight at Gu Qing Shan.

After a bit of hesitation, she asked: "What did the figure of light tell you?"

Gu Qing Shan explained what happened.

Luo Bing Li silently listened until Gu Qing Shan told her everything and sighed: "You're playing with fire"

"It's fine, I'm used to it" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"What should we do now?" Luo Bing Li asked.

"The Divine race has decided to no longer stop me from obtaining the twin swords Heaven and Earth, so we can simply show up at an appropriate time to take the sword away" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"What if the Soul Shrieker shows up?" Luo Bing Li reminded him.

Gu Qing Shan answered: "As soon as I get the sword, I'll take you away with me and escape. We will use that power that transcends Space-time to go to the future"

Luo Bing Li said: "The figure of light would definitely try to stop you at that time"

"I'll come up with something for that" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Luo Bing Li fell silent.

She seemed to be quite worried.

At this point, Gu Qing Shan didn't have time to say anything else to her or even listen to what she wanted to say.

[Ting]!

A clear chime resounded in his ears.

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The War God System was actively talking to him.

[It is time for us to make a resolute decision, Gu Qing Shan] the War God System told him.

"A decision? What kind of resolute decision?" Gu Qing Shan asked in a heavy voice.

He could sense the heaviness within the System's tone.

The War God System explained: [In your previous life, you were a carrier of the Demon King Order. In the present, you once carried the Demon King Order. And now, over 10,000 years in the past, you would once again carry the Demon King Order]

[Your path is too deeply intertwined with the Demon King Order in the past, the present, and the future. The camouflage that I created during the last moments of your previous life has already begun to crack]

[If you carry the Demon King Order once again, the chaotic Space-time will certainly erupt from your body]

[You will become a bright blinking beacon within the infinite time vortex, attracting the attention of terrifying and unknown existences]

Gu Qing Shan felt tense.

*If that really is true, I would be doing the same as the Bygone Era humanity and draw the attention of existences that could destroy everything.*

Gu Qing Shan sighed: “Carrying the [Demon King Order] once again is the best solution I was able to come up with. Now that it was accepted by the figure of light, he had already begun preparations, if I were to change my mind now, he would surely suspect something”

“Furthermore, if I gave up on this, I wouldn’t be able to save the Earth sword”

The War God System continued: [That is the decision you must make. Will you give up on carrying the Order again, or return to your previous timeline and fill in the gaps of the camouflage that I set up]

“I remember you telling me that you could no longer bring me and travel through Space-time” Gu Qing Shan questioned.

[Indeed, I would not be able to do so for any other time or place. But I did leave a single Space-time signature in your previous timeline, as this was your own timeline, you may return to it a single time— — all the Soul Points I’ve gathered up to this point was in preparation for this very moment]

“What do I do when I go back there?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

[Give me to yourself in the previous life] the War God System replied.

A saber appeared in front of Gu Qing Shan’s retina.

It was a golden saber without any extraneous decorations and a sleek appearance.

A faint golden glow drifted around the saber-like surging waves of a tide.

As Gu Qing Shan saw this golden saber, he recalled that he was holding this sword right before he returned to the past.

*This was the War God UI’s true form!*

The War God System’s voice came again: [This is the best chance for this. The current you came from the future, yet exists in the past and represents your own present. As you return to the final moments of your previous life and give me to your past self, a perfect closed loop will form that makes sure no one would be able to spy on my true origin from now on]

Gu Qing Shan went silent briefly and asked: “And will my current self lose you?”

The War God System replied: [Only temporarily, as your future self will obtain me again]

“What time would that happen?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

The War God System told him: [Once you bring both the Earth sword and Heaven sword back into the future over 10,000 years from now, the Law of Causality will be completed from a technical perspective. At that time, following the Law of the Timeline, I will appear by your side once again]

Gu Qing Shan couldn't help shaking his head.

*If I keep going down this path, I will lose the help of the War God UI and fight by myself in the Age of Old.*

*But to save the Earth sword as well as to preserve my own ideals, this must be done.*

*Only by losing the War God System will I be able to safely carry the [Demon King Order] and attempt what I planned.*

Gu Qing Shan fell silent.

*I've been so used to fighting with the System alongside me, but now I'll have to fight by myself again.*

*—alone on the battlefield, lingering alone on the border of life and death, no more friendly reminders and nothing that truly stands on my side...*

After waiting for a while, the War God UI asked: [I shall ask you one final time, do you want to give up carrying the Demon King Order, or return to the previous timeline and find your previous self?]

Gu Qing Shan took a deep breath and shouted with determination: "Let's go, we're going to do this!"

[Very well]

The War God System replied in a pleased tone.

Lines of glowing text began to scroll past the War God UI.

[Request accepted]

[Releasing all stored Soul Points!!!]

[Space-time signature located]

[Returning to your previous timeline]

[5]

[4]

[3]

[2]

[1]

[—go!]

Everything within the Grand Divine Palace stopped, including time itself.

A golden light enveloped Gu Qing Shan.

A split second later, he disappeared from this world.

## **Chapter 808**

The Grand Divine Temple.

Time stopped.

Dust that hovered in the air, the soft sunlight, the gentle breeze of wind, Luo Bing Li who was standing still, everything was paused right at this moment.

Gu Qing Shan went into a screen of golden light and vanished.

The screen of light slowly shrank until it was only a ball of light and disappeared.

During the very last second, Luo Bing Li moved.

She returned to motion from a frozen state as she glanced at the screen of golden light.

“How impressive, to be able to leave directly from here”

She muttered in a low voice and grabbed the bit of golden light that was about to vanish completely.

Apparently sensing that she was there, the point of golden light quickly expanded and turned into a golden saber.

The War God System suddenly manifested!

[Who are you exactly?] the golden saber questioned

“Who are you?” Luo Bing Li questioned in return.

The golden saber didn't bother to say anything else and erupted into a bright golden glow.

Under the glorious light, Luo Bing Li was like a slim and graceful beauty witnessing the setting sun.

She carefully observed the light and coldly spoke: “Are you probing me?”

[You are not a normal cultivator, you are...] the golden saber spoke with an unexpected tone in its voice.

It seemed to have realized something.

[...So that is how it is] the golden saber sighed.

“If you already know, then please do not tell anyone about who I really am. Furthermore, can you allow me to witness what happens on your side? If you refuse, I will erase the Space-time coordinates of this place, you would not be able to return” Luo Bing Li said.

[Nothing you say can threaten me, but for Gu Qing Shan's sake, I will agree] the War God System replied.

The golden saber slashed open the void of space to summon a screen of light in front of Luo Bing Li.

On the screen, Gu Qing Shan was flying through the fog of Space-time.

“Thank you” Luo Bing Li said, pleased.

The golden saber no longer paid any attention to her, it shrank again until it vanished from sight.

...

The fog of Space-time.

Gu Qing Shan was flying at full speed.

This was a world made up of fog and squares.

Each square represented a peripheral region in time, each peripheral region was connected to the next and formed a timeline that flowed from past to future. Every living being was completely inside the squares, unable to surpass the limit of their temporal dimension.

“I didn’t expect to see the timeline as interconnected squares like this, I’ve never witnessed such a thing before” Gu Qing Shan commented.

[This is the first time that both you and I travel on this path] the War God System replied: [We are accessing the temporary path of a higher dimension in order to return to the past— Technological-type paths have always been relatively safer as they do not draw much attention— as long as one does not travel on them too often]

While they were talking, an intense pulling force could be felt.

Gu Qing Shan was being pulled into one of the squares.

Heaven and earth turned around themselves.

Darkness flowed.

And then the entire world slowly became clear in front of his eyes.

Flames rose and swirled with the wind.

Black smoke filled the sky.

On the other side of the river, the war was heading into its most crucial moment.

Humanity was about to be wiped out.

Soldiers were kneeling down one after another, revealing the clear figure of an armored General.

As Gu Qing Shan looked at that figure, he silently sighed.

It was him.

It was him in his previous life.

[Ting]!

The War God UI’s voice came: [Gu Qing Shan, look at the golden glow around your body]

“What is this?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

[It is the world isolation membrane. 15 breaths’ worth of time later, it will disappear and allow people of this world to see you— make absolutely sure that you complete everything you have to do within 15 breaths and not a single moment longer. If any living being of the previous life witnesses two of you at the same time, one of you will be erased by the Law of Time]



“Understood, what should I do now?” Gu Qing Shan asked in a low voice.

[I shall activate Time Stop in a few moments, you must take that opportunity to put me into the hands of your previous self— again, you must be fast and make sure that your previous self does not notice anything]

Gu Qing Shan replied: “Don’t worry, I’m literally the Divine King right now, it’ll be very easy for me to do that. What’s going to happen after that?”

The War God System replied: [I shall immediately bring your previous self back in time and return to the moment everything started]

Gu Qing Shan was a bit stunned.

*The moment everything started...*

*That would be the year 681 of the Peaceful Dynasty, the campaign where humanity and the demons clashed for the very first time.*

*In the middle of a midnight rainstorm, outside a military outpost, a single cook was patrolling the camp.*

*And I awoke within the mass grave...*

Gu Qing Shan recalled everything that happened at the time and silently sighed.

“After you leave, what should I do?” he asked.

The War God System explained: [After this world is destroyed, the World Origin would erupt in an intense explosion. Once that force reaches you, it will kick you back to your current timeline due to the two Laws of Space-time repelling each other]

“That doesn’t sound too complicated” Gu Qing Shan commented.

The War God System carefully told him without fear of anyone disturbing it: [Remember this well, after you return, even if I’m not present, you would retain the ability to absorb Soul Points. After I leave, there would be nothing that takes your Soul Points away anymore, you must use it to the best of your abilities. It is the unrivaled strongest source of power]

“Will I have a maximum Soul Points limit?” Gu Qing Shan asked very seriously.

[You will not]

“Then I got it”

At this point, the Gu Qing Shan of the previous life had already leapt to the sky from the camp on the other side of the river.

Countless flying swords appeared from the void of space and followed him along with the gust of wind.

Sword Array, [Tong Gui]!

With his sword in hand, Gu Qing Shan charged straight at the towering demonic figure in the sky.

In the camp below, countless voices were still resonating within the intense wind:

“Strategist Gu, we are with you!”

“Take our powers!”

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“For humanity!”

...

On this side of the river, Gu Qing Shan lowered his gaze.

Seeing this scene repeat itself again, he was feeling somewhat melancholic.

[It’s almost time, be ready!]

The War God System urged him.

“Hm”

Gu Qing Shan replied.

Divine Skill, [Ground Shrink]!

In a split second, he vanished from the ground and appeared far above the sky.

Using the Divine King’s overwhelming power, he faded into the void of space, observed himself from the previous life flying up, and then——

A golden saber appeared in his hand.

[Ready——]

The voice of the War God System came from the golden saber.

*Boom!*

Intense light swept across the world, turning into an endless white flash that affected even the void of space.

Immediately, the world came infinitely close to being perfectly still.

Everything became incredibly slow, all sounds vanished.

Gu Qing Shan saw his previous self charging towards the Demon Lord at an incredibly slow pace.

He saw himself opening his mouth and roaring in fury.

The power of countless cultivators who sacrificed themselves manifested as a blinding sword phantom that killed the towering Demon Lord.

Time stopped at this very second.

The light became more blinding.

[Hurry! Right now!]

The War God System's voice came from the golden saber again.

Gu Qing Shan gritted his teeth, jumped out and put the golden saber into his previous self's hand.

"Take care!"

He shouted.

[You take care as well] the War God System replied.

Within the intense wind.

A golden light flashed.

At the next second, the past Gu Qing Shan disappeared from this world together with the golden saber.

Everything came to an end.

Seeing the War God System taking his previous self away, Gu Qing Shan used [Ground Shrink] and vanished from the sky.

——the power that isolated him was about to disappear so he can't afford to let anyone see him right now.

Gu Qing Shan jumped into the great river, sank all the way to the bottom, used a presence concealment hand seal, and silently waited.

He kept waiting, all the way until the world began to collapse——

A mystical wave of power erupted deep within the world.

This wave of power swept across the entire world.

As it swept through Gu Qing Shan, the power suddenly encircled and wrapped around him layer after layer.

As this power accumulated more and more, it grew stronger until Gu Qing Shan felt an intense pushing force.

Even with the God of Frost and Chill's strength, he found himself unable to resist this power.

Abruptly, Gu Qing Shan noticed this power had all gathered in front of his chest and forcefully pushed him away!

The void of space broke apart.

Almost immediately, Gu Qing Shan vanished from this Space-time.

...

A few ten thousand years ago.

The Primordial Heaven Realm.

The Grand Divine Palace within the Sky Beyond Heaven.

Luo Bing Li's eyebrows twitched.

She quickly erased the golden screen of light and stopped looking into that period of time.

A second later, Gu Qing Shan was thrown out from the void of space and fell to the ground.

The effect of [Time Stop] had disappeared.

Everything returned to normal.

But Gu Qing Shan just laid on the ground without moving.

He just stared blankly in front of himself.

The familiar UI that was always in front of his retina can no longer be seen.

"System?"

Gu Qing Shan silently called out.

No chime.

No answer.

*Indeed, the War God System has returned to the original timeline.*

*A perfect closed loop has been formed with completed logic and causality, making it so that no one would be able to discover where the War God System came from.*

*Furthermore, from this moment onwards, I will be able to safely carry the [Demon King Order] without causing Space-time to become chaotic.*

A surprised voice suddenly came from the empty audience hall.

"Huh?"

—it was Luo Bing Li.

She asked in surprise: "You were sitting on the divine throne just now, how did you suddenly lay on the ground?"

Gu Qing Shan smiled bitterly and glossed it over: "I was learning a certain technique, got careless made a small mistake so I fell"

"From the expression on your face, this mistake seems to be quite serious?" Luo Bing Li looked at him and carefully asked.

"Not that serious, but I'll need to be a bit more serious from now on"

Gu Qing Shan stood up from the ground and slowly walked up to sit back down on the divine throne.

From now on, during this era full of hostility, he will have to move forward alone.

## Chapter 809

The Grand Divine Palace.

Gu Qing Shan sat on the high throne on top of the stairs, feeling a bit uncomfortable.

He was still unable to get used to not having the War God UI in front of his retina.

A thought occasionally surfaced in his mind:

*—would the System really appear again after I return to the Strife Zones?*

This was a problem that he couldn't help but consider seriously.

Gu Qing Shan tried to analyze the situation bit by bit.

*First of all—*

*I'm currently within a phantom image, from over several ten thousand years ago.*

*A phantom image is a fragment of history from a parallel world— and I have to think of a way to arrive at a true moment in history from here and take the Heaven sword.*

*From a timeline perspective, this period of time was a lot more ancient than the point in time that I was at in my previous life.*

*And so, there should be a total of 3 crucial nodes in the timeline.*

*The first is the Age of Old;*

*The second is the cultivation world's 681st year of the Peaceful Dynasty.*

*And the third, which is the moment I left the present— within the seal on the Drifting Sand World in the Strife Zones.*

*On the first time node, I've just lost the War God System so I wouldn't be able to obtain it again.*

*The second time node is the 681st year of the Peaceful Dynasty, which is when I had just obtained the War God System.*

*The first and second time node forms a perfect closed loop, but as time continues forward, the timeline would naturally develop until it reaches the third time node.*

*Since the War God System exists from the second time node onwards, as the timeline naturally develops, it would remain even after the third time node.*

*Purely from a temporal logic perspective<sup>1</sup>, that means as long as I return to the third time node, the System would naturally return<sup>2</sup>.*

"It should be flawless..." Gu Qing Shan muttered to himself.

He was finally assured.

"What are you saying?" Luo Bing Li asked.

She threw a jade disk to Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan received the jade disk and habitually glanced at the void of space in front of his eyes.

But no glowing text appeared there at all.

Gu Qing Shan bitterly smiled, glanced down at the jade disk in his hand, and asked: "So you've already completed it?"

"Indeed, with this jade disk, we can travel along the back-up path at any moment" Luo Bing Li replied.

"That's perfect, now all we have to do is to wait for the figure of light to return" Gu Qing Shan said.

Luo Bing Li asked doubtfully: "Didn't you tell it that you were going to find Gu Qing Shan? Are you going to just sit here and wait?"

"Of course not, come with me"

Gu Qing Shan flew down next to her and took out a warp talisman.

As he infused it with spirit energy, the talisman glowed.

It brought both Gu Qing Shan and Luo Bing Li away from the Grand Divine Palace.

A ruin of rubble and debris.

A light flashed.

The two of them appeared.

Luo Bing Li looked around: "This was the original location of the Drifting Moon Immortal Sect"

"Indeed, we're going to find Gu Qing Shan here"

Gu Qing Shan replied.

He gestured to someone behind himself.

Shannu appeared from the void of space and swiftly landed in front of Gu Qing Shan.

"Gongzi, I understand, you want me to act as the Divine King" Shannu said.

"Hm, leave carrying the [Order] to me, you can act as the Divine King, but make sure to match your act to mine" Gu Qing Shan told her.

"Yes" Shannu replied.

Shannu's power came from the Grand Tie Wei Mountain so she could use it any time she liked, unlike Gu Qing Shan who had to constantly challenge opponents more powerful than himself and accumulate every bit of Soul Points he could.

She used [Mystery of All Beings Equal] and quickly transformed into a Divinity with a blue flame in between his eyebrows.

Cold air drifted about this Divinity to form floating ice crystals, the 5-colored brilliant glow around himself made him actually appear a bit divine.

—this was the God of Frost and Chill.

“Good, now it’s my time to dispel the [Mystery]” Gu Qing Shan said, still a bit unwilling.

He slowly returned into his original form.

Luo Bing Li looked at him with interest and couldn’t help but ask: “You spent so much time planning this out and spent so much effort, even willing to carry the [Demon King Order], what exactly is your goal?”

Gu Qing Shan replied: “To obtain the Heaven sword, of course”

After saying so, he began to consider his next course of action.

—after the figure of light returns, I will have to carry the [Order].

*I’m already very used to the [Demon King Order] in both this life and the last, so carrying it will be like walking down a road I’m familiar with.*

*With the [Demon King Order]’s help, my strength will quickly increase again.*

*The main problem is whether or not I want to become the Demon King.*

*If I overstep the final boundary of the figure of light and become the Demon King, that would ruin the entire plan.*

—-but by doing that, I would be able to awaken other [Orders]

With that in mind, Gu Qing Shan couldn’t help but put his hand on his Inventory Bag.

*The large-scale War System: Water God, is currently lying dormant inside my Inventory Bag.*

*If Water God were to awaken...*

Gu Qing Shan considered for a very long time before sighing.

*I can’t.*

*My goal is to save the Earth sword.*

*Only after the Earth sword is saved will I consider the situation and attempt to do other things.*

Gu Qing Shan silently decided.

At this point, Luo Bing Li tried asking again: “After you obtain the Heaven sword, will you help the Divine race or humanity?”

Gu Qing Shan looked straight at her.

Luo Bing Li smiled bitterly: “You acted as the Divine King so well that even I think you would make a good Divinity”

Gu Qing Shan chuckled and shook his head, he didn't expect a ruse he came up with to deceive the Divine race would actually convince his own allies as well.

That's not a good thing.

Gu Qing Shan patiently explained: "You don't have to worry about that. I would stand on the side of humanity without a doubt, I'm a human cultivator after all"

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Luo Bing Li asked: "So after you obtain the Heaven sword, are you going to let yourself loose and eliminate every creature that isn't human?"

Gu Qing Shan replied: "I'm not interested at all in killing people— or killing anything, I just want to save the Earth sword"

Luo Bing Li thought briefly before asking: "The Earth sword? Wait a minute, you mean it's already in your possession? How is it now?"

"It was greatly damaged, its weapon spirit was in a state where it could dissipate at any moment, but my Shifu used a secret technique to temporarily seal its time and prolong its life"

"I heard that only the Heaven sword can save the Earth sword, so I want to find the Heaven sword"

Hearing him, Luo Bing Li couldn't help but speak emotionally: "Now that we've found out the truth that both the Heaven and Earth swords were actually components of a certain Eternal Abyss weapon, we know that most likely, at the end of all this, you would have to face the one behind everything— the Eternal True God: Soul Shrieker"

Gu Qing Shan replied: "I will have gathered the power of the three coins by then and use that to escape from it"

"What if you couldn't escape?" Luo Bing Li questioned.

"Then I will fight to the death" Gu Qing Shan shrugged.

"Is it really worth it to give up your life just to obtain the twin swords Heaven and Earth?"

"That's not it. It would be best if I could obtain the Heaven sword, but even if I couldn't, I would be satisfied with achieving my goal"

"What is your goal?" Luo Bing Li questioned.

"To save the Earth sword— it's my sword" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Luo Bing Li was a bit shocked, lowered her head, and said nothing else.

Shannu suddenly told them: "It's here"

A glorious light manifested in the sky.

The figure of light came down from above.

He glanced at Gu Qing Shan, then at the Divine King— the God of Frost and Chill.



「 Your Divine Majesty, have you already reached an agreement with him? 」 the figure of light asked.

Shannu—— no, the Divine King puffed out his chest and spoke solemnly: “This king will help Gu Qing Shan look for the Heaven sword, while Gu Qing Shan will become the carrier for the [Order] and help this king obtain the power of the [Demon King Order], that is the agreement between us”

“Very fair” Gu Qing Shan added.

The figure of light glanced at him, overflowing with killing intent.

Gu Qing Shan calmly told him: “I understand that you’re trying your best to control yourself and tell yourself not to kill me, but I really must mention it again. If the Divine race wishes to obtain the power of the [Order], please make sure to control yourself well”

The figure of light spoke in a low voice: 「 Do you believe that you could actually make the [Order] evolve to the Demon King ascension stage by yourself? 」

“That’s why I need the help of the Divine race—— helping me also means helping yourselves obtain the power of the [Order], I trust that you wouldn’t reject that offer” Gu Qing Shan replied.

The figure of light spoke: 「 Which means if you cannot make the [Order] evolve to the Demon King ascension stage—— 」

“I will die”

Gu Qing Shan coldly answered.

The figure of light was finally convinced.

He glanced at the Divine King.

The Divine King simply grinned and nodded without saying anything.

The figure of light couldn’t help but shook his head, still feeling some disbelief.

This really was an unprecedented moment in history.

The Divine race had always ruled above humanity.

And yet today, the Divine race was walking a path that they haven’t ever tread before and formed a mutual agreement with a human cultivator.

The Divine King was able to lower himself and made a deal with a human for the sake of their race’s future.

*Perhaps this Divine King was the only one in our entire history to actually come up with such an idea.*

*——perhaps he could really change our Divine race’s future!*

Feeling a bit ecstatic, the figure of light asked: 「 Your Divine Majesty, when do we begin? 」

“Right now” the Divine King spoke decidedly.

「 Gu Qing Shan, are you ready? 」 the figure of light questioned.

“Time is precious, do it” Gu Qing Shan was also decisive.

The figure of light went silent briefly.

*It really is happening...*

「 Put your hand on top of mine 」 he told Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan followed.

A pair of shining pure white wings suddenly appeared behind the figure of light.

Below the sky, above the ruins.

The figure of light raised its voice and loudly chanted the divine incantation:

「 Worlds Apocalypse! 」

「 The evil [Order] 」

「 The Kindling of life, the Origin of all things, the Revolution of living beings—— 」

「 You are the crystallization of civilization, master of the demonic tides, the crucial factor in the descent of the Demon King 」

「 Come, I represent your lamb to call you upon this place 」

「 Descend, [Demon King Order]! 」

*Hoh———*

A gust of wind suddenly picked up as heaven and earth returned to silence.

Something seemed to have appeared from the depths of the world.

They didn't have to wait for very long.

A blood-red UI manifested in the void of space in front of Gu Qing Shan's eyes.

Lines of text appeared on the UI.

[Welcome, human cultivator, you have received the favor of this Order]

[This Order shall complete installation in 3 seconds]

[3]

[2]

[1]

[Worlds Apocalypse Online: Kindling, has been successfully installed]

[Congratulations! You shall rebuild the glory of mankind through the help of this Order]

Gu Qing Shan looked closely at the blood-red UI in front of his eyes.

This blood-red UI contained a lot of his time and memories.

Many things have happened since then.

He had grown to become an excellent sword cultivator

And now, everything will begin once more.

## **Chapter 810**

Among rubble and debris.

The figure of light, the God of Frost and Chill, and Luo Bing Li were all looking at Gu Qing Shan.

Only the power of the [Demon King Order] was missing among the three coins.

And now, everything depended on him.

Gu Qing Shan stared closely at the void of space in front of himself, apparently reading something important.

He said nothing, but an expression of surprise slowly emerged on his face.

All of a sudden, a red glow appeared out of nowhere and went into his body.

“What was that? What happened to you?” the God of Frost and Chill couldn’t help but question.

Gu Qing Shan waved his hand dismissively to gesture that there was nothing wrong.

Luo Bing Li glared at the Divine King briefly.

The God of Frost and Chill suddenly realized something and spoke with a grim expression: “Gu Qing Shan, if you try anything funny, your agreement with this king shall end right now!”

The figure of light cut in: 「 Don’t worry, your Divine Majesty, the [Order] has indeed descended upon him, there are no problems, he’s only communicating with the [Order] for the first time 」

The God of Frost and Chill let out a cold snort: “Then that’s fine, but are we just going to stand here and wait?”

The figure of light spoke: 「 Indeed, we will need to wait for a while 」

The God of Frost and Chill said nothing else.

They continued to wait.

——Gu Qing Shan was indeed communicating with the [Demon King Order].

As a veteran who had carried the [Order] twice already, Gu Qing Shan knew exactly what was going to happen next.

The [Order] would measure his strength, initialize it, and use that to issue Quests.

As the Quests are completed one by one, more functions of the [Order] would be unlocked.

Once the [Order] gathers enough Soul Points, it will proceed to upgrade itself.

After upgrading, the [Order] would be able to provide more power and more useful functions for its carriers.

This was a symbiotic relationship where both sides grow along with one another, but because this was the [Demon King Order], it would take away the majority of the obtained Soul Points and treat its carriers like they were in an insect pot. (1)

However——

There weren't many who carried the [Order] in the Primordial Heaven Realm right now.

As soon as someone did, they would be killed.

*How would the [Order] react in this situation?*

Gu Qing Shan was silently curious.

As he expected, lines of bright red text appeared on the blood-red UI.

[The Order is currently performing a total body scan]

[Discovered anomaly within the scan]

[Detected that you have a special identity]

[Verifying identity!]

Out of nowhere, a blinding bright red glow appeared.

This red glow poured into Gu Qing Shan's body and only disappeared a few moments later.

This was what caused the God of Frost and Chill to be surprised.

The lines of red text disappeared.

[Kindling]'s voice came into Gu Qing Shan's ears.

[Venerable Envoy of Condemnation, the Order welcomes Your Excellency to fight alongside it]

[The Order shall create corresponding battle Quests in accordance with Your Excellency's strength]

Its voice sounded a bit closer.

Gu Qing Shan was a bit surprised.

*Envoy of Condemnation?*

*Wasn't that my Card form?*

*I didn't expect the Card identity that Little Dusk gave would cause the [Order] to pay special attention to me.*

*Now that I really think about it, there were a few Card users in the past life who carried the [Order], but none of them were ever treated in any special way.*

*Seems like this is a unique case for Little Dusk's status.*

*—she originally came from the Bygone Era but lost her memories, that was why she was deceived by the Divine race and worked for them.*

*If even the [Order] respects an Envoy of Condemnation so much, I can assume that the Envoy of Condemnation had quite the considerable status in the Bygone Era.*

*Carefully thinking about this, using cards to fight should be a Mystic-type ability.*

*Because the existence of the Cards themselves are things that cannot be considered using common sense.*

*Before evolving to become [Worlds Apocalypse Online: Human Regiment], the large-scale War System: Water God was also Card.*

These thoughts quickly flashed in Gu Qing Shan's mind.

He took a deep breath and answered the [Order]: "What should we do now?"

[When talking with me, please refer to me as Kindling— until I evolve] the [Order] replied.

"Alright, [Kindling], what should we do now?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

[Confirming current situation to issue the first Quest]

[As the current situation is in a delicate balance, arbitrarily breaking it could draw the attention of the avatar of an immeasurably powerful existence that threatens the destruction of everything. As such, the Order has temporarily changed the strategic course of action]

[The first Quest has been issued]

Lines of blood-red text began to show up on the UI.

[Quest: Invading the Evil Realms]

[Quest description: The Primordial Wraith Realm used to be a place of long-term strife, ever since it was broken apart, powerful devils and fiends have taken over fragments of the Wraith Realm as their own, they constantly invade one another's fragments, hoping to collect powerful World Origin from fusing the fragments]

[To obtain the power of evolution, you must enter this fight!]

[Quest objective: Enter the Wraith Realm, join a faction and obtain victory in your first battle]

[Quest reward: Kindling's first function will be unlocked]

[The Quest will now begin!]

[Special note: To become the legendary Demon King of Condemnation, the Order encourages Your Excellency to do your best!]

Gu Qing Shan read through everything.

*Encouraging me to do my best...*

*Since when has the [Demon King Order] been able to sweet talk someone?*

He shook his head, stopped staring blankly, and looked at the others.

「 Was it successful? 」 the figure of light asked.

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Gu Qing Shan looked at him.

*This figure of light doesn't know that I was an Envoy of Condemnation.*

*The Divine race probably only managed to find the Angel of Condemnation – Little Dusk due to the connection between her and the coin.*

*While I'm only an Envoy of Condemnation.*

*In other words, the Divine race doesn't know of the mysterious relationship between the Envoy of Condemnation and the [Orders].*

Gu Qing Shan calmed down a bit and replied: “Everything was as expected. [Kindling] has issued a first Quest for me to travel to the Wraith realms”

「 ""The Wraith realm?"" 」 everyone else asked at the same time.

Gu Qing Shan explained: “Indeed. Since the Primordial Heaven Realm is currently under constant monitoring by the Soul Shrieker, it's unsuitable for large-scale battles”

“And [Kindling] requires such battles to absorb the power to evolve”

“Because of that, I will travel to the Wraith Realm, join the ranks of the evil creatures and participate in battles there”

The figure of light told him: 「 You are a human, as soon as you appear in the Wraith Realm, you'll be repelled by the majority of them. That's a big problem 」

Gu Qing Shan looked straight at him: “There's a reason why you bunch haven't been able to catch me even after pursuing me for so long. I have my own way to deal with that problem”

The God of Frost and Chill asked: “What do you need?”

“For now, I don't need anything, just help me open the gate into any Wraith realm” Gu Qing Shan replied.

「 That's no problem, I've just entered a fragment of the Wraith realm not too long before, I still have the method to enter that place 」 the figure of light said.

He raised his voice and chanted an incantation:

「 Xie Qi Realm, the lost abyssal sanctuary of all evil creatures, open your gates for me! 」

*Oom*—

An invisible glowing black gate appeared in the void of space.

This was the warp formation leading into the Xie Qi Fiend Realm.

“Then I’ll be on my way” Gu Qing Shan said.

The God of Frost and Chill couldn’t help but spoke: “No, you cannot go by yourself! I— must monitor you!”

The figure of light tried convincing him: 「 Your Divine Majesty, as a Divinity, if you appear in the Wraith Realm, it would only cause a bigger commotion. The fiends and devils all hold a terrible grudge towards us, so they will surely use all their power to kill you 」

Gu Qing Shan glanced at the Divine King and gestured with his eyes: “Don’t worry, since you’ve already promised to help me find the Heaven sword, I’ll naturally do what I need to”

“Ah yes, this human cultivator Luo Bing Li, you must protect her well, as she’s related to the final clues of the Heaven sword”

“Do not worry, this King knows discretion” the God of Frost and Chill replied.

The figure of light also nodded to express his agreement.

“Then I will go”

Saying so, Gu Qing Shan touched the warp gate and disappeared from the Primordial Heaven Realm.

The God of Frost and Chill trembled very slightly.

「 Your Divine Majesty? 」 the figure of light doubtfully looked at him.

“Hm, I was just thinking about something” the Divine King replied.

「 What kind of thing? 」 the figure of light asked.

“You should know this as well, at the beginning of our origin, we used to coordinate in battles alongside the humans”

「 Yes, I do know this 」 the figure of light nodded.

The Divine King’s tone changed a little bit: “Since it was battle coordination, I was thinking whether or not we could use this method to win against those of the Desolate race”

「 Your Divine Majesty, you mean...」

“Hm, for the sake of completing our plan, we must try to help Gu Qing Shan”

Silently listening on one side, Luo Bing Li couldn’t help but sigh.

...

On the other side.

Gu Qing Shan continued to travel through the space vortex.

He used the rest of his Soul Points to take the Xie Qi Fiend King's form.

This was a Fiend King who had a handsome face and a completely black body.

He looked similar to humans except for a long, horned tail behind his back.

If it weren't for this tail, the Xie Qi Fiend King would appear a bit weak and feminine.

This appearance made Gu Qing Shan feel a bit uncomfortable.

*With an appearance like this... Fiend King... makes it so hard to respect him.*

Gu Qing Shan awkwardly moved his body around to dispel some of the negative energy within this body.

He recalled the last time he went to this Wraith Realm.

The last time he went to the Xie Qi Fiend Realm, humanity already went extinct.

It was the end of the Age of Old.

At the time, both the Xie Qi Fiend Realm and the Xie Qi Fiend King's wife already belonged to the Cruel Bone Devil King, the Xie Qi Fiend King was nothing more than a puppet.

As Gu Qing Shan was thinking, a screen of light appeared in front of him.

The Xie Qi Fiend Realm was on the other side.

Gu Qing Shan hovered into that screen of light.

As soon as he touched it, the space vortex around him disappeared.

Gu Qing Shan found himself standing within a gloomy dark sky and quickly falling down.

He controlled his descent so that he floated down instead.

Right below him was a luxurious palace.

This was a very familiar sight—

*Isn't this the Xie Qi Fiend King's palace?*

At this point in time, humanity had just gone through a huge war, the first Divinity had just fallen, which was a lot earlier in the timeline compared to the previous time.

*I wonder how the Xie Qi Fiend King is doing during this point in time.*

*Yeah... that's a crucial problem since I'll be impersonating him again soon...*

Gu Qing Shan's body flashed, activated [Ground Shrink] to appear in front of the palace.

He immediately saw a fiend.

—it was the Xie Qi Fiend King himself!



*I didn't think I'd run into him right away!*

The Xie Qi Fiend King was currently kneeling on top of a washing board, crying and begging towards a certain location within the palace: 『 I beg you, trust me just this once, I swear I won't hide rent money for myself anymore! 』

Gu Qing Shan: "..."

## **Chapter 811**

Gu Qing Shan looked at the crying Xie Qi Fiend King and couldn't help himself feeling speechless.

*How did this guy... become a Fiend King?*

At this point, the Xie Qi Fiend King had noticed Gu Qing Shan.

*Jet black skin, handsome face, long horned tail.*

*Where did this guy come from, why does he look exactly like me?*

The Xie Qi Fiend King froze briefly and couldn't help asking: 『 Who are you? 』

Gu Qing Shan replied: "Take a guess"

The Xie Qi Fiend King scowled: 『 This king doesn't have any siblings, what kind of stunt are you trying to pull? 』

Saying so, he stood up as his fighting spirit slowly rose.

*Siblings?*

This declaration made Gu Qing Shan change his mind.

Gu Qing Shan put a finger in front of his lips and lightly blew, gesturing with his eyes to the Xie Qi Fiend King.

『 Hm? 』 the Xie Qi Fiend King was very confused.

———apparently the other party has something secret he wanted to tell him so he held back from attacking right away.

Gu Qing Shan said with a serious expression: "Standing up in the middle of a kneeling punishment, aren't you afraid you'd upset the powerful one within that palace?"

The Xie Qi Fiend King's face became pale.

He hurriedly knelt back down on the washing board.

"..." Gu Qing Shan.

*This guy can't be saved anymore.*

*Oh well, I just need an identity to stay in the Fiend Realm anyways.*

The Xie Qi Fiend King then turned back and asked in a low voice: 『 Tell me now, who exactly are you? 』

Gu Qing Shan sighed: “I feel ashamed to say this, but I’m your big brother”

The Xie Qi Fiend King angrily refuted: 『 Bullshit! I have no siblings! 』

*Boom!!!*

A giant hand came down from above and smacked the Xie Qi Fiend King into the ground.

The giant hand then scattered into countless flying swords.

Some flying swords flew out from the cluster and pierced through the Xie Qi Fiend King’s limbs, pinning him into the ground.

『 Aaaaaaa! 』 the Xie Qi Fiend King screamed in pain.

Gu Qing Shan slowly walked towards the Xie Qi Fiend King and allowed the hundreds of flying swords to form a pair of wings behind him.

He was already a Void Beholder realm cultivator, his swordsmanship had also reached the Great Attainment stage of Sword Saint realm, vastly superior to the first time he invaded this Fiend realm.

“Tell me, do you have a big brother or not?”

Gu Qing Shan looked down at the Xie Qi Fiend King and asked with a calm voice.

The Xie Qi Fiend King loudly shouted: 『 I do! I do! 』

“Alright, call me big bro” Gu Qing Shan said.

『 Big bro! 』

“Again”

『 Big bro! My eldest brother! Forgive me! 』

Several guards came running out from the palace.

Gu Qing Shan didn’t look up.

Some of the flying swords on his back suddenly flashed and unleashed bright blue arcs of sword phantoms.

Each guard was hit by one of the sword phantoms and vanished, not leaving even flesh or blood behind.

Some notifications popped up on the blood-red UI

[Obtained Soul Points +10]

[Obtained Soul Points +7]

[Obtained Soul Points +9]

...

Gu Qing Shan glanced over the UI and silently nodded.

The [Demon King Order] and the War God UI were different.

For the War God UI, only killing an enemy similarly powerful or more powerful than himself would Gu Qing Shan earn any Soul Points.

If the enemy was too weak, the War God UI wouldn't even bother to absorb Soul Points from the slain enemies.

But the [Demon King Order] was different.

To obtain enough Soul Points to evolve, it will resort to anything.

The commotion and smell of blood in front of the palace drew the attention of many fiends and devils.

More and more of them were starting to gather at this point.

Gu Qing Shan grabbed the void of space and caught the Chao Yin sword in his hand.

The sword lightly poked into the Xie Qi Fiend King's throat.

"Tell me honestly, how many siblings do you really have?" Gu Qing Shan whispered.

As the Xie Qi Fiend King felt the cold metal sword at this throat, he shivered frightfully.

*This guy is so ridiculously strong!*

*When in hell did I offend such a terrifying enemy?*

*It can't be helped, my life is already in his hands, I have no choice but to lower my head.*

Fortunately, the Xie Qi Fiend King was still a Fiend King who has been through thick and thin. This wasn't the first time he fell into such a situation so he had ample experience in handling this.

The Xie Qi Fiend King squeezed out an awkward smile: 『 You're right, I actually have a lot of siblings, both older and younger 』

Gu Qing Shan scowled: "Really? Why do I recall that you only have a single older brother?"

『 I, I remembered wrong, I only have a bigger brother 』 the Xie Qi Fiend King hurriedly followed up.

Gu Qing Shan nodded in satisfaction.

But his sword poked a little bit deeper, almost piercing the Xie Qi Fiend King's skin.

The Xie Qi Fiend King hurriedly shouted: 『 Big brother, you're my blood brother, please forgive me! 』

"Hm, you couldn't even recognize this older brother of yours. I'll punish you by making you apologize to this older brother until I'm happy with it" Gu Qing Shan told him.

The Xie Qi Fiend King sighed in relief.

He was an expert in apologizing.

『 Big brother, we haven't seen each other in so long, it's normal for me not to recognize you right away. You don't have to be angry 』

『 Big brother, I'll treat you to dinner tonight, we're going to drink ourselves to sleep. I'll take a shot for each bit of irritation you feel, I definitely won't refuse 』

『 Brother...』

...

The Xie Qi Fiend King began to bootlick Gu Qing Shan to the best of his abilities with a bright smile.

Quite a few fiends and devils have arrived and witnessed this.

And this number was only going up.

A lot of guards from inside the palace also came out and surrounded the two of them.

Soon enough, the fiends and devil understood something.

The Xie Qi Fiend King has a very strong older brother.

At this point, Gu Qing Shan put his sword away and crouched down in front of Xie Qi Fiend King: "I'm very curious about a certain thing"

『 Please go ahead, big bro 』 the Xie Qi Fiend King replied.

"Why was it you, the younger brother, who obtained the Xie Qi Fiend Realm and not this big brother?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

The Xie Qi Fiend King was surprised.

*What an extremely appropriate and reasonable question.*

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*But---*

*I can't come up with anything!*

While the Xie Qi Fiend King was hesitating, his eyes met with Gu Qing Shan's.

He saw countless surging sword images inside the other party's eyes.

*An eye technique?*

The Xie Qi Fiend King's heart sank.

As a Fiend King, he at least had the vision fitting of his position.

Techniques that use the eye as a trigger were not only extremely powerful, but they also simply couldn't be avoided!

He finally understood just how powerful the other party was.

*Even the one inside the palace might not be able to beat this guy!*

At this point, the Xie Qi Fiend King was feeling a heavy omen of death.

Under this immense pressure, he was able to exert himself far more than he normally could and immediately answered:

『 Big brother, did you forget? The Xie Qi Fiend Realm was always yours, you only put me in charge to look after it for you while you invade the other Evil Realms! 』

Complete silence all around.

The fiends and devils exchanged glances.

*Was there such a thing?*

Gu Qing Shan nodded in satisfaction.

He asked again: “Inside the palace... do you really not know what’s going on inside right now?”

The Xie Qi Fiend King laughed deprecatingly: 『 That is the Fiendess’ freedom, I can’t do anything about it 』

Gu Qing Shan looked down at him in contemplation.

He patted the Xie Qi Fiend King’s shoulder and spoke: “Little brother, you really are a disgrace to our family”

A sword gleamed.

The Xie Qi Fiend King’s head was separated from his body and rolled down to one side.

Before his death, the Xie Qi Fiend King was still confused.

*Why did he kill me?*

*Obviously— he could already tell that I’m only a puppet living every day waiting for death, it was meaningless to kill me, so why did he?*

Regretfully, he would never know the answer to that question.

After the Xie Qi Fiend King died, a notification came into Gu Qing Shan’s ears.

He glanced at the [Kindling] UI.

Lines of blood-red text appeared on the UI.

[You’ve received the Xie Qi Fiend King’s recognition in front of everyone]

[You’ve obtained a new identity: the Xie Qi Fiend King’s big brother, you’ve joined the Xie Qi Fiend King’s faction]

[You killed the Xie Qi Fiend King]

[You obtained victory]

[Quest completed]

[The first function of the Kindling UI has been activated]

[From now on, you can use the primary System Shop]

As the lines of blood-red text reached this point, it all suddenly disappeared.

Followed by [Kindling]'s voice.

[Due to Your Excellency's venerable status, the shop was closed immediately]

[The Order shall transform the first function into the Card Center, from now on, all functions will be displayed here]

[Please draw your first card, Your Excellency]

Gu Qing Shan silently asked: "How should I do that?"

[Kindling] answered him: [If Your Excellency trusts me, I shall draw it for Your Excellency. If Your Excellency wishes to do it himself, I shall arrange it]

Gu Qing Shan replied: "You do it"

[Thank you for Your Excellency's trust, I have made meticulously preparations in accordance with Your Excellency's personal Card Grade]

A Lapis card instantly appeared on the blood-red UI.

The card depicted a jet black armor surrounded by endless black smoke.

The armor itself carried a heavy sense of dignity and mystery.

Just by looking you could tell this was a good thing!

But since the Xie Qi Fiend King had just been killed, while being surrounded by fiends and devils on all sides, Gu Qing Shan didn't have the time to take a look at the card.

He put the card away and stood up, telling the dead silent crowd of evil creatures: "Those only here to watch a commotion, back down or don't blame me if you die"

The crowd of evil creatures hurriedly retreated.

—*—this ferocious fiend killed his own brother without hesitation, who knows what other crazy things he will do?*

However, some evil creatures were confident in their strength enough to not retreat.

Gu Qing Shan turned to look at the palace.

A wicked smile appeared on the jet-black face.

"Cruel Bone Devil King, when are you going to come out?"

Gu Qing Shan's voice echoed across the entire area.

Indeed, as soon as the Xie Qi Fiend King began to beg for his life, he had already sensed a faint probing feeling.

This probing was mixed with a cruel, ominous, and ill intention.

『 Just by you? 』 a mocking female voice called out.

The female voice then spoke: 『 It seems I'll have to act my— 』

Her voice suddenly stopped, as if someone held her back.

Gu Qing Shan coldly chuckled and said nothing.

A lazy voice then resounded from within:

「 Are you really his big brother? I don't care what beef you two brothers have, but considering you have some strength, scam from this Fiend Realm and I won't kill you 」

The spectating fiends and devils all became rowdy.

It really was the Cruel Bone Devil King!

*So this world was already taken over by him, even the Fiendess became his woman.*

*But then, why did he not kill the Xie Qi Fiend King?*

The evil creatures thought for a few seconds.

*Ah...*

*That must be why...*

The evil creatures exchanged knowing glances but didn't say anything.

Cuckolding was always an interesting thing to do, and especially so for these evil creatures.

*Everything makes sense now.*

*And also—*

*No wonder this Xie Qi Fiend King's big brother said that the Xie Qi Fiend King was a disgrace to their family.*

*No wonder he killed his own little brother!*

“Scram from this Fiend Realm? No, that's not how it works” Gu Qing Shan slowly declared.

With a single thought, the wings of swords behind his back opened wide and turned into rapid streaks of light.

The intense sword-infused wind rose all the way to the sky.

“Cruel Bone Devil King, leave your life and your soul right here, they are my food”

“I! Am the true Fiend King of this realm!”

Gu Qing Shan roared.

## **Chapter 812**

Gu Qing Shan who was taking the Xie Qi Fiend King’s form roared.

Unlike the previous time he was in this Fiend Realm, he didn’t let the other party say any nonsense.

Several hundred flying swords dashed around the palace.

Gu Qing Shan triggered his hand seal.

Sword Array [Tai Yi], initiated!

The sword-infused wind scattered and howled like mad in the vicinity of the palace.

A single breath’s worth of time later, the palace itself was erased.

All the structures, the fiend guards and devil subordinates, all of them vanished.

The ground was literally as flat as a mirror.

This was a wonder in and of itself.

The evil creatures were in awe.

Only the Fiendess and the Cruel Bone Devil King were still standing in the air.

They looked down at the scene with heavy expressions.

*Too strong.*

*The other party is too strong!*

The Fiendess whispered: 『 Devil King, this bastard that came out of nowhere seems to be a bit powerful 』

The Cruel Bone Devil King glared intensely at Gu Qing Shan.

「 You are the true master of the Xie Qi Fiend Realm? 」 he questioned.

Gu Qing Shan replied: “Of course I am, I left this place for him to look over. Who knew he was so much of an idiot, his death is deserved”

「 Then I’ll return this Fiend Realm to you and we’ll call this even 」 the Cruel Bone Devil King said.

“You took over this place for so long, got so many benefits from it and now you want to just pack up and leave? Are you looking down on this King?” Gu Qing Shan sneered.

「 Then what do you want? 」

“I want the Elemental Roots of two worlds—— this Fiend Realm and your own Devil Realm, then I’ll let you leave alive”



The Cruel Bone Devil King was shocked and angrily refuted: 「 Damn it, you think I'm afraid of you!? 」

*Hoh ———*

A breeze of wind blew past.

His four limbs were all erased by the wind, causing him to fall to the ground.

He wasn't a match for Gu Qing Shan the last time, so after Gu Qing Shan improved by leaps and bounds, he was even less of an issue.

“One last chance” Gu Qing Shan coldly said.

Laying on the ground in front of Gu Qing Shan, the Cruel Bone Devil King said nothing and attempted to regrow his limbs.

But he fearfully found that his wounds wouldn't close no matter what.

His blood, flesh, and even his miasma was constantly flowing out from his body.

*I'm going to die.*

「 I'll give them to you! 」 he shouted.

“Correct answer”

Saying so, Gu Qing Shan dispelled the effect of his [Bleed] card.

[Ability card: Bleed]

[When using this card, whenever you lacerate your enemy's body with a sharp weapon, their internal matter and energy—— like blood, metal, mental power, spirit power and anything similar, will slowly drain from their body for a duration of 10 seconds]

——just like the previous time, under the coercion of an overwhelming difference in strength, the Cruel Bone Devil King unwillingly gave up the Elemental Roots of two worlds.

“Very good, you may leave” Gu Qing Shan said.

The Cruel Bone Devil King stared closely at him, chanted an incantation to open a warp gate of light.

「 We're leaving 」 he told the Fiendess.

The Fiendess didn't move.

The Cruel Bone Devil King glared at her.

The Fiendess smiled sweetly: 『 Yes, Devil King. Let me help you 』

She supported the Cruel Bone Devil King, then abruptly pulled out a dagger from inside her chest and lopped off the Devil King's head.

The gate of light instantly faded.

The Fiendess slowly brought the Devil King's head to Gu Qing Shan and respectfully knelt down.

She raised the Devil King's over her head, smiled seductively towards Gu Qing Shan and spoke in a sweet voice: 『 New ruler of the Xie Qi Fiend Realm and Cruel Bone Devil Realm, I would like to present the head of your enemy and surrender myself to you 』

Gu Qing Shan stared down at the Fiendess.

It truly must be said, this was a considerably beautiful female fiend. Not only was her face quite delicate, her body and gestures were also exuding an air of seductiveness that constantly drew the gaze of any observer.

Gu Qing Shan was silently puzzled.

*—-I killed her too fast the previous time so I didn't notice.*

*This Fiendess seems to have quite the background.*

Having lived in the Wraith Realm and fought a few battles here the previous time, Gu Qing Shan knew about the three most powerful Evil Kings, so he could already guess some of the truth.

*This Fiendess seems to be a disciple of 'that' Fiend King.*

*After all, she's the only one who practiced the art of seduction.*

"What do you desire from me?" Gu Qing Shan questioned.

The Fiendess lowered her head and spoke with both shyness and anxiety: 『 I vow to stay by your side and follow your every order, o' powerful Fiend King 』

"Very well" Gu Qing Shan nodded.

『 You would take me in? 』 the Fiendess raised her head in joy.

She threw the severed head that was ruining the atmosphere away, knelt down on both knees, inched forward on them to approach Gu Qing Shan.

"Indeed, I have an order that I need you to follow right now" Gu Qing Shan replied.

『 Please go ahead, this one has offered herself to you 』 the Fiendess said sweetly.

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She licked her lips seductively with her pale white tongue.

As long as you were male, you'd instantly understand her gesture.

Gu Qing Shan looked down at her: "I said I wanted to let the Cruel Bone Devil King go, so tell me, why did you kill him off?"

The Fiendess froze.

Gu Qing Shan continued: "You may die now"

*Sha—-—*

His sword flash.

The Fiendess was chopped into numerous pieces, then further swept away by the sword-infused wind into nothingness.

Countless clicks of the tongue and regretful sighs came from all over.

However, most of the fiends and devils here had rationally lowered their voices.

This fiend was certainly powerful enough for them to respect.

But the most terrifying thing about him was that, not only he killed his own younger brother without hesitation, but he also didn't forgive a seductress like the Fiendess for going against his order, truly merciless and cruel.

The evil creatures couldn't grasp what was on his mind.

———which meant he was an unpredictable and dangerous factor.

At this time, Gu Qing Shan turned back and looked at the crowd of evil creatures.

“Scatter” he said.

The evil creatures hurriedly went their own ways.

In just a few moments, not a single fiend or devil could be seen within a radius of several miles.

Only now did Gu Qing Shan look at the [Kindling] UI.

New notifications appeared on the UI:

[This was a steamroll-type combat, the enemy's soul essence was perfectly maintained, total amount absorbed——]

[Your venerable Excellency, Kindling has detected you to have an extremely rare talent: Unlimited Soul Points]

[From now on, you will be able to absorb all Soul Points without wasting a single bit]

[Total Soul Points obtained: 28,000; sir]

[Right now, you must make the following decision:]

[Using EXP value to level up, or Soul Points value to level up]

[They are both mutually exclusive]

Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but chuckle.

*EXP.*

*Or Soul Points.*

*What a familiar choice this was.*

Gu Qing Shan purposefully asked: “Is there a difference?”

[Kindling] quickly replied: [You may use EXP to level up at any time, but if you choose Soul Points then you must complete a corresponding Quest to unlock this function]

[Kindling suggests that you use Soul Points to level up, since you have the rare talent of Unlimited Soul Points, using Soul Points as fuel to increase your strength is the most appropriate and fitting path for Your Excellency]

Gu Qing Shan was a bit surprised.

*Ah?*

*Why is the [Demon King Order] acting so sincere? It even suggested it considering my circumstances.*

Gu Qing Shan agreed: “Good, then I choose to use Soul Points to level up”

A new Quest appeared on the [Kindling] UI:

[Issuing function unlocking Quest]

[Quest description: Obtain enough Soul Points to help the System activate the Soul Points level up mode]

[Quest objective: Please collect another 72,000 Soul Points for a total of 100,000 and use this to help Kindling activate the new level up mode]

[Quest reward: Soul Points level up mode]

[Special note: You have chosen the correct path and would definitely become the strongest existence through it, the System shares the same joy and honor]

After the lines of text faded away, a card appeared at the center of the UI.

The card depicted Gu Qing Shan wielding two swords while hovering in mid air

Lapis-grade Character Card: [Sword cultivator Gu Qing Shan]

Below this Character Card was a grey long bar, a bit similar to Soul Points value.

From the looks of it, this was to prepare for after the Soul Points level up mode was unlocked.

Gu Qing Shan silently nodded.

In comparison, the War God UI’s requirements were much higher, he needed to kill enemies stronger than himself, use Soul Points to comprehend his own skills and advance, while the [Demon King Order]’s most outstanding point was its disregard of discretion, no matter if the enemy was weaker or stronger, as long as he can kill the enemy, he would be able to absorb the power inside their soul. This can easily shatter the determination within a person and turn them into a machine that only knows how to kill

Between the War God and the Demon King, one of them primarily tempers will and mental fortitude, while the other only craves power.

Seeing how it constantly tempers its user's will and mental fortitude, the War God UI's way of doing things seems to have a deeper meaning.

Although the War God System was no longer with him, Gu Qing Shan wouldn't suddenly turn into a Demon King who only knew slaughter, so he wasn't afraid of being changed by the [Demon King Order].

"100,000 Soul Points..."

Gu Qing Shan muttered and began to consider how to approach this Quest.

——he would naturally not try to slaughter the weak evil creatures, he desired true combat instead.

Because of that, having armor was essential.

Gu Qing Shan then remembered the reward of the first Quest——

The armor Card.

Seems like [Kindling] had already prepared for the following battles.

Gu Qing Shan drew the third card.

This was the 3rd Lapis-grade Card he obtained after [Bleed] and [True Crimson Demon Spear].

### **Chapter 813**

Gu Qing Shan took out the Lapis-grade Card and put it on the [Kindling] UI.

As he glanced at the card, the black fog around the card quickly gathered and turned into an armor that exuded darkness.

The [Kindling] UI immediately began to describe this card:

[Lapis equipment card: Black Smog Armor (full set)]

[Description: The Black Smog Armor is the first form of the Demon King's armor, even though it had only been primarily forged, it still has considerable defensive prowess]

[This armor has the following characteristics:]

[Sturdy: Any damage taken to the armor will be shared by the entire armor set]

[Self-repair: The armor can automatically repair itself from damage, the speed of which is determined by how much Soul Points you spend]

[Black Smog Boots: When you stand absolutely still, the black smog will conceal you, only enemies 2 realms higher will be able to perceive you]

Reading this description, Gu Qing Shan slowly sighed.

As a sword cultivator, he really needed a set of trustworthy armor.

He was lent a set of armor before, but not only was it a family heirloom, that person was also killed because he lent it to him. Gu Qing Shan wasn't shameless enough to embezzle a set of armor that belonged to someone else.

And now, he finally had his own set of armor again.

Gu Qing Shan took the Card off the UI and imitated what Little Dusk did at the time, placing it on top of the Character Card [Sword cultivator Gu Qing Shan].

The card immediately disappeared.

At the same time, a set of armor exuding darkness appeared out of nowhere in front of him.

Although this armor was giving off miasma so thick it felt like it could swallow anything whole, the armor itself had a surprisingly graceful and dignified design.

As soon as the armor appeared, it scattered into its components and quickly reassembled around Gu Qing Shan.

The entire set of armor was donned within one breath's worth of time.

With this set of armor, Gu Qing Shan gave off an aura of mystery.

As he tried moving around, he found that the armor was sturdy and light, perfectly fitted to his body so that it wouldn't hinder his movements.

This was quite rare.

All of a sudden, a mountainous heavy voice resounded: 「What do you intend to do next?」

Gu Qing Shan casually answered: "Naturally I will be killing enemies on a battlefield"

He suddenly froze.

This voice—

Gu Qing Shan tapped his Inventory Bag and took out a long rectangular box and opened it.

The Earth sword.

The Earth sword that was full of cracks on the outside was still lying inside.

"You're awake? How do you feel now?"

Gu Qing Shan asked with a heavy tone of voice.

He noticed that the spirit energy fluctuation around the Earth sword had completely disappeared.

In other words, the temporal spell that Xie Dao Ling put around the Earth sword had lost its effect.

The Earth sword was originally about to break, so now that the temporal spell used to protect it had disappeared, it could quickly shatter at any time.

The Earth sword replied: 「I can't even move a little bit right now, because I might die if I do」

Gu Qing Shan replied: "Don't worry, I'll definitely help you recover soon"

「How soon?」 the Earth sword asked.

“Very soon”

「 Men... can't be too fast you know 」 the Earth sword spoke with a heavily breathing voice.

Gu Qing Shan was stunned, then almost felt like face-palming himself.

*This sword was already close to shattering and it could still throw jokes like these around, seriously.*

The Earth sword continued: 「 Truthfully, as soon as you entered this phantom image, I've already awoken and saw the things you did 」

“Then why didn't you say anything before?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

「 It was still a bit hard at that time, I've only managed to grasp the trick to send my voice while being in this shattered state that I could speak to you again 」 the Earth sword replied.

Gu Qing Shan went silent.

Flying sword after flying sword began to appear behind his back

They were the swords of the dead sword cultivators at the frontlines, a total of 699 swords.

They were all vibrating sorrowfully.

The Chao Yin sword also appeared from the void of space.

It circled around the Earth sword again and again, occasionally letting out an unwilling 'wu wu' sound.

Gu Qing Shan froze.

*What does this mean?*

*Could it be---*

Gu Qing Shan's heart began to sink all the way to the bottom.

“Tell me now, how exactly are you right now?” he tried asking with a voice as calm as possible.

The Earth sword replied: 「 I'm fine. I'll probably still be fine by the time you truly get a girlfriend 」

Gu Qing Shan pursed his lip tightly.

He could sense a strenuous feeling from the Earth sword's voice.

— the Earth sword was already feeling strenuous from saying a few words.

Gu Qing Shan turned his gaze towards the [Kindling] UI.

One of the most basic functions of the [Order] was to display the state of an item.

Sure enough, lines of blood-red text quickly appeared on the [Kindling] UI:

[The Earth sword, weigh 86,370,000 tons, it has the Weapon Spirit Thaumaturgy: I am heavy]

[This sword is about to shatter, its sword spirit will die]

Silently reading these two lines of text, Gu Qing Shan asked [Kindling]: “How long can it hold on?”

[Kindling] replied: [The System is still in an infant stage, it is difficult to accurately judge the situation of this sword, please give the System 1,000 Soul Points, Your Excellency]

“Here”

[Very well, the Order is running diagnostics now]

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[Diagnostic results: 1 day later, this sword will completely collapse]

*1 day!*

Gu Qing Shan felt all the blood in his body freezing.

*1 day isn't enough to do anything.*

He looked back at the Earth sword, unable to say anything.

Apparently noticing something, the Earth sword spoke: 「 Gu Qing Shan, you don't really have to save me now 」

“Why not?” Gu Qing Shan blankly asked.

「 Because by saving me, you will be giving up on your own path 」 the Earth sword replied.

“My path?” Gu Qing Shan was a bit puzzled.

「 Indeed, you are a sword cultivator, not a killing machine—— even though you came to this Fiend Realm to save me by fighting against the evil creatures, as you kill more and more of them, you will slowly become similar to an evil creature yourself 」

The Earth sword's voice was full of worry: 「 Not to mention you've carried the [Demon King Order] again—— it wants to nurture a Demon King, not a sword cultivator, so it will surely try to change you every moment it could 」

“Don't worry, I won't let myself be changed” Gu Qing Shan replied.

The Earth sword spoke: 「 Once a person fights against an evil dragon for too long, he will become an evil dragon himself. If a person associates themselves with the evil creatures and the [Demon King Order], they will ultimately become one of them 」

The Earth sword sighed and continued: 「 Gu Qing Shan, I hope that you would forever stay as a sword cultivator and not a fiend or devil 」

「 Gu Qing Shan, you do not need to fight against the evil creatures for my sake or make any transaction with the [Demon King Order], as long as you maintain the heart of your sword, as one of your swords, I will die happy 」

Gu Qing Shan silently listened.



That was most likely the Earth sword's last will.

It didn't want him to continue swimming in this murky water.

Gu Qing Shan went silently briefly and softly spoke: "Rest well, after you recover, fight alongside me once again"

Saying so, he closed the box, carefully sealed it, and placed it back inside the Inventory Bag.

Following that, he took out a large map and rolled it out at his feet.

———this was a map of various evil realms that he made during the last time he came and invaded other Fiend and Devil Realms.

This one map can be used to exchange for quite a bit of precious resources within the evil realms.

Several thousand evil realms were scattered in various sectors of this map.

But as one looked at it carefully, they would find that most of these scattered worlds were actually separated into three big regions.

Each of these regions belonged to one of three strongest Fiend and Devil Kings of the Wraith Realm – the three Evil Kings.

The Blood Demon Duke.

The Holy Pure Priestess.

The Lord of Total Distortion.

The last time Gu Qing Shan went into the Wraith Realm, he caught the attention of the three Evil Kings

As his pursuers got closer to the Fiend Realm, Gu Qing Shan took the opportunity and offered the Xie Qi Fiend Realm after many fusions to the Blood Demon Duke and escaped.

After all, the Xie Qi Fiend Realm was originally within the sphere of influence of the Blood Demon Duke.

But this time, it was different.

He only had a single day to try and prolong the Earth sword's death.

The Blood Demon Duke was an expert in violence and attack-type magic, he doesn't know anything about time, sealing or vitality-type abilities.

The Holy Pure Priestess was the same, while she forced those around to call her 'Holy' and 'Pure', she was actually an expert in the art of charms and sacrifices.

As far as he knew, in the previous phantom image, even the Blood Demon Duke fell for her charms during one of their battles and became a devil under her control.

Gu Qing Shan suspected that the Fiendess was actually one of her disciples.

The Holy Pure Priestess has no way to save the Earth sword either.

And so———

Gu Qing Shan glanced at the final region, a deep ocean.

The Chaos Demonic Sea.

This was the Lord of Total Distortion's sphere of influence.

This Evil King knew numerous Mystic-type abilities, one of the eeriest existences among the thousands of evil realms.

Under normal circumstances, not even the Holy Pure Priestess would arbitrarily offend this Evil King.

From the known battles of this Evil King for the last few ten thousand years, he didn't have a Mystic-type ability that could prolong the Earth sword's life either.

But Gu Qing Shan's only hope was inside this sea region.

Because one of the Lord of Total Distortion's clearest rules was that only fiends and devils who had Mystic-type abilities were allowed to live within the Chaos Demonic Sea.

Time, Fate, Life, Destruction, and Change, all of these were related to Mystic.

In other words, only the Chaos Demonic Sea had the unique evil creatures that could have the Mystic-type abilities that he required!

Gu Qing Shan quickly wondered.

He didn't want to waste even a second.

*If I really wanted to go to the Chaos Demonic Sea, I need a Mystic-type ability.*

*Since the War God UI isn't here, I won't be able to use the [Starflame War God] title and its Title Skill.*

*Both [War God Skills] and [War God Title] are unusable, so I only have access to the Thaumaturgies and Skills that I've already learnt and completely grasped.*

*Does [Dreamjolt] count as Mystic-type?*

*What about [Shadow Shift]?*

*Actually, the ability that is most similar to Mystic-type in a place like the Chaos Demonic Sea I have would be—*

Gu Qing Shan glanced at the Chao Yin sword that was hovering next to him.

He told the Chao Yin sword: "The Earth sword told me not to save it because I would fall and become corrupt because of that, what do you think?"

*Oo— ooo—*

The Chao Yin sword moaned.

Gu Qing Shan nodded: "That's right, it's already going to die and it still has the strength to say such nonsense— what kind of evil creature would be even more ferocious than I am? If those things associate with me, it would be them that have to be careful not to become corrupt, am I right?"

*Wu wu——*

Noticing what he meant to say, the Chao Yin sword quickly nodded with its hilt and vibrated as it normally does.

“You also agree with me? Perfect” Gu Qing Shan pointed at the ocean on the map and said: “This is the Chaos Demonic Sea. There’s a place with an ocean, so I need you to fight alongside me, we’re going to find a way to save the Earth sword, what do you say?”

*Oong!!!*

The Chao Yin sword vibrated with all its strength and let out a resounding echo.

## **Chapter 814**

Rusty Stain bar.

This was an establishment set up at the border of the Chaos Demonic Sea.

The Lord of Total Distortion had set up various Mystic-type abilities like [Ocean’s Shelter], [Goodwill of the Sea], [Children of the Sea] and many others to make sure that this place would not be attacked by the Demonic Sea creatures.

Demonic Sea creatures——

At the bottom of the ocean, there are some Demonic Sea creatures that have been living for over millions of years.

After withstanding the test of time, their very bodies have become terrifyingly powerful weapons, not even considering their other abilities.

Back when the Desolate race and Divine race broke apart the Primordial Wraith Realm, it was because they felt that these creatures were too troublesome to deal with that they purposefully left this vast ocean alone.

And currently, the ocean storm winds were wildly rampaging.

The heaven and earth themselves were being turned over their heads.

The fiends and devils were obediently staying cooped up inside the bar as the ocean outside howled and screamed.

A fiend clad in flames complained: 『 The commotion this time is a bit loud, I bet this monster is at least 6 million years old 』

Another fiend replied: 『 No, this same noise was heard about 30 years ago, the barkeep said back then that this guy is still in an adolescence stage, probably about 2 million years old 』

The flame fiend replied: 『 Whatever, who cares how long it had lived, I just know I’d feel dejected every time I’m here 』

「 Why? 」

『 Because you and I both know we're never going to be able to eat those thing's flesh 』

Another devil chimed in: 「 That's true, the mother of that one just now has lived for 50 million years and likes to eat us the most—— I bet you bunch really don't want to see her 」

Another drunk devil mocked them: 「 Then what are you garbage staying here for? Just leave 」

It was quite strong so the rest didn't dare to say anything back.

Only the barkeep kept on talking: 『 There simply are too many opportunities in the Demonic Sea, and our master welcomes all explorers brave enough to visit this place. Just a reminder, you've already drunk too much, please pay attention to not cause a commotion in the bar 』

Listening to the barkeep, the devil noticed something in his words and stopped talking.

It lowered its head, kept drowning in its booze, and stopped mocking the rest.

*Bam!*

At this point, the door of the bar was opened.

A handsome-looking fiend entered the bar amidst the howling storm.

He was completely clean from top to bottom without a single bit of water on him.

This fiend wasn't a familiar face so he drew the attention of many veterans here.

——the water of the Chaos Demonic Sea was full of fierce and ferocious energy so it wasn't something that normal water control could deal with.

Only those who could directly connect to the ocean would be able to achieve such a feat.

This meant, at a glance, that this fiend's power was related to the ocean.

Everyone silently made their conjectures.

The fiend walked straight to the bar.

『 What will you have? 』 the barkeep asked.

“Thank you, but no thanks” Gu Qing Shan replied.

『 You came to the bar to stay out of the storm but won't order anything, the boss will be upset 』 the barkeep told him straight.

“I don't want a drink, but I am in need of a little transaction” Gu Qing Shan replied.

The barkeep then smiled: 『 Ah, is that so? Then we can let this go, may I ask your identity? 』

“The Xie Qi Fiend King” Gu Qing Shan replied.

The barkeep looked at Gu Qing Shan and fell into thought: 『 The Xie Qi Fiend King? Hm, let me check today's news—— yes, you just killed the Kings of two evil realms, appearance and race certainly matches, tch, your strength as well 』

The evil creatures sitting around quickly pulled their gazes back.

A powerful fiend who took over two realms couldn't be considered a newbie, there was no need to try and offend him.

Another barkeep spoke: 『 If everything checks out, give him the Ruler-class treatment 』

『 Yes, indeed. Since you rule two evil realms, you are eligible for the Ruler-class treatment...』

“Thank you” Gu Qing Shan replied.

He randomly dropped some Demon Originite onto the table.

Demon Originite was a strong type of currency in the Wraith realm, capable of being used as forging material, engraving resources, spellcasting mediums, or simply money.

Seeing the Demon Originite, the barkeeps' faces glowed every brighter.

A generous Ruler of an evil realm.

People like him were welcomed no matter the place.

The barkeep asked: 『 Excuse me but I have one last question I must ask you, do you have a Mystic-type ability? 』

“Of course, I know of your master's rule, and I'm more than willing to follow it. After all, I'm here to do business” Gu Qing Shan calmly answered.

The barkeep hurriedly nodded, holding a much better impression of Gu Qing Shan.

— the other party had obviously made an effort to learn about this place before he arrived, and he hadn't shown any violent tendencies or ill will yet.

Rulers like him were truly rare.

The barkeep said: 『 Then there are no problems, on behalf of my master, I welcome you into the Chaos Demonic Sea 』

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He stepped out from behind the bar counter and led Gu Qing Shan to a small door at the back of the bar himself.

『 Please follow me 』

The barkeep knocked on the door a few times and gestured to Gu Qing Shan.

“Very well” Gu Qing Shan replied.

They both enter the door.

A faint light suddenly became bright.

Then Gu Qing Shan noticed that he was standing in a large plaza.

The plaza was made completely from smooth stone slabs, the streets clearly appeared clean, sturdy, and wide.

At the end of the plaza was a huge cathedral that reached through the clouds.

『「[ Aaaaaaarghh! ]」』

Countless screams and howls of pain resounded from the wall outside the cathedral.

As Gu Qing Shan glanced over, he found that countless corpses lined the wall of the cathedral, some of them had already been stripped bare of flesh, leaving only bones behind.

Even so, the bones were still struggling and trying to get off the wall.

A constant flow of lava dripped down the wall of the cathedral without stopping.

『 Is this your first time here? 』 the barkeep noticed Gu Qing Shan's gaze and asked.

“Indeed” Gu Qing Shan replied.

Perhaps it was thanks to the Demon Originite from before, but the barkeep patiently explained: 『 It took quite a bit of effort to salvage this church from the bottom of the sea. Those salvagers still haven't breathed their last even now 』

He shrugged and continued: 『 The master once spent a lot of effort to try and let these honest salvagers enter their eternal slumber, but this church truly is interesting. Any beings that are stuck to its wall will forever become a part of it and never to experience the peace of death 』

“And then?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

『 And then—— the master felt that this was ok as well 』 the barkeep answered.

“Was this really an ancient structure hidden below the sea?” Gu Qing Shan asked with intrigue.

『 Indeed, it is quite an interesting antique, the master has been studying it for the past few hundred years 』 the barkeep told him.

Gu Qing Shan nodded and expressed his understanding.

The master of the Rusty Stain Bar was the Lord of Total Distortion.

Everyone knew that he liked to excavate the ancient items hidden under the Demonic Sea.

At this point, a horse carriage arrived from the other side of the plaza, stopping in front of Gu Qing Shan and the barkeep.

The barkeep opened the door of the carriage: 『 Please come in, sir Ruler, it will take you to the church where you may conduct your business 』

“Very well, thank you, I will treat you to a drink when I return” Gu Qing Shan replied.

The barkeep chuckled, revealing a mouth full of sharp teeth: 『 Sir Ruler, you truly are a generous customer. I shall leave you with one last advice 』

“Do tell”

『 The master has only established one single rule: Fairness. But the church also has its own rule that you can't tell a lie. As long as you can accomplish these two points, you will not have to worry about becoming a decoration outside the church 』

“Thank you very much”

The carriage began to move and took Gu Qing Shan to the cathedral.

The carriage was being pulled by 6 black-scaled sea horses, but there was no handler.

Fortunately, it seems the sea horses were already used to this path, and since the carriage was extremely comfortable, there were no bumps on the way.

Gu Qing Shan sat in the carriage and silently thought about the barkeep's advice.

*If a market did not have a rule of fairness then no business could ever be conducted and it would not prosper.*

*So it makes sense for the Lord of Total Distortion to set up this point.*

*As for the cathedral...*

Gu Qing Shan was extremely sure that the fiends and devils who came with the Lord of Total Distortion into the Demonic Sea were elites among elites.

Otherwise, the Lord of Total Distortion wouldn't have brought them along.

But now, they couldn't live or die, forever merged with the cathedral to endure eternal torture.

“You can't lie... for the fiends and devils, this must also be a special kind of torture”

Gu Qing Shan chuckled, but he also had a worried expression on his face.

—indeed, this was also an obstacle to him.

Time quickly passed.

The carriage squarely stopped at the gate of the cathedral.

A sly and resourceful looking middle-aged male devil opened the door for Gu Qing Shan.

「 Sir Xie Qi Ruler, I am a first-rate employee of the Chaos Demonic Sea Exploration Association, glad to be at your service 」 the middle-aged devil respectfully introduced itself.

“Then I shall trouble you. I have a mission I want to issue” Gu Qing Shan said.

The middle-aged devil spoke: 「 Before that, I must tell you that the master shall take 30% royalty from all transactions, missions, treasure hunts or even battle conducted here 」

“I know”

「 Then there are no problems 」 the middle-aged devil smiled: 「 Sir Ruler, please come this way, I shall guide you to the mission hall 」

They entered the lava cathedral.

### **Chapter 815**

As they entered the cathedral, a thick stench of blood and burnt flesh rushed into his nose.

Gu Qing Shan scowled and looked around.

Every wall was full of evil creatures that still haven't completely sunk inside, still struggling to escape.

They couldn't die so they could only struggle forever within the flow of constant lava.

The evil creatures all had pained and desperate expressions on their faces with their mouths opened wide, trying to scream.

But they couldn't utter a single sound.

The cathedral had taken away their voices as well.

This terrifying silent spectacle could be seen on every wall of the cathedral no matter where one looked.

The middle-aged devil noticed Gu Qing Shan's gaze and smiled: 「 The ones that like to play things sneakily never end up well, what do you think? 」

“A day without doing sneaky things is a day of torture for every fiend and devil” Gu Qing Shan replied.

「 Very few know themselves as well as you do, sir Ruler 」

As they talked, a fiend covered in scales stopped in front of a wall.

He looked at it in surprise and called out: 『 Old friend, why are you here? 』

Across from him was a devil whose entire body had already sunk into the wall, leaving only his limbs and head sticking out.

「 Big bro, save me, please get me out of here quick! 」 the devil called for help.

『 This place is the lava cathedral, my hands are tied 』

「 Please beg the Lord of Total Distortion for me, as long as he is willing to let me go, I will offer everything I have! 」

『 Everything you have? Hm, you mean your goods... that's a good idea...』

The fiend showed a greedy expression before quickly leaving the cathedral.

It seems this fiend knew exactly where the devil kept his goods.

Quite a few fiends and devils were walking in the cathedral, in fact, there were so many that it seemed more like a marketplace, but no one paid any attention to this.



Gu Qing Shan also didn't react at all and just followed the middle-aged devil through the hall, down a long hallway and up a flight of stairs leading to a higher floor before arriving at a small room.

The room was small, but it was perfectly equipped with all necessities, including a miniature wall fireplace.

「 Here is the private room that is specifically reserved for Rulers 」

The middle-aged devil clapped his hand.

A full course meal immediately appeared on the table together with a large ice box containing 7-8 bottles of liquor.

The middle-aged devil respectfully spoke: 「 You must have traveled a long way from the Xie Qi Fiend Realm to reach this place, please have a rest for now. There is one other Ruler who came before you; after sir Appraiser finishes with him, he shall come to you 」

“I'll trouble you then” Gu Qing Shan nodded.

He walked up to the table, randomly picked one of the bottles, opened it, and poured himself a glass.

The Appraiser of the Chaos Demonic Sea was extremely famous, he was known for only serving Ruler-class fiends and devils, an exceptional master of Mystic-type abilities.

*Since there was another Ruler who came before me, let's simply wait.*

The middle-age devil smiled and closed the door as he backed out from the room.

Not too long later.

When Gu Qing Shan was having his 5th glass of liquor, a knock could be heard from the door.

“Please come in”

Gu Qing Shan placed the glass down.

The door opened.

An old man with a clear and elegant bearing entered.

—after reaching a high enough level, most evil creatures liked to disguise themselves as humans to conceal their original race and identity.

Taking human form saved a lot of space, and from experience alone, most found that using the human form to communicate made things a lot more smooth.

Turning into a human was also an advanced technique that only high-leveled evil creatures can truly grasp.

「 Welcome, Xie Qi Fiend King, your battle was truly exceptional. If I hadn't seen you use Elemental Lightning, I would've thought you were human」 the old man smiled and told him.

Gu Qing Shan only smiled back without saying anything.

—-you can't lie here.

The old man then asked: 「 So, why have you come to the Chaos Demonic Sea right after obtaining two evil realms?」

“Venerable Appraiser, I came to issue a mission” Gu Qing Shan replied.

Hearing that, the old man said without much interest: 「 Ah, a mission? That much is simple, I will order someone below for that」

Gu Qing Shan replied: “I'm afraid this matter might need you to personally issue”

He took out a small bag and tossed it to him.

The old man received the bag, estimated the weight a bit, and smiled as he replied: 「 Considering how heavy it is, I believe your mission to be not quite as simple as I expected. Please tell me briefly, what kind of mission do you wish to issue?」

“Saving a weapon spirit” Gu Qing Shan replied.

Gu Qing Shan took out a long rectangular box and lightly placed it on the table.

He placed his hand on the box and spoke in a low voice: “There is a dying weapon spirit inside that will soon lose its life completely. I want to know if there are any fiends or devils with a unique power that could repair it”

The old man was suddenly a lot more interested and muttered: 「 So that's how it is. Weapon spirits are originally rare, so even I don't have much experience with saving them—- such a mission is indeed hard to come by, it is worth me trying once」

He then chanted an incantation: 「 Mystic Investigation Table of Contents, manifest」

*Poof!*

A large book appeared out of nowhere and hovered in front of them.

This was the Appraiser's famous personal Mystic-type ability.

「 Place your hand on the book and state your request」 the old man said.

Gu Qing Shan then placed his hand on the cover of the large book and spoke: “I want to save my weapon”

The book didn't move or let out any sound.

The old man regretfully told him: 「 It seems there isn't a single fiend or devil within the Chaos Demonic Sea that has an ability to save weapons」

“I can take one step back and issue a simpler request” Gu Qing Shan said.

「 That is?」 the old man asked.

“To temporarily maintain my weapon in its current state so it doesn't die” Gu Qing Shan answered.

The old man nodded and gestured for him to continue.

At this point, Gu Qing Shan was extremely anxious.

*The Earth sword only has 1 day left to live.*

*If there isn't even a way to prolong its death, then it's all over.*

Gu Qing Shan took a deep breath, placed his hand on the thick book, and said: "I want to delay this weapon's death and make it so that it doesn't completely break yet"

The thick book didn't move at all.

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One breath's worth of time later.

The book suddenly trembled heavily.

*Boom!*

The book knocked Gu Qing Shan's hand away and flipped through page after page until it finally stopped at a certain spot.

This was a completely blank page, but the old man still smiled.

「 It seems there was still an evil creature who could do that」 he said.

"Really?" Gu Qing Shan was glad.

「 Indeed, let me check who has such an ability, please wait for a moment」

The old man pulled out a goose feather quill and put the tip against the blank page.

As soon as the quill touched the page, it jumped and began to scribble out more details.

Gu Qing Shan couldn't understand what the quill was writing at all.

After the quill finished writing, the old man read the content of the page and muttered: 「 Black Bone Witch King, Mystic-type ability, [Death Suspension]」

"Where is there Black Bone Witch King now?" Gu Qing Shan immediately asked.

The old man had a strange expression on his face and replied: 「 You probably don't know, but he is the same as I, we are both subordinates of the master」

「 He isn't part of the business administration like me, but rather the combat sector. Without the master's expressed permission, he cannot act at all」

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

「 Come with me to meet the master, only after the master agrees can this transaction be completed」 the old man told him.

Gu Qing Shan was a bit surprised.

*Meet the Lord of Total Distortion?*

*Even the Blood Demon Duke and Holy Pure Priestess didn't want to associate with this terrifying Lord.*

The old man continued: 「 In consideration of your generosity, I will give you a suggestion. Prepare enough payment, because if the master isn't happy with your offer, you will become another decoration on the cathedral's wall 」

Gu Qing Shan muses: “How much payment would be considered enough?”

The old man replied: 「 I can only give you a frame of reference. There was an evil creature who came here with 12 large ships full of Soul Blood Gems to ask the master for a single request, that evil creature is still hanging out on the outside wall of the cathedral right now 」

“...” Gu Qing Shan.

He came with some of the most precious materials within the two evil realms in his possession, but because he left in such a hurry, there were still many things that he didn't bring—— two evil realms weren't small.

*Then, what would actually be considered enough payment?*

He silently asked himself.

Seeing that, the old man told him: 「 Have you thought this through? If you give up on your request now, I won't report this to the master and you won't need to risk anything, all you need to do is pay the consultation fees 」

Gu Qing Shan replied: “Please make the request for me”

The old man nodded: 「 Very well, please wait here 」

He pushed open the door and left.

A few moments later.

A knocking could be heard from the door.

『 Xie Qi Ruler? 』 someone asked.

“I am here” Gu Qing Shan replied.

The door was opened.

Two beautiful fiends wearing uniforms stood on either side of the door.

They both bowed towards Gu Qing Shan and smiled: 『 The master has been informed of your request, please follow me 』

Gu Qing Shan followed them outside.

But the scene outside the door had completely changed.

At some point, the run-down flight of stairs and empty hallways outside this room had both disappeared.

Instead, it was now a luxurious large hall.

A beautiful carpet was laid on the ground.

The smell of fresh flowers filled the entire hall.

There wasn't a single wall around the hall, only the vast expanse of the ocean on all sides.

The howling rain and storm winds were still rampaging outside, but none of it could make it inside.

Gu Qing Shan could even see two faint figures wrestling one another on the surface of the faraway ocean.

They were two Demonic Sea creatures.

*Ooo— — —*

Both Demonic Sea creatures were roaring full of madness and killing intent.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly realized.

At some unknown point, the room he was staying in had moved to the top of the cathedral.

This was the palace of the Lord of Total Distortion.

Gu Qing Shan followed the two beautiful women forward until they reached the end of a long series of stairs leading upwards.

A devil with a powerful aura was already waiting here.

On top of the stairs, another evil Ruler was carefully climbing each step.

— — the final step was obscured by an invisible barrier that prevented anyone from probing inside.

『 Please wait for a few moments, there were two other Rulers who requested an audience with the master before you 』

The two female fiends smiled at Gu Qing Shan and stepped down.

Gu Qing Shan waited together with the other evil Ruler at the bottom of the stairs.

He glanced at the evil Ruler.

The devil's expression was completely pale with sweat all over his face, apparently very stressed.

「 What are you asking for? 」 the evil Ruler asked.

“Something related to my weapon, what about you?” Gu Qing Shan returned the question.

「 A problem with my body 」 the evil Ruler replied.

Both of them nodded and said nothing else.

They both realized something.

——no one could tell a lie here.

So it was best that they didn't talk at all.

Otherwise, they were going to expose everything about themselves.

## **Chapter 816**

Gu Qing Shan and the other evil Ruler didn't have to wait for too long.

Two women with black goat horns, black feathers all over their bodies, and terrifyingly ugly faces came down.

They seem to have much higher status and were a lot more distinguished compared to the two women from before.

『 『 The previous Ruler has seen the master, it's your turn now 』 』

Both women spoke at once towards the other evil Ruler.

The evil Ruler couldn't help but ask: 「 But the fellow before me hasn't come down yet, has he? 」

One of the female fiends replied: 『 You do not need to wait for him, he is dead 』

The evil Ruler froze as cold sweat began to drip down his back.

The other female fiend spoke empathetically: 『 Please do keep in mind, the top floor of the cathedral is where its power is the strongest. Once you are up there, even if you only tell half a lie, our master can only watch as you become the next decoration of the cathedral 』

「 Is he not going to save me? I came here to do business with a lot of treasures 」 the evil Ruler wiped the cold sweat off his forehead and questioned.

One female fiend replied: 『 Unfortunately, the master is usually more interested in fixing the cathedral than doing business 』

The other female fiend continued: 『 Please come, do not let the master wait for too long. Otherwise, if he is angry, then...』

The evil Ruler was scared enough that he quickly walked up the stairs.

As the two female fiends looked at his back, they couldn't help themselves from giggling.

When the evil Ruler disappeared at the top of the stairs, the two female fiends turned back to look at Gu Qing Shan. Gu Qing Shan smiled.

The two female fiends were a bit surprised.

——there were a lot of bad rumors about the Xie Qi Fiend King, but he was truly handsome and quite a sight to behold.

One of the two female fiends' eyes glowed and praised: 『 Your Excellency's demeanor is quite rare among the Rulers 』

Gu Qing Shan replied: "My appearance isn't my strongest suit"

『 Ah? Then what is your strongest suit? 』 that female fiend grinned and questioned.

"My generosity" Gu Qing Shan replied.

He randomly pulled out two jewel boxes and let them fly towards the two female fiends.

The two female fiends opened the box, glanced over them and put them away.

——the Fiendess he killed kept some of the most precious gems and jewels within his two evil realms, treasures of untold value in any evil realms.

But the two female fiends didn't react to them at all, they only took a swift glance to confirm what they were and put them away.

Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but notice that detail.

The two female fiends weren't too interested in the treasures, but they were quite interested in Gu Qing Shan himself.

One of the two female fiends curiously asked: 『 I heard that you killed a Fiend King and a Devil King? 』

Gu Qing Shan didn't ask why they knew and just smiled: "To be exact, I killed one of them, the other was killed by his mistress"

『 Is that so? Do you like killing? 』 the female fiend asked.

"I don't"

『 Then as a Ruler, what do you like to do? 』

"Cooking"

Both female fiends were stunned.

After a short pause, she smiled brightly.

『 The cathedral didn't devour you, so that was actually the truth 』 she commented.

"I usually don't deceive people" Gu Qing Shan replied.

『 Gracious... true again, you truly are a special Ruler 』 the other female fiend tilted her head as she judged him.

"Honesty makes it easier to work together, I trust that you don't like being deceived and to be lied to either" Gu Qing Shan answered her.

『 Then, do you think I'm attractive? 』 one of the two female fiends abruptly asked.

They weren't attractive at all, in fact, they seemed a bit ferocious.

Gu Qing Shan's gaze fell onto her body and answered: "You have a very charming figure that deserves praise"

—this was the truth.

The female fiend then turned to her friend and asked: 『 What about her? 』

"Similarly charming" Gu Qing Shan replied.

The other female fiend loudly questioned: 『 Then which one of us is more attractive? 』

The atmosphere seemed to freeze right at this moment.

Both female fiends stopped smiling completely and stared straight at Gu Qing Shan, waiting for his hurtful reply.

After all, no one dared to lie within this cathedral.

"Neither of you are as attractive as I am" Gu Qing Shan replied.

The two women were stunned, then both laughed out loud.

『 Ahahaha, what an interesting man 』

『 Hm, by appearance alone, that is true— why is there a Ruler as strange as you? 』

As they spoke, a cloud of black smoke began to rise around their bodies.

The black smoke took away their feathers, long goat horns and ferocious appearance, replacing them with pearl-white skin and beautiful faces.

In front of Gu Qing Shan were now two unrivaled beautiful young girls.

They looked exactly the same, except one of them had purple hair while the other had green hair.

—-one could only tell the difference between them by the color of their hair.

This seemed to be their true appearances.

Gu Qing Shan was shocked.

Such a change combined with their originally stunning figures made for quite a sight to behold.

『 Do you still think you're the most attractive one here now? 』 one of them asked.

Gu Qing Shan sighed and replied: "You're both a lot more attractive than I am"

The two girls smiled brightly.

—-teasing these Ruler-class fiends and devils were a part of their daily joy.

When they wanted to say something else, their expressions suddenly froze.

『 How unfortunate that we can't keep talking with you like this. It is your turn now, sir Ruler, the master is waiting for you 』 one of the two girls said.



Gu Qing Shan looked up at the long flight of stairs and repeated the same thing the previous Ruler did: “But the fellow before me hasn’t come down yet, has he?”

『 You do not need to wait for him, he has become a decoration 』 one of the two fiend girls casually replied.

Gu Qing Shan asked: “Has someone ever come back down?”

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The two fiend girls exchanged glances, then looked at Gu Qing Shan again.

Gu Qing Shan simply smiled at them: “If you can’t answer then fine, I have to come up either way”

One of the two fiend girls stared closely at him and suddenly spoke: 『 Please keep in mind, do not waste time 』

『 Firstly, the master will forgive the fiends and devils with powerful Mystic-type abilities, but he also holds businesses and the cathedral in very high regards 』 the other fiend girl added.

Gu Qing Shan nodded and expressed his understanding.

“Would your master punish you for telling me this?” He asked worriedly.

『 『 It is fine, the barrier blocks out everything, the master doesn’t care about what he isn’t interested in, furthermore, he doesn’t restrict us from saying anything 』 』 the two fiend girls replied.

Gu Qing Shan smiled, nodded towards the two girls, and quickly headed up the stairs.

He had indeed been keeping something in mind.

The barkeep of the Rusty Stain bar already told him that there were two rules in this place.

The first was that you can’t lie.

The other was fairness.

Fiends and devils always kept the first rule in mind, because they would always subconsciously lie, regardless of whether or not that would benefit them.

It was simply their instincts.

As for the ‘fairness’ part, that was the Lord of Total Distortion’s rule on transactions.

This was very easily ignored.

Because for those that do business, this was the most basic rule.

To be frank, as someone who opened up a marketplace, it was mandatory for the Lord of Total Distortion to add such a rule.

Two rules.

But most only remember one of them.

Anyone can tell what their outcomes would be.

Other than that, there was actually a third rule for those who want to leave this place alive.

『 Firstly, the master will forgive the fiends and devils with powerful Mystic-type abilities 』

This half of the sentence was the third rule!

Finally, and also most importantly, was actually the first thing those two girls advised him on.

——-when there isn't much time, people usually make it a habit to say the most important things first.

And what the first female fiend told him was: 『 Please keep in mind, do not waste time 』

This was the fourth rule!

Gu Qing Shan quickly arranged everything in his mind.

He reached the top of the stairs and went through the black barrier that obscured his vision.

Soon enough, just like the two previous Rulers, he vanished from the two girls' eyes.

One of the fiend girls suddenly spoke up: 『 Big sister, should we take a look? 』

The other fiend girl replied: 『 Of course, this Ruler is really interesting, I also want to know how he would end up 』

『 Would it be ok for us to sneak up there again? 』

『 It's fine, father wouldn't scold us in front of guests 』

『 Then let's go 』

『 Yeah 』

...

This was the top floor of the cathedral.

——-and also a large observatory.

Gu Qing Shan looked towards the only man in the room.

The Lord of Total Distortion.

He was wearing a black robe, pointed black shoes with a long black cane in his hand, standing among a flock of crows with his back towards Gu Qing Shan, staring at the stormy sea outside.

All the crows were staring straight at Gu Qing Shan.

『 The Xie Qi Fiend King who traveled a long way, I heard that you wanted to save your weapon? 』

The Lord of Total Distortion asked right away.

Gu Qing Shan replied: “Yes, I’m willing to pay the necessary price in a transaction to exchange for one cast of the [Death Suspension] ability”

The Lord of Total Distortion replied: 『 I respect the will of every individual, so what do you intend to pay as the price? 』

Gu Qing Shan took out two long shining strings and offered it to the Lord of Total Distortion.

The Lord of Total Distortion said nothing yet.

These were the String of Law for both the Xie Qi Fiend Realm and the Cruel Bone Devil Realm.

Each String of Law represented one world fusion.

When evil realms fuse together, a large amount of World Origin would be distributed as feedback to living beings of that world and increase their strength.

Even fiends or devils who were stuck on their advancement would obtain varying levels of increase in strength through the reinforcement of the World Origin.

Because of this, every evil realm was a priceless treasure, every world fusion was a precious opportunity earned through blood and sweat.

——so what was being offered to the Lord of Total Distortion right now were two evil realms.

To save a single weapon, the Xie Qi Fiend King was offering two evil realms!

There was no shortage of fiend and devil Rulers who come here with the most precious resources and treasures of their world as an offering to request the Lord of Total Distortion’s help.

But how many of them would directly offer him their own evil realms?

The Lord of Total Distortion was silent for a while before sighing: 『 Immediately offering two fragments of the Wraith Realm. Xie Qi Fiend King, have you always been so generous? 』

“I simply don’t like to play with little tricks”

『 Little tricks? 』

“Indeed, if I couldn’t offer anything that would be enough to satisfy you, that would be a waste of your time, and time is priceless” Gu Qing Shan replied.

The Lord of Total Distortion said nothing.

But the crows around him all flapped their wings and flew away from the observatory.

On the top floor of the cathedral, the Lord of Total Distortion spoke up again.

『 A young Ruler with a good head over his shoulder, quite a rare sight to see 』

『 The price you are offering does indeed satisfy me, so you are not wasting my time 』

『 If I were to insist on using you as a decoration on this cathedral, that would be unfair of me 』

He finally turned around and faced Gu Qing Shan.

## Chapter 817

The Lord of Total Distortion was observing Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan was also observing him.

In truth, a powerful fiend or devil of the Lord of Total Distortion's level could easily take complete human form without anyone noticing any difference if he wanted to.

But he didn't change his pair of greyish-green double pupils.

The pair of double pupils almost seemed like they had some sort of magic that caused Gu Qing Shan to feel himself separating from this world itself as he stared at him.

This feeling was quite similar to his [True Soul Cleaving Eyes]

Indeed, since the War God UI was no longer here, there were quite a few Title Skills that he couldn't use anymore.

But the [True Soul Cleaving Eyes] was originally the [Iris Sword] that Gu Qing Shan slowly trained and honed to create, it was then further reinforced by the War God UI and evolved to form the Thaumaturgy.

The ability itself had fused with his eyes, allowing him to use it even without the need for the War God System.

Because of that, he could still utilize [True Soul Cleaving Eyes].

As for other Title Skills like [Conquer] that came from [Starflame War God], Causality skills that simply cannot be replicated have all temporarily left together with the War God UI.

『 Xie Qi Fiend King, I have a small question 』 the Lord of Total Distortion said.

“Please go ahead” Gu Qing Shan replied.

『 You should know, this place of mine only welcomes fiends or devils with Mystic-type abilities, but from what I know about you, you seem to have never displayed any Mystical prowess 』

“Is that really important?” Gu Qing Shan asked him in return.

— in truth, he already knew that this was the third rule that the fiend girls from before told him about.

『 Firstly, the master will forgive fiends and devils with powerful Mystic-type abilities 』

Gu Qing Shan had already fulfilled the other conditions, so the last thing he needed to do was prove that he had a Mystic-type ability.

As for why he purposefully asked about this was to avoid having to answer him truthfully.

The Lord of Total Distortion slowly replied as if he was stating a simple fact: 『 Of course, only the true beloved children of the Wraith Realm would be granted Mystic-type abilities by the Wraith Realm itself. Xie Qi Fiend King, you must first prove to me that you are indeed this kind of evil creature 』

『 Xie Qi Fiend King, I shall give you a chance for a fair transaction, and so I hope that you can dispel this one worry of mine before I do 』

“Can I show it to you right here?” Gu Qing Shan asked again.

No answers, only questions.

This was the safest strategy.

『 Naturally 』 the Lord of Total Distortion replied.

Gu Qing Shan’s gaze fell onto the [Kindling] UI.

*After killing the Xie Qi Fiend King and the Fiendess, I obtained a bit of Soul Points.*

*These Soul Points were supposed to be used to activate the ‘Soul Points level up’ function.*

*But now, to save the Earth sword, I don’t have time to worry about that.*

As Gu Qing Shan was about to use his Soul Points, he stopped.

*Wait.*

*Although the Lord of Total Distortion is willing to shelter fiends and devils with powerful Mystic-type abilities, there is no need for me to display all of my strength.*

『 What, are there any difficulties? 』 the Lord of Total Distortion’s tone had become a bit colder.

He was clearly questioning Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan also noticed his impatience.

*I’ll have to change my strategy a bit...*

“Actually, I need to do something else first” Gu Qing Shan explained.

The Lord of Total Distortion was surprised: 『 Something else? 』

Gu Qing Shan replied: “As you know, many Mystic-type skills require strict prerequisites to activate”

The Lord of Total Distortion nodded.

“What I need to do now is to kill— the stronger the enemy killed, the better” Gu Qing Shan continued.

After declaring so, he waited for a few seconds.

The cathedral didn’t react at all.

Indeed, he simply just stated two separate facts, one was common sense for Mystic-type abilities, the other was his own desire.

As these facts had no logical correlation, what he said wasn't a lie.

But to the Lord of Total Distortion, that sounded like he needed to fulfill such a condition in order to activate his ability.

The Lord of Total Distortion waved his hand.

Very quickly several fiends carried a large sea creature onto the observatory.

This was a giant sea fish with sharp protruding spikes all over and an occasional arc of electricity around its body.

Its head alone was about three stories tall.

The fiends that carried it were already bleeding from being pierced by its spikes and were trembling from the occasional shock.

But they didn't utter a single word of pain.

The Lord of Total Distortion pointed at the giant pufferfish: 『 I can't let you kill the cathedral's decorations or my subordinates, but this sea creature is decently powerful as well. I caught that one from the Chaos Demonic Sea myself, originally to use as the main dish for tonight's banquet 』

"Can I kill it?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

『 Of course, I heard that you were quite the cook, so I assumed you'd also be decent at dismantling a prey 』 the Lord of Total Distortion replied.

"Dismantling and butchering is nothing but basic knowledge" Gu Qing Shan replied.

That was the truth.

Gu Qing Shan's mind turned briefly.

*Oong---*

700 flying swords suddenly appeared from the void of space.

All the swords turned into flashes of light that swept through the giant pufferfish once before returning behind Gu Qing Shan and disappeared into the void of space again.

The electricity around the giant fish vanished.

In a single breath's worth of time, from top to bottom, it was perfectly dismantled into even slices of meat from top to bottom, almost like a work of art.

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The fish's head perched up slightly, but its body didn't move.

Only now did it feel the pain on its body.

Only now did it realize that it was already dead.

『 Impressive skills 』

The Lord of Total Distortion praised.

Gu Qing Shan didn't answer and turned its gaze towards the [Kindling] UI.

Lines of blood-red text appeared:

[You've killed an Overlord Thunder Spike]

[This is an extremely rare demonic sea creature that is both powerful and ferocious, it feeds on fresh meat to live]

[As it was already critically wounded, you only finished the job]

[Obtained Soul Points: 5000]

*5000 Soul Points is more than enough!*

Gu Qing Shan walked up to the edge of the observatory.

He looked at the vast ocean outside that was being ravaged by the storm.

“Chao Yin”

He silently called out with his inner sight.

*Oong—*

The Chao Yin sword was already connected to his mind, so as well soon as it heard his call it immediately answered.

“Good, we're doing it now”

Gu Qing Shan replied.

He began to infuse the Chao Yin sword with Soul Points.

An unprecedented scene was unfolding on the ocean right in front of them—

Originally, two gigantic demonic sea creatures were wrestling with one another.

But all of a sudden, the seawater began to pull away from them and formed two giant empty holes in the middle of the ocean.

The two fighting demonic sea creatures instantly began to fall from the surface of the ocean.

All of the seawater on the way avoided and evaded them, making sure that not even a single drop of water touched their bodies.

*Roar!!!!*

The two demonic sea creatures both utter a howl that shook heaven and earth.

But that did nothing to help them.

The creatures that relied on the ocean to live continued to freefall without being able to do anything.

Without them rampaging, the sea storm slowly calmed down.

The ocean became tranquil again.

Only two giant holes still remained on the surface of the ocean to remind the fiends and devils that were watching about what just happened.

The Lord of Total Distortion looked at the two giant holes in the ocean and showed an expression of intrigue.

『 That is...』

He muttered, apparently thinking about something.

At this point, Gu Qing Shan spoke: “I heard that the Chaos Demonic Sea is extremely deep, so much so that no one has ever reached its bottom”

The Lord of Total Distortion replied: 『 This area is still relatively close to shore so it isn't that deep 』

Gu Qing Shan asked: “How deep is this area then?”

The Lord of Total Distortion thought for a few moments and replied: 『 About one minute 』

A minute later.

*Boom!!!*

A thunderous sound of impact resounded from deep underground, causing an earthquake on all the beaches and empty land near shore.

A devastating earthquake.

Even the cathedral trembled for a while before it became stable again.

—-the two gigantic demonic sea creatures fell all the way from the surface of the ocean and crashed into the seabed below to cause this impact.

Gu Qing Shan lightly waved his hand.

The two giant holes on top of the water silently disappeared.

The sea returned to normal.

The Lord of Total Distortion nodded satisfyingly: 『 The ability to control water alone would not be able to manipulate the Chaos Demonic Sea that way. Furthermore, demonic sea creatures usually have their own Mystic-type abilities that grant them blessings from the ocean, so you shouldn't have been able to achieve that 』

He continued: 『 So, what exactly was that ability? 』

Gu Qing Shan stopped for a brief moment.



—it was a good thing that he didn't need to lie to answer this question.

He quickly recalled the War God UI's description of the Chao Yin sword back then.

...

*[The ancient sword, Chao Yin]*

*[In the Age of Old, Shen Wu world was a world overflowing with water, as the Divinities left, they forged this sword to become the pillar of the four seas]*

*[He who wields this sword is the King of the seas]*

*[The sword has a spirit Thaumaturgy: All Crossing Sea of Bitterness<sup>1</sup>]*

...

Gu Qing Shan grinned and answered: "This ability is called [All Crossing Sea of Bitterness]

The Lord of Total Distortion praised: 『 A decent name, it has some flavor of the Bygone Era 』

### **Chapter 818**

Gu Qing Shan didn't intend to say anything else.

With every minute, the Earth sword's death came closer.

The Lord of Total Distortion had already agreed to the transaction.

And he has already displayed his Mystic-type ability.

It was time to get what he came for.

"Venerable Lord of Total Distortion, do you think we can complete our transaction now?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

The Lord of Total Distortion replied: 『 There is no need to hurry, I want to show you something first 』

He waved his hand.

Then the entire observatory began to sink.

The brick walls around the observatory were quickly moving up.

Various rooms full of fiends and devils who were doing business with one another as well as countless strange and precious treasures, quickly flashed by as the room went deeper.

The light gradually dimmed.

Until finally, the observatory stopped on top of a glowing sea of darkness.

『 Look below 』 the Lord of Total Distortion told him.

Gu Qing Shan didn't understand what the other party was trying to do so he tried asking: "This seems to be the seabed where the mainland and the ocean meet"

『 That isn't the case 』 the Lord of Total Distortion replied.

He waved his hand again.

A long spiral staircase made of up stone appeared at the edge of the room.

The Lord of Total Distortion took out a torch from the void of space and began to walk down the stairs.

Gu Qing Shan could only follow.

The two of them went down the ancient and tattered stone steps and reached the border between the steps and the sea water.

The Lord of Total Distortion stopped.

Gu Qing Shan also stopped next to him.

『 This is the lowest floor of the cathedral, a completely sealed space that isn't connected to anywhere outside. I brought you here to take a look at the thing underneath it 』 the Lord of Total Distortion told Gu Qing Shan.

Hearing that, Gu Qing Shan released his inner sight and scanned the water below.

It was now that he noticed his inner sight was being blocked out by the water, unable to see anything below even a little bit.

He could only see with his eyes a dark shadow far underneath the water surface.

*What is that?*

*This is a secret area within the cathedral, why did the Lord of Total Distortion have to show this to me?*

With a lot of doubt, Gu Qing Shan tried carefully observing the dark shadow below the water.

Unfortunately, there was a layer of something that covered the shadow, obscuring what it really was.

Gu Qing Shan could only tell that it was a living thing with his intuition.

"I cannot see it clearly" Gu Qing Shan honestly replied.

The Lord of Total Distortion tossed the torch into the water and muttered: 『 Release taboo 』

The fire began to illuminate below the sea, revealing what was being obscured.

Gu Qing Shan carefully looked back.

It was a finger.

A magnificent giant finger the size of a 3-story-tall building.

The finger had a sharp nail that looked like the claw of a giant creature.

The giant finger was being restrained by hundreds of tiny black chains, pinned tightly to the bottom of the ocean.

Even more frighteningly, the finger was still struggling, attempting to escape from the restraints of the black chains.

Gu Qing Shan noticed that about 3-5 chains had already been broken and were lying still on the seabed.

『 After carefully and thoroughly studying this cathedral for many years, I discovered that the ultimate goal of this whole cathedral was to trap this finger here 』 the Lord of Total Distortion explained.

After witnessing Gu Qing Shan's [All Crossing Sea of Bitterness], the Lord of Total Distortion was speaking a lot more with a clear change in attitude.

"It doesn't seem like the cathedral will be able to trap this finger" Gu Qing Shan replied.

3-5 chains being broken wasn't a lot compared to the total number of chains that were restraining the finger.

But the fact that they were broken represented a certain fact——

If it was able to snap 3-5 chains, it would eventually be able to snap all the black chains and escape from the bottom of the cathedral.

『 No matter, as long as there are powerful lifeforms that keep being supplied to the cathedral and become a part of it, the number of black chains would only keep increasing and this giant finger would keep being restrained 』 the Lord of Total Distortion replied.

Gu Qing Shan was surprised to hear that.

No wonder this cathedral kept on absorbing more evil creatures into it.

So it has been draining their power.

But instead of killing them, the cathedral turned the evil creatures into a source of renewable power—— or to be more accurate, crops that were constantly being harvested.

Thanks to the ever-increasing number of evil creatures, the cathedral has been able to maintain the seal over this black finger.

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"Which creature's finger was this?" Gu Qing Shan couldn't help asking.

『 I'm not sure. I once tried to attack it with my full strength, but I couldn't even leave a dent on the outside 』 the Lord of Total Distortion replied.

As he looked at the finger, he had a clear look of madness and desires in his double pupils.

『 Now, let us get to the point 』

He abruptly turned around and faced Gu Qing Shan: 『 Xie Qi Fiend King, I can order the Black Bone Witch King to cast [Death Suspension] on your weapon and prolong its collapse 』

Gu Qing Shan felt glad and quickly answered: "Then please, as soon as the technique is cast, I will dedicate both evil realms to you"

『 No need 』 the Lord of Total Distortion replied.

Gu Qing Shan was surprised.

The Lord of Total Distortion continued: 『 Two evil realms are certainly precious, but what I'm more interested in is your ability 』

“What exactly do you mean?”

『 Tomorrow, I will organize another expedition into the deep of the Chaos Demonic Sea—— that is the price, as long as you join my expedition team, then I don't need you to offer your Strings of Law, our transaction will be considered complete 』

“So you aren't willing to take the Strings of Law as the price?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

After seeing the giant finger, he was more than willing to offer the two Strings of Law instead of joining some deep-sea expedition team.

Don't be ridiculous, if this cathedral was already this eerie, who knew what sort of things would lie deeper in the Chaos Demonic Sea.

But the Lord of Total Distortion's answer caused Gu Qing Shan to feel disappointed.

『 Xie Qi Fiend King, your Strings of Law are truly precious, but I have more important things in mind right now, and that is exploring the Demonic Sea 』

The Lord of Total Distortion continued: 『 Your ability is exceptionally useful in the ocean. I will need your help—— this way my expedition will be much safer and I will reach my goal a lot easier 』

Gu Qing Shan's thoughts quickly turned.

*Seems like I won't be able to refuse, otherwise, the Lord of Total Distortion wouldn't help me.*

*If I want to save the Earth sword, I have to accept this.*

*Since that's the case——*

Gu Qing Shan replied without issue: “I can join this expedition of yours, as long as you can fulfill my request”

『 Very fair, then we have a deal? 』 the Lord of Total Distortion replied.

“There is one more thing. As I've shown you earlier, I need to kill” Gu Qing Shan replied.

The Lord of Total Distortion grinned: 『 There are many demonic sea creatures in the ocean, I shall allow you to help me clean some of them up 』

“Then all is fine” Gu Qing Shan confirmed.

*——indeed, this was a fair deal, although I will be put into danger, the Earth sword will be saved.*

*This is also a chance, since I have no other choice, I can borrow his great forces to quickly gather more Soul Points.*

The Lord of Total Distortion asked again: 『 So, it is decided then? 』

“Your Excellency, please save my weapon first, because it can’t afford to wait any longer. After that, I will fulfill my end of the deal” Gu Qing Shan answered.

『 Very well, I shall resolve your issue first 』

The Lord of Total Distortion looked up and spoke to the void of space: 『 Tell the Black Bone Witch King to come see me 』

「 Understood 」 a voice replied.

Not too long after, the Black Bone Witch King arrived.

『 Master, how may I serve you? 』 the Black Bone Witch King asked.

The Lord of Total Distortion glanced towards Gu Qing Shan: 『 You tell him 』

Gu Qing Shan then told him his request.

The Black Bone Witch King listened to him with a solemn expression and nodded: 『 Take out your weapon 』

Gu Qing Shan then carefully took the long rectangular box that contained the Earth sword and lifted it in both hands.

The Black Bone Witch King knelt on the ground, looked up at the Lord of Total Distortion and said: 『 Master, then I shall be on my way 』

『 Feel at ease 』 the Lord of Total Distortion replied.

The Black Bone Witch King nodded and put one hand on top of the box.

He then took out an antique clock from the void of space with his other hand.

The Black Bone Witch King loudly roared and crushed the clock.

As soon as the clock shattered, his body slowly became transparent and vanished into nothingness.

The only people that remained on the observatory were the Lord of Total Distortion and Gu Qing Shan.

“What just happened?” Gu Qing Shan couldn’t help but ask.

The Lord of Total Distortion coldly replied: 『 He could only use his Mystic-type ability to indefinitely delay death a total of three times in his entire life. Since he used it for the third time just now, he died 』

Gu Qing Shan glanced at the long rectangular box in his hand and carefully sensed inside.

He could sense a power similar to Xie Dao Ling’s temporal spell affecting the box.

*That’s great, the Earth sword won’t have to die.*

*Since the Lord of Total Distortion had given up the life of his subordinate to help me save the Earth sword, I also won't go back on my words and fulfill my end of the deal.*

Gu Qing Shan looked at the Lord of Total Distortion and said sincerely: "Thank you for Your Excellency's help"

## **Chapter 819**

The Primordial Heaven Realm.

The Sky Beyond Heaven.

The Grand Divine Palace.

The figure of light was silently waiting inside the audience hall without moving.

Luo Bing Li pretended to be busy crafting the jade disk.

Shannu was pretending to be the God of Frost and Chill, sitting high on the divine throne as she carefully thought about what to do.

It had been almost a week since both the previous Divine King and God of Frost and Chill died.

According to the Law of the Divine Race, about a day and a half later, a new Divinity would be born.

With that in mind, Shannu was feeling a bit anxious.

*I'm glad I can use all of gongzi's abilities.*

Don't be anxious, don't be nervous!

She was encouraging herself.

*Calm down, according to gongzi's arrangements, I'll have to prepare for when the new Divinity is born.*

*First I'll act surprised.*

*Then recall the Divinities who recently died.*

*Then suddenly remember that Golden Flame had also just died.*

*Ask the figure of light a certain question—— what would happen if a Divinity who came from the future died in the past.*

*The figure of light would definitely not know the answer to that, since it never happened before.*

*After that, I'll be using that unique skill.*

*——acting.*

*With gongzi's acting skills, I'll guide the conversation with the figure of light to make it seem like we both arrived at the same answer:*

*If a Divinity who came from the future died here, they would speed up the process of a new Divinity's birth.*

*Acting skills...*

Thinking about this unique skill, Shannu couldn't help but feel a bit dejected.

*Gongzi's acting is so natural that he causes others to be unable to help themselves being swept along with his flow and rhythm.*

*I can use his acting skills, but this is nothing like using his attacking abilities, this skill requires a lot of personal talent and aura.*

*Yes, I can act like gongzi and use his acting skills.*

*But I simply can't replicate his facial expressions, his choice of words, his delivery and his demeanor.*

*Seriously.*

*It's like gongzi is a natural-born swindler.*

Thinking that, Shannu almost couldn't help herself chuckling.

*That's not quite right either.*

*Gongzi has done so many great things and struggled against so many powerful enemies that even if he didn't have his acting skills, he would've been able to come up with other solutions.*

*Yes, gongzi would exploit everything he could to achieve his goal and not simply rely on his acting skills.*

While she was thinking, the figure of light suddenly moved.

"What is the matter?" Shannu asked.

「 Your Divine Majesty, I suddenly recall a certain renowned historical event 」 the figure of light answered.

"Which event?" Shannu asked again.

「 It is nothing much. It's a matter related to the Chaos Demonic Sea, something that would cause many evil creatures to die in the next few days. But Gu Qing Shan is currently staying in the Xie Qi Fiend Realm so he shouldn't be affected by it 」 the figure of light replied.

Shannu lightly sighed in relief and said: "Then that is no concern to us"

...

Gu Qing Shan was sensing an uneasy feeling.

The strength of a cultivator's spirit sense varied from person to person, some couldn't even tell what would happen the very next day, while others were able to clearly see a vision of the recent future.

Xie Dao Ling was able to see the signs of her own death, which was changed thanks to Gu Qing Shan.

And Gu Qing Shan's spirit sense wasn't any less sensitive than his Shifu's.

Currently, he was standing on a beach outside of the cathedral, sensing an indescribable wariness towards the ocean.

It was almost the second day already.

There was only a minute left until the expedition set out.

“Death?”

Gu Qing Shan whispered to himself.

His spirit sense was clearly reacting.

His heartbeat was growing faster uncontrollably for no reason.

Within his delirium, a dark region seemed to have appeared on the surface of the ocean as a faint image gradually manifested in front of Gu Qing Shan’s eyes.

Gu Qing Shan saw himself completely soaked as he staggered towards a certain direction, then——

*Xiu!*

All of a sudden, a white figure flew out from his Inventory Bag and danced back and forth in front of his face.

The vision he received from this spirit sense vanished instantly.

Gu Qing Shan regained his senses.

The blue ocean was still calm, there wasn’t a single cloud within ten thousand miles, and the sky was completely clear.

The prediction he was about to make was interrupted.

Everything vanished and returned to normal.

“Tch... what is it again? You just interrupted me, you know?”

Gu Qing Shan asked in irritation.

But the white jade gourd simply replied with a cautious ‘wu wu’ that asked him for more Soul Points.

Gu Qing Shan had no choice.

Even now he didn’t know what the jade gourd’s abilities [Borrowing Wonder], [Hundred Lanterns] and [Spotless Jade] actually did.

But he could already confirm that it was indeed a Soul Artifact of the Bygone Era.

*Hah, but I have to raise it more before I can use it.*

Gu Qing Shan could only catch the jade gourd pendant and pour Soul Points into it.

“Is that enough this time?”



Gu Qing Shan asked.

The jade gourd pendant uttered a satisfied 'Xiu', went back into his Inventory Bag, and fell silent again.

Gu Qing Shan scanned through with his inner sight.

*Yup, it's sleeping again.*

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*I just gave it 3000 Soul Points and it fell right back to sleep just like that?*

*This is already the 3rd time I gave it Soul Points.*

*Show some use already, would you?*

"I just hope it's not just a bottomless pit"

Gu Qing Shan helplessly sighed and shook his head.

At this point, two guards walked up to Gu Qing Shan.

「 The ship is about to sail, Xie Qi Ruler, the master has prepared slaughter targets for you to satisfy the activation prerequisite of your ability 」 one guard told him.

"Where are they?" Gu Qing Shan asked with interest.

「 On the ship, the kitchen 」 the guard answered.

"...Alright"

Gu Qing Shan leapt and flew towards the ship together with the guards.

——it was a giant sailboat that lazily docked on the shore of the Chaos Demonic Sea, even without the sails it was easily as big as an entire city.

In fact, the Rusty Stain Bar, the Lava Cathedral as well as some other structures were brought in their entirety onto this ship.

And this ship was about to set off.

Before the Lord of Total Distortion gave his orders, no one would know where the ship was going to head this time.

And Gu Qing Shan didn't care that much, he simply followed the guard into the kitchen of the ship.

「 Sir Ruler, we're here. All the sea creatures here are going to be used as food for today since we're a bit pressed for time, please go ahead and do it as soon as you can 」 the guard told him.

Gu Qing Shan looked into the kitchen as he stood next to the guard.

An inland lake.

Indeed, the kitchen itself was a large lake that was separated from the Chaos Demonic Sea.

That way, the freshness of the cooking ingredients could be assured.

Two rows of fiends and devils arrived in front of Gu Qing Shan.

「 These are the ship's kitchen staff 」 the guard introduced him.

“Oh? They're the ones responsible for everyone's food?” Gu Qing Shan asked, a bit interested.

「 No, they are responsible for the master's food, it doesn't matter whether or not the other fiends and devils eat. They won't die of starvation by not eating for a few days anyways 」 the guard replied.

Gu Qing Shan looked at him: “You don't eat anything either?”

The guard answered him: 「 I can simply go into the ocean and catch something for myself 」

One of the chefs stepped forward: 『 Sir Xie Qi Ruler, cooking was supposed to be left entirely to us, but since the master has ordered so, we will wait until you finish killing them to prepare the dishes 』

“I see, then I've inconvenienced you a bit” Gu Qing Shan said apologetically.

Hearing his words, the cooks' expressions became less grim.

Gu Qing Shan walked up to the lake and said: “Since we don't have much time, I'll begin my work now”

His thoughts turned a bit.

700 flying swords appeared from the void of space behind him.

The flying swords scattered and surrounded the entire lake.

Gu Qing Shan sighed and muttered to himself: “I never thought there would be a day when I would use a Sword Array to prepare seafood”

As he muttered, the Sword Array was triggered!

...

Half an hour later.

The main banquet hall.

Only the most powerful evil creatures gathered here, all of them standing on either side of the Lord of Total Distortion, looking at their master with nothing but respect.

The Lord of Total Distortion himself was sitting on his throne and slowly enjoyed his meal.

A total of 935 dishes were prepared on the extremely long dining table.

The Lord of Total Distortion casually picked out the dishes he liked and enjoyed all sorts of precious delicacies.

All the evil creatures here remained completely silent, all of them were being careful not to make a single sound.

——during the master's meal, if someone dared said anything, they would be shoved directly into the walls of the cathedral.

Naturally, if that evil creature had a famously delicious delicacy on their body, that part would be removed by the chef before they get shoved into the walls.

The only one allowed to say anything was the Lord of Total Distortion's secretary.

「 Master, it is now the time that you decided 」 the secretary reminded him.

The Lord of Total Distortion paused briefly and ordered: 『 Set sail 』

「 Understood 」

The secretary answered and gestured with her eyes toward one of the evil creatures.

That evil creature turned into a gust of wind and vanished from the hall.

*Hoh hoh hoh——*

The sound of the howling wind bellowed.

The gigantic sails of the ship were gradually raised.

The sails quickly became inflated.

And the ship started to move.

It was like a mobile marine city.

The Lord of Total Distortion continued to enjoy his breakfast.

He suddenly recalled something and swept his gaze through the groups of evil creatures.

『 Xie Qi Ruler 』 the Lord of Total Distortion spoke.

“I am present” Gu Qing Shan stepped out.

『 Have you killed enough today? 』

“I have, the ability can be activated at any moment”

『 That is good 』

The Lord of Total Distortion nodded and no longer paid any attention to Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan stepped back with a calm expression.

But he was secretly feeling a bit excited.

*Indeed.*

*I prepared an entire lake full of seafood.*

*The number of Soul Points easily went past the required 100,000 so I already completed the 2nd Quest.*

*From now on, I can use Soul Points to advance through the realms again.*

*My next advancement will be the Void Wanderer realm!*

*That is the first realm of the Lord-class!*

## **Chapter 820**

The large ship.

Within the banquet hall, the Lord of Total Distortion was enjoying his meal.

All the evil creatures stood silently in the hall without uttering a single sound.

Gu Qing Shan also stood among them, silently reading the blood-red text on the [Kindling] UI.

[Second Quest completed]

[Quest description: You've collected enough Soul Points to unlock the Soul Points level up mode]

[Special note: You have chosen the correct path and would definitely become the strongest existence through it, the System shares the same joy and honor]

After all the text disappeared, a Card appeared at the center of the UI.

The Card depicted Gu Qing Shan standing in mid-air wielding a sword in each hand.

———Lapis-grade Character Card: [Sword cultivator Gu Qing Shan]

Below this Character Card was a grey long bar, apparently to display his Soul Points value.

The progress bar has been updated to display a number: [12,000/200,000]

Some blood-red text appeared next to the progress bar as a description:

[Gather 200,000 Soul Points to advance to the next realm]

[Attention: As your Profession is cultivator, you must face a Heaven's Tribulation during your advancement, the Demon King Order cannot exempt you from it]

[Attention: Your next realm is the Void Wanderer realm, once your advancement begins, you will face the Wind and Fire Double Tribulation]

*Wind and Fire?*

After Gu Qing Shan read through all the text, he put his hand on his Inventory Bag and checked his cultivation scripture.

Xie Gu Hong had already compiled all the scriptures he needed into a mega-sized jade tag and bestowed it to Gu Qing Shan.

This jade tag included all the cultivation scriptures up to Three Thousand Worlds realm perfected stage, as well as all of Xie Gu Hong's swordsmanship knowledge, including the scripture for [Enemy-killing Sword Technique] that he obtained from the Bygone Era treasure vault world.

Gu Qing Shan's inner sight scanned the jade tag, skipped all the sword techniques recorded inside, and quickly found the detailed descriptions regarding the Void Wanderer realm.

—indeed, during this breakthrough, the Lightning Tribulation would disappear.

Instead, it would be replaced with the Fire Tribulation.

Among the four Pillar Elements Earth, Water, Fire, and Wind, Earth represented creation, Water represented growth, Fire represented destruction and Wind represented passing.

The Fire Tribulation was the trial of destruction that all living beings must face.

However, most living beings didn't make it to the Fire Tribulation due to their short lifespan and skip straight to the 'Wind' phase: passing.

This time, Gu Qing Shan would have to face the Wind and Fire Double Tribulation.

During his next breakthrough to Void Revolution realm, he would face the Fire and Water Double Tribulation.

And then, his breakthrough to Three Thousand Worlds realm would pit him against all four Tribulations of Earth, Water, Fire and Wind.

This was the reason why most people described cultivation as going against the flow— a cultivator had to surpass these four greatest Tribulations to finally achieve Three Thousand Worlds realm.

Cultivators at Three Thousand Worlds realm were already among the strongest within the 900 million World Layers.

Gu Qing Shan silently checked the preparations he had to make to face the Tribulations.

He then paused a bit and looked at the center of the [Kindling] UI, asking: "This progress bar is the amount of Soul Points needed for me to advance, but what should I do to make the [Order] evolve?"

[Are you so eager to help the Order evolve?] [Kindling] asked him.

"I am. I heard that the more highly-evolved an [Order] was, the more powerful its functions would become" Gu Qing Shan replied.

[Kindling] paused briefly before answering him: [Since you have expressed such burning desires for power, I shall make the following changes to the strategy:]

[As soon as you complete the first advancement, Kindling will issue an evolution Quest]

Gu Qing Shan nodded and didn't ask anything else.

*I need 200,000 Soul Points to break through to Void Wanderer realm— so that's what I need to worry about right now.*

At this point, the Lord of Total Distortion abruptly put the food in his hands down.

At the same time, the howling wind outside the ship stopped.

The ship gradually grinded to a halt.

*What happened?*

Gu Qing Shan released his inner sight to scan through the entire ship and a few hundred miles under the ocean surface as well.

———a Void Beholder realm cultivator's inner sight could easily achieve such a thing.

He found that an iceberg was slowly rising from under the water about a few dozen nautical miles in front of the ship.

This iceberg seemed to be about the same size as this entire ship itself.

Under the ice, a gigantic head appeared from below the water and stared ferociously at the giant sailboat of the Lord of Total Distortion.

An ancient demonic sea creature!

Who could've thought a demonic sea creature would block the Lord of Total Distortion's ship so quickly after their voyage began.

『 Another fellow who wants to devour evil creatures, 20 million years? No. Who can tell me exactly how many years that thing has lived? 』 the Lord of Total Distortion spoke with a displeased tone.

A devil spoke up: 「 Master, I have seen it clearly 」

All the evil creatures in the hall looked towards the devil that spoke.

This was a humanoid devil without any eyes——— seems like he used some sort of unique ability to check the demonic sea creature's exact age.

However, he was clearly not very strong, as his transformation was still incomplete with four hooves on his lower body.

The devil reported: 「 This demonic sea creature has lived for 37,679,861 years 」

Hearing that, the Lord of Total Distortion's expression loosened slightly.

『 So it was a bastard just over 30 million years old. Not only did it not go dormant deep under the ocean, but it also dared to block my ship. It is clearly asking for death 』

He glanced over some evil creatures.

Those evil creatures immediately understood his gesture.

They bowed towards the Lord of Total Distortion and left the banquet hall.

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As soon as they left, those evil creatures took flight and flew at full speed towards the iceberg in front of the ship.

The Lord of Total Distortion continued to enjoy his breakfast.

A few moments later.

Chaotic and intense waves of power fluctuation rippled across the ocean.

The battle had begun.

The other evil creatures within the banquet hall were becoming restless.

They wanted to participate in the battle as well.

Disrespectfully speaking, they were currently hungry, yet couldn't do anything but watch as the master enjoyed over 900 hundred precious dishes, that was no different from torture.

Some of the evil creatures appeared impatient, a few others silently sensed the power fluctuations in the air to judge the battle situation.

Very few evil creatures were staring straight into the void of space in front of themselves as their expressions changed constantly.

It was as if they could see past all the obstacles to see the battle on the sea over a few thousand meters away.

Gu Qing Shan understood almost immediately.

—evil creatures didn't have inner sight.

Unlike human cultivators, these creatures didn't specifically train and hone their inner sight since the beginning of their cultivation.

They mostly rely on their instincts or inheritance to evolve and become stronger, the luckiest ones might gain one or two special abilities during this process.

This battle was being conducted over several dozen nautical miles away, and they were standing at least half a city away, so most of these evil creatures could tell how the battle was going at all.

But that wasn't any of Gu Qing Shan's concerns.

He released his inner sight again across the ocean, observing the battle that was taking place.

Within his inner sight, the battle and even the tiny details just underneath the surface of the ocean were as clear as day.

—as expected, since these evil creatures managed to become the Lord of Total Distortion's subordinates and stood within the banquet hall, none of them were mediocre.

All of them were purely offensive evil creatures that could fire flashy and chaotic attacks one after the other.

Very quickly, quite a bit of the iceberg was already destroyed.

The 30-million-year-old demonic sea creature was also bleeding from their attacks, quickly dying its part of the ocean bright red.

As he saw this, Gu Qing Shan felt silently surprised.

*How strange...*

*An ancient monster who lived this long couldn't have just came out to suicide.*

He concentrated his inner sight to go past those evil creatures and enter the seawater below.

He carefully observed this demonic sea creature who carried the iceberg on its head.

To Gu Qing Shan's shock, he found the demonic sea creature's body to be so long that he couldn't even see the shadow of its tail.

Compared to that, the gigantic iceberg on its head was nothing but a bit of snow that gathered after a cold winter night.

—*—from its body, this thing seems to be a humongous sea snake.*

*A sea snake that lived for over 30 million years.*

*Such a terrifying body.*

*No wonder the Lord of Total Distortion wanted to know its age first before anything else, and why he calmed down after knowing the results.*

*The Lord of Total Distortion used its age to determine how many evil creatures he should send out and how strong they should be.*

*Normally, the Lord of Total Distortion wouldn't have made an error in his judgement.*

*And from the battle situation so far, the results were as the Lord of Total Distortion expected.*

*However...*

Gu Qing Shan looked back at the demonic sea creature.

He could see patience and cruelty within its eyes.

Such an ancient creature shouldn't be too stupid.

On the other hand, there could only be one reason that a stupid creature would be able to live for over 30 million years.

—*—it was too powerful.*

At point, the Lord of Total Distortion also stopped his meal and mused: 『 Still not running away after being beaten that badly? It shouldn't have given up so easily... Then it must be planning something, or it was a lot more impressive than it seems— how interesting, a monster who only lived for 30 million years dared to scheme against my ship? 』

His expression turned a bit serious.

Gu Qing Shan silently nodded, so the Lord of Total Distortion managed to notice the creature's oddity after all.

『 Dark Devil, Judgment, and Silent Ruler, ah, you as well, Xie Qi Ruler. All of you are great evil creatures with unique abilities, I need you to act 』 the Lord of Total Distortion ordered.



Following his order, a man clad in grey burning flames, a man who carried a long guillotine as well as a woman who didn't have a mouth all stepped out.

The two men knelt on one knee and replied: 『 「 Yes, master 」 』

The woman also knelt down and lowered her head towards the Lord of Total Distortion.

All three of them seemed eerie and strange, but their human form was perfect—— except the woman without a mouth.

But that seems to be a secret of hers.

As the Xie Qi Fiend King, Gu Qing Shan also stepped out and lightly bowed to the Lord of Total Distortion.

——four powerful evil creatures with unique abilities were going to be sent out at once.

This showed just how seriously the Lord of Total Distortion was taking this.

『 All of you will aid the others. No matter what kind of tricks that demonic sea creature is trying to pull, kill it at the first chance you see 』 the Lord of Total Distortion ordered.

『 「Understood」 』

Gu Qing Shan headed out from the banquet hall together with the other three evil creatures.

At this point, none of the other evil creatures expressed the desire to fight on their expressions.

They have also noticed that something wasn't quite right.

## **Chapter 821**

Gu Qing Shan followed the wind as he flew.

The iceberg was still standing in the ship's way.

Compared to his flight, one of the other powerful evil creatures was faster.

The devil whose body was clad in grey flames flashed in the air a few times, went past Gu Qing Shan, and quickly stood above the iceberg.

「 Move away! 」

He roared.

The attacking evil creatures quickly stopped their offenses and retreated.

They have also noticed, despite causing the humongous sea snake to bleed from its head, their attacks were unable to make the monster even flinch, its entire body was still completely stationary.

It was as though their attacks weren't even an issue.

As the evil creatures stopped their attacks, the humongous sea snake's wounds visibly healed and closed.

Dark Devil looked down at this 30-million-year-old sea snake from above.

Immense dark flames began to rise from his body to completely swallow his figure up.

He then leapt upward, raised a dark flame that made the sky dim and threw it downwards.

The dark flame shot towards the sea snake like a falling star.

Noticing the danger of this flame, the sea snake abruptly raised its body from underneath the sea and unhinged its jaws to swallow the ball of dark fire coming down from the sky.

Seeing this shocking scene, the other evil creatures quickly backed away even further.

None of them wanted to be caught in this battle.

Judgement who carried a guillotine on his shoulder, the mouthless Silent Ruler as well as Gu Qing Shan were all standing in the sky, observing the results of this decisive attack.

Judgement sighed: 『 Using the [Life Siphoning Grey Flame] from the very start, seems like this is going to end soon 』

Noticing both the Silent Ruler and Xie Qi Ruler staring at him, he explained: 『 Dark Devil's signature ability is the [Life Siphoning Grey Flame], as long as the one being burnt is still alive, it would absorb its target's life force to continue burning. The grey flame would only extinguish after no more life force could be absorbed, which is when the target is dead 』

Gu Qing Shan trembled slightly.

*That certainly is a very troublesome ability, using that, it wouldn't be hard to defeat a stronger opponent.*

Mystic-type abilities were all this way, through the random mix of World Origin and a living being's Soul Essence, these mysterious and unpredictable powers were born.

In a battle, Mystic-type abilities were the most unreasonable of them all.

The grey flames had just crashed into the humongous sea snake.

*Hoh——*

Intense burning grey flames immediately spread all over the sea snake's body.

The flames rose all the way to the sky.

The humongous sea snake let out a pitiful but world-shattering cry.

It writhed and struggled within the flame, apparently enduring unbearable pain.

Standing in the sky, Dark Devil smirked.

*It actually didn't dodge.*

*What a fool.*

*Once it is touched by the life siphoning flames, it will only keep burning until it ran out of life force*

Dark Devil just watched as the humongous sea snake continued to struggle until its last breath, then he slowly descended.

*I heard demonic sea creatures over 10 million years old always carry precious treasures on their bodies, I wonder what kind of thing this one has.*

*I killed it by myself so no one would be able to compete with me.*

*I'll take that treasure for myself, then dedicate it to the master and receive his praise.*

*Indeed, just like that—*

Those were Dark Devil's final thoughts.

Among countless gasps of shock, a deep grey flame suddenly shot from the sea snake's body and hit Dark Devil straight on, burning him to a crisp in less than a single breath's worth of time.

At the same time, the humongous sea snake suddenly woke up and became lively.

The burning grey flames from before could no longer be seen.

Neither was its wounds.

At a glance, the monster had just fully recovered.

The evil creatures were all stunned.

*What just happened !?*

The humongous sea creature's eyes showed a hint of cruelty and ridicule.

It used telepathy to speak directly into the minds of every creature in the vicinity:

「 Burning my life? Fools, I still have over a million years' worth of lifespan left 」

The evil creatures finally realized.

*That's right, this was an ancient demonic sea creature!*

*Its lifespan was exceedingly long.*

*To completely burn its life away, the flames would've had to burn for at least several more years.*

*But why did the flames disappear from this sea snake's body?*

*How was Dark Devil killed by his own ability?*

None of the evil creatures understood at all.

Judgement roared in anger: 『 Despicable! I don't believe it, how could Dark Devil have been killed by his own flames! 』

He took the guillotine off his back.

Seeing that, Gu Qing Shan tried to convince him: “Wait, it seems to know a sort of unique damage reflection ability, don’t attack it arbitrarily”

Judgement scoffed: 『 I already noticed. Its skin can reflect any attack back to the attacker, but that is useless against me 』

He threw the guillotine out.

『 Sacrifice—— [Nine Lives Soul Taker]! 』

Judgement shouted.

Then 9 other fiends in the sky abruptly moaned in pain.

They turned into streaks of blood-red glow and quickly flew into the guillotine.

『 They were my subordinating fiends, I just sacrificed them to avenge Dark Devil. Rulers, I hope you won’t interfere 』 Judgement told them.

After that, he didn’t bother to see how the Silent Ruler or the Xie Qi Ruler reacted and simply activated his Mystic-type ability.

The nine blood-red glows on the guillotine jumped out and manifested as a bloody skeleton that quickly flew towards the sea snake.

“A soul attack magic...” Gu Qing Shan muttered.

He could sense the amount of damage this Mystic-type attack could inflict on a soul.

When it saw this bloody skeleton, the look of ridicule in the sea snake’s eyes became even deeper.

It opened its mouth wide to inhale, then exhaled.

The skeleton’s head immediately vanished.

Almost instantly, the skeleton’s head appeared again.

But this time, it was in front of Judgement.

The skull immediately entered Judgement’s body.

A moment of silence.

A faint figure emerged from Judgement’s body and flew up.

———it was Judgement’s soul!

The bloody skeleton then turned around, quickly caught up to Judgement’s soul, and grabbed him tightly.

『 NO! 』

Judgement’s soul screamed in desperation.

The bloody skeleton transformed into a guillotine and slashed down!

Judgement's soul was cut in half and vanished from the sky.

His body fell into the ocean and caused a small ripple before disappearing completely.

All the evil creatures that were sent out had been wiped out by the humongous sea snake.

Only the Silent Ruler and Xie Qi Ruler managed to survive for now because they haven't attacked it.

"It can reflect even soul magic, do you have any ideas?" Gu Qing Shan asked in a low voice.

The Silent Ruler also realized that the situation was a lot more dangerous than it initially appeared, she used telepathy to talk to Gu Qing Shan: 『 I have many Mystic-type techniques, but I'm a bit afraid to attack it now 』

"Can you restrain its movements?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

700 flying swords appeared behind him from the void of space.

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Sensing the razor-sharp cold sword qi coming from Gu Qing Shan's body, the Silent Ruler's eyes shined.

*That's right, if this sea snake can reflect all Mystic-type abilities and magic, the best choice would be to use physical attacks!*

『 Restraining... I have a few of them 』 the Silent Ruler replied.

"I'll face it directly, you can restrain and distract it from the back" Gu Qing Shan said.

『 Got it 』 the Silent Ruler immediately agreed.

Gu Qing Shan moved his swords.

All the flying swords soared through the air and slashed the sea snake with sharp sword phantoms.

The sea snake now turned its attention towards the two remaining people.

Seeing the numerous flying swords in the sky, the snake's eyes showed a faint sense of surprise.

*Pure, basic physical attacks.*

*I didn't expect there to be an evil creature who still used this simplest mean of attack within this ocean of Mystical abilities.*

The sea snake rose its head again.

Soon enough, the flying swords clashed with the sea snake!

As the flying swords struck the humongous sea snake's body they disappeared.

These flying swords would then suddenly appear in front of Gu Qing Shan and slash him.

Gu Qing Shan just stood still.

The flying swords all hurriedly stopped and vibrated angrily.

These flying swords all had spirits, they would not attack their master.

“The power is increased by two-fold, and it could even reflect physical attacks... seems like this is a Mystic-type ability that could reflect twice as much damage to the attacker”

Gu Qing Shan felt a bit emotional—— because he had already seen through what it was.

*What a ridiculously powerful ability.*

*No wonder it lived to be 30 million years old.*

As the Silent Ruler was preparing her spell, she hesitated a bit when she saw what happened.

“It’s fine. Keep going, I’m going to try something else” Gu Qing Shan told her.

He started flying towards the humongous sea snake.

The sea snake was shocked to see him do that.

*He’s still approaching me?*

The snake’s iris turned briefly. It then pulled back and coiled its body up, preparing to lunge forward.

Gu Qing Shan felt a bit heavy.

*Not only is this humongous sea snake powerful, but it is also smart and cautious.*

He gripped the Chao Yin sword.

——as he was about to activate its ability, his Inventory Bag jerked a bit.

The jade gourd pendant flew out again.

It danced in circles around Gu Qing Shan, constantly letting out a ‘xiu xiu’ sound.

Gu Qing Shan’s fighting spirit deflated.

Thanks to the [Spirit Telepathy] ability he obtained in the Shen Wu world, he could communicate with weapon spirits.

This wasn’t limited to just Chao Yin sword, he could understand what Adorable was trying to say as well.

This jade pendant just woke up and was asking him for more Soul Points...

“Don’t be noisy, I’m fighting right now” Gu Qing Shan sighed and sent his voice to it.

The jade gourd pendant turned around and saw the sea snake right away.

*Xiu...*

The jade gourd pendant made another sound.

“Attack? You want me to attack with my strongest technique?” Gu Qing Shan asked in surprise.

*Xiu! Xiu!*

The jade gourd pendant replied.

Gu Qing Shan hesitantly spoke: “Is that really going to—”

He didn’t have time to discuss things with the jade gourd pendant.

As the humongous sea snake saw that he paused in the air, it decided to take the initiative.

The sea snake leapt at him!

Gu Qing Shan couldn’t hesitate anymore.

He summoned all of his flying swords and infused a huge amount of spirit energy into them.

700 swords—

Secret Art, [Great Tsunami]!

As every flying sword performed the [Torrent] Secret Art at once, the intense sword phantoms filled the sky.

They overlapped with one another to form a great tsunami of sword phantoms!

The humongous sea snake crashed straight into the tsunami of swords and went directly against the flow to attack Gu Qing Shan.

All of a sudden, it noticed that something was wrong.

It was experiencing intense pain unlike never before.

The humongous sea snake finally realized.

—this meant that the Mystic-type ability that allowed it to rampage as much as it liked up to this point had lost its effect!!!

*No, it didn’t lose its effect, it was nullified by another similarly powerful Mystic-type ability of the same essence.*

And there was nothing defending it against the razor-sharp tsunami of swords!

The humongous sea snake wanted to turn around—

But it couldn’t move at all!

When the Silent Ruler saw Gu Qing Shan attacked with his full power, she also triggered the most powerful restraining technique she had been preparing.

A perfectly coordinated attack!

At this point, the tsunami of sword phantoms had completely filled the air, leaving no place for the sea snake to run!

The intense howling swords swept its whole body out from the water— its humongous body was no different from a thread in the wind. The snake was battered by the swords, slashed to a pulp, then was completely decimated to nothingness.

The terrifying tsunami of swords gradually faded away.

Not even a single bone of the humongous sea snake remained.

Gu Qing Shan was completely stunned.

He didn't feel at all happy from defeating a powerful opponent.

Because right now, the jade gourd pendant was dancing in circles around him, smugly squeaking 'xiu xiu' as if to show off just how hard it worked.

That's right, it was indeed a Soul Artifact from the Bygone Era.

When it took the initiative to inform him about itself, Gu Qing Shan finally knew one of its abilities.

A notification also appeared on the [Kindling] UI.

[Jade pendant: Adorable has informed you of its secret]

[You now know one of its Thaumaturgies]

[Hundred Lanterns: Temporarily steal one ability from any target. After you use this ability once, to conceal this fact, the ability will be removed from you]

[Description: One lantern passes its shine to a hundred lanterns]

Gu Qing Shan stared blankly at these notifications and couldn't help muttering: "What [Hundred Lanterns], isn't this simply stealing other people's skills..."

Hearing that, jade gourd pendant appeared offended.

It squeaked again and again as if trying to explain something.

After listening for a while, Gu Qing Shan finally understood.

"This is a cultivator's tradition, how can you call it stealing?"

——this was what the jade gourd pendant was insisting.

At the same time, the text on the [Kindling] UI was actually changing!

This has never happened before!

New lines of blood-red text appeared.

[Hundred Lanterns: Temporarily take away an ability from a target. After you use this ability once, to conceal this fact, the ability will be removed from you]

[Description: One lantern passes its shine to a hundred lanterns]

[Special note: Thou art is marvellous, I shall carry it forward for thou]

## **Chapter 822**

Gu Qing Shan read the changed lines of text on the [Kindling] UI, completely speechless.



This was the first time in his life that he saw such a righteous explanation for ‘stealing’.

Naturally, it was this ability that helped him win against the sea snake just now.

——that sea snake was already launching its attack against him, so the situation couldn’t be said to be good for them.

Furthermore, the only evil creatures left in this area were him and the Silent Ruler.

It was easy to see at a glance that the Silent Ruler wasn’t an expert in close combat, so Gu Qing Shan naturally took up that position.

The sea snake’s ability was to reflect any attacks made on it, fortunately, the Chao Yin sword would have been able to bypass this ability entirely.

——the Chao Yin sword had the ability to control the ocean.

Which means, he could make the sea snake wrestle against the ocean itself.

——no matter how much damage it reflected, it wouldn’t affect Gu Qing Shan in the slightest.

Originally, Gu Qing Shan was going to abuse this and slowly wear the sea snake down while looking for its weakness.

But he suddenly got a treasure that could directly steal an enemy’s ability!

At this point, a few lines of blood-red text appeared on the [Kindling] UI:

[Defeated ancient creature: Demon Dragon larvae]

[You were able to completely absorb the creature’s Soul Points: 180,000]

180,000 Soul Points!

Gu Qing Shan quickly glanced towards the center of the UI.

The long progress bar under the Lapis Card [Sword cultivator Gu Qing Shan] was already mostly filled, only a little bit more until he could advance.

*Only 20,000 Soul Points left!*

Gu Qing Shan felt a lot better.

He looked at the jade gourd pendant and said: “Come”

The jade gourd pendant stopped in front of him.

Gu Qing Shan grabbed the jade pendant and asked: “How much Soul Points do you want this time?”

*Xiu... xiuuu!*

“Alright”

Gu Qing Shan put 10,000 Soul Points into the jade pendant at once.

The jade pendant was ecstatic, it began dancing happily around Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan smiled: “You did well, that saved me a lot of trouble”

He looked back at the direction of the ship, feeling a bit worried.

The Lord of Total Distortion observed the battle just now from start to finish.

Some of the stronger evil creatures were also able to see everything.

*What are they going to think about this?*

*If they know Adorable was this impressive, would they have other ideas in mind?*

*If it was me who heard that someone else had a treasure that can ‘borrow’ and use another person’s ability without any restrictions, I would feel greatly tempted as well.*

“Alright then, I’ll have to come up with something to gloss over the battle just now” Gu Qing Shan muttered.

Hearing him say that, the jade gourd pendant stopped dancing.

It began to squeak ‘xiu xiu’ a bunch of times to Gu Qing Shan as if it felt annoyed because it had to explain something so simple.

Hearing that, Gu Qing Shan opened his eyes wide.

*What?*

*Is that really true?*

While he was surprised, a few lines of blood-red text appeared on the [Kindling] UI:

[Jade pendant: Adorable has informed you of its secret on its own accord]

[You now know one of its Thaumaturgies]

[Spotless Jade: All of this jade’s actions are known to you alone]

[Description: Spotless Jade hides in plain sight, only appears in front of its owner, unseen by all other living creatures and things]

As Gu Qing Shan read the description on the [Kindling] UI, he confirmed that his understanding wasn’t wrong.

*In other words—*

*No matter what the jade gourd pendant does, no one will notice at all?*

While Gu Qing Shan was contemplating, the Silent Ruler flew over.

She still seemed to be in disbelief.

『 How unbelievable for the monster’s weakness to be the most basic physical attack 』

Hearing that, Gu Qing Shan glanced over the jade gourd pendant floating in front of him and didn't reply.

——*so she really doesn't know what the jade gourd pendant did just now?*

Noticing Gu Qing Shan's doubtful gaze, the jade gourd pendant squeaked in disdain.

It then flew towards the Silent Ruler.

Right in front of Gu Qing Shan's eyes, the jade gourd pendant spun and danced directly in front of the Silent Ruler's face.

But the Silent Ruler didn't seem to notice that at all.

She was still speaking emotionally: 『On this ocean full of mystical and mysterious powers, we have been too used to using our Mystic-type abilities to fight. There are very few who still employ primitive cold weapons in battle, otherwise, those powerful fiends and devils just now wouldn't have had to die so easily 』

Gu Qing Shan paid close attention to her gaze and finally confirmed that the jade gourd pendant had the ability to be unnoticeable to all entities.

“What an incredible secretive Thaumaturgy—— stop, you're making me dizzy, come back”

He sent his voice to the jade gourd pendant.

Being praised, the jade gourd pendant happily flew back and landed on top of Gu Qing Shan's head.

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It smugly stood right in the middle of his head.

*Ah...*

Although he knew no one could see this jade gourd pendant, Gu Qing Shan still felt a bit strange that he was essentially wearing a gourd-shaped item on his head.

“Oi, you already got your Soul Points and did your job, you can go back to rest now, I'll call again if I need you”

“Also, jade pendants are supposed to be worn on clothes, don't sit on my head anymore”

He sent his voice.

The jade gourd pendant dejectedly came down and crawled back into Gu Qing Shan's Inventory Bag.

It looked for a relatively empty spot inside the bag, turned around itself a few times like a puppy, then sat still.

——it actually did go back to sleep!

Although that seemed like a long time, it was actually just the blink of an eye.

Gu Qing Shan looked straight at the Silent Ruler.

“Indeed” he followed up the Silent Ruler’s words, “fortunately, you were here to help me restrain it, otherwise it might have run away”

The Silent Ruler smiled with her eyes.

A few luminous spots appeared on the surface of the ocean.

『 I heard these ancient sea monsters who live for over 10 million years all have a few treasures to their name, let’s see what we have here 』 the Silent Ruler said.

“Alright”

The two of them flew down and landed on the surface of the ocean, looking down at the luminous spots.

They were thin sharp fingernails, each about the length of a person’s arm, silently floating on top of the water while reflecting light in every direction.

『 Huh? 』

The Silent Ruler was shocked.

She waved her hand and levitated some of the fingernails in front of herself.

『 So they were the Demon Dragon’s nails—— no wonder this monster had such a powerful Mystic-type ability, it probably had the Demon Dragon’s bloodline 』

Gu Qing Shan glanced at the pieces of razor-sharp nails.

*My sword technique was able to completely erase the sea snake, but it couldn’t leave a single mark on these nails.*

*I really can’t imagine how strong this sea creature would’ve grown if it was left alone.*

...

The Lord of Total Distortion was observing the pieces of Demon Dragon nails on his table.

『 Fortunately, they were only nails 』

He spoke with the attitude of someone experienced in this matter: 『 From the battle just now, it was still at the larvae stage so its ability still hasn’t completely evolved, otherwise your swords wouldn’t have been able to kill it and both of you would’ve died 』

『 Especially you, Xie Qi Ruler, I had assumed that you would use your ability to control the sea and fight the monster indirectly to prevent reflection while planning for a longer battle 』

『 Would that have been possible, master? Wouldn’t the control simply be reflected before it was attacked? 』 one of the more powerful evil creatures joined the discussion.

Its body was completely covered in runes, the air itself was bending into ripples around its body.

Obviously, this was a very powerful evil creature with status within the ship.

The Lord of Total Distortion also patiently answered its question:

『 Using the ability to control the sea to fight consists of 2 stages, the first is to control the water, the second is attacking the sea creature. Because of this, even if the monster had been able to reflect the attack, it would've only reflected it back to the ocean and not do anything to the Xie Qi Ruler—— in truth, a reflective Mystic-type ability like that could only consider a target that attacked it, not an indirect party behind the attacker—— that would have been the correct way to fight against and dismantle such an ability 』

Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but sigh.

The Lord of Total Distortion was truly as he was rumored to be; to be able to get straight to the point with a few words.

If Adorable hadn't helped him, that was exactly how he intended to fight it.

"No matter what happened, it's now dead. And I don't want to ever run into another Demon Dragon bloodkin" Gu Qing Shan said.

The Lord of Total Distortion laughed.

The other evil creatures also laughed.

——there was no such thing as an evil creature that wanted to run into the Demon Dragon and its blood kins.

The Demon Dragon was the true apex predator of the Wraith Realm, the one at the very top of the food chain. Under normal circumstances, it slept within a secret location and only woke up once every few hundred thousand years—— to feed.

There had never been any evil creatures who could win against the Demon Dragon.

Even back then, the Divine race and Desolate race purposefully avoided the locations that could have been the Demon Dragon's resting place when they broke the Primordial Wraith Realm into pieces.

However, since the Lord of Total Distortion can already laugh like that, Gu Qing Shan could relax again.

Although no one could perceive the jade gourd pendant's existence, there were still plenty of inappropriate points with the battle just now.

And the Lord of Total Distortion surely noticed.

But he didn't ask further.

——Gu Qing Shan wasn't one of his subjects, he was the owner of two evil realms, a true Ruler with his own territory.

And every Ruler had some sort of trump card hidden up their sleeves.

Besides the previous Xie Qi Fiend King, of course.

That was why the Lord of Total Distortion didn't bother to pursue this matter to the end, because it was not the proper demeanor for an Evil King.

The Lord of Total Distortion took out two of the nails within the pile and gave one each to Gu Qing Shan and the Silent Ruler.

『 You have earned this 』

He said as he put the remaining Demon Dragon nails away.

Gu Qing Shan and the Silent Ruler both expressed their gratitude.

A Demon Dragon nail—— this was a true treasure of unimaginable power, those who carry it would certainly be the target of countless greedy evil creatures unless they were strong enough to keep them at bay.

The Lord of Total Distortion naturally had nothing to fear.

Both the Xie Qi Ruler and the Silent Ruler were powerful evil Rulers, furthermore, they were the ones who killed that sea creature and thus earned the right to keep one nail each.

The Lord of Total Distortion threw another Demon Dragon nail out.

『 Go, hang this on the sail of the ship, I'd like to see if any other demonic sea creatures dare to approach us again 』

### **Chapter 823**

The Lord of Total Distortion.

As one of the three strongest Evil Kings, he had ruled over his territory, the Chaos Demonic Sea for a very long time.

His understanding and study of this boundless ocean far surpassed all other evil creatures.

Following his order, a piece of Demon Dragon nail was hung high on top of the ship's sail.

—— although this piece of nail only came from a Demon Dragon larvae, it still had a strong deterrent effect.

Within the Chaos Demonic Sea, no demonic sea creature would take the initiative to offend a Demon Dragon bloodkin.

Because any creature that had the Demon Dragon's bloodline would definitely carry an unimaginably powerful ability.

And there was another more important reason.

The sea monsters were afraid that they would be infected by the Demon Dragon's blood and become a Demon Dragon bloodkin themselves.

Indeed, the Demon Dragon's blood had a characteristic that allowed it to spread and infect others.

Once a creature's body was infected by the Demon Dragon's blood, the very essence of their life would change.

——they would become a Demon Dragon larvae, obtain a more powerful Mystic-type ability and become a sovereign within this ocean.

But that wasn't anything to be glad about.

Every few hundred thousand years, the Demon Dragon would awaken once.

Whenever it did, the creatures corroded by the Demon Dragon's blood would be guided by a mysterious force and gather.

At that time, the Demon Dragon would devour all the larvae and absorb the mature crystallization of their power.

After it devoured enough, it would return to sleep.

But if it didn't...

The Wraith Realm would become its picnic place.

For the demonic sea creatures, becoming a Demon Dragon bloodkin meant the same as accepting their deaths.

Unless somehow they could use the Demon Dragon's blood to rapidly evolve and become a creature more powerful than the Demon Dragon itself within a few hundred thousand years.

That way, they would be able to defeat the awoken Demon Dragon and even absorb the Demon Dragon's power.

The winner would become the new Demon Dragon!

But, that had never happened, not even once.

That was why the ancient demonic sea creatures of the Chaos Demonic Sea didn't want to risk having to fight with the Demon Dragon to the death just because of an impulse to become stronger.

Their own lifespans could easily reach several ten million years.

Right now, as the giant sailboat resumed its voyage, the Demon Dragon's aura drifted all over from the top of the sail.

The more powerful a demonic sea creature was, the further they would move away from the ship.

The Lord of Total Distortion lost some of his subordinates at the very beginning of his journey but gained the Demon Dragon nails instead for a surprisingly smooth trip.

He was quite pleased with this.

For Gu Qing Shan, this was also good news.

Without needing to stop and fight, the voyage became a safe and long journey, which made it convenient for him to focus on his own matters.

——for example, preparing seafood in the kitchen's lake.

Without him needing to do much, he already obtained 30,000 Soul Points.

The necessary 200,000 Soul Points were quickly gathered.

After that...

210,000 Soul Points.

280,000 Soul Points.

370,000 Soul Points...

400,000 Soul Points!

Although the jade gourd pendant would occasionally jump out asking for Soul Points, Gu Qing Shan's reserve was steadily increasing.

6 days later.

The ship was still advancing along the Chaos Demonic Sea.

But from this point onwards, the lazy feeling that filled the ship completely vanished.

The Lord of Total Distortion had already donned his personal armor and took direct command, issuing orders one after another.

As the ship moved forward, his expression gradually became more serious.

Some evil creatures who couldn't quite adjust their state of mind in time were directly shoved into the cathedral's walls.

Even a Ruler-class evil creature was publicly executed right in front of everyone.

The Evil King's attitude shocked everyone.

No one knew what exactly their master was so wary of.

But they understood something clearly.

The real storm was coming.

...

Gu Qing Shan finished preparing the final sea creature and stood up.

『 You've worked hard, sir Ruler 』 one of the fiend chefs said.

"Ah, it's fine, I need to do this to activate my ability, you don't have to thank me" Gu Qing Shan smiled and replied.

Another evil creature gave him a friendly reminder: 『 After leaving this place, please remember to wear your armor, otherwise it wouldn't be good if you were found out 』

"Hm, I know"



There was a lot that fellow chefs could talk to each other about, and for the last few days, their impression of this powerful Ruler who could kill a Demon Dragon slowly became better, to the point of feeling such concerns for him.

Gu Qing Shan bid these evil creatures who loved cooking as much as he did and left the kitchen.

He took out the Lapis Card [Black Smog Armor] and lightly waved it.

The set of smoking black armor attached to his body and completely obscured his figure.

*— I still don't know what the Lord of Total Distortion is so wary of, but it's better to be cautious.*

Gu Qing Shan was thinking as he walked towards the banquet hall.

It would soon be time for the Evil King's dinner.

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The group of several dozen chefs would soon get the food ready to be served, so he must rush there and wait for the Lord of Total Distortion to arrive.

A few moments later.

The banquet hall.

Many evil creatures have gathered here.

*— only the strongest evil creatures on the ship were allowed to enter the banquet hall.*

As they saw Gu Qing Shan approaching with this black armor, some evil creatures greeted him.

The Silent Ruler also nodded at him.

It was quite easy for evil creatures to get along— as long as they weren't constantly plotting and scheming to devour one another whole, they were normally fine.

A few moments later.

The Lord of Total Distortion appeared.

As soon as he showed up, countless smoking hot dishes filled the long dining table.

Today, the Lord of Total Distortion didn't immediately begin his meal.

『 Does anyone know where we are currently heading? 』

He asked all the evil creatures.

All of them felt truly glad to hear that.

*Finally, it was time for master to reveal our destination.*

The secretary spoke up first:

『 Master, with our current speed, we would reach the Wood Bristles 』

The Wood Bristles.

Historically, this was the furthest that the evil creatures could sail on their ships.

A single giant demonic tree grew here, its roots grew over ten million meters from the seabed to finally reach the surface of the ocean and form an island of lush greenery.

Its roots happened to also grow at the very edge of the Ocean Abyss—going further than this and the ocean would become so deep that there was no way for anyone to reach the seabed again.

No evil creature could go past this place and continue to explore.

For evil creatures, the area that went further than this might as well be completely blank.

—because a demonic sea creature's favorite food was and has always been evil creatures. The areas where no one could reach the seabed were dubbed the Ocean Abyss, which belonged to hundred-million-year-old supreme ancient sea creatures, this entire place was their backyard.

Demonic sea creatures that surpassed 100 million years old were not only unimaginably strong, they also knew many secrets, they were smart, and above all, they knew how to avoid the corrosion of the Demon Dragon's blood.

Within the boundless Ocean Abyss, even a ship with Demon Dragon strapped all over it couldn't guarantee survival.

Against such ancient creatures, the only thing that the evil creatures could do was to avoid them.

『 Indeed, three days later, we will reach the Wood Bristles, where we will set up camp and rest 』

『 Which means, from today onwards, we have entered truly dangerous waters 』

『 Those of you here are the strongest fiend and devils on this ship, I order you all to be on constant guard. You are to form teams following the provided list and patrol the waters in a 300 miles radius around the ship at all times 』

『 If any of you see anything out of the ordinary, before anything else — kill! 』

The Lord of Total Distortion told him.

Hearing that, the evil creatures felt dejected again.

*The master still didn't tell us exactly what he wanted to do.*

*He only ordered to kill.*

*But kill what?*

*Demonic sea creatures?*

*Seems like he won't reveal the truth until the very last moment.*

The list was soon announced.

The Lord of Total Distortion had split the most powerful evil creatures into a total of 10 squads.

The evil creatures immediately went into action.

The first squad began their patrol right away.

The other squads are to rest in their own rooms and keep up their peak state until it was their shift.

Gu Qing Shan was put into the second-to-last squad.

It wouldn't be the second-to-last squad's turn to patrol until dawn of the next day.

He returned to his room and silently waited.

Time slowly passed.

Gu Qing Shan put the swordsmanship jade tag in his hand down and sighed.

*I can now control 700 flying swords and even perform Secret Arts with them at once.*

*But it's so hard to converge all of that power into a single strike.*

*As for my cultivation— — —*

His gaze fell onto the [Kindling] UI.

The progress bar that only went up to 200,000 Soul Points was now overflowing, reaching around 510,000.

*Unfortunately, if I don't complete the current Quest to level up once, I wouldn't be able to make the [Demon King Order] evolve even if I have the Soul Points for it.*

The Wind and Fire Double Tribulation.

This was the first time in both lives that Gu Qing Shan had to face a Fire Tribulation.

He was extremely cautious, made ample preparations, and even made sure he was at his peak state.

But he was in an awkward situation— — —

He couldn't break through right now.

Because this was the Chaos Demonic Sea.

Even a gust of wind rattling a blade of grass would be immediately noticed by these evil creatures.

Let alone a human cultivator breaking through!

What do you call a human cultivator who had the gall to come to the Primordial Wraith Realm, go into an Evil King's territory, and face his Tribulation right in front of this Evil King's face?

A man wishing for death.

## **Chapter 824**

Gu Qing Shan sighed helplessly.

A human cultivator coming to the Wraith Realm to face his tribulation can be thought of as nothing but a provocation.

*If I begin to face my Tribulation right now, my identity would be exposed.*

*To protect his dignity, the Lord of Total Distortion would surely rip me to shreds.*

*The other evil creatures would also attack me.*

*If that happened, even if I could escape from the Lord of Total Distortion, I wouldn't be able to return to the Wraith Realm.*

*What can I do to avoid the evil creatures and begin breaking through?*

Gu Qing Shan silently contemplated.

At a certain point.

His Inventory Bag moved.

The jade gourd pendant appeared again.

It flew in front of Gu Qing Shan's face and loudly squeaked, trying to draw Gu Qing Shan's attention.

*Xiu...*

*"How much?"*

*Xiu xiu xiu!*

*"Here"*

Because of how rich Gu Qing Shan currently was, he just put 20,000 Soul Points into it without thought.

Being nurtured, the jade gourd pendant became lively again.

It flew in a number 8 pattern in front of Gu Qing Shan, trying to flatter him.

*Xiu xiu xiu, xiu xiu xiuuuu xiu!*

*(You're so generous, boss, hope you keep earning more profit!)*

*"Sheesh, go back to sleep already, I'm feeling troubled here"* Gu Qing Shan said angrily.

But the jade gourd pendant didn't crawl into the Inventory Bag right away.

It slowly hovered around Gu Qing Shan and observed his expression.

*Wu wu?*

*(Did you get dumped?)*

Gu Qing Shan didn't answer.

*Xiu— xiu xiu xiu xiu?*

(Ah— your wife ran away with someone else?)

Gu Qing Shan ignored this real piece of work of a jade pendant.

Seeing his indifferent expression, the jade gourd pendant stopped in mid-air as if it was shocked.

*Xiu xiu xiu wu wu?*

(Could it be, you didn't actually have much Soul Points?)

It landed on Gu Qing Shan's palm, trying to put all of its Soul Points back into Gu Qing Shan's body.

Seeing that, Gu Qing Shan couldn't bear to act cold anymore.

He lifted the jade gourd pendant and told it: "If you really want to know, I'll tell you. It's because there's something I can't really do here conveniently that I'm a bit upset"

*Wu wu?*

(Pooping?)

"No, breaking through"

The gourd squeaked in surprise.

*Wu wu, xiu xiu xiu!*

(Of course, this is the Wraith Realm you know!)

Gu Qing Shan smiled bitterly: "I know, that's why I'm bothered by this"

The jade gourd pendant flew up again, circled around him, then crawled back into his Inventory Bag.

Gu Qing Shan didn't pay much attention to it.

No matter how impressive this jade pendant was, he couldn't depend on it to know everything.

He fell back into contemplation, thinking about a certain thing over and over again.

—how much time does the Earth sword have left?

*I spent all that effort to exchange one cast of the [Death Suspension] ability from the Lord of Total Distortion.*

*But even the Lord of Total Distortion doesn't know how long this ability would last.*

*After spending a few days here, I already found out the general situation of the Lord of Total Distortion's subordinates.*

*It was extremely rare for an evil creature to have a temporal Mystic-type ability.*

*There wasn't a single evil creature around the Chaos Demonic Sea who had an ability of the same nature as [Death Suspension]*

*In other words, as soon as this temporal ability that's affecting the Earth sword ended, I would have no other solution.*

Gu Qing Shan clenched his fists tightly.

*No!*

*I can't delay this any further!*

Gu Qing Shan abruptly stood up, and left his room.

He walked quickly along the hallway of the ship until he reached the edge of the deck.

「 Xie Qi Ruler, where are you going sir? 」 a devil guard came up and asked him.

“To get some dinner” Gu Qing Shan replied.

「 Understood, please be careful 」

After hearing that, the devil guard didn't ask anything else.

The Lord of Total Distortion had a team of personal chefs, but beside himself and his two daughters, no one was allowed to share a meal with him.

So the other evil creatures have to catch their own food from the ocean.

——of course, there were always some unlucky fellows that got eaten by demonic sea creatures instead.

Fortunately, thanks to the Demon Dragon's nail that was hung on top of the ship's sails, many demonic sea creatures avoided this area.

Most evil creatures could go into the ocean and get some normal seafood without much trouble for the last few days.

Gu Qing Shan leapt off the deck and dived into the water.

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The Chao Yin sword let out a loud cry as it followed behind him.

Right away, the seawater in front of Gu Qing Shan moved out of the way and formed a long road that allowed him to fly through the ocean as he pleased.

Half an hour later.

Gu Qing Shan was now a long distance away from the ship.

He flew at full speed and even occasionally used [Ground Shrink], only after getting a few ten thousand miles away did he gradually slow down.

This should be far enough from the giant ship.

Gu Qing Shan stopped.

He didn't continue to fly forward but began to descend.

——he dived down into the depths of the sea!

A few thousand meters.

10,000 meters.

50,000 meters.

100,000 meters.

190,000 meters.

300,000 meters.

600,000 meters.

1,007,000 meters!

Legends had it that after going past the Wood Bristles, the Ocean Abyss would become so deep it was practically bottomless, but as Gu Qing Shan saw it, even without reaching the Ocean Abyss, this place already felt bottomless.

——it he didn't have the Chao Yin sword to control the water around himself, Gu Qing Shan's cultivation wouldn't be enough to do anything here.

Standing at the bottom of the ocean, Gu Qing Shan observed as various giant sea monsters quickly swam past him.

This place should already be far enough from the giant ship, and even further away from the Ocean Abyss, but it was still the bottom of the sea, so this area should be enough for him to not worry about the Lord of Total Distortion or any ancient demonic sea creatures over 100 million years old.

As for the demonic sea creatures that were at the 10-million years old level——

Gu Qing Shan took out his Demon Dragon nail and randomly put it on the ground.

As soon as the curious sea creatures around him saw that, they immediately scattered.

Don't even joke about it, if they got assimilated by that thing, their lives would be reduced to just over a few hundred thousand years!

"Chao Yin, give me a clear area, enough for a few dozen to stand"

The Chao Yin sword vibrated a bit and created a bigger area around where Gu Qing Shan stood.

"You've worked hard" Gu Qing Shan said.

He then took out a pill, ate it, and began to rest.

About half an incense's worth of time later, he opened his eyes, having returned to his peak state.

He finally said the words he has been waiting for so long:

“Break through”

As soon as he did, a line of blood-red text appeared in front of his eyes.

[You’ve chosen to break through]

At the center of the [Kindling] UI, the progress bar at the bottom of the Lapis Card [Sword cultivator Gu Qing Shan] turned into burning flames.

More blood-red text appeared.

[The Void Wanderer realm Tribulation is about to begin]

[Attention please, as you are a cultivator, you will have to face the Wind and Fire Double Tribulation]

[After the countdown, your Tribulation shall begin]

[5]

[4]

[3]

[2]

[1!]

All the text vanished from the blood-red UI.

The wind began to pick up.

The Wind Tribulation was up first.

Various voices and noises came out from this undersea area that the Chao Yin sword opened up.

『 Kishishishis— 』

「 Ahihihihih— 」

「 Flesh! A cultivator’s flesh! 」

『 Another idiot, I want to devour him whole! 』

『 Where is this place? 』

「 Looks like the bottom of the sea 」

『 Huh? Strange, why do I feel that I haven’t gone to the Primordial Heaven Realm? 』

Powerful evil creatures appeared one after another.

Gu Qing Shan calmly stood there without saying a word.

All the way until the evil creatures have taken up all the Seats of Tribulation———

The evil creatures were a bit shocked as they observed their surroundings.



Then they realized, everything was this cultivator's doing.

『 Bastard, I've never heard of a cultivator facing their Tribulation at the bottom of the sea 』

「 Human cultivator, have you chosen this as your place to die? 」

『 Why isn't the seawater coming down? Is this his ability? 』

The evil creatures all stared at Gu Qing Shan and discussed without minding him.

Gu Qing Shan looked up and glanced at the evil creatures around him.

“My apologies, but my time is precious”

He simply said so.

A second later.

Aside from where he was standing, the seawater suddenly rushed in.

## Chapter 825

TN: Mahesvara – according to Wikipedia and other sources, Mahesvara is the other name of Lord Shiva, one of the principle deities of Hinduism. In the faith of Buddhism, Mahesvara is both the name and the ruler of the Great Realm of Freedom, the place in which those who have achieved enlightenment can reach, it is not Nirvana, but it does exist outside of the Samsara. I don't know enough about it to explain it well, just know that the Mahesvara realm has the same meaning as the Great Realm of Freedom. What I've said above is the real-world general knowledge, not details within the novel, as such the concepts described might differ.

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This might have been the shortest Wind Tribulation ever since the existence of Heaven's Tribulation.

Facing the immense water pressure at the bottom of the ocean, all the evil creatures vanished in a flash.

They were squished so well they became tiny dust particles that slowly became part of the seabed.

The only one remaining at the bottom of the ocean was Gu Qing Shan.

The Chao Yin sword had controlled the ocean water so that he had an area of empty and dry land to stand on.

Gu Qing Shan glanced at the void of space.

A line of blood-red text appeared on the [Kindling] UI:

[Because the evil creatures were killed by water pressure, you are unable to obtain any Soul Points from this battle]

After Gu Qing Shan read it, the line of text faded and was replaced by a different, new line of text:

[As the Soul Points is in a scattered state without any other entity trying to absorb it, in accordance with the Order's no-waste policy, beginning the remedial collection of scattered Soul Points]

[38279 Soul Points collected]

[You've obtained this Soul Points]

Gu Qing Shan was stunned.

*You can do that?*

He couldn't help but ask: "[Kindling], I can collect Soul Points even if I didn't kill them?"

[You aren't supposed to, but as it is a waste for this Soul Points to simply scatter away, I collected it for us to utilize later on] the [Kindling] UI responded.

Gu Qing Shan nodded and said nothing else.

*A [Order] that doesn't follow any rules.*

*Well actually, it still has its own principles.*

*Utilize all possible means.*

At this point, the wind had already stopped.

The Wind Tribulation ended.

Strange foreign noises emerged from the void of space.

A small fire appeared out of nowhere and landed on Gu Qing Shan's shoulder.

Taking a closer look, you'd find that this flame was basically transparent, it would not be able to affect Gu Qing Shan's body at all.

The fire quickly spread all over Gu Qing Shan's body, but he only silently waited without doing anything.

This was the flame that destroyed all things, it was currently invading his acupoints and spirit energy veins, if he moved carelessly, he could be burnt to ash in an instant.

A few moments later.

The fire completely engulfed Gu Qing Shan.

A mysterious reaction began.

The endless fire expanded to form the scene of a world in front of Gu Qing Shan's eyes.

The fire faded away.

The world became clear.

A mountain range, a blue sky, and flowing river streams where immortals came and went.

This was the Mahesvara realm.

*Who could've thought the world that connects with me would be the Mahesvara realm!*

The so-called Fire Tribulation always leads a cultivator's soul vessel into one of many heavenly realms.

A cultivator must return to their own body within a certain amount of time.

If a cultivator's soul vessel still remained within that heavenly realm after the time was over, that cultivator's body would be thoroughly burnt to ash by the Tribulation Fire.

Which meant that their Tribulation failed.

The cultivator's soul vessel would remain forever within the heavenly realm.

However, quite a few cultivators were more than willing to remain within the Mahesvara realm.

Because this was a wondrous heavenly realm, unlike others.

Even if their bodies were destroyed by the Tribulation Fire, their soul vessel would be able to remain within the Mahesvara realm for 10,000 years.

In comparison, even if they manage to clear the Void Wanderer realm Tribulation and successfully break through, a cultivator would still have to face untold hardship and trials to continue moving forward, never stopping.

Rather than dying in one of the Tribulations to come, it would be better to just remain here as a soul vessel and enjoy 10,000 years of freedom.

Any person who attempted to face their Tribulation here would become the target of attack.

Every soul vessel here would try and use everything they have to prevent a cultivator from advancing.

Gu Qing Shan silently took a deep breath and readied himself.

He took a step forward.

As soon as he did, his body remained behind, still surrounded by Tribulation Fire, while his soul vessel left the bottom of the ocean and entered the Mahesvara realm.

The very next second.

Gu Qing Shan noticed that he was standing within an open plaza.

The voices around came into his ears.

Laughter, happy conversations, and a heartfelt banquet.

Happy shouts, singing, and cheering.

A grand feast was being conducted inside this open plaza.

Someone loudly called out: "Ahahaha, we have a new friend joining us today, everyone! Let's welcome him!"

Quite a few decided to continue drinking and making merry.

But the majority of the people turned to Gu Qing Shan and smiled.

Gu Qing Shan clasped his fist and smiled back: "Fellow Dao seekers, greetings"

Someone happily replied: "Indeed, we are all friends<sup>1</sup> here, come and have a drink!"

Gu Qing Shan actually came over, picked up a cup, and greeted everyone.

"May I know what we should call you, my friend?"

"This humble one's surname is Gu"

"Ah, so it is friend Gu. Are you also here at the divine mountain to enjoy eternal joy and happiness?"

"Ever since this humble one heard about this place, I have looked forward to it. The path of cultivation is far and distant, the higher one went, the more one worried about one's life and death. Rather than that, turning one's soul over to this place and enjoy the eternal grace was much more preferable"

Gu Qing Shan raised his cup and answered.

After answering, he drank the entire cup of liquor.

"This humble one can finally escape a life of cultivation while fearful of death. A toast to you all!" he loudly declared.

Another cup full.

That brought the atmosphere of the feast to its peak.

The others also gladly raised their cups to follow up with him.

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Someone praised: "My friend, you have such a grand will and demeanor, perhaps one of our fairies would be interested in you right now"

The female cultivators all giggled as they hid their mouths behind their sleeves.

*This young man is really handsome, and for him to enter the Mahesvara realm at such a young age, his cultivation talents are self-explanatory.*

*Furthermore, he came from the outside world, unlike the people of this place who have been living their lives either drunk or dreaming, he must know a lot of interesting things.*

*A great husband candidate.*

One of the girls spoke up: "What do you cultivate, fellow Dao seeker?"

*A clear and charming voice.*

*Such a familiar voice.*

*But this voice has been greatly inhibited, no longer exuding killing intent and allure like it did before.*

Gu Qing Shan looked over.

The girl's facial features were the same as they were before, dignified but full of charm.

This was her race's natural-born grace and beauty.

Legends had it that within the Samsara, the women of her race were the most excellent, having beauty that could even topple a fortress.

As the kings and emperors of the Heaven Realm saw them, they would risk declaring war just to be able to marry a woman of their race.

The first time they met in a while, yet it was just like their first meeting.

She looked at him and smiled: "I can sense the aura of spells and magic coming from you, was I correct?"

*Spells and magic... huh?*

*That is probably not true.*

*But if I reveal myself to be a sword cultivator, quite a few would feel uneasy.*

*Because there is no such thing as a sword cultivator who was willing to live either drunk or dreaming.*

*Then magic it is.*

Gu Qing Shan looked straight at her and calmly replied: "This humble one cultivates Elemental Ice spells and magic"

The girl appeared surprised: "Ah, is that so? I really want to challenge you to a short bout right now"

"This humble one had only just arrived, I can drink, but I would rather not fight"

The other cultivators also tried to convince the girl not to fight as this was his first day here.

Apparently convinced, the girl gave up on the idea.

She then said: "Elemental Ice techniques are quite rare, why don't fellow Dao seeker Gu show us a bit of what you can do?"

Following her suggestion, Gu Qing Shan randomly formed a hand seal.

He already learnt all of the God of Frost and Chill's Ice techniques. But since he was no longer taking on the Divinity's form, their power had been greatly reduced and no longer reached the standard of a Paragon realm peak stage cultivator.

But to Void Holder realm peak cultivators like these people, the Ice techniques he performed were still considerably more advanced than they are used to.

A bridge of ice manifested right in the middle of the plaza, went past the boundary of the manor, and reached all the way to the sky.

The other end of this bridge of ice was a tall mountain of lush greenery.

"Wonderful!"

"What an impressive technique!"

"Wondrous!"

The cultivators all praised him.

“Unfortunately, it is already quite late today, and we are at a banquet, otherwise, this humble one would like to try taking a sightseeing trip on that mountain” Gu Qing Shan regretfully said.

“The years are long, friend Gu, you will have many other chances” someone said.

“Indeed”

“That is very true, let me accompany you when that time comes, friend Gu”

The people all smiled and cheered happily.

After Gu Qing Shan displayed his technique and said that just now, the cultivators opened up to him a lot more.

The party continued.

As Gu Qing Shan was a great drinker, a straightforward person, a wonderful conversationalist, as well as a highly cultured person, he quickly got along with all the cultivators.

Around midnight.

The party finally reached its end.

At this point, the girl from before came up to Gu Qing Shan with a glass of liquor in her hand and glanced at him.

“Fellow Dao seeker Gu, would you be willing to join me for a drink this night?” the girl invited.

Everyone cheered.

Quite a few male cultivators appeared clearly jealous.

“That was my hope from the start”

Gu Qing Shan received the glass, took a sip, and smiled.

“My manor is on Bright Clear Peak. Since this is your first time here, you must be quite unfamiliar with the road, I shall be your guide” the girl said.

Gu Qing Shan informally bowed: “Then please lead the way, o’ fairy”

The girl nodded, leapt upward, and took flight.

Gu Qing Shan swiftly followed.

The other cultivators simply looked on as he left, still a bit hesitant about not stopping him.

“It is fine, this friend Gu is a wonderful man, there won’t be any problem” one of the girls said.

Another girl followed up: “Big sis Zhi Luo has never made any mistakes so far, what is there to be unsure of?”

Hearing that, most cultivators there extinguished their thoughts.

Only a few male cultivators still seemed hesitant.

Another girl chuckled and teased them: "Or do you also want to go to Bright Clear Peak?"

These words thoroughly stopped their ideas.

No matter how worried these cultivators were, they wouldn't try to barge in when two people are flirting in private, that would be ruining their own image.

So the party ended and everyone scattered.

Gu Qing Shan followed the girl all the way until a certain mountain.

On the way, the girl didn't say a single word. As they reached the mountain, she led him along a winding mountain road, went inside a waterfall, crossed a small bridge over a stream to finally reach the scenic and bright heart of the mountain where her palace was.

"We're safe now" the girl declared.

The look of indifference on her face went away completely as she showed a beautiful fearless smile.

"You didn't expect this, did you?"

"I really didn't, have you been waiting here for me all this time? I didn't even know this was possible" Gu Qing Shan sighed.

"Of course it was possible"

The girl was carefully staring at him without even blinking her eyes as if she wanted to carve his appearance forever into her mind.

"I left a drop of my tear with you, that is an exclusive Divine Skill of us Asura, something we can use only once in our entire lives"

She muttered.