

Apocalypse 926

Chapter 926

Flame Mountain World.

Black and grey rocks of various sizes were strewn all over the ground.

Magma flowed without end.

Occasionally, a wave of black soot and dust would erupt with the volcanic explosions to cover a large area of land.

——this was a world full of volcanoes, all of which were in a constant state of near-explosion, which gave the world its name.

Normally, no one would be willing to come to such a hazardous world.

But at this moment, every few breaths' worth of time, the sky of this world would be cracked open, followed by the arrival of a powerful presence.

——more and more people were arriving at this world, all of which were powerful Professionists.

The 7 Holy Churches had issued a Divine Revelation that declared that any person who caught the Blasphemer Gu Qing Shan would immediately receive the gift of apotheosis.

Other than that, there was something else——

A friend of the Blasphemer, a Hitman by the name of Zhang Ying Hao was also among the list of wanted people of the Church.

The one that killed him would receive the commendation of the 7 Holy Churches, at the same time obtaining authority and wealth that far surpasses that of other mortals.

The entirety of the 900 million World Layers had been madly looking for Gu Qing Shan, but he had yet to appear.

——since he managed to escape the punishment of God, he must naturally possess unique abilities and strength of his own, making him a lot harder to find than people had thought, which made sense considering the bounty for him included apotheosis.

After a short while, no one managed to produce any results.

So they decided to turn their eyes towards Zhang Ying Hao.

Compared to Gu Qing Shan, this man left a lot more traces to be tracked, and was not completely impossible to find.

So more and more people started to pursue Zhang Ying Hao.

And finally, Zhang Ying Hao's movements were exposed.

He was currently on this Fire Mountain World!

Everyone went insane.

As soon as they killed him, they would obtain an unprecedented reward from the 7 Holy Churches!

Combatants from all over swiftly flocked to this world to conduct a carpet-type search.

Currently, within a certain hidden cave in this world.

A small divine altar had just been erected.

The divine enforcers from the 7 Holy Churches knelt at the God's statue and reported their findings to God.

"Benevolent God above, we are here to report"

"After the information was spread, more and more people had been flocking into this world, reaching a peak 9 hours ago"

"The number of Combatants are still increasing"

"As time went on, within the last half hour, the number of Combatants moving into Fire Mountain World has gradually reduced"

"Most likely, everyone that could come had already arrived"

After reporting, they silently waited for God's next orders.

A few moments later.

A grey light appeared from the God's statue.

This was a Divine feat, representing the fact that God had heeded the previous report.

The divine enforcers knelt lower.

They didn't even dare to look up.

Because within the teachings of the 7 Holy Churches, looking straight at the divine was the crime of blasphemy.

All of a sudden, a rumbling voice echoed within the altar:

「 In other words, those who are relatively close have all arrived? 」

A divine enforcer replied: "That is the case, o' supreme God, it is just as you said. At the current point in time, only scattered individuals are still heading into this world"

The voice didn't answer for a long time.

But the fact that the grey light remained meant that God hadn't left them.

The divine enforcers remained kneeling until the voice resounded again:

「 I've even brought the Divine race to surround this world, that guy will definitely not run away this time around 」

The voice mumbled.

Divine race?

What does God mean by 'Divine race'?

The people of the Holy Churches each had such doubts in their minds.

A few moments later, the rumbling voice echoed around them again:

「 You have done well, I am very pleased 」

The divine enforcers quickly discarded the doubt they had and spoke up all at once: “For the sake of God, we are ready to dedicate our lives and our everything”

This was a declaration of loyalty.

But God suddenly responded with something unexpected that made them all freeze:

「 Now that the people have arrived in this world and it was already about time, then the bunch of you have lost your value. Now, dedicate your lives 」

The voice sighed and continued: 「 You people really are efficient with your work, but it can't be helped when 'that one' always likes to turn into others and is full of nothing but schemes. I cannot be assured with anyone on this world 」

Before the divine enforcers had time to think, they swiftly felt a sense of pain, followed by the eternal darkness of death.

The altar became absolutely silent.

Everyone lost their lives at the same time.

The only sound left in this hidden cave was the crackling of the fire.

A while later.

Three figures appeared inside the altar.

The Abyssal Demon Dragon.

Next to him, there were two figures with burning fire-like lights between their eyebrows.

—Divinities.

After the Earth Creator's death, the Abyssal Demon Dragon found the Divinity Soul Artifacts that Gu Qing Shan made and took these Age of Old Divinities under his wings after they gained sentience.

Gu Qing Shan definitely couldn't expect that the very weapons he used to fight against the Demon Dragon and Soul Shrieker have now become the Abyssal Demon Dragon's subordinates.

The Abyssal Demon Dragon silently sensed the battle fluctuations on this world and took a deep breath:

「 I can smell the scent of death. Today, in this place, death itself shall bloom following my will 」

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The two Divinities knelt on one knee and respectfully spoke: 「 Master God, please give your order 」

The Demon Dragon spoke: 「 Go, bring your subordinates and seal off this entire world, allow only entry but no departure 」

One Divinity asked: 「 If we run into that person—— 」

Demon Dragon replied: 「 Kill him. His current self is no match for you 」

「 Understood! 」

The two Divinities received their orders and left.

The Abyssal Demon Dragon stood inside the altar alone.

He waited for a bit longer.

Only after there were no longer any airships or people arriving at the world did he begin to act.

——his figure began growing stronger, his skin turning into sturdy greyish dragon scales.

In one mere breath's worth of time, his figure became too big for the altar.

Two breaths later, the Demon Dragon's body had already grown as large as a volcano.

Three breaths later, Demon Dragon began to exude a greyish white flame from his body, his gigantic body had grown longer than any river of magma on this world.

He appeared on the surface of this world, taking up an area of several hundred kilometers squared.

The Abyssal Demon Dragon moved its body and swiftly took flight.

He looked down at the vast expanse of the earth below and the fearful expressions of the Combatants.

Combatant?

Hah!

The Abyssal Demon Dragon displayed a vicious smile.

「 Gu Qing Shan, no matter who you turn into or where you are hiding, as long as you received the information and arrived here to save that man, you can forget about running away 」

「 If I eliminate every living being on this world, one of which must be you 」

「 I'd like to see now just how exactly do you plan on running away now! 」

The Demon Dragon roared and breathed out a cluster of grey flames from his mouth.

Boom!!!!

The grey flame shot through the ground and triggered an intense sky-high mass volcano eruption.

The world began to tremble and collapse.

...

Let's rewind time a little bit.

Two hours prior.

The Seaside World, Nightshade bar.

Inside the bar's secret room, Gu Qing Shan put the colorful rooster statue away.

This thing has now been affixed with the War God UI's information function, so it will provide me a piece of information regarding myself once per day.

But Gu Qing Shan didn't check it right away.

— — —after all, the thing was already in his hand, he was in no hurry right now.

He began checking Zhang Ying Hao's profile first.

After all, since he wanted to rescue Zhang Ying Hao, he had to prepare an appropriate plan and make the preparations.

On the file, Zhang Ying Hao's battle characteristics, his many pursuits, and counter-pursuits, his path of action so far, the Holy Churches' bounty, the current situation in the Fire Mountain world, etc... everything was written in extreme detail.

Gu Qing Shan carefully read through it and closed the file.

"Go?" Lin asked.

"Go" Gu Qing Shan nodded.

The two of them left the secret room, left the bar, and returned to the main road.

After following Gu Qing Shan for a bit, Lin noticed something wasn't right.

"Gu Qing Shan, why are you heading towards the hotel?" she asked.

"Cause we're going to rebook the rooms" Gu Qing Shan casually answered.

"I said that I wanted to come to rescue him with you" Lin calmly replied.

"No, we're going back to the hotel"

"Hm? Did you give up on him because you found it too hard to rescue him?"

"That's not it"

Gu Qing Shan then began to send his voice to her: "I checked the map of the infinite world and found that place to not be too far away from the Gemini star while being very close to us, so we're not going"

Lin was surprised and replied: "So you suspect it's a trap? Just because of that reason?"

Gu Qing Shan replied: "Of course, there are other reasons—— for example, we've only just gotten away from the Demon Dragon not too long ago and such a high-profile event already occurred here"

He revealed a scoffing smirk: "Don't you think that's really good timing?"

"There are many coincidences in life" Lin replied.

Gu Qing Shan answered her: "During a kill, any coincidence is a display of a clumsy set up that would make any veterans laugh"

Lin was still unconvinced: "Just because it was too close and too coincidental, you decided that you shouldn't go?"

"There are more, for example... the bar owner just now mentioned that the world had been made so that it only allowed entry but no departure"

"That's natural, otherwise, who's going to catch him?" Lin refuted him again.

"But there aren't that many forces that have the ability to surround that entire world and forbid the departure of everyone" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Lin trembled slightly.

That's right, to be able to seal off space completely to force everyone to remain inside, it must be a monstrous organization the size of the Holy Churches.

Other organizations of this nature... would not do something that offended so many people, because they don't have the backing of 'God' as the Holy Churches do.

And the 7 Holy Churches are now under the Abyssal Demon Dragon's control.

Lin went silent for a bit, then couldn't help herself asking again: "So you don't intend to think of a way to rescue Zhang Ying Hao?"

Gu Qing Shan slowly replied: "Other than jumping into a net I know is there, I have many other ways to reach him"

He swiftly continued walking towards the hotel.

Lin looked at his figure from behind with a complicated expression.

"...Too sly..."

She muttered as she went after him.

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Seaside World.

The hotel.

Gu Qing Shan had prepared several dozen formations in his room.

Early on, he just wanted to follow the Earth Creator's prepared route and see what exactly this boss-class entity left behind for him.

But now, Lin's wounds were recovering very slowly.

The Abyssal Demon Dragon was chasing closely after him.

He lost contact with Zhang Ying Hao and didn't know where he actually was.

—so it's time to change my tactics.

First, I need to obtain some information.

Gu Qing Shan pulled the colorful rooster out with a serious expression.

Lin looked at his expression, then at the colorful rooster and said: "Your expression doesn't fit someone looking at this thing"

"It's a good item, ok?"

Gu Qing Shan helplessly sighed.

The War God's personal intelligence function had been affixed to the colorful rooster and guaranteed that the colorful rooster would always provide intelligence related to Gu Qing Shan.

But this was related to the War God UI, so he couldn't explain it.

Gu Qing Shan put his hand on the rooster's head and pulled on its comb.

The rooster suddenly became alive and flapped its wings around in place a few times.

It then began to cry like a chicken:

"Cock-a-doodle— wait, no. Sheesh, you startled me!"

Gu Qing Shan replied: "Sorry about that, I need the intel for today"

The rooster opened one wing and looked up: "Then pay me some Soul Points please"

"You need Soul Points to work?" Gu Qing Shan asked in surprise.

The rooster replied with confidence: "Of course, in this day and age that's close to the apocalypse, who's going to work for free?"

Gu Qing Shan rubbed his temples.

This thing originally didn't cost any Soul Points.

But the War God UI's reinforcement was so good that it directly changed how this thing works.

"So you're going to try bargaining as well?" Lin muttered.

She cracked her knuckles and fingers, giving off a series of popping sounds.

A terrifying presence began to exude from her body.

The rooster was shocked looking at Lin and muttered: "This is above a Lord..."

It immediately jumped onto Gu Qing Shan's shoulder and loudly clucked:

"What do you want to do? You think you can just beat people up just because you're beautiful?"

"So what if I do?"

Lin cracked her head and asked.

The rooster clucked in anger: "I'm going to tell you right now! If such a heroic, beautiful, peerless female warrior that everyone loves and respect like yourself try to beat me up, I would definitely not dare to retaliate at all"

Lin: "..."

Gu Qing Shan: "..."

"Alright, how much Soul Points do you want?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

He glanced at the War God UI— ever since he returned from the Age of Old, he hadn't used it at all, so he still had a bit.

The rooster judged his expression: "I want 40— no, 45 Soul Points"

Gu Qing Shan silently sighed.

But because of how out of the ordinary this rooster had shown itself to be, he didn't want to give up on the big picture just because of a small matter.

So Gu Qing Shan showed a troubled expression: "A piece of intel needs that much Soul Points?"

The rooster replied with a serious expression: "Listening in and collecting intelligence is a very tough thing to do, you need to understand this"

"What a cut-throat price, deal" Gu Qing Shan replied.

He put his hand on the rooster's wing and transferred 45 Soul Points over.

Being soothed by the Soul Points, the rooster's entire body shivered from pleasure.

"Hm, pure and clean power from the soul's origin, how it relaxes my feathers so" the rooster muttered in satisfaction.

"Then, please tell me today's intel" Gu Qing Shan said.

"Wait a minute"

The rooster closed its eyes, seemingly sensing something.

It then abruptly spoke up: "The crisis and fear from the Eternal Abyss had already begun to sweep into the 900 million World Layers. You must make the decision regarding the direction of your path quickly because the 900 million World Layers will soon be separated by the tide of the Abyss"

After telling him this piece of intel, the rooster turned back into a statue and went completely still.

It would probably need another day to be activated again.

Hearing that intel, Gu Qing Shan exchanged glances with Lin.

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He suddenly recalled the final words that the Earth Creator left him:

...

「Finally, if all of this truly does happen, then the fate of countless beings will have been decided for them」

「The war between Abyss and all living beings will soon break out. A storm is coming once again, and you must be ready for it」

...

Gu Qing Shan abruptly stood up.

“That can’t be right. There must be something extremely severe happening in the Abyss right now. What exactly is happening that would force the Eternal Abyss to corrode the 900 million World Layers?”

He asked in a solemn tone.

Lin thought for a bit and replied: “It might have something to do with the Reality Gate. When I left the Abyss, I remember that the Apocalyptic calamities near the Gate were already beginning to spread”

Lin continued: “There were quite a few that even I find terrifying within the Abyss, so if even those ones feel threatened, the situation might really have taken a turn for the worse”

Gu Qing Shan fell silent.

He then recalled the Fairy of Time’s words:

...

“This parallel world was extremely powerful, it desperately wrestled against the Apocalyptic calamity, transcended the ‘parallel’ Law, fell into our Eternal Abyss and drifted around the Reality Gate”

“When any living being in our reality approached the Reality Gate, their Fate would be assimilated and corroded by that parallel world”

...

Seeing him remain silent, Lin couldn’t help but ask: “What do you think about this?”

Gu Qing Shan swiftly reorganized the entire situation in his head and muttered in a low voice: “I think that kind of corrosion is currently sweeping across the entire Eternal Abyss”

Indeed, the corrosion that came from a powerful parallel world that wrestled against the Apocalypse to the very end.

The fate that befell it was currently eating away at the Eternal Abyss!

This was an irresistible death, not even the Earth Creator could resist being killed within the Fate Corrosion.

This would be the only reason why those extremely powerful Abyssal monsters would escape from it and take refuge in the 900 million World Layers!

Gu Qing Shan's heart slowly sunk to the very bottom.

A mere avatar of the Soul Shrieker was enough to sweep across the entire 900 million World Layers and is still fighting against the [Demon King Order] in the Fallen Zones even now.

What if its main body came?

What if a monster even stronger than it comes?

This can't go on, I need to change my strategy!

Gu Qing Shan spoke seriously: "I have to summon a few friends right away, I hope that you won't kill them due to a small bit of offense"

Lin scoffed and replied: "I'm not an unreasonable person, as long as they don't bother me"

Gu Qing Shan continued to persuade her: "Please try to keep your calm. With people helping me, my business would be done a lot quicker, and after your ring returns, I would be able to come with you to the Reality Gate right away"

Lin thought for a bit, then replied: "Very well, as long as they don't try to take advantage of me being wounded to try anything"

Gu Qing Shan sincerely told her: "Don't worry, they're all good people"

Saying so, he tapped his Inventory Bag and took out a black piece of cloth.

—this black piece of cloth used to be a newspaper that Kitty secretly gave him.

But Kitty's actions naturally carried their own reasonings.

Gu Qing Shan once used this black cloth to find the wounded Yun Ji.

Indeed, this was the secret communication device of the Blade Edge Pledge.

The Blade Edge Pledge was a secret organization that Yun Ji, Barry, Kitty, and Bloodcloak were all a part of.

The piece of black cloth's main use was for the Blade Edge Pledge members to communicate with one another.

Gu Qing Shan opened the piece of cloth and tried calling out:

"Barry, can you hear me?"

Various noises came out from the cloth.

But after a while, no one replied.

Gu Qing Shan had to call out again:

“Kitty? Are you there? Please talk to me”

More noises came from the piece of cloth.

But still, no one replied.

Lin shook her head: “That thing of yours is quite decent, but perhaps your friends are a bit too far away that they couldn’t receive the signal”

Gu Qing Shan still didn’t give up, put both hands on the cloth and loudly called out: “Kitty, I know you’re the most powerful spatial technique user, you can surely hear my voice, can’t you?”

One minute.

Two minutes.

Time slowly passed, but no reply came from the black cloth.

Gu Qing Shan sighed in disappointment.

At this time, a female voice suddenly came from the black cloth:

[Kitty here, Gu Qing Shan? Is that you?]

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Fire Mountain world.

Everyone was dead.

A towering figure descended from above and turned into a duo-horned man.

Colorful lights drifted around his body, then swiftly flew away, manifesting as various Professionals screaming and moaning in pain, trying to get as far away from him as possible.

「 Huh? So there are still so many souls that know these unique escaping methods? But to still dream of running away in front of me, how arrogant and self-righteous you are! 」

The Abyssal Demon Dragon’s eyes shined coldly.

He opened his mouth and inhaled, sucking all the light in this world into his stomach.

The world returned to darkness.

Boom———

Another volcano began to erupt, revealing the current state of this world.

The Demon Dragon stood still.

12 figures came down from above, all kneeling on one knee in front of the Abyssal Demon Dragon.

The leading Divinity reported: 「 Master, have you summoned us? 」

The Demon Dragon didn't answer.

He slowly closed his eyes to show a pleased expression.

The 12 Divinities don't dare to make a single move.

After a long while, the Demon Dragon muttered: 「 197,324 souls... what a wonderful feast this was 」

All of a sudden, his tone became furious, his roar echoed across the entire world, sending the world itself into a shudder.

「 GU—— QING——- SHAN! Why are you not here!!! 」

...

At another location.

Seaside World.

The hotel.

Hearing Kitty's voice, Gu Qing Shan immediately spoke up: "It's me, Kitty, it's Gu Qing Shan!"

He seemed to hear Kitty talking to someone else on the other side, apparently muttering his name.

A few moments later, Kitty's voice sounded again: [Thank the heavens, it really is you. Are you ok?]

Gu Qing Shan replied: "I'm still well, what about you?"

Kitty replied: [A year ago, your world finished its fusion and stopped interfering with space around it. When we re-established connection to the outside world, we discovered that the entire Strife Zones had vanished!]

Gu Qing Shan sighed and replied: "That's right, it's the Divinities' action——- how are you guys faring right now?"

[Not very good, many people are wounded. We've led them all into hiding in your world, but it's only getting more and more chaotic out there, we have no choice but to take refuge here for now] Kitty replied.

"Hm? What happened?" Gu Qing Shan cautiously asked.

[We've done some investigation, the monster that destroyed the Spire and the 900 million World Layers Alliance was actually a creature that came from the Eternal Abyss. It's called the Soul Shrieker]

"What about it?"

[It is growing increasingly stronger——- the Fallen Zone that the Demon King Order took over had basically been completely destroyed]

"Did it manage to destroy the [Order] as well?"

[It didn't, while fighting against it, the Order has also been controlling the demonized people to forcefully recruit more people into their ranks]

At this point, Kitty regained her composure: [Let's not talk about that for now. Where are you? I'm going to pick you up]

"Can you make it here?" Gu Qing Shan hesitantly asked: "I'm at a very secluded location, most likely at the edge of the Strife Zones, near the Eternal Abyss"

[Why are you that far away!?] Kitty cried out in shock.

"A lot of things happened, so I'm staying here for now" Gu Qing Shan replied.

[I'm afraid I can't make it that far—— we're separated by the entire Fallen Zones and the entire Strife Zones] Kitty replied.

"Are there any other ways?" Gu Qing Shan asked again, still not giving up.

[The Strife Zones have been hidden away, so I've lost all of my teleport points within that area, and because you're on the other side of the Strife Zones, I'm not able to make it] Kitty patiently explained.

She then recalled something and hurriedly asked: [That's right, do you still have the Club's Void String? You can use the Void String to travel directly back to the Club, I'll be able to pick you up from there]

"I've already used it" Gu Qing Shan sighed.

Before his trip back to the Age of Old, Gu Qing Shan had already used the Void String to avoid Xie Dao Ling's 'killing question'.

——*even the last option is no good, seems like I won't be able to meet up with Barry and Kitty for now.*

Gu Qing Shan then said: "Listen to me, Kitty, what I'm about to say is very important, make sure that you don't miss a single word"

[Got it!]

Gu Qing Shan told her about the Demon Dragon, then about the fact that there might be an issue with the Eternal Abyss.

[A parallel world that's wrestling with the Apocalypse...] Kitty blankly repeated his words.

"That's right, you need to be prepared for it, the best choice is to stay in hiding for now" Gu Qing Shan suggested.

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Both the Soul Shrieker and the sweeping Abyss wasn't something that Kitty and the rest of them could handle right now.

——of course, Gu Qing Shan couldn't handle it either.

However, even though he couldn't even activate the Coin of the Earth right now and had no choice but to hide it inside his body, he was still a wielder of a Saint Pillar, and he would one day grow up.

Kitty replied: [We're hiding in a Scattered World so there won't be any issues for the time being, but you need to be careful]

Gu Qing Shan went silent briefly and asked: "If I make it to the other side of the Strife Zones and arrive at the vicinity of the Fallen Zone, would you be able to locate me?"

[I can definitely do that!] Kitty confirmed.

The two of them exchanged a bit more information before cutting off their connection.

Lin who had remained silent while Gu Qing Shan and Kitty discussed finally spoke up: "Seems like your friends won't be able to make it"

"That's right" Gu Qing Shan sighed, "That's an issue"

Something suddenly started moving in his pocket.

When Gu Qing Shan took it out, he found that it was the Hitman medal.

He pressed his finger against it.

A sobbing female voice then came from the medal: [Ye Fei Li? Is that you?]

"Yeah, it's me, what's going on?" Gu Qing Shan asked in surprise.

[Everyone is dead]

"WHAT!?"

[Hic, hic, the Fire Mountain world suddenly collapsed, no one was able to escape...]

While sobbing, the girl carefully explained the situation.

It was only now that Gu Qing Shan understood. It wasn't only the Hitman Guild but all the other forces, including the 7 Holy Churches, anyone who went into the Fire Mountain world perished within the world's destruction.

The girl continued: [Ye Fei Li, after our Guild's HQ knew about the situation, we've immediately dispatched manpower here, but before our experts made it here, many of the secret documents and wealth that's kept in this world must be protected. HQ had entrusted you a job to watch over them]

"Me? I'm only an Intermediate-level Hitman"

[Most Combatants from the forces within several thousand worlds around us are all dead as well, although you're only an Intermediate-level Hitman right now, you are most likely among the strongest]

The girl was clearly distraught: [This is considered a unique urgent dispatch, I beg you, please come quickly]

"...Fine, wait a minute, I'll get there soon" Gu Qing Shan replied.

After cutting off communication, Gu Qing Shan looked towards Lin.

"I knew it was a trap, but I didn't expect him to literally eat everyone, that's a bit much" Gu Qing Shan scowled.

Lin crossed her arms and spoke without a care: "That's nothing. You should feel fortunate that it wasn't the Soul Shrieker or the Abyssal me"

"What would have happened then?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

Lin replied: "If the Soul Shrieker wasn't insane, it would have sucked every single world around this sector completely dry, as for me— my Abyssal form can sense your emotions and thoughts, I don't need to kill any extraneous people to reach the real you"

Gu Qing Shan shivered a bit inside and asked: "How's your recovery now?"

Lin calmly replied: "My body is still constantly recovering, my martial arts expertise is also returning bit by bit. But since I've lost the ring of vows, I can't use my Abyssal form, and all of my abilities that aren't related to martial arts have been temporarily lost"

When Gu Qing Shan was about to say something else, he felt a vibration from inside his pocket again.

He took out the Hitman medal once more.

The girl's extremely distraught voice came from inside: [Ye Fei Li, go to the Hitman Guild quickly, I have a specialized escape pod here that can immediately bring us away from this world!]

Gu Qing Shan became tense and hurriedly asked: "What happened?"

[After the Fire Mountain world was destroyed, the other worlds around us are also quickly collapsing one by one. It won't be long until the wave of destruction reaches us!] the girl shouted.

"Got it, I'll come right away" Gu Qing Shan replied.

He turned the medal off.

Lin stood up from her chair and faintly grinned: "I'm guessing it went berserk from not being able to catch you"

Gu Qing Shan said with irritation: "It's really annoying to keep being chased around like this"

"Of course, the Abyssal Demon Dragon has control over the entire Strife Zones, if it wants to find us, there is a near limitless amount of resources and manpower at its disposal, we won't be able to do anything but run" Lin replied.

"The Apocalypse of the Abyss is about to erupt and he's still trying to interfere with our actions. Not only is this affecting my cultivation, but it's also affecting your recovery"

Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but complain.

"Unfortunately, we don't have a way to change this" Lin agreed.

Gu Qing Shan went silently for a bit.

"Do you have a solution? Or rather, do you have a way to escape from its pursuit?" Lin asked.

Standing across from her, Gu Qing Shan's gaze slowly became sharp.

“Causing such a huge commotion... and incessantly chasing after us, I think we need to have a little talk with him”

“Have a little talk with it?” Lin doubted her ears.

“That’s right. We have a lot of things we need to do right now, so I think it’s time we teach him a lesson and make sure he calms down a bit”

Gu Qing Shan casually replied.

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“What are you going to do?” Lin asked.

“Let’s deal with the Hitman Guild issue first before anything else” Gu Qing Shan said.

“Like the plan?” Lin asked.

“Yes, like the plan” Gu Qing Shan replied.

Lin sighed and told him: “You— I really don’t know what I should say to you”

“This Ye Fei Li identity might still be useful later on, so I don’t want to give up on it yet” Gu Qing Shan explained.

—after all, when this identity had a certain level of influence, it would enable Zhang Ying Hao to quickly find him.

“Then go” Lin said.

“Hm”

Gu Qing Shan used [Ground Shrink] and vanished from the hotel, appearing at the gate of the Hitman Guild several dozen miles away.

Worlds were being destroyed one after another, and the resulting shockwaves began to affect Seaside World.

Quite a few Professionals noticed this.

And chaos ensued.

The bounty hunter Guild, the slave market, and the trading port were all under attack.

5 minutes earlier, a resounding explosion could be heard not too far away.

The auction house had fallen, the crowd was rushing in to steal anything and everything of value.

—the Hitman Guild was a relatively dangerous establishment, so no one had tried to mess with it for now.

But once the chaos started to spread, someone would definitely notice that the only person left inside the Hitman Guild was a single girl.

All of the Hitman Guild’s best people lost their lives in the Fire Mountain world.

Gu Qing Shan showed up at the front gate of the Hitman Guild.

He knocked on the door.

“Thank God, you’re finally here!”

The girl opened the door and sighed in relief.

This Ye Fei Li person was the only one who could protect her while she accomplished the task that the Guild assigned her.

She was responsible for moving all of the Guild’s wealth and intelligence from this world.

“Of course, I’m a member of the Hitman Guild after all” Gu Qing Shan smiled and replied.

At this point, a Professionalist went out from the chaotic crowd a bit further away and hesitantly looked towards Gu Qing Shan’s location.

“Oi, hitman, you’re working today as well?” he loudly called out.

Gu Qing Shan ignored him.

The girl clenched her teeth: “You need to teach them a lesson, otherwise, if more of them flock here it would be trouble”

“Is that so?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

While they were talking, several other Professionalists had already stepped out.

They tried to incite the crowd behind them: “The Hitman Guild’s rewards are always very high, everyone——”

Gu Qing Shan turned around and coldly glanced at the group of people.

In a flash, the entire group of inciting people vanished from this world.

This bizarre scene caused the rowdy crowd to go silent.

One breath’s worth of time later.

Severed body parts suddenly appeared, scattered all over the ground.

Blood soaked the ground.

——none of them saw how Gu Qing Shan did that at all.

The rowdy crowd couldn’t help themselves from retreating.

The girl stared closely at Gu Qing Shan, her impression of evil creatures, in general, became a bit better.

She cleared her throat and said seriously: “Very well. As the acting representative of the Hitman Guild, I hereby issue the following order from the HQ:”

“Intermediate-level Hitman Ye Fei Li, you are to protect and escort the Guild’s 1st level representative back to the Hitman Guild’s HQ”

“Got it” Gu Qing Shan replied.

The girl nodded, brought Gu Qing Shan inside the Hitman Guild, and closed the door from inside.

“Let’s go now!”

She said.

——as soon as she did, a sharp screeching noise came from afar.

Boom!!!

A large hole was drilled into the Hitman Guild’s front door.

A masked person appeared.

The masked person shouted: “Turn the Hitman Guild’s wealth over to me and I shall spare you death!”

“Dream on!”

Gu Qing Shan drew his sword and charged forward.

In an instant he had engaged in combat with the masked person.

The two of them turned into blurred images and wrestled against one another, quickly moving their battle onto the main road.

The shockwaves that their battle gave off was enough to destroy several large buildings around them.

“Go!” Gu Qing Shan shouted to the girl.

The girl gritted her teeth, turned, and ran deeper into the depths of the Hitman Guild.

She went through layer after layer of secret paths, stopping at a certain junction and started climbing upwards until she reached a secret room at the top floor and pressed a button in a hidden corner of the wall.

An open room appeared in front of her.

A droplet-shaped silver shuttle with the pointy end in front was on display in this room.

The girl boarded the shuttle and activated it.

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“Ye Fei Li, as long as you survive, I guarantee that the organization will reward you well” the girl sobbed as she called out.

She barely managed to retain her calm and pressed down on a certain button.

The walls and roof started opening up.

The shuttle jumped into the air, entered a black hole, and left this world.

Gu Qing Shan continued to fight against the masked person.

This was a Lord-class battle that was literally blowing everyone too weak around its vicinity away.

If someone tried to get a bit closer, then they would instead be killed.

But now, none of the Professionists around them took too much distance.

Most of them were still busy pillaging as much as they could.

A few particularly powerful Professionists among them stopped their vicious battles to seriously observe their fight instead.

It wasn't easy for them to witness such a high-leveled battle, this would greatly help their advancement.

Gu Qing Shan was thoroughly suppressed in the battle, almost dying a few times.

Only after the girl's shuttle had thoroughly gone away did he suddenly retreat.

"You're strong, I'm not a match for you"

Gu Qing Shan wiped the blood off the corner of his mouth and admitted.

The masked person replied: "Then scram, back to your Hitman Guild. I have more choices to pick from. Interfere with me and I will really kill you"

Gu Qing Shan said nothing and dejectedly retreated to the Guild building.

The masked person didn't chase after him.

She instead turned around towards the mixed crowd and declared: "Money, or your life. Choose and leave one of them behind"

...

Half an hour later.

The hotel balcony.

Gu Qing Shan looked at Lin and tried asking: "Our original plan was just to deceive the girl and retreat, so why did you rob those guys as well?"

Lin casually replied: "I saw that it wasn't easy for you to make money, so I helped you earn some more. Besides, they aren't exactly heroes of virtue either"

"What?" she faced Gu Qing Shan's gaze straight on: "Are you saying you have an issue with what I did?"

Gu Qing Shan paused.

——there was one benefit of constantly struggling at the edge of life and death for many years.

That was his premonition of danger had become extremely sensitive.

Gu Qing Shan raised a thumb and praised her: "You did a great job, exactly what I wanted to do"

Lin's lips curved up slightly but swiftly relaxed again.

She put a few Cards on the table and said indifferently: "I noticed you've been constantly looking for Cards and other similar things, so I took back all the Cards that those guys stole. Take a look if you can use any of them"

Gu Qing Shan looked at the 5 Cards on the table.

In truth, he was grateful.

Although she stole them, one can't exactly expect a martial arts expert from the Bygone Era and a Combatant who from the Eternal Abyss to be reasonable in the first place.

Combatants of this level were usually the law itself, so they usually don't care much for the rules of the normal world.

Gu Qing Shan carefully put the Cards away and replied: "Thank you very much. If not for you, I would have spent quite a bit of effort"

"It's nothing big. Now tell me, how do you plan on getting rid of the Demon Dragon?" Lin asked with concern.

"We need to go somewhere" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"Where?"

"The Eternal Abyss—— the Apocalypse of the Abyss comes from a parallel world, but since I have the twin swords, I'll be able to ensure both you and me have safe passage—— I'll then lead the Demon Dragon near the Apocalypse and throw him into it"

"...As I thought, you really are rotten to the core"

"It's just a bit of smart, and isn't that also your goal? I assume that you know a few safe paths that can lead directly into the Abyss"

Gu Qing Shan recalled the words he heard inside the Abyssal Jail.

———the Abyssal Fate Weaver constructed many paths that led into the Primordial Heaven Realm, but they were all sealed off.

Since one end of the path was the Primordial Heaven Realm, the other must naturally be the Eternal Abyss.

Lin's gaze fell down, but her body had already tensed up.

She couldn't keep herself from trembling.

Can I take this chance to go through the Reality Gate itself?

It is finally time for my vengeance?

"Indeed, I opened up quite a few paths, one of which could indeed help us lead the Demon Dragon into that Apocalypse" Lin replied.

“Then we shouldn’t dawdle, let’s get to it now. Give me the map, I need to choose a place to expose my movements” Gu Qing Shan stood up and said.

Lin nodded and was about to say something, but her expression changed.

“What is it?”

Noticing her complexion, Gu Qing Shan doubtfully asked.

Lin caught his wrist and answered seriously: “We need to get away quickly, a terrifying one is coming!”

They both flew outside.

Lin flicked her hand to break open the void of space and jumped in together with Gu Qing Shan.

In the final moments, Gu Qing Shan witnessed a bizarre scene.

The entire Seaside World was being split in half by a strange sight.

Half of it was nighttime, with ruined structures and bones laid scattered all over, not a single living being in sight.

The night was spreading, corroding away the other half of the world that was still in the daylight.

Any being swallowed by the night would turn into a pile of bones on the spot, unable to resist at all.

Those who managed to stay within the daylight were running away with their lives, trying to avoid the night.

The corrosion of the Apocalypse from a parallel world had escaped the Abyss and was slowly devouring this world as well.

Chapter 930

“We have to go now, a terrifying one is coming!”

After declaring so, Lin brought Gu Qing Shan through a crack in the void of space and escaped Seaside World.

When they left, Gu Qing Shan saw the scene of the desolate Apocalypse spreading through the entire world.

All living beings caught within it couldn’t help but accept the Fate of another Reality——

Death.

The entire world had taken on the fixed destiny of being thoroughly ravaged and destroyed.

The parallel world was gradually eating away at the Seaside World until it was nothing but barren land.

—— not!

At the final corner of the world, at a certain secluded island, there were still a few seagulls left alive.

The wave of death that swept through everything stopped here.

This was a coincidence that no one could expect.

The parallel world as well as the Apocalypse it was fighting against happened to spread to this exact location and stopped.

Both the parallel world and the Apocalypse that belonged to it both had no strength left to move forward.

Thud!

A figure collapsed on the sandy beach of the island.

The Abyssal Demon Dragon!

Carrying a body full of wounds, and covered in blood, he laid flat on the ground, breathing heavily.

「 Ah... haha ha ha! I finally managed to escape from the Apocalypse! 」 the Demon Dragon laughed like crazy.

“That’s right, who could’ve thought, I was also just a step away from death as well” a voice responded to him.

「 But this place still isn’t safe, god knows when this calamity is going to start spreading again, I need to hurry up and leave! 」 the Abyssal Demon Dragon mumbled to himself.

“That’s right, you’re absolutely correct, we need to leave right now. This calamity had spread so many times already, who knows if it’s going to grow bigger again” the voice complained.

The Abyssal Demon Dragon suddenly regained his senses and looked around, loudly shouting: 「 Who’s there! Acting so suspicious like that, get out here! 」

“Shh! Shh!” the voice hurriedly said: “Don’t disturb the baby, otherwise both you and I aren’t going to make it”

When the Abyssal Demon Dragon tried saying something else, he discovered that his mouth had been sealed practically shut.

He was a powerful Abyssal monster, but he couldn’t even open his mouth to speak right now, what kind of terrifying power is this?

The Abyssal Demon Dragon had an expression of fear.

Ever since he was assimilated into the Abyss, there hadn’t been anything, not even Mystic abilities that could affect him.

The voice whispered to him: “Are you afraid? That’s right, everyone is afraid, you’re afraid of me, while I’m afraid of this calamity that wrecked my home, and also afraid that the 900 million World Layers wouldn’t be as comfortable as it is at home, so I’m going to have you come with me and lead the way”

A long finger appeared out of nowhere, lightly pushed the Abyssal Demon Dragon’s body into the void of space, then vanished.

On the island, everything returned to silence.

...

At another location.

Lin had brought Gu Qing Shan into the space vortex, traveling through the endless void of space.

“What was the ‘terrifying one’ that you mentioned just now?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“I barely just managed to sense it, but it was most likely a monster on the same level as the Soul Shrieker’s main body” Lin replied.

Gu Qing Shan was speechless.

An avatar managed to level the entire 900 million World Layers by itself, so if a main body-level monster were to appear...

He shook his head.

Seeing how tense Lin was, he asked again: “Is the world in the Abyss, one where strength rules over all else?”

Unexpectedly, Lin denied it: “That’s not it. Other than fallen ones like the Demon Dragon and myself, most of the native creatures in the Abyss are beyond logic and rationality, they have their own rules and methods”

“Like a mental patient?”

“Yes, but they all believe that their way is the correct way”

Seeing how Gu Qing Shan seemed confused, Lin explained further: “For example, the Soul Shrieker. It believed that the twin swords Heaven and Earth are a crucial Abyssal Weapon that would greatly affect the future, so it deceived the majority of the monsters in the Abyss to secretly send an avatar into the Primordial Heaven Realm, spending great effort and time just to forge these two Soul Artifacts”

“But then, its main body never participated in this matter at all and instead fell dormant— you simply cannot tell what it’s actually thinking”

Gu Qing Shan mused briefly and nodded.

If they were monsters whose behaviours couldn’t be predicted or explained, then there was no such thing as a common way to interact with them.

Suddenly, Lin’s expression relaxed.

Gu Qing Shan glanced at her and asked: “Safe?”

Lin’s gaze was still focused on the void of space, carefully sensing something.

“Not giving chase...” she slowly replied, “It seems the target wasn’t us, it just happened to be affected by the Apocalypse and couldn’t help but flee the Abyss”

Gu Qing Shan also sighed in relief.

He then realized just how urgent the issue was.

This was no time for them to be worrying about unrelated matters.

I can't keep abiding by normal rules anymore, I need to do everything I can to become stronger.

"Let's stop here for now" Gu Qing Shan said.

Lin stopped moving forward in the space vortex and looked back at him.

Gu Qing Shan took out the 5 Cards that Lin gave him earlier.

Since they were Cards that made it to the auction house, they were considerably useful fighting-type Cards, but Gu Qing Shan didn't care about a single one of them right now.

He needed to advance through using extraordinary means!

As soon as he took these Cards out, lines of glowing text appeared on the War God UI:

[You've discovered Cards that you can consume]

[Would you like to consume these Cards to advance your rank as an Envoy of Condemnation?]

Gu Qing Shan confirmed: "Yes"

All the text on the War God UI vanished, replaced by a new line of text:

[The grade of these Cards are too low, you need a powerful Card to use as the main material in order to complete your Envoy of Condemnation advancement]

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Gu Qing Shan took out another Card without hesitation.

This Card depicted a mountainous majestic monster, with two vertical irises in both eyes and a pair of faint, dark wings.

Behind the monster were an uncountable sea of monsters.

They lined up orderly and neatly, weapons in hand, giving off a sharp feeling.

——Bloodsea Card: Bloodsea God Army

Su Xue Er once gave him this Card in exchange for his [Predictor of Fate] Card from the King of Destiny deck.

As soon as he took out this Card, a notification popped up on the War God UI:

[Using this Card as the main material, you can complete your Card grade advancement]

Gu Qing Shan sighed.

I have to use this world right now.

Apparently sensing Gu Qing Shan's thought, the monster on the [Bloodsea God Army] Card looked at him.

「 Are you willing to give up on your covenant with the Blood Sea? If that is the case, I do not mind 」
[Bloodsea God Army] told him.

“There's no other way, I need to use this Card in this way” Gu Qing Shan replied.

[Bloodsea God Army] told him: 「 Everything depends completely on your will, but you must understand, by doing this, you accept the severance of your covenant with the Blood Sea 」

“I understand” Gu Qing Shan replied.

「 Then there is no issue 」

[Bloodsea God Army] replied.

Gu Qing Shan put this Card together with the 5 others into the War God UI at once and uttered the words: “Consume!”

All 6 Cards vanished without a trace.

Lines of glowing text scrolled past the War God UI:

[Consuming]

[Lapis Card: Sword cultivator Gu Qing Shan is currently upgrading to Azure grade, please be patient]

When Gu Qing Shan took a look, he found that the Card that depicted him had already turned around and the face could no longer be seen.

But the color on the back was clearly changing.

The Lapis color was receding.

While Azure-colored runes were slowly manifesting.

This was a gradual process, so other than waiting, there was nothing else he could do to interfere.

Gu Qing Shan stopped looking at it and asked: “Where are we going now?”

Lin casually admitted: “We're lost. The space vortex is being changed by the corrosion of the Abyss, so we have no way to deduce the exact direction we're heading.

Gu Qing Shan thought briefly.

They weren't simply lost.

Right now, no one is able to find the coordinates of the Strife Zones, not even Kitty. Even though I have my home world's beacon, I also have no way to bypass the entire Strife Zones to directly return either.

Which means to return, I have to go through the Strife Zones.

—-the only way to actually go there is through the path that the Earth Creator left behind on the star chart.

But the next world that I was supposed to arrive at on the star chart was Riddle World.

After I killed that pixie, I lost the only means I had to reach Riddle World.

Seriously...

Then, rather than jumping into random worlds, I should—

Gu Qing Shan tapped his Inventory Bag and took out a bunch of assorted items.

He was hesitating, picking through these items.

“What are these things?” Lin curiously asked.

Gu Qing Shan picked each of them up one by one and recited from memory: “This dagger is the Shadow Fiend world’s warp item, this burning badge is the Fire Eater Fiend world’s warp formation. And you see this skull staff? It’ll allow us to move into the White Bone Devil world, as for the elephant tusk, that’s the access pass for a certain Asura world...”

Lin couldn’t help but stop him: “You mean, these are the things that the Devil Kings and Fiend Kings gave you when you summoned them through your Wind Tribulation to kill the 2 million demonized people?”

“That’s right. In consideration of how I invited them to join the 2 million souls transaction, how good of a talker I was, and how well I kept my words, many of them were more than willing to make friends with me— after which they introduced even more business partners, for example, the good guy White Bone Devil King” Gu Qing Shan replied.

Lin chuckled: “Then just choose one of them and let’s get out of the space vortex quickly— there are increasingly more strange and unusual things within the space vortex now, most likely those trying to take refuge within the 900 million World Layers”

Looking at the things in his hand, Gu Qing Shan suddenly recalled something.

He picked out a medallion among them.

This medallion depicted a large tree with hundreds of Cards tied on its branch, letting out glittering colorful light.

“Seems like a Card-type world, how rare— that’s right, haven’t you been looking for Cards recently?” Lin asked.

“I have. I actually almost forgot about this thing”

Looking at this medallion, Gu Qing Shan recalled the couple’s words before they bid farewell to him:

...

“Take this, it contains our world’s coordinates and space tunnel, if you come to my kingdom one day, you will be able to see me directly with this medallion”

...

Indeed, this was the medallion that Hazeden and Soft Note gave him to grant access to their world.

Gu Qing Shan put everything else back, keeping only this medallion.

He began trying to activate the power of the medallion.

“So we’re heading to a Card world? That’s fine I guess, it’s rare to see a world whose inheritance is based entirely on Cards” Lin commented with interest.

“I just hope that this world isn’t among those hidden together with the Strife Zones”

Gu Qing Shan replied.

As he infused power into the medallion, it began to shake, jumped to the air, and opened a space tunnel.

The medallion hovered in the air while giving off loud noise as if urging Gu Qing Shan to get in.

“It connected, let’s go”

Chapter 931

While Gu Qing Shan was traveling through the space vortex

Strife Zones.

The Holy Church of Fate.

Su Xue Er stood at the center of the main ceremonial hall, silently looking up at the stars.

No one knew what exactly she was thinking.

Two priests hurriedly ran in and reported: “Cardinal Su, the divine light of God’s statue had disappeared!”

Following them, 5 Cardinals and several knights of the Church entered.

One of the Cardinals shouted: “Su Xue Er, it is all because of your uncompromising methodology that has angered God and caused our Holy Church of Fate to lose his gaze!”

Su Xue Er didn’t turn around, nor reply to them.

The Cardinals exchanged glances before looking around.

There were no other priests or followers in the hall.

They felt even more assured.

“Su Xue Er, I suggest that you step down from your position as acting Pope. You’ve committed too many mistakes, causing the disappointment of too many followers already” another Cardinal said.

Su Xue Er slowly turned around.

She now carried considerably more dignified air, but even more so, the enhanced sense of purity on her beautiful face had largely neutralized the dignity she carried.

“You old sacks of bones” Su Xue Er muttered, “The Pope didn’t kill you because she values your old relations, and yet you really think it suitable to take this chance and rebel while she’s dormant? How ridiculous”

“We just want a way out! A way to survive, don’t you get it!?” one Cardinal suddenly shouted in anger.

Su Xue Er coldly replied: “Then you could have ran away without issues, not try to come to me looking for trouble”

She made a gesture.

Groups after groups of divine knights appeared out of nowhere, quickly filling the entire ceremonial hall.

They stepped forward and swiftly surrounded the Cardinals and their knights.

One Cardinal shouted: “Su Xue Er, you dare! You’ve already angered God——”

Su Xue Er cut him off: “All 7 Holy Churches have lost the gaze of God, the entire Strife Zones have lost contact with God, and you really think this is something I can do?”

That Cardinal froze.

Su Xue Er shook her head and softly spoke: “Obsolete fools”

She waved her hand.

The massacre began.

One after another, the rebels were killed, their bodies fell and soaked the floor in blood.

Su Xue Er watched this with indifference, not displaying any emotion in her eyes except boredom.

After all the rebels were killed, she calmly declared:

“The ceremonial hall must be kept clean”

“Yes!” the divine enforcers responded in unison.

Su Xue Er turned around to leave, not caring a single bit about the work that must be done.

However, almost immediately, the icy expression on her face was thawed.

What is this sensation?

Her beautiful eyebrows furrowed deeply together.

A blood-colored book appeared in her hand and swiftly turned to a certain page.

On the seventh-to-last page, among a long list of names, one of them vanished.

Su Xue Er felt tense.

She hurriedly made her way out of the hall.

“Cardinal Su, where are you going now?”

A relatively high-ranking divine enforcer asked doubtfully.

“I need to make some preparations, I’ll return soon” Su Xue Er nodded and replied.

She vanished from the ceremonial hall and returned to her room, took out a Card, and muttered:

“O’ boundless and mystical Blood Sea, I wish to pursue your change, please tell me what I wish to know”

Following her incantation, a unique Card appeared in her hand.

Su Xue Er held and stared closely at the card.

A slightly angry voice emerged from the Card

——the voice of the [Bloodsea God Army].

「 Su Xue Er, the person you nominated had severed the Covenant because he needed to consume that Card to evolve his power 」

Hearing that, Su Xue Er fell silent for a few seconds.

What kind of power was able to consume even a Covenant Card like the [Bloodsea God Army]?

Gu Qing Shan might have already grown vastly stronger than I currently am.

That’s great.

The corner of her lips curled up slightly and asked: “Your Excellency, do you know where he is?”

「 No, I am not sure, both space and time are highly chaotic, I am unable to sense anything 」 - [Bloodsea God Army] replied.

“Is he current in the Strife Zones?”

「 Unclear 」

Su Xue Er deeply sighed and dispelled the Card.

Since I’ve finally gotten some good news, I need to do my best as well.

She opened the door and went out.

Two rows of female priests were waiting on the outside and swiftly knelt as they saw her come out.

Su Xue Er said nothing.

At some unknown point, a suit of armor had appeared on her body.

She swiftly made her way forward, walking through countless knights and casters who were waiting to sortie, making her way up a high platform.

Looking down at the countless soldiers below, Su Xue Er coldly declared: “Move out!”

...

Gu Qing Shan and Lin were moving through a space tunnel inside an elliptical barrier of light.

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An invisible force was guiding them towards a certain direction.

“This is a space tunnel that was already created, all we needed to do was move in to enjoy a relatively safe environment that would take us to our destination” Lin explained to Gu Qing Shan.

“But isn’t this path a bit too long?” Gu Qing Shan smiled bitterly.

They had been flying for over a day and a half already.

“It is actually quite fast, all things considered. We’ve been traveling through numerous layered spaces, and from my estimation, we should be approaching the Mystic Zones soon” Lin replied.

Gu Qing Shan was doubtful: “How could you tell?”

Lin explained: “From the cardinal direction. The Strife Zones and Fallen Zones should be on the same level, while the Mystic Zones lied above both of them. From our flight so far, we clearly aren’t heading across the Strife Zones, so I’m guessing that we should be approaching the Mystic Zones soon”

Gu Qing Shan appeared intrigued.

The Mystic Zones.

As the name implied, this was a mystical area.

The Bramble Bird Kingdom was situated here.

The Samsara where the Age of Old cultivators were hiding should also be here.

So is Hazeden’s Card kingdom also in the Mystic Zones?

Gu Qing Shan muttered to himself.

While they were talking, a monster suddenly showed up in front of them in the tunnel.

The monster wasn’t very big, its legs were at least 2 meters tall, but its torso was considerably shorter, it had six claws of bones with a head without any flesh, almost like a skull.

The thing that caused Gu Qing Shan to feel wary was that the monster was wearing armor.

The fact that it had defensive equipment meant that it was a sentient being that came from a certain civilization.

The monster’s presence was also very strange, fluctuating from high to low, unclear, and unstable.

The monster also noticed the two of them.

When the monster was about to do something, Lin had already acted.

She raised her arm and struck at it from afar.

Bam!

With a huge sound of impact, the monster's body was flattened onto the wall of the tunnel, then was swiftly blown away by the chaotic winds of the space vortex.

"An enemy?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"Not quite, a scavenger"

While answering him, Lin's complexion clearly worsened.

"What exactly was that monster?" Gu Qing Shan pursued further.

Lin quickly regained her senses and slowly explained: "I'm not sure if I can explain so that you can understand— in the Abyss, there are some especially gigantic entities whose bodies are the size of an entire star system, we call them Abyssal Behemoths¹— their power level can't be accurately measured because most likely you would die immediately as they focused their attention on you"

"You're saying that all it needs to do in order to kill me is think of me?"

"Yes"

"Al...right" Gu Qing Shan muttered: "Although I've never seen such a terrifying existence, I can certainly imagine them"

Lin continued: "Such a great and gigantic entity would naturally have various life forms being its dependants. They live under its shelter, serve it, and help it with various things— like grooming its body, point out preys for it to hunt, cleaning up its surrounding environments, provide information— in short, there are countless life forms living on that gigantic entity and depend entirely on it to survive"

Gu Qing Shan thought about it briefly and nodded: "I understand what you're trying to say"

Lin continued: "Good. Now, to make it clear, that minion we ran into just now, by the standard of you cultivators, it should be around 2 realms below yours"

"Which means it was at Void Wanderer realm, from the standard of the 900 million World Layers, it had only just reached Lord-class" Gu Qing Shan followed up.

Lin continued: "And it came from a civilization— one born from and lives dependently on the body of a certain Abyssal Behemoth"

"Simply put, it was a flea on the body of that Abyssal Behemoth"

The two of them had no time to continue their talk.

In front of them, a screen of blurry light finally appeared at the other end of the space tunnel.

"We're about to arrive"

Lin cautiously said.

She couldn't help but form a fighting stance.

Gu Qing Shan's thought moved and summoned his 4 flying swords behind his back.

“If we actually run into the kind of Abyssal Behemoth you just mentioned, is this going to be useful at all?” Gu Qing Shan asked in a low voice.

“Completely useless, but I won’t just lay down and die” Lin replied.

“They won’t even let you go when you’re an Abyssal entity?”

“Even humans kill one another, what do you think?”

Gu Qing Shan sighed.

The difference between them was too great, like a God to an ant.

Lin also realized his state and mind and consoled him: “Don’t worry, an Abyssal Behemoth wouldn’t focus its attention on you, because you aren’t even worth considering a speck of dust in front of them”

“Thanks, but you telling me that doesn’t make me feel any better”

The tunnel began to become narrower.

The force acting on them started becoming stronger.

It seems they were about to arrive.

“Sometimes I think: ‘why can’t I be an Abyssal monster instead?’; this way, at least my strength won’t grow so painfully slow” Gu Qing Shan deeply sighed.

Hearing that, Lin made a complicated smile.

She muttered: “If you’re really thinking that, there could only be one reason”

“What reason?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“The Abyss is currently watching you”

Before they finished speaking, the light ahead of them formed into a solid screen of light.

The two of them went straight into the screen of light and appeared ten thousands of meters in the sky.

They had arrived in the world of Sky Haze Kingdom.

“This is the Card world that you talked about?”

Lin looked around and asked him.

Gu Qing Shan caught the medallion that led him here and confirmed: “Indeed, but only the place, the people seem to be missing”

Below them, it was a scene of carnage as far as the eye can see, the entire world had been broken and collapsed into countless pieces with some of them still floating around in the void of space.

This world had been destroyed.

Chapter 932

Gu Qing Shan released his inner sight and scanned through this entire broken world.

Collapsed structures, scattered corpses, ripped and tattered Cards that laid all over the ground, as well as the still-burning flames perfectly displayed what this world had gone through.

The sky no longer existed.

Within the deep darkness of the void, countless monsters were moving back and forth, apparently trying to check the world's surroundings.

—-they were trying to find even more worlds to corrode.

Although Gu Qing Shan and Lin appeared below what used to be the world's atmosphere, Gu Qing Shan was wearing the Silent Dusk Cloak while Lin had completely hidden her presence, so they didn't draw the monsters' attention just yet.

Gu Qing Shan landed on the ground, put his hand on a corpse, and silently sensed it.

The corpse still had a bit of warmth, the armor they were wearing was clearly crushed by a heavy impact.

"It seems that a great battle occurred in this world" Lin commented.

"Yeah, by the fleas that you mentioned before" Gu Qing Shan pointed in a certain direction.

A few corpses of the monsters with 6 claws and skull heads were laying among the ruined structures.

These were the monsters killed in the war.

Gu Qing Shan waved his hand towards the ground and summoned a tattered Card to his hand.

A notification popped up on the War God UI:

[Transformation Card: Flame Elemental Giant]

[This Card has thoroughly been damaged, no longer usable]

Gu Qing Shan sighed in regret.

"They aren't actually fleas, and you shouldn't underestimate them. In truth, their civilizations aren't weak in comparison to the 900 million World Layers as a whole" Lin told him.

"Hm. Huh?"

Gu Qing Shan's gaze was attracted by the medallion in his hand.

This guidance medallion seems to have sensed something and was constantly vibrating.

All of a sudden, it jumped to the air and started giving off a message:

[Friends of Sky Haze Kingdom, attention please]

[We have retreated to the Mystic Zones]

[Repeat, we have retreated to the Mystic Zones]

[If you want to look for us, please come to the Mystic Zones]

After that announcement, the medallion lost its power and fell back into Gu Qing Shan's hand.

Gu Qing Shan sighed and put the medallion away.

He had understood the situation, because the voice just now was the ruler of Sky Haze Kingdom, Hazedon.

It seems that they were still alive, but couldn't help but retreat due to being unable to resist against their enemies.

"What do we do now? Head to the Mystic Zones?" Lin asked.

"No hurry"

Gu Qing Shan released his inner sight and searched the broken surface of this world.

He carefully observed everywhere on the battlefield before putting his hands together and formed a hand seal.

Telekinesis.

This was a basic hand seal that even a new cultivator at Qi Training realm could learn and utilize, mostly in order to pick things up from afar.

But in the hands of Gu Qing Shan, who was a Three Thousand Worlds realm cultivator, this hand seal was able to display considerably more prowess.

All the tattered Cards scattered around on this vast broken world started to hover and swiftly flew towards Gu Qing Shan.

Since there were so many of them, Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but gather them all in the air like a giant sphere made of Cards.

Lin looked up at the sky.

The monsters also seemed to have noticed Gu Qing Shan's action.

She then looked at the Cards and told him: "All of these Cards have already been damaged in battle, they can't be used anymore"

"I know" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"Then why are you gathering these garbage items?"

"They'll be useful later"

Gu Qing Shan waved his hand over the sphere.

The countless Cards all vanished, returning to his Inventory Bag.

Gu Qing Shan then took out the colorful rooster.

The rooster had the War God intelligence function affixed to it, so Gu Qing Shan thought very highly of the rooster's usage.

——and since it had been over a day since he last received information, it can be used again.

Gu Qing Shan pulled on the rooster's comb.

The colorful rooster came back to life.

"Say, we're both men here, can't you treat me a bit more respectfully?" the rooster put its comb back properly with its wings and complained.

"Sorry about that, I'll pay more attention next time, now please give me a bit of intel" Gu Qing Shan said.

"You ready with the Soul Points?" the rooster asked.

"Same as last time"

"Alright, let me check"

The rooster raised its head up and began to check something inside the void.

A few moments later, it told Gu Qing Shan: "There's one good news and one bad news, but according to the rules, I can only give you one of them—— which one do you want?"

"Why not both? I'll give you a bit more Soul Points" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"I can't. Although I really want the extra Soul Points, if I go against the rules, I'll collapse" the rooster regretfully told him.

"Alright, give me the good news then" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"Wait——" Lin stopped him and asked: "Why aren't you choosing the bad news? If we know the bad news, we'll be able to prepare ahead of time"

She signaled for Gu Qing Shan to look up.

——the flock of monsters were starting to gather high in the sky.

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They had noticed the two people on the ground.

Gu Qing Shan also looked up and shrugged helplessly: "The parallel world's Apocalypse is spreading, the forces of the Abyss are penetrating the 900 million World Layers—— that is a lot of bad news for us right now—— when everything we need to face means bad news, there's really no need to prepare anything at all"

"That's true" Lin thought briefly and agreed.

The first squad of monsters had already descended from above, silently approaching the two of them.

Lin bent her knees slightly, clenched her fists, and abruptly threw a punch at the sky.

Pu pu pu pu pshh!

Around 10 miles away, the entire squad of monsters was struck head-on by this attack.

The monsters were all beaten to a pulp, caught by the momentum of the punch, and continued flying back to where they came.

Gu Qing Shan glanced over them and continued to explain: "But the good news isn't the same, perhaps it would give us guidance from another perspective instead"

Lin mused about his words.

The colorful rooster flapped its wings together and praised: "What a sharp young man. Now I'm confident you'd be able to provide Soul Points in the long term"

"Here's your Soul Points" Gu Qing Shan infused Soul Points into the rooster's body.

"Aaaa~ how comfortable, that really hit the spot" the rooster happily closed its eyes.

Gu Qing Shan had a sudden thought.

—*from the looks of it, the rooster's ability seems to work through being fueled by Soul Points.*

"Then please tell me the good news you've obtained" he said.

The colorful rooster cleared its throat and replied: "Little man, your reinforcements are coming"

"Reinforcements?"

"That's right, within the 900 million World Layers, the one with wealth that far surpasses anyone else is currently using various strange and unusual treasures to search for you"

"She has already found your trace and is currently heading here, so if you want to meet up with her, don't move"

"It's great that we found out about this, otherwise we would have already left" Gu Qing Shan felt glad.

The rooster blinked at him a few times, turned back into a statue, and stopped moving.

Gu Qing Shan put the colorful rooster away.

"Who's that?" Lin asked.

"Didn't you already read my thoughts? Can't you guess?" Gu Qing Shan grinned, seemingly in a very good mood.

Indeed, if there was a person that could be described as 'has wealth that far surpasses anyone else in the 900 million World Layers', then it must be her.

—*the Bramble Bird Empress who awakened three Mystic-type innate abilities: [Shelter of Infinite Worlds], [Blessing of the Empress], and [Vagrant Treasure Collector] on her coming of age ceremony.*

Laura.

She had always been patiently looking for Gu Qing Shan!

Lin carefully thought about it, then replied: "I did, but I'm sure you've never thought about such a person before"

"Ah... it's a little girl— we accompanied one another for a not inconsiderable amount of time and went through a lot of hardship together, so you could say that she's like my little sister" Gu Qing Shan told her, embarrassed.

Lin crossed her arms and slowly asked: "Which means, we're going to wait right here?"

"That's right, we need to meet up with her if only to make sure that she doesn't have to constantly chase after us— you know how chaotic the situation is, it wouldn't be good if she happens to run into some sort of irresistible monster" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Lin nodded in agreement with him.

The two of them looked up at the sky.

A large number of monsters began to charge downwards on them.

They had now completely filled the sky above, screeching angrily because of Lin's attack, apparently looking to avenge the squad from before.

"You need to be careful. I noticed quite a few who aren't any weaker than you, careful not to trip over a pebble now" Lin told him in a low voice.

Gu Qing Shan had also noticed a few particularly powerful monsters.

— some of them had even reached the Paragon realm power level, even stronger than he currently was.

No wonder Lin reminded him to be careful.

"Being stronger or not doesn't always determine the outcome of a battle, and victory isn't necessarily just dependent on strength" Gu Qing Shan casually replied.

"Then what does it depend on then?" Lin asked with interest.

At this point, all the monsters swooped down at once!

Gu Qing Shan silently prepared his sword techniques.

A sword with an ancient design manifested next to him.

The Earth sword.

Oong—

The Earth sword took to the sky and received the incoming wave of monsters.

Secret Art, [Torrent]!

Intense sword qi surged forward and swept across the sky like a mad dragon, completely unstoppable.

In front of the Earth sword's [Sanctuary] and [Earth's Choice], none of the monsters managed to endure a single hit.

"On equipment"

Gu Qing Shan answered.

All of a sudden, he felt a wondrous sensation in his mind---

Some sort of magic was acting on him.

"This sensation, is this [Blessing of the Empress]?" Gu Qing Shan whispered.

Lin also felt the same.

She looked at Gu Qing Shan in surprise, only to see a leaf glowing in bright emerald light appear from thin air, fluttered in front of Gu Qing Shan, and opened up a tunnel in the void of space.

Following that, a suit of shining armor appeared.

The suit of armor swiftly broke apart into its components and swiftly attached itself to Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan started giving off a sense of divine dignity, clad in shining holy light just like a true deity.

This is the Bramble Bird Sovereign armor!

---she had arrived!

Chapter 933

"Lin, would we draw the attention of the Abyssal Behemoth by killing these fleas?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"No need to think too highly of yourself" Lin replied.

"Got it, I'm actually not even equivalent to a speck of dust to them" Gu Qing Shan chuckled self-deprecatingly.

"Exactly" Lin agreed.

"So I can fight to my heart's desire"

Saying so, Gu Qing Shan pulled down the hood of the Silent Dusk Cloak over his face.

This way, he was wearing both the Bramble Bird Sovereign armor, which was created purely from light, while the cloak appeared like a black cape that silently draped over his shoulder.

With Light and Dark shrouding over his body, the armor and cloak really emphasized one another, making Gu Qing Shan seem like an actual divine envoy.

"That's quite a decent suit of armor" Lin commented.

The Bramble Bird Sovereign Armor had the three defensive abilities of [Elemental Erasure], [Immunity], and [God's Order], the literal strongest set of armor that Gu Qing Shan had ever seen.

It was because of its abilities that this ancient armor received praise from Lin.

“I’m going to test my hand a bit” Gu Qing Shan said.

He drew an autumn-water blue steel sword from the void of space, leapt upwards and straight to the sky.

Without hesitation, Gu Qing Shan entered the flock of monsters.

Intense flashes of sword phantoms illuminated the sky.

Lin looked up.

Right now, since Gu Qing Shan was penetrating the monsters’ ranks by force, he received several attacks, but he wasn’t hurt at all.

And yet, whenever he swung his sword, the monsters would roar in pain and agony.

The shower of blood began to soak the tattered ground red.

Gu Qing Shan no longer held back and grabbed the Earth sword that came flying in from afar, wielding two swords at once.

One sword to cut all Laws, one to slay all things.

—-and the one wielding these swords was a sword cultivator who had the protection of the Bramble Bird Sovereign armor that didn’t need to care about defending himself.

Even the monsters stronger than he was could only cry out in hatred before their deaths at Gu Qing Shan’s sword.

In front of Gu Qing Shan’s eyes, lines of notification were constantly popping up, informing him of the Soul Points he obtained.

Soul Points were the most valuable resource he could obtain right now!

Without leaving the monsters any space, he was weaving through their ranks, occasionally vanishing and reappearing at other locations.

He was immersed in killing these monsters, an unstoppable force of death.

After watching him for a while, Lin couldn’t help but muttered: “What do you know, equipment really does play a huge role in victory, I’ve never actually considered that before”

She looked for somewhere to sit down and silently watched as Gu Qing Shan killed these monsters like chopping vegetables.

Until finally, Gu Qing Shan’s massacre alerted the strongest soldier among the monsters.

It was a considerably bulkier skeletal monster whose body was bigger than 5 of the other monsters combined.

It peaked its head out from far above the sky, silently went into the crowd of monsters and hid itself a few dozen miles behind Gu Qing Shan’s location.

When this monster was slowly approaching Gu Qing Shan, he suddenly descended from above and landed in front of Lin.

“Hey, that monster seems to be around {Yama King} realm, I can’t beat him, so it’ll probably depend on you” Gu Qing Shan said.

“I can only utilize my fists right now, if I exert myself in a tough battle, my wounds might reopen” Lin scowled and told him.

Gu Qing Shan thought for a single second and stood straight in front of Lin.

“What?” Lin asked.

“Punch me with your full power” Gu Qing Shan told her.

“You’re crazy... That’s a good idea”

Lin sat still, clenched her fist tightly and threw an all-out punch at Gu Qing Shan.

As her fist moved forward, the air itself around it began to crackle and pop over and over again, showing just how terrifying this punch actually is.

— — —if this was a real attack, Gu Qing Shan wouldn’t be able to survive.

But Gu Qing Shan stood still without moving or avoiding it.

As for Lin, she attacked him without a shred of hesitation.

Just as her fist was about to land on Gu Qing Shan’s chest, he abruptly disappeared.

Instead, the {Yama King} realm monster appeared where he was.

Secret Art, [Shadow Shift]!

「Roar?」

The giant monster looked at Lin in shock, before it understood what had happened, Lin’s all-out attack had connected.

Doong!

A heavy sound of impact resounded across what remained of this entire world.

The giant monster’s body was completely pummeled by this attack into flesh and blood that continued to be scattered by the excessive force until there wasn’t a single trace of it remaining .

One attack!

Her single attack killed a {Yama King} realm monster!

Lin pulled her hand back and calmly looked up at the sky without changing her expression.

She continued to observe him.

Gu Qing Shan had resumed his massacre, none of the remaining monsters were able to stop his swords.

If that's the case, I don't need to do anything then.

Lin silently thought.

Just as she was about to look for a better spot to sit and relax as a spectator, Gu Qing Shan fell down like an asteroid and rolled in front of her.

“What’s the matter?” Lin hurriedly asked

“Please help me hold them back for a bit, my cultivation suddenly entered a crucial point that needs a bit of time to resolve” Gu Qing Shan replied.

Lines of glowing text were appearing in front of his eye:

[Card: Sword cultivator Gu Qing Shan, is about to become Azure grade]

[Attention: You must immediately readjust the Cards that you already have otherwise this advancement will fail]

[After failing your advancement, you cannot attempt another Card grade advancement for 60 days]

[Would you like to readjust your Cards now?]

[Attention, during readjustment, you must maintain a meditative state]

—-I've already used up the [Bloodsea God Army] Card, and if I fail this advancement, I'll have to wait for 60 days to try again.

If that happened, Gu Qing Shan would really be in big trouble.

Gu Qing Shan clasped his fist: “I’m at a very crucial turning point in my cultivation, I have no other choice, so please help me for just a bit ”

“It can’t be helped. You cultivators are always so much more troublesome than other people” Lin helplessly sighed.

“Hah, thank you”

Saying so, Gu Qing Shan immediately sat down cross-legged and focused his attention on readjusting his Cards .

The Lapis Cards he owned appeared at the center of the War God UI.

[Unique item: True Crimson Demon Spear]

[Skill Card: Bleed]

[Black Smog Armor (full set)(unusable)]

...

Gu Qing Shan’s eyes fell onto the [Black Smog Armor]

This Card was actually something the [Demon King Order] helped him draw, beside basic defensive capabilities, it also had a camouflage function, a very decent item.

But interestingly, after Gu Qing Shan detached from the [Demon King Order], this Card became thoroughly unusable.

Seems like the [Demon King Order] didn't want to make a losing deal.

Gu Qing Shan silently thought.

At this point, a description about Card readjustment appeared on the War God UI:

[From Lapis to Azure, your abilities will be greatly improved]

[Because of this, you must give up all but one of the Cards you own in order to help promote it to Azure grade]

[When you obtain your first Azure grade Card, your Card: Sword cultivator Gu Qing Shan, would finish its advancement]

[Please choose the one Card you would like to keep]

Reading through everything, Gu Qing Shan sighed in relief.

And here I thought it would be something difficult, so it was just this small matter.

He focused his mind on the unique item Card [True Crimson Demon Spear].

"I want this Card to be promoted"

Gu Qing Shan said.

[Are you sure?]

"Yes"

The other Cards on the War God UI vanished.

They turned into sparkles of light that went into the unique item Card: [True Crimson Demon Spear].

[True Crimson Demon Spear] began to change.

The crimson glow depicted on the face of the Card was no longer as blinding as before, it swiftly receded and focused on the outside of the spear.

The crimson glow had become considerably thicker, heavier, turning into strings that wrapped around the spear itself.

The tone of the Card turned from bright red to a deep crimson, apparently displaying some sort of change in its power.

Lines of glowing text started to appear by the Card:

[Your Card: True Crimson Demon Spear has finished its promotion]

[Unique Item: True Crimson Demon Spear]

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[From now on, using this demon spear will no longer affect you wearing armor]

[This demon spear has the attribute: Absolute Sharpness]

[Note: This is the first weapon created by Divinities from the Age of Old that can hurt them]

[Unstoppable!]

Gu Qing Shan felt glad.

The biggest issue with the [True Crimson Demon Spear] was that he couldn't wear any armor while using it.

But not that was no longer an issue.

The value of this spear in battle had greatly increased.

Maybe I should consider looking for a few spear techniques to comprehend.

—-after all, this was essentially the 'unstoppable spear'.

While Gu Qing Shan was thinking, the Card that depicted him in the War God UI had turned around, now fully turned Azure.

Lines of glowing notifications popped up:

[You've obtained an Azure Card: True Crimson Demon Spear]

[Your grade as an Envoy of Condemnation has been promoted to Azure]

[You can now learn a new Card ability: Fusing Cards]

All of a sudden, all the text on the War God UI disappeared.

A young girl wearing a white dress appeared on the UI.

Little Dusk.

She looked straight at Gu Qing Shan and smiled shyly: [Hey, this is a recording I left within the Condemnation deck so that one day, if I ever find a partner, I would be able to use this recording to help him understand the skill of Fusing Cards]

[That's why, if you can see this, you must be my one and only partner]

Little Dusk put her hands together and joyfully said: [Now I'll teach you how to Fuse Cards]

She began drawing Card after Card from the void of space until she had a total of 12 Cards in her hand.

These Cards were then displayed for Gu Qing Shan to see.

[First of all, you must understand that a world consists of the four elements of Earth, Water, Fire, and Wind]

Little Dusk began her explanation:

[Because of this, when we Fuse Cards, a total of 4 Cards must be used as a foundation, each of which must individually contain the four elemental powers of Earth, Water, Fire, and Wind]

[After that, you must understand yourself and base it on your preferences to choose the supplementary Cards that create your world]

[Most importantly, you must understand the reason why you've created a world in the first place]

After saying so, Little Dusk put the Cards in the void of space in front of herself and put them together one by one.

[When Fusing Cards, you must be swift, while also considering the compatibility of your cards, thinking of whether or not the Cards would counteract or supplement one another, or perhaps create any wondrous and unexpected reaction—— this is a process that requires a lot of experimentation]

While talking, she had finished putting the 12 Cards into one another, completing the Card Fusion process.

[Look, this is a sub-world that I've put together]

Little Dusk spoke as if to brag to Gu Qing Shan about her creation.

It was a world of flowers.

Little Dusk swiftly moved and appeared inside the world of flowers.

Lifting a flower in her hand, she looked at Gu Qing Shan: [How is it? Isn't it wonderful? It took me a lot of work to gather all of these flowers]

She ran happily back and forth in the sea of flowers, happily giggling all the way.

The image slowly faded away.

Gu Qing Shan felt a bit emotional.

Indeed, Little Dusk had a special love for flowers, but as soon as the Divine race discovered this, they immediately sealed her away.

Because they thought that she had regained her emotions and memories from the Bygone Era.

This way, their fake identity as 'Gods' would be revealed.

Little Dusk...

Where exactly is she right now?

Gu Qing Shan fell into thought.

I'm her one and only partner, so I have to save her.

At this point, the War God UI returned to normal.

Lines of glowing text appeared again:

[You've learnt the basics of Fusing Cards]

[Please use your identity as an Envoy or Condemnation and fuse Cards to create a sub-world]

[According to known information, this is the only shortcut for you to increase your strength]

Gu Qing Shan swiftly skimmed through everything.

Indeed, according to the giant corpse, I need to find items that contain the Law of the Inner Plane, seal them into Cards, then fuse them to create a miniature Inner Plane world, in which I can face my Tribulation.

— — — this would ensure that the Measure Tribulation I face was a normal one.

But it would be an arduous and long process to look for any item that contained the Law of the Inner Plane.

It would take an insane amount of effort, wealth, and most importantly, time.

Now that I've collected tens of thousands of broken Cards from Sky Haze kingdom, if I use the Heaven sword to return them all to normal, maybe I'll be able to find some of what I need.

Hopefully.

...

While Gu Qing Shan was promoting his Card grade, Lin took his place to massacre the monsters.

She rolled up her sleeves, put up both hands and pressed her other fingers against their thumbs, pointing them towards the sky.

Shu shu shu shu shu!

The sound of the air being ripped apart.

Just by flicking her fingers, a considerable number of monsters from the flocks in the sky were instantly struck down.

The monsters weren't completely stupid, as soon as they saw the enemy that stayed still so far exert so much power, they panicked and ran away.

And then, the truly powerful ones among their ranks stepped out.

Several dozens of the same giant monster that Lin killed with one punch earlier appeared at once.

They stood in a solid formation, led by a monster even stronger than they were and charged towards Lin.

Facing this considerable force, the now-heavily-wounded Lin couldn't afford to stand still any longer.

Lin couldn't help but turn back to look at Gu Qing Shan.

He still had both eyes closed, still meditating.

" Tch, seems like my wounds aren't going to heal properly"

Lin regretfully said.

She held her breath, put up both hands, and stood in front of Gu Qing Shan to protect him.

All of a sudden, a leaf that gave off an emerald glow appeared from thin air.

As soon as the leaf showed up, Lin noticed it.

She recognized this leaf—— as it was this thing that gave Gu Qing Shan his armor.

Gu Qing Shan also told her that this was a technique from an ally.

So Lin ignored the leaf and maintained her stance, silently watching as the monsters charged at her from above.

However, the leaf fluttered in front of her and turned into a space tunnel around the size of her palm.

A glowing green bottle flew out from the tunnel, stopping in front of Lin.

Accompanied by a young girl's voice:

“Big sis, you seemed to be wounded, this is the best healing medicine within the 900 million World Layers, please drink it”

As Lin looked at the bottle with the glowing green serum, she froze briefly.

“The Pixie royal family's [Spring of Eternal Youth]...”

She whispered, took the bottle and popped off the cap.

Right away, a faint fragrance drifted from the bottle and was blown by the wind to spread all around where she stood.

A blanket of grass instantly filled the ground where she stood.

Saplings were visibly sprouting from the ground, arbitrarily growing as they showed up out of nowhere.

Worms, crickets, locusts, and other small insectile life forms also came out from the grass.

“This is genuine [Spring of Eternal Youth], the value of this one bottle is simply...”

Lin stopped hesitating and drank the entire thing.

Ka-rak, rak, rak rak!

The joints all over Lin's body started to pop.

Following that, her pale complexion faded away, replaced by a healthy pinkish hue.

Pff!

Lin spat out a clot of black blood.

——this was actually the unhealthy bruised blood within her body that was pushed out by her now recovered organs.

Another leaf appeared and formed another space tunnel.

The young girl's voice came again: "Big sis, I still need to traverse several more worlds to reach where you are, please protect big bro for the time being"

Following her voice, a full set of golden armor and a pair of gauntlets that occasionally gave off a faint Fire Elemental reaction appeared in front of Lin.

Lin stared speechlessly at the golden armor and the pair of gauntlets.

She sighed.

It was only now that she finally understood what the rooster meant earlier by 'wealth that far surpasses anyone else in the 900 million World Layers'.

Chapter 934

Lin reached her hand out and lightly touched the armor.

The armor immediately scattered into its components and equipped itself onto her body.

Lin then equipped the crimson gauntlets onto her hands.

She casually clenched her fists.

An intense flame emerged from the gauntlets and enveloped her body.

"Interesting, an Elemental-infused pair of gauntlets. These are indeed very rare"

Lin moved her body a bit and slowly muttered.

Within the burning flames, her fighting spirit slowly rose.

The [Spring of Eternal Youth] was an extremely scarce healing artifact, so it was able to heal all the wounds on her body in a short period of time.

Right now, Lin had returned to her peak condition when she was still a human.

—-while being heavily wounded and could only move her hands, Lin managed to beat a {Yama King} realm monster to death in a single punch.

Then, how powerful was she actually when she regained her full strength?

Lin didn't move from where she was and simply stood there, protecting Gu Qing Shan behind her.

She looked up at the monsters charging at her and whispered:

"Fire represents destruction. If I remember correctly... there was an elemental fist technique that was lost with time"

She clenched her fist tightly and threw a punch at the monsters several dozen miles away!

It was an incredible sight.

From extremely far away, it looked as if a blinding 'comet' ascended to the sky, burnt through everything on its path, and shot far into the void above.

The monsters charging at Lin and Gu Qing Shan were burnt to a crisp in mere moments.

Wherever the 'comet' of flames passed through, the void of space itself shattered, all things were destroyed, even the monsters hidden in space far above were consumed by the flames and returned to nothingness.

The extreme blinding light swiftly left this world, giving off an illusion that the world had suddenly turned dark.

———-the sky began to fall.

Everything around was burnt to ash, the void of space itself was collapsing.

"So my elemental fist technique had become this rusty. To not be able to control the power of an attack, I'm disappointed with myself..." Lin softly scolded herself.

The world fell to silence.

She silently stood and looked at the slowly appearing space vortex in the sky with a lonely expression.

All of a sudden, the faint image of a great tree appeared within this world.

Numerous emerald glowing leaves fluttered down the tree, gathered and formed a green glowing tunnel.

The image of the great tree only remained for one breath's worth of time before it slowly faded.

All the green leaves scattered away.

When all the leaves fell to the ground, a graceful little girl wearing a long dress appeared in front of Lin.

The little girl had an energetic pair of eyes, a slightly sharp chin, and a simple ponytail hairdo, she also wasn't wearing jewelry or accessories at all.

She seemed to dress very simply and was considerably young, but her every gesture gave off an undeniable air of elegance and grace.

The little girl smiled sweetly and spoke: "Big sis, it is nice to meet you, I am Laura"

"Nice to meet you too, I'm Lin" Lin slightly bowed to greet Laura and spoke with a serious tone: "The serum you gave had allowed me to fully recover, and I thank you for that"

Seeing her sincere attitude, Laura silently nodded.

This woman is vastly stronger than any living being of the 900 million World Layers, almost at the same level as those monsters from the Abyss, yet she's very thorough with her debts and gratitude, not at all self-righteous due to her strength.

No wonder she's traveling with big bro.

Also...

Laura's mind swiftly turned and asked: "Big sis, are you my brother's sweetheart?"

"What's a 'sweetheart'?" Lin doubtfully asked.

"In normal terms, something like a girlfriend or spouse"

"Ah, not at all. I'm his elder sister, we are traveling together within the 900 million World Layers in search for our lost relatives"

Regardless of the situation, Lin decided to go with the scenario that she discussed with Gu Qing Shan first.

Laura's expression didn't change at all, but she was very surprised in her heart.

—-that's not right, big bro is an orphan just like me.

Then this woman is hiding something from me.

But from what I observed through the treasure, in that battle just now, this woman was in fact protecting big bro.

And she has been traveling with him.

—-alright, maybe she has her own circumstances and this was the explanation that she and big bro decided on after discussion.

Maintaining caution against someone you meet for the first time is necessary, so there's nothing to blame her for.

And I don't need to get to the bottom of this either, as long as she isn't hostile towards big bro.

With that in mind, Laura nodded: "Then you're also my elder sister"

She then pulled a small backpack out of nowhere and searched through it.

"A meeting gift for Gu Qing Shan's elder sister, I can't be too shameful..."

Seeing her serious expression as she searched, Lin silently chuckled.

Earlier, it was because I was wounded and was in the middle of a battle that I received her [Spring of Eternal Youth] and equipment.

In truth, I've always been a simple person who doesn't care for wealth.

In this long life, the one things I've always pursued were martial arts, justice, and vengeance.

So if she's trying to give me something, I might as well refuse.

—-the most important thing about living, is the pursuit of spiritual sanctity, there is no need for too much materialism.

And this has always been my attitude.

Lin calmly thought.

It was now that Laura's excited voice sounded:

"Found it!"

She took out a big mirror and put it in front of Lin.

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"Big sis, this is the Mirror world"

"Did you just say... world?"

"Yes, this world isn't very big, only around 5 million kilometers squared. The entire coastline consists of beaches in perfect condition—— I've employed some people from the 900 million World Layers: 5 top-class chefs, 7 hair-stylists, 15 jewelry designers, 24 scientists, and 30 outfit designers to manage this world so it's filled with the most trendy outfits, accessories, and jewelries that can cater to every occasion. When not in a hurry, you can also enjoy some afternoon tea, go sunbathing, or summon these specialists for any of your personal needs"

"Why are there also scientists?" Lin couldn't help but ask.

Laura replied: "Because some professional jobs require the help of professionals. Like, designing awesome supercars, stylish space shuttles, message robots or machines that are most suitable for relaxing, or even the most trendy interstellar communication devices, they'll be there to give you the most suitable suggestions and help you create them"

"..." Lin.

Laura pushed the mirror onto Lin and said with a begging expression: "This world isn't worth a lot of money, but it contains everything that a girl would ever need, so I think big sis would probably like it. It's just a small bit of my care, please accept it, big sis"

".....You are truly an adorable little girl" Lin replied.

She then put the mirror into her personal storage space.

Lin thought for a bit and said: "Since this is our first meeting, I don't have much that I can give to a little sister, but you can have this"

She drew a glowing rune in the void of space, grabbed it with her hand, and put it into Laura's palm.

"Big sis, what is this?"

Laura asked in surprise.

The rune of light disappeared as it touched her palm.

If this rune was dangerous, the Bramble Saint Tree would immediately appear to protect me.

But the Bramble Saint Tree had remained silent for the past while.

"This contains one single strike from me, when you are in critical danger, it would automatically activate to protect you" Lin replied.

Laura sincerely bowed and thanked her: "Thank you big sis!"

You're joking, this woman is insanely stronger than anyone I've ever seen, and with the apocalypse approaching, having a single time of her protection constantly with me is something that anyone could only dream to have.

Both of them suddenly stopped.

They turned to look behind Lin.

Gu Qing Shan had woken up, currently smiling at them.

"Gu Qing Shan!"

Laura uttered a loud cry as she leapt towards him.

Gu Qing Shan swiftly caught Laura and stroked her head, smiling while asking: "How have you been lately?"

"Waaah~ not good, not good at all"

"What's the matter?"

"Being an empress is so much hard work"

"Tell me, what's been troubling you?"

"Every day, countless worlds want to establish relations with my kingdom, I already ignored them and they still insist without backing down that they wanted to establish a friendly relation with us, it's so troublesome!!"

"Ahaha, you'll get used to it" Gu Qing Shan smiled and replied.

"Gu Qing Shan, I had come to look for you because the Apocalypse is approaching the infinite worlds, I need someone to fight alongside me" Laura told him

"How's the situation in the 900 million World Layers right now?" Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but ask.

"Really terrible. All sorts of powerful Abyssal monsters are infiltrating the 900 million World Layers, besides a few very unique forces and entities, nothing and no one is able to stop them" Laura replied.

"How's the Bramble Bird Kingdom?"

"We reside deep within the Mystic Zones, since we have the Bramble Saint Tree and various natural dangers as our barrier, as well as being close to the Unending Abyss of the broken worlds, so any enemy that tried to approach us had to reconsider"

"The Unending Abyss of the broken worlds? Ah, I remember now, the Bramble Bird Sovereign armor was something that a previous emperor used [Shelter of Infinite Worlds] and found within the Unending Abyss of the broken worlds, wasn't it?"

“That’s right, so our Bramble Bird Kingdom is still safe for now, but using various items, I discovered even more terrifying Abyssal monsters heading into the 900 million World Layers. If all of those monsters came to us at once, the Bramble Bird Kingdom would face danger as well!”

Laura’s young face showed a dignified expression and solemnly asked: “Gu Qing Shan, I now solemnly ask you to fight alongside me, are you willing to?”

Seeing her putting up an appearance, Gu Qing Shan chuckled: “There are surely many worlds looking to fight alongside our Empress Laura”

Seeing his casual attitude, Laura’s presence deflated and mumbled: “I don’t want to join hands with those guys at all. They’re all either panicking, trying to fake remaining calm, or couldn’t come up with any reasonable solution, I’m angry just looking at them”

—she had already been through a journey to hell and back with Gu Qing Shan, she saw with her own eyes how Gu Qing Shan defeated the 2 million demonized people by himself and repelled the [Demon King Order].

Because of that, Laura’s vision was extraordinarily high.

“Are you sure you want to fight alongside me?”

“Hm, I really miss that feeling. Personally, I feel that if I wanted to fight to the bitter end without any regrets, it would be with you”

“Very well, your majesty, it would be my honor”

Hearing that, Laura jumped from joy.

Immediately realizing her lack of etiquette, she softly cleared her throat and lifted her chin:

“Hmph, it took a really long time to find you, y’know. That is how much I respect your— erm, your—”

“My ingenuity?”

“Yes! That is how much I respect your ingenuity as an Empress!”

Gu Qing Shan and Lin exchanged glances.

They both smiled.

Laura had a natural sense of presence about her that allowed others to feel assured.

She was naturally dignified without being pretentious; clearly mischievous but also heavily emphasized her etiquette and appearance, causing others to be naturally drawn to her.

“Alright, then we have something we need to do now” Gu Qing Shan said.

“What is it?” Laura asked.

Gu Qing Shan took his Bramble Bird Kingdom’s Duke medal.

“Ah? You mean I can announce you to be our Bramble Bird Kingdom’s Duke right now?” Laura excitedly asked.

“Not me”

“Hm?”

“I want you to announce to the 900 million World Layers that Ye Fei Li had become the Duke of the Bramble Bird Kingdom”

“Ye Fei Li!?”

“Yes, this is a signal that will allow an important ally of mine to find me”

“Alright”

Chapter 935

Laura accepted Gu Qing Shan’s request without hesitation.

“An outsider becoming a Duke of the Bramble Bird Kingdom—— this is definitely going to cause a huge commotion, but who’s Ye Fei Li?” Laura asked.

“Another ally of mine” Gu Qing Shan replied.

Laura suddenly understood: “I see, since you are being wanted by the 7 Daemons it’s not suitable for you to show yourself; so you use the name of one ally to draw another ally to meet you. That’s certainly a good idea”

“That’s right, this is the only way I can think of to contact him”

“Then—— to avoid people having similar names, do you have a way to distinguish Ye Fei Li from others?” Laura asked.

Gu Qing Shan couldn’t help but fall into thought.

That’s true, there are 900 million World Layers with tens of thousands, perhaps millions of worlds in each of them.

There might be countless people with the name Ye Fei Li.

After thinking for a brief moment, Gu Qing Shan smiled:

“Then we’ll introduce him this way: human male who came from a certain Scattered World, a first-timer in the 900 million World Layers, Ye Fei Li”

He then casually formed a hand seal and used spirit energy to show Ye Fei Li’s appearance.

“Here, this is what he looks like”

“Huh, so that’s your friend, he looks quite green... very well, let me tell Ilya and the others”

Laura took out an emerald glowing leaf and wrote a long message on it.

She read it through once before throwing the leaf out.

After fluttering a few times in the air, the leaf vanished.

“There, a few hours later, the entire 900 million World Layers will know that the Bramble Bird Kingdom had appointed a new Duke with real authority— I can’t wait to see the shocked expressions on everyone’s faces” Laura triumphantly giggled.

At this time, something seemed to be moving in the sky.

The three of them looked up.

A gigantic fish whose body obscured the sky itself was flying past this world.

Gu Qing Shan and Laura were only surprised because they had never seen such a gigantic fish before.

But Lin became tense.

“Hide your presence, this one is very powerful. From what I can tell, it’s currently hungry— although we are extremely tiny, we should still be cautious” Lin told him in a low voice.

Gu Qing Shan swiftly formed a presence concealment hand seal.

Lin stood still, but her presence slowly receded until it couldn’t be felt anymore, as if she did not even exist in the first place.

Laura took out a flower umbrella and put it up above her head.

She then pulled Gu Qing Shan and Lin underneath it.

“It’s ok now, we can talk” Laura said.

Gu Qing Shan and Lin briefly sensed themselves.

Their presence seemed to have completely vanished.

This was miraculous.

“What treasure is this?” Gu Qing Shan looked at the umbrella in her hand and asked.

Laura giggled: “Take a guess”

“I don’t remember you having this kind of presence concealment treasure— and you have too many treasures to count, how could I guess?” Gu Qing Shan replied.

Lin looked a bit at the umbrella and muses: “This seems like a manifestation of some sort of ability”

“Big sis really does know a lot” Laura said, “This is the manifestation of my first ability— after my coming of age ceremony, my abilities continued to mature and finally manifested as this flower umbrella”

Gu Qing Shan realized what she was talking about.

“I see, so this is [Shelter of Infinite Worlds]” he said.

“That’s exactly right” Laura nodded.

[Shelter of Infinite Worlds] was a powerful Mystic ability that Laura had since birth, capable of ensuring that no one could discover her.

During Triste's betrayal, even after the entire Aboul resort area was surrounded and underwent a carpet-type search, no one was able to discover Laura's existence.

It was by pure coincidence that Gu Qing Shan got to know Laura who hid in the same royal green room he was in.

And after her coming of age ceremony, Laura's ability had finally matured and manifested as an item that could shelter other people as well.

The three of them silently stared at the giant fish as it slowly flew across the sky.

"Big sis, earlier you seemed to recognize what that fish was?" Laura asked.

"I do. That is an Abyssal Drifter, they hunt through sensing the presence of their prey" Lin replied.

Laura turned to look at Lin.

"I'm actually from the Abyss as well" Lin casually admitted.

From the Abyss?

Laura had a look of horror in her eyes as she hurriedly turned towards Gu Qing Shan.

"She's an ally, there's no need to worry. But she went through a lot of hardship in the Abyss and had to endure it all by herself for many years, only making it back recently" Gu Qing Shan explained.

"Ah—"

Laura softly sighed.

She had absolute trust in Gu Qing Shan.

If Gu Qing Shan said so, then it must be the truth.

She looked at Lin and couldn't help but think of her old self.

When mother, father, and brother were murdered, how much despair and sorrow did I go through by myself hiding in that royal green room?

If Gu Qing Shan hadn't appeared at the time, what would I have gone through after that?

Laura suddenly found herself sympathizing with this powerful woman in front of her.

"Hold this for me"

Laura gave her umbrella to Gu Qing Shan, turned around, and hugged Lin with both arms.

"It's ok, big sis, everything is in the past now" she softly consoled her.

Lin froze.

"From now on, you have me and big bro, we will help you with everything" Laura continued.

Lin's gaze turned to Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan swiftly nodded with clear resolve.

“Big sis, you don’t need to think about the sad things anymore, it’s great that you’ve returned” Laura said.

Lin couldn’t hold it in any longer, tried her best to control her lips that were about to curl downwards and looked away.

She brought one hand up to wipe her cheeks.

Looking at this pair of big and little girls, Gu Qing Shan silently sighed.

Laura was a child who went through a lot of hardship.

And from Lin’s reaction, she definitely has a lot of old sorrowful tales.

But regardless if they were brave or cowardly, heroic, or sorrowful, living in this age of Apocalypse meant that they couldn’t afford to worry only about themselves.

Every moment, a comrade, a close friend, a family member can leave you, possibly never to return.

This was the shared fate of all living beings in the Apocalypse.

Gu Qing Shan went silent for a brief moment and couldn’t help but shake his head.

This damned Apocalypse.

Who can stop this Apocalypse?

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...I really want to get rid of this Apocalypse.

...

One day later.

Outside of the 900 million World Layers.

Gu Qing Shan’s homeworld.

“A bit earlier, the tide of the Eternal Abyss erupted, all the information channels of the 900 million World Layers were broken and scattered, but you still insist on wanting to look for him?” Kitty asked.

“Yes”

Ye Fei Li checked his luggage one last time and spoke: “The Tower of Infinite Worlds must be watched over by boss Barry, big sis Kitty also need to help seal off the encroaching presence of the Abyss, while also helping the wounded, watching over this world, and prevent the Abyss from coming any closer— since the two of you cannot leave this world, only I can go to look for him”

“Wait” Barry cut in: “I’m going to ask you again. The distance between us and Gu Qing Shan is the entire nearly-destroyed Fallen Zones, as well as the camouflaged Strife Zones. Not only are the Soul Shrieker and [Demon King Order] fighting against one another, the Abyssal Demon Dragon has also taken over

the 7 Holy Churches, as well as countless other monsters from the Eternal Abyss who came to take refuge from the Apocalypse. This is essentially a situation with a 99% death rate, even while knowing all that, you still insist on looking for him?”

“Yes” Ye Fei Li answered without hesitation.

“Why?” Barry asked.

“Without him, I would have already fallen to become a monster who lived only to kill, unable to save my mother or avenge my girlfriend——”

Ye Fei Li finished donning his leather armor and continued: “I know myself, other than writing a few strategy guides for online games, I don’t have any talent to speak of. After spending all that time to finally go through the entire Tower of Infinite Worlds, I’ve finally gained just a bit of strength, so I need to come and fight by his side”

Barry and Kitty exchanged glances.

“Very good, that’s how a man should be, Fei Li, you’ve made me proud” Barry told him.

Kitty pulled on something behind Ye Fei Li’s back and said: “The Void String I’ve given you can only be used once, but it has enough power to pull an entire group of people back to the Club”

Ye Fei Li solemnly bowed to the two of them: “Thank you, boss Barry, big sis Kitty, for teaching and taking care of me up to now, I’ll be on my way now”

Barry patted him on the shoulder: “No need to strain yourself. If something goes really wrong, return to the Club, as long as you still have your life, you’ll always have another chance to find Gu Qing Shan”

“Yes. Big sis Kitty, please” Ye Fei Li nodded again and again.

Kitty reached her hand out and pushed him.

In a flash, Ye Fei Li vanished from this world.

“Where did you send him?” Barry asked.

“A world on the border of the Strife Zones where he would be able to look for the way to move forward on his own, but how far he’d be able to go is fully dependent on himself” Kitty replied.

“It’s actually very hard to find Gu Qing Shan” Barry commented.

“That’s right, extremely hard” Kitty agreed.

“But he insisted on going”

“That’s why he received big bro’s recognition”

“Hm, let him go, those worlds might be dangerous, but it’s also a kind of training—— anyone who wants to become a true Combatant must go through a journey to steel and train themselves”

“Big bro, can you stop trying to look cool with that tone of voice while your face is so worried you can’t even unfurrow your eyebrows?”

“—hah, back when we went on training, we at least had ourselves to look out for one another. Ye Fei Li is too honest, and he’s all alone...”

Barry and Kitty exchanged glances, both very worried.

All of a sudden, their Holo-brain lit up: [Boss Barry, miss Kitty, a wave of Abyssal presence is heading towards this world, please direct if off-course so that the world doesn’t get corroded]

“Got it, on our way”

The brother-sister pair couldn’t help but return to their job of protecting Gu Qing Shan’s homeworld.

...

Ye Fei Li appeared in a lively world.

—this was a famous underground market world.

He looked around at the various people around with strange and unusual traits who still maintained a level of humanoid characteristics, then felt a bit nervous.

This was the first time he left his homeworld.

Which means this was his first adventure.

“Let’s begin”

Ye Fei Li took a deep breath and headed for a certain information brokerage establishment.

On his way, some people keep looking at him with malicious intent.

Wait...

Their gazes don’t seem like malicious intent, just a bit too excited.

What’s going on?

Did they recognize me as a newcomer?

I don’t have any wealth on me though. Barry and Kitty only taught me a few common languages without giving me any money, but they said that the Club can borrow money with our credit anywhere in the 900 million World Layers, so there shouldn’t be any issues.

So why are these people looking at me like that?

With such doubts in mind, Ye Fei Li began walking faster.

Numerous Professionals followed him into a famous information brokerage establishment.

The owner of the establishment had been waiting to receive Ye Fei Li at the door.

“Esteemed sir, would you like to use our services?”

“Ah, yes. I need some information, and a ship”

“It is our establishment’s honor to be able to serve you, please come in”

“Alright”

Ye Fei Li followed the owner inside.

The surrounding Professionals could no longer hold themselves back.

Someone loudly shouted: “Sir! Are you Ye Fei Li? Ye Fei Li who came from a Scattered World?”

Ye Fei Li doubtfully turned around to look at the man, then replied: “I am——— why do you know me?”

Oooooo———

The entire street broke out in loud discussion.

“My god, it really is him”

“That’s really him”

“Tsk tsk, the new Bramble Bird Kingdom’s...”

“Unimaginable wealth!”

“But who dares to touch a hair on him?”

“Triste’s outcome...”

“That was truly...”

“Let’s think of something quick, maybe we can flatter...”

Everyone was going crazy.

This was completely above Ye Fei Li’s expectation.

“I don’t know any of them, but they seem to all know about me... What’s going on here? So strange...”

He couldn’t help muttering to himself.

The owner of the establishment was walking with a slight hunch on his back and grinned flatteringly:

“Mister Ye, no, no, perhaps I should call you Your Dukeship right now—— you truly know how to joke around, who in the 900 million World Layers doesn’t know about you at this point?”

Ye Fei Li froze.

What?

What the heck is going on?

Chapter 936

A wooden sail ship was moving forward through the space vortex.

As the ship itself wasn't too big, and it was made entirely from a branch of the Bramble Saint Tree, the ship had a powerful camouflage ability. Even if it ran into any monsters in the space vortex, they would only think of it as a drifting branch being swept along by the wind.

Lin had pulled Laura down below the deck of the ship to talk with her, leaving Gu Qing Shan alone on the deck.

There were a total of 36 Cards on the ground in front of him.

As soon as she heard Gu Qing Shan needed Cards, Laura took out her personal collection for Gu Qing Shan to choose as he liked.

After the battle against the [Demon King Order], even Lord Bloodcloak was shocked by a single Card in the Bramble Bird royal vault that was chosen as his reward.

And so, one could only imagine the value of these 36 Cards that Laura had specifically kept for her personal collection that she gave Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan randomly picked one of them up.

This Card depicted a shifty gnome with a large bag on his back.

A line of text appeared below the Card.

[Unique Card: The Gnome of Wealth] ¹

[Description: Unleashing this Card at night will surely bring you unimaginable wealth overnight]

[Special note: After obtaining this Card, you need to make sure to maintain a righteous and just outer appearance, as well as the ability to provide an alibi at a moment's notice]

Gu Qing Shan picked up this Card and looked at the void of space in front of his eyes.

Lines of glowing text were floating there.

[Please create your own world through the method taught by Little Dusk]

[Reminder: As you already have a temporary eye technique world, if you use it as a basis for fusing Cards and create a new world, the difficulty of creating a new world would greatly decrease while the created world would be a lot more powerful]

Reading this reminder, Gu Qing Shan asked: "If I fuse them that way, what form would my created Card world exist in?"

The War God System replied: [It will exist as part of your Iris Sword technique, furthermore, thank you for 20 Soul Points]

Gu Qing Shan understood it a bit better.

The Fairy of Time also informed him the same thing regarding his Iris Sword technique and Cards.

So this was most likely the best way.

Gu Qing Shan put the [Gnome of Wealth] Card down and looked at the other Cards here.

——36 Cards, all of which were Unique Cards.

It is probably unprecedented to be this luxurious to create a single world.

But there's an important prerequisite.

Since I'm creating a world to face my Tribulation, I will need to use a Card that came from the Inner Plane.

If I couldn't find any, I would have to look for items that contain the Law of the Inner Plane and seal them into a Card.

Gu Qing Shan glanced through the 36 Cards and continued this train of thought.

Fortunately, since Laura took care of this for me, this problem is already solved.

I don't need to think too much about that and just consider the final issue.

——*what kind of world do I need?*

For fighting, fully dedicating myself to swordsmanship is more than enough.

I also have powerful supportive means in the form of my Lightning Thaumaturgy and the two movements techniques.

The Iris Sword was actually a form of experiment I tried out before reaching the Great Attainment stage of Sword Saint and gained the ability to control 1200 flying swords.

——*an experiment to converge all my power into one sword.*

But before I was able to go too deep with this experiment, I've already created a Thaumaturgy in the form of the Iris Sword.

Gu Qing Shan had a feeling that his swordsmanship cultivation would require a longer period of training in order to reach the next level.

Then, what kind of world do I need now?

Besides helping me pass my Measure Tribulation, this world will need to be usable in later combat as well.

Gu Qing Shan contemplated this for a long while.

He sat there and completely lost himself in his thoughts, not realizing even after Laura and Lin had come out.

When Laura was about to call out to him, Lin pulled her back.

Lin shook her head towards Laura and brought her back down below deck.

“He's currently immersed in a miraculous state of comprehension. Most likely he had just come up with a general idea for his advancement, so we shouldn't break him out of it right now” Lin explained.

“Ah, so that’s what’s going on. I was just about to suggest going to an auction house to pick out a few more things for big bro” Laura muttered.

Hearing her, Lin couldn’t help but put a hand on her forehead and asked: “You still need to buy things at an auction house?”

Laura replied with a serious expression: “Big sis, you don’t understand, I usually like to collect rare and unusual treasures, but haven’t really paid any attention to cultivator’s items before, so I don’t have anything that big bro can use——”

At this point, she paused and furrowed her eyebrows.

“Ah... I think I ordered Ilya to do something along the same line, but I can’t quite remember...”

As she muttered, Laura took an emerald green leaf out and put it in the air.

The leaf turned into a hologram that showed Ilya’s appearance.

From the looks of it, she seemed to be busy with something in the royal palace.

“Your Majesty, is there something you need from me?” Ilya asked in surprise.

Laura hesitantly asked: “Ah, it’s just that, I seem to remember telling you something about cultivators’ treasures and items—— did I ever say that?”

Ilya swiftly replied: “You certainly did, when we returned from the Aboul resort, you mentioned to me to collect a few cultivation-type treasures”

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Laura patted her chest and said in relief: “Then I didn’t misremember—— how much did you manage to collect?”

“Your Majesty, last time we went over the Bramble Bird Kingdom’s 9,745 treasure vault worlds, you even took a look at them yourself, did you already forget?” Ilya asked.

Laura became a bit flushed and forcefully changed the subject: “There were so many worlds, how could I have looked through every single one of them. Ilya, just tell me”

“Very well, let me check...”

Ilya took out a thick book and flipped through it.

“Found it. Your Majesty, according to our records, every world from #8564 to #8691 is full of cultivation-type treasures and items” she reported.

“Ok, I got it. Make the preparations, we’ll go pick some out when we return”

“Understood, you can be assured, Your Majesty”

Laura nodded and took the leaf back.

She turned around and happily looked at Lin, telling her: “Big sis, thank god that you reminded me, otherwise, I would’ve actually taken you on a trip to the auction house, that would have been a real waste of time”

Lin: “...”

While they were talking, Gu Qing Shan was still sitting on the deck of the ship, muttering to himself while thinking about what kind of Card world he should create.

“Swordsmanship, both illusory and real”

“Eye technique, create a world”

“Cards, combine them both, creating a world of both illusion and reality”

He suddenly picked up a certain Card.

The Card depicted a 9-headed lizard that was made entirely from frost.

[Unique Card: 9-headed Mones, the ancient Envoy of Frost]

[Description: Using this Card will summon the ancient world-destroying monster, the 9-headed Envoy of Frost from the world of Permafrost to fight for you]

[Note: This ancient monster had existed since eons ago, never once made friends with any creatures or living beings. Only once has it offered this summoning Card in order to repay someone else for their favor]

Gu Qing Shan glanced at the Card.

Frost and ice were the other forms of Elemental Water, so according to Little Dusk, it could be used to create a World.

He then drew three more Cards.

[Unique Card: The Grand Lord of Flame]

[Unique Card: The Elemental Prince of Wind]

[Unique Card: Guardian of the Great Deep Forest Mountain Range]

—these four Unique summoning Cards make up the four Elements of Earth, Water, Fire, and Wind.

Gu Qing Shan’s hands turned into blurred images as he swiftly placed the four Cards together.

Almost immediately the Cards in Gu Qing Shan’s hands began to give off a miraculous resonance.

The earliest form of his World was about to be created.

At this point, the Grand Lord of Flames abruptly roared: 「 Who is it, who has the courage to use our power to create a world!? 」

All four legendary entities on the Unique Cards noticed and turned to look at Gu Qing Shan.

『 May the wind tell me of this one's background 』 the Elemental Prince of Wind whispered.

It then lightly pointed at Gu Qing Shan from the Card.

Various complicated runes then appeared around Gu Qing Shan to form an Azure border.

Azure Card: [Sword cultivator Gu Qing Shan]!

Gu Qing Shan had directly manifested himself as a Card!

The four entities spoke at once: 「 『 『 『 So it is the origin of all Cards, the Envoy with the power to condemn the sin of all living beings! 』 』 』 』

They turned away and returned to silence.

Hoh——

The four Cards vanished, turning into four clusters of shining light that lightly floated in the air.

The first step of creating the world had been completed!

Gu Qing Shan wasn't at all affected by what just happened and picked up another Card from the ground.

[Unique Card: Eye of Reality]

[Description: This is a Law Card that can turn an illusion into reality, the ultimate alchemical Card of legend, background unknown]

[Unique Card: The Weave's Embrace]

[Description: The strongest spatial conversion Card. With a certain catalyst, you may bring the target into a certain world. This Card is rumored to have originated from a place that living beings from the Outer Plane could never reach]

[Unique Card: Observer of Illusion]

[Description: Through using this Card, you can enter any illusory space of choice to observe and feel the events that happened inside, no one in history has been able to create a second copy of this Card]

[Unique Card: Mind Creation]

[Description: By activating this Card, you can create an illusory world with a completed set of Laws]

[Unique Card: Illusory Dream]

[Description: This is a Law Card that can turn reality into an illusion, background unknown]

Indeed, among the 36 Cards, Gu Qing Shan had specifically chosen only the ones whose backgrounds were unknown.

——the reason why they were so unique and powerful with a background that could not be traced was most likely because they came from the Inner Plane.

In other words, these Cards were the ones that Gu Qing Shan truly wanted to find!

Chapter 937

Looking at the Cards in front of him, Gu Qing Shan took a deep breath to calm himself down.

He separated the four Cards that represented Earth, Water, Fire, and Wind from one another and placed them into a line together with the Inner Plane Cards.

Then he closed his eyes to adjust his breathing.

A few moments later.

Once Gu Qing Shan felt that he had adjusted his state to its peak, he reached his hands out and began fusing the Cards.

First, create a foundation for the world with the Elements of Earth, Water, Fire, and Wind.

He swiftly placed the four Cards together.

This time, the Cards obediently did as he wanted and projected the scene forming the foundation of a world.

Gu Qing Shan then picked up another card and put it on top.

——this was the [Mind Creation] Unique Card.

This Card would allow Gu Qing Shan to shape the world according to his thoughts.

After this, Gu Qing Shan picked up two more Cards.

Since he wanted the world with an ability to shift between being an illusion and reality, he put both the [Illusory Dream] and [Eye of Reality] Cards together.

As he placed these two Cards on top, the faintly glowing world began to manifest various different images.

The illusory and real-world had been created.

Gu Qing Shan picked up another Card.

———-[Observer of Illusion]

This Card would allow him to observe another person, while also allowing others to feel the illusion and reality that he created.

When everything could be seen and felt, he would be able to pull others into his world or accompany them.

Which would require the power of [The Weave's Embrace] Card.

Gu Qing Shan swiftly put all these Cards together.

Under his control, the Cards perfectly harmonized and slowly formed the scene of a certain world.

——the Suspended world.

As Gu Qing Shan looked at the Suspended world, his thoughts turned.

The world abruptly changed and turned into the Aboul resort hotel.

Gu Qing Shan's thoughts turned again.

Following his mind, the world changed into the Barren Cloud Heavenly Palace.

Success!

Gu Qing Shan slightly gasped.

— a world created from only Unique Cards, it should be exceptionally rare even within the 900 million World Layers.

And now, I can proceed to the final step.

The final step—

Gu Qing Shan held his breath and stared at the projection of the world created from Cards.

Under his gaze, the entire world abruptly vanished.

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

[You have created a world using Cards from the Inner Plane]

[You have fused this world together with your Iris Sword and created a small Inner Plane world with its complete set of Laws]

[Your Iris Sword technique has been changed]

[You have created an entirely new World Technique, please name this technique]

Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but ask: "Aren't there any descriptions of this eye technique?"

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

[This is a technique you created, and you don't even know?]

Gu Qing Shan answered very seriously: "Card fusion is supposed to have infinite possibilities, so I really have no idea what kind of technique this is"

Another line of text popped up on the War God UI:

[God knows what kind of ability you created, I've never seen the creation of a World Technique like this before— you can't expect me to fully understand a newly created technique that had never existed before]

Gu Qing Shan fell silent.

This was a World Technique created using my identity as the Envoy of Condemnation, several Inner Plane Cards as the basis of Law, combined with my [True Soul Clearing Eyes].

—-although I know every step of the process, I still don't understand what kind of ability I've actually created.

Not even the War God System knows.

“Hey, can't you at least give me a hint?” Gu Qing Shan complained.

Another line of text popped up on the War God UI:

[You will need to experiment with and grasp this ability on your own—- also, you need to give this World Technique a name, I must preserve it in the data]

After this line of text appeared, regardless of how Gu Qing Shan asked, the War God UI ignored him.

Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but sigh and muttered to himself: “How am I supposed to name an ability that I can't even be sure what it does?”

He took out a spirit energy replenishment pill, swallowed it, and began meditating again.

—-when he escaped from the Measure Tribulation, he used the Heaven sword to knock his own cultivation back down to Three Thousand Worlds realm early stage.

And now, I need to quickly remedy that!

Following this, Gu Qing Shan was fully immersed in advancing his cultivation, when it was time for dinner, he had already reached Three Thousand Worlds realm middle stage again.

—-after all, he had already gone through this process once, there was nothing else for him to comprehend, so all he needed to do was gather and grow his spirit energy reserve.

When he reached Three Thousand Worlds realm middle stage, Gu Qing Shan stopped.

I need to be as careful as I can, no need to advance through my cultivation too rapidly, otherwise, there might be some issues with an unstable foundation.

After all, the Measure Tribulation is still terrifying as it normally is.

Gu Qing Shan stood up, walked to the side of the ship's deck, and looked out towards the endless space vortex.

All sorts of lifeforms and creatures were moving back and forth within the void.

As the Apocalypse approached, the void was becoming more and more lively.

At this point, Laura called out to him from behind:

“Gu Qing Shan, I received some news”

Gu Qing Shan turned around.

Only to see that Laura and Lin had gone to the deck of the ship, currently heading towards him.

“What news?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“It’s about the real Ye Fei Li—— my subordinates discovered some traces of his activities” Laura said with a strange look on her face.

“That’s strange, he should be back in my homeworld right now, how did your people find him?” Gu Qing Shan was surprised.

Laura then explained what happened to Ye Fei Li.

In truth, there was essentially nothing in the 900 million World Layers that could be hidden from the mighty Bramble Bird royal family.

Information brokerage had always been a profitable business.

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And the one thing that the Bramble Birds never lacked was money.

Hearing Laura’s explanation, Gu Qing Shan smiled: “It’s good that he came. Get your people to escort him to the Bramble Bird Kingdom, it’ll be better for us to meet up—— I’m guessing that Zhang Ying Hao would also soon arrive after he receives news of this”

“Are they both your friends?”

“They are, they are also great comrades to have, both went through a lot of things with me”

“If that’s the case, I’ll have it arranged” saying so, Laura went back down into the ship’s cabin.

Gu Qing Shan was in a good mood.

If Zhang Ying Hao and Ye Fei Li can fight alongside me again, my pressure would greatly decrease.

Who doesn’t hope that they have a few trustworthy comrades by their side?

At this point, Gu Qing Shan noticed Lin’s complexion was a bit off.

She seems to be reminiscing about something, while her expression remained calm as always, her eyes showed a hint of sorrow.

Gu Qing Shan looked straight at Lin’s eyes, wanting to say something to distract her.

Then, Gu Qing Shan suddenly felt something.

——a certain thought that wasn’t his appeared in his mind.

At the same time, the newly created World Technique that hadn’t shown any effects up to now could be activated!

Was it because I’m facing Lin’s eyes and it accomplished a certain prerequisite that I could activate this technique?

Gu Qing Shan silently thought to himself.

This was a good chance to test this ability out.

He couldn't help but activate this ability and begin the next step of the World Technique—— conversion between illusion and reality.

A flash.

Lin, the ship, the space vortex, everything vanished from Gu Qing Shan's eyes.

The world had receded away from him.

Emptiness.

And then a world abruptly manifested in front of him without reason or warning.

The sky was burning red.

Billowing smoke was rising far above.

The ground was constantly moving as if it was some sort of living creature.

Gu Qing Shan sensed something and turned his gaze not too far away, immediately noticing Lin.

Lin was wearing a suit of broken armor, kneeling down by a dying girl.

There were corpses all around them.

Human corpses.

"I beg you, please don't die. Endure just a bit longer, the warp tunnel will open very soon" Lin hugged the girl tightly, suppressed her emotions, and begged her in a tiny voice.

Tears were constantly flowing down her face.

The girl struggled to raise her hand and wiped the tears from Lin's cheeks.

"It's useless. We're all going to die, only you managed to adapt to the Abyss, so you will be able to live"

The girl showed a crude smile and spoke.

Lin couldn't hold her tears back any longer.

"This was all because of me, this was because I brought all of you here" she was sobbing.

Saying so, she took out a dagger, wanting to stab her own heart.

The dying girl used the last of her strength to catch Lin's hand.

"Don't blame yourself... Lin. Promise me, don't try to kill yourself, you must persevere"

The girl spat out some blood and continued: "Lin, if you're also dead, then our deaths here would have been completely meaningless"

"Live... for the rest of... us... Live"

The girl's voice slowly weakened.

She was dead.

Lin sat there, frozen for a long while until she abruptly looked up and screamed: “AaaAaAAaaAAH!!!!”

Tears of blood were flowing from her eyes.

Clusters of inexplicable presence gathered from all around, seeping into her body.

Her body slowly began to change.

She had turned into a half-human, half-spider monster!

“I cannot die! I will avenge everyone!”

The world was filled with her cries of despair.

Gu Qing Shan was shocked to witness everything, but before he could react——

The Abyssal Lin, the scattered corpses, the unknown world, everything vanished from his eyes.

He had instantly returned to his original location.

Gu Qing Shan noticed that he was still standing on the deck of the sail ship, looking at Lin.

As if nothing had changed at all.

Gu Qing Shan wiped the cold sweat from his forehead and carefully sensed his surroundings.

Indeed, this is the real world.

It seemed that barely even the blink of an eye had passed.

So what happened just now?

Did I just catch a glimpse of Lin's thoughts, turn it into my own, and manifested it?

What kind of World Technique is this!!!?

No, let's calm down first.

Calm down.

Succeeding a single time doesn't mean anything.

To fully understand what this World Technique could do, I have to try it out a few more times...

At this point, Lin noticed his gaze and asked: “Looking at me like that, do you have something to tell me?”

“No, I'm just thinking that you look like you were concerned about something” Gu Qing Shan replied without changing his expression.

“There weren't any concerns, I was just thinking about something in the past”

Lin calmly answered him.

Gu Qing Shan paused briefly, then tried asking her: “If it's all in the past, why not let it go?”

Lin looked at him and shook her head: "But there are some things that simply can't be let go. They'll always linger in your mind and your heart of your every waking moment, because you know that forgetting them means betraying your own past"

Gu Qing Shan went silent.

Lin walked alone to the rails of on the front of the ship, leaned on it, and watched the endless void outside.

She appeared incredibly lonely.

Chapter 938

Gu Qing Shan, Lin, and Laura rode the Bramble Ship, using a secret route to head towards the Mystic Zones.

At the same time.

At another location.

In a world not too far away from the Seaside world.

The Abyssal Demon Dragon had taken human form, currently escorting someone on a lively main street.

"You're saying that—— all of those things you said needed to go through what you call 'purchasing' in order to turn into your possession, correct?"

The person asked.

The Abyssal Demon Dragon nodded again and again: "Yes, yes, money is a widely recognized embodiment of value that can be used to purchase various things"

"So that's the reason, no wonder when we ate without paying earlier, those people chased us for several blocks" the person commented with interest.

The Abyssal Demon Dragon showed a flattering smile and said: "Your Excellency, if you had just given me an order, I would have easily killed those people"

"No, that is too uninteresting. It's a lot more fun to abide by rules" the person turned around and glared at the Demon Dragon like a warning.

The Abyssal Demon Dragon immediately answered: "Of course, everything is as you will"

"That's much better. Now, tell me why is everyone looking at me so strangely?"

"Your Excellency, perhaps it is because you are wearing a skirt"

"What is a 'skirt'?"

"It's a kind of clothing item specialized for female"

"So that's what it was, even clothing needs to be differentiated between male and female use. The 900 million World Layers is truly a place of order, how very interesting"

The person then stood in the middle of the road and took off all his clothes.

“There, no more issues” the person triumphantly said.

The Abyssal Demon Dragon’s lips trembled a bit and said: “Your Excellency, while in the 900 million World Layers, it is more respectable to wear clothes in a public setting”

“Why?”

“Because in the 900 million World Layers, living beings like to use their first impression of another through their appearance and clothing”

“So for living beings, appearance is most important?”

“That is the case”

The person sighed emotionally: “So that is how it is? No wonder after I stripped myself, even more eyes are focusing on me now—— it truly is troublesome to be human”

“That is so, your Excellency” this time, the Demon Dragon replied full of sympathy.

The person then asked: “Young one, if appearance is truly that important, then is there a place to cater specifically to appearance?”

Hearing that, the Abyssal Demon Dragon fell into thought.

——this terrifying entity most likely doesn’t need cosmetic surgery, if someone actually dared to put a scalpel against his face, they would probably not even know how to write the word ‘die’.

Then...

“Your Excellency, that building there is for managing one’s appearance”

The person looked at where the Demon Dragon was pointing.

He saw several beautiful women smiling on a large signboard.

There was an empty space below these girls written in common language.

“What are those words saying?”

“Washing, cutting, drying hair, 10 Credits”

“10 Credits—— is that the currency?”

“Yes”

“Do we have 10 Credits?”

“Do not worry, your Excellency, even though I usually don’t carry money outside, I still brought enough for a hairdo”

“Very well, then let us go”

“Please wait, your Excellency, I must prepare an outfit for you first. Walking on the street without clothes is a very attention-seeking thing to do”

“Ah, I don’t like drawing attention. Quickly, find me a set of male clothing”

“Yes”

An hour later.

The Abyssal Demon Dragon escorted that person out of the stylish haircut establishment.

At this point, the person’s appearance had greatly changed.

He was wearing a set of casual clothing, his hair split 3-7 with the length just reached the top of his ear. He was even a black pair of glasses that covered his eyes, giving off an extremely handsome and generous presence.

“Hm, very good, now the people on the street are no longer looking at me” the person said with satisfaction.

All of a sudden, he and the Demon Dragon both turned to look at the sky.

Above the cloud, high in the sky, two Combatants were fighting against one another.

After watching for a bit, the person asked: “Why are they fighting?”

The Demon Dragon replied: “Because they are competing over a treasure”

“What treasure?”

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“That would be the gun in that man’s hand”

“You mean that black item?”

“Indeed, it is an excellent pistol. Unfortunately not yet fully repaired, otherwise, it would be quite a fine thing” the Demon Dragon explained.

Hearing that, the person swiped his hand at the air.

The black pistol immediately appeared in his hand.

“Something like this is considered a treasure?”

He looked at the black pistol with curiosity and caution.

The two people noticed the pistol disappearance, looked around, and quickly found where it was.

“Despicable thief”

“You want to die!?”

The two of them angrily swooped down towards him.

Seeing their reactions, the person nodded: “Seems like it really is a treasure”

The person flicked his hand and threw the gun back in the air.

The two men went back to competing over it.

— but before they did, they each unleashed an attack at the man below.

Perhaps it was to probe him, or just a casual habit.

Either way—

Boom!

Another intense explosion.

Over half the plaza area was destroyed, taking countless lives with it.

That person and the Demon Dragon hovered above the ruined ground without being hurt at all.

“Did they just try to kill me?” the person asked.

“Yes they did, your Excellency” the Demon Dragon respectfully answered.

“Didn’t I already return their item to them?”

“But they were still angry”

“So you can kill people just because you’re angry?”

“Of course not, but they are Lord-class Combatant, so they don’t care about how other people look at them”

“Because they don’t care about how other people think, they can ignore the rules?”

“Indeed, your Excellency, that is how they think”

The person thought briefly and swiped his hand at the air again.

Two figures immediately crashed down with a resounding sound of impact.

The dust scattered.

The two Lords were being restrained by some sort of invisible force and pinned to the ground, unable to move a finger.

It was now that they realized they had run into a true powerhouse.

“Who are you... sir?”

“Spare me! Spare me!”

They loudly begged and cried.

The person said nothing and just looked at the two Lords.

Two transparent figures emerged from their bodies and flew into the person's hand.

"Inferior souls, completely worthless"

The person glanced at them and scoffed.

He casually threw the two souls away.

The Demon Dragon swiftly received the souls and smiled: "Such weak and miserable creatures dared to try and attack a legendary sovereign of the Abyss. This level of ignorance and self-righteousness is truly laughable"

The person nodded in agreement as he heard that: "Slaughtering others weaker than themselves while begging for their lives as soon as they met an opponent they cannot defeat. What a couple of uneducated savages. Even in the Abyss, such laughable, inferior behaviours are the lowest of the low, they would never be given any room to evolve"

"Why is that so, your Excellency?" the Abyssal Demon Dragon respectfully asked.

The other party was among the strongest entities within the Abyss, and his words just now seemed to be related to the true secret of the Abyss, so the Demon Dragon chose to take this chance and asked.

"I suppose it's fine to tell you. Since you're going to be following me from now on, it is best that you understand such a basic matter"

"That is true, your Excellency, I am extremely grateful for your generosity, please bestow upon me the knowledge of the Abyss"

The person replied: "Inferior souls such as these cannot draw the attention of the Abyss, and within the Abyss, only lifeforms that have drawn its willful gaze and attention would have a chance to evolve"

The Demon Dragon muses briefly before deflating: "Your Excellency, I seemed to have never received the gaze of the Abyss before"

The person abruptly started laughing: "Ahahaha, then you must quickly try harder"

"After all—"

"The Eternal Abyss will soon thoroughly fuse with the 900 million World Layers. Against the penetration of the parallel world's Apocalypse, this is the only way out"

"A new Era is upon us!"

Chapter 939

The space vortex where the endless chaotic wind blew.

The Bramble Tree ship was sailing through a secret void current, making its way tirelessly through the space vortex.

"We've been traveling for two days straight already, how much more until we reach the Bramble Bird Kingdom?" Lin asked.

“We’ll arrive in 5 days” Laura answered.

“That long!? Why aren’t you using super-distance teleportation?” Lin asked in confusion.

“I also had to travel from world to world when I found you two. Even long-distance teleportation is unusable now”

While saying so, Laura pointed outside the wooden ship.

Lin turned around to see increasingly more strange and unusual creatures appearing in the space vortex.

The space vortex was the underside void of the worlds, the hidden space behind each world, an endless and boundless area without a beginning or end.

But right now, the only way the space vortex could be described was ‘overcrowded’.

Obviously, the unusual movements of the Eternal Abyss had drawn the attention and caution of many mysterious lifeforms.

All living beings understood that the 900 million World Layers were undergoing a great change, thus they cautiously observed how the situation would turn out.

Naturally, more of them decided that it was best to run away.

—through the space vortex, they were running away to places that they assumed were safe.

Unfortunately, they didn’t understand that there was already no such thing as a safe place in the 900 million World Layers.

Laura heavily sighed and continued: “According to spatial technique experts, the tide of the Eternal Abyss is continually eroding the 900 million World Layers, while also leaving large numbers of unknown lifeforms within the space tunnels, causing all long-distance teleportation methods to become chaotic. At this point, no one should be able to use any warp techniques any longer”

“Unknown lifeforms that can survive and live within space tunnels?”

“Indeed, none of the picture books from the 900 million World Layers have depicted those creatures, so they are assumed to be Abyssal lifeforms for now”

Lin fell into thought.

For the last few days, Gu Qing Shan had been busy breaking through his cultivation realm.

If the 900 million World Layers is indeed changing, he would probably want to know the secrets regarding this.

If that’s the case...

Lin told Laura: “Do you have a way to let me see those unknown creatures?”

“What is there to see about them?” Laura doubtfully asked.

Lin explained: "Your big brother is very impressive, but he's currently in seclusion, so we will need to do some espionage for him for now. That way, when his seclusion ends, it would be beneficial to decide what to do next"

Laura was instantly convinced.

"It's very simple to catch them, but I heard that there are some unknown lifeforms that can hurt people" Laura said.

"Don't worry, I'm here" Lin told her.

"Alright, then I'll catch one of those monsters"

Laura pulled out a fishing rod, tied a metal hook to the end of it, and cast the line outside the Bramble Tree ship.

Miraculously, the hook and line vanished somewhere into the void of space.

Laura sat down on the ship's railings, holding tightly to the fishing rod, and waited.

It could be seen that the fishing rod was some kind of unique treasure.

Lin sat down by Laura and silently protected her.

A few moments later.

Laura suddenly pulled the fishing rod.

An unusual torso was caught from the void of space.

But the torso briefly struggled and quickly escaped from the fishing rod.

"Argh, just a bit more" Laura angrily complained.

"It's ok, continue" Lin told her.

Laura cast the line again, still fuming.

She resumed fishing.

Perhaps to balance out the irritation in her heart, Laura reached her hand out into the void of space, searching for something.

— from the looks of it, she looked like she was pulling a raffle.

"Ah? From my experience, this time seems to be something quite good"

Laura said with surprise.

She pulled her hand back out.

A ring engraved with a violet gem was grasped in her hand.

This engraved ring was giving off a beautiful vision of space that extended infinitely far.

“The Heart of the Stars” Lin muttered in a dry voice.

“Big sis, you know of this?”

“I do. This ring is associated with a sorrowful love story and is definitely a Divine Armament. It is said that the wearer of the ring can immediately revive themselves from among the stars after their death”

“Looks like it really is a good item— big sis, I’ll give it to you”

Laura gave the ring to Lin without hesitation.

Lin hurriedly refused: “That’s too precious, even in the age eons ago, this was still an extremely precious item, you should use it for yourself”

“Eheh, I’ve been really concerned about my own safety, so I already carry a lot of life-saving items with me” Laura didn’t say anything else and put the ring on Lin’s hand herself.

“Big sis Lin, I don’t really understand much about fighting, but you give me the same impression as a friend of mine. Both of you are fighters who isn’t afraid to risk your lives, so you must have a way to protect it”

“Your friend?”

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“Yes, she’s a blade user that I find very impressive, after we return to the Bramble Bird Kingdom, you’ll be able to meet her” Laura smiled mysteriously.

Lin looked at the ring on her hand and sighed.

Since I’m already wearing it, taking it off would make me seem insincere, and this little girl doesn’t seem to lack a ring like this one.

“Laura... the way you were searching the void of space just now... was that the manifestation of an ability?” Lin asked.

“Yes, it was. I can directly catch any items from the void that doesn’t have an owner—- whenever I feel down, I would always use it to play around a bit”

As soon as Laura said so, she abruptly pulled on her fishing rod.

“Caught one!” she loudly shouted.

A mass of flames was caught on the hook, constantly struggling to escape while also heading straight towards the Bramble Tree ship.

Laura screamed: “Big sis, save me—”

When they took a closer look, it was actually a flaming skull that was caught on the hook.

The skull looked at Laura and Lin, they said something incomprehensible.

Lin had already leapt forward, caught the skull in one hand while heavily striking it with her other hand.

Bam!

The skull immediately exploded.

The burning flames were swiftly extinguished.

Lin returned to the ship.

“It’s fine, I’ve dealt with it” she quickly consoled Laura.

“Hah— I’m glad big sis is here, it looked so scary” Laura said.

She then asked: “I think it said something just now— but I couldn’t understand at all”

“That was Abyssal tongue” Lin slowly explained, “It said that I was a traitor of the Abyss for intermingling with living beings”

“What happened?” Gu Qing Shan’s voice came from behind them.

“Aren’t you in seclusion to get ready for breaking through? Why did you come out?” Lin asked in return.

“I just finished, then I sensed some fighting, so I came out to check” Gu Qing Shan replied.

Lin then told him what happened just now.

“What flaming skull was a kind of Abyssal monster?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

“That’s right, but it was only a servant, its master is called the Shadow Bonestealer, an Eternal monster”

“Shadow Bonestealer... is it strong?”

“Very strong. Although most Abyssal creatures can’t die, the Shadow Bonestealer is able to take advantage of other monsters when they’re asleep to enslave their bodies. This way, even if they resurrect, they wouldn’t be able to escape its control”

“Can you defeat it?”

“If I still had my Abyssal form, I might be able to put up a fight”

Gu Qing Shan nodded and understood Lin’s implication.

—she had no way to deal with the Shadow Bonestealer right now.

Lin continued: “The key point is that the Shadow Bonestealer has begun to send its subordinate all over the space tunnels of the 900 million World Layers, so it must be planning something”

“I agree, it must be planning something big” Gu Qing Shan nodded.

“Since we found out about this, to avoid further trouble, we need to quickly leave this place” Lin sighed.

“I’ll speed up the ship!” Laura quickly said.

She then jumped down from the ship’s railing and scurried down below deck.

Only Gu Qing Shan and Lin remained on the deck of the ship.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly said: "I've just noticed something— the only one within the entire 900 million World Layers right now who can recognize these monsters and infer their intentions is you"

"So, you're hoping that I could move into the space tunnel and look for more information?" Lin asked.

For some reason, her heart was beating a bit faster.

"No, you misunderstand. I just hope that you won't try to look for their secrets again" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Lin froze, then asked doubtfully: "But if I don't do that, you wouldn't be able to find out anything"

Gu Qing Shan shook his head: "I hope that you'll understand a certain thing— — you have currently lost your Abyssal form and are in a very dangerous situation, you can't be doing something as dangerous as gather information"

Lin froze again.

Gu Qing Shan smiled and continued: "Not to mention if I really needed any information, I have my own ways to look for them, there's no need for you to risk your life over such a thing"

Gu Qing Shan then nodded to Lin, turned around, and quickly walked forward.

Within his vision where he was heading, space itself was receding to slowly reveal a world in front of his eyes.

Lin continued staring at him.

Why?

Why this completely different attitude?

"Wait a minute, this is the world you created with your eye technique? What are you trying to do?" Lin loudly asked him from behind.

"To face my Measure Tribulation"

"Are you confident?"

"Don't worry, I won't die from this"

Saying so, Gu Qing Shan stepped into that world.

Gu Qing Shan's world swiftly faded away and vanished from Lin's eyes.

Chapter 940

Gu Qing Shan picked up a fistful of yellow sand.

Under the scorching sun, the sand was so hot it felt like a mass of flames.

Sensing the heat in his hand, Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but mutter: "So realistic..."

He swung his hand scattering the sand into the air.

An intense blowing wind swiftly swept the sand away revealing a perfectly clear blue sky.

Gu Qing Shan leapt into the air and looked around.

An endless sea of sand.

—this was the Drifting Sand world.

The place where Gu Qing Shan first met Little Dusk.

Gu Qing Shan fell into thought.

Could it be, the world I create will depend on my memories?

He drew the Six Paths Great Mountain sword from the void of space.

The sword swiftly cut open the air.

The void of space was cut open to reveal the scene behind this world—

The Bramble Tree ship.

“How does it feel?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

Shannu’s voice came from the sword: “Gongzi, your World Technique seems to be a bit unstable, it doesn’t take me a lot of effort to break through it”

“In other words, it’s a very weak technique?”

“Truthfully, to be able to create a world out of nothing is already very impressive, gongzi, there’s no need for you to feel dejected” Shannu consoled him.

“I’m not dejected, you’re the sword that breaks all Laws. I just wanted to understand a step further about how to adjust this world and allow it to take one step further” Gu Qing Shan told her.

While talking, he was recalling the recent events.

“This world can be further improved? Gongzi is truly impressive” Shannu praised.

Gu Qing Shan chuckled but said nothing else.

He closed his eyes and began to slowly adjust his state.

After the first failed Measure Tribulation, he had to use the Heaven sword’s [Chaotic Flow] to reduce his own cultivation to Three Thousand Worlds realm early stage in order to escape a sure-death situation.

After his patience and effort, Gu Qing Shan finally managed to return to Three Thousand Worlds realm peak stage, once again qualified to attempt the Measure Tribulation.

This time, thanks to the giant corpse’s advice, he managed to use a powerful Profession from the Inner Plane— the Envoy of Condemnation and created a world using Inner Plane Cards.

Truthfully, the key point of this entire thing wasn’t how strong this world was or if it could bring him any benefits in battle.

If it could help Gu Qing Shan finish facing his Tribulation, Gu Qing Shan would be able to thank the Heavens above.

Gu Qing Shan stabilized his breathing, silently he followed the instructions from the scripture, and circulated his spirit energy.

One breath.

Two breaths.

Three breaths.

Following his command, the spirit energy inside his body once again gathered and began to break through the bottleneck of Paragon realm.

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

[The Paragon realm's Tribulation is about to begin]

[Attention, this time, the Heaven's Tribulation is a Measure Tribulation]

Following the War God UI's reminder, Heaven and Earth began to sense and react to Gu Qing Shan's spirit energy fluctuations.

The world began to change.

All the sand in the desert slowly receded away to reveal a bottomless pit of nothingness.

The only place that wasn't shrouded in nothingness was a single high platform where Gu Qing Shan stood.

Following that, myriads of images appeared in front of Gu Qing Shan's eyes and extended infinitely far away.

Inside those images, it was completely stable, only the terrifying monsters that were killed by Gu Qing Shan stood inside, waiting for him to come to them.

「 DIE! 」

『 DIE! 』

「 DIE! 」

The monsters' unified thunderous roar rocked the world, filling it with nothing but immeasurable killing intent.

Gu Qing Shan ignored it all and turned around.

The world behind him had started to shatter, fell to pieces, and scattered into the endless darkness.

This was the Law of Total Destruction, any living being that was affected by this darkness could only shatter and collapse together with the world, even their souls would be broken down and destroyed, not leaving a chance to reincarnate.

Even if Gu Qing Shan was several realms stronger, he would still not be able to stop this power at all.

It cannot be touched!

Gu Qing Shan turned back and looked at the still image in front of himself.

He jumped into the first image.

The Measure Tribulation had begun!

— — — and the first image was still that black horned demon.

It was the first demon in Gu Qing Shan's memory that he had ever killed, now once again manifested by the Law of Heaven in order to avenge the grudge of its own death.

Briefly sensing it, Gu Qing Shan found that the monster was still three times stronger compared to before.

If this monster was still reinforced to become three times stronger, I'll have to wait and see if the later parts of the Tribulation would account for my Merit and karma to weaken the killing trial

Gu Qing Shan performed a casual swing.

The monster and the image were slashed to pieces at the same time.

Gu Qing Shan appeared behind the image and swiftly jumped into the next one.

Behind him, the Law of Total Destruction seemed to have awoken as it quickly spread forward.

It was chasing Gu Qing Shan!

One breath's worth of time later.

The second image shattered

Gu Qing Shan reappeared and ran into the third image.

This image contained a group of Confederate hitmen.

Just like the last time he faced the Measure Tribulation; these men were reinforced by the Law of Heaven to achieve a Rejuvenation realm level of power.

Gu Qing Shan took notice.

His flying swords flew.

They were all dead.

The image shattered again.

Gu Qing Shan continued forward.

Everything was going smoothly, not a single wasted second.

But Gu Qing Shan's heart sank a bit.

——sure enough, inside the next image, the horde of demons that he eliminated received reinforcement to become three times as strong as they were.

But his Merit still hadn't been accounted for.

Gu Qing Shan brandished his swords, killed all his enemies

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, and went into the next image.

This time, he faced Li Chang An.

“You killed——”

Li Chang An opened his mouth to shout something.

Sha!

His head was erased by a cold gleam of metal.

The body collapsed.

Gu Qing Shan wielded his sword and continued forward into the next image.

Another horde of demons!

Back in Shen Wu world, he killed these demons by borrowing the power of his Lightning Tribulation.

At this moment, each demon was bestowed power equal to Ascended realm cultivators.

And still, no Merit was accounted for!

Gu Qing Shan steeled himself and charged into the horde of demons.

——*the giant corpse wouldn't deceive me about this.*

But then where is my Merit?

Then again, what exactly does the Law of Heaven and Earth consider to be good karma and accrue Merit?

Gu Qing Shan quickly thought about it.

A sound of shatter.

The world collapsed once again.

Without time to catch his breath, Gu Qing Shan jumped into the next image.

“You killed me, you killed me!”

A cultivator was madly shouting.

Followed by several spirit beasts.

These were the spirit beasts and the cultivator he killed during the spirit beasts' betrayal.

Just like last time, Gu Qing Shan raised his sword and curtly explained to the cultivator: "Military law is as heavy as a mountain, don't blame me"

The man's head flew to the sky.

Followed by the cries of spirit beasts.

This image shattered.

Gu Qing Shan landed on the ground and dashed towards the next image.

What exactly constitutes Merit?

Why haven't I seen any of my Merit manifest yet?

He once again thought about this.

But he didn't have much time to think about it.

Behind him, the darkness was continuing to spread

Gu Qing Shan had no choice but to go into the next image as fast as possible.

Roar!!!

A Faceless Giant roared in madness as it charged straight at him.

This Faceless Giant was among the horde of demons within the dark caves that led from the human realm to the Huang Quan realm.

Its power was still reinforced to become three times stronger.

But Gu Qing Shan wasn't worried about this monster and swiftly cut it down with a single strike.

Gu Qing Shan continued into the next image and wielded his sword to eliminate a group of vicious demons.

These were the demons that were watching over the dark caves of Huang Quan, now also accounted by the Law of Heaven to fall under Gu Qing Shan's kills.

At this point, Gu Qing Shan's heart was already beating faster.

—-I'll reach the fight of Huang Quan soon.

If I enter that image and still find no Merit to help me, then it would be a huge problem!

Should I think of a way to retreat from this Measure Tribulation?

—-no, I've already retreated from the Measure Tribulation once.

This time, I've made ample preparations, not only did I fully read over the cultivation experience of cultivators from the Age of old, I had even made an 'Inner Plane World' specifically for this.

If I still retreat at this point, when am I going to be able to advance?

Gu Qing Shan clenched his teeth and dashed out from this image.

It collapsed.

The image of the dead people of Huang Quan was in front of him.

——it truly was accounting for his kills in Huang Quan.

Gu Qing Shan jumped inside without hesitation.

Just like the last time, he began in this world by falling from the sky.

On the vast boundless ground below, countless dead people filled every last remaining space to stand.

Gu Qing Shan hovered in the sky and released his inner sight to search where his vision couldn't reach.

Just like last time, countless dead people filled this entire world, all of which were given strength equivalent to Sainted realm.

“DIE!!”

The dead people roared.

Shannu's worried voice called out:

“Gongzi, it hasn't changed at all, let's run!”

She urged him.

Gu Qing Shan stood still.

He drew the Earth sword and Six Paths Great Mountain sword, wielding them in both hands.

“I refuse to believe it”

Saying so, overwhelming sword qi erupted from his body and surged forward into the endless horde of dead people.

Time suddenly stopped.

All the dead people froze.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly noticed that the scene around him began to change.

Images of the past were being shown.

He killed his way into Huang Quan, met Shannu, saved the weapons, became the Devil King, used the 7-colored spear to kill all the demons, threw the spear out of the Huang Quan realm, returned to the human realm alone, wrestled with the Heavenly God through his words, led countless dead people to face the army of demons and Demon Lords, then finally obtained victory.

It wasn't until Zhi Luo hugged him, smiled, and disappeared that the image ended.

A golden light appeared behind Gu Qing Shan's head and formed a perfect circle.

A second later.

The intense golden light suddenly emerged from Gu Qing Shan's body, illuminating the countless dead people below.

This was Gu Qing Shan's Merit!

His Merit had finally been manifested!

Chapter 941

The golden light practically erupted from Gu Qing Shan's body.

As they sensed the power of the golden light, the vicious dead people were no longer filled with killing intent like they were just a moment ago and instead stood still without moving.

Gu Qing Shan looked around.

Everything turned still.

Within this image, no one except himself could move.

Even the encroaching darkness that contained the Law of Total Destruction was stopped by the appearance of the golden light.

Under the golden shine of his Merit, Gu Qing Shan had finally gotten a path of survival within his Measure Tribulation.

——the Law of Heaven and Earth binds all things and all living beings, but it was also affected by them in return.

Cultivators who kill and destroy as they wished would face their retribution within the Measure Tribulation and would be mercilessly erased by the Law of Heaven and Earth.

But those who granted salvation to other living beings, always doing their best to uphold the Law of Heaven and Earth would be granted protection and the favor of the Law.

The Law itself hoped that such people would be able to continue to survive——

This was what the 'measure' in Measure Tribulation meant.

And it was only now that Gu Qing Shan was truly going through a Measure Tribulation!

After a moment of stillness, a change occurred in the image.

Out of thin air.

A cluster of absolute pure light descended from above, neutralizing the golden light of Merit from Gu Qing Shan's body.

As Gu Qing Shan looked at the cluster of light, he felt like there were countless tiny voices informing him about the nature of the pure light.

This felt almost like a sound in the wind, but also like various people whispering to him.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly understood!

The Law of Heaven and Earth itself is talking to me!

It's telling me that this was the first light ever to be created, something that contained a secret even deeper than the mystery of the worlds themselves.

This cluster of light is called the Inextinguishable Origin, something originally watched over by the legendary true Deities, an object that not just anyone would be able to obtain even if they wanted to.

Gu Qing Shan's thoughts stopped.

So, the Merit I obtained from saving the Samsara world was actually that great.

The cluster of light seemed to be attracted to the golden light emerging from his body, turned into a thin line, and flew towards the perfect golden circle behind his head.

The cluster of light wrapped itself around the golden circle and gave off a gentle white light.

Illuminated by this light, a certain understanding appeared in Gu Qing Shan's heart.

He had just learnt a true secret.

A secret that involved life and death.

"So that's what happened"

Gu Qing Shan muttered and turned his gaze towards the countless dead people on the ground below.

It turns out that—

The Inextinguishable Origin had appeared because Gu Qing Shan managed to accomplish something extremely improbable.

He massacred countless dead people.

The dead people of Huang Quan were those who were no longer alive, thus the final form of living beings.

Normally, a life form could only be in a state of either being alive or dead.

Once the body dies, the soul would escape from the body, entering a state of death and becoming a dead person.

And a dead person must reincarnate, otherwise, they would die for good.

This was the cycle of life and death.

But Gu Qing Shan had used the power of the Devil King Warden Rod to break the cycle for those dead people and push them into an extremely rare state.

Dissipated souls.

After a soul dissipates, their final essence that contained the mystery of their lives would remain.

They weren't in a state of being dead or alive, but rather, a more primal state.

Primal chaos.

Primal chaos was the origin of all things, compared to beings, things, or worlds, it was the deepest mystery hidden within the Laws, that which created everything.

That was why when Gu Qing Shan pushed so many souls of the dead into the primal chaos state, he had actually accrued a rare kind of karma.

—because the method he used was an extremely incorrect one, these dead people were rejected by Primal Chaos itself, unable to become one with it, nor return to the cycle of life and death.

Incorrect?

As he heard the Law of Heaven and Earth's description, he had a lot of questions.

He silently asked the War God UI: "What does it mean by 'incorrect method'?"

The War God UI remained silent for a moment before popping up a few glowing lines of text: [The power of a Samsara Divine Armament is derived from the Samsara itself. Despite being relatively weak, it is still there, making those entities unsuitable to enter Primal Chaos]

"That's why the Law of Heaven and Earth took the initiative to show up here during my Measure Tribulation?"

[Correct, you might have to make a decision now]

At the same time, Gu Qing Shan heard the countless tiny whispers in his ears again.

Although he couldn't tell what the voices were saying, Gu Qing Shan still understood what it was trying to say— and it was a very miraculous thing.

The Law of Heaven and Earth had used the Inextinguishable Origin as a catalyst to inform him to make a decision.

Through his Merit, he would be able to save these entities that weren't even considered to be souls and have them return to their death.

This way, the dead people would return to become souls and thus return to their cycle of life and death.

But there was another choice.

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With his Merit, Gu Qing Shan could have these entities thoroughly scattered and become a part of Primal Chaos.

This would feed the power of Primal Chaos, but these dead people would never be able to return to the cycle of life and death again.

They would permanently become pure power for Primal Chaos.

And the choice was in Gu Qing Shan's hands.

Will he make these villainous entities return to Huang Quan and suffer, or would he make them thoroughly disappear?

The lingering voices in Gu Qing Shan's ears disappeared for now.

The Law of Heaven and Earth were waiting for him to make his choice.

A moment of silence.

Gu Qing Shan recalled how he killed these villains back then.

"The heavens favor life, this much is true, so normally, I don't like to push others too much into a corner..."

He muses, then continued: "But for villains like these, I feel like there's no need to give them any sympathy, so I'll have them disappear for good"

Following his answer, the Law of Heaven and Earth responded.

The glow around Gu Qing Shan's body erupted brightly once again, turned into a blinding sun that hung in the sky.

Under the illumination of the sun, the quadrillion dead people turned into sand that crumbled away, sinking into the desert below.

All the dead people in this world were scattered to the sea of sand, no longer capable of returning to the cycle of life and death.

Lines of glowing text appeared on the War God UI:

[You've learnt the true secret about life and death]

[You've automatically become a keeper of the secret]

[You've contributed power to Primal Chaos]

[The Laws of Reality have been strengthened by an insignificantly tiny amount]

[The Laws' attitude towards you have changed]

[You have received the blessing of the Laws of Reality: World Origin]

[Your World Technique has become more stable]

[From now on, you will have obtained a complete Inner Plane world, it will change and manifest various worlds in accordance with the method you used to create it]

[Additionally, your Measure Tribulation is complete]

Oom---

The world collapsed.

All the images shattered and collapsed at once.

The darkness that represented the Law of Total Destruction also faded away.

Gu Qing Shan was pushed by an intense force and suddenly returned to the Bramble Tree ship.

In front of his eyes, a line of glowing text appeared with one final message:

[You've become a Paragon realm cultivator]

Gu Qing Shan was surprised.

I'm already... Paragon realm?

Why don't I feel any different?

While thinking that, he suddenly felt his forehead becoming cooler.

A sky-high pillar of light erupted from his forehead that shot straight up the space vortex.

His spirit energy was increasing at breakneck speed.

10%

20%

40%

70%!

His spirit energy had increased by a total of 70%!

Normally, the total amount of spirit energy a cultivator had determined the power of their attacks.

Which meant, with this reinforcement of spirit energy, Gu Qing Shan's fighting strength had almost doubled.

He clenched his fist, feeling intense fighting spirit as he looked at the countless creatures within the space vortex.

Power!

I've finally become stronger!

Feeling himself being reinforced with this vast spirit energy, Gu Qing Shan felt that he would easily be able to fight against the powerful enemies he couldn't before.

Perhaps, I can even—

"Are you ok?"

A female voice sounded next to him that interrupted his thoughts.

Gu Qing Shan turned around.

It was Lin.

She was wearing a set of daunting armor, both hands equipped with a pair of elemental gauntlets, completely unharmed. This was Lin at her peak.

Lin observed Gu Qing Shan a bit and smiled: “Well done, you’ve finally broken through, what do you say I spar with you a bit seriously?”

“Hah...”

“Hm? You were full of fighting spirit just now, why are you suddenly dejected?”

“I don’t want to discuss this topic with you”

Chapter 942

The 900 million World Layers.

The Fallen Zones.

Within a certain destroyed world.

The fight between Soul Shrieker and [Demon King Order] had reached a conclusion.

All sorts of powerful weaponized Demon Lords had been completely defeated, their gigantic bodies laid all over the ground, unable to move.

The ground of this world was also filled with the corpses of demonized people and demons.

The Soul Shrieker stood on top of the countless corpses, holding a human male by his head as it forced him to look at it straight-on.

「 『 Look at me, I know you’re hiding on this Bygone Era corpse 』 』

The Soul Shrieker then spoke with its male voice:

「 Although we have always been competing for living beings and worlds and had yet to speak to one another, the situation has now changed 』

「 Tiny and weak [Order], you have forced me into long and arduous combat, preventing me from consuming the marvelous souls of billions of world—— 』

The Soul Shrieker’s male voice abruptly turned into a high-pitched female voice that shouted in fury: 『 I will now destroy your everything, end this war, and seal you so that you can never awaken ever again! 』

The human male spat out blood and scoffed: “As a hunter of souls, you are too insane, and foolish”

『 You think that I’ve already gone mad? 』 the Soul Shrieker asked full of implications.

The human male replied: “Of course you’ve gone mad! Haven’t you ever considered that if all living beings were to be destroyed at once, in a faraway future, you will cut off your own source of food—— you can’t even understand such a simple principle”

『 Cut off my own source of food? Ahahahaha! 』

The Soul Shrieker looked up to the sky and laughed as if it had heard some sort of ridiculous joke.

After a long while, it mocked: 『 While everyone thinks of me as being foolish or insane, I have already managed to complete the most important step of my plan 』

What it said had apparently gone beyond the human male's expectation as he displayed a look of confusion.

The Soul Shrieker observed him, then changed back to its male voice: 「 I can already sense it, within the entire 900 million World Layers, there is no longer anyone who carries the [Demon King Order], which means...」

「 [Demon King Order], everything that you stand for is over, including yourself, every [Order] will now fall into eternal slumber, never to bother me again 」

Originally, the human male was still relatively calm, but as soon as he heard that, he started to panic unlike never before.

“You were the one who carried the seed of [Chaos]!”

He shouted loudly, doing his best to struggle and escape from the other party's hand.

——but the Soul Shrieker's grip was like a vice and didn't budge at all.

A few moments later.

The man breathed heavily and gave up on struggling.

He seemed to have realized everything and muttered: “No wonder back in the Age of Old, the [Demon King Order] was the first [Order] that you awakened”

The Soul Shrieker revealed a triumphant smile and slowly said: 「 Indeed, among all the [Orders], the [Demon King Order] was the most extreme. As long as it was the first to be awakened, it would surely never try to awaken other [Orders] right away—— and I came up with the way to exploit this, slowly formulating my plan to push the [Orders] into a dead-end 」

“No——” the man said in despair.

The Soul Shrieker used both its male and female voice in unison and spoke: 「 『 Final carrier of [Order]... at the moment of your death, I will thoroughly seal the [Demon King Order] away. From now on, all [Orders] will lose their chance to awaken, while my true body has already begun to move and spread true [Chaos] across the infinite worlds 」 』

The Soul Shrieker suddenly raised its voice and declared: 「 『 In the final confrontation between [Order] and [Chaos], I have obtained the final victory for the side of [Chaos]! 」 』

It reached out its other hand and pierced through the man's body.

The man writhed in pain, but unable to do anything as his life slowly left him.

“Envoy of... [Chaos]. You will... not get what you wish”

Saying so, he finally died.

The Soul Shrieker lightly put the body on the ground and began to chant an incantation towards the corpse.

While chanting, it was also moving around the corpse with a very serious expression.

—right now, it wasn't showing any signs of madness that its enemies assumed it to have.

A few moments later.

The Soul Shrieker stopped, then whispered towards the corpse: 「 『 With [Chaos] as the core, I shall permanently seal this [Order] away! 』 」

An intense wind current emerged off from its body, fully enveloping the corpse.

A split second later—

While Soul Shrieker was just about to show a smile, the wind current abruptly scattered.

Nothing changed about the corpse at all.

The Soul Shrieker was shocked.

「 『 No— DETESTABLE [ORDER]!!! 』 」

Its furious roar resounded across this entire world.

...

At another location.

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The Mystic Zones.

The Bramble Bird Kingdom.

A pretty and graceful girl standing in the middle of the arena was wielding a Blade, slowly calming her breath down.

Around her, several fully-armed Bramble Bird guards were standing back up.

“That’s enough. Sheesh girlie, you look so gentle, but you’re scarier than any enemy I’ve ever fought” a Bramble Bird guard dejectedly hung his head.

“Right, we’re just training, but I keep feeling like you’re going to take my life when you move” another Bramble Bird guard also complained.

As Ning Yue Chan sheathed her Blade, her presence changed and she returned to her gentle self.

“My apologies, I didn’t think that you were all holding back” she said apologetically.

The Bramble Bird guards were a bit stunned.

“Ah— yes! We were only holding back”

“That’s right, it’s just training, why would we have gone all out?”

“It’s just a sparring session, there’s no need to put our lives at stake”

They all followed up on her words, then supported each other out.

Ning Yue Chan pursed her lips, barely able to maintain her expression and stopped herself from smiling.

—these people were all born and raised in a privileged environment, they all had the best kinds of armor and weapons, but their personal strength wasn’t anything to write home about, so it wasn’t easy for her to win.

Unfortunately, it’s been a long time since I’ve fought on the verge of life and death, so my Bladesmanship is progressing incredibly slowly.

I wonder how that guy is now...

She sighed nostalgically.

Laura said that she was going to pick him up, so it would take a few more days until they returned.

I’ll be able to meet him at that time.

All of a sudden, Ning Yue Chan’s expression changed.

A line of blood-red text appeared in her vision out of nowhere.

[Final carrier of the Life Order, I need you to do something now]

“What?” Ning Yue Chan asked.

The blood-red text replied: [Go to the Strife Zones and look for a certain person. Do not worry, I know a secret route that will allow you to enter the hidden Strife Zones]

“Why do such a thing?” Ning Yue Chan curiously asked.

[Because that person carries the other half of me. Now that time has come, you will need to make me whole again]

Ning Yue Chan hesitated.

When they first entered the Strife Zones, she managed to make it through the test before Gu Qing Shan and was reinforced by the [Life Order].

It was said that the Gods hated the [Orders] so they created a few [Orders] for themselves to fight against the true [Orders].

The [Life Order] was one such creation.

But as the final words of the 7 Daemons and the path to Godhood was announced, the [Life Order] no longer existed.

Ning Yue Chan was the only one who still carried a bit of the [Life Order]’s power.

I'm just a bit away from being able to see him again, and yet this happened.

Perhaps noticing Ning Yue Chan's hesitation, the blood-red text appeared once again:

[You and that person must make sure that I regain my power, as this is related to the future of all living beings]

[If both that person and you fail, believe me, the infinite worlds will fall to total destruction]

[Having fought by my side for so long, I believe you know that I do not lie]

Ning Yue Chan sighed and made her decision.

"You've saved me a few times" she reluctantly said, "And I don't like having to owe people, so tell me, who do you want me to find?"

The appearance of a girl appeared from the void of space.

— — — she looked like a beautiful and pure young girl, smiling sweetly at Ning Yue Chan.

Ning Yue Chan scowled: "This girl looks too pure, not at all like a fighter — — after the Divine revelation of the 7 Daemons disappeared, the Strife Zones had fallen, becoming a complete chaotic mess, are you sure someone like her would still be alive?"

Lines of blood-red text flashed and appeared from the void of space in front of her eyes again:

[This is her appearance from long ago, she had only just made it to the Fog Isle of the Sea of Death at the time]

Ning Yue Chan was surprised: "The Fog Isle of the Sea of Death? So, she's a card user"

Lines of blood-red text continued to appear in the void of space:

[Go, Ning Yue Chan, you must find this girl, because my other half is currently in a dormant state while hiding with her]

[You both must come together and awaken my true self]

Chapter 943

The 900 million World Layers.

Within the chaotic and warring Strife Zones.

The Sea of Death, Fog Isle.

In the sky, a gigantic black monster was slowly and silently moving forward.

An Abyssal Behemoth.

It was moving across this world at an extremely close distance.

The Behemoth wasn't at all interested in this world that wasn't even as big as 10% of its body.

But the civilization that resided on its body didn't think the same.

Unlike the skeletal civilization that Gu Qing Shan ran into, this time the invaders were a humanoid species with scaly skin and a black glow around their bodies.

As they moved around, the black glow followed them, making them seem like flying streaks of light rather than creatures.

The countless black streaks of light descended from above, invaded the Fog Isle of the Sea of Death, charging at every bit of moving flesh that caught their eyes.

The land, the sea, the fresh air, and naturally the food were all parts of their target.

As soon as it began, the war had already become a desperate struggle.

The divine knights and priests of the Holy Church of Fate were currently doing their best against these unknown enemies.

Boom boom——

All the while intense thunder and rain showered the battlefield below.

The explosions caused by magic and the desperate screams that followed never stopped even for a second.

Blood flowed like a river.

But there was no backing down. In this war, anyone that attempted to surrender had met with the same fate—— beheaded on the spot.

The Abyssal civilization did not accept surrender.

In their eyes, these retaliating enemies actually tasted great after their deaths.

——they were able to fully absorb the power that lingered on these Professionals' bodies after their death.

At the time when the war reached its most desperate moment, a fully-armored war steed appeared on the battlefield.

A young girl wearing a pure white cloak and wielding a long staff in her hand appeared at the front lines.

“The acting Pope is here!”

The divine knights by her side loudly declared.

Among the thunderous cheers of her troops, Su Xue Er raised the staff in her hand.

“Blood Sea!”

“With the sincerity in my heart and the greatest respect I can offer, I call upon your power!”

A blinding glow erupted from her staff.

12 crimson bloody Cards manifested, circling around a magic circle at her feet.

Su Xue Er caught the 12 Cards with her hands, released her staff, and swiftly combined them together.

“Come, arrive and fight by my side”

“I promise that all dead heroic spirits shall return to the Blood Sea”

“And our enemies will become food for the Blood Sea”

While she chanted, the 12 Cards fused together to form a giant portrait, but since its back was facing the battlefield, the people in front couldn't tell what was actually depicted at the front.

Su Xue Er put her hands on the face of the portrait as her voice resounded across the battlefield:

“O' flowing Bloodsea, thee knoweth of our intertwining fate. I summon thy power and commander at this juncture~!”

Following her voice, the 12 Cards moved around and formed a raging tide of redness.

A second later, the 12 Cards vanished at once as the Bloodsea had manifested beneath everyone's feet.

Su Xue Er had summoned an entire world down to this place!

Numerous soldiers wearing blood armors slowly rose from the sea of blood.

They stood in formation, each with weapons ready in hand, stepping out from the Card world under their commander.

The Bloodsea God Army had appeared on the Fog Isle.

“Long live!”

“Long live!”

“Long live the acting Pope!”

The knights and priests of the Holy Church of Death cheered.

— —but that wasn't everything.

Su Xue Er put her hand into the blood sea below and uttered: “Blood Giant, Astaroth!”

Oom!

A giant slowly rose from the blood that filled the ground.

「 I shall wipe out these Abyssal fleas! 」

The giant roared.

He swiftly charged into the battlefield.

Su Xue Er continued to utilize her Soul Points and chanted: “O' great Blood Raven, I call upon your power!”

A masked assassin slowly appeared within the sea of blood.

He wielded a pair of ancient-looking daggers in his hands and spoke in a low voice: 「 It is time for the harvest 」

As soon as he declared so, he vanished.

On the battlefield, desperate cries of death resounded one after another.

The civilization that came from the Abyssal Behemoth was facing an unprecedented massacre.

The situation was turning around.

After unleashing so many large-scale magic Cards at once, Su Xue Er was feeling a bit drained.

She leaned on her horse, breathed heavily as she recovered her stamina.

At this point, a messenger arrived from the backline, knelt down in front of Su Xue Er, and loudly spoke: “Reporting, ma’am!”

“What is it? Speak” Su Xue Er replied.

“The Saintess of the Holy Church of Death, Anna, had led the Death Knights here to provide reinforcement”

“Where is she now?”

“She is about to enter our world”

“Hmph, the 7 Holy Churches all declared to join forces, yet only the Holy Church of Death actually came to help us”

As Su Xue Er said so, her eyebrows furrowed.

——the System that had been staying silent for a long time suddenly began to pop up notifications like crazy.

Su Xue Er was a bit surprised and turned to look at it:

[Emergency!]

[Emergency!]

[The final carrier of the Order had died]

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[The Abyssal monster, the Envoy of Chaos, Soul Shrieker’s avatar is about to arrive into the Strife Zones in search of you]

[It will kill you!]

[Su Xue Er, you must run away right now!]

Reading these notifications, Su Xue Er’s heart jumped.

As the acting leader of the Holy Church, Su Xue Er more or less knew what kind of entity the Soul Shrieker was.

“Why is it looking for me?” Su Xue Er couldn’t help but ask a question.

[Because the hope of survival for all living beings within the infinite worlds is resting on yourself and another person. If either of you falls into the Soul Shrieker’s hand, the infinite worlds will fall to ruin]

The blood-red text continued to urge her:

[Su Xue Er, you must find somewhere to hide, all the way until the other person reaches you with my guidance]

“Someone will reach me, then what?”

[I will truly awaken. At that point, I will take you to find the person who returned from the Age of Old—
— the only man in the 900 million World Layers who might be qualified to be called the Demon King]

[He is the one final hope of fighting against Chaos]

Su Xue Er scowled: “Ridiculous, I don’t understand what you’re saying at all. Even if what you’re saying is true, I won’t go—”

She suddenly stopped.

Because of the final line of blood-red text:

[That man is called Gu Qing Shan]

...

At another location.

The hidden space current that led towards the Mystic Zones.

The Bramble Tree ship was keeping up its speed.

It had already been several days, and they would reach the Bramble Bird Kingdom after just one more day.

Gu Qing Shan was chatting with Laura and Lin on the deck of the ship.

“Laura, I had the Saint Bramble tree branch send you a message, did you receive it?”

Gu Qing Shan asked.

“I did” Laura smiled sweetly.

She took out two coins and put them in Gu Qing Shan’s hands.

Gu Qing Shan checked them one by one.

They were the [Demon King Order] and the [Bramble Saint Tree] coins.

I didn’t think Laura would be able to collect two coins in such a short time, this really is—

“That’s completely beyond my expectations, how did you find these two coins?”

Gu Qing Shan was shocked.

“I promised a bounty of several treasure-filled worlds, and the Bramble Saint Tree coin was delivered straight to my hands”

“What about the other coin?”

“The [Demon King Order] coin was a bit more troublesome. I had to use a large sum of money to hire some good hands to enter the Fallen Zones and pick it up from a certain ruin”

“Doesn’t that mean both of these cost you a lot of wealth?”

“Ah, it wasn’t that much, just a bit of my pocket money”

Gu Qing Shan and Lin exchanged glances and saw the same look in one another’s eyes.

——beside Laura, no one else, not even a God, would be able to achieve this so quickly.

A green leaf suddenly appeared out of nowhere and fell into Laura’s hand.

After taking a look at it, Laura’s expression changed as she muttered:

“The results have come up, during the final campaign, the [Demon King Order] was eliminated by the Soul Shrieker. The Soul Shrieker had left the Fallen Zones and is currently heading for the Strife Zones”

She ran towards the cabin of the ship and told them: “We need to leave this space as soon as possible and return to the Mystic Zones right now—— big sis Lin, I’m not strong enough, please help me hold the wheel”

Lin followed her.

Only Gu Qing Shan remained on the deck.

What is the Soul Shrieker thinking?

Hasn’t it already gone insane?

But its actions seem to be very purposeful.

Gu Qing Shan thought for a bit and suddenly took out a ring.

It’s useless to think about anything else, the most important thing right now is to continue becoming stronger.

He looked down at the ring.

A pure and transparent amber was engraved on top of the ring.

There wasn’t any ancient creature fossilized within the beautiful piece of amber.

But as one looked at it carefully, they would notice a tiny flickering star inside the amber.

Gu Qing Shan carefully held the amber ring up and recalled the words of the Fairy of Time.

...

“Your eyes contain the total true essence of your swordsmanship. After some thought, I found that there exists a certain kind of power that would suit you extremely well”

“What power do you mean?”

“In the words of cultivators like you, this power is called a Thaumaturgy—-- when you achieve the next realm on your path, this ring will take you to the corpse of a certain existence in the parallel world. In that place, you will obtain the power that I speak of”

“...Thank you for your generosity”

...

Gu Qing Shan then crushed the amber without hesitation.

A flickering star then appeared from the amber and manifested as the Fairy of Time’s appearance.

The Fairy of Time smiled at Gu Qing Shan: “We meet again, young one whose identity I am keeping”

“Greetings, your excellency” Gu Qing Shan bowed.

“There is no need to be formal. This meeting was the final one ordained by Fate, after which, both Fate and Space-Time would undergo intense changes so that no one could tell what would happen in the future”

“Is everything going well on your side?”

“Me? I am still in command of an entire war, but for a promising young man like yourself, I can still make a bit of time”

The Fairy of Time continued: “Your world has been reinforced by the power of your Iris Sword technique; a foundation of Fire, Wind, Water, and Earth; the Laws of the Inner Plane; and the power of Primal Chaos. You are only lacking one final thing in order to finish it”

She reached out her hand made completely out of stars and lightly tapped between Gu Qing Shan’s eyebrows.

“Go, Gu Qing Shan, seek the location I have marked out and finish your technique”

“Hopefully, in the near future, you would be able to fight by our sides”

“I will wait for that day to arrive”

Saying so, the Fairy of Time vanished from in front of Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan closed his eyes, then waited for a bit.

He now knew where that location was.

Chapter 944

A certain world.

A bar.

A screen of light was floating in the middle of the bar, broadcasting the most recent news of the 900 million World Layers.

[Breaking news!]

[After a long, arduous, and completely shocking war that caused the destruction of the entire Fallen Zones, the monster of God Institute had triumphed over the Demon King Order]

[I must emphasize, the battle between the monster and the Demon King Order was a dogfight that we would clap in celebration regardless of who won]

[But attention please, that monster from God Institute had left the Fallen Zones]

[It is heading for the Strife Zones]

[I repeat, the monster is currently heading for the Strife Zones!]

[Although we do not understand how it will manage to find the hidden Strife Zones within the space vortex, the monster is confirmed to be heading towards the Strife Zones, and thus we must assume it is able to do such a thing]

[Friends in the Strife Zones, be sure to keep an eye out for your own and your close ones' safety]

[However, as far as we know, the Eternal Abyss is currently invading the 900 million World Layers—there is no such thing as a safe place any longer]

[Bzt, bzt, bzt—]

[Regardless of whether or not our world is destroyed, gossips will always be a way to liven up our senseless daily lives]

[So, we have a bit of gossip for you today]

[The Bramble Bird Kingdom had specifically dispatched a high-honor envoy group to receive their newly appointed non-Bramble Bird Duke, the human male who came from a Scattered World, Ye Fei Li]

[Please take a look, they have received Duke Ye Fei Li]

[This is truly enviable— how shocking, this despicable little— I mean, our esteemed Duke will be able to enjoy a lifetime of authority and wealth]

Footage of Ye Fei Li was then shown on screen.

He was completely out of place standing together with the Bramble Bird soldiers, a look of utter confusion could be seen on his face.

After someone reminded him, he finally showed a stiff smile.

“Pfft...!”

Someone had spat out his drink at the bar.

“Customer, what are you——”

The bartender scowled at this; he was a burly man with tattoos all over his body.

“Ah, I’m sorry, I was drinking a bit too quickly. Give me another shot, here’s your tip”

——clink clank clank clank!

The coins gave off their easily recognizable metallic clinks as they fell onto the counter.

The bartender’s fury vanished without a trace as he turned around to prepare the liquor.

It was now that Zhang Ying Hao muttered: “This guy, why did he suddenly come to the 900 million World Layers and become a Duke?”

“Hm... this is... very familiar, maybe... it’s implying something?”

“No, I have to check it out myself”

His muttering disappeared.

A few moments later.

“Customer, here is your drink”

“Huh? Where is he?”

...

The space vortex.

The Bramble Bird ship had increased its speed as it headed towards its destination.

Laura and Lin stayed inside the cabin, fully focused on steering the ship back to the Mystic Zones.

Gu Qing Shan stood alone on the deck of the ship and pondered for a while before making his decision.

He entered the cabin.

“Laura” he called out.

“Hm? Gu Qing Shan, why are you here? You can leave steering the ship to us ladies here, just go and rest” Laura said.

“...It’s not about steering the ship”

Gu Qing Shan put the remaining 12 Cards he borrowed from Laura in front of her.

“What’s this about? I already gave them to you so just use them as you like, no need to return them to me” Laura told him.

“No need, I’ve already taken the Cards I wanted so I don’t need to use these Cards, and I can’t use them as well” Gu Qing Shan smiled and replied.

“Alright” Laura reluctantly put the Cards away.

“Also, let’s not head straight for the Bramble Bird Kingdom for now” Gu Qing Shan suggested.

“Hm, okay— what!? Not head straight for the Bramble Bird Kingdom? Then where are we going?” Laura couldn’t help but ask.

“First we need to get into the Mystic Zones, then we’re heading for the unending abyss of broken worlds” Gu Qing Shan replied.

“What!? Gu Qing Shan, that place is too dangerous!” Laura exclaimed.

“Don’t worry” Gu Qing Shan showed her a reassuring smile, “We’re not heading into it, just linger a bit around the border”

“We’re not going in? Great” Laura sighed in relief: “If we needed to go inside, only I would be able to take you in, and it would still be extremely dangerous”

“After we make it to that place’s border, you two just need to wait on the ship for a bit. After I am done with a certain thing, we’re leaving right away” Gu Qing Shan continued.

“Do what?” Lin asked.

Gu Qing Shan explained in a bit more detail: “My World Technique needs a unique item in that place to be perfected”

“So that’s why. If it’s just the outside, it certainly is a lot safer. Let’s go then” Lin nodded.

“Alright, alright, we’re heading there first then” Laura said, not sounding very excited.

Gu Qing Shan and Lin both looked at her.

“Did you notice something wrong with me?” Laura asked.

Gu Qing Shan and Lin both nodded.

Gu Qing Shan pondered a bit and replied: “If there’s something troubling you, I can also go alone. You and Lin can go to the Bramble Bird Kingdom first, I’ll meet up with you after I’m done”

Laura hurriedly waved her hands dismissively and replied: “No, nothing is really troubling me, I’m just— just a bit...”

She seemed to be hesitant to tell them.

A hint of worry flashed over Gu Qing Shan’s mind.

Did Laura run into something strange or inexplicable in that place?

Or is there some sort of scary monster there?

Gu Qing Shan became serious and spoke with a low voice: “Laura, regardless of what kind of indescribable thing is troubling you, you have to tell me, I can’t ignore any danger—”

Laura quickly said: “No, Gu Qing Shan, it’s not quite as serious as you think. There’s just a small issue if I go”

Gu Qing Shan and Lin exchanged glances.

A small issue?

“...What kind of issue?” Gu Qing Shan asked.

Laura explained: “As you know, whenever I grab treasures in the void of space, I use a lot of energy and becomes hungry very easily”

Gu Qing Shan nodded: “Hm, you did tell me that a long time before”

“[Vagrant Treasure Collector]— using this ability always makes it so that I’m hungry, and whenever I come near the unending abyss of broken worlds, I would find myself unable to hold back from reaching in for treasures”

Gu Qing Shan asked in confusion: “But why?”

Laura showed an expression of longing and replied: “Gu Qing Shan, don’t you know? Everything you can find in there are true treasures among treasures. Even to my eyes, those items are perfectly desirable!”

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Gu Qing Shan looked down at the Bramble Bird Sovereign armor he was wearing.

This armor came from that place— and quite deep inside as well.

Laura continued: “Whenever I go there, I wouldn’t be able to help myself trying to grab treasure after treasure— and they’re all truly treasures without a doubt. But doing that always makes me extremely hungry, causing me to eat copious amounts of food in order to replenish myself, which creates a terrifying consequence—”

“What kind of consequence?” Gu Qing Shan steeled himself and asked.

Laura put up both hands to hide her face and groaned: “I’ll become fat!”

Gu Qing Shan: “...”

Lin: “...”

“Laura, you should return to the Bramble Bird Kingdom first” Gu Qing Shan replied.

“No! I want to go with you, this time, I’m definitely going to see it through to the end!” Laura insisted.

“Then I hope you will be able to learn self-control— the will is also an important aspect of a cultivator; it determines how far one can go on their path to become stronger” Gu Qing Shan spoke with a serious expression.

“What if I can’t control myself and I want to grab something...” Laura worriedly asked.

“If push comes to shove, I’ll make you regain your senses” Gu Qing Shan immediately told her.

Lin also smiled and said: “Me as well, as long as I’m here, you won’t be able to grab things as you like”

“Then it’s perfect, with big sis and big bro to help me, I should be able to control myself”

Laura patted her chest in assurance.

A few moments later.

The Bramble Bird ship adjusted its course a bit and started heading in a different direction within the space vortex.

A few days later.

The Bramble Bird ship had reached its destination.

This place was at the border of the unending abyss of the broken worlds.

The three of them stood on the deck and beheld the sight in front of them.

Countless ruins, strange and foreign corpses, various forces that gave off a dangerous presence, as well as inexplicable structures of fallen civilizations, all mixed together to form a humongous swirling vortex that had no border.

There was simply no way to see what was at the deep end of the vortex or where it was connected to.

The Bramble Bird ship lightly hovered just outside the vortex, giving the impression of a tiny seagull above the vast ocean.

“So, this is the most dangerous location within the 900 million World Layers” Gu Qing Shan muttered.

Lin said nothing.

Laura was fidgeting.

She paced back and forth on the deck, mumbling to herself: “I can sense that a great treasure had just flown very close to where we are in the vortex, what do I do? What do I do!? Do I try to grab it or not!?”

“What level of treasure is it?” Lin asked.

Laura pointed her finger at the glowing light on Gu Qing Shan’s body and replied: “It’s only a just worse than this Age of Old era’s armor, oh no, I can’t hold myself back, it’s such a good item, I can’t miss this chance——— big bro, big sis, tell me, do I grab it or not?”

Lin shrugged and looked at Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan sighed: “Then grab it—— but only this time. You can’t do it again regardless of what appears”

“Got it!”

Laura immediately put her hand into the space vortex and grabbed something.

A black shoulder-mounted ballistic launcher was pulled out.

“What a great Technology-type weapon!”

Laura excitedly stroke the cannon, then showed it to Gu Qing Shan like a kid showing off her most precious toy: “Look, I can put this thing on the Bramble Bird ship, it’ll make a great deterrent”

Gu Qing Shan received and checked it.

Lines of glowing text appeared on the War God UI:

[Cannon Brother's Love (single-use weapon)]

[A foot soldier's greatest destructive weapon, originated from a parallel world with highly advanced technology, the ultimate single-use firearm]

[Activation method: Brainwave registration]

[Deployment method: Thought-activated]

[Description: One shot will erase an entire world from existence, lovingly nicknamed Cannon Brother]

Gu Qing Shan gave the cannon to Lin and sighed: "This thing is extremely powerful; she wasn't wrong to pick it up"

This could easily be the determining factor in a fight.

Even the Soul Shrieker's avatar wouldn't be intact if it received a shot of this cannon.

Lin was also a knowledgeable person enough to give praise where it was deserved.

"Alright, from this point on, don't grab anything else" Gu Qing Shan told her.

Lin also followed up: "We'll keep an eye on you. Like Gu Qing Shan said, will and determination is also a crucial factor in cultivating oneself"

Laura sincerely answered: "Don't worry, big bro, big sis, I promise I won't grab any more treasures from this point on!"

The two of them nodded in satisfaction.

"Then, let us go"

Gu Qing Shan looked towards the humongous swirl and checked their direction.

But then Laura started tugging on his sleeve.

"Hm? What is it?" Gu Qing Shan turned around and asked.

Only to see Laura open her eyes wide making an expression as if she was about to cry.

"What's going on?" Gu Qing Shan crouched down and asked her with concern.

"Gu Qing Shan, it's no good, I just discovered an even better treasure!" Laura was unable to hold herself from shouting.

Gu Qing Shan facepalmed.

And then, he had a sudden thought.

The last time Laura was here, she grabbed so many things that she became fat.

This time was the same.

But this place might possibly be the location where the corpses of countless parallel worlds ended up, causing Laura to sense so many good treasures one after another.

Unlike the parallel world fragment inside the Eternal Abyss, the parallel worlds here are already destroyed, no longer posing any threat to this reality.

Only by going inside would it actually be dangerous.

Which means Laura is actually standing right outside the biggest parallel world treasure vault that contains treasures from every destroyed parallel world there ever was.

“I suggest you don’t grab anything else, because compared to treasures, your mental fortitude is more important, not to mention you’ll become fat——” Gu Qing Shan replied with a stern look.

Laura suddenly grabbed his hand and spoke in a hurried, uncontrollable tone: “Gu Qing Shan, please! There’s an item even more powerful than the Bramble Bird Sovereign armor, currently heading towards us from the center of the vortex—— I can already sense it!”

Gu Qing Shan was shocked.

“Even more powerful than the Bramble Bird Sovereign armor?” he asked.

“That’s right, it feels like some sort of indestructible thing, already surpassed the level of defensive armor the 900 million World Layers is capable of making!” Laura’s face had already become flushed from excitement.

The Bramble Bird Sovereign armor had already saved Gu Qing Shan’s life once, a rare, one-of-a-kind armor.

If there is a defensive item even stronger than it is, then that’s simply——

——Gu Qing Shan didn’t hesitate for even a second.

“Grab it!”

He said as he rolled up his sleeves.

“You told her to grab it, but why are you rolling up your sleeves?” Lin couldn’t help herself asking from the side.

Gu Qing Shan tapped his Inventory Bag to take out a large number of cooking ingredients and answered seriously: “I’m going to make Laura some diet food”

Chapter 945

The man had a black short bob cut, wearing a thick pair of sunglasses on the bridge of his eyes and casual clothing with a nice pair of leather shoes.

The Abyssal Demon Dragon had taken the form of a bulky man as he walked behind this man.

「 Your Excellency, I don’t understand 」

While talking, the Demon Dragon was making sure to adjust his pace so that he was walking behind the man.

“What don’t you understand?” the man asked without turning around.

「 Why does a respectable and infinitely powerful entity like yourself want to register as a hitman in the mortals’ Hitman Guild? 」 the Demon Dragon carefully asked.

“Ahaha, isn’t it interesting? Not only can I earn money, but I’ll also be able to travel legally between every world as well” the man replied.

The Abyssal Demon Dragon lowered his voice: “Your Excellency, if you require wealth, I can make it so that all the wealth within the Strife Zones would become yours”

“Tsk, you still don’t get it. The important part isn’t the wealth, it’s the enjoyable process of killing others to earn that wealth. Furthermore, there is a certain clue that I wanted within the Hitman Guild” the man replied, narrowing his eyes.

He suddenly took out a really thick book from his chest and opened it.

A young man was depicted in the book with 4 swords hovering behind his back.

The young man was facing the void, apparently talking to a cluster of nebulae.

This image slowly faded, no longer easily seen.

“How strange. Fate and Space-Time is certainly beginning to shift, but my Book of Prophesized Destinies should not be obscured by the chaos of this era...”

While talking, the man suddenly stopped.

A new image showed up in his book.

The image depicted the two-faced Soul Shrieker.

On another page, a young girl wielding a long staff was busily hiding herself while another girl was flying through the sea of stars, slowly approaching the hidden girl.

The man impatiently complained: “So troublesome, even the parallel world erosion isn’t dealt with yet but the confrontation between [Order] and [Chaos] has already begun”

He closed the book and told the Demon Dragon: “Playtime is over, I have something important I need to do now”

The Abyssal Demon Dragon froze briefly, tried his best to contain his emotions, and asked reluctantly: 「 You mean you’re going to discard me, Your Excellency? 」

“Ah, that’s not it at all, I just have a few things that if I don’t do, this entire reality would collapse, so I’ll be back to play some more later— you just stay by yourself for the time being” the man told him.

「 Understood 」 the Demon Dragon said.

The man nodded at him, then suddenly vanished without a trace.

The Abyssal Demon Dragon stood still for a while with a sorrowful expression on his face.

Only after he was absolutely sure that the other party had truly left——

「 Ahahahahaha! 」

The Demon Dragon suddenly laughed out loud, so emotional that he was practically tearing up.

He shouted: 「 Abyss above—— 」

「 I'm finally free!!!! 」

He swiftly moved and vanished into the void of space.

——it has been so long since a divine revelation has occurred in the Strife Zones, but I can finally return to being served as a God.

...

At another location.

The unending abyss of broken worlds.

The Bramble Tree ship was lightly hovering outside the vortex.

The deck of the ship was full of strange and unheard-of treasures.

Even when Gu Qing Shan's cooking skills were top-notch, capable of making spirit cooking that would quickly replenish energy without causing the eater to become fat, since Laura had grabbed so many treasures, she was feeling a bit tired.

Just now, Laura had just finished the last diet dish he made and returned into the ship's cabin to sleep.

Gu Qing Shan had just washed his utensils and continued to make a stir-fry dish.

While looking at Gu Qing Shan seriously making food from the side, Lin helplessly sighed: "I seem to recall that you came here to do something, right?"

Gu Qing Shan replied: "That's right, I have to complete my World Technique"

Lin pointed at his cooking with both hands and asked: "So why are you still cooking?"

Gu Qing Shan didn't answer.

After the food was done cooking, he put the steaming dishes onto the table and served a full course of spirit cooking.

"Come" Gu Qing Shan called out.

"What for?" Lin doubtfully asked.

"Laura already ate, so it's our turn for an afternoon meal—— just in time as well, come taste my cooking" Gu Qing Shan told her.

"I remember now, you're quite a skilled cook, aren't you?" taking a whiff of the fragrant food, Lin muttered in surprise.

She came up, helped Gu Qing Shan put out some rice before arranging their bowls and eating utensils as well.

The two of them then sat at the table.

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"Do you drink?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"Very rarely, most of the time, I don't" Lin answered honestly.

"What kind of alcohol can you drink?"

"Anything is fine, but I prefer the lighter kind"

Gu Qing Shan gave it some thought and offered her a bottle of sparkling wine.

While he still chose strong liquor for himself.

"Cheers"

"Cheers"

The two of them knocked glasses before enjoying their meal.

"Do you have a clue about your matter yet?" Lin asked as she ate.

"Hm, we're already quite close to the place I'm heading to, I'll probably be able to sense it soon" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"You need me to come with you?"

"It's ok, I can go alone, you can stay and protect Laura"

"No danger?"

"Hm, this trip was something a certain senior of mine arranged for me as a kind of aid, there aren't any danger"

Hearing that, Lin stopped worrying.

Her gaze then turned towards the colorful glowing pile of treasures all over the deck.

To be able to survive the destruction of their own realities, these treasures have more or less proven how strong they were.

And not only could Laura obtain these treasures, but she was also able to use [Blessing of the Empress] to send these treasures directly onto the battlefield and into the hands of those that need them.

Furthermore, she was able to use [Shelter of Infinite Worlds] to thoroughly hide herself away, making it so that no one could find her.

“What a young child with infinite potential” Lin said emotionally.

Gu Qing Shan replied: “Who said she isn’t? She’s still young so her abilities haven’t fully matured yet, but once she grows up, she might be able to shock even us with her capabilities”

“Hm, I must say, I didn’t expect your cooking to be quite this decent” Lin continued.

“Thanks for the compliment”

“Here, bottoms up” Lin raised her glass.

“Bottoms up— why don’t you drink stronger liquor? I personally feel like you can try it out” Gu Qing Shan asked.

Lin explained: “I can handle strong liquor, and I don’t hate it. But if I drink, I’ll always drink a lot, which might lead to some unfortunate circumstances”

“Unfortunate circumstances?”

“That’s right, I’ll most likely look for someone strong and force them to fight me, only stopping after a victor is decided”

Gu Qing Shan’s expression froze over, then silently put the bottle of liquor he had taken out onto the chair behind him.

He said with a serious expression: “Now that I think about it, I do think light sparkling wine with lower alcohol content might be more suitable for you, let’s not drink strong liquor. After all, I’ll be leaving soon, so you’ll have to be responsible for protecting both Laura and the ship”

“My thoughts exactly” Lin smirked.

Half-way through their meal.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly put his glass down.

“You’re leaving now?” Lin asked.

“That’s right, the corpse of that parallel world has appeared” Gu Qing Shan replied.

“Why don’t I see anything?” Lin looked around and asked.

“Because this parallel world was already completely destroyed, the only thing that remained is the Origin that’s still unwilling to disappear. Unless someone has proof of its recognition, they wouldn’t be able to enter” Gu Qing Shan replied.

A glittering star began to glow in between his eyebrows.

This was the proof of recognition that the Fairy of Time gave him!

“You look a lot like those old Soul Artifacts like this” Lin teased him.

“Hah, I can’t help it, this is the only way I’ll be led inside” Gu Qing Shan helplessly replied.

“Be careful”

“Hm”

As soon as Gu Qing Shan said so, a powerful guidance force had acted on him and took him away from the Bramble Bird ship in a flash.

The only one left on the deck of the ship was Lin.

She stayed silent for a brief moment before lightly swiping the air with her hand.

The bottle of strong liquor that Gu Qing Shan had hidden behind his chair flew up and landed on the table.

Lin poured herself a drink, then finished the entire bottle in one breath.

“Scaredy cat...”

She muttered.

Chapter 946

Led by the gathered glow of the star, Gu Qing Shan was constantly heading downwards into the humongous vortex.

He was approaching the vortex closer and closer, but he wasn't slowing down.

The broken vortex was directly in front of his eyes.

Gu Qing Shan couldn't help muttering to himself.

I'm not going to just fly in, am I?

There were countless fragments of broken worlds inside the vortex, besides a previous Bramble Bird sovereign as well as the current Bramble Bird sovereign, Laura herself, no one had dared to enter it.

All of a sudden, at the very last possible moment, the guiding force acting on Gu Qing Shan's body abruptly stopped.

Perhaps sensing something, the guiding force made it so that he was floating right above the vortex.

He was literally one step away from stepping inside the vortex.

Gu Qing Shan didn't dare move a single muscle and just silently stood there.

“Great, I'm here. Now what?”

He muttered.

He then suddenly sensed something and looked up not too far away.

A jet-black piece of rock that was about 5-people tall was silently heading towards him.

Another cluster of light erupted from between Gu Qing Shan's eyebrows and came into contact with the rock.

Oong

An intense, loud, and sharp cry sounded from the rock.

Gu Qing Shan then felt an intense suction force.

His body swiftly moved straight into the rock.

...

Darkness.

Howling wind by his ear.

Gu Qing Shan felt himself standing inside a zone of blurriness.

All of a sudden, lines of glowing text appeared on the War God UI:

[Detected the remnant will of this World Origin]

[The UI can now arrange a War God Quest in accordance with that will and your goals]

[The Quest will exist in the form of a covenant between you and the will of the world to create a bridge between you]

[Would you like to issue the corresponding Quest now?]

Gu Qing Shan skimmed through and answered right away: "Issue it"

New lines of glowing text appeared on the War God UI:

[Quest description: Before the Bygone Era, an Apocalypse had swept through and destroyed this newborn powerful parallel world with infinite potential, erasing all traces of it to leave only the final bit of World Origin remaining]

[The will of that world is extremely unwilling to accept this. Thus, it had been pushing the corpse of its world to move around aimlessly within the abyss of broken worlds]

[And now, you've come to it]

[Quest objective: Pass the trial of the remnant will of this parallel world, bringing it the last bit of hope (as you accept this Quest, its trial will immediately begin)]

[Quest reward: You will obtain the final bit of World Origin of this parallel world, using it to strengthen your newly created World Technique]

[Special note: In accordance with the situation of each War God Quest, the System will arrange various means of utilizing Soul Points to support your efforts]

[During this War God Quest, you've obtained the Soul Points utilization method: Conversion]

[Conversion: Constant magical technique. Whenever you utilize your power, it would automatically convert it into a technique that fits the Laws and common sense of the parallel world]

[Will you accept this War God Quest?]

Gu Qing Shan replied: "Accept"

[Quest accepted]

[Your covenant with the remnant will of the parallel world has been formed]

[The trail shall now begin]

With the final line of glowing text, the endless darkness in front of Gu Qing Shan's eyes was overwhelmed by the infinite lights.

The entire world was lit up.

He noticed that...

He had turned into a baby!

Wait a minute.

Why am I a baby now, what can I actually do with this?

Gu Qing Shan called out in his mind: "System!"

[I'm here] the War God UI replied.

"Why did I turn into a baby?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

[Because you have formed a covenant with the parallel world, and is currently undergoing its trial]

"But you didn't say that I'd turn into a baby!"

[This couldn't be helped, only after you've agreed could I have known what kind of trial it was] the War God UI replied.

Gu Qing Shan was a bit flustered: "A baby is too weak! I literally have no way to deal with any situation. I can't even summon my swords like this! Can I pull out now?"

[You cannot. This world's will was already full of unwillingness to accept its end. After forming the covenant, you have become its last hope, if you change your mind now, it will destroy itself together with you]

The War God UI replied in a fully serious manner.

As it was talking to him, lines of glowing text also started to show up on the UI:

[The Apocalypse trial had officially begun]

[This is an illusion that had transcended the restriction of time]

[This illusion is depicting the entire process of this world's run-in with the Apocalypse and eventual destruction. You must find the root of the calamity, remove it, and allow the world to continue]

[Your time limit is: 100 years]

[Note: You will be under the constant effect of Conversion]

[Special note: During the world's collapse, countless great and excellent heroes have made their attempts at salvation, but have all failed]

[Come, use your actions to tell the World Origin what exactly is a real hero that can save the world]

[If you succeed, you will obtain the final power necessary to complete your World Technique]

[The trial has begun]

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All the glowing text swiftly shrank and vanished.

At the same time.

The restricted Space and Time started to loosen as Gu Qing Shan discovered that he was now able to move.

Various tiny scratching sounds were resounding around him, causing the atmosphere to become tense.

Gu Qing Shan didn't know what exactly was going on, so he could only watch the events unfold in silence.

Regardless of what happened, now that I've lost all my power, the only thing I can do is to collect information.

Not to mention, although the time limit of 100 years seems like a lot at first, I believe there might be some sort of hidden implication here.

I still don't know what kind of trial I'll have to face.

If so many people were unable to save this newborn powerful parallel world full of potential, then how should I go about doing that?

Gu Qing Shan was seriously contemplating this.

Suddenly, a surprised voice came into his ears: "What a cute little boy!"

Noisy voices came from all around him.

Gu Qing Shan felt himself being touched and washed by several pairs of hands using water of appropriate temperature.

The hands that were washing him were extremely flexible, soft, and skillful.

The faces of various people came close as they stared at him.

"Look, he's so adorable"

"That's right, such big round eyes"

"Saint Mother Maria above, I like him already"

"How strange, why isn't he crying?"

Silence, all around.

Gu Qing Shan saw the various worried expressions on their faces.

This really is...

Gu Qing Shan silently whispered in his mind.

He had no choice but to open his mouth and cry.

“Waah-kah!”

It’s been so long since he last cried so he wasn’t used to it and even hiccupped once.

The people around him gasped in surprise.

The uneasy atmosphere quickly filled the room, creating an almost solid air of worry.

“Wah! Waah! Waaah!”

It was now that Gu Qing Shan finally grasped the technique and started to cry in a resounding and rhythmic manner.

“He’s crying so well!”

Someone exclaimed.

The women all smiled.

The atmosphere relaxed.

Gu Qing Shan also sighed in relief.

But it looks like I’ll need to redo everything from the very start.

Fortunately, all of my memories and knowledge still remained, plus the ability that [War God Quest] provided: [Conversion].

With this ability, what I do won’t be completely foreign to this world.

I’ll be able to regain my cultivation once again, look for the origin of the Apocalypse and crush it from its inception.

Only then would I be able to convince the remnant will of the world to become a part of my World Technique.

At this point, the female servants had finished cleaning him.

Although this was only an illusion, since it was created by World Origin, from a certain perspective, this was also reality.

Gu Qing Shan silently thought.

He used his immature hands to secretly form a hand seal.

This was the simplest Sensing Seal; it basically had no effect except to help the user recognize and perceive spirit energy.

He was able to sense spirit energy!

And this world's spirit energy was still relatively plentiful.

Gu Qing Shan silently sighed in relief.

While he was thinking that, the servants had finished washing him from top to bottom, carefully dried him off, then dressed him up in a set of dry and comfortable baby clothes.

One of the female servants yawned.

Right, it should be time to rest now.

This means, after this, I'll be put into a baby crib to rest.

Then, I'll only need a single night to cultivate and reach Qi Training 1st stage.

I need to quickly become a cultivator again, otherwise, I won't even have a bit of power to defend myself.

After these women sleep, it'll be time for me to start cultivating.

And I'll change the future of this world!

As Gu Qing Shan thought that, one of the servants gently picked him up and cradled him close to her chest.

They started talking:

"It's quite late already"

"That's right"

"Young master has been bathed"

"When it's this late, young master is probably hungry now"

"I'll take him to the baby room and breastfeed him"

"Hm, go ahead"

Gu Qing Shan froze in the female servant's chest.

Wh-what!?

Breastfeed!???

Chapter 947

This world was full of Origin and overflowing with vitality, a place where Origin can manifest as supernatural Laws from thin air and answer the call of its living beings.

Indeed, this was a Magic-type world.

On one hand, living beings of this world held the great power of magic, while still on the first few steps of actually building their civilization and society, on the other hand, this naturally led to war and strife.

——Gu Qing Shan had to maintain a high level of caution.

He only tried standing up by himself when he turned 1 year old.

Started learning to walk at the age of 2.

Started going to the toilet alone when he was 3 years old.

While he was still at an age where he had no way to protect himself, he carefully kept his power hidden and patiently observed this world.

——only after he had grasped the basic social structure and situation of this human civilization when he turned 4 years old, did he relax just a little bit.

It was at this age that he was sent to the Yorkshire Private Noble Institute.

During these past 4 years, he had been constantly cultivating himself without slacking off.

Thankfully due to the density of this world's spirit energy and him being favored by the World Origin, he had already reached Foundation realm.

Basic personal protection was no issue for him.

Time slowly passed uneventfully.

Gu Qing Shan continued to focus on his cultivation while trying to remain as ordinary as possible.

From other people's perspective, he seemed like a completely normal aristocratic young master.

Until one day.

Just like any other day, he returned to his family manor after school.

All of a sudden, he heard the sound of his mother's sobbing while the servants maintained a certain distance from her without daring to get closer.

Gu Qing Shan released his inner sight and quickly understood what happened.

——his temporary father lost his life on the battlefield.

He died in an assault of the Beast race.

Although he hadn't seen this father much during the past 4 years, he still felt a bit emotional from this loss.

Since his family was only a minor noble family, the loss of his father could easily bring them to ruin.

Gu Qing Shan went in and stood in front of his mother.

Although this place was only an illusion, this woman had treated him like how a true mother would.

She was only the daughter of a merchant so she didn't have a high-born status, after her husband died, she would not be able to protect this home by herself with her weak hands.

Especially during an age of war.

Gu Qing Shan had never rejected her and instead enjoyed this feeling of familial love.

"Are you okay?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

He grabbed her hand with both of his hands

"Alan, dear. I'm fine" his mother wiped her tears away and forced out a smile.

"No, tell me what's wrong, mother"

"Hic— your father... most likely won't be able to return any longer"

His mother could no longer contain herself and fully embraced him.

Gu Qing Shan silently sighed.

In the cultivation world, there was a period where the concept of being 'involved' or 'absolved' from the society was a big deal, where the cultivation society as a whole believed it was best to cut off all mortal coils in order to achieve greatness in the path of cultivation.

But that age had long passed.

Modern cultivators all believed that anything could be a part of cultivation.

Including emotions and feelings.

Gu Qing Shan thought for a while.

He had grasped the basic rules and situation of this world.

If he wanted to become a normal 'unrivaled genius', this would be the best chance for it.

This would also be for the sake of this home, for his mother and the maids who had always treated him well, a small bit of repayment for what they had done.

— even if this was only an illusion since the illusion was created by World Origin, to a certain extent, this is also reality.

Then.

Let's begin.

Gu Qing Shan silently made his decision.

On the following day, when Gu Qing Shan was at school, he accidentally left a small wound on the neck of another noble child.

While that child was loudly crying for help, Gu Qing Shan lightly placed his hand on the child's neck.

The wound was immediately healed.

This caused a huge commotion.

The local church dispatched their priests to take a look at the situation themselves, they even asked Gu Qing Shan to try it again.

Gu Qing Shan appeared confused, so he failed the first time.

But succeeded on the second try.

“4 years old... he’s only 4 years old” one of the priests said with disbelief.

“I want to know his exact situation, especially his background” the other priest ordered.

The servants that had arrived with them quickly went to check the relevant information.

The situation was quite clear.

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This noble child had shown signs of awakening Sainthood at 4 years old.

If he was a high-born as well—

That would be terrifying.

A few moments later, the servants returned to the priests of the church.

The two priests quickly learnt that the young boy in front of them had a minor noble father who had just been killed in action at the frontlines.

They exchanged glances.

Because his father sacrificed his life defending humanity, the Gods took pity and allowed this young child to awaken great power.

This was a clear example of God’s love for humanity!

On the same day, Gu Qing Shan was brought into the Yorkshire Convent.

Compared to other establishments like the Wizardry Association, the Knight’s Alliance, and the Hunter Guild, the Church of this world had the oldest and richest heritage of it all.

For that reason, Gu Qing Shan had already prepared himself to enter this organization from the beginning.

The Cardinal in charge of this convent came out to meet him personally, also calling his mother and a few VIPs of the Church as witnesses.

Gu Qing Shan signaled with his eyes to his distressed and uneasy mother that there was nothing to worry about.

At this time, a priest carried a glowing orb in front of the Cardinal.

“The Orb of Lies is ready” the priest reported in a low voice.

The Cardinal nodded and received the Orb of Lies.

“Child, do you believe in God?” he asked.

“Of course, I do, I know that God exists” Gu Qing Shan answered resolutely.

——that’s right, not only did he meet them, he had also created a few of them.

Not to mention, the Gods of Fire, Water, Earth, and Wind were also said to be the four Pillar Gods who created the worlds.

And Gu Qing Shan was currently the master of the Earth Pillar.

So his words were absolutely accurate without a bit of falsehood.

Silence, all around.

No one had thought that this young child was so sure that God existed.

His attitude greatly improved the Cardinal’s impression of him.

——because the Orb of Lies didn’t react at all.

Normally, the Orb of Lies would give off a faint glow, but if someone spoke falsehood in front of it, the orb would let out a high-pitched scream followed by blinding red light.

But the orb didn’t react to this child’s words.

Which means that he was speaking the truth.

“Ah? Why do you believe that God exists?” the Cardinal questioned him further.

“Because the world was created by God himself, I believe this to be true” Gu Qing Shan replied.

The Cardinal looked at him in surprise.

Everyone else had also turned their gaze towards him.

God’s creation of the world was mentioned in the 5th volume of the 7 Holy Bibles of the Church.

This meant that a young child at 4 years old shouldn’t know about this.

Unless his parents were devout believers who had already taught him the corresponding belief and knowledge of the church from a young age.

The Cardinal looked at the Orb of Lies in his hands.

No change.

“You have indeed come from a devout and kind family” the Cardinal happily told him while lightly nodding towards Gu Qing Shan’s mother.

Gu Qing Shan’s mother hurriedly bowed in response, completely flattered.

——*the Cardinal of the county’s Church is a true VIP, someone who would normally never give any praise.*

If he personally praised someone, that could only be someone that the Church intended to shelter.

From now on, Alan and I will most likely never come into harm from public forces within this county.

The Cardinal thought for a bit and patiently explained: "Child, a normal person would only awaken their Sainthood at around 6 years old, but you've awoken yours at 4. From our experience, this has proven that your talents are a cut above the rest"

"Are you willing to join the Church?"

Gu Qing Shan answered without hesitation: "I am willing"

The Cardinal asked with a smile: "Why do you want to join the Church? Do not fear, simply tell me your truest thoughts"

Gu Qing Shan replied: "Because the Church has the greatest inheritance of knowledge. I need to mature and grow here, as one day; it will be my turn to stand and fight against all evils in order to protect this world"

Everyone smiled.

Although this child's words were innocent, his intentions were praiseworthy.

However, something unimaginable happened.

Gu Qing Shan continued: "I was born through the will of this world, descended from a faraway land. I came as an avatar of the Divine who walks the earth, all to guard and keep this world safe"

His voice was immature but carried an unprecedented sense of solemnity.

The entire Church went silent.

Complete silence.

Everyone looked at the Orb of Lies at the same time.

The Orb of Lies continued to give off its gentle glow, not reacting at all to his words.

This child!

This child was speaking the truth!!!

Chapter 948

The Cardinal stared closely at the Orb of Lies in his hands.

The Orb of Lies is operating normally without any issue.

...this matter is too great.

"Seal the exits"

The Cardinal hesitated for a single second before giving his order.

The knights of the Church swiftly appeared from hidden corners of the convent and perfectly blocked every exit.

The atmosphere immediately changed.

A sense of dread filled the hall of the convent.

The VIPs who were invited here as witnesses all felt a bit uneasy as they saw this happen.

“Cardinal, sir, what is this supposed to mean?”

A viscount barely managed to force a smile as he tried asking.

The Cardinal gently answered: “Please be a bit patient because this matter cannot be revealed no matter what. I must go and report to the Church’s HQ right away”

After saying so, he ordered the knights: “Anyone who tries to leave this place is to be killed without remorse”

“Understood!” the knights replied in unison.

The Cardinal brought two of his servants and quickly left the scene.

Gu Qing Shan looked at his mother.

His mother was being surrounded by the knights together with the rest of the VIPs, her face was full of fear and worry.

Their eyes met.

“Don’t worry” Gu Qing Shan consoled her.

He waved his hand to let out a mass of white light that gently fell onto her body.

A sense of warmth filled his mother’s body, removing worries from her heart and allowed her to enter a calm state, even her complexion that had gotten worse over the last few days due to sorrow and worry had somewhat improved.

“Look!”

“That is [Divine Comfort]!”

“Oh my god, that really is [Divine Comfort]!”

The people were all shocked.

[Divine Comfort] was a Divine magic that only advanced clergymen could perform.

And yet a 4-year-old child had just performed it in front of everyone, it was completely unimaginable.

From the crowd, an old man stepped forward, knelt in front of Gu Qing Shan, and began to recite a passage from the bible.

He was using his actions to express his attitude.

Facing his first believer, Gu Qing Shan appeared completely calm and collected.

“Why do you kneel in front of me?” he asked.

“God above, I have been stricken with a great disease, from which I can tell that I do not have much time left to live. I only hope that after my death, I would be accepted into Heaven” the old man prostrated with his head touching the ground and trembled as he spoke.

Gu Qing Shan nodded and said nothing.

He gained a believer by performing a simple spell.

— in truth, what he used just now was a common healing light technique that cultivators always used.

This technique worked by gathering the pure spirit energy that lingered in the world to form a mass of light that nurtured a cultivator’s body.

The reason why such a thing was misunderstood as [Divine Comfort] was that after Gu Qing Shan formed the covenant with the will of the world, [War God Quest] had granted him a constant passive—
— [Conversion].

Every cultivator-type spell or technique he used would be automatically converted into a magic equivalent that fit the common sense and Laws of this world.

So the healing light technique was converted to [Divine Comfort] of the same level.

At this point , almost a dozen different spatial fluctuations appeared around the convent.

Gu Qing Shan was surprised.

So many teleportations in a row, it seems like all the VIPs of the Church had arrived.

A few moments later, a group of people from the Church entered the hall of the convent.

As they saw them, everyone knelt down.

The hall was immediately filled with sounds of prayers.

They couldn’t be blamed for reacting this way, because this was such a shocking sight.

The people who just came in represented the greatest power of the church, as well as living representatives of God on mortal land.

They were 12 Divine Knights.

5 Cardinals.

The Grand Cardinal of the Church.

As well as the man who donned a pure white priest robe—

His Excellency of the Divine Church, the Pope!

He had personally appeared!

“Your Excellency, it was that child” the county Cardinal who left earlier spoke up.

The VIPs of the Church followed where he was pointing.

Only to see an old man prostrating on the ground, praying devoutly to a 4-year-old child.

While the child’s expression was perfectly calm, his eyes slightly drooping as if to listen to the old man’s prayers.

Such a scene was quite shocking to see.

A priest who was responsible for watching over the scene came forward and reported what had happened to the Cardinal of Yorkshire after he left.

“He performed [Divine Comfort]?”

“Yes, he did perform such a thing, everyone here saw it with their own eyes”

The Cardinal of Yorkshire turned towards the other people of the Church with a wondering expression.

The Pope nodded to express his understanding.

He gestured to someone behind him.

The Grand Cardinal then took out a golden orb and presented it to the Pope.

This was the highest-grade Orb of Lies within the Church, something that had never failed before.

“[Blessing of Truth]” the Pope ordered.

“Yes”

The 5 Cardinals came forward and performed [Blessing of Truth] on the golden orb at once.

After some thought, the Pope continued to order: “Not enough, we need the [Vow of Punishing Lies] as well”

Hearing that, the 5 Cardinals stepped back.

The 12 Divine Knights came forward, drew their knight swords, and pointed them at the golden orb, reinforcing it with the [Vow of Punishing Lies].

They quickly finished their vows, sheathed their swords, and stepped back.

The Pope looked at the golden orb in his hand, then began to chant a long series of incantations.

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Following his chant, his skin seemed to become more wrinkled, his body itself growing visibly older.

The Grand Cardinal hurriedly told him: “Your Excellency , you don’t need to use your power...”

The Pope didn’t take note of his words and continued until he completed the incantation.

The golden orb started to give off a milky white divine light.

It was now that the Pope sighed with satisfaction:

“Cardinals, the current situation is one where we cannot afford any misjudgment, how could I not also put in the effort?”

12 Divine Knights, 5 Cardinals, as well as the Pope’s own power.

There hadn’t been anybody in this world who could bypass the lie detection magic that they performed in unison.

It was the only way for them to assure that there would be no falsehood in the results.

“But your body—” a Divine Knight sorrowfully spoke up.

“Enough. If everything is true, the embodiment of God is right in front of us” the Pope told him.

Everyone went silent.

Under everyone’s staring eyes, the Pope held the golden orb as he walked in front of Gu Qing Shan.

“Child, are you the embodiment of God?”

The Pope cut straight to the chase.

“To be exact, I am not an embodiment. I am a Pillar God of billions of worlds” Gu Qing Shan replied calmly.

Everyone stared straight at the golden orb in the Pope’s hand.

Even now, the golden orb was giving off a faint milky white glow, gentle and silent.

Everything was normal.

The Pope gasped.

A bit behind him, the Cardinals and Divine Knights swiftly prostrated themselves.

They were no longer regretful that the Pope had used his lifespan to cast that spell.

“You— My Lord, why have you only revealed yourself after descending for 4 years?” the Pope asked.

This was a great question, one that even Gu Qing Shan had to praise.

“Because I needed time to recover my power” Gu Qing Shan replied.

Everyone was a bit shocked.

The Pope’s expression didn’t change but he also didn’t ask anything else.

He slowly knelt down in front of Gu Qing Shan, closed his eyes, and spoke: “I wish to receive my Lord’s grace”

Gu Qing Shan silently smiled.

This old fox is quite an interesting person.

According to the teachings of this world's bible , a divine grace is separated into many different kinds.

A normal clergyman is able to bestow normal people and mortals the most basic form of spiritual baptism.

A higher-ranking priest is able to use and bestow [Divine Comfort].

The Pope can bestow a magic called [Divine Protection]—-- this was a spell that could last for 3 months, capable of shielding the receiver from any evil curses.

As for God, no one knows what kind of grace a God can bestow .

—--but from a normal perspective, a grace from God couldn't be any worse from the Pope.

Otherwise, how would they be called a God?

Which means...

Even though the golden orb did not react and has proven that Gu Qing Shan was telling the truth, the Pope still chose to maintain a cautious attitude.

However, this wasn't even worth being considered a test for Gu Qing Shan.

After all, in the Age of old, even the Divine race couldn't see through his act.

Gu Qing Shan looked at the Pope and whispered: "Very well, you are my representative in the mortal realm, the head shepherd of my mortal believers, I shall bestow upon you my grace"

Without waiting for the Pope to react, he turned to the old man who had been kneeling at his feet.

"And you, as you were the first believer to pray in front of me after the revelation of my identity, I have decided that you shall receive the same divine grace as my representative"

The old man opened his eyes wide, glanced at the Pope , and shrunk back a bit warily.

The Pope gently spoke: "Come, this is the will of God, do not try to fight it"

As he spoke, the old man was being moved by an invisible force right next to him.

And so, the Pope and an old man were both kneeling in front of a 4-year-old boy.

But no one here found that to be ridiculous or laughable.

Everyone held their breath and waited for what happened next.

— no one had ever witnessed a divine grace from God, so none of them knew what to expect.

Gu Qing Shan's thoughts moved.

A sharp sword phantom appeared out of nowhere and slashed through both the Pope and the old man.

The Heaven sword!

[Chaotic Flow], activate!

In the eyes of these people, endless divine light surged forward from Gu Qing Shan's body and overflowed. Under the sound of the endless divine gospel, the divine light draped over the Pope and the old man's body.

A miracle had occurred.

The Pope and the old man's silver hair began to turn black again.

The marks of vicissitudes and age vanished from their visage, their skin slowly turned smooth and full of life once more.

Their backs gradually straightened and their physique appeared a bit taller.

Their bodies returned to the state of when they were 20 years old!

Age regression!

No one in this world could resist against the rules of life and death.

Perhaps those particularly powerful Professionalists were able to prolong their lives, but no one had ever been able to move in reverse and regain their youth!

"I am—— I——"

A voice full of vitality resounded.

This was the Pope's voice.

He had noticed his change.

All of his old wounds and diseases had vanished, his vitality that was like a candle in the wind had been fully replenished, just like the prime of his life.

No, I'm at the prime of my life right now!

Even with the Pope's mental fortitude, he couldn't even utter a word at this unbelievable miracle.

Gu Qing Shan looked over him and calmly said: "It is not yet time for you to go to Heaven, I still need you to remain in this world and contribute your power to the Church"

The Pope finally regained his senses.

He prostrated down to Gu Qing Shan's feet and said in a solemn voice: "God above, I am your most loyal servant, your will is my goal, thus I shall contribute all that I am to you"

Chapter 949

3 days later.

The Church pulled back from all ongoing large-scale power struggles and fortified defending their own territories.

The Church seemed to have undergone some sort of change.

For the next few days, when the priests directed the church's followers to sing prayers to God, they used praises a few more times than normal.

Arrogant and useless divine knights were dismissed from their positions, church members who had committed crimes were swiftly purged, leaving only the most devout members and those who could actually put up a fight.

The bishops of the Church started to travel from country to country, no longer showing off their superiority as clergymen.

Right now, they seemed more like hard-working salarymen who were sincerely trying their best, putting in effort meticulously.

The Church itself had been revitalized.

Noticing this odd change, the other forces put in some effort to learn of the Church's current business.

And soon they received shocking news.

God had descended onto the mortal realm.

God!

According to the Church's preaching, only the souls that sincerely revered God may enter Heaven after their deaths, others would either reincarnate, be sent to Hell, or forever wander aimlessly around the void of space.

Regardless, the best possible place to end up after death was definitely Heaven.

Even disregarding God's power for now, the fact that God had appeared proved that the preachings of the Church's bibles were indeed correct.

Place your hand on your chest and ask yourself.

Who doesn't want to enjoy eternal peace after death?

Heaven— this word alone was more than enough to pull everyone under the flag of the Church.

The feeling of disbelief and anxiety filled the hearts of the leaders of various forces.

Just as they were about to send out their strongest Professionists to try to find out the truth from the Church's Holy Sanctuary, the Pope appeared.

The Pope had issued a summon to all forces in the world, saying that he had something to inform everyone.

Just like that, every force in the world got an excuse to send their envoys to the Holy Sanctuary.

Before these envoys managed to investigate anything, they were completely stunned by the sight they beheld.

The Pope.

He had regained his youth.

He had returned to the prime age of his life.

[Chaotic Flow] only made it so that his body returned to the state it was in the past, it didn't take away his memories.

Having several hundred years of experience, knowledge, and wisdom, as well as being in charge of the greatest force in the world allowed the Pope to claim without a doubt that he was the strongest person in the world.

In front of all the envoys, the Pope admitted the descent of God.

"Indeed, I am the greatest example, as God had bestowed youth upon me"

The Pope said.

"The Lord said— it is not yet time for me to return to Heaven in the sky, that I should remain in the mortal realm to contribute more to the Church"

"The Lord also said— there is no need to worry about loss and gain in the mortal realm, as everything in the mortal realm is like the clouds that float above and will eventually disappear, only the peace of Heaven is eternal"

"From now on, the Church will no longer interfere with any strifes, but if someone tries to stop us from spreading our beliefs, I assure you their only outcome will be death"

"Following this, the Church will focus its resources for only one thing"

"Collect information"

The Pope's words caused all the envoys to feel surprised.

"What do you mean by collecting information?" someone asked.

"The Lord had foretold that the world would slowly head into ruin within the next hundred years, so the Lord needed to know of any unusual occurrences before the calamity truly arrives" the Pope replied.

"Head into ruin!?"

The envoys were shocked.

News of this was quickly relayed to the world's organizations.

The leaders of these forces didn't waste a single moment to use their influence to investigate and confirm whether or not what they claimed was real.

The events that transpired at the Yorkshire convent quickly came to light.

In truth, the Church never intended to hide it in the first place.

Both God and the miracle he performed was real.

At this point, they were practically wishing for the transpired event to be as widely known as possible.

After the entire truth was clearly laid out in front of everyone, they went completely silent.

How were they going to go against the Church who had God on their side?

And was the destruction that God spoke of really true?

The Professionalists of the world were confused.

One month later, another shocking thing occurred.

The Great Chieftain of the Beast race ordered a ceasefire.

He left the territory of the Beast race, made the long journey through the Great Plains to the Holy Sanctuary, and requested to meet God just once.

The Pope naturally rejected its request.

After all, God himself said that he had only revealed himself because he needed time to recover his strength, and it has only been 4 years, it would still be a long time until he fully recovers.

While the Great Chieftain of the Beast race was about as strong as the Pope himself.

This place was humanity's Holy Sanctuary, the fact that the Pope didn't immediately send out troops to surround and eliminate him was in consideration that he might be here to surrender himself.

The Beast race's Great Chieftain was denied entry into the Holy Sanctuary, but he couldn't force his way in either, so he could only kneel outside the Holy Sanctuary and put a corpse on the ground.

"Omnipotent God, master above, founder of Heaven, creator of the world. I vow to submit myself to you, my only wish is for you to save the royal bloodline of the Beast race and allow him to continue leading the Beast race and prosper on our Meadow"

The Great Chieftain knelt with its head to the ground.

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Standing on the fortified walls of the Holy Sanctuary, the Pope's expression changed as he saw this.

That corpse was the Beast King!

The Beast King was the most powerful of the Beast race, the only one capable of leading the Beast race as a whole with its power.

But now, the Beast King's bloodline could no longer continue.

The Beast race as a whole would definitely be caught in chaos and war!

In theory, this would be the moment for humanity to make one final push and gain the absolute advantage in this war, becoming the victor.

But the Great Chieftain of the Beast race had come to beg God for help.

Which means this was the Lord's decision to make.

With that in mind, the Pope ordered his subordinates: "Go, report everything to the Lord"

"No need, I already know everything"

A voice emerged from the void of space.

It was Gu Qing Shan's voice.

The Pope and followers of the Church quickly bowed to greet his voice.

"My Lord, what do you think about—"

While the Pope was asking, a cluster of holy light appeared from above.

Like a comet, the cluster of light fell outside the Holy Sanctuary and went into the Beast King's body.

The Beast King opened his eyes.

...

Even if one had all the authority, wealth, and power in the world, in the end, you would still end up as a pile of sand or dirt in the ground.

For humans— or rather, for all living beings, the ultimate dream was an eternal life without end.

If that was impossible, then most people would instead wish that they would end up somewhere decent after death.

—-or like the Pope of the Divine Church, regressing to the prime of their life.

—-or to be able to revive after death.

And up to this point, God had shown to be able to accomplish all of this.

After the Beast race swore their allegiance to God, humanity's structure as a whole also silently began to change.

Some countries directly declared total submission to the Church.

Not acceptance, but total submission.

—-if one couldn't become a Professionalist, the most they would live for was a few dozen years.

But if they believed in God, they would be granted entry to the eternal Heaven after death.

Who was not willing to accept such a great deal?

However, most forces as well as the most powerful nations and empires still adopted a wait-and-see attitude.

Because they understood a certain fact.

The Beast race had always been famous for their stupidity, underhanded, and fraudulent nature.

They only worshipped powerful entities and ancient spirits of the past as well as their own ancestors.

They had never actually cared for humanity's faith.

The Beast race Great Chieftain's actions this time were akin to a desperate patient running everywhere they could for medicine.

Who could be sure what the situation would end up as?

Time slowly passed.

Sure enough, after delaying their promise over and over again for several months, the Beast race changed their minds.

Apparently, they had received a revelation from their ancient ancestor that humanity's God was actually an evil god.

At the same time, they claimed that humanity's God was still very weak, unable to win against even the Beast King and the Great Chieftain.

So there was no need to pay any attention to him.

—in truth, this was also a main point of interest for the larger forces of humanity.

They heard that God was actually still recovering his strength, and was only 4 years old right now.

Following this, the human missionaries who followed the Beast King back to the Beast race's Meadow to spread the Church's teachings were chased back to humanity's territory.

In the end, everyone knew who saved the Beast King's life, so his pride didn't allow him to actually kill these missionaries.

The night at the human missionaries returned to the Holy Sanctuary.

Two streaks of holy light filled with solemnity flew out from the Holy Sanctuary and headed for the Meadow.

The Beast race who had already been paying close attention to the Holy Sanctuary naturally noticed and did everything they could to stop these two streaks of light.

But all of their spells and techniques were completely stopped by one of the lights, unable to do anything.

Following that, all the Beast warriors who took flight and attempted to stop the streaks of light were completely crushed to a pulp by the other streak of light.

The two unstoppable streaks of light continued forward through the Beast race's encampments until they reached deep into the Meadow.

One of the streaks of light slowly descended and struck the ground.

Heaven and earth themselves turned dim.

Intense wind ravaged the land.

The world itself shook.

The ground had caved in to become a bottomless crater.

Everything no longer existed.

On this day.

The Beast race as a whole vanished from the stage of history.

Chapter 950

Were there many powerful organizations in this world?

Yes, for example, the thousand-year empires, the Wizardry Association, the Knight Alliance, the Hunters Guild, and various others of the same nature all had a heritage that dated back a long time ago, accompanied with nearly overwhelming strength and numbers.

The matter between the Beast race's Meadow and the Holy Sanctuary had drawn the attention of these organizations before anyone else.

The fact that God was able to revive the Beast King was truly a miracle, a divine act.

But the Beast King and the Great Chieftain betrayed humanity's God without even batting an eyelid.

Everyone had waited to see how God would react to this.

From the believable information, God had descended as a human male, but he was only 4 years old and had limited strength.

The results.

A terrifying 'Divine Punishment' was delivered upon the Beast race.

The edge of what used to be the Meadow.

Two Cardinals of the Divine Church were currently leading a large number of followers to record the specifics of this Divine Punishment.

They lowered their heads with humble and calm expressions, their actions were the epitome of maturity. Whenever they ran into people from outside the Church, they even took the initiative to make way and prayed for them to be blessed by God.

Although the attitude of the Church's people had changed and become more down-to-earth, compared to the previous arrogance that they carried, this attitude of theirs was full of nothing but implications.

The representatives of the world's organizations stood outside the Meadow, silently watching as the people of the Church continued with their recording.

A white-haired wizard propped himself up with his staff and sighed.

"Sir, why are you sighing?"

Next to him, a knight in full armor who wielded a greatsword asked.

"I couldn't help it" the white-haired wizard replied.

The knight spoke to him teasingly: “But you must control your emotions well. After all, your every gesture right now could be interpreted as the attitude of the Wizardry Association as a whole”

The white-haired wizard smiled bitterly: “I don’t have a helmet as big as yours that can perfectly conceal my face”

A voice then emerged from behind them.

“What are the two of you talking about?”

A man in leather armor who wielded a longbow swiftly appeared next to them.

The Hunter Guild’s guild master was also here.

The white-haired wizard replied: “We’re talking about how to control our expressions while viewing this Divine Punishment”

“Ah, that’s what it was. Indeed, it would be quite hard to achieve such a thing” the Hunter Guild’s guild master agreed.

The three of them looked straight towards the Meadow and fell silent.

They were standing at the edge of solid ground, as the area in front of them was a seemingly endless and vast void of nothing.

They were standing on flat ground, but it felt as if they were actually standing on top of a bottomless cliff instead.

What used to be the Beast race’s Meadow had been completely erased from existence by the Divine Punishment.

The Meadow was now a gigantic hole in the ground.

Rather than ‘hole’, it was more appropriate to call it a circular ravine, one so wide that even a Professionalist would feel tiny in front of it.

This ravine was also extremely deep, enough that no one would be able to observe the bottom at a glance, perhaps only recognizing the end after an entire day of gazing at it.

While the three people were lost in their silence, a middle-aged man rode a horse up to where they were.

He didn’t dismount, only slightly nodded to greet the three people.

The three people responded in kind.

“What do you think?” the middle-aged man asked.

The knight and hunter looked towards the white-haired wizard at the same time.

Wizards were the ones that felt skeptical about the Church’s Creationist theory the most, because wizards lived to study and probe the Laws of nature, searching for the truth of all things.

The white-haired wizard looked down at the ravine with a tired expression: "In front of God's power, magic is truly too weak. I need time to rethink this"

The middle-aged man turned to the knight and hunter.

"If it means that humanity can prosper and repel all evil from now on, I don't mind worshipping a God" the knight answered.

The hunter replied: "We hunters also frequent the verge of life and death, so if there's a sanctuary for us to come to arrive at after death, I don't mind either"

The middle-aged man nodded to express his understanding and started to ride away.

"What about you?" the hunter asked him from behind.

The middle-aged man turned back and told them: "Tomorrow, I shall request the Pope to establish the first Cathedral within my empire's capital. If you are willing to participate in the ceremony, please come find me at the capital"

He urged his horse and left.

The horse rode faster and faster until it thoroughly went out of sight.

The hunter and knight exchanged glances, then also vanished.

Only the white-haired wizard remained, staring blankly down the bottomless circular ravine.

...

At another location.

The Divine Church's Holy Sanctuary.

A certain garden.

Gu Qing Shan was having a night's chat with his mother.

"Since I'm worried that you might be used to this place, I've brought all of our servants here. Everything should be the same as before if only a bit bigger"

"I see"

"If you ever feel homesick or wish to visit your own friends and family members, I can have them come visit you, or even return at your own discretion. You only need to tell my followers"

"Hm, dear, you truly are considerate, but I have a question that I really can't help but ask..."

"Go ahead"

"Alan, are you really God?" his mother asked with a wary voice.

Gu Qing Shan held his mother's hand and smiled: "With my current abilities, I have already surpassed even the imagination of living beings, so I can indeed be hailed as a God, but without considering my abilities, I am still a normal person"

“Is that true? Then, you mean you are still my child?”

“That’s right, don’t worry, father’s body had already been found and would be carried back to the Holy Sanctuary soon”

“Do you mean...”

“I will revive him”

...

Gu Qing Shan holed himself up in the Holy Sanctuary without ever setting foot outside.

In a flash, 10 years passed.

Besides the Wizardry Association, the majority of the organizations in this world assimilated into the Divine Church or became its dependents.

At the start, some people were worried that after the Church would become the monopolizing force, they would destroy other forces, manipulate the countries, and use that to amass wealth.

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But none of that happened.

Besides expanding their missionary efforts, the Church didn’t interfere with the autonomy of any other organization.

Even the Wizardry Association never faced any pressure from the Church for their lack of cooperation.

Regarding this, God only made a single statement.

This statement went on to become the commandment that the world followed as gospel.

“Everything in the mortal realm is meaningless, as all living beings will eventually face their deaths. Only the life after death is eternal, you must trust in God and do good deeds to accrue Merit, as this is the only thing you can do in your single short life that you are able to achieve and that would affect how you fare after death”

Wars and crimes soon decreased.

Just as God had said, their lives were too short, why should they waste it on committing crimes for meaningless illusory things?

The world heeded an age of prosperity.

Following this, under the order of God, the Church did only one thing in particular.

——creating an information collection network all over the world.

After 10 years of development and with the people’s faith in the Church and God, this information collection network held a perfect grasp over any abnormal events and occurrences in this entire world.

Gu Qing Shan only developed his forces in the mortal realm to this point and stopped.

He used the rest of the time he had to cultivate himself while silently taking notice of the world's changes.

The will of the world gave him 100 years for this trial.

This meant that the process of the world's collapse and destruction was a relatively long process.

The only thing Gu Qing Shan had to do right now was to silently wait for the destruction to begin.

In this manner, another 11 years passed.

Until finally, that day had arrived.

As soon as the event transpired, it caused a great disturbance in the Southern part of the world.

The worldwide information network strictly followed God's orders and soon reported this matter to the Holy Sanctuary.

At this point, Gu Qing Shan had just left his personal training room.

He was completely soaked in sweat as he accepted a towel from Shannu.

"Is everything going well?" Shannu asked with concern.

"Hm, I'm getting used to the 1st stage of the dance more and more, it probably won't be long until I can learn and perform the 2nd stage of the Living Being Sacrificial Dance" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Shannu teased him: "It's fortunate that gongzi created this personal training room, otherwise, if those people see their God dancing like that, their faith would probably vanish without a trace"

"Let's not talk about that, right, where's Luo Bing Li?"

"She's going shopping—— gongzi, both she and I love this world a lot"

Gu Qing Shan smiled and didn't give a reply.

That's right.

Unlimited money.

Undisputable authority.

Who else wouldn't like that?

Not to mention, because this was a Magic-type world, there were many things that even he found to be eye-opening.

Since Shannu and Luo Bing Li had already traveled and gone through a lot of hardship with him so far, Gu Qing Shan also wanted to take the chance in this illusion to allow them to relax and loosen up.

The Chao Yin sword was also playing around in the grand lake just outside the Holy Sanctuary.

As for the Earth sword, it still couldn't manifest a spirit form, most likely because it was damaged almost right away after it was forged.

It simply stayed by Gu Qing Shan's side without leaving.

A Cardinal then came in, knelt on the ground, and presented a sealed envelope to Gu Qing Shan.

"My Lord, this is a strange occurrence that transpired at the Southern region of our world"

"Well done"

The envelope flew into Gu Qing Shan's hand.

The Cardinal bowed, didn't dare to look up at Shannu before retreating without a sound.

Gu Qing Shan opened the envelope and seriously read through it.

His eyebrows furrowed.

"Gongzi, what's the matter?" Shannu asked.

"Undoubtedly, this is very strange, it's giving me an odd yet familiar feeling that I can't explain"

Saying so, Gu Qing Shan handed Shannu the letter.

Shannu read it to find that the letter detailed something that happened in a faraway mountain village.

A bizarre sacrificial ritual was performed in the village.

All the villagers were dead, their flesh completely vanished, leaving only bare gloomy bones all over the place.

According to the merchants who had just left the village, they first saw a black light engulf the village followed by countless desperate and harrowing screams.

The entire process was very sudden and only lasted for a few breaths' worth of time before everyone was dead.

Only a shepherd child who wasn't in the village at the time managed to survive.

When he was discovered, he was found to be sleeping in a bush on top of the mountain.

"Sacrifice?"

Shannu muttered in surprise.

Ever since Gu Qing Shan descended on this world as a God, he had strictly forbidden the use of this ancient worshipping method.

The Beast race who preferred to use this method was already extinct.

The fact that someone did something God had forbade in a world with God was indeed a strange occurrence.

Then, who was the one that did this?

Gu Qing Shan shook his head and issued his order.

He spoke into the void of space: "The Southern Empire is to search for remaining traces of anything that might be related to this matter"

"The Holy Knights are to be fully mobilized to the South where the event transpired"

"The Grand Cardinal will stay behind to look after the Holy Sanctuary, all other Cardinals will move together with the Pope to confirm the situation"

Immediately, the entirety of the Holy Sanctuary was mobilized.

Shannu couldn't help but asked: "Gongzi, you seem to be very concerned with this matter"

Gu Qing Shan nodded and admitted: "It's fortunate that I have a perfect grasp over this world. Since no oddities can escape my view and all the world's forces are mine to use, I can quickly deal with this matter"

He appeared absolutely serious.

"Gongzi, you mean..."

Gu Qing Shan's voice slowly became low: "That's right, I have a feeling that this world's destruction will soon begin"