Apocalypse 1311

Chapter 1311

While Gu Qing Shan was taking on his evaluation.

Crow was blankly resting in his own quarters.

"This guy" he muttered, "Unsolvable rank Hitmen usually can't handle a large-scale interworld mission, so it's rare for them to pass evaluation"

"He... might actually pass though"

Crow poured himself a shot of liquor then raised it up to the light above himself.

The amber-colored liquid gave off an alluring glow under the light.

"Speaking of which, if it wasn't for his advice, I might have gone into the Void Storm Caverns to investigate Poison Bee's death"

"If I had ran into that 'thing', I would have most likely..."

Crow slowly swayed the shot glass in his hand, thinking back to the situation at the City Lord's manor.

The moment I snapped back at the other party; the fiend had already put his sword against their neck.

...Ever since my partner died during his job five years ago, how long has it been since I met someone who could coordinate with me that well?

Crow drank the entire content of the glass, then stood up.

"A large-scale interworld mission... the chances of death are quite high..."

"I finally found a drinking buddy, and I'm pretty free right now, might as well go out for some fun"

Hanging his rapier at his hip, he left his quarters.

Walking straight to the main lobby, Crow waved his hand to call forth a staff member.

One staff member slowly arrived at his call, asking: "Master Curt Death Silver Crow, how can I be of service?"

"The Hitman with the codename 'Dragon King of Atrocity Jail', has he gone to participate in the #337 large-scale interworld mission's evaluation?" Crow asked.

"That's right, sir" the staff member replied.

Crow chuckled and said: "I'll go take a look. If he's already been rejected, that would save me some trouble"

"Sir, he——"

"He's still in the queue? Makes sense, there are a lot of people today after all"

"No sir, he had already passed the evaluation, he was transported away just now"

"WHAT !?" Crow exclaimed in disbelief.

He quickly walked to the evaluation hallway and looked inside.

The queue was still exceedingly long, with so many people lined up that the door to the evaluation room almost couldn't be seen.

Crow couldn't help but ask: "The evaluation is an extremely thorough process, so it shouldn't be that fast——- did he not line up?"

"Yes sir, he went in for less than a minute and was swiftly passed" the staff member replied, still a bit in disbelief.

Crow turned on his ID card and checked the #337 mission.

———as a Titled Hitman, he had the authority to check the list of personnel qualified for a large-scale interworld mission.

Almost as soon as he opened the list, he saw the codename of that fiend:

[Dragon King of Atrocity Jail]

Since evil creatures hid their true names, his codename was also how he was registered.

Looking at this name, Crow fell a bit silent.

A few moments later.

He quickly walked towards the evaluation room, bypassed the queue of people, and went inside.

Three powerful Professionists had only just finished evaluating a Professionist, preparing to call in the next person.

When Crow came in, the three of them all looked at him.

One of them asked: "Curt Death Silver Crow, what business do you have here?"

"There is a Hitman in our Guild with the codename 'Dragon King of Atrocity Jail', did you let him pass?" Crow asked.

[[] Hm, we did] one of the evaluating judges replied.

"What did you test him on?" Crow pursued the question.

As soon as this was asked, the three evaluating judges all froze.

They were all pondering it.

"That can't be right..." one of the judges muttered.

I also feel like something is off, how did he pass the evaluation? I another judge said confusedly.

^r We all have an update log; we'd know right away if we just took a look J the third judge replied.

He waved his hand, activating a technique in the room.

A screen of light slowly manifested in the void of space.

The four of them looked at the screen.

----it was the recorded footage of an evaluation.

The guy with the codename 'Dragon King of Atrocity Jail' suddenly appeared on the screen.

He came into the room, stood in front of the three judges, then declared: "I'm very strong and qualified to participate in this mission, so please don't waste any time and let me pass"

Crow scowled.

----isn't declaring such a thing in front of three powerful Professionists just asking for death?

But an inconceivable scene followed that.

Hearing him, the three evaluating judges all nodded in agreement: "That makes sense! That makes a lot of sense!"

One of them handed him a badge and said: "You've passed the evaluation; you may accept the mission now"

"Thank you very much"

After that, the fiend turned around and left.

The recording ended here.

[[] Can this be considered passing?] one judge asked in a deep voice.

I He used his own ability in order to make us agree, so he can be considered to have passed I another judge sighed and replied.

Crow stayed silent for a bit, then abruptly laughed:

"Bahahahaha, interesting, how very interesting!"

"I'm going to take this mission as well"

He left the room and headed straight towards the warp gate.

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...

Meanwhile.

At another location.

The Bounty Hunter Guild.

In a certain room, a Hunter was staring at the talisman in his hand.

"Who would've thought I'd be utilized here; his Wraith Lordship seems to be truly invested"

He appeared to be deep in thought.

Suddenly, another talisman appeared out of thin air, hovering in front of him.

A deep voice resounded:

F He accepted the #337 mission J

After stating that, the talisman burst into flames and was quickly burnt to ash.

The Hunter pondered.

Mission #337 seemed to be a large-scale interworld mission. A mere Unsolvable rank evil creature has the courage to accept such a mission? According to information, this is an arrogant and self-important individual. But if Elder Du was truly killed by him, I will have to be careful.

The Hunter appeared hesitant.

He picked up his weapon, then left towards the bounty hall.

"...Alright, being able to return to the Wraith realm is also a good thing for me" "As soon as I notice any unusual behaviors, you're dead!"

The Apocalypse.

•••

Apocalypse-ravaged one, Gloomy Forest World.

A streak of light descended from above.

Boom!

A large hole was caused by the collision.

Gu Qing Shan climbed out from it.

"Ah... this place must be quite a distance away from Void City"

He endured the disorientation, lightly rubbing his temples.

If the distance was too great, regular teleportation would cause even powerful Professionists to feel discomfort. Sometimes, due to being unable to accurately control the power for teleportation, it could even cause damage to the landing site.

Gu Qing Shan checked his surroundings.

This was a large forest, and the place he arrived in was near the vicinity of a small stream.

The forest was lush with beautiful greenery and trees.

Gu Qing Shan walked up to a water stream, casually cupping his hand for a sip of water.

It was fresh and cool.

"Sure enough... the Apocalypse had only just begun here so it hadn't been subjected to a lot of destruction"

Gu Qing Shan released his vast inner sight and scanned a few thousand miles in every direction.

Very quickly, he found a human village in the Southwest direction.

Gu Qing Shan's figure flashed as he activated [Ground Shrink].

He directly reappeared in front of the village.

Silence.

There was no one here.

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

[The Final Sandstorm had discovered your existence]

[The first destruction shall begin]

Instantly, a wave of yellow sand arrived following the wind from the direction of the village.

Gu Qing Shan remained still.

The sandstorm stopped about 10 meters away from him, manifesting as a soldier holding a large shield and spear.

"Why did you not flee? Don't you know that being caught by this sandstorm would plunge you into eternal despair?"

The soldier looked at Gu Qing Shan and confusedly asked.

Just as Gu Qing Shan wanted to answer, the soldier had already rushed towards him.

A cold gleam flashed.

—–sha!

The soldier was instantly cut apart, scattering back into sand that faded away.

From the void of space, a long sigh came:

"It's useless, you will eventually lose, being assimilated into the Apocalypse is only a matter of time"

Gu Qing Shan shook his head: "That's not necessarily true. I'm quite used to dealing with Apocalypses y'know"

He let go of the Chao Yin sword, letting it return into the void of space, and grabbed the Earth sword instead.

[[]What's the fight?] the Earth sword's heavy mountainous voice resounded.

Gu Qing Shan thought briefly, then replied: "Since this village no longer has anyone, we need to perform an innocuous treatment"

He raised the Earth sword, then reminded it:

"Watch your strength, I've already signed a contract to not destroy any worlds"

Earth sword replied: \lceil Are you joking? Experienced men like us pride ourselves on the ability to moderate our strength and skill, young men these days—— hah——- J

Gu Qing Shan ignored it, wielded the sword, and heavily swung down.

A wide and vast sword phantom manifested, swallowing the entire village.

Boom!!!

Complete destruction!

Chapter 1313

As he pulled on its comb, the colorful rooster came to life.

It spread both wings and stretched its back, then turned towards Gu Qing Shan.

"What is it, I was in the middle of my beauty sleep, can't you youngster give a chicken some peace and quiet?" the rooster complained.

Gu Qing Shan smiled and replied: "It's nothing, I was just thinking about giving you a bit of Soul Points, but it sounds like you don't need it after all"

Saying so, he acted like he wanted to put the colorful rooster away.

The colorful rooster hurriedly flapped its wings, trying to smooth things out: "My! My young grandpa! If you have something you need, just call, there's no need to give me Soul Points, you're too kind"

Gu Qing Shan glanced at his Soul Points value.

----he didn't only obtain 300 million Soul Points from killing the Judge of Living Beings' Fate.

At that time, to fight against the elemental giant within that Apocalypse illusion, he had also taken the Orange Sovereign form and ate a lot of dried salted fish.

Each of those dried salted fish contained a piece of the giant's essence of power, which was all converted into pure Soul Points by the [Orange Sovereign Transformation] ability.

Even though I've used a bit, I still have a bit over 300 million in total.

Having money always feels good.

Gu Qing Shan directly infused the rooster with 100,000 Soul Points.

Having been refreshed by Soul Points, the rooster became considerably more spirited.

It delightfully said: "Brother, I knew you were a fine person. From now on, your matter is this chicken's matter"

Gu Qing Shan asked: "I want to know information about this world"

The rooster was troubled: "I can only tell you information related to yourself"

"That's fine as well, please" Gu Qing Shan replied.

The rooster spoke: "Your life will soon be in a lot of danger. Not only is the Apocalypse slowly approaching closer to you, but a hidden enemy will also arrive at the Gloom Galaxy in 10 seconds, he will do everything to kill you"

"You must be careful, that wraith has an official identity, a hidden pawn of the Wraith realm in Void City. Same as the Apocalypse, he wishes to take your life"

After stating that, the rooster turned back into a statue and became stationary.

Gu Qing Shan slowly put the statue away.

"Arriving in 10 seconds... then, someone from the Wraith realm will also arrive?" he muttered.

Suddenly, an asteroid descended from above.

It was heading straight towards Gu Qing Shan's direction.

Boom—--

The asteroid made a huge crater right in front of where Gu Qing Shan was standing.

An incubus-like pretty man climbed out from the crater.

A rapier hung right at his hip, scorning the experience: "Can't this warp gate be improved at least a little?"

——Curt Death Silver Crow.

Another man swiftly climbed out after him, saying: "Give it up, this kind of teleportation had been this way for several hundred years without changing"

This was a man with a faint smile on his face, currently wearing a baggy white robe and a white fan in his hand.

Gu Qing Shan looked at the two of them.

Arrived after 10 seconds. Wraith. An official identity The rooster said 'that wraith', meaning only one of these two was the actual wraith. ——so are they Curt Death Silver Crow, or the unknown man?

While pondering, Gu Qing Shan acted surprised and asked:

"Crow, why are you here?"

Crow lazily replied: "It's been a long time since I accepted a large-scaled interworld mission, so I came to stretch my legs a bit"

Gu Qing Shan looked to the man next to him, asking: "So that's why, and this person next to you——"

Crow replied: "A guy from the Bounty Hunter Guild, also a Titled rank Combatant. He set off at the same time I did"

The man then clasped his fist towards Gu Qing Shan and said: "Hello, I'm White Eagle – Gong Wu of the Bounty Hunter Guild, who might you be?"

Gu Qing Shan didn't care about him and instead asked Crow: "What's your mission?"

Crow took out his ID card and replied: "Head to the nearest location to provide aid—— there's supposedly a human gathering point Northward of where we are, called Gloom Flame Town"

"Alright, then let's go" Gu Qing Shan said.

"Ah, sure"

Crow and Gu Qing Shan both turned in the same direction and started heading out.

Neither of them paid any further attention to the Hunter.

White Eagle – Gong Wu stood completely frozen.

He hesitated for a moment, then abruptly shouted in anger: "Bastard, a low-level Hitman dares look down on me like that, I'll make you pay!"

——-if this Dragon King of Atrocity Jail is weak, then I'll just kill him off!
On the contrary, if he's strong enough to hold me off, he might be the culprit who killed Elder Du.
In that case, I'll report to the Wraith Lord right away.

White Eagle – Gong Wu waved the white fan in his hand and prepared to unleash a spell.

At the same time, Crow and Gu Qing Shan both stopped.

"Is this Hunter dumb or something, being so petty with an Unsolvable Hitman from our Guild"

Crow mumbled in annoyance, drew his rapier, then headed back to face him.

Gu Qing Shan didn't say a word.

He silently watched as Crow took on the Titled Hunter.

A Titled Hitman and a Titled Hunter, which one of them is a wraith?

Seeing Crow heading for him, White Eagle – Gong Wu's killing intent stopped.

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This isn't my target. And he isn't weak either. It would be disadvantageous if I fought him and became wounded here.

White Eagle – Gong Wu waved his long fan without meaning to fight, clashed against Crow a few times, then retreated.

"Crow, I'm not going to fight you; but remember well, you can protect him now, but you can't protect him for his entire life!" White Eagle – Gong Wu threatened.

His gaze fell on Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan's expression was unchanged.

I've already gone for a drink with Crow and chatted for a bit, so we're relatively well-acquainted.

If Crow was a wraith, why did he have put up that act at the City Lord's manor?

On the other hand, if the Wraith realm wanted to put up a fake act at the City Lord's manor, wouldn't that mean I ruined their plan?

Crow has seen me fight; he knows my sword counters their Causality Laws.

In that case, if he was truly a wraith, he would have reasons to want to kill me.

But when White Eagle – Gong Wu wanted to fight me earlier, he took up the fight on his own accords.

... is he purposely acting to gain my trust, or truly trying to help me prevent trouble?

After some thought, Gu Qing Shan still couldn't make up his mind.

Naturally, the Titled rank Combatant from the Bounty Hunter Guild could also be a wraith. This is troublesome...

Suddenly, all of their ID cards rang out at once.

The same lines of notification popped out in the air:

[Emergency: Gloom Flame Town is about to fall, please immediately provide reinforcement!]

As he read that, Crow put his ID card away and told Gu Qing Shan: "They're waiting for our help, seems like we need to hurry up"

Gu Qing Shan's mind quickly turned.

We're in the middle of an Unsolvable Apocalypse, and one that could even grow, how could I be wasting time here discerning which is the real wraith?

I need to immediately confirm the truth and get rid of him once and for all!

Gu Qing Shan's gaze scanned through Crow, then fell on White Eagle – Gong Wu.

I'll take a gamble.

Gambling that I didn't judge Crow wrongly as a person.

With that in mind, Gu Qing Shan secretly took out a puff of hair from his Inventory Bag and kept it in his hand.

He said: "Crow, you go ahead. I have something I need to talk with this White Eagle – Gong Wu"

White Eagle – Gong Wu was surprised.

Crow doubtfully glanced at him and asked: "Do you know him?"

"There's something I need to personally tell him. Once I'm done, I'll chase after you" Gu Qing Shan gave him a reassuring gaze"

Crow hesitated a bit, then replied: "Alright, then I'll be going ahead, if there's anything, use your ID card to contact me"

"Hm" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Crow glanced at him again, then leapt into the air and flew away.

Only Gu Qing Shan and White Eagle – Gong Wu remained here.

White Eagle – Gong Wu had a complicated expression on his face, but his killing intent slowly mounted.

"What does an insignificant Unsolvable rank Hitman have to tell me?"

He waved his white fan and muttered.

Gu Qing Shan's presence abruptly changed, speaking in a low tone: "White Eagle – Gong Wu, I know you're one of our men. You have your mission, and I have mine, who exactly was it that messed it up so badly that you're interfering with my work?"

White Eagle – Gong Wu froze.

"What are you talking about? Since when did I become a man of your Hitman Guild?" he couldn't help but ask. Gu Qing Shan appeared irritated, his expression slowly changing.

"Something must have gone horribly wrong" he acted prideful and scoffed at White Eagle – Gong Wu: "What kind of garbage work are you doing that you're messing with me?"

Looking at him, White Eagle – Gong Wu was completely stunned.

"Who exactly are you? I don't know you!" White Eagle – Gong Wu pretended like he didn't know anything.

Appearance alone wasn't enough for him to trust.

He immediately formed a hand seal, then carefully observed the other party's aura.

There were no issues.

In fact, the seal in his hand was indeed a Wraith Might identification seal.

White Eagle – Gong Wu was flabbergasted.

Cang Wu Zhang is the son of a Wraith Lord.

That Wraith Lord was responsible for the war against the Eternal Abyss, and so was Cang Wu Zhang.

But I'm the subordinate of another Wraith Lord!

Since both Wraith Lords had their own secret arrangements, there certainly was a chance for one side to not know about the other's work.

----could it really have been a misunderstanding?

As sharp as Gu Qing Shan was, he merely needed to observe the other party's expression for a bit to confirm the truth, so he waited for his killing intent to fade almost completely.

Acting like Cang Wu Zhang, he angrily shouted: "My personal farm——- someone stole a large amount of resources from the Yama Heavenly realm and fled to Void City, that's why I personally came here, taking the chance to establish relations with the Ominous Demon Tower to make my name known around Void City"

Silently listening to him, White Eagle – Gong Wu swallowed a tough bit of saliva.

Indeed, the Yama Heavenly realm was Might Cang's personal farm.

With how secretive everything regarding the Samsara was, only we from the Wraith realm would know that.

He can't be fake!

While he was thinking, he noticed that Cang Wu Zhang was staring straight at him, sternly questioning: "Don't act dumb. Elder Du's matter is unrelated to me, how can I kill someone from the same side, you idiots? Damn it, what exactly are you bunch of subordinates doing!?"

It's quite obvious now.

He knows everything.

"Cang Wu... no, Might Cang sir, hah, how could it be you, sir?"

White Eagle – Gong Wu practically chewed every word before kneeling down on one knee.

Chapter 1314

White Eagle – Gong Wu knelt on one knee, unable to help himself from sighing.

"Detestable! Detestable! Detestable!" Cang Wu Zhang was still angrily berating him.

He was clearly furious, shouting: "Do any of you even take your brains to work? If I hadn't seen the list of hidden pawns before I came here, I might even have had to fight you later on!"

He abruptly walked in front of White Eagle – Gong Wu and lowered his face to question him: "Regardless if you had killed me, or I had killed you, it would have made us laughing stocks of the entire Wraith realm, don't you get it!?" White Eagle – Gong Wu naturally understood.

Having been caught in such a big debacle, Might Cang would naturally be furious. ——-but this is unrelated to me, I'm just following the Wraith Lord's orders. But how can I say that?

"Damn it, my reputation was almost ruined!" Cang Wu Zhang was still shouting without care.

His spit was all over White Eagle – Gong Wu's face.

White Eagle – Gong Wu didn't utter a single peep, holding his mouth completely shut.

He could only hope for the Wraith Might to quickly calm down and for this to be over.

Suddenly, his expression moved slightly.

Cang Wu Zhang seemed to have been so angry that he threw a punch towards him.

But upon closer inspection, he could see that this punch carried no force behind it.

——Might Cang isn't using force, nor any technique.

White Eagle – Gong Wu relaxed himself.

It seems Might Cang still knows his limit, only throwing a punch to relieve his anger. I'll just let him hit me, I won't die from it either way.

A second later, all of his thoughts were shattered, blankly kneeling on the ground without moving.

[Ethereal – Grand Mountain]!

As Gu Qing Shan pulled his fist back, his gaze turned sharp.

For the next ten breaths' worth of time, the other party would remain an idiot who won't be able to react to anything.

Putting his hand on White Eagle – Gong Wu's head, he used Soul Reading.

Very quickly, he understood everything.

So the Wraith realm sent this person here to probe and possibly kill me if he found me suspicious in any way.

Gu Qing Shan fell into thought.

---although I've restrained him, killing him isn't a good idea.

If a person sent by the Wraith realm to test me were to die at my hands right away, wouldn't that confirm their suspicions?

I can't not kill him either.

Once he contacts the Wraith realm again, he would discover that I'm not Cang Wu Zhang.

He still must be eliminated!

Gu Qing Shan drew his sword but then hesitated.

The Devil King Warden Rod cannot completely erase everything, even after his soul had been dispersed, a single spark would remain inside Primal Chaos.

And the Wraith realm has access to Life Talismans and Immortal Crafts, capable of summoning and reviving a soul from that single spark.

I would still be exposed.

It's not correct to kill him, nor is it correct not to kill him.

What now?

Time slowly passed.

One breath.

Two breaths.

Gu Qing Shan made his decision.

——kill!

Not only would I kill him, but I'd have to do it in the most inconspicuous way possible.

The Wraith realm is extremely strict and highly disciplined, anyone who fails to complete their missions would receive nothing but the worst possible punishment.

When Cang Wu Zhang's servant failed to kill me, Cang Wu Zhang didn't resurrect him.

Part of the reason might have been because the price to pay for such a thing was too great, but the other part was due to the Wraith realm's belief that those who failed don't deserve to be saved.

——-to prevent the Wraith realm from resurrecting this person and reporting me to them, I have to make it so that he failed the mission due to his own mistakes.

With that in mind, Gu Qing Shan slowly raised his hand and clenched his fist.

---[Blessing of the past worlds]!

The spirit of this world had already been erased, so whenever Gu Qing Shan tried to communicate with it, he would instead summon the Apocalypse!

Instantly, another sandstorm manifested.

Layers upon layers of yellow sand surrounded Gu Qing Shan and the kneeling White Eagle – Gong Wu, continuously spinning around them.

Five breaths' worth of time had passed.

The yellow sand manifested a soldier wielding a shield and spear, as well as a caster.

They both turned to him, preparing to speak.

Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but say: "Yeah, yeah, you bring destruction or whatever, can you please skip the pleasantries? I'm in a hurry here"

He turned to the notifications that appeared:

[A newcomer has come into contact with this Apocalypse for the first time, thus greatly lowering the difficulty of your third destruction]

[Combat will soon begin, prepare yourselves well]

Facing him, the soldier and caster exchange glances then spoke in unison:

""As you wish!""

The soldier charged forward while the caster began to chant.

Gu Qing Shan took a few steps back.

He continued to retreat several dozen meters behind White Eagle – Gong Wu, then disappeared into a cluster of fog and went away.

---World Technique, [Fog Realm Descent]!

Gu Qing Shan had left.

White Eagle – Gong Wu blankly knelt on one knee; his mind still empty.

A second later.

Both the spear and the spell had arrived!

Under a state of having no fear or thoughts, White Eagle – Gong Wu simply lost his life.

At another location.

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Gu Qing Shan stood in front of the water stream where he first arrived in this world and silently waited.

A few moments later.

The sandstorm manifested again, once again surrounding him.

The soldier wielding spear and shield as well as the caster both stood facing him with cold expressions.

"Sure enough, teleportation isn't enough to escape an attack from the Apocalypse"

Gu Qing Shan muttered.

His gaze fell on the soldier's spear.

The spear was soaked in blood.

"Coward who left his comrade to escape, it's your turn" the caster spoke.

Gu Qing Shan chuckled.

He sincerely replied: "He wasn't my comrade, but since I did trouble you earlier, I'll send you off properly"

Four swords appeared from the void of space behind him, then instantly vanished.

They were flying inside the surrounding sandstorm at unbelievable speed.

From inside the sandstorm, another kind of wind silently manifested.

Sword-infused wind.

———Sword Array, Taiyi!

•••

After a bit.

Gu Qing Shan stood several thousand miles away, releasing his inner sight to observe White Eagle – Gong Wu's previous location.

He saw White Eagle – Gong Wu's corpse.

A pure white fan as well as all of his belongings remained where he was.

The Apocalypse wasn't interested in any of this.

Gu Qing Shan naturally wasn't either —

The Wraith realm had countless treasures, but also countless measures prepared for any situation, it wouldn't be a good idea for him to be traced this way.

He didn't commit such a basic mistake and directly left.

This had already wasted a lot of his time.

Gu Qing Shan took flight and went to catch up with Crow at full speed.

Flying——

After continuous flying as well as several uses of [Ground Shrink], he arrived at Gloom Flame Town.

Gu Qing Shan descended from the sky and landed next to Crow.

"I was late" Gu Qing Shan apologetically said.

Crow shook his head: "I came before you, but it was useless——— there were originally two teams of Professionists stationed here, I had thought that they would at least be able to hold on until I arrive, but I was wrong"

In front of them, the town had already been destroyed.

Traces of battle still remained.

Magic fluctuations still surrounded the air, as well as large craters created from large-scale weapons.

The defensive walls of the town had been demolished by more than half.

Bright-red bloody marks were everywhere.

Complete silence.

There were no survivors.

Flames were still burning in the small town.

Watching his ravaged scenery, the two of them felt their hearts turning heavy.

Gu Qing Shan sighed, then commented: "The Apocalypse this time must be quite considerable"

Crow agreed: "Right, it's been a long time since I last saw an Apocalypse of this degree, both you and I could lose our lives"

"What do we do now?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

This was the first time he had participated in this kind of mission so he wanted to know what he should do.

Crow casually replied: "Void City definitely has their hands completely full. We're going to wait right here for them to announce the next mission. Right, you're by yourself and have never faced anything of this degree before, it's best that you stick close to me for the next while, this way at least we can have each other's backs"

Gu Qing Shan glanced at Crow without being noticed.

This guy seems nonchalant about everything but clearly knows how to take care of others. Crow... is a Titled Hitman, Zhang Ying Hao is also a Hitman, and Ye Fei Li is a Man Killer Fiend—— Why are all of my close acquaintances in this same business? Is it something like a favor from the Law of Reality? But regardless, Crow is powerful, and he isn't a bad person either...

With that in mind, Gu Qing Shan tried asking:

"Crow, I have something to ask you"

"What is it?" Crow asked.

"I'm part of a secret organization, are you interested in joining us?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

Crow asked curiously: "What kind of organization?"

Gu Qing Shan replied: "Don't Know Yet"

Crow lost interest and replied: "If you don't even know yet, why are you asking me? Tell me again when you've thought of it"

Gu Qing Shan explained: "No, what I mean is that my organization is called 'Don't Know Yet'"

Crow: "..."

He thought a bit, then said: "Alright, can I be a boss then?"

"Sorry, there's already a Boss"

"You?"

"No, I mean that we already have a person who's called 'Boss'"

"...What kind of organization is this exactly !?"

Chapter 1315

In front of the town's ruins.

Gu Qing Shan and Crow were chatting.

Suddenly, both of their ID cards vibrated.

[Attention please]

[Emergency, Hitman Curt Death Silver Crow and Hitman Dragon King of Atrocity Jail, please proceed to the nearest settlement, Blue Mountain city, and aid them in preventing the Apocalypse's invasion]

Gu Qing Shan and Crow exchanged glances.

Crow drew his rapier: "Let me perform an innocuous treatment on this town"

Glittering light of flames began to manifest around the rapier, when Crow lightly flicked it forward, the flames all gathered at the tip of the rapier and turned into a flaming bird that flew out.

Like a comet, the flaming bird flew into the town and disappeared without a trace.

A moment of silence.

Boom——

With a resounding explosion, a pillar of flames enveloped the entire town.

Intense shockwaves scattered in every direction, causing even large trees to break in half horizontally.

Gu Qing Shan cupped his hand above his eyes, gazing at the intense flames while ignoring the shockwaves that struck him.

"It's useless, I also performed a treatment like this to another town, but when the Apocalypse wanted to manifest, it still manifested" Gu Qing Shan said.

Crow withdrew his rapier and pondered: "If what you said is true, the scouting army didn't really study this Apocalypse thoroughly at all——— what a bunch of idiots"

Gu Qing Shan silently sighed: "This one is quite unusual. I've ran into the Apocalypse several times already, but still don't understand what's going on here"

At this point, the flames died down.

The entire town had been burnt to a crisp.

Standing in front of the ruins, Crow said as he pondered: "Speaking of which, I haven't run into the Apocalypse ever since I arrived in this world—— I've also accepted quite a few missions to fight against Apocalypses these past few years, it would be great if I can see exactly what's going on"

As soon as he said that.

Boundless yellow sand abruptly manifested from the ruined town and rose to the sky.

In an instant.

A howling tornado suddenly manifested and washed through the entire area thoroughly.

It picked up the yellow sand, obscuring the sky, and directly surrounded both Gu Qing Shan and Crow.

The two of them were shocked.

"The Apocalypse you wanted is here" Gu Qing Shan commented.

"It was rhetorical" Crow drew his rapier again, observing the surrounding sandstorm.

Gu Qing Shan also drew the Earth sword from the void of space, getting ready to fight.

Two lines of glowing text had already appeared in front of his vision:

[A newcomer had come into contact with this Apocalypse for the first time, thus the difficulty of your fourth destruction has been lowered]

[The battle is about to begin, prepare yourselves]

Two figures manifested one after another from the sandstorm.

A caster wearing a red robe, and a soldier wielding a spear and shield.

The soldier faced the two of them.

While the caster appeared behind them.

"That caster looks very strong, leave him to me" Crow quickly said.

He turned around and faced the red-robed spellcaster.

"No, you're facing it the first time, so the one you have to face is that soldier" Gu Qing Shan said.

Crow turned his head to observe the soldier.

The soldier was giving off a considerably weaker power fluctuation compared to the red-robed caster.

"I'll leave these riff-raffs for you to train with, I want to face this caster to see what I can infer about the Apocalypse from him" Crow replied.

Having no arguments against that, Gu Qing Shan pointed his sword at the soldier.

At this point, the red-robed caster's gaze turned to Gu Qing Shan and said: "Fiend, I'm your opponent"

"Take a look—— he clearly wants to fight me" Gu Qing Shan told Crow.

"Don't worry about it, I'll kill him for you" Crow insisted.

While the two of them chatted, the soldier turned to Crow and spoke: "Avian, I'm your opponent"

It was now that Crow felt a bit interested and asked in surprise: "You can tell that I'm an Avian?"

The soldier scoffed: "That's right, birdman, you will die under my spear"

Silence.

"Dragon King of Atrocity Jail"

"Hm?

"Let's change, I'm going to kill that foul-mouthed soldier"

"Alright"

The two of them switched.

Pure killing intent rose from Crow's body.

He pointed his rapier towards the soldier and muttered: "Facing me is facing death itself, have you prepared?"

Without saying a word, the soldier rushed at him.

Crow raised his rapier and lightly swung.

Boom!

In an intense explosion, the soldier, as well as his shield and spear, exploded into a pillar of sky-high flames.

"Garbage, you're lucky you get to die that quickly while badmouthing me" Crow scoffed.

On the other side.

Gu Qing Shan faced the red-robed caster and slowly took each step forward as he wielded his sword.

"What kind of entity are you exactly?" he questioned as he walked forward.

The red-robed caster's sleeves were billowing as two purple glowing clusters of magic manifested in his hands.

"You want to know? Defeat me first!"

The caster's hands quickly closed together, causing the glowing purple magic to become a rapidly oscillating ball of light.

His spell had been prepared.

Gu Qing Shan shook his head: "If you have some troubles, you can actually just tell me, we don't really have to keep killing one another to --"

"Die!" the red-robed caster shouted out loud and shot the purple ball of light towards Gu Qing Shan.

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Gu Qing Shan sighed and stood without moving.

The purple ray ripped through the void of space, drawing a black path as it flew forward and reached Gu Qing Shan in the blink of an eye.

Gu Qing Shan continued to stand still.

He simply——

Disappeared abruptly.

Divine Skill, [Shadow Shift]!

Where he originally stood, the red-robed caster suddenly appeared.

Now that the ray was a hair away from striking him, the red-robed caster had no chance to defend himself in any way.

Bam!

With a heavy noise, the ray of light shot into its caster's body and began destroying everything.

"Aaaargh!"

The red-robed caster collapsed to his knee, roaring in pain.

He had been heavily injured.

Gu Qing Shan stood at his original position, advising him from a distance: "It's really no fun to fight, how about we talk a little bit?"

The red-robed caster continued to breathe heavily while chanting an incantation and arranging a barrier of light.

"I underestimated you, now that I have the purple death mystic shield to protect me, you're going to die!"

The red-robed caster declared with a vicious expression.

Hearing that, Gu Qing Shan sighed.

Can't communicate at all.

Then the only choice is...

Gu Qing Shan spoke to the void of space: "Switch with him"

A low 'wu wu' sound came from the void of space, then---

The red-robed caster disappeared again, this time reappearing in front of Gu Qing Shan with his hand grasping the caster's neck.

The void of space inside the light barrier only moved slightly before returning to normal.

Jade gourd pendant Adorable had used Divine Skill, [Shadow Shift] once.

It had directly taken the caster from inside his barrier!

Gu Qing Shan gripped the red-robed caster's neck.

"Don't move, if you move, you die"

Four swords appeared from the void of space, two of which were propped on the caster's neck, one at his chest, and the last at his waist.

Gu Qing Shan glanced down at where the Earth sword was pointing, then looked back up: "Tell me what you know about the Apocalypse, then I'll let you go"

The red-robed caster was trembling.

Even without doing much, he has already defeated me. What inconceivable combat prowess! Could it be...

The red-robed caster's eyes displayed fear.

Gu Qing Shan didn't know what he was thinking but was immediately able to grasp his emotions.

Gu Qing Shan's mind turned a bit, slowly calmed his tone, and spoke gently: "I hold control over the dead and resurrection, as long as you tell me who you are, I shall rescue you from within the Apocalypse"

"I want you to swear" the red-robed caster quickly spoke with a low voice.

"Naturally"

Gu Qing Shan could feel the situation under his control and vowed: "I hereby swear, as long as ——-"

Before he even finished his words, the red-robed caster in his grasp started crumbling into fine sand and scattering to the wind.

The red-robed caster's expression was filled with fear and tried to call out: "Save...me..."

At the very last moment, his expression suddenly became blank, and started speaking in a frigid tone:

"Life and Death are only representations of the truth, but living beings fall to it all the same"

Saying that statement, the red-robed caster completely disappeared into the sandstorm and faded away.

The howling sandstorm once again disappeared without a trace.

Gu Qing Shan stood still, shocked.

Crow was just a bit further away from him, silently watching it all.

"Ah—– so not even God Almighty can do anything about it?" Crow muttered.

Although he was clearly saying that in a joking tone, neither he nor Gu Qing Shan were smiling.

"At the very end, I could sense that caster changing into someone else" Gu Qing Shan whispered.

"You're right, I also felt that" Crow agreed.

"Have you ever seen this kind of Apocalypse?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"Never. In reality, I'm quite nervous about this one now" Crow replied.

This caster was a part of the Apocalypse.

But he still had his own thoughts and will.

At the very last moment, before he disappeared, he was replaced by another entity, declaring something completely different.

How truly...

Eerie.

"Let's go, the mission told us to go help a place called Blue Mountain city. We should head there immediately, perhaps we'd get more information" Gu Qing Shan said.

Crow shrugged: "Who knows, we haven't run into any large battles—— perhaps by the time we reached Blue Mountain city, everything would have already been over"

Gu Qing Shan glanced at him, then said: "Don't jinx it, you already did it once just now"

Crow was indifferent: "I'm just saying"

When the two of them were about to set off, their ID cards vibrated again.

A voice came from the ID card:

[Attention please]

[Blue Mountain city had been destroyed by the Apocalypse]

The two of them were stunned.

Crow's expression slowly became serious.

"Blue Mountain city had five groups of Professionists protecting it, I even know two Titled Combatants being stationed there. What the hell, did they both die?" he muttered.

The two of them exchanged glances.

If not for this miniature sandstorm stalling them, the two of them might have already reached Blue Mountain city.

----in that case, what would have happened?

Gu Qing Shan watched over the ruins of the town once again and muttered: "What exactly is this? And why is it so powerful?"

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The transmission didn't end there.

One last message sounded from the ID card:

[According to spell clairvoyance, there is a possibility of survivors in Blue Mountain city, please go ahead and confirm this]

[Your next mission is being arranged, please pay constant attention to any updates]

At this point, the vibration of the ID cards stopped.

"A survivor?" Gu Qing Shan commented.

"Come on, let's go take a look. We might obtain other information as well" Crow immediately said.

"Alright" Gu Qing Shan replied.

The two of them took flight and headed towards Blue Mountain city.

They were stalled by the Apocalypse so they weren't able to reach Blue Mountain city in time to help, so this time, they were moving at their fastest speed.

A few dozen seconds later.

They descended from above, standing in front of a burning city.

"The flame is quite considerable" Gu Qing Shan said.

He released his inner sight to scan the entire city, feeling increasingly heavier in his heart.

The scene of the city was like that of hell.

"There's a survivor"

Leaving that statement, Gu Qing Shan vanished.

Observing the unceasing flames in the city, Crow drew his rapier and pointed it forward.

"The power of flames, turn to my sword" he lightly recited.

With that incantation, the boundless flames all over the city detached themselves and gathered onto the rapier.

The entire sky of flames was absorbed into the thin blade of the rapier.

At the same time, there was no longer anything burning in Blue Mountain city.

The city was now charred black.

Corpses were strewn all over the place.

Quite a few of them were crippled and incomplete bodies of high-ranking Combatants.

It was now that Crow flew into the city to search for Gu Qing Shan.

He soon reached a collapsed cathedral.

Gu Qing Shan was standing in front of him, observing a destroyed secluded corner of the cathedral.

An infant wrapped in diapers was silently sleeping here.

"This is our only survivor?"

Crow asked.

"That's right, I couldn't find any other living beings" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"You sure?" Crow asked.

"Hm, I have an ability for carpet-style searching¹, this little one is the only one left alive" Gu Qing Shan affirmed him.

Crow sighed, asking: "How did this one survive in the first place?"

Gu Qing Shan pointed at the corner and signaled for Crow to take a careful look.

When Crow observed it, he saw that the secluded corner was filled with numerous saintly runes.

"Ah, so it was a high-level isolation barrier. But is a barrier like this actually useful at all?" Crow asked in confusion.

If it was useful, the Apocalypse would have already been resolved.

Gu Qing Shan gently picked up the infant and its diaper, observed a bit more carefully, then replied: "I heard that most women and children had already been transferred to the royal capital city, so this child was most likely left here by accident. It was then caught in the Apocalypse while being protected by the barrier, but since it was only just born, the enemy it summoned was so weak that it was defeated by others, thus leaving this child alive"

His conjecture was reasonable, so Crow nodded in agreement.

"Are we going to take it with us?" Crow asked.

"What do you think?" Gu Qing Shan asked in return.

"I don't know how to change diapers" Crow casually replied.

"Then you feed it, I'll change its diapers" Gu Qing Shan delegated the tasks.

"I don't have milk" Crow casually answered again.

Gu Qing Shan frowned: "Can't you just make it something soft to eat? That has nothing to do with whether or not you have milk"

Crow sincerely told him: "Children have to drink milk—— we're helpless when it comes to this. Let's just see if we get a chance to hand this child over to the royal capital. At the first opportunity, we should hand it over to the people of this world, or to the organization that's responsible for evacuation and transport"

Gu Qing Shan looked down at the infant.

It was sleeping soundly.

"Let's take this chance while we don't have a mission to head to this world's royal capital and arrange for this baby properly" Gu Qing Shan resolutely suggested.

Crow agreed: "That's right, we don't know how to take care of children"

Just as they were about to head out, they stopped.

Around them.

Another sandstorm was brewing.

Lines of glowing text appeared from the void of space:

[There are no newcomers this round]

[Your destruction has entered the second phase]

Among the intense wind, yellow sand obscured the sky.

Two men and one baby were completely surrounded.

"Why do I feel like it's going to be really tough this time around?" Crow doubtfully asked.

"Prepare to fight" Gu Qing Shan curtly replied.

Embracing the infant in his left hand, his right hand wielded the Earth sword.

Three figures slowly manifested from within the sandstorm across from them.

A caster, a giant donning a suit of heavy armor, and a three-headed dog whose body was clad in green fog.

Crow pointed at the three-headed dog with his rapier: "Fiend, it looks like a dog from your hometown"

"Don't know him" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"Be careful, it seems to carry a sort of potent venom. You're probably unaffected, but the little one in your arm most likely isn't" Crow said.

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Both of them were a bit cautious.

Because the fluctuation of the three monsters across them seemed to be a bit strange.

The caster first looked at Crow and announced: "Swordsman, I am your opponent"

The giant brandished his battle axe and howled at Gu Qing Shan.

The three-headed dog looked towards the young child in his arm, drooling with saliva.

What this meant was quite clear.

Crow quickly asks: "Can you deal with two of them at once?"

"I'll be fine, as long as this child doesn't wake up" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"Don't worry, it's sleeping very soundly, it won't suddenly wake up at a time like this" Crow said.

The child suddenly woke up, curiously looked at Gu Qing Shan, and then——

"Waaa, waaa, waaa~"

The infant immediately started crying.

Gu Qing Shan: "..."

The three-headed dog leapt forward first—--

The battle had begun!

Crow brandished his rapier and said: "I'll kill that caster first and return to help you!"

He immediately flew forward.

As he saw the three-headed dog leaping at him, Gu Qing Shan's figure became blurred and split into 7-8 illusions.

Each of the illusions was exactly the same as his real body.

--Hitman movement technique, [Flowing Shadow Steps]!

The three-headed dog was confused, unsure which Gu Qing Shan it should go for.

Suddenly, a line of glowing text quickly appeared:

[Attention! One of your abilities has been extracted by the giant! Please be cautious of it!]

Gu Qing Shan's expression changed.

What?

It can use one of my powers as well?

He turned to the giant.

The giant abruptly roared:

□ Fiend, I know your codename is Dragon King of Atrocity Jail. I'm calling you out, you dare answer me?

Gu Qing Shan: " ... "

Answer my ass!

He was still shocked by this development.

During the second appearance of the Apocalypse, it immediately broke my armor, and now it can even make use of my ability!

The baby in my hand is still crying and struggling about.

If I were to be frozen right now——

Gu Qing Shan stopped observing them.

He abruptly tilted his body and unleashed a slash towards the three-headed dog!

The three-headed dog stood still in confusion.

----Gu Qing Shan was still a distance away from where it was.

How could that attack hit me?

Pssh!

Blood splattered.

The three-headed dog scattered into a mist of blood as it fell backwards.

Secret Art, [Life Seeker]!

Because the three-headed dog seemed to be venomous, Gu Qing Shan decided to kill it from a distance.

——facing against this Apocalypse, he didn't want to reveal too many of his trump cards and sword techniques yet.

Gu Qing Shan pulled his sword back and turned to the giant.

Seeing how he insisted on not answering, the giant turned his eyes and shouted again: Fiend, if you refuse to speak, I'll assume that you're afraid to answer!]

Gu Qing Shan's expression changed.

This way, answering would make him fall under the effects of the skill, but if he doesn't answer, he'd be admitting that he was afraid to answer, which is also a type of answer.

A second later.

Gu Qing Shan was frozen in place, unable to move away from that spot.

He silently sighed.

This giant is sly, being able to come up with such a way to use the Azure Dragon Origin Hex.

----but, isn't that cheating?

Or, perhaps this is the true essence of this skill?

As Gu Qing Shan was pondering, the giant had already charged towards him.

Dong! Dong! Dong! Dong! Dong! Dong! Dong!

The ground trembled.

[[]You're frozen now aren't you, pitiful soul. I'll send you to the Apocalypse in one hit!]

The giant grinned cruelly and brandished his battle axe, swinging down on Gu Qing Shan!

Gu Qing Shan stood still and faced him head-on with his sword.

Clang—--

A resounding sound of clashing weapons.

The giant and his axe were both sent flying.

Gu Qing Shan's sword vibrated as he pointed straight towards the giant.

A gigantic sword phantom shot like a bolt of lightning; caught the giant, then slashed him into a mist of blood to be scattered by the wind.

Secret Art, [River Blocking Iron Sword]!

Gu Qing Shan continued to hold the baby in one hand and the Earth sword in the other shaking his head: "Sorry to inform you but, if it's a contest of strength, my sword won't lose"

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The sword struck the large battle-axe head-on, sending the giant flying before scattering it into a mist of blood.

The blood entered the sandstorm and disappeared without a trace.

On the other side, Crow's battle was also over.

He thrust his rapier into the caster's chest, directly blowing him into the wall of howling sand around them.

As Crow turned around, he saw Gu Qing Shan embracing the infant in diapers, cradling it as he sang a lullaby.

"Ah~ ah~ ah~ don't cry, don't cry" Gu Qing Shan gently said.

Crow face-palmed and said: "Hey, you're holding it upside down, a baby's head should be close to your chest, not its feet near your chest and head upside down"

Gu Qing Shan was surprised: "I thought this would help it sleep better"

After adjusting the baby's posture, he looked at Crow: "You seem like you're experienced, how about you hold it instead?"

Crow immediately took one step back, refusing: "I'll fight all you want, but I've only just seen other people calm a baby down, never done it personally"

Gu Qing Shan looked down at the wailing baby in his embrace and wondered: "Maybe this little one is hungry?"

"No idea. Regardless, since both you and I don't have milk, let's quickly get to the Royal capital, there's definitely something for children to eat over there" Crow replied.

"You're right, let's go!" Gu Qing Shan agreed.

Just as they were about to set out, their ID cards vibrated once again:

[Attention]

[Attention all personnel!]

[All civilians have been evacuated to the Gloom Obsidian Star; the Gloom Forest World's destruction can no longer be prevented]

[We have kept the following warp gates active to facilitate the evacuation of all Professionists towards the Gloom Obsidian Star]

Several rays of light emerged from the ID card to manifest as sets of coordinates.

"Fallen so quickly?" Gu Qing Shan muttered in a deep voice.

Crow muttered: "The situation seems a bit off, the Apocalypse we've come across so far clearly isn't enough to force everyone to evacuate"

Gu Qing Shan didn't think the same, answering him: "No, I've come into contact with this Apocalypse more times than you have——— I noticed that the more times one runs into this Apocalypse, the more powerful it would grow"

While saying that, Gu Qing Shan silently asked the War God UI:

"System, earlier you said that this Apocalypse is similar to the Final Sandstorm, can you confirm it now?"

The War God UI replied:

[There isn't enough information, no conclusion can be drawn as of right now]

Gu Qing Shan questioned further: "If it is the Final Sandstorm, then it would be an Apocalypse capable of growth. From what you know, is the current rate of growth normal for this Apocalypse?"

[Abnormal, its current rate of growth is too rapid] the War God UI replied.

Gu Qing Shan turned to his remaining Soul Points value.

Gu Qing Shan couldn't help himself from sighing.

Soul Points was secondary, the main issue right now was that everything was too chaotic.

A foul smell wharfed throughout the air.

Crow's nose twitched and commented: "After drinking breastmilk, children are prone to peeing, usually this is what it smells like"

Gu Qing Shan but the baby forward, telling him: "If you know so much, then keep this little———"

Before he even finished his words, Crow had already fled several dozen meters away, waving both hands dismissively: "I just happened to have a few friends who have children that currently need to be breastfed. I'm completely clueless when it comes to washing up and changing diapers, you're still the one who's gotta do it"

Gu Qing Shan kept the baby forward, his gaze locked with Crow's gaze.

"Do your best, you'll learn after doing it a few times" Crow encouraged him.

Gu Qing Shan stayed silent.

The baby cried even more loudly.

"Calm down, I need to calm down" Gu Qing Shan muttered to himself.

He put the baby on the ground and undid its diapers.

The baby's clothes were now soaked with excrements of both kinds.

----but there wasn't even anything clean for the baby to change into.

What now?

At the moment, the Apocalypse has already wiped this world out...

Gu Qing Shan finally came up with an idea.

He drew the Heaven sword and looked at the crying child.

"You're going to kill it?" Crow asked.

"You think I'm some sort of devil?" Gu Qing Shan asked him in return.

"Well, you ARE an evil creature"

"No, I just have an idea———"

Saying that, Gu Qing Shan began communicating with his swords.

"---Bing Li, can we use [Chaotic Flow] now?"

Luo Bing Li asked in confusion: "This baby is completely alive and well, what do we need to use [Chaotic Flow] for?"

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Shannu asked: "Gongzi, do you want to make this baby grow up?"

The Earth sword also said: $\[Gamma]$ That's not going to work. The Heaven sword can certainly make this little one skip its current state in time and turn into a state in the future, but since this little one hadn't experienced anything that it should, its mind would remain immature, that won't do any good J

Gu Qing Shan explained: "You don't understand. I want to use [Chaotic Flow] to turn this little one back to its state a few hours ago. That way, it would stop crying, and this entire mess would also disappear"

The four swords all laughed.

"Gu Qing Shan, my Thaumaturgy isn't something to be used for cleaning up, can't you just use a cleaning hand seal?" Luo Bing Li practically exclaimed out loud.

"I'm currently a fiend, I can't expose myself as a cultivator" Gu Qing Shan insisted.

"Gongzi, you should think about other solutions. We're currently in the middle of an Apocalypse, you had better save [Chaotic Flow] for later" Shannu suggested.

Gu Qing Shan wracked his brain.

----what a blunder, I actually don't know how to properly clean and change a baby's diapers.

If I can use a hand seal to resolve this, there wouldn't be any issues.

But Crow is right here, and this is a complete ruin without any water.

Crow is a Fire Elemental swordsman, while I'm supposed to be a Fear Fiend, a Shadow Elemental evil creature, so the both of us can't produce water.

Crow suggested: "Hey, how about we just head straight to the Gloom Obsidian Star? There are surely civilians who know how to do this over there, perhaps even breastfeed this little one"

"How far is the warp gate?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"A bit further away compared to the Royal Capital, we need to hurry up" Crow replied.

Gu Qing Shan abruptly paused, then clapped his hand out of delight: "I have a solution, Crow, wait here for a bit"

He happily embraced the infant again, then used his World Technique--

[Fog Realm Descent]!

Layers of fog enveloped him and took him away.

•••

On the other side.

Void City.

A small brick house.

Xiao Die was making some food in the kitchen when she sensed something, then placed the spatula in her hand down and went to the living room.

Layers of fog started to appear out of thin air.

Immediately afterwards, Gu Qing Shan appeared with a crying baby in his arms.

Xiao Die's eyebrows twitched a bit, asking: "Whose belly did you knock up to get this little one? Kitty?"

"No" Gu Qing Shan hurriedly denied it.

He explained what happened.

Xiao Die rolled up her sleeves, received the baby from Gu Qing Shan's hand, skillfully cleaned it up, then sang a lullaby while gently rocking it in her arm.

The baby slowly fell asleep.

Gu Qing Shan praised: "Sure enough, professional matters should be left to the professionals"

Xiao Die scoffed at him, went into her room, placed the baby on a bed, then returned.

"Want something to eat before you leave?" she asked Gu Qing Shan.

"I can't, I'll leave this baby with you, for now, I need to return to my large-scale mission" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"No problem. In fact, you're the one who needs to watch out. I heard that something went wrong with the mission, a lot of Professionists have already lost their lives" Xiao Die said.

"Alright, I'll be careful" Gu Qing Shan cautiously replied.

His figure became obscured by the fog and disappeared again.

——-he had left.

Xiao Die didn't bother to get back to cooking, instead, headed to her room to look at the baby.

"He's already gone, you still want to lie down there?" Xiao Die asked.

The baby suddenly opened its eyes, its body gradually grew larger until she became a feminine girl.

"Your bed feels really comfortable" the girl commented.

"If you want to sleep, go back to the City Lord's manor, what are you sleeping at my place for?" Xiao Die crossed her arms and asked.

The girl sat up on the bed, then replied: "Alright, then I'm leaving"

She began to float.

Xiao Die suddenly said: "Why did you come here? And why were you with him in the first place?"

The girl answered: "You told me about him, and since I'm the one who gave him his codename, I wanted to personally take a look"

"And the verdict?" Xiao Die asked.

Perhaps thinking of something funny, the girl lightly giggled.

"He seems ok for now. Once that event begins, I'll give the Hitman Guild another slot for a Titled Hitman to participate—— as for whether or not this 'Dragon King of Atrocity Jail' gets that slot, it'll be completely up to him"

The girl fixed up her appearance a bit, then said: "Xiao Die, make sure not to tell anyone about this"

After that, she vanished.

Xiao Die stood still, shivering a bit.

"For her to personally check, that's quite some precaution she's taking..."

She whispered to herself.

Chapter 1318

The Gloomy Forest World.

White fog descended.

Gu Qing Shan walked out from the thick fog.

"Where did you take the little one?" Crow asked.

"Void City" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"Then we can fight as we please from this point on" Crow grinned.

"Yeah, and the baby seemed like it wouldn't mind that either" Gu Qing Shan answered.

As far as he could tell, regardless if he threatened it with a sword or embraced it in his chest, a baby would remain a baby.

In fact, in the middle of combat, while Gu Qing Shan was holding onto the baby, leaving himself open to being ambushed and killed, the baby would still not react at all.

After taking the baby, Xiao Die also gave him a nod to signal that it was alright.

He could simply forget about it for now.

The two of them examined their surroundings.

Complete ruin.

Blue Mountain City had been completely destroyed.

Although the mission had directed them to teleport away, they were still a bit unwilling to accept this situation.

"The Gloomy Forest World's Royal capital was a gathering place for many species. Not only was it powerful, but it also had the aid of numerous Professionists. I really don't understand how it fell so quickly" Crow was unable to come up with an answer.

"How about we take a careful look at it?" Gu Qing Shan suggested.

He also had numerous questions in mind.

Crow thought a bit, then said: "Let's do that, perhaps we'll——"

"Shh!" Gu Qing Shan hurriedly signaled him to stop talking.

"What is it?" Crow was confused.

"You running your mouth has jinxed us so many things already, let's stop doing that" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Crow shook his head: "I've already gone to a professional facility to examine it. I don't have a precognitive speech ability, nor a Fate-type skill, so it's all been a coincidence"

"Coincidence?" Gu Qing Shan doubtfully asked.

"That's right, coincidence" Crow laughed, "For example, I'll say right now that we're going to be surrounded by countless monsters"

Gu Qing Shan drew two of his swords, cautiously observing the surroundings.

Complete silence.

One breath.

Two breaths.

Three breaths.

Still nothing.

"See, coincidences. I just happen to be there when they occur, it's not really an ability" Crow shrugged.

Gu Qing Shan sighed in relief: "That's good to hear. Alright, let's head to the Royal capital and see if we can find any intel"

"Let's go!"

The two of them flew above the clouds and headed straight towards the Royal capital.

While moving at full speed, they reached the Royal capital after a minute.

The two of them descended.

——-another ruin.

The entire Royal capital had been thoroughly ravaged by the Apocalypse.

Unlike Blue Mountain city, there weren't as many corpses here, and the majority of them were higherranked Professionists. Most civilians had already been evacuated to the Gloom Obsidian Star in time.

Gu Qing Shan released his inner sight to meticulously scan the city for any remaining traces.

"There's a corpse that we should examine" Gu Qing Shan commented.

"Alright" Crow replied.

The two of them continued to fly until they reached a certain corpse.

"I know him, he's an archivist of the Void Library" Crow muttered.

Void Library was one of Void City's many organizations whose focus was on the collection of knowledge, quite similar to the 900 million World Layers' Spire Keeper Association in nature.

Gu Qing Shan crouched down and pried the corpse's hand open, taking a leaf out from inside.

"A leaf from the Tree of Knowledge, one of the most durable writing materials, let's see what's written on it" Crow suggested.

Gu Qing Shan examined the leaf, reading from it:

"These monsters are all species that have gone extinct, it definitely shouldn't have ——"

This was all that was written, and it also appeared to have been hurriedly scribbled together, as if this Professionist wrote it in an extreme emergency.

Before he even had finished writing, he was already dead.

Gu Qing Shan turned to the corpse, only to see a look of fear and disbelief frozen on it.

As if he was still trapped in some sort of fear right up to the moment of his death.

Extinct species ...

Gu Qing Shan and Crow both fell into thought.

Crow spoke up first: "Now that I think about it, the soldier and caster we saw earlier seemed to have come from an extinct civilization"

"What about the giant?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"I only know the bare minimum; this kind of knowledge has to be confirmed at the Void Library" Crow replied.

Gu Qing Shan sighed: "No, there are still too many possibilities, we need to gather more intel"

Crow said: "That's easy, let's head to the Gloom Obsidian Star and meet up with other Professionists. We can exchange our intel there"

"How far is the warp gate?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

Crow pointed in a certain direction and answered: "There's a self-destructing warp gate outside the city, which should be enough for us to use it once——— since it's such a short distance away, there's no fear even if the Apocalypse shows up"

Boom!!!

The ground trembled.

A sandstorm brewed.

Yellow sand filled the sky, obscuring it and everything around.

The world itself became dim.

Within the boundless sand, monsters appeared one after another.

Within their visions, the horde of monsters seemed endless, taking up every last bit of space in the entire city as well as the wilderness outside of it.

They silently surrounded Gu Qing Shan and Crow.

Gu Qing Shan and Crow were both stunned.

This is impossible.

"Crow" Gu Qing Shan said.

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"Huh?" Crow was tensely observing the seemingly endless horde of monsters.

"I suggest you check if you have a precognitive speech ability once again"

As Gu Qing Shan said that, he abruptly let go of the twin swords Heaven and Earth in his hands and drew the Six Paths Great Mountain sword.

Were the previous manifestations of monsters only meant to deceive us?

Then it makes perfect sense.

Once these monsters have understood a Professionist well enough, they would abruptly manifest in large numbers, using the numerical advantage as well as absolute power to crush the Professionists to death!

They can destroy defensive items, use the Professionists' abilities, as well as many other abilities that I haven't come across. No matter how strong their opponents are, they would easily be able to defeat them together.

Any competent army general understands that a war is fought using numbers, taking advantage of overwhelming manpower to destroy a weaker enemy.

This is a strategy of war!

Gu Qing Shan felt a chill running down his back.

The Apocalypse is using war strategies to fight the Combatants of Void City!

No.

This isn't an Apocalypse.

This can't be an Apocalypse!

But if it isn't an Apocalypse, then what exactly is it?

Gu Qing Shan forced himself to remain calm, quickly assessed his situation, then asked himself.

What now?

There's no time—--

"This one is going to risk everything!!!"

Crow drew his rapier and shouted towards the horde of monsters.

At the same time, he told Gu Qing Shan through telepathy: "Hurry! Use your fog teleportation from before to take us away, otherwise, we'll actually die here!!!"

Yet Gu Qing Shan remained almost ignorant and simply pointed his sword forward

Innumerable tiny sword phantoms flowed from the blade of his sword, striking against one another tens of thousands of times every second!

Coong coong coong coong oong--

Fwoom!!!

Among the ruins, another sea of flames erupted.

This was no longer the flames of the Apocalypse, but rather the power of a technique unleashed through the divine sword.

This technique was performed using the Six Paths Great Mountain sword, so there was no such thing as a technique or spell that was able to defend against it.

In an instant, all the attacks unleashed by the apocalyptic monsters were reduced to cinders within the flames.

This Asura Divine Skill required Soul Points to perform, and Gu Qing Shan's strike unleashed a boundless sea of flames that burned the entire city.

His Soul Points decreased by a large amount.

Without having time to feel the loss of his Soul Points, Gu Qing Shan unleashed another strike.

The flames upon the sword all vanished without a trace.

Instead, a layer of frost slowly started to spread on the blade of the sword, then quickly blew across the entire city like an invisible gust of wind.

The second strike of the Divine Skill, [Freezing Frost], the sword of destroying frost!

——-[Freezing Frost] catches the enemy's form, freezing the bodies of living beings so that they cannot move, that was the essence of the Divine Skill [Freezing Frost]!

The pure white froze continued to expand, soon enveloping the bodies of every monster in the city.

They could no longer move a muscle.

"Hurry! Head to the warp gate!" Gu Qing Shan shouted.

He had already tried once—— while inside the Apocalypse, teleporting away would only cause the Apocalypse to follow.

Taking this entire Apocalypse to Void City wasn't an option!

Hearing him, Crow immediately leapt into action.

The two of them made a mad dash across the sky towards the warp gate.

They were so fast they appeared as two streaks of lightning.

"HERE!"

Crow shouted and placed his ID card into a determined spot.

Gu Qing Shan also quickly put his ID card on top of that.

The warp gate was hidden inside a patch of grass, which became active immediately as it sensed the two ID cards.

"We need five breaths' worth of time" Crow loudly reported.

"Alright, we'll defend ourselves in the meantime" Gu Qing Shan replied.

A bit further away, within the zone of white frost, the monsters began to move again.

They were struggling to get free from this Divine Skill.

One breath.

Two breaths.

Over a dozen of the monsters with the strongest presences had escaped from the frost seal.

Crow clenched his rapier tightly, flicked it forward, then whispered: "Your current deaths shall be harvested by my future!"

Thud thud!

All of the monsters collapsed to the ground.

Crow cautiously stared at them.

While the monster tried their best to struggle, all of them soon breathed their last.

Finally, Crow sighed in relief.

"I didn't see you do anything" Gu Qing Shan said.

Crow quickly explained: "My future self will come to kill them, if my future self had failed, they wouldn't have died just now, but me!"

Without time to say anything else, Gu Qing Shan's gaze turned towards the city.

The remaining horde of monsters was also beginning to break free of the frost.

——-there were too many of them, despite having the Asura Divine Skill and the Six Paths Great Mountain sword, as well as an astronomical amount of Soul Points, Gu Qing Shan still couldn't restrain them for too long!

"Two breaths' worth of time left!" Crow shouted.

"Your skill is too dangerous, I'll do it!" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Saying that, he sheathed his sword.

Crow glanced at him in confusion.

----if you want to do it, why did you sheath your weapon?

Gu Qing Shan's killing intent was roused in his mind.

Oong!

A resounding slash echoed throughout this entire world.

The wind, the sand, the city, the monsters, all of them were blown away by this single slash.

---Mind Sword, [Sun Moon Eclipse]!

As Gu Qing Shan unleashed his strike, he didn't have time to observe the results before the warp gate on the ground erupted in white light, covering him and Crow inside.

The white light turned into a door that directly sucked both of them inside.

Chapter 1319

The light of teleportation flashed.

As soon as Gu Qing Shan and Crow appeared, a loud urging voice resounded in their ears.

"Do not go out and fight!"

"Remain here and wait for reinforcements!"

"Do not leave this stone tower, everyone who did so is dead!"

"Further reinforcements are coming!"

With the tall stone walls obscuring his eyes, Gu Qing Shan couldn't see anyone around him.

This was a stone tower with very limited space. It appeared to be around two-story tall, with numerous runes and patterns of different civilizations carved on the insides of the walls, creating an isolating force.

Standing inside this tower, Gu Qing Shan and Crow had taken up around 1/5th of the total space.

Quite obviously, this was a tower constructed to be used as a landing pad for teleportation. Many people used it to move from world to world, but very few actually remained here.

Crow crouched down to pick up four pieces of white stones.

The warning voices from before were continuously being broadcasted from these stones.

"These are Voice Recorder Stones" Crow explained, "If you squeeze it tightly and talk, it will record the very first sentence you say, then continuously broadcast it again and again"

Gu Qing Shan released his inner sight to go through the stone wall and spread it outside.

There wasn't a single living being in the desolate wilderness, only various collapsed structures and countless corpses.

All traces of civilization were gone.

Instead, the teleportation tower established by Void City had become the only surviving structure in this world.

"They're all dead" Gu Qing Shan said.

"What?" Crow asked again.

"I said, the people of this world are all dead" Gu Qing Shan replied.

This time, Crow heard it clearly.

He walked to the window and looked outside, only to see the face of each corpse holding a completely different expression.

Even at the same location, some of the corpses were smiling stiffly, some had a despairing expression from facing inevitable death, some still had an expression of confusion as they died.

Crow felt a chill running down his back and sighed:

"I thought we were already saved, who would've thought things would be like this? It's been a really long time since I experienced such an eerie and dangerous situation"

"How strange... how exactly did the people of this world die?" Gu Qing Shan asked in confusion.

He was then startled.

In the wilderness outside of the tower, among countless corpses, a weak presence was sensed by Gu Qing Shan's inner sight.

For several thousand miles, that was the only living presence he could feel

"Crow, I found a living person outside, I need to take a look" Gu Qing Shan said.

"Didn't you hear the stones' warning? Those who left the tower are all dead" Crow warned him.

After a moment of silence, Gu Qing Shan insisted:

"I have to save that person, otherwise, if we remain here without any information, it would be no better than waiting for death"

He took out a strand of hair from his Inventory Bag and began tying it around his waist.

"Hair? What are you doing?" Crow asked in confusion.

Gu Qing Shan finished tying the hair, then handed the other end to Crow.

"This strand of hair has a natural elasticity characteristic, when you pull on it with a bit of force, it will immediately pull me back" Gu Qing Shan explained.

This was Lin's strand of hair.

Back in the Gemini Star, when the Demon Dragon chased after them, Lin decided to buy time for Gu Qing Shan, so she told him to run away first while tying this strand of hair around her waist and giving the other end to Gu Qing Shan.

When Gu Qing Shan reached the warp point, using this hair, he managed to pull the dying Lin to safety, then escaped from the Demon Dragon's pursuit.

"Then, when you manage to save that person, I'll immediately pull both of you back?" Crow asked.

Gu Qing Shan explained his plan, then added: "I might be able to return on my own, but seeing how these corpses had different expressions on their faces, I think the situation isn't quite as simple as I thought———- in case I can't return, immediately pull me"

"Alright, as soon as I notice something amiss, I'll pull you back right away" Crow held the strand of hair tightly and said with a serious expression.

Gu Qing Shan walked to the door of the tower, silently calculating the distance.

The unconscious individual was around 7000 meters away from the stone tower.

I have to do this myself.

He took a deep breath, abruptly pushed the door open and shouted: "Crow, save him!"

Before he finished his words, he had already vanished.

----Divine Skill, [Shadow Shift]!

In an instant, Gu Qing Shan appeared where the individual was, while the unconscious individual appeared inside the stone tower.

Gu Qing Shan immediately leapt out from the pile of corpses, wanting to use [Ground Shrink]

Suddenly, he saw that his surroundings had changed.

The originally desolate countryside became filled with resounding explosions and magic.

Countless Professionists were clashing against sandstorm monsters.

This scene only lasted for the blink of an eye.

As Gu Qing Shan took one step forward, the scene before him collapsed, replaced by another one.

Gu Qing Shan found himself sunken in the middle of an oceanic abyss. A few thousand meters away from where he stood, a gigantic octopus was silently observing him.

Please support our website and read on novelbold Each of the giant octopus' suction cups on its tentacles grew a severed head.

All of those heads stared straight at Gu Qing Shan and uttered a resounding howl---

The scene collapsed again, replaced by yet another completely new world.

A burning city.

Streets filled with berserk, mindless individuals.

Gu Qing Shan saw a group of staggering people limping forward to consume the corpse on the ground.

Man Eater Fiends!

Gu Qing Shan was shocked.

Another group with glowing blood-shot eyes were rushing towards him.

"Kill kill kill kill! Everyone must die!" they shouted.

In the sky, individuals who grew skeletal wings were spitting various elements directly from their mouths.

A giant serpent was slithering along the streets.

Just as Gu Qing Shan raised his sword to face this threat, he saw the scene moving away from him.

An immense retractive force could be felt around his waist.

The powerful force directly yanked him out of that world and flew directly back inside the stone tower.

Bam!

The door was immediately closed.

——It was Crow.

He had caught the unconscious person and nimbly placed them down on the ground, then immediately yanked on the strand of hair as he turned around.

The very moment Gu Qing Shan re-entered the stone tower he had already closed the door.

"I immediately knew that something was wrong as soon as I saw you standing still, so I pulled you back right away" Crow let go of the strand of hair and said.

Gu Qing Shan wiped the cold sweat off his forehead and replied: "You made the right choice, otherwise, I might not have been able to return"

"What exactly is going on?" Crow sternly asked.

Gu Qing Shan explained everything he saw just now.

Crow appeared confused.

"Never seen it, never heard of it either" he shook his head.

They both turned to the man on the ground.

He was a young man wearing glasses, some blood seeping from the corner of his mouth, his body constantly trembling.

Gu Qing Shan scanned him with his inner sight and found that he was only breathing out without breathing in, so he was literally breathing his last.

"Crow, do you know any healing techniques?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

This individual on the ground must know something.

If Crow has no way of healing him as well, I'll have to use the Heaven sword.

Crow drew his rapier and said: "Let me try"

Holding the rapier tightly, he abruptly thrust it into the man's heart, then whispered: "Your living fate shall be the Effect, release the life force of your future, replenish all injuries of this past"

A milky white glow clad the thin rapier.

This glow entered the man's body.

Crow immediately withdrew his rapier.

As Gu Qing Shan looked back, the glasses man's chest didn't even have a flesh wound, his complexion slowly returning to normal, his breathing becoming stable.

Crow appeared exhausted and sat straight down on the ground.

"Is this a healing technique?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

Asking that, he took out a bottle of strong liquor and handed it to Crow.

Crow took a huge gulp, then begin explaining: "I proposed a possible Effect, which is him surviving this experience, then use that as the Cause to expend a bit of his future life force to save him in the present"

"Then, what would happen to his future?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"Nothing, he'll be weakened for a period of time, but there's essentially no longer any threat to his life" Crow replied.

"How miraculous" Gu Qing Shan praised.

"This technique takes a lot out of me, I need a bit of rest" Crow sat leaning on the wall of the tower, breathing a bit heavily.

Gu Qing Shan turned to the man in glasses.

He slowly opened his eyes and sat back up, observing them.

"Did the two of you save me?"

"That's right, this is the teleportation landing tower, you're safe for now"

"Thank you very much, I'm a researcher of the Void Library, my name is Yu Juan"

The man said while showing him a book-shaped medal.

The medal gave off a unique power fluctuation, which Crow sensed a bit before nodding to Gu Qing Shan: "It's real, he's from the Void Library"

Gu Qing Shan felt a bit more assured, then said: "I'm Dragon King of Atrocity Jail, this is Crow, we're from the Hitman Guild"

Yu Juan sighed and commented in a lonely manner: "You shouldn't have come here; this place is in complete chaos"

"I know, I've also seen it earlier——- there are numerous overlapping worlds outside" Gu Qing Shan said.

Yu Juan shook his head: "That's secondary, the most important thing is that the terrifying monsters that should have gone extinct in the past are now alive right here"

"They will devour all Combatants who come here to fight"

Chapter 1320

"Terrifying monsters that should have gone extinct?"

Gu Qing Shan and Crow exchanged glances.

"That's right. We were no match for them at all, I really don't know what was going on here" Yu Juan muttered in dejection.

"Since you were a researcher of the Void Library, please take a look for us——"

Saying so, Crow drew this rapier and flicked it a few times in the air.

The images of a soldier wielding a shield and spear, a red-robed caster, an armored giant, and the threeheaded dog appeared in the air one after another.

Gu Qing Shan explained: "These are the enemies we ran into; do you recognize them?"

Yu Juan glanced over: "All of them are entities belonging to the Saint Spirit world. It could be said that you were lucky to meet them, as they're all races that strictly adhere to the code of combat"

"What about you? What did your side run into?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"There were two groups of us on this side——— the first group consisted of 39 Combatants who were all pushed directly into an ocean and met an octopus monster, ending in a complete wipeout; I was part of the second group who ran into the Plague Apocalypse. I was barely able to hang onto my life, in fact, if you hadn't saved me, I would have already died as well"

After giving his answer, Yu Juan appeared dejected again.

Gu Qing Shan's expression changed a bit and asked: "Did that octopus monster have a severed head in each of its suction cups?"

"That's right" Yu Juan replied.

"What exactly was it?" Gu Qing Shan pursued.

"A void monster that should have already been eradicated in the flow of time. Because of how powerful its abilities were, it was essentially undefeated in the space vortex, so it went to try and challenge the Inner Plane. After 70 days of nonstop combat, it was killed through the cooperation of the Deities and the Eternal Abyss" Yu Juan explained.

Gu Qing Shan said: "It's a good thing that I ran away fast enough, otherwise I would have died as well"

"What's the Plague Apocalypse?" Crow asked out of interest.

Yu Juan patiently explained: "The Plague Apocalypse is a kind of unpreventable bodily mutation, anyone can be infected by it, turning into Man Killer Fiends and Man Eater Fiends"

"We once conducted a reverse study of this Apocalypse, discovering that the Plague Apocalypse originally had over a thousand variations, capable of destroying countless worlds——— we were almost scared to death. Fortunately, this Apocalypse was in a constant weakened state and remained that way until it was destroyed"

"Over 1000 variations of the plague?" hearing that, Crow couldn't help but click his tongue and commented emotionally: "Sure enough, scholars like you really understand a lot"

Yu Juan dejectedly replied: "What good is it to understand them? The Apocalypse we ran into this time was the over 1000 variations of that plague. It was so terrifying that everyone ended up dead"

"But you managed to survive thanks to the power of your knowledge" Gu Qing Shan commented with a gentle voice.

"One of my previous thesis was the Plague Apocalypse, so I managed to survive the longest within that Apocalypse until you saved me"

Mentioning that, Yu Juan felt a bit fortunate.

Gu Qing Shan's focus turned elsewhere.

Why do I...

Feel like I've missed something?

He paced around inside the tower, silently pondering.

After a bit, he finally remembered.

----it was a conversation:

...

"You have already run into the Man Killer Fiends and Man Eater Fiends, yes?"

"I did"

"That was originally an Apocalypse from a parallel world. In that destroyed parallel world, there were not only the Man Eater and Man Killer forms, but rather over 1000 different mutated forms, some of which were simply irresistible and directly wiped out the infinite worlds"

"Although this Apocalyptic calamity managed to make it to our reality, it has already used up its power, leaving only the two forms of Man Eater Fiend and Man Killer Fiend"

•••

That's right!

Gu Qing Shan silently clenched his fist.

In the past, Lady Fusi once explained to me the concept of 'parallel world destruction and corrosion'. She had mentioned this.

... countless overlapping worlds, a lost civilization, the Plague Apocalypse at its strongest.

Lady Fusi explained it this way:

•••

"For the corpse of a parallel world and the Apocalyptic calamity it carries, it is extremely difficult to turn from a 'parallel' state to an 'arrived' state, that would cause it to use up a majority of its power"

"Those calamities would be greatly weakened by the time they arrive in our reality, so they do not affect us too greatly—– under normal circumstances"

•••

Under normal circumstances...

That was supposed to be the case under normal circumstances...

Could it be———

Gu Qing Shan felt a chill running down his back.

"The current time is..." he muttered.

"Using the common denomination of time in most civilizations, it's currently 5PM, nearly evening" Crow answered.

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Gu Qing Shan silently shook his head.

I wasn't asking about that.

When the world of the Spire turned into a Temporal Oasis and continued heading towards the future, I used the [Distortion] ability of the coins to exit the Temporal Oasis, heading towards the beginning of the war between the Wraith realm and the Eternal Abyss.

At this point in time, within the 900 million World Layers, Lin and I should have already run into Laura, the three of us on our way to return to the Bramble Bird Kingdom.

Indeed.

I should be right at this point in time.

The 'me' in the past should be arriving at the Bramble Bird Kingdom, meet up with Ye Fei Li and Zhang Ying Hao, as well as meeting with Boss for the first time.

While the current me entered Void City from the Tomb of Myriad Beasts thanks to the power of [Distortion], attempting to infiltrate the Wraith realm.

This was a pivotal point in the timeline.

At this pivotal point, the Fate Corrosion prepared by the Wraith realm for countless years had erupted from inside the Eternal Abyss.

The Eternal Abyss was forced to backflow into the 900 million World Layers and enter a desperate losing war against the Wraith realm.

——how did Lady Fusi explain this?

This is very crucial.

Hurry, I need to remember it!

Gu Qing Shan wracked his brains—–

"What's the matter?" seeing his expression a bit strange, Crow doubtfully asked.

"It's nothing, I'm pondering something very crucial, let's talk later" Gu Qing Shan waved his hand dismissively.

He was trying his best to recall his conversation with Lady Fusi at the time.

Suddenly, the scene reappeared clearly in his mind.

•••

Lady Fusi started to explain:

"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"

"You mean that within that parallel world because the Earth Creator was already dead and when the Earth Creator of our reality approached, it was forced to accept that fate as well?"

"That is so, child..."

•••

Gu Qing Shan clenched his fist tightly.

We are currently not under 'normal circumstances'.

————the countless overlapping worlds, the lost civilization, the Plague Apocalypse at its strongest, could all of them have been byproducts of the Fate Corrosion?

If they all originated from that extremely powerful parallel world, everything would make sense.

"Did you come up with something?"

Observing his expression, Crow curiously asked.

Gu Qing Shan silently replied: "Not yet, only some conjectures. I don't have any proof; it can't be considered the truth"

----but it is very likely to be.

The Apocalypse, the civilizations, the monsters.

Everything from that parallel world is descending upon our reality.

They were too powerful.

No one in this world would be their match.

Damn it!!!

Gu Qing Shan abruptly boiled with killing intent.

What exactly is the Wraith realm planning?

Not only do they want to win against the Eternal Abyss, but they also want to destroy this world?

Ding kling kling —

The sound of ringing.

Gu Qing Shan turned back, only to see that Yu Juan had taken out an ID card to check the content on it.

"That's perfect, the situation here had caught the attention of the upper brass. Stronger Combatants of higher numbers will soon be dispatched for an all-out Void War" Yu Juan commented.

"What's an all-out Void War?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"When the infinite worlds of the void feel that voluntary missions are insufficient against the Apocalypse, they would fully cooperate, organize an army, and declare a war towards it" Yu Juan explained.

"Then, they seem to think that despite this being classified as Unsolvable, there's still some hope that's worth fighting for?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"That's right"

Crow sighed in relief, then spoke: "It's for the best. While we can still barely protect ourselves right now, there are too many enemies here. Later on, there might even——"

Gu Qing Shan's figure disappeared where he previously stood.

Divine Skill, [Ground Shrink]!

He had rushed forward to block Crow's mouth.

Crow appeared confused.

"Brother Crow, think of this as me begging you. The current situation is too dangerous, so can you please not jinx anything?"

Gu Qing Shan said with a heavy heart.

Chapter 1321

[The allied civilization army is currently being organized. The war shall begin shortly]

[All survivors are to seek refuge in relatively safe locations and wait patiently]

[Due to the appearance of the Plague Apocalypse's complete form, all survivors are not to teleport out of the Gloom Galaxy out of their own volition]

[I repeat]

[For the safety of the infinite worlds, do not leave the Gloom Galaxy on your own volitions]

[All violators of this order shall be considered infected by the Plague Apocalypse and granted immediate execution]

Bam!

The ID card was thrown away, hitting the wall of the tower, then slowly slid to the ground.

The voice stopped.

Crow complained: "Those damn cowards, can't they even tell whether or not people in our line of work are affected by a disease?"

"That's not the case" Yu Juan pushed his glasses up and calmly replied: "From our calculations, there were over 1000 variations of the Plague Apocalypse, each of which has a unique mean of infection, some can't even be detected. If these ones manage to spread, it could cause the destruction of countless worlds"

Gu Qing Shan agreed: "Against such a kind of Apocalypse, it's best to be cautious about everything you can"

He then asked Yu Juan: "What rank does the complete form of the Plague Apocalypse fall into?"

Yu Juan replied: "Unsolvable, Harshest"

"Harshest?" Gu Qing Shan doubtfully asked.

"That's right. Since the Tomb of Myriad Beasts has to face the most Apocalypses out of everyone, the infinite worlds agreed to use their system of ranking Apocalypses, but had also made slight changes: Under every big Apocalypse category, smaller sub-categories were devised, which are Control, Perish, and Harshest" Crow chimed in.

"Among the Unsolvable Apocalypses, the complete form Plague Apocalypse trumps over all other Apocalypses of the same rank, so it was listed as Harshest" Yu Juan explained.

Control, Perish, and Harshest.

Gu Qing Shan silently committed them to memory, pondered a bit, then asked with a heavy tone: "Such a harsh Apocalypse still isn't considered to be Unlivable?"

Yu Juan had a bitter look on his face before sighing: "Because within this Apocalypse, you still managed to save my life. If it was a true Unlivable Apocalypse, both of you would have died as well"

Above Unsolvable was Unlivable.

Meaning no one could survive it.

——-no matter who they were.

Crow added: "Not only would we die, but the infinite worlds of the void would also mark off this region as a no-man-land, then forbid all entry, they wouldn't try to organize an army either——- they would simply discard this region of space"

At this point, the mood among them became heavy.

Suddenly, their ID cards each issued an announcement.

[Attention all personnel]

[In one and a half days, the war against the Apocalypse shall begin]

After that announcement, the ID cards went silent again.

One and a half days.

In other words, the three of them would have to remain in this teleportation tower for another one and a half days.

Crow muttered: "So we need to wait for one and a half days, huh? As long as there aren't any issues with the spatial runes of the tower, one and a half days should be reasonable"

Gu Qing Shan was startled and slowly turned towards him.

Only to see that Yu Juan did the same thing.

Not only was Yu Juan staring closely at Crow, but he also asked cautiously: "Excuse me, might you be the Hitman called Curt Death Silver Crow?"

"Ah, that's me, what's the matter?" Crow asked in confusion.

Two streams of tears slowly dripped down Yu Juan's face.

He turned around, faced the wall, took off his glasses, and began to wipe his tears.

"It's over, it really is him... the spatial runes of the tower will definitely have issues" Yu Juan sorrowfully muttered.

Gu Qing Shan managed to guess something, walked up to and sat down next to Yu Juan, asking him in a low voice: "Is he famous?"

Yu Juan turned back to look at Gu Qing Shan and doubtfully asked: "How did you end up in the same team as him? Did you forget from being in danger?"

Seeing him say that, Gu Qing Shan understood.

Then, Crow's precognitive speech was actually quite infamous...

"Oi, I can still hear you y'know. Don't believe in those superstitious predictive crap, the things I've gone through were nothing but coincidences!" Crow complained in irritation.

Gu Qing Shan was speechless.

He silently sent his voice to Yu Juan: "Didn't Crow go through some sort of professional check? I heard nothing was found"

Yu Juan silently sent his voice back: "That's correct, nothing was found about his ability——— because this ability had already surpassed the limit of the measuring equipment"

While explaining that, Yu Juan took out a piece of parchment paper and began writing something on it.

When Gu Qing Shan focused on it, he saw that it was his last will.

Pondering a bit, Gu Qing Shan sent his voice again: "If it's actually that impressive, he could simply say something opposite to make good things happen"

Yu Juan didn't bother to look up, instead, he sped up his writing and answered: "His ability doesn't work for good luck, only bad luck"

Gu Qing Shan: " ... "

This is incurable.

Would the spatial runes of the tower really fail?

This teleport tower contains the combined essence of the knowledge of the worlds in the Boundless Void, which was why it was able to temporarily isolate this place from the Apocalypse, lost civilization, and terrifying monsters outside.

If something happens to this tower, everyone would die.

Gu Qing Shan stayed silent for a bit, then took out a pot from his Inventory Bag.

"What are you doing?" Crow asked in surprise.

"It's already night, I haven't eaten anything today" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"I have some rations here" Crow took out a bag of wrinkled, cold, hard preserved food.

Gu Qing Shan glanced at him and replied: "That won't do at all"

Yu Juan smiled bitterly: "That's right. If I have to die, I'd rather eat a good meal and become a full ghost instead of a hungry one"

He had finished writing his will.

"That's not it" Gu Qing Shan begin taking out various cooking ingredients as he explained: "A grand feast can help us replenish our energy and re-adjust ourselves, making sure that we face the upcoming tough situation with ample spirits"

Hoh——

A fire was lit.

The pot was placed on top, followed up some oil to coat the inside that quickly started to sizzle.

"Dinner should be a hearty meal, so is there anything you want?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

The others didn't answer.

This fiend is probably the 'hungry ghost' I heard of. Please support our website and read on novelbold

Crow silently thought.

A last meal? This fiend's way of thinking is quite interesting.

Yu Juan also thought.

Seeing how they didn't answer, Gu Qing Shan decided to ignore them and just made dinner as he liked.

The ingredients this time were Clarity Fishes in the stream behind Bai Hua sect, which were top-grade ingredients in their own rights, loved by even Bai Hua Fairy.

Since he was going up against a Harshest Unsolvable Apocalypse, and because he had to make portions for other people as well, Gu Qing Shan prepared a few more than he usually did.

These fishes were finely filet using his excellent knife skills, coated in flour made from spirit wheat, then marinated in a mixture of salt, ginger, spices, and spirit wine brewed by Xiao Lou.

At this point, the pot was just hot enough for him to add spirit spring water, 16 unique spices from the cultivation world, then adjusted with some sugar before he put it back down on low heat and broiled for 7-8 minutes.

"Hm, how fresh"

Gu Qing Shan tasted the fish soup and slowly savored it.

A few moments later, the pot was taken off.

The fragrant fish meat and highly tasteful soup were swiftly plated, then served. But Gu Qing Shan then took out a large jar of uniquely pickled chili and sprinkled them on top of the dish.

——patches of bright red chili flakes were sprinkled all over the pearly white flesh, further enhancing the look of the glistening soup below. Just a single look at this would cause anyone to drool.

Gu Qing Shan then prepared his signature dishes: pork roast, shrimp dumplings, steamed meatless buns, sausage, spirit fruit spareribs, glutinous rice chicken, fruit cake, as well as various others for a total of 33 steamers; followed by half a wok of seafood fried rice in almost no time at all.

Finishing this, he thought a bit before taking out a large wooden crate and opened it.

Cold air could instantly be felt, as the entire crate was full of ice.

It was an entire crate of strong liquor and other beverages!

These were drinks that he prepared for himself after being promoted to an Unsolvable Hitman, since this was currently a tough mission, it was just right to be taken out and used.

"We'll need to fight later on, so drinking too much would be bad..."

Gu Qing Shan picked out three bottles of strong liquor, took them out, then put the wooden crate away.

Three sets of utensils were prepared.

There was liquor, fried rice, braised fish, and accompanying snacks.

A full course of delicious food.

"Come, since we're eating outside, I couldn't prepare much, just eat what you can" Gu Qing Shan told the other two.

No answer.

They were already stunned.

"There's an Unsolvable Apocalypse outside as well as some terrifying monsters, not to mention the lost Saint Spirit civilization, and you're here eating braised fish?" Crow said in disbelief.

He stepped forward, picked up his chopsticks and tried out a piece of fish, then went silent.

---he was too busy wolfing it down.

Gu Qing Shan poured him a drink, then said: "Take it easy, no one is going to steal it from you"

Crow just nodded without saying a word.

"Not eating?" Gu Qing Shan asked Yu Juan.

Yu Juan looked at his last will, then at the pot full of fresh braised fishes.

The bright red chili oil was making him salivate more and more.

With a gulp, Yu Juan replied: "I... want to keep a bit of dignity before I die"

"So you're not going to eat?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"So I'm going to eat a bit more than usual"

Yu Juan also picked up his utensils and tried a piece of fish.

"Who would've thought I'd be able to enjoy something like this..."

He muttered, picked up his glass, and drank it all at once.

Watching both of them digging in, he said nothing else, picked up his utensils, and began to eat as well.

Every last plate on the table was cleaned out completely.

After the meal, Crow and Yu Juan rubbed their bellies and sat down leaning against the wall.

"Just now you said... eating is for re-adjusting our states, ensuring that we can face tougher situations with ample spirits?" Crow asked.

"Yes, I did" Gu Qing Shan poured himself a cup of tea and slowly drank.

"How strange, why do I only feel like I want to sleep after being full?" Crow commented.

He then took out a sleeping bag from the void of space and climbed in, zipping it back up.

Yu Juan was still quite spirited, so he took out a book and began reading on his own.

Gu Qing Shan chuckled and finished his tea.

He then stood up, placing one hand on the wall of the teleportation tower as he paced around the entire tower.

The [War God Skills] icon on the War God UI began blinking.

Lines of glowing text appeared accordingly:

[This teleportation tower contains the following spatial warp construction techniques:]

[Spirit teleportation]

[Witchcraft world super-distance space transport]

[Dark-type distant warp]

[High-grade insect hive natural movement rune combination]

[...]

[To comprehend the above spatial techniques, you will require a total of 27,534,000 Soul Points, would you like to comprehend them?]

"Yes" Gu Qing Shan replied.

A huge burst of warmth flowed along his arm from inside the walls of the tower, circled around his entire body, then settled inside his Thought Sea, manifesting as countless teleportation-related knowledge.

Gu Qing Shan stood there, gradually closed his eyes, and quickly absorbed all of this knowledge.

"What are you doing? Final prayers?"

At some point, Yu Juan had already looked up at him curiously.

A few moments later.

Gu Qing Shan opened his eyes.

"No, I'm just preventing the jinx"¹ he smiled and replied.

Chapter 1322

Gu Qing Shan paced around the entire tower, constantly walking back and forth.

He began to observe the spatial runes on the walls of the tower.

At this point, he was able to instantly understand the meaning and use of any rune as soon as he saw it.

----as well as how to create and repair them.

By the time he had memorized every last rune, it was already midnight.

"There shouldn't be any issues now"

Gu Qing Shan whispered, then turned to the other two.

Yu Juan was busily writing something.

Crow's sleeping bag was completely zipped up without any movements, he was most likely asleep.

Gu Qing Shan walked over and patted the sleeping bag.

"What is it?" Crow's voice emerged from inside the sleeping bag.

"There's something" Gu Qing Shan replied.

The sleeping bag opened up.

Crow sat down from inside, cautiously asking: "What did you discover?"

"Nothing, I simply want to deal with your matter once and for all" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"Hah, I've already told you, when I took the test in Void City, they didn't discover any precognitive speech abilities, for example———"

Crow abruptly raised his voice and declared: "I think 900 worlds will immediately fall from the sky and destroy the entire Gloom Galaxy, and it will happen right now!"

Gu Qing Shan stared at him, then released his inner sight outside to observe the countryside and the sky.

Nothing happened.

Crow shrugged: "I've already tested this countless times, nothing I say ever comes true, except certain edge cases. For example, when I'm in the middle of a combative job, there are bound to be desperate circumstances—— and if everyone were to always assume the worst, they'd find themselves in the same boat as me"

Gu Qing Shan froze a bit at that, pondering: "Something that can go wrong will always go wrong... and any situations that are in consideration will surely come into fruition..."

Crow slapped his own leg and continued: "That's right! Hitmen of our level will only be participating in jobs and missions with considerable danger, and anyone else in my shoes would only need to be a bit sensitive to their surroundings to feel naturally worried. These worries originate from subconscious assessments of the combat situation so they would usually be proven to be true"

"That's why you feel like it isn't your fault?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

Crow asked in return: "If it truly was my issue—— I just declared that 900 worlds will crash into the Gloom Galaxy, did it happen yet?"

Gu Qing Shan's inner sight continued to be released to observe the deep dark sky.

---still nothing.

Yu Juan joined in:

"What you said is true, there's a very real possibility of what you said being the truth, and you just subconsciously notice issues before they happen"

He walked up to the two of them and continued: "But I have a colleague in the Void Library that had conducted a misfortune report thesis. He collected the mission data of 300 Titled Combatants of Void City over the past 10 years, discovering that you were the definitively the most unfortunate out of them all, experiencing 791 more isolated misfortune events compared to the one in second place"

Crow froze.

Gu Qing Shan also froze.

The air froze.

Yu Juan apologized: "I'm sorry, but we're a scientific establishment, every conclusion we draw is based on nothing but pure data" "But I already went through 63 different examinations, none of them showed that I was under the effects of any curses, nor were there any corresponding abilities!" Crow jumped.

Gu Qing Shan scowled: "Is there really no way to know what his actual situation is?"

"At least, not with the public system of examination tools and processes of Void City" Yu Juan replied full of pride.

Gu Qing Shan blinked a few times.

Crow sighed, appearing a bit lonely.

"Fine, it doesn't matter what kind of ability it is, I don't want to know, I'll just never know!" he turned around and dejectedly said to the wall.

Gu Qing Shan looked at him, then at Yu Juan.

Yu Juan shrugged apologetically.

Gu Qing Shan fell silent.

A few moments later.

He walked up and patted Crow's shoulder, telling him: "Do you know—— what's my most powerful ability?"

Crow didn't turn around, but his curiosity was roused and asked: "What is it?"

Yu Juan also looked at Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan replied: "The most powerful ability I have was originally a hip-swaying dance"

"Huh? Hah?" Crow turned around at him doubtfully.

——this fiend. Swaying his hip? Even thinking about it feels embarrassing. How could this Fear Fiend do such a shameful thing willingly?

Gu Qing Shan continued: "That's right, it really can't be helped, but I didn't give up on that ability, instead I gave up on my pride and continued to practice it"

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"Then, in the end, you got the girl?" Crow asked.

"No, I got better at hip-swaying and managed to achieve things that many others aren't capable of doing" Gu Qing Shan replied.

He took out a bottle of strong liquor, gave it to him, and continued: "Crow, you're powerful, but you're instinctively avoiding this ability, and I think that's not necessary at all"

"We need to understand this ability of yours, after all, there are no bad abilities, the important thing is... how to use them"

Crow accepted the bottle, took a big gulp, then muttered: "But I can't find any other methods to test"

Gu Qing Shan turned his gaze towards Yu Juan: "You guys are the collectors and researchers of the infinite worlds' knowledge; I assume that your testing measures wouldn't be any lacking compared to the public services of Void City——- or are you actually inferior to them?"

"How could we be inferior—– we might operate on a low-profile basis, but we're the real experts!" Yu Juan exclaimed confidently.

He looked at the two of them, then took out a book with a metal cover.

His gaze turned serious and spoke in a whisper: "Considering you've saved me; I'll expend my own accumulated points to use this Grand Library Examination Encyclopedia"

"Is this book precious?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

Yu Juan explained: "The Void Grand Library Examination Encyclopedia is, without a doubt, a peerless treasure of knowledge belonging to our Void Library. It is the collection of all the best-kept knowledge in existence, only available to senior members of the library's caste, and it's very rarely used for outsiders since we all have countless topics that are waiting to be researched..."

"Thank you so much, if you can really inspect what my ability is, you'll have my utmost gratitude. If you ever need to kill someone, come straight to me. Even if it's your head librarian, I'll make sure to bring his head to you in ribbons and wrapping" Crow said with a stern expression.

Yu Juan nodded, then began to display his delight: "Your ability must be extremely special, otherwise it would have already been discovered before. This is an extreme level of a rare edged case, I've only just gotten enough accumulated points for an encyclopedic search, so I think it's best that I conduct a complete examination, perhaps I'll find some sort of incredible academic discovery"

"Complete examination?" Crow asked.

"That's right, I'll need samples of your blood, hair, urine, as well as some other bodily fluids, all to conduct a thorough research" Yu Juan rubbed his hands full of excitement.

Crow: "..."

Gu Qing Shan: " ... "

Crow hung both of his arms: "In consideration of your enthusiasm towards this research, I've decided to rescind my offer of helping you kill a person"

Gu Qing Shan patted Crow's shoulder: "Come on, it's such a good chance; and if any results come out, everyone will be assured"

Crow nodded.

"Place your hands on the book and I'll start the examination. The first examination will be to see what methods can be used to make your ability manifest its form characteristics" Yu Juan explained.

"What's a form characteristic?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"A unique aspect that allows us to clearly determine what it is" Yu Juan replied.

Crow then placed his hands on the metal-cover book.

Yu Juan lifted the book from below, quickly chanting: "Target: Avian, Hitman, Crow"

"Researcher Yu Juan, requesting encyclopedic search through expending all accumulated points, please search for the method to examine target's form characteristics"

The book began to glow.

Bam!

A low noise.

Both Yu Juan's and Crow's hands were pushed away at the same time.

The metal-cover book opened by itself, then madly flipped through each page until three pages flew out, hovering in mid-air.

Reading these three pages, Yu Juan sighed dejectedly: "Hard! Very hard! Too hard! Hah, fine, seems like there aren't any methods to examine your ability after all"

"Why not? Didn't three get mentioned right here?"

Crow pointed at the three hovering pages, unwilling to give up.

Yu Juan bitterly smiled: "There's no one that has a hold of any of these methods"

Crow was stunned, falling into silence.

Gu Qing Shan looked at how dejected Crow was, then looked at the three pages——- only to see them filled to the brim with letters in a language he didn't recognize.

Most likely, this is a unique internal language of the Void Library, only their own people can read it.

"Which three methods were they exactly?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

Yu Juan sighed and replied: "There's no harm in telling you, because these are all methods that cannot be applied"

"The first method: The Angel of Condemnation from the Inner Plane has the ultimate Card examination technique, capable of manifesting a person's ability on a Card and examine it through that"

"Second method: The four Pillar Gods of the void can only use their personal treasures to learn of a living being's ability, but exactly how they do it is unknown"

"Third method: An ally of the Eternal Abyss can utilize their covenant with it to request the will of the Abyss' descent, thus helping them examine the ability"

"The Inner Plane had already been destroyed, the whereabouts of the four Pillar Gods are unknown, and the Eternal Abyss has never had an ally, so these three methods are practically impossible"

The more Yu Juan explained, the more dejected Crow became.

Gu Qing Shan was stunned.

Wait a minute.

These three methods ...

I'm pretty sure I can use all three of them.

But the Eternal Abyss is currently in the middle of a desperate war against the Wraith realm, so it isn't a good idea to communicate with it right now.

The identity of the Earth God is being protected by the Awaitings of [Order], so it's best that I don't arbitrarily reveal it.

Then the only one left is ——-

Gu Qing Shan checked his Card UI.

As he thought of examining an ability, a line of text quickly appeared on the UI:

[Cherub of Condemnation, would you like to perform an ability examination on a living being?]

"I do" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Chapter 1323

TN: Weal and woe are both old English, meaning "Fortune" and "Misfortune" respectively. Sometimes also translated as "fortune" and "ominous".

Staring at the Card UI, Gu Qing Shan quickly understood how to examine the abilities of living beings.

But what should I do next?

"In truth——- I think perhaps the Void Library doesn't really understand evil creatures well enough"

Gu Qing Shan commented.

Yu Juan didn't agree to this statement, so he refuted it right away: "Evil creatures are prone to lying and love to lure people towards depravity, so such races are certainly not the main topic of study for us——— but comparatively, no one understands evil creatures as well as we do at the Void Library, not even the Secret Insight Association"

"What's the Secret Insight Association? That doesn't sound like the name of an organization in Void City" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"Ah, it's an infamous underground organization whose main goal is the study of autonomy and physical power, each of them an expert surgeon" Crow chimed in.

Gu Qing Shan replied: "That's fine, regardless of how much the Void Library understands the secrets of evil creatures, I bet that you don't know about this: we Fear Fiends would occasionally awaken abilities that others cannot grasp"

"What do you mean to say?" Yu Juan asked.

"I'm saying that——- we evil creatures also have certain examination techniques, but we very rarely use them"

Saying that, Gu Qing Shan placed his hand on Crow's back and sincerely said:

"I need you to focus your mind. Try your best to visualize and think back to how you performed your precognitions the previous times"

Crow hesitantly asked: "Can this really work?"

Yu Juan also asked doubtfully: "Is this your personal ability, or a common ability for all Fear Fiends?"

"Let's give it a try first and see" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Crow closed his eyes, then began to recall how he managed to correctly profess what would occur in the past.

Gu Qing Shan kept his hand on his back, occasionally glancing towards the Card UI.

A few moments later.

Lines of glowing text appeared on the Card UI:

[Extremely rare prophetic-type ability detected: Tombstone]

[Only those with extreme sensitivity to misfortune have a one in ten million chance to awaken this ability]

[Tombstone: Whenever you verbally predict a potential unfortunate future, it shall be supported by the Law of Fate, turning your predictive words into reality]

[Attention: To activate Tombstone, one must first sense the signs of oncoming misfortune]

[Attention: This is an extremely rare unique prophetic-type ability with intense exclusivity, capable of selecting one possible misfortune among countless others and force it to descend upon reality]

Gu Qing Shan read over it all a few times.

I really have to say... this ability... is the definition of a jinx.

Crow looked at Gu Qing Shan nervously and asked: "How is it? Did your evil creature race examination ability find something?"

Gu Qing Shan looked at him and stayed silent.

How do I say this, Crow is a good person, but he has quite a bit of trauma towards this ability...

If I really wanted to help Crow...

Gu Qing Shan glanced through the Card UI again.

Intense exclusivity...

Selecting one misfortune to descend upon reality...

For some reason, Gu Qing Shan recalled how Xie Dao Ling once taught him, Xiao Lou, and Xiu Xiu about Divination.

...

"Among the six arts, Divination is number one, because it is a technique specifically devised to measure and calculate weal and woe" Xie Dao Ling explained.

"Then, does that weal and woe confirms one's future?" Xiu Xiu asked.

"That's not it, Xiu Xiu. You must always keep this in mind: Weal and woe are both improbable, unless when summoned. It's highly scholarly, so much that normal people wouldn't even know where to begin grasping at it" Xiao Lou explained with a smug look.

"Xiao Lou is correct. Because sometimes, woe can be the beginning of weal, and weal could also hide woe. The so-called concept of 'unless when summoned' points to the fact that the most important thing whether your results are weal or woe is the action of the people. A person's good or bad will, their virtues and karma, everything can decide the trend by which weal or woe turns out" Xie Dao Ling casually explained.

...

Gu Qing Shan retracted his thought, having decided on something.

He suddenly appeared excited and told Crow: "I've finally understood what your ability is"

"That's great!"

"That's impossible!"

Crow and Yu Juan respectively exclaimed.

Gu Qing Shan said: "Remember well, your ability is called 'Weal in – woe out'1"

""'Weal in – woe out'!"" Crow and Yu Juan both exclaimed in unison again.

"That's right, 'Weal in – woe out' — — - the activation condition is that you must sense the inevitable advent of some sort of misfortune" Gu Qing Shan continued.

"Go on" Crow held his rapier tightly, trying to maintain his calm.

"Normally, by the time people sense an inevitable advent of misfortune, it would have already been too late——— but you can then verbally predict a less severe misfortune, selecting it as truth, at which point all other misfortune will be excluded" Gu Qing Shan said.

"For example, if a fight between two individuals would end up in mutual death, and you recognize this outcome, you can predict that 'both of them will be beaten black and blue by the other party"

"From then on, the outcome will be that both of them are beaten black and blue, but not to the point where both of them are dead"

Crow slowly retracted his gaze, pondering what he had just heard.

Gu Qing Shan then added another flame: "Have you always been cautious of there being casualties during missions, so you always avoid talking about 'death'?"

Crow nodded.

Gu Qing Shan continued: "That's why, for the past few years, no matter what kind of situation you've run into, you've always managed to complete them well?"

Crow thought for a bit, then nodded.

"That's not true!" Yu Juan called out, "Since he didn't know about this ability before, he should have always subconsciously said nothing but relatively dangerous situations"

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Gu Qing Shan frowned a bit, then continued: "That's a good thing, from now on, Crow will be able to help us reduce the danger of any situation to a minimum"

Crack!

Crack!

The sound of something shattering could be heard.

All three of them turned back.

Only to see numerous runes cracking away on the wall.

An intense storm seemed to be raging outside, this wind contained terrifying power that not even the tower which had been isolated from the world managed to hold off!

"This is the misfortune that he predicted before, the entire tower is going to collapse!" Yu Juan exclaimed in despair.

"No problem, I'll fix it"

Gu Qing Shan walked up to a corner of the tower and took out a set of repair tools.

——to counteract abrupt dangers, the tools used for emergency repairs of the tower were always kept inside.

Gu Qing Shan took out a set of rune carving pens, flew up, and hovered next to the wall.

He was quickly repairing the runes according to the knowledge he learnt before.

"You know how to do this as well?" Crow was surprised.

"It's what I learnt for a few days, think of it as some minor tricks"

Gu Qing Shan landed, put the tools down at his foot, and curtly replied.

Crow abruptly realized something and began speaking: "The teleport tower is a highly intricate structure, so even the minor issue just now would have caused some chaotic fluctuations, leading to --

At this point, he realized something.

The ability.

My ability is activating again!

"Remember well, your ability is called 'Weal in - woe out'"

Everything Gu Qing Shan said earlier quickly flashed through his mind.

In an instant, Crow twisted his words and continued: "-the weakest plague monsters to arrive and scout the situation"

The prediction was made.

Gu Qing Shan and Yu Juan both looked at him.

"Did you just activate your ability again?" Yu Juan asked.

"That's right, this feeling is exactly like before... but at the very last moment, I changed 'the strongest plague monsters' into 'the weakest plague monsters'" Crow admitted.

The three of them stayed silent.

"Let's wait, we'll see soon enough" Gu Qing Shan whispered

He looked at the Card UI again, staring at the very last line of text:

[Attention: This is an extremely rare unique prophetic-type ability with intense exclusivity, capable of selecting one possible misfortune among countless others and force it to descend upon reality]

----intense exclusivity.

Let's hope that means what I think it means...

Time slowly passed.

The storm outside slowly subsided, ultimately calming down.

A series of small noises then resounded.

Clak! Clak! Clak! Clak! Clak!

Someone was slowly approaching the tower.

Gu Qing Shan released his inner sight to check.

There were a few Man Eater Fiends with tattered bodies.

They were indeed the weakest monsters within the Plague Apocalypse.

Success!

Gu Qing Shan turned to Crow and grinned: "I can see them; they are indeed the weakest Apocalypse monsters"

Crow could sense it.

And so could Yu Juan.

"How unbelievable... it can decide the severity of an unfortunate event..." Yu Juan muttered.

Crow drew this rapier and lightly flicked it towards the wall of the tower.

The footsteps outside disappeared.

Flames abruptly manifested, burning the few Man Eater Fiends to ashes.

"'Weal in – woe out'?" Crow brandished his sword, then chuckled and sighed: "It turns out I've always possessed such a powerful Fate-type predictive ability... if it had been found out earlier, I wouldn't have needed to feel so conscious of it"

He appeared completely spirited, like a shining sharp sword that had finally been unsheathed.

Gu Qing Shan raised his thumb, agreeing:

"That's right, you're the one in ten million Prophetic Crow"

Chapter 1324

The night slowly passed.

In the teleport tower, the three people were resting.

"Hey, Dragon King of Atrocity Jail, how did you manage to examine his ability?" Yu Juan asked.

"That huh? That's a secret of our race" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"A secret of the evil creatures race..." Yu Juan muttered, unwilling to accept the fact.

"That's right, and only the strongest of the Fear Fiends are allowed to learn of this secret, so my apologies, but I can't tell you" Gu Qing Shan continued.

Yu Juan looked at Gu Qing Shan in surprise.

---Fear Fiends have such an ability?

Seems like our Void Library really hasn't studied the evil creatures race enough.

Gu Qing Shan didn't say anything else. Instead, he took out a pot and prepared some cooking ingredients.

It was now dawn.

"Breakfast is the first of the three most important things we have to do today. It will affect our mood and strength for the entire morning" he muttered.

"What's the other two most important things today?" Yu Juan asked.

"I'm guessing they're lunch and dinner" Crow replied.

"No, they're 'waiting for reinforcement' and 'preparing to resume combat'" Gu Qing Shan answered.

Following that, Gu Qing Shan got working by himself and prepared another table of food.

The three people enjoyed another hearty meal.

After that.

"This damned Plague Apocalypse—— if we keep being trapped here like this, I'm afraid I might just get fat" Crow rubbed his belly.

After learning about his ability, the trauma in his heart had completely vanished, and he gained a big appetite.

-----although he originally had a big appetite.

"Can't you just eat a bit less? In the end, it's a question of self-control"

Yu Juan teased him.

Then sat leaning against the wall, rubbing his bloated belly.

"Speaking of which, the army of Void City should've arrived around the middle of noon?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"If the schedule holds up, yeah" Crow replied.

Crack!

Crack!

Another shattering noise came from the top of the ...Let's hope it'll be able to hold on until the moment of the army's arrival.his tower was made from the accumulation of all the most powerful spatial techniques of the void, the overlapping worlds outside were constantly trying to invade this place.

-----there was a limit to how long the teleport tower could hold on.

Fortunately, Gu Qing Shan had comprehended a lot of the spatial techniques here, which allowed him to repair the teleport tower and prolong its lifespan.

Gu Qing Shan took out the rune carving pen again, dipped it into the ink for carving the runes, then flew up.

He carefully and meticulously carved out new runes into the void of space of the ceiling.

A few moments later.

The repair was complete.

Gu Qing Shan lightly sighed in relief, then checked the repair tool bag.

There's only about half of the repair material remaining.

...Let's hope it'll be able to hold on until the moment of the army's arrival.

Suddenly.

A small noise resounded from below.

Gu Qing Shan looked down, only to see that Yu Juan had crashed into the wall and fallen down, while Crow stood on one side, confused.

Gu Qing Shan landed and asked: "What happened?"

Crow shrugged: "He suddenly ran himself into the wall just now, I don't know what happened either"

Both of them turned to Yu Juan.

Since Yu Juan was a Combatant as well, he wasn't hurt by crashing into the wall, but he sat still on the ground with his eyes wide.

"Just now, a monster suddenly appeared in front of me, I was shocked so——-"

Before he finished, Gu Qing Shan and Crow had understood.

"You're saying that a monster had entered into this tower?"

Crow drew the rapier from his waist and wielded it.

Gu Qing Shan also took out one sword in each hand, then also released his inner sight to observe the entire teleport tower.

Both of them got ready for combat.

One breath.

Two breaths.

Three breaths.

"Did you find anything?" Crow asked in a low voice.

"I don't sense any monsters" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Both of them turned their gazes to Yu Juan.

"I'm not lying" Yu Juan hurriedly said, "I really did see an ancient monster that should have gone extinct!"

Gu Qing Shan retracted his gaze, glancing around the runes of the tower.

Not a single one of them was damaged.

How strange, could a monster have bypassed the influence of many spatial techniques to infiltrate this place?

He focused his mind.

Sword-infused wind picked up.

Aside from where Crow and Yu Juan were standing, every other bit of space became occupied by the sword-infused wind.

Still nothing.

Gu Qing Shan's heart slowly started beating faster.

Yu Juan didn't seem like he was lying, and there was no reason for him to tell such a lie.

"I think you just hallucinated"

Crow turned to Yu Juan, then suddenly changed his expression: "Could it be..."

"Don't say it!" Gu Qing Shan shouted: "He couldn't have been infected with the Plague Apocalypse, otherwise, both you and I would have been infected as well!"

Suddenly——

Their three ID cards started vibrating at once.

[Attention! An unknown spatial storm had been detected in the Gloom Galaxy!][The army had lost a total of 720 scouts][The storm had been confirmed to have a unique destructive characteristic][All survivors, please carefully conceal yourselves and wait for an opportunity]

The vibrations of the ID cards stopped and returned to normal.

"They aren't coming?" Gu Qing Shan asked in a heavy voice.

Crow and Yu Juan both nodded.

The three of them all kept silent, feeling a bit sullen.

Outside, there was a rampaging Apocalypse, a lost civilization, and extinct monsters, while they were trapped inside a teleport tower without any hope of escaping, that truly couldn't feel good.

While Gu Qing Shan was pondering the entire matter, he heard an abrupt shout from Crow.

"Ah!!!"

Crow suddenly tilted his body and retreated a few steps, then swung forward.

There was nothing in front of him, but his strike contained speed, power, and was imbued with a layer of flames.

---clang!

With a resounding metallic crashing noise, the Earth sword had stopped the rapier.

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Crow's expression returned to normal, then looked around himself doubtfully: "Huh? Where are the plague monsters just now?"

Gu Qing Shan replied in a heavy voice: "I didn't see any plague monsters, but if I hadn't stopped your sword, you would have destroyed the entire tower"

Crow looked at Gu Qing Shan, then at the crossing swords between them, slowly realizing what had occurred.

"Something is strange... Yu Juan, did you see five plague monsters as well?" Crow asked.

"No, I saw that I was in the middle of a frigid plateau and saw a monster that seemed to be around tenstory tall" Yu Juan replied.

"Crow, what about you?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"I saw myself in the middle of a burning city with corpses all over the place" Crow replied.

This was really strange.

The two of them saw completely different scenes.

"I know!" Yu Juan abruptly called out.

He took out a large hourglass and placed it on the ground.

Then, he took out another two hourglasses, two clocks, and a miniature water wheel.

"Look at this!"

Yu Juan pointed at all of them.

Gu Qing Shan carefully observed, only to see that the sand was falling at different rates among the three hourglasses.

As for the two clocks, one of them showed 7:01, while the other showed 12:31.

The water inside the water wheel was flowing inconsistently, sometimes slow, sometimes fast.

"Time! There's an issue with the time flow!" Yu Juan hysterically shouted.

Gu Qing Shan thought for a bit, then said: "Could it have something to do with the spatial storm?"

Yu Juan replied: "That's right! At least three different timelines have infiltrated this tower"

"Why did———"

Before Gu Qing Shan finished his words, he found his surroundings changed.

He was standing under a night sky.

There were stars up above.

In the shade of night, several men wearing simple leather armors and wielding spears were cautiously looking at him.

"Saint Spirit Protection"

They all shouted in unison.

A faint white glow appeared from their bodies and infused into their spears.

Gu Qing Shan raised his sword, then lowered it.

"Don't attack, I'm an ally" he shouted.

"Ally?" the other side shouted back, "You've already turned into that state, you're surely infected by the plague!"

Gu Qing Shan froze briefly before looking down at himself.

——fiend.

I'm currently a Fear Fiend, although this species of fiends were mostly humanoid, they had a horn on their head and a terrifying face.

---from the perspective of humans, wouldn't he have clearly been infected?

"Charge! Kill this infected!" the group shouted.

Gu Qing Shan couldn't do anything but retract all of his spirit energy and quickly retreated.

I can't attack them.

While retreating, Gu Qing Shan suddenly slammed into the void of space behind him.

Bam!

A resounding noise.

That part of the void of space felt like a solid wall protected by a powerful shield and magic.

In an instant, everything disappeared.

Gu Qing Shan found himself back inside the teleport tower.

Sure enough, it was the wall of the tower behind him.

"What did you see?" Yu Juan asked without waiting.

"Different from you two, I saw a village, they believed me to be infected by the plague Apocalypse" Gu Qing Shan replied.

I'm glad I didn't attack earlier.

I was probably inside an overlapping space, so if I had attacked, I would instead strike the teleport tower. That would have been the end.

Gu Qing Shan focused his thoughts and quickly asked: "Yu Juan, the overlapping space has already entered this tower, what should we do next to deal with it?"

Yu Juan took out an intricate small tool, observing it while shaking his head: "I can only measure and calculate how much everything is overlapping, how could I answer such a deep question?"

Crow immediately suggested: "That's it, we're leaving immediately"

Gu Qing Shan shook his head: "That's not possible, even if we return, we'd be treated as those infected by the Plague Apocalypse and be executed immediately"

All three of them fell silent.

What should we do now?

Suddenly, they felt an unknown force pulling on them.

This force was interacting with something they were carrying.

The three of them took out their ID cards without hesitation.

Only to see cracks beginning to form on top of their ID cards.

"Strange, why can't our ID cards endure something as simple as overlapping space?" Crow asked.

"It's no longer just overlapping space"

Yu Juan appeared fearful as he showed the intricate tool in his hand to Gu Qing Shan and Crow.

Lines of text were blinking on and off on top of it:

[Attention, the world is currently being fused] [Attention, the world is currently being destroyed]

Fusion. Destruction.

All three of them looked down at their ID cards again.

The cracks on it were becoming increasingly pronounced.

Gu Qing Shan sighed and muttered: "We're no longer in any world inside the space vortex, so our ID cards believe that we're already dead"

"That's impossible! As long as we're inside any world within the space vortex, the ID cards couldn't be isolated like this" Yu Juan shouted.

Gu Qing Shan didn't answer.

Indeed, that was the case.

But all three of those worlds came from a powerful parallel world.

---or perhaps, not even the same parallel world.

All three ID cards began vibrating once more.

A cold voice spoke up:

[The spatial storm is currently expanding within the space vortex]

[Using 36 different clairvoyance methods, a conclusion has been drawn: the entire Gloom Galaxy had been destroyed]

[There are no survivors]

Hearing that, Yu Juan hurriedly shouted back: "WHAT DO YOU MEAN THERE ARE NO SURVIVORS!? WE'RE RIGHT HERE!"

He tapped his ID card to turn on the communication function, only to find that the ID card was already crumbling away.

The voice from the ID card wasn't disturbed and continued:

[Order!]

[This galaxy will now officially enter quarantine; all personnel are forbidden from entering]

[The void army will disband effective immediately, returning everyone to their respective worlds]

[The Watchers will prepare to take over and form the isolation barrier around this no man's land]

[From this moment onwards, the Apocalypse residing within that galaxy shall be rated as: Unlivable, Control]

Bang!

Following that declaration, their three ID cards all shattered.

Chapter 1325

The Wraith realm.

From within boundless darkness, a dried-up hand reached out and formed a hand seal.

Following that, another jet-black hand appeared, also forming a hand seal.

"Life Hex, [Last Form of the Deceased]!"

"Immortal Craft, [Miraculous Light Reflection]!"

Two voices called out at once.

The void of space slowly opened up.

An endless nothingness appeared in front of the wraiths.

A soul spark flew out from within, heading into the darkness before stopping in front of a Wraith statue.

A frigid voice sounded from the statue:

[What was the name of this pawn we placed inside the Bounty Hunter Guild?]

Someone immediately replied: "White Eagle – Gong Wu, a Titled rank hunter"

"Very well, he immediately died after I ordered him to probe that fiend——- come, let me see if it was that fiend who killed him or something else"

The two voices from before responded in unison: "Yes, Wraith Lord sir"

Light began to overlap and form an image.

"Die!"

Someone shouted.

A spear pierced through his chest, followed by a spell blast.

A soldier, and a caster.

White Eagle – Gong Wu died from a combined attack between the two of them.

An assistant said: "Wraith Lord sir, it seemed that White Eagle – Gong Wu died within a wave of attack from the Apocalypse"

This was clear.

But the Wraith Lord hesitated a bit before continuing: [I sense that something is wrong. Let me perform the Space-Time reserve flow technique to revive this White Eagle – Gong Wu and ask him clearly]

Someone advised: "Wraith Lord sir, his soul had completely lost its vitality, most likely corroded by the Apocalypse. You might need to utilize a lot of strength to revive him"

[It doesn't matter, the truth is more important]

The statue declared and raised both hands, preparing to form a hand seal.

At this very moment.

A flare talisman flew in from the distance, hovering in front of the statue.

The statue paused a bit before tapping the flare talisman.

A respectful voice reported from the flare talisman:

"Wraith Lord sir, the newest intelligence. The Apocalypse upon Gloom Galaxy has been determined to be Unlivable rank – Control class, all Combatants who headed into that galaxy have been confirmed to be dead"

Silence.

The statue slowly lowered its hand.

[Confirmed dead...]

[Then I do not need to waste any strength]

A second later.

White Eagle – Gong Wu's soul spark abruptly howled before being absorbed into the statue's mouth.

[Dying before uncovering a single bit of usable information...] [This is your punishment!]

...

At another location.

The Gloom Galaxy.

The teleport tower.

Three ID cards had just crumbled to dust.

Gu Qing Shan, Crow, and Yu Juan were all standing still.

Originally, they were supposed to be waiting for reinforcement, but now they had been completely discarded.

----but compared to that, there was something considerably more urgent.

"Yu Juan, you said that those worlds were fusing, right?" Crow asked.

Yu Juan checked his intricate tool again, replying in confusion: "That's right, they're indeed in the middle of fusion, but why are they also in the middle of destruction?"

Gu Qing Shan sighed and explained: "During the fusion process, the Plague Apocalypse world is also continuously corroding the extinct monster world as well as the lost civilization world, that is why the level of destruction will continue to rise"

Spatial fluctuation could be felt once again.

The ground wasn't moving at all, but all three of them clearly felt trembling.

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

[A unique circumstance had occurred]

[You and the others are about to be sucked into the new world]

[As none of you belongs to any of these three unique worlds, you will be discarded by their Laws during the fusion process. You will be thrown directly into the center of the Plague Apocalypse and killed by the endless horde of plague monsters]

"Can't we discuss this?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

The War God UI replied: [The infinite worlds of those parallel realities have been through destruction, leaving only the most powerful worlds remaining. After fusion, they no longer trust anyone]

[The only remedy is for you to constantly release your Soul Points to feed the post-fusion world, using that as reimbursement to gain the acceptance of the Laws of that world]

[This would be the only way for you to survive]

Gu Qing Shan silently asked: "How should I do that?"

The War God UI answered: [Continuously infuse origin power of the soul into the new world, this will convince the numerous Laws of the new world that you are a friendly intruder]

"How much?"

[Three of you, 300 Soul Points per second. This process must continue until the Laws of the world no longer consider you to be existences that threaten this world]

[Please immediately begin this process, or the Laws of the world will proceed to get rid of you]

Gu Qing Shan asked: "What exactly do I need to do?"

[You do not need to do anything in particular, I will simply deduct it from your total, but a unique Soul Points fluctuation will manifest around your body for around 3 minutes, please make sure to explain to your companions] the War God UI answered.

"Got it" Gu Qing Shan replied.

He then turned to Crow and Yu Juan, telling them very sternly: "Listen, I'm going to use a certain technique to guarantee that we aren't going to be killed by these fusing worlds—— but the technique will consume an extraordinary amount of my soul power, so I hope that if any monsters show up, you'll leave them for me to kill. I need the power of their souls to replenish myself"

Following his explanation, the War God UI began its work:

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[Attention, from this moment onwards, the system will begin continuously deduct your Soul Points value to inform the Laws of the newly form world of your identities]

A small notification then popped up at the bottom left corner of the UI

[Soul Points offered to the Laws of the world: +300]

[+300]

[+300]

•••

Gu Qing Shan silently calculated.

300 Soul Points per second. Then I'll spend 1,080,000 Soul Points per hour. And around 26 million Soul Points per day. That's really expensive! But it's also the only way to survive.

Gu Qing Shan glanced at his remaining Soul Points value.

I've already used up around 80% of the Soul Points obtained from eating the dried salted fish, so there exist only around 300 million Soul Points left for me to use as a basis.

And I'll be consuming it without any replenishment until we're accepted by the Laws of the world!

Right as he began to spend his Soul Points, a unique fluctuation started to exude from his body.

This fluctuation felt like an invisible wave that also enveloped the other two.

After sensing it, Yu Juan's expression became complicated and said: "This is origin power of the soul! Fiend, you're using up your origin for this technique!"

Crow whispered: "I can sense some sort of misfortune moving away from us, it seems your technique was effective"

As the three of them remained still, the scenery around them was continuously changing.

Sometimes it displayed a group of fighting soldiers, sometimes it showed monsters, sometimes it was infected people.

The scenery was changing again and again as if to show the progress of the fusion.

Suddenly, a line of glowing text appeared on the War God UI:

[The numerous Laws of the world have recognized your gift]

[You have been accepted by the new world]

[Following this, the Laws of the world will perform some adjustments to ensure that you thoroughly fit into the new world]

[First adjusted: Crow]

"What's the adjustment?" Gu Qing Shan silently asked.

[Some sort of modification or optimization. Do not worry, it poses no danger to your lives] the War God UI replied.

A second later.

Crow abruptly shouted in panic:

"HaaaaAAAAH ——WHAT THE HELL IS HAPPENING TO ME!?"

Gu Qing Shan and Yu Juan both turned towards Crow.

Crow was originally beautifully charming to the point of looking like an incubus, but his body was now shrinking ever so slightly, turning into an hourglass figure to become even more alluring and seductive.

"WHY THE HELL DID I TURN INTO A WOMAN!" Crow shouted like he was about to lose it.

Yu Juan opened his eyes wide.

This is——

Too beautiful!!!!!

Every single woman in the catalogue of infinite worlds beauty I've kept so far just became uglier in comparison!!!!

Gu Qing Shan was also shocked.

Because the trembling around them had stopped.

The shifting supernatural phenomena were also disappearing.

The teleport tower was intact, everything returned to normal.

"Could it be—-" Gu Qing Shan turned to Yu Juan.

Yu Juan unwillingly separated his gaze from Crow and turned to the intricate tool in his hand.

"No, this is simply a part of the fusion. We've only temporarily returned to our original locations, in just a few minutes, we——"

All three of them changed their expressions.

A little boy suddenly appeared inside the teleport tower.

He was a young boy that was around 5 years old, his body stuck full of mystical runes that only left his head outside, curiously looking at the three of them.

There was a long purple chain behind the boy's back, not only did it keep him anchored in place, but it was also giving off a purple glow to surround him.

"Ah, it's an ally" Gu Qing Shan hurriedly said.

The boy lightly pulled on the chains behind him and shouted to his back: "Mama, uncle is still alive!"

After that, he turned back to Gu Qing Shan:

"Uncle, so you're not dead yet. My mama was so worried that she summoned the power of many ominous demons and even asked me to use my abilities to sneak here and took a look"

Hearing that, Gu Qing Shan felt both moved and worried.

"Hurry and go, this place will soon fuse with another world, you can't get caught in it. Also, tell your mama to not worry, I'll be fine on this side" he quickly said.

The boy replied: "I'm actually inside another isolated space, I wouldn't be able to save you either way"

He then pulled on the chains again, loudly shouting: "Mama, it's very dangerous here, uncle told me to return, saying that he'll be able to deal with it"

After a bit.

The boy seemed to have heard something, so he nodded to Gu Qing Shan: "Then that's how it is. Since you're so lucky, keep on taking care of yourself"

He turned around, about to leave.

"Wait!" Crow suddenly called out.

Knowing that there wasn't much time, he quickly said: "The Ominous Demon Tower has a male-female transformation technique, can you teach it to me—– I can pay any price, I just need that technique!"

The boy glanced at him, then was stunned.

-----this woman is too beautiful, almost to the point of seducing all living beings.

Gu Qing Shan was also surprised.

But since the ominous demons can create offspring without copulation, compared to that, a male-female transformation technique... doesn't seem too far-fetched.

"You want to learn the male-female transformation technique from me?" the boy asked.

"Yes" Crow's alluring eyes glittered full of desire.

"And you're willing to pay any price?" the boy asked again.

"That's right" Crow muttered.

After a moment of silence, the boy suddenly pulled on the chains again, shouting: "Mama, there's a woman here teasing me!"

Instantly, the chain and the boy both vanished into the void of space like a bolt of lightning.

Chapter 1326

A female voice hurriedly called out:

"Wait——-"

As soon as s/he said that, the boy had been pulled by the chain into the void of space, vanishing without a trace.

Crow froze.

"Damn it! Why did things turn out like this!!!"

S/he¹ cursed in anger.

——-but his voice was now chiming clear, carrying with it a slightly provocative tone that roused a person's heart, not a single bit of anger could be heard from it. 1

Gu Qing Shan quickly said: "Calm down, this is only a temporary adjustment from the Laws of the world, perhaps by the time we leave this world and return to our own, the changes will disappear"

"No! This one isn't going to take this lying down; I'm going to fight this new world for doing this to me! Hmph!"

Crow angrily shouted.

Gu Qing Shan paused.

If you're going to fight, just say that; the hell was that 'hmph' for? —-you've actually begun getting used to your role, haven't you?

Crow drew his rapier and lightly swung it a few times.

"Good, at least my strength is still the same"

S/he sighed in relief.

Gu Qing Shan still wanted to say something, but then noticed another line of glowing text on his UI:

[Your continuous offering of origin power of the soul had received praise from the new world]

[Following this, the Laws of the world will continue to adjust your appearance to allow your smooth transition into the new world]

[Second adjusted: Yu Juan]

Skimming through his, Gu Qing Shan's gaze turned to Yu Juan.

Compared to Crow, Yu Juan's transformation was considerably more noticeable.

With a loud 'poof', Yu Juan was covered in white fog.

After the fog scattered, a yellowish-brown duck plushie appeared on the ground.

"NO!"

The duck plushie held his face with his wings, crying out in despair.

"Why did I become a plushie!?"

Crow looked at the duck on the ground, then back at himself, remaining silent.

Rather than being turned into a plushie, it's much better to be turned into a woman. At least, I'm a human woman.

"Ahaha, how cute you are, Yu Juan"

S/he crouched down, laughing at his misery.

Gu Qing Shan's expression remained stern as he replied: "I assume that it's because you hold too much knowledge, which could greatly affect the direction of the new world. To remove this possibility, the Laws of the world turned you into a plushie, which greatly limits what you can do"

The duck plushie trembled a bit, then suddenly clenched his wing into a fist, hitting it against his other wing, and angrily shouted: "You are right, it is because I'm too much of a scholar, it is afraid that I can change the world!"

He howled sorrowfully: "The truth will always be held by the few, and the fate of the few is always full of complications and hardship. O' fate, must you test me this way?"

Crow and Gu Qing Shan exchanged glances.

"These are lines from a musical" Crow blinked at Gu Qing Shan and sent his voice.

Gu Qing Shan was speechless.

Suddenly, both the woman and the duck plushie turned towards him.

""Why haven't you been changed !?"" both of them asked in unison.

Without waiting for Gu Qing Shan to reply, new lines of glowing text appeared on the War God UI:

[The world fusion is about to be complete]

[As you have continuously offered origin power of the soul to the new world, the new spirit of the world is about to manifest and communicate with you]

[Please make sure to talk carefully]

[3]

[2]

[1]

[It's here!]

Gu Qing Shan suddenly felt the woman, the duck plushie, and the entire teleport tower disappearing from his vision.

The world became dark.

Suddenly.

From the darkness, a vast sea of stars began to manifest.

These stars were scattered all over the sky, all of them giving off a profound indigo hue that illuminated Gu Qing Shan's body.

A notification appeared on the War God UI:

[The other party is currently searching for your Titles recognized by the Laws of Reality; you may choose to hide some Titles or reject this process entirely]

Gu Qing Shan immediately answered: "No need to hide, let it see. Mutual understanding is the first step in resolving a misunderstanding"

[Understood]

A few moments later.

The indigo hue of the light turned gentle.

A vast and solemn voice resounded from the stars:

 Adept Dragon Slayer, Heir of the Thousand Dragons Ancestor, Huang Quan Devil King, Wielder of Heaven and Earth, Ally of the Eternal Abyss, Lord of the Samsara Mountain, Blessed of the Past Worlds, Inheritor of Ethereal, Cherub of Condemnation—−- J

[[] We welcome your presence, but we absolutely cannot trust you]

"Why can't you trust me? And who are you?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

The vast sea of stars descended from above, circling around Gu Qing Shan.

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^Г Among the worlds of our parallel reality, the greatest and most prosperous world is called the Saint Spirit World. It is our homeland, and we are its Deities J

^Г Countless years ago, the Wraith realm came into contact with us, using 70 million years to earn our trust, followed by a plan that lasted 1500 years to ultimately push us off the brink of destruction J

Gu Qing Shan asked: "Why did you do such a thing?"

[¬] Because our world was too powerful, and because only our destruction would be able to become the chain link for Fate Corrosion, capable of destroying our surrounding worlds and everything in another parallel reality—– the wraiths needed this terrifying power to help them achieve a certain goal J

Gu Qing Shan finally understood.

He deeply sighed.

The Wraith realm spent so much effort and time with nothing but the ultimate goal of fighting the Eternal Abyss.

The Eternal Abyss had certainly lost the war, but it awoke during the final moments.

The awakened Eternal Abyss wasn't something that the wraiths could handle.

Then, wouldn't their plan turn into nothing but a joke?

...Wait a minute.

If the wraiths had spent so much effort, time, and paid such a huge price, wouldn't they have already thought of this?

Gu Qing Shan felt his heart freezing over.

No.

They surely must have thought of this.

While he was thinking, the vast sea of stars spoke up again:

"They are my enemies" Gu Qing Shan replied.

 Γ We have also drawn the same conclusion. But after the Wraith realm's ploy and our destruction, we cannot easily trust anybody, you can surely empathize with us \rfloor

"I understand" Gu Qing Shan replied.

[「]No, you do not understand, but you shall, soon enough 」

Gu Qing Shan froze.

The voice continued: 「During the very last moment of our world's destruction, we discovered the final opportunity 」

"What opportunity?"

[¬] We fused together with the extinct monster world and the Plague Apocalypse world. This action carried the same significance of fusing three parallel worlds together, this type of fusion allowed the three dying Realities to exert the last of its power J

^r By borrowing this power and the sacrifice of us Deities' lives, we achieved a certain feat—– J

F Everything will be reset J

^Г The humans of the Wraith realm shall once again appear as they did in history J

 Γ However, it wouldn't be them alone, as the process of the worlds' fusion continued, the Plague Apocalypse and the monsters shall also slowly descend \rfloor

"Wait a minute!" Gu Qing Shan called out with a heavy voice: "You sacrificed your lives; does that mean you're already about to die"

^Г We would cease to be Deities, instead, we would become the numerous Laws of this world, paying continuous attention to everything that occurs J

「 ——stranger, help our world 」

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{\Gamma}}$ If you are able to do so, we shall bestow you a generous gift $\ensuremath{\mathsf{J}}$

 Γ Perhaps after everything is over, we shall even stand on your side, seeking out the Wraith realm for revenge $\, J$

Gu Qing Shan pondered: "The wraith realm's plans are still proceeding without being hindered, if we use too much time, the Wraith realm will have only become even more powerful before we realize it"

 $\ensuremath{\,^{\Gamma}}$ Do not worry, through the fusion of three parallel worlds, the new world's time flow is completely different from your world's flow of time $\ensuremath{\,^{\perp}}$

The voice slowly faded.

The sea of stars returned to the sky, remaining silent.

In front of Gu Qing Shan's eyes, a few lines of glowing text quickly appeared:

[The new world spirit had fully manifested]

[Time will begin to flow backwards]

[Everything that happened in history shall occur once more, the only difference being that aside from the wraiths, there would also be extinct monsters and the monsters of the Plague Apocalypse slowly descending on this world]

[The new world spirit is currently adjusting your appearance to facilitate your smooth transition into the new world]

[Third adjusted: Gu Qing Shan]

Gu Qing Shan immediately noticed his change.

His Fear Friend body was slowly fading away, returning him to human form.

He had regained his original appearance.

Compared to being an evil creature, his human form was naturally more suitable to survive in the Saint Spirit World.

---and that wasn't all.

Gu Qing Shan slowly became shorter, his physique also slimming down while his face gained a bit of immaturity.

Crow and plushie both looked at him.

"Fiend, not only did you turn into a human young man, but you're also handsome, how unfair" the yellow duck Yu Juan complained angrily.

Gu Qing Shan touched his face.

----I grew up like this, what can your complaints do?

The woman stood next to him, his arms crossed: "Looks around 15 years old, how innocent, tsk tsk"

Gu Qing Shan suddenly noticed something and rolled up his left sleeve.

Right above his left wrist, an indigo round dot had silently appeared.

Lines of glowing text appeared on the War God UI:

[Proof of the world]

[This is the identity bestowed upon you by the world spirit, it shall record your actions and mobilize the world's power for you to use]

[Please obtain a pattern to prove your stance]

[If you succeed, the world shall slowly accept you]

Under Gu Qing Shan's scrutinizing gaze, that indigo spot slowly manifested into the pattern of a sword that was about the size of a finger.

"Huh? Where did that tattoo come from?" Crow asked.

Gu Qing Shan touched the sword-shaped pattern with his hand.

"This is probably the key to our survival"

He cautiously replied.

Chapter 1327

"""Aaaaaaa!"""

Through the silent night sky, three voices with varying frequencies resounded.

Boom!!!

An asteroid landed outside the small border village of Ramon belonging to the Fran Duchy¹.

A young man, a woman, and a duck plushie appeared from within the crater.

"Cough cough! Falling from such height, it hurts" the duck plushie complained.

"You researchers are always lacking in physical training" the woman said.

She stood up, drew the rapier located at her hip, and observed their surroundings.

An immature male voice called out: "I disagree with that statement. Research work would not cause any demerits to personal training"

Gu Qing Shan.

The young man also drew his sword and stood back-to-back with the woman.

A mass of indigo stars suddenly appeared in front of the three of them.

Countless voices resounded from the stars, speaking in unison:

^Г We have turned into the Will and Laws of this world, exerting our strength to help the living beings of this world triumph against the wraiths, the monsters, and the plague J

[「]Strangers, please help us and this world J

[¬] We have bestowed the three of you with a universal language translation technique, as well as your corresponding identities—– J

Three wooden trunks fell down from mid-air, landing in front of Gu Qing Shan's group.

The voices continued: $\[\]$ However, you will naturally need to do a certain thing before you can use these identities $\]$

「 ——-you will first need to survive 」

After that, the indigo stars slowly disappeared.

The three of them exchanged glances, then looked at the wooden trunks in front of them.

"So, these trunks contain the identities that the world prepared for us?" Yu Juan asked.

"Survive?" Crow chuckled, casually brandishing her rapier: "Aren't they looking down on us too much?"

Yu Juan agreed: "That's right——- I'm a researcher of the Void Grand Library, for someone to question my survival abilities, they're really underestimating us"

Gu Qing Shan didn't reply to them, instead, focusing his gaze on the void of space.

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

[Time: Saint Spirit year 769]

[Location: Ramon village]

[The system senses the fusion rifts between the three worlds, one of the three fusing worlds will open a path]

[If you can survive, this world will recognize your identities]

Gu Qing Shan thought for a bit, then opened the trunk in front of him first.

Inside was a will, a certificate of identification, as well as a wooden bow and arrows.

Gu Qing Shan took the certificate and will, reading both of them carefully before speaking:

"A new town was founded in this location thanks to pioneers who performed land reclamation, its original ruler had already passed away, and I'm the offspring of that pioneer. As customs dictates, I must travel to the Viscount's manor in the viscounty within 10 days in order to accept the title of Baron at the conferring ceremony"

Gu Qing Shan held the wooden bow in his hand, estimating its strength.

Crow kicked open the trunk in front of him, only to see a single iron badge, a document, as well as a small bag inside.

"Why are my items different from yours?"

She picked the iron badge up, only to see the name 'Crow' carved on one side and the silhouette of a woman engraved on the other.

The document described her identity as a knight in detail, while the small bag was full of coins.

"A knight? Good enough"

Crow put the bag away.

"Pioneers... seem like you and Yu Juan are supposed to be my guards, and we're the lowest-ranked nobles in this world" Gu Qing Shan analyzed.

"We probably need to quickly climb up and gain authority in this world" Crow clenched her pearl-white fist.

"But this world was said to be the most powerful in the parallel world, we still don't know what kind of social structure it follows, so a bit more observation is necessary" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Hearing that, Gu Qing Shan and Crow both felt respect.

Crow then said: "Yu Juan, quickly take a look at your identity, maybe you'll be able to help us a lot!"

Yu Juan nodded: "Hm—– that's true, I'll see what my identity is, I'll be relying on it to make it big"

The duck plushie jumped up and opened the trunk with his wing.

There was nothing in the trunk except a single card.

The duck picked up the card, looked carefully at it, only to see two lines of text:

[Toy: a duck plushie] [Price: 1 copper coin]

The duck plushie held this card in a frozen posture without moving for a long while.

A cold breeze blew past them.

Watching the duck's sorrowful back, Gu Qing Shan encouraged him: "Yu Juan, the power of knowledge is infinite, snap out of it!"

Crow also joined in: "That's right, the world spirit just now said that we will first need to survive! This is the moment for us to remain united because a monster might appear before we even know it"

Silence.

Both the young man and the duck plushie turned to Crow and shouted: ""What did you say just now???""

Crow froze, then replied in an embarrassed manner: "I got a bit confused after turning into a woman, I temporarily forgot about my 'Woe out – weal in' ability..."

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A second later.

Another gust of wind blew past them.

In the wind, a low howl resounded.

"Oh no——"

"What——"

Gu Qing Shan and Crow both drew their weapons at the same time, barely managing to stop the attack.

Clang! Clang!

Both of them were sent flying, kicking up a huge amount of dirt and dust from the unpaved path.

Where they originally stood, a large wolf whose entire body was covered in razor-sharp fur had appeared.

A split second later, Gu Qing Shan abruptly appeared and thrust his sword towards the wolf.

It unleashed a blinding blast from its mouth——

Boom!

Gu Qing Shan and Crow, who was behind him, were both sent flying.

The two of them spun a few times in mid-air in order to negate the momentum.

"Not a normal monster, it knows how to fight two at once, definitely sentient" Crow commented.

"Knows how to talk, most likely a fellow who wandered here from the extinct monster world" Gu Qing Shan followed up.

"It's not very powerful, can't hurt you and me, but it's too fast" Crow continued.

"I suspect that wasn't speed, but some sort of ability instead" Gu Qing Shan also said.

The two of them exchanged information in a brief moment before suddenly falling silent.

"Oh no, Yu Juan is——" Gu Qing Shan said with a panicked expression.

Yu Juan's strength lies in his knowledge and understanding of the world, but his direct combative prowess paled in comparison to Gu Qing Shan and Crow.

Not to mention, he was now a duck plushie.

His life was in danger!

Gu Qing Shan and Crow both turned to Yu Juan's position---

Only to see the duck plushie leaning motionlessly on the wooden trunk.

He was holding the card in his mouth—--

[Toy: Duck plushie]

[Price: 1 copper coin]

The wolf sniffed him, then took a careful look, and finally nodded.

^r A ridiculous non-living thing... J the wolf muttered.

It's just an object, there's no need to pay attention to it.

The wolf turned to Gu Qing Shan and Crow.

It spoke to them in a mocking tone: [[]Come, humans. I can already sense the laughably feeble power you possess. In this world, you are surely among 'the weak', just suitable to be my food]

A split second later.

The wolf's body was suddenly enveloped in ice, temporarily restraining it in place!

^T How ridiculous, you think you can trap me like this? J the wolf howled.

It only needed a single second to escape this ice trap.

But being who they were, how would Gu Qing Shan and Crow give it that chance?

A rapier clad in flames and a sword with rippling lightning both descended from both.

Boom!

The intense flame and lightning rose sky-high!

Intense wind swept in every direction.

A second later, the wolf collapsed to the ground with a 'thud'.

"This world's Laws and Origin power are truly extraordinary" Crow commented.

"Why do you say that?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

Crow pointed at the small hole on the ground: "We were both fighting at full strength. If this was a world with inferior Laws, that might have already caused damage to the world itself. But since we were able to fight as we pleased without causing much of a scratch, it was clear that this world was exceptionally powerful, a lot more powerful than the power we possess"

Gu Qing Shan replied: "So that's how it was. I heard that this used to be the most powerful world, but now that it had fused with two other worlds, the Origin power it possesses is probably far beyond our imaginations"

"We've both signed a covenant to not destroy any worlds—— finally we can fight without worrying about the world being unable to handle it" Crow sheathed her rapier.

"Speaking of which—— it's fortunate that we have Yu Juan who suddenly unleashed that trap" Gu Qing Shan commented.

The two of them turned to Yu Juan.

He quickly ran forward, spat on the ground, and angrily kicked the wolf's head with his feet.

"What do you mean 'ridiculous non-living thing'?"

"Fucker, which one of us is non-living now, huh?"

The duck plushie was venting his anger.

Gu Qing Shan: "..."

Crow: "..."

"I've just thought——- now that Yu Juan is with us, we'll have a lot more strategies we can employ, huh?" Gu Qing Shan muttered.

Crow nodded in agreement.

Chapter 1328

Crouching in front of the wolf's head, Gu Qing Shan was wondering something.

The War God UI gave him 700 Soul Points for killing this monster.

Although it wasn't much, it proved a certain fact.

That this monster wasn't weak compared to me.

——I wonder how strong this monster is considered to be within the extinct monster world.

While he was thinking, lines of glowing text appeared in front of his vision:

[You've successfully survived, thus taking on your official identities]

[What you should do in this world and how you would do it will be left at your own discretions]

Gu Qing Shan, Crow, and Yu Juan all froze.

A foreign piece of memory appeared in their minds, causing their heads to spin a little.

This world had arranged a bit of the past, helping them perfectly meld into this world.

Gu Qing Shan scowled and muttered: "... I see... the Fran Duchy is powerful... truly powerful... as expected of the most powerful world!"

Crow also endured the headache and spoke: "... I can see... a set of fencing techniques I once learnt—so even such a profound set of techniques can only be considered mundane in their world..."

The duck plushie didn't change his expression at all, only curtly said: "I now know how to make duck plush toys"

A few moments later.

After accepting their memories, Crow muttered in confusion: "Why are there so many Wraith realm humans in this world?"

Yu Juan also asked confusedly: "That's right, this world also told us before that we need to fight against the monsters, Apocalypse, and wraiths—– why are they so against the wraiths?"

Gu Qing Shan pondered but didn't say anything.

The wraiths' machinations were so complicated that even now I don't understand their goals.

Their techniques and skills were also incredible beyond imagination.

Telling the truth now would probably be disadvantageous for Crow and Yu Juan instead.

Gu Qing Shan picked up the duck plushie, then stood up and said: "Don't think too much, we should head into the village for now"

Crow asked: "What for?"

Gu Qing Shan replied according to the memories that the world spirit bestowed upon him: "The people from the viscounty have arrived, allegedly, they would escort us to the Baron title conferring ceremony"

"I also have this memory, so let's go" Crow replied.

Just as they were about to set out, a person suddenly appeared in front of them.

A person who wore a yaksha mask.

Gu Qing Shan was a bit surprised.

---- I didn't think I'd run into a Wraith realm human so quickly.

This was only a small village at the border of the Fran Duchy.

From my memories, there shouldn't be any Wraith realm humans stationed here.

Unless this is a coincidence, these people should have already spread all over the world, normally residing in hidden locations.

The person with the yaksha mask spoke up: "So it was you sir, the new village chief. I sensed some battle commotions just now, so I ran to take a look, fearing that someone might run into danger"

This village was the land Gu Qing Shan inherited from the will, as well as the reason he would become a Baron.

Gu Qing Shan replied: "Ah, we discovered an especially vicious wolf, it wanted to eat us, so we killed it"

"Really? I never thought our village chief would be so skilled"

The yaksha mask man praised him, then walked up to the wolf's head and carefully took a look.

"Strange... I don't seem to have seen this type of creature before..."

He muttered in surprise.

A few moments later.

This person took out a communication talisman, whispered something to it, then let the talisman go.

Gu Qing Shan silently watched his back.

No.

This isn't the time yet.

I need to first obtain a certain level of authority in this world before I can haggle with these wraiths.

With that in mind, Gu Qing Shan replied: "Feel free to take a look, this thing truly is rare"

He winked at Crow, then returned to the village with the duck plushie.

Even as they had gotten far away, the Wraith realm human was still studying the wolf's head.

"That was a creature from the extinct monster world, no matter how hard he looks, he's never going to recognize anything" Crow spoke as if to laugh at someone else's misery.

"Following this, the monsters and the plague will gradually corrode this world, we'll have to see whether or not this world can handle it" Gu Qing Shan said.

"If it can't..." Crow muttered.

"Then we'll also die within the Apocalypse of this world" Yu Juan concluded.

The three of them said nothing else and quickly made their way towards Ramon village.

A few moments later.

The three of them stood at the entrance of the village.

"This kind of structure... why does it look so familiar?" Gu Qing Shan said confusedly.

"Even I have never seen this building style before, but you say you have?" Yu Juan asked in surprise.

"They're very beautiful, I've never seen them in any other worlds" Crow followed up.

In their vision, every building had a white-painted wall, but their roofs were either a profound blue or black, built to form a pointy peak like a tower. The windows were all made from colorful tinted glass, which depicted various scenery or characters, this gave off a sense of solemnity as a whole, as well as a sense of mystery.

Gu Qing Shan was deeply doubtful.

He had definitely seen structures of similar nature before, right at...

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----damn it, I had clearly been to a similar place before, why can't I remember it now?

"Where did you see such structures before?" Yu Juan eagerly asked.

"I can't remember" Gu Qing Shan dejectedly replied.

"How could a Combatant of your caliber not remember? Could it have been a dream?" Yu Juan asked.

A dream?

Gu Qing Shan abruptly stopped his feet, frozen in place.

That's right.

In the hidden passage to the Dusty World, the Four Pillar Gods of the past explained the events of the Inner Plane to me.

At the time, I entered an illusion and got to witness a scene from the Inner Plane.

---this was the exact style of building that the Deities of the Inner Plane resided in!

This can't be right; this definitely can't be right.

Among the many parallel worlds, the Inner Plane was unique, a single instance that only existed in the space vortex.

---why would there be buildings of similar style to the Inner Plane here?

Gu Qing Shan was very confused.

"We're here" Crow spoke up.

Gu Qing Shan regained his senses and saw that he had arrived at the largest manor in the village.

As a toy duck plushie, Yu Juan was currently being carried by Crow (I'm now a girl, it's normal for a girl to carry a plushie with them)

Two knights in official regulation armor were standing in front of the manor. Paying attention to the insignias on their armor, Gu Qing Shan noticed that they were from the Viscount's manor.

"Young master Rhode" a knight spoke: "The Viscount's envoy is waiting for you"

"Ah, I understand" Gu Qing Shan replied.

He went inside with Crow.

A man wearing a full black official outfit stood in the middle of the living room with his back to Gu Qing Shan.

"Has young master Rhode returned?" he asked.

"I have. My apologies for making you wait" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"Not at all, it was us who arrived early"

The man turned around, looked at Gu Qing Shan, and gently said: "The reason why we arrived early was that there was something we needed to confirm before young master Rhode set off"

"What would that be?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"Your faith" the man replied.

After thinking a bit, Gu Qing Shan understood.

Not having faith was a terrifying thing in this world.

Even the homeless had their faiths.

As a Baron, not publicizing his faith would cause unnecessary terror.

His people would be unsure of which Deity he served, and which faction he belonged to.

"Is there a reason why you need to know my faith now?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

Gu Qing Shan was quickly recalling his background in this world.

But information regarding the Deities was completely nonexistent.

For some reason, when the Deities turned themselves into the Laws, they didn't mention a word regarding themselves, nor did they fill this gap in knowledge within Gu Qing Shan's memories.

The Viscount envoy explained right away: "During the conferring banquet tomorrow, the Viscount's eldest daughter would also make her social debut. We have to make sure that none of the guests' faith clashes with her own"

"Please go on" Gu Qing Shan said.

"The young lady's faith lies with the God of Harvest, so we have to ensure that every young man and woman present would be a worshipper of either the Dawn or Radiance pantheon. For that reason, if you worship the God of Ruin, God of Death, or God of Darkness, then I would have to excuse you from the banquet. Once the party is over, if the Viscount isn't completely drunk, he shall conduct the conferring ceremony for you"

The Viscount envoy smiled mysteriously, then continued:

"Young master Rhode, you're already 15 years old, there is no harm in confirming your faith, it would benefit your future as well"

Gu Qing Shan didn't give his answer right away.

——it was clear, the other party came to affirm my faith.

His tone and speech had implied quite clearly that he hoped I would worship a God from the Dawn or Radiance Patheon.

Seeing how thorough he was about it, it's clear that faith was an extremely crucial thing in this world. Also, he mentioned the God of Death just now. Isn't the God of Death Anna? The Inner Plane is a unique world among the infinite worlds. If someone else was the God of Death, what would Anna be?

With such thoughts circling his mind, Gu Qing Shan decided to walk up to a bookshelf in the corner of the room and take out a brand-new book covered in dust.

This was the Handbook of Deities, which listed the name of every Deity who guarded this world.

"Young master Rhode, Deities of the Dawn pantheon are listed on Volume 5, page 48 to 61; while the Radiance pantheon is listed on Volume 11, page 15 to 23" the Viscount envoy advised.

"Your excellency's memory is impeccable" Gu Qing Shan praised.

The Viscount envoy smiled and replied: "It is merely part of my duty"

Gu Qing Shan flipped through the book and saw the name of a certain Deity on Volume 5.

After a moment of silence, he told the Viscount envoy:

"Your excellency, my faith, and worship lies with: The Lord of Dawn, Greatest Deity Above The Star Crown"

The Viscount scowled and replied: "This is a unique entity who had lost their Divinity, your worship of him isn't suitable for the Viscounty's benefits"

Gu Qing Shan looked down and continued flipping through the book.

At Volume 11, he stopped.

"Your excellency, the Deity I worship is: Grand Empress of the Pantheon, Reneedol"

Chapter 1329

Saint Spirit world.

At the very center of this world, there was a divine mountain.

The central church of the Grand Empress was established at the peak of this mountain, surrounded by countless other mountain ranges.

-----she was the sovereign of all Deities, so this was a privilege she alone enjoyed.

At this time, resounding chimes of a bell rang across the entire cathedral.

Within the divine cathedral, eight Archbishops and three Cardinals were kneeling on the ground, devoutly praying to the statue of the Grand Empress.

It wasn't until they recited an entire passage of redemption that they slowly stood up.

At this point, an old man clad in a pure white cloak descended from above.

Everyone bowed to greet him: "Greetings to the Pope, may you bask in her radiance, may you spread your solemnity to the world"

The old man swung his hand and replied: "No need for formalities. Her divineness' Bell of Punishing Destiny had tolled, you must all quickly leap into action"

A Cardinal asked in confusion: "Your holiness, I remember the last time that the Bell of Punishing Destiny chimed was for the world-destroying war of countless years ago, what exactly happened this time?"

Around him, the other bigshots of the church also felt nervous.

——-the goddess' Bell of Punishing Destiny would only toll on its own when something truly roused the Goddess' wrath.

The Bell of Punishing Destiny had stayed silent for so many years, so what earth-shattering event had caused it to chime once more?

Under everyone's watchful gazes, the Pope's expression turned a bit strange.

He slowly replied: "There were eight Divine Scripts engraved onto the Bell of Punishing Destiny, each of which represented a certain calamity——- this was the triggering condition that her divineness had established in the past when she first created this bell. Once any of these eight calamities occurred, the bell would toll, and the corresponding Divine Script would glow to inform us of the situation"

Everyone nodded but felt even more confused.

This is something everyone knows about, so why did the Pope specifically mention it?

The Pope sighed, then continued: "When I came to examine the Bell of Punishing Destiny just now, I discovered an extra portion of Divine Revelation on the bell"

"WHAT!?" the group all exclaimed.

Never did they think that the Grand Empress would have already established a hidden Divine Revelation countless years ago.

What exactly had happened?

Everyone felt anxious.

Seeing that, the Pope knew that he had to explain this.

"Pay your heed, I shall now invite the descent of the Divine Revelation"

He displayed a solemn expression, reciting the words:

"Mortals search for a Deity they may serve during the Rite of Adulthood, but so do the hidden evil creature; its eyes wander between the Lord of Dawn and the Grand Empress, ultimately deciding to hide beneath the Empress' protection"

"The evil creature shall not achieve what it wishes, it shall not be bestowed the Empress' grace, instead, it would activate the prophecy upon the Punishing Bell, rousing the suspicion of all"

"Go, servants of the Goddess, seek out that evil creature, use the Eternal divine flame to purify it for eternity"

After he finished reciting, the Pope sighed, then continued: "Immediately arrange our manpower, head to the two great Empires, the nine Duchies, the hundreds of territories, the thousands of counties——-regardless of where that evil creature hides, you shall find it, then purify it"

"So was the revelation of the Empress!"

Everyone prostrated to the ground, loudly declaring: "As her divineness wishes!"

Right at this moment, the enormous church awoke like a beast of war, entering a state of unimaginable mobility.

Its great power was like that of tentacles, reaching to every corner of Saint Spirit world.

•••

At another location.

Another region of this world.

An insignificant place on the map.

Ramon village.

In the largest building of the village.

"The Grand Empress? The Deity you wish to serve and worship is the Grand Empress?" the Viscount envoy asked.

His gaze upon Gu Qing Shan now contained a hint of scorn.

——what a country bumpkin, declaring that he wishes to worship the 'Grand Empress, Reneedol'.

How dare a mortal easily invoke the True Name of a Deity during such an informal occasion?

Fine, this kid should consider himself fortunate. The Grand Empress is the sovereign of all Deities, and according to the myths from the Age of Gods, this Deity had already left after forming her church, entering the boundless void to do something else.

The Divine Script and power she left behind might be powerful, but they are for mortals to use.

She is no longer in this world, so the words he said just now shouldn't have been heard by the Deity.

"Indeed" Gu Qing Shan replied.

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The Viscount envoy said: "Very well, I shall conduct the faith ceremony for you, but I must remind you to never invoke a Deity's true name, only their titles——- only Deities may call other Deities that way. Such invocation by mortals might cause their wrath"

Understanding this, Gu Qing Shan appeared grateful and replied: "I thank your excellency for your guidance"

The Viscount envoy nodded.

--although he's a bumpkin, he's at least a sharp one.

That's a good thing.

The Viscount envoy opened his bag and carefully took out a book forged completely from metal.

Gu Qing Shan looked at the book in his hand, then at the other party's book.

Aside from the fact that they were books on the same topic, these two objects were completely different.

The Envoy explained: "This is the real Handbook of Deities, which contains the guiding will of the Gods— - other than the churches, only the Viscount owns this copy within the entire viscounty"

Gu Qing Shan replied: "The Viscount is truly extraordinary"

The envoy chuckled, then said: "Come, put your hand on this book and recite the title of the Deity you worship. Devoutly pray, then you shall become the Deity's worshipper"

Gu Qing Shan placed his hand on the book, recalled the specifics from his memories, then whispered: "Grand Empress above, I, a small and feeble being of this mortal world, desires to become your servant"

A moment of silence.

A flash of light suddenly appeared from the book and knocked Gu Qing Shan's hand away.

Gu Qing Shan's entire body was struck and sent backwards a few steps.

The Viscount envoy's expression abruptly changed and shouted:

"Men! Gather!"

In an instant, eight fully-armored knights abruptly appeared.

They all exuded clear killing intent as they drew their weapons and surrounded Gu Qing Shan.

Crow wanted to draw her rapier, but Gu Qing Shan stopped her.

Observing the knights around him, Gu Qing Shan calmly asked: "Sir envoy, may I ask what's happening?"

The Viscount envoy's expression was as still as water and answered in a heavy tone: "Deities would not reject the worship of a mortal, unless they were evil entities wishing to pass as humans, which all Deities scorn"

Gu Qing Shan froze.

Glancing at his Soul Points value still reducing at a stable rate, he smiled: "Could there be some sort of mistake?"

----the Deities were now all dead, turned into the Laws of this current world.

They welcomed my offering of Soul Points and hoped that I would be able to help them, even giving me a blue sword-shaped pattern as proof of entry.

Then why did they judge me to be an evil creature?

It should be the exact opposite!

This makes no sense.

...Perhaps the issue lies with the Grand Empress.

I'm very well acquainted with Boss, so perhaps the will of Reneedol discovered this and rejected my worship.

With that in mind, Gu Qing Shan patted Crow's hand and whispered:

"Money"

Crow took out her bag of coins and put it into Gu Qing Shan's hand.

Gu Qing Shan tossed the bag of coins in front of the Viscount envoy, then said with a calm expression: "Sir envoy, as you said earlier, perhaps it was because I invoked the Goddess' true name that I angered her. I want to try another Deity and prove my innocence"

The Viscount envoy caught the bag of money, silently squeezed it, then made up his mind.

Very well, since this matter had gotten evil creatures involved, it would be best to confirm beyond any doubts.

He stared closely at Gu Qing Shan, then slowly took out a pure-white stone from his bag.

"I am the chief pastor of the Viscount, so I do have the qualifications to conduct a final examination on you"

While he explained, the Viscount envoy tossed the pure-white stone to Gu Qing Shan.

"This is the Deities' Stone of Examination, capable of checking the attributes of all living beings. If you truly are an evil creature, it will give out a clear indication, but if you are innocent, it shall display the potential of your faith"

"Rhode, this is the last chance for you to prove your innocence. Hold the stone tightly in your hand"

Without saying anything else, Gu Qing Shan squeezed the stone tightly.

A second later.

The sound of countless children devoutly singing a gospel resounded from the void of space.

An intense sound of explosion---

A gigantic and holy pillar of white light erupted from Gu Qing Shan's body, rising all the way to the sky through the roof of the building.

Chapter 1330

The holy white light flowed like an upside-down waterfall that pierced the top of the sky.

Gu Qing Shan's entire body was immersed in the light, almost seeming like a mythical Deity.

"Let go of the stone!"

The Viscount envoy shouted.

Gu Qing Shan let it go as he said.

Instantly, the supernatural phenomena and the pillar of light both disappeared.

The room returned to silence.

"Am I an evil creature?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

Around him, including the eight knights that surrounded him before, had sheathed their weapons and bowed to him.

"No! You are naturally not an evil creature!"

The Viscount envoy answered hysterically.

"Then my faith is——" as Gu Qing Shan was talking, he suddenly shut up.

The metal book in the Viscount envoy's hand suddenly gave off a mass of white light that enveloped Gu Qing Shan's body.

"You are the keeper of the Divine country and mortal world, the Enforcer of Deific power, the worshipper and servant of the Condemnation Codex!" the Viscount envoy replied.

Following the Viscount envoy's declaration, the white light suddenly manifested as a Card that appeared in front of Gu Qing Shan.

A blank Card.

Watching this Card, Gu Qing Shan felt nothing but an unfounded sense of familiarity.

He then turned to the Viscount envoy and asked: "Can I take this Card?"

"Of course you can, this Card was hidden at the depths of the Laws, it is something that hadn't manifested for countless years" the Viscount envoy replied.

"...That's true, I don't think I've ever heard of the Church of Condemnation before" Gu Qing Shan tried probing.

"Indeed" the Viscount envoy replied full of emotions: "The murder and evil of mortals, or a competition, perhaps even a war between Deities, whenever something below or above the Heaven cannot be decided, the power of all Deities will manifest as the Condemnation Codex to pass judgement"

"And you, are the only Condemner to appear in the past 700 years"

"From now on, you shall be the acting avatar of the Deities' Condemnation Codex, the enforcer, judge, and executor of Deific Law"

"----you must prepare yourself mentally, the Viscount will surely incur you as his son-in-law"

Gu Qing Shan didn't reply.

The blank Card that he was holding suddenly manifested an image depicting himself.

He was wielding two swords, silently hovering in mid-air.

Instantly, lines of glowing text appeared in the void of space:

[Identity verification complete]

[You've activated the Inner Plane Condemnation Codex's bestowal Card]

[This is a Card that had been waiting for you for countless years, only accessible to a Condemnation Card entity like yourself]

[With this Condemnation Codex's bestowal Card, your Condemnation Codex has also fully awakened]

Gu Qing Shan was surprised.

"Why is that?" he silently asked.

The War God UI replied:

[As you carry the Title 'Cherub of Condemnation', no Deity can receive your faith. It was through witnessing this Title that they immediately requested your aid—— even though you are still so feeble, they were willing to guide you here, hoping to borrow your strength to fight against the plague, monsters, and wraiths]

Gu Qing Shan fell silent.

From the void of space, a book the size of his hand with a black cover silently manifested and hovered in front of Gu Qing Shan.

A few lines of glowing text quickly appeared in front of his eyes:

[The Condemnation Codex has awakened]

[From this point on, you are the very Deity you worship, as well as the acting avatar who walks the mortal plane for your worshipped Deity]

Taking the handbook, Gu Qing Shan flipped open the first page.

[Codex owner: Rhode (alias)]

[Below the stars, above the earth, you who hold the Codex hold the authority of Condemnation in your hand]

The next page.

This page had two Card slots, one of which was empty with two lines of texts clearly noting below:

[Rare Divine Artifact: Condemner of the Inner Plane, Crimson Demon Divine Spear]

[This weapon has followed your will, currently suppressing the Apocalypse Door Knockers from outside the Reality Gate]

Gu Qing Shan looked at the second Card slot.

There was a new Card here, which depicted a woman surrounded by a yellowish-brown fog, currently kneeling on the ground as she devoutly prayed. In the sky above her, a man with a pair of wings made of light looked upon her with a gaze of pity as he silently listened to her prayers.

Gu Qing Shan took this Card out.

[Divine Word: Cleanse]

[Activating this Card, you can eliminate all restraining powers upon any living being or Deity]

[While holding the Condemnation Codex in your hand, you can chant an incantation to trigger this Card]

What a powerful Card!

Gu Qing Shan was surprised——–

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Just like the very first time I met Little Dusk, where she managed to seal all my weapons with a single Card.

This is incredibly powerful.

It turns out that Condemnation Cards are considerably powerful even in the Inner Plane.

Gu Qing Shan sighed emotionally, then put the Card back and flipped to the next page.

——he found that he couldn't open it no matter what.

Another line of glowing text appeared:

[Only by becoming stronger will you be qualified to control even more Condemnation Cards]

So that's why.

Gu Qing Shan silently put the black-cover book away, then looked back at the Viscount envoy.

The other party was carefully judging him.

"Why do I feel like your excellency's gaze is a bit different?" Gu Qing Shan smiled.

"Condemnation is a rare power, one with great potential to grow. That's why, Rhode, your fortune has arrived" the Viscount envoy replied.

He walked up to the wall and knocked on it using a walking cane.

A door instantly appeared on the wall.

Gu Qing Shan and Crow exchanged glances.

The Viscount envoy was an experienced man, so he quickly added: "Your potential won't be limited to that of a Baron, Rhode, I hope you'll make a careful and informed decision regarding your marriage"

The air became frozen.

"Me? And him?" Crow pointed at herself, then at Gu Qing Shan, her face filled with killing intent.

"Ah, you misunderstand your excellency, my knight and I do not have such a relationship" Gu Qing Shan stopped Crow and quietly explained.

The Viscount envoy glanced at Crow.

——-how else would such a beautiful woman remain by your side then? You're still insisting that it's not that kind of relationship?

Just look, after being pointed out, she's even making that cute pout, clearly anger from being embarrassed.

Hah, fine, it's a matter of the youngsters.

Very wisely, the Viscount envoy didn't say anything else.

Fortunately, with Gu Qing Shan's intense signaling through his eyes, Crow managed to hold herself back from attacking.

Gu Qing Shan sighed in relief and said: "Then, let us go"

He walked up to the door.

Crow followed behind him.

The eight knights sheathed their weapons, also preparing to follow along.

Suddenly, Gu Qing Shan stopped right in front of the door.

"What's the matter?" the Viscount envoy asked.

"Please wait a moment" Gu Qing Shan replied.

He released his inner sight to circle around his left wrist.

The indigo sword-shaped pattern had turned into a burning Divine Script, which transferred waves of pain through his wrist.

The world disappeared.

After the darkness, at the very next moment, Gu Qing Shan found himself standing in the middle of a cast sea of stars.

The world spirit manifested as thousands of voices and spoke in unison: first invasion had begun, the location is also Ramon village. Defeat them, use their corpses to issue a warning to the entire world] [¬] By accomplishing this, we shall reaffirm your stance and grant your proof of entry a bit more power!]

Very quickly, the sea of stars disappeared

Gu Qing Shan found himself back in the same room.

A long scream suddenly resounded from outside.

Followed by crying, desperate screams, the sound of running, and the sound of combat.

Gu Qing Shan reached outside with his inner sight.

Two people wearing yaksha masks grew eight extra legs, rapidly lunging forward like two spiders into the crowd of people massacring them.

——-infected!

The Wraith realm humans became infected!

Who would've thought that the first victims of the Plague Apocalypse would be Wraith realm humans?

"Viscount envoy, there's been a situation with my village, as the chief, I must take a look.

A bow appeared in Gu Qing Shan's hand before he swiftly vanished from the room.

Crow followed suit.

The Viscount envoy's expression shifted a bit, muttering: "Strange, what happened to those two wraiths? Why did they turn into that form, even having the gall to kill our subjects...?"

"Young master Rhode is still young so he might run into some danger"

He signaled with his hand.

The eight knights vanished from the room together with him.

Chapter 1331

Translator: La0o9

A jet-black monster with 5 legs opened its mouth wide and swallowed a person's head whole.

 \llbracket OOOOAAAA, how delectable! What a wonderful taste! floor

The wraith-turned monster was howling with a high-pitch screeching voice.

After eating the person's head, its lower body shifted a bit and grew another leg.

The six-legged monster looked up, its gaze searching through the fleeing group of people, then stopped suddenly as it saw a young girl.

Ah, this refreshing and alluring scent, could it be a worshipper of the Goddess of flower and spring water? I the monster smirked as it spoke, then began laughing terribly: You are surely delectable as well!

A second later.

Like a blurred image, the monster leapt in front of the young girl, two of its legs stabbed towards the young girl like a pair of blades.

The girl shouted in panic: "Spring of Frost!"

A frigid rushing current abruptly manifested from thin air, striking the six-legged monster.

The monster's body slightly tilted backwards, then stopped.

Looking down at her from above, it casually spoke:

[Only that? A lowest-level worshipper, as expected — — – your greatest value is to grant me a small bit of power to evolve!]

As it spoke, the monster reached out four legs to catch the young girl.

It opened its gaping maw filled with tiny razor-like teeth——-

Suddenly, the sound of an object whipping past could be heard, five lightning snakes glowing blue and white had struck its body directly.

The monster staggered backwards.

The power of lightning caused its body to become stiff, unable to even move a muscle.

————Lightning Thaumaturgy, [Dreamjolt]!

Gu Qing Shan lowered his bow and shouted: "Crow!"

At this point, a black shadow whizzed through the sky and descended on the monster's head.

The female knight stabbed the rapier in her hand deep into the monster's neck at an extremely gradual pace.

"Burst"

She spat out a single word.

Boom!

Flames rose to the sky!

The monster's large body collapsed heavily to the ground, no longer showing signs of living.

Crow had already picked up the young girl and retreated over 10 meters away.

"Beautiful girl, may I invite you for dinner tonight?"

Crow looked down at the young girl in her embrace and displayed her usual alluring smile.

The young girl was grateful and replied: "Thank you for saving me, of course, I'd be happy to, aunty"

Aun—–ty—–

Crow's expression immediately became stiff.

Gu Qing Shan turned his head away, once again knocking an arrow.

The bow in his hand was one of the three items he received from the wooden trunk; it could be easily considered to be the best bow in this village, suitable for him as the village chief.

——-there was another monster here.

After a moment of silence, Gu Qing Shan's hands abruptly became blurred.

Pah pah pah pah pah!

Bow technique, [Shifting Flurry]---

Almost a dozen arrows clad in glittering lightning flew through the air in irregular arcs, all of which were aimed towards the monster.

Raising its leg, the monster managed to knock five arrows down, but still got hit by two of them.

Instantly, the monster trembled as its body became stiff, unable to move.

Lightning Thaumaturgy, [Dreamjolt]!

This Thaumaturgy had always served him well.

A group of eight knights abruptly appeared and charged forward, swiftly chopping the monster into pieces with unified swordsmanship.

"Knights! They're from the Viscounty!"

"Young master Rhode also acted!"

"The monsters are dead—–"

"We're saved!"

The villagers cheered.

The Viscount envoy appeared, standing next to Gu Qing Shan.

"Young master Rhode, do such monsters usually appear in your village?" he asked.

"Never before now, furthermore, I recognize them as humans from the Wraith realm, I have no idea what happened to them either" Gu Qing Shan replied.

The envoy fell silent.

"Strange..." he muttered.

Gu Qing Shan reminded him: "From what the monster said just now, we know that it could still recall everything when it was a wraith"

The envoy nodded: "Then it seems they were met with some sort of unfortunate fate, almost like——-"

The envoy turned towards the crowd gathered at a distance and questioned:

"Are any of you a worshipper of the Lord of Plague?"

No one answered.

The envoy then asked: "What about the Venomous Serpent? The Maiden of Suffering? Do any of you worship these two Deities?"

Everyone exchanged glances, then an old man courageously replied: "Sir, all of us here are farmers. Most of us worship Deities from the Dawn, Earth, or Springwater faction, no one here is a believer of death-type Deities"

The envoy also felt a bit troubled, once again glancing at the monster's body.

If there was a worshipper of the Lord of Plague here, they would be able to find out what kind of thing these wraiths were afflicted with.

But for a small farming village, it truly is a bit hard to find people of such faith.

The envoy turned to Gu Qing Shan and said: "Alright, I'll take these two corpses with me to the Viscounty, both to investigate and to inform the Wraith realm humans, perhaps they know something— — young master Rhode, what do you think?" Please support our website and read on novelbold

"I'm grateful to gain your assistance with an issue that occurred in our Ramon village" Gu Qing Shan replied.

The envoy nodded, walked forward, then began to order the knights to wrap the monster's corpse up.

When Gu Qing Shan was preparing to follow them to take a careful look at the corpses as well, a wave of intense pain appeared from his wrist.

The indigo pattern had begun to burn again.

Thousands of hurried voices resounded in his ears:

「An unexpected situation had occurred 」

^Г A small piece of the extinct monster world had suddenly invaded your location. From a latitudinal perspective, it shall overlap with Ramon village for about 10 minutes J

[¬] After 10 minutes, this piece of the world will continue to float and no longer overlap with Ramon village J

[¬] Attention, you must ensure your own survival, as well as the survival of as many of your subjects as possible <code>」</code>

Overlapping worlds?

Gu Qing Shan drew an arrow, knocked it onto his bow, and cautiously observed his surroundings.

The sky had turned dark, then abruptly became day again, the clouds above were phasing in and out of existence.

On the ground, various illusory images were also gradually becoming solid.

Monsters!

Feeling anxious, Gu Qing Shan shouted: "Militia! Where are the members of the militia?"

A group of farmers pushed the crowd aside and came forward.

They were all wielding weapons of their own and loudly responded: "Young master Rhode. When we heard of a man-eating monster, we immediately rallied and ran here!"

Gu Qing Shan's gaze passed through these people.

——indeed, this was the most powerful world but these people are nothing but the most mundane farmers.

Perhaps they understand how to farm their crops better than other worlds, or even deal with some regular wild beasts, but to rely on these people to fend off truly terrifying monsters is asking the impossible.

Gu Qing Shan immediately ordered: "Gather everyone in the village. Everyone is to immediately take refuge in the village shelter, now!"

When the land reclamation work began, there were still plenty of wild beasts in the area. To better resist the attacks of the ferocious beasts, the first group of pioneers established a sturdy village shelter for everyone.

The farmers were all stunned.

It's been a long time since that place was last used.

--also, aren't the monsters already dead?

Suddenly, an enormous leg reached out from the void of space, heavily stomping on the ground.

Dooong!

Everyone was shaken to the point of their feet leaving the ground, a large number of houses even began to collapse.

Even the feet of that leg was as big as two houses, while the other end of the leg couldn't even be seen.

This stunned everyone.

Gu Qing Shan felt an immense sense of danger.

Quite clearly, these are the signs of the two worlds overlapping.

Once the two worlds are fully overlapped, the owner of that leg would completely show themselves.

"Militants, you heard my order, carry it out! Or I swear on my name, I'll publicly execute whoever snaps like a bad leash at a time like this!" Gu Qing Shan shouted.

The militia finally snapped out of it and regained their senses.

They immediately turned around, loudly calling out for the villagers to head towards the village shelter.

"What's going on?" Crow walked up and sent her voice to ask.

"Overlapping worlds, around 10 minutes"

Crow also appeared cautious.

The Viscount envoy brought his knights near Gu Qing Shan.

"Young master Rhode, you seem to know something"

Gu Qing Shan casually replied: "I do. More and more strange things have been occurring recently, I even discovered a wolf of an unknown species in the wilderness just earlier today. It took me and my knight our full powers to slay it"

The Viscount envoy appeared cautious and asked: "What do you think this situation is? Could it be the prelude for an invasion from another Duchy?"

"No, I believe it might be an even more terrible situation" Gu Qing Shan replied.

The Viscount envoy observed the collapsed buildings around him, then at the monster corpses on the ground, and asked: "Do you believe we require reinforcement?"

"If there are any, they should definitely be called upon right now" Gu Qing Shan answered.

Without hesitation, the Viscount envoy drew his scepter and lightly tapped it against the void of space.

He hurriedly whispered: "I, a priest of the God of War, hereby summon the Duchy's 5th Order Platoon, requesting immediate aid"

A few moments later.

The void of space split open, revealing a fully-armored man on the other side.

He looked at the group and spoke with a frigid voice:

"I have accepted your summon"

"The 5th Order Platoon is current on its way, arriving in 30 seconds, fully armed and ready for combat" "However——" "I must remind you, if you summon the border guards, only to be found out that is it a useless summon, not only you, but your Viscount shall also be strictly reprimanded"

Complete silence.

The knights of the Viscounty nervously gulped their saliva.

But the Viscount envoy remained calm and pointed to Gu Qing Shan: "This is the village chief, as well as the newly awakened Condemner. He is requesting your aid"

"Condemn..."

"A Condemner?"

The man looked a bit at Gu Qing Shan, then took off his helmet.

He was a grown man with a ferocious expression.

He observed Gu Qing Shan, evaluated him briefly, then loudly questioned:

"A Condemner... how unusual. For what reason did you trouble us, border guards?"

"I did not mean to cause trouble" Gu Qing Shan answered solemnly: "There is merely an emergency situation here. I have reasons to believe that the village will soon be under attack by monsters, and the militia are helpless to deal with it"

The ferocious-looking man walked out, the aloofness on his face slowly faded.

"So that was what it was. Tell me in details, my brothers and I shall help you deal with it"

The ferocious man patted Gu Qing Shan's shoulder and said with clear eagerness.

Chapter 1332

Translator: La0o9

Gu Qing Shan turned to this man.

He had a relatively round face, a long beard, the outside of his left eye had a long scar that looked like it was caused by some sort of weapon, and appeared to be in his late 20s.

An insignia was engraved on his shoulder pad.

Black background, yellow accents, a round insignia with a lion and hawk.

Searching through his memories a bit, Gu Qing Shan quickly found the background this insignia represented.

This was the family insignia of the Duchy military affairs minister, Count Heath.

In this world, noble clans and families use their faith as a basis to take in subordinates with similar beliefs, turning them into a part of their forces.

In other words, this person here was a knight from the Count's manor.

Gu Qing Shan tried asking: "May I ask how I may be able to help your grace?"

"Ahaha, easy, easy. Milord had simply run into some minor troubles, if you are allowed to mature for a few more years, comprehending more techniques from the Condemnation Codex, I'm sure you'll be able to help us at that time" the man answered straight.

----so it was something like that.

They've already done their research and found that only a Condemner is capable of resolving their problem.

Gu Qing Shan chuckled and replied: "As long as it isn't a wicked deed, you have my words"

The man appeared really glad and said: "Young master Rhode, I know about you, but not that you've already become a Condemner, I am a cavalry captain of the Heath family, Moore"

He pointed behind himself ----

Several rows of full-armed soldiers appeared from the void of space in an orderly manner.

"These brothers are all my men, we belong to Count Heath's 2nd cavalry troops, dispatched to guard the border on your side since the beginning of this year"

Gu Qing Shan greeted the men.

Moore was about to say something else, but both he and Gu Qing Shan suddenly went silent.

Everyone looked up at the sky.

From high above, a crimson shadow slowly descended.

This faint shadow had covered the entire sky, rousing a deep feeling of unease.

"What is this? Have you ever seen such a thing before?" Moore asked.

"We do not have such a thing here" Gu Qing Shan replied.

The Viscount envoy also scowled: "Such a gigantic shadow, what exactly———"

He suddenly went quiet.

Two cylindrical beams of bright red light appeared from the shadow, striking the rocks and gravel in front of the group.

Zi zi zi zi—– psssh——–

The ground first sizzled before it crumbled to dust layer by layer.

The two beams of red light moved together sweeping through the village.

Wherever the light went past, everything would be reduced to dust and vaporized.

"What kind of magic is this!?" Crow couldn't help but shout.

Moore abruptly turned around, looking at a certain knight, and quickly asked: "I remember that you were a worshipper of the God of Secret and Truth"

The knight was sweating bullets, his expression completely pale as he answered: "Sir, I've investigated, those are gazes, they're gazes!"

He practically screamed the latter part of his answer.

Complete silence.

——-gazes.

In other words, that crimson shadow that covered the sky was actually some sort of creature?

Everyone couldn't help but look up again.

The crimson shadow continued to look through the entire village.

It seemed to be looking for something.

As the two worlds overlapped, its figure slowly became solid; almost as if it was about to descend on this world.

Moore swallowed his spit and muttered: "Even its gaze had such power, damn it, what kind of thing is that?"

Gu Qing Shan's mind began to move as he silently grabbed the Earth sword.

No one was paying any attention to him right now.

Holding the Earth sword tightly, Gu Qing Shan looked up at the shadow and focused his thoughts.

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

[Using Earth's choice to completely slay this extinct monster will require the following amount of Soul Points:]

[?????]

Gu Qing Shan was shocked.

This is...

Incalculable?

This was the first time he had seen Gu Qing Shan give such a notification!

Gritting his teeth, he released the Earth sword and let it fade into the void of space, then placed his hand on his Inventory Bag.

In the worst-case scenario, he had prepared to ignore everyone's shock and draw the [Bow of Fallen Souls].

This Dreamscape Soul Artifact had the power to corrode everything, which should be usable, even if for only a while.

From the void of space, the crimson shadow continued to grow increasingly solid.

----its physique could now be seen clearly, apparently similar to humans.

It was lowering its head to stare down at the village.

Since the villagers had all gathered to the shelter, there was nothing on the ground that could catch its attention, except——-

The large red eyes slowly moved back, dragging the two beams of red light along the ground towards Gu Qing Shan's group.

Everything that the beams passed through was completely destroyed, leaving nothing but two parallel deep trenches.

"Saint Mother above, how are we going to defeat this monster...?"

Someone muttered in a low voice.

"The village's space had been restrained——- we won't be able to escape!" another knight exclaimed.

Moore's expression was unprecedentedly serious. He held the clan insignia in his hand, quickly saying something to it, most likely reporting the situation.

He suddenly put the insignia away, then shouted in a low voice: "We won't be able to escape. All troops prepare for combat!"

Everyone quickly drew their weapons.

All of a sudden, the large crimson shadow abruptly looked up.

The two beams of red light quickly went away from the village and peered into the boundless darkness.

The humanoid crimson shadow seemed to have realized something, so it swiftly disappeared.

It left.

The group was already preparing themselves for a desperate fight to the death, never did they expect the monster to simply disappear.

A second later.

Gu Qing Shan and Moore both tilted their bodies, vanishing from where they stood.

A dark shadow flew through the darkness, passing through their original spots.

The dark shadow crashed into a wall and became visible.

It was a big piece of black carapace.

Its head was a single large pincer with sharp serrated teeth.

۲ Save... save... ا

It spoke.

Everyone was stunned.

What exactly is going on here?

While everyone couldn't react in time, another dark shadow crashed down, fusing with the black carapace.

The carapace coiled around itself, slowly disappearing and leaving a single thick blob of ink.

The blob of ink then suddenly manifested a pair of pincers that heavily pulled to either side.

"What... is it doing?"

Crow couldn't help asking.

A split second later, a large hole could be seen torn into the void of space.

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There was nothing to be seen in the murky water on the other side of the hole, everything was perfectly obscured.

A moment later, some sort of dark, evil, and rotten aura could be sensed from within the hole.

The pair of pincers that were keeping the hole opened quickly turned into a wall of writhing flesh.

No one had ever seen such a thing occur before, so they couldn't help but hold their breaths.

Gu Qing Shan knew for a fact that the other side was the extinct monster world.

He silently released his inner sight to evaluate the hole.

The other side of the hole was actually a large ocean.

There was a single crimson shadow that stretched from the bottom to the very top of the ocean.

Its hand was as large as a mountain range, currently grabbing a constantly writhing black shadow.

The two beams of red light from earlier now peered through the murky water, focusing on the black shadow, which also revealed the black shadow's true form.

It was a giant crab whose carapace was full of sharp black spikes.

The giant crab struggled nonstop, but couldn't escape from the crimson shadow's hand.

[You... only... you...I've been waiting for you...]

「Save me!」

For some reason, it recognized Gu Qing Shan's inner sight and even spoke to him through it.

Gu Qing Shan sighed.

Save you?

Never mind how I don't have that ability, doing so would only anger the crimson shadow, I can't do it.

"I'm sorry, I can't do that, I'm not a match for it"

Gu Qing Shan sent his voice in return.

As he was about to retract his inner sight, the giant crab heavily struggled again.

It hurriedly said: 「I tried to flee this far because you are the only person who can save me, I'm on your side! Please give me a hand, I will surely repay you—— J

Gu Qing Shan shook his head, his inner sight slowly pulling away from the hole.

Seeing him leave, the giant crab sent its voice again: 「Wait a moment! I have a message for you, you have to save me, Gu Qing Shan!」

Gu Qing Shan froze.

The extinct monster world. All the creatures in this world are monsters that had long gone extinct within the space vortex. Why does it know my name? Could it be another message from a parallel world 'me'?

Gu Qing Shan looked carefully at the crimson shadow, clenched his teeth, but still backed out.

Outside, everyone continued to remain cautious.

"Do not approach, this hole seems very strange. The other side should be a completely different world" Moore shouted.

Gu Qing Shan remained still.

Even the [Void War God] mission announced by the War God UI didn't cause him this much disbelief.

Too powerful, the crimson shadow was truly too powerful.

Even if the giant crab brought me information from a parallel world 'me', I still have no way of saving it. It's very possible for me to end up being killed by the crimson shadow as well.

While he was thinking, his gaze was attracted by something.

A countdown was ticking away on top of the War God UI:

[3:59]

[3:58]

[3:57]

•••

Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but ask: "What is this?"

The War God UI replied: [A countdown to 10 minutes. Once this number reaches 0, the fragment of the extinct monster world that had overlapped with the village would move away, no longer capable of returning here]

Gu Qing Shan paused a bit, then looked back at the countdown.

[3:45]

[3:44]

Wait a minute——

Everything still isn't over!

Gu Qing Shan abruptly released his inner sight, sending it back into the murky ocean water through the hole.

The crimson shadow was trying everything it could to break open the shell of the black spiky crab.

The giant crab was still managing to struggle, but since it was being held tightly in the crimson shadow's hand, it couldn't really move away.

It didn't give up right away, instead, it was shooting its sharp spikes outwards to cause the crimson shadow to be cautious, thus stopping its attack.

However, the giant crab was clearly weakened a lot after shooting the spikes.

"Try your best to hold on for a while, I only have one chance to save you" Gu Qing Shan suddenly called out.

Hearing that, the giant crab seemed to have awoken, continuing to hold off the crimson shadow's attacks.

[How long do I have to wait?]

"Soon"

•••

[How much longer?]

"There's still a bit of time, persist for just a bit more"

•••

[[] I'm nearly at my limits]

"Keep at it, just 20 seconds more!"

「 Goodbye forever, I'm dead—— 」

"I'm coming!"

...

After sending his voice, Gu Qing Shan threw his bow down on the ground.

On the War God UI, the countdown displayed the last 10 seconds of the two worlds overlapping.

The first second — —

Gu Qing Shan's figure disappeared as he jumped into the ocean.

"Shannu, draw its attention for a brief moment, then immediately return!"

"Understood, gongzi!"

The fourth second.

Shannu flew up.

In an instant, boundless black fog enveloped Shannu.

She turned into a dragon that charged straight towards the crimson shadow.

The crimson shadow immediately looked up cautiously at this Demon Dragon.

Taking this fleeting chance, Gu Qing Shan landed in front of the black spikey crab, pressed his left hand against its carapace, and took out a black-cover book in his right hand.

The sixth second—--

The black dragon that Shannu turned into had disappeared.

She had already done her job as soon as she drew the other party's attention.

Almost instantly, she directly used [Ground Shrink] to return to the village.

Gu Qing Shan quickly chanted: "All things live and die in the fleeting moment, with my power of Condemnation, your suffering will surely be eased—-"

[Divine Word: Cleanse]

—-one final second.

The black-cover book erupted in a flash of holy light and struck the crimson shadow's hand.

It loosened its grip.

At this moment!

Gu Qing Shan and the black spiky crab both abruptly vanished.

Divine Skill, [Shadow Shift]!

In the murky water, a single wooden bow silently drifted.

The two worlds no longer overlapped.

Roar!!!!

The crimson shadow uttered a helpless furious howl.

Chapter 1333

Translator: La0o9

As soon as Gu Qing Shan grabbed the black crab, he immediately returned to the other side of the hole.

"Gongzi, it was so dangerous just now"

Shannu's stunned and fearful voice resounded in his mind.

As soon as Gu Qing Shan returned, she also hid into his Thought Sea.

"Hm, I was just literally a hair's breadth away from being unable to return"

Gu Qing Shan sighed in relief, then placed the crab on the ground.

Since the world overlap has ended, the crimson shadow wouldn't be able to pursue them for now.

Following this, I'll need to look for a chance to ask this crab what kind of message it brought. But first, I'll need to explain this crab's background to everyone.

Gu Qing Shan suddenly noticed something off.

It was completely silent around him.

Everyone continued to remain still, nervously waiting—— as if they didn't notice Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan asked Crow and the duck plushie: "Hey, what happened to you?"

Crow was wielding her rapier with a calm and collected expression, seemingly ready to reinforce him when necessary.

But she didn't react at all, not to Gu Qing Shan's question nor his appearance.

What's going on?

Gu Qing Shan tilted his head to look.

The hole remained open in the void of space and still hadn't closed back up.

----has the world overlap not ended?

This is troublesome, that crimson shadow would definitely catch up.

While Gu Qing Shan was pondering, a voice called out from his feet:

[「] Don't worry, this is only an illusion. The world overlap had already ended, that guy won't be able to pursue us]

The giant black crab told him.

Gu Qing Shan looked at the crab, then at everyone else, asking: "Why can't any of them notice me?"

[¬]Because I brought you a message, no one can know about this <code>]</code> the giant crab replied as if that was obvious.

Gu Qing Shan was speechless.

This was essentially creating a magical barrier out of thin air, one that couldn't only hide me, allowing me to observe everything outside, but also disallow any living beings outside from seeing me. Crow, the Viscount envoy, even the knight captain Moore are all very powerful people. Even they were fooled by this technique.

---that's a bit terrifying.

"So a 'me' from a parallel world had already managed to grasp such a powerful technique, huh?"

Gu Qing Shan spoke emotionally.

[[]What are you talking about? A parallel world 'you'?] the giant crab asked.

Gu Qing Shan looked down at the crab, asking: "Didn't you say you wanted to bring me a message? Other than 'me' from a parallel world, who else would send me a message this way?"

The giant crab explained: [Parallel worlds... are actually just a masquerade]

Gu Qing Shan scowled, quickly pursuing the question: "A masquerade?"

The giant crab swung its pincers in irritation, replying: F Don't ask. I'm just a technique, I don't actually know a lot, if I talk too much, there's a chance I might mislead you J

Gu Qing Shan's expression remained still.

"Shannu, is it a technique?" he silently asked.

The Six Paths Great Mountain sword was capable of cutting all Laws, so it was very sensitive to spells and techniques.

After a moment of silence, Shannu replied:

"...Gongzi, it's a living creature, but I can faintly sense that it isn't a natural life form"

Gu Qing Shan was once again shocked by this giant black crab.

Not only did this crab use an isolation technique, but it itself is also a life form created by a technique. What kind of people would be able to achieve such a feat? And that message as well.

With that in mind, Gu Qing Shan said: "Now that you're safe, please give me the message"

The giant black crab crawled in front of Gu Qing Shan, then said: $\[Gamma]$ See the spikes on top of my shell? Put your hand on the longest one $\]$

As a life form created by a technique, and something that managed to hold off that crimson shadow for so long, it had been weakened to the point that Gu Qing Shan no longer had anything to fear.

He reached his hand forward like instructed.

As soon as his hand touched the spike, a drop of blood was taken.

The blood flowed into the spike, quickly disappearing.

The black crab said: 「Hm... quite correct, you have the War God authority, it must be you 」

[[] Then, the technique shall be activated now]

Saying so, the black crab scattered into a mass of black water that quickly filled every corner of space.

Darkness. Silence.

Suddenly, a burst of light.

This light came flying from extremely far away, erasing all the darkness around him.

Around Gu Qing Shan, countless images quickly appeared. Please support our website and read on novelbold

Time was flowing backwards while displaying every single day he had lived through so far.

Reversing.

And continued to reverse.

This life.

The past life.

Every scene quickly passed by Gu Qing Shan's eyes.

Up until a certain scene—-

The Freedom Confederate.

The slums.

The 22nd floor of a certain building, the third room from the left.

A small figure was standing in front of the window to observe this world.

Looking at the figure, Gu Qing Shan's pupils contracted.

He stepped forward, walked up to the figure, then looked carefully.

---this is me.

My child self.

The innocent and immature face was full of pain and loss, but he was wiping his tears away, trying not to cry.

Gu Qing Shan's gaze scanned across the room, focusing on the electronic calendar on the wall.

"This period..." he muttered.

As I thought.

My parents were caught in a car accident and died 7 days prior.

On this day, I stood in front of the window, looking down at the city of iron, wondering how to survive on my own.

Why?

Why did I return to this moment?

At this point, the War God UI seemed to have realized something and abruptly lit up.

Lines of glowing text quickly followed:

[Receiving unique scenario, identification in progress]

[Identification complete]
[Resonating with the scenario to activate the spell hidden here]
[3]
[2]
[1]
[Activate!]

A figure suddenly appeared in this small and narrow room.

This figure was so faint, so transparent that it basically didn't exist, no physique or facial expression could be inferred from it.

The figure looked at Gu Qing Shan and began talking:

[The crab is an undying Causality technique, hidden in the space vortex. Only when it sensed that you've grown to a certain degree would it awaken and seek you out]

[—-If you were not able to grow to this degree, there is nothing wrong with living the rest of your life as is]

[But if you've grown this much, and were found by the crab, then managed to pass its test, you will receive this message]

[While it's a message, I truly wanted to talk to you a bit longer, but there simply isn't time...]

The figure waved its hand.

Below the War God UI, among the row of unlit icons, three of them suddenly began glowing.

One of them was very familiar to Gu Qing Shan, the golden saber that was silently growing longer.

The other two icons were accordingly an eye and a square.

Gu Qing Shan had never seen these two icons before.

The figure seemed to be able to see the War God UI, pointing to these three icons and said: [The meaning of my existence is to help you activate one of these three icons]

[But remember, once you've chosen one of them, the other two will forever disappear]

"Why?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

[Because they contain different Causality and logic, they cannot exist together] the figure replied.

[The first—–]

The figure pointed to the eye icon and explained: [This is the Eye of Truth. By selecting it, you will be able to freely foresee the future of the majority of living beings inside the Reality Gate as you wish]

Saying so, then figure pointed to the square icon, explaining: [This is Dimensional Journey, it will allow you to immediately escape your current world and freely enter any other worlds you wish within the Reality Gate]

Gu Qing Shan nodded: "The truth, and immortality"

[Indeed] the figure nodded [Having the Eye of Truth means you are able to predict many possible truths of the future, allowing you to easily deal with many of your future issues. Having the Dimensional Journey means that you would be capable of escaping from any situation, no one would be able to kill you—– what do you think about these two abilities?]

"Powerful, far surpassing the power of Deities" Gu Qing Shan replied.

[Indeed, and then we have the final option]

The figure paused a bit before pointing to the third option, the golden saber icon:

[This option does not have any use, nor will it be able to help you in any way, it is merely a compass]

"What is it pointing towards?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

[An answer] the figure replied.

"What sort of answer?"

[Who you are]

Gu Qing Shan was shocked.

Chapter 1334

Translator: La0o9

Observing the golden saber icon, Gu Qing Shan was full of thoughts.

————in the Age of Old, to create a perfect closed-loop, the War God UI once left me and returned to the last moment of my previous life, bringing the past 'me' to the day of my high school prom.

Although the War God UI left, it left me a copy of [War God Skills], which was also this icon.

This icon had gone through the trial of the Earth world, as well as the battle against the Divine race and Desolate race, so the golden saber on the icon had grown a bit longer.

[Have you thought it through? Which option would you like to choose?] the figure asked.

Gu Qing Shan replied: "Compared to these options, I wish to know who you are a lot more"

The figure stood across from him, answering in a whisper: [This question isn't a part of the technique]

Gu Qing Shan tried asking: "Are you a 'me' from a certain timeline?"

[Not at all] the figure replied.

"Then, are you a 'me' from a parallel world?" Gu Qing Shan asked again.

The figure replied: [That is also not the case——- the crab wasn't wrong, parallel worlds are only a means of camouflage, but it also wasn't completely correct. Real living beings and all things were scattered throughout all the parallel worlds—— and this one is the strongest 'true world' outside of the Inner Plane]

Hearing that Gu Qing Shan was shocked.

He quickly spoke: "Then they're similar to fragments of the Samsara, after being broken, its countless pieces were scattered into the parallel worlds like a sea of stars"

The Wraith realm orchestrated the destruction of a parallel world to take advantage of Fate Corrosion and attack the Eternal Abyss.

----their Samsara fragment might have originated from a parallel world!

[You realized very quickly. Now, you must make your choice] the figure pointed at the three floating options.

The scenery around him also started to tremble slightly.

[This technique cannot hold for too long, I'm merely a temporary existence, unable to answer too many of your questions. You will have to make your choice within 10 minutes, or lose this opportunity when the technique fades] the figure urged him.

Gu Qing Shan nodded.

There isn't really a need to hesitate.

The first two options might sound impressive, but when it comes to strength, as long as one was willing to put in the work, they would eventually be able to obtain the same abilities in one way or another.

The ability to foresee the future is also the most unreliable of all, using it too much would lead to obscuring my judgement.

Gu Qing Shan had sworn to always remember how the Earth Creator died.

It didn't foresee its death in the future, so it became careless and died in the past.

Something that already happened ended up becoming its fate in the future.

Furthermore, Lady Fusi had also once said that she was able to see various versions of my future, but once I made a decision not to see them, even more, possible futures opened up.

Gu Qing Shan muttered:

"The future is an illusion, to foresee the future is a paradox in and of itself"

[Paradox?] the figure doubtfully asked.

Gu Qing Shan slowly explained: "The 'Cause' done by living beings of today will result in the 'Effect' of their tomorrow. But living beings are prone to change, and many do not know how they would actually act when they stand at the crossroad of fate"

[Have you seen such things before?] the figure asked.

Gu Qing Shan appeared nostalgic.

The scene of quadrillions of dead people coming to the human realm to help his battle once again appeared in front of his eyes.

"...I once had many comrades, all of them were the worst of the worst, villains who had committed countless crimes and were doomed to suffer in hell. But at a pivotal moment, they made a resolute decision that even I couldn't predict they would"

"I was grateful to them, and from then on understood that the future lies only in each individual's hand. Once the mind is made up, even a determined future can be easily changed" The figure asked: [So you are unwilling to choose this option]

"Yes" Gu Qing Shan continued: "As for Dimensional Journey, this ability can certainly be used at a crucial moment to escape, but escaping too much would cause a person to become a coward"

"So I'll choose--"

[Wait a moment!] the figure suddenly called out.

Gu Qing Shan was surprised.

The figure raised its hand and continuously tapped the void of space.

[I didn't expect for you to already see things so clearly, then I will have to give you something else more considerable]

Both the [Eye of Truth], and [Dimensional Journey] icons on the War God UI suddenly began to fuse together, turning into a completely new icon.

This icon depicted a long river of glittering light.

[This is a completely new ability created from fusing the two previous abilities: Return of a fallen star] the figure said.

"This ability is?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

[At the moment of death, you will return to a certain moment in the past, redoing everything anew] the figure whispered.

[——-It can only be used a total of 7 times, but if you're careful enough, you would be able to peacefully survive for a very long time] the figure added.

Gu Qing Shan stayed silent for a while.

"This is a ward of protection from death, and you're just giving it to me?" he lightly asked.

——to be able to fuse two War God icons, turning it into a nearly foolproof anti-death ability like [Return of a fallen star], they must understand the War God UI very well.

The figure didn't deny that.

It simply pointed at the void of space---

Two icons were hovering side by side.

One depicting a river of glittering light, Return of a fallen star.

The other depicted a golden saber, the Compass.

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The figure slowly spoke: [I must remind you, having 'Return of a fallen star' is the same as having 7 chances of redoing your life, foreseeing everything that would occur in the long years to pass——— as though it had already happened once, as long as you do not change anything, so would they, this is much more secured compared to peeking into the future]

[This ability will let you triumph against all hardship, allow you to enjoy countless years of pleasure and enjoy all the best things in reality, heading to the peak of all living beings, becoming a true bigshot in the space vortex——- or if you do not like such a life, you could also become a hermit, focusing on living your own life to the best of your abilities]

After that, the figure pointed to the golden saber.

Gu Qing Shan's gaze also fell on the golden saber.

The figure continued:

[The 'Compass' would be considerably different. If you wish to know who you are, you will begin your trek on an exceedingly long journey——- you will need to exert your all just to fight because that is the only way you will find a chance to survive. Every day, the very first thing you have to do is continue forward on the road of hardship, spending all your efforts and wisdom. You will also trip, again and again, sometimes even giving up things that are precious to you. Your enemies would only increase, becoming increasingly harder to deal with, you will be beaten, bruised, and scarred all over. With the slightest bit of carelessness, you could even lose your life]

[Perhaps one day, you will eventually succeed and reach the end]

[But even then, the only payoff you'll receive is an answer]

[An answer of who you are]

The figure lowered its hand, casually telling him: [I've told you clearly of the pros and cons of both options. There isn't much time left, please make your final choice]

Gu Qing Shan raised his hand and pointed at the golden saber.

[For what reason?] the figure asked.

"I don't know how others think, but I've always found that life has many shackles, like happiness, like peace" Gu Qing Shan replied.

[Happiness? Peace? You think of them as shackles?] the figure repeated.

"That's right. To live in this reality is a very real thing. You can easily feel a lot of suffering and helplessness all around you, especially during this age of Apocalypse. Everyone has had enough of this suffering and torture, many of them wishing to experience peace and happiness"

Saying that, Gu Qing Shan looked at his younger self.

A lone figure standing by the window, mourning his dead mother and father while having no clue of what would become of his future.

The figure stared at him, silently waiting for his next words.

Gu Qing Shan sighed, then continued: "I also wish to enjoy peace and happiness, but only suffering is a true sword. It constantly reminds me that I can't leave a life without directions; I can't just sit in my bed and enjoy myself and I can't remain stagnant by relying on some unique abilities"

His voice became firm: "One cannot be restrained by a moment of happiness. They need to keep their inner rage and stand up, continuing to run forward, to fight, to use their strength and beliefs to protect the things precious to them. Because of this, I have to continue to become stronger, to not remain still without moving forward, even if that means I'll be soaked in blood, or even pay for it with my own life. I have no choice but to continue, because only then would I truly feel like I'm alive"

The figure stayed silent for a while.

[Sometimes, having a stable life to live isn't a mistake] the figure muttered.

"It naturally isn't, I also support the combination of working hard and relaxing——- and I really love to cook" Gu Qing Shan replied, "But what's important is... in my heart, I need to always remind myself that this isn't everything; that I still have things that I truly want to accomplish; that those things are the true meaning of my life, and I have to fight for them"

Gu Qing Shan didn't say anything else.

A gentle sigh resounded in the room.

The figure shook its head, then put its hand on the golden saber icon without hesitating any longer.

[There is no turning back, are you sure you want to choose 'Compass'] the figure asked.

"I'm sure" Gu Qing Shan replied.

The figure lightly tapped the golden saber icon.

The golden light enveloped the entire room.

A completely new icon appeared on the War God UI!

Lines of glowing text quickly appeared:

[The new function, 'Compass' is currently being created, please wait for 10 seconds]

[10]

[9]

[8]

•••

While the UI counted down, the figure walked next to Gu Qing Shan, silently observing him.

She suddenly reached out her hand and stroked Gu Qing Shan's face.

The faint, intangible voice gradually became real——

"My child, I originally wanted to keep a peaceful place for you to live, but as you've become a true grown man, I respect your decision"

Gu Qing Shan's expression instantly changed as he looked back towards the figure.

A familiar face that only existed in his memories slowly became real.

"The situation at the time was too dangerous. I had no choice but to send you away, you were too young, you wouldn't have survived..."

Tears flowed.

Her eyes were full of longing and unwillingness to part.

A golden light began to grow brighter as it swallowed up everything around.

Her figure slowly disappeared.

The sound of War God UI then resounded:

['Compass' has been activated]

[From this moment on, you will be able to seek out the truth]

After declaring that, the UI returned to silence.

Within the boundless golden light, Gu Qing Shan blankly stood in the middle of the small narrow room, completely stunned.

Behind him, his younger self continued to silently stare out the window towards the metallic city.

Only after a long while could a small mutter be heard:

"Mother..."

Chapter 1335

Translator: La0o9

An autumn water-clear blue steel sword descended, lightly hovered next to Gu Qing Shan, and tapped its hilt on his shoulder, almost like it was consoling him.

"Gongzi, that was only a technique earlier, since I didn't see you give me the signal, I refrained from acting" Shannu said.

"I know" Gu Qing Shan didn't look up.

Shannu hesitated for a bit before speaking: "This technique was left behind countless years ago, it's about to fade away now"

"I know" Gu Qing Shan answered her in a mutter.

Luo Bing Li suddenly spoke up: "Your mother and father might still be alive; this is something to be happy about"

The Earth sword's mountainous heavy voice also followed: That's right, old Gu, if you really aren't happy, I'll send two girlies to have a drink with you tonight J

The Chao Yin sword followed up with an 'oong'.

The Heaven sword and Six Paths Great Mountain sword both started beating the Earth sword, causing it to ring like a bell.

The Chao Yin sword hurriedly hid back into the void of space.

Gu Qing Shan shook his head, walked up to the window, and stood next to his younger self, both looking up at the gloomy night sky.

The four swords all went silent as they hovered behind him.

Shannu's voice became softer, gently telling him: "Gongzi, cheer up. The technique is about to be dispelled; we'll soon return to the world we were in before"

"Don't worry, I'm fine. Just like Luo Bing Li said, I'm a bit worried about them, unsure whether or not they're still alive" Gu Qing Shan sighed, then continued: "It's a good thing if they're still alive"

His gaze fell onto his younger self, muttering:

"To specifically prepare [Return of a fallen star] for me, they most likely hoped that I'd be able to live a peaceful life. At the same time, they were afraid that I might not want to remain still and wouldn't know that looking for them was a highly dangerous thing to do, but they still miss me, so they also made [Compass] and left me with a choice"

"Did you notice anything unusual about your parents compared to normal people when you were younger?" Luo Bing Li carefully asked.

After a moment of silence, Gu Qing Shan replied:

"Now that I think about it, there really were a lot of questionable points---"

"When I was very young, mother and father never really cleaned the house, but it had always remained pristine"

"We opened a small diner in the slums, bringing in basically no profits. Orphans, single mothers, old people, my father never took a single penny from them, but the diner never went out of business"

"Public order was extremely good in our part of the slums, any thugs or gangsters that tried anything would simply drop dead the next day"

"It wasn't until a few months after I became an orphan that the very first homicide occurred"

"My father had never liked the 9 Lords aristocrats, always looking at them as if looking at a pile of poo, so he used to always cause trouble whenever he left the slums for work. At that time, mother worriedly asked why he liked going out to play with poo, after which he stopped going out as much"

"My father would always do really strange things out of nowhere, sometimes blowing a breath, sometimes slapping something in the air. When I curiously asked what he was doing, he answered that practicing old people martial arts early on is good for the body———"

"But if my mother looked at him questioningly, he would always pridefully boast that he's undefeated no matter the era. I had always thought that he was joking around, but now that I think back, he probably wasn't"

Shannu chimed in: "Did he teach you anything?"

"When I was in kindergarten, I said that I wanted to become a scientist when I grew up, he was really happy and helped me study every day——- but by the time I was in elementary school, when homework got harder, he said that he was only a worker so he hasn't learnt such knowledge before, that I will have to slowly study on my own"

Gu Qing Shan chuckled a bit, then continued:

"My mother, she used to be really lazy. I remember how she liked to sit still doing nothing for hours on end—— but I recall one time, after she sat like that, she proudly embraced me, saying something like 'my child, you'll meet so many girls who like you when you grow up, each of them is also excellent, so you'll have to quickly spread the branches of our family'—— I didn't really understand what 'spread the branches' meant at the time, but now I do"

"It's not too late yet" Luo Bing Li encouraged him.

[[]You still don't understand at all] the Earth sword sighed.

The two female swords started beating the Earth sword again behind Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan didn't say anything else and silently looked at the War God UI.

Only to see the golden saber icon silently sat at the very end of all the icons.

---[Compass]

Although the technique around him would soon disappear and he would soon return to the Saint Spirit world to face the questioning of the others, Gu Qing Shan still couldn't help himself focusing his mind to activate this icon.

Lines of glittering golden text appeared from the [Compass] icon, displaying in the void of space:

[Attention]

[There is a message left for you here]

Suddenly, a lot of noises could be heard.

Screaming, shouting, loud magical beams, clashing weapons, magical explosions, etc. a lot of noises that continued for 7-8 seconds in a row.

Finally, all the noises slowly died down.

It was only now that a male voice spoke up:

[I'm done over here, take this chance to leave our son a message]

A hurried female voice then continued:

[My child, listen carefully. In the Roland empire of Saint Spirit world, at the center of the southern wall in the Royal secret vault, there's a hidden compartment where we left something for you to take. If you like it, you can keep it, if you don't like it, keep it anyway, it won't be of any demerit to you]

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[This Saint Spirit world is actually not bad at all, so make sure to do your best!]

Her last few words felt like she was boasting.

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

[Notice from the Compass: Find that item and you'll receive a new clue]

Gu Qing Shan immediately asked: "Will the new clue be related to the item I'll find?"

[Perhaps, perhaps not, but regardless, the Compass will only provide the next clue once you've accomplished this task]

Gu Qing Shan sighed.

"Gongzi, what's the matter?" Shannu asked out of concern.

"The Saint Spirit world is an exceedingly powerful world, and my parents left something in an empire's royal vault, telling me to get it" Gu Qing Shan said.

"What's the issue with that, just go take it" Luo Bing Li replied without care.

The Earth sword replied: 「Of course, there are a lot of issues, no identity, no strength, no status, who would let him in? 」

"Then just get stronger" Luo Bing Li replied.

"That's probably also my parents' intentions. They're so sly, setting up a test like this for me. Furthermore, I have a bad feeling about the thing they left me..." Gu Qing Shan muttered.

[「]You don't think it's some sort of unique treasure? 」 the Earth sword asked.

"It's probably not, the War God UI is the treasure they left me, but I can't really say the same about that item in the empire's royal vault" Gu Qing Shan replied.

•••

The scenery around him finally faded.

Gu Qing Shan had returned to the border village of Ramon in the Saint Spirit world.

"How was it, are you ok?" Crow stood on one side, asking.

"What was inside that spatial hole?" Moore asked.

Gu Qing Shan turned to where the hole was earlier.

The large rip in space had already disappeared, the void of space returning to normal.

It was as if everything was a dream, me going through a test, then seeing my mother, obtaining sparse clues about them.

Thinking back, the Deities of this world were able to predict the plague but were also surprised by the appearance of that world fragment.

That crab technique was activated using the overlapping of the two worlds.

How unimaginable.

"I saw another world on that side, a world of nothing but a large ocean. I saw the crimson shadow earlier fighting with another monster, so I hurriedly returned" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Recalling the power of that crimson shadow, everyone couldn't help themselves from falling silent.

"No, I have to immediately return to Count Heath's manner and report this to him"

Saying that, Moore looked at Gu Qing Shan: "Rhode, what do you plan to do now?"

"I'll head off to the Viscount's manor and prepare to be conferred my Baron title" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"Very well, I'll look for you tonight" Moore patted his shoulder and said.

"Then, see you later" Gu Qing Shan answered.

Moore nodded to the others, then entered the void of space together with his troops.

The village returned to silence.

"That seemed like an accidental world collision event—— I hope everything stops here, otherwise it'll be a lot of trouble" the Viscount envoy spoke emotionally.

Gu Qing Shan followed up: "This is my village; I naturally also wish for things to be that way"

--but they will definitely not.

Not too much longer, the Plague Apocalypse will descend upon this world like a raging storm.

This would only be the beginning.

More extinct monsters and the plot of the wraiths would also slowly come into light in this world.

Speaking of which, when the Plague Apocalypse descended, the world spirit requested me to use the corpses of plague monsters to give a warning towards the entire world.

My job still isn't finished...

"Sir envoy, I suggest that we immediately set off and report this matter to the Viscount" Gu Qing Shan said.

"You're right"

The Viscount envoy wielded his cane and lightly tapped the void of space.

A door manifested.

"Let us go"

Chapter 1336

Translator: La0o9

Langlois Prefecture.

Viscount Warren's manor.

As soon as Gu Qing Shan arrived, he was invited into the Viscount's study.

Viscount Warren was a middle-aged man with a kind face, if not for the cloak that gave off spatial fluctuations on his body, he would be no different from an unassuming bystander.

Right as he saw Gu Qing Shan, the Viscount welcomed him with a hearty bear hug.

"Time really flies, in an instant, our Langlois Prefecture will have gained a handsome new Baron" Viscount Warren said.

"Thank you for your kind words, I will do my best" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"Very well, let us take a look at the bodies first" Viscount Warren said.

Following his orders, the corpses of the two wraiths were brought forward.

They still had normal human faces, but their bulky bodies, their greatly elongated extremities, as well as the carapace that covered their backs had proven more than enough that they had been altered by something.

"Seal the study, let nobody in or out" Viscount Warren ordered.

"Understood"

Everyone quickly left the room, leaving only Gu Qing Shan and the Viscount.

"Rhode, what do you think happened to these two men from the Wraith realm?" Viscount Warren asked.

"Viscount sir, I suspect that they were struck by something, or rather, infected by something" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"Really? If you don't mind, I'm going to collect their souls and see what's going on" Viscount Warren said.

"Of course not, sir, please" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Viscount Warren walked up to the two corpses, opened his palm, and muttered: "Dead souls return"

Masses of grey fog appeared from his palm and slowly entered the two corpses.

But they remained still.

"Their souls aren't here, most likely returned to the Wraith realm, however—--"

Viscount Warren put up one finger and gestured backwards.

As if a string was pulling them, faint light began to exude from the two corpses.

"Come, let us see what they saw in your territory"

Viscount Warren quickly chanted the incantation.

The faint light scattered and formed a screen.

The two wraiths crouched in the wilderness, looking down at the large wolf's corpse.

"This is the monster Rhode killed" one of them said.

"How strange, we've recorded all the beasts and exotic creatures of the Saint Spirit World, even legendary monsters and divine beasts, but have never seen this type of wolf before—— could it be a new species?" the other wraith replied.

Neither of them noticed that the void of space had silently opened up behind them, a rotten finger then reached out to press against their heads.

When the rotten finger pulled back, the void of space silently closed back up.

The two wraiths remained silent for a second before abruptly collapsing on the ground, their bodies undergoing drastic change.

AARRRGGH!

With a curt screech, they quickly became monsters.

Viscount Warren narrowed his eyes.

Gu Qing Shan already knew everything after that.

The monsters ran into Ramon village, eating everyone in their sights.

Gu Qing Shan brought Crow and the Viscount envoy to the scene, slaying the two monsters at the same time.

Watching everything, Viscount Warren pondered:

"It seems someone else was behind this..."

Gu Qing Shan added fuel into the fire: "Sir, I suspect that that finger didn't belong to our world"

"Oh? What proof do you have of this?" Viscount Warren asked.

Gu Qing Shan replied: "I remember that the Wraith realm had a lot of protection techniques, and they also knew our Saint Spirit world very well, so they must have prepared appropriate countermeasures for such attacks, unless—-"

"Unless that was something they had never seen before, capable of altering them silently and unknowingly" Viscount Warren finished his words.

He had clearly become more cautious, walking up to a nearby wall to take a small gavel, which he used to tap the clock on the wall.

"Esteemed military minister, the Hand of the Empire's Cavalry, Count Heath, I would like to request a meeting with you, right away" Viscount Warren respectfully said.

A few moments later.

"...Come, I also wanted to contact you"

A deep voice replied from the wall clock.

Viscount Warren pointed at the ground with his finger.

The two monster corpses disappeared right away.

"I will be in a meeting with the Count to report the situation to him, Rhode, you may enjoy yourself at the banquet" Viscount Warren told him.

"Understood, sir" Gu Qing Shan replied.

My job should be done here.

The cavalry captain, Moore, belonged to Count Heath's 2nd cavalry troops, so he must have reported everything that needed to be reported.

Coupled with Viscount Warren's follow-up report, this matter would not be glossed over.

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As a Baron who hadn't even been officially conferred, this was the extent of what Gu Qing Shan could do.

Fortunately, the people of this world are all considerably powerful, which should also extend to their discerning abilities. They should be able to tell that this was a hint of the Apocalypse.

At that point, I will have accomplished the world spirit's request.

Viscount Warren's figure melted into the void of space and disappeared, then quickly returned.

He carried a black bow with him, telling Gu Qing Shan:

"Rhode, I heard that your bow was lost, try using this bow instead"

"Sir, this is too precious, I can't accept it" Gu Qing Shan tried to refuse.

Viscount Warren casually replied: "I have seen your combat. Regarding pure archery skills, you certainly do not qualify for this bow, but you carry with you the power of lightning, capable of separating a monster's soul from their body; furthermore, with your identity as a Condemner, your foundations were very well-established"

Viscount Warren then tossed the black bow to Gu Qing Shan and continued:

"As avatars of Deities on this mortal plane, our strength determines our peerage"

"And I can tell that you shall be more than qualified as a Baron, Rhode"

Saying so, Viscount Warren disappeared again.

Gu Qing Shan held the black bow and stood still for a bit.

Strength... determines one's peerage? Viscount Warren faith lies with the Slumbering God, a powerful Deity. Right in front of me, Viscount Warren was able to casually summon souls, and when that failed, he was even able to use the corpses to see what occurred in the past. These are already unimaginably powerful abilities, more than qualified to be considered Divine Skills. Then, how strong would Count Heath be? ——and then this thing.

Gu Qing Shan looked down at the black bow in his hand.

The bow carried with it a frigid sensation, it felt a bit like metal but also exuded a stench of blood.

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

[Soul Artifact: Bow of Blooming Death]

[This bow has the ability: Flying Shadow]

[Flying Shadow: Fixed ability, any arrow you fire using this bow will have its flight time decreased by 1 second]

Skimming through, Gu Qing Shan exclaimed: "Great bow!"

From a surface level, this seemed like an ability to speed up arrow flight speed, but it actually wasn't.

This was an ability to alter a fixed amount of flight time that could activate at any point during the arrow's travel, causing an enemy to easily misjudge its path and miss the timing to avoid it.

--- a weapon made to deceive enemies.

Who would have thought Viscount Warren would be so generous, easily bestowing such a bow during our first meeting?

Gu Qing Shan left the study.

Crow was waiting in the hallway outside with a duck plushie in her hand.

She was happily manipulating fire to form a rose, then control the rose to turn it into a flame rapier.

"Did you notice?" Crow asked.

"What?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"Not only could this world endure our full strength, but it could also aid us in our advancement—– because the Laws and Origin of the world here are simply exceedingly powerful" Crow excitedly said.

Gu Qing Shan was surprised.

Then——

He closed his eyes and took a deep breath.

Spirit energy immediately rushed towards him.

The entire world felt like a giant super spirit energy funnel.

At this point, a butler arrived, bowing to greet Gu Qing Shan and Crow.

"Esteemed guests, the banquet has begun, please follow me" the butler said.

Gu Qing Shan and Crow exchanged glances.

Crow was excited for a brief second before lowering her head, muttering in irritation:

"A ball... this one really doesn't want to accept those men's invitations..."

The butler glanced at her, then at Gu Qing Shan, silently giving him a thumbs up.

Gu Qing Shan really didn't know what kind of expression he should be making right now.

The duck plushie's voice suddenly resounded in both Gu Qing Shan and Crow's mind:

"Enjoy yourselves, no one is going to invite a duck to dance"

Crow immediately felt sympathetic towards someone in the same circumstances.

Gu Qing Shan also felt a bit of pity.

He held the duck plushie in his hand, whispering: "Should we find some sort of transformative technique to turn you back into human form?"

Before the duck plushie even replied, a female voice called out from next to them:

"Ah, that plushie looks so cute! Can I hold it for a little bit?"

Gu Qing Shan looked back.

Only to see an aristocratic young girl standing next to him, her eyes focused on the duck plushie in his hand.

"That is... I'm sorry ... "

Just as Gu Qing Shan was about to refuse, the duck plushie's resolute voice resounded in his mind:

"Tell her yes!"

Chapter 1337

Translator: La0o9

[Soul Points offered to the Laws of the world: +300]

[+300]

[+300]

...

Watching these messages continuously popping up on the War God UI, Gu Qing Shan was in no mood to join some sort of random banquet.

This is an endless expenditure.

I need to come up with a way to get more Soul Points.

——-but until the Viscount comes back, the conferring ceremony wouldn't begin, and I wouldn't be able to leave.

Gu Qing Shan sighed helplessly and looked for a place in the corner to sit down.

I wonder how things will proceed.

If I'm a person with actual authority in my hands like Viscount Warren, I might be able to participate in the upcoming incidents.

While he was thinking, Crow walked up and sat down next to him.

"The first dance is about to begin, tsk tsk, so many beautiful young girls as well as alluring mature ladies, unfortunately, I..."

Crow sighed and hung her head backwards, sitting cross-legged without minding appearance.

"No need to pay attention to them, or this entire ball, we need to think of a solution to deal with the Apocalypse of this world, only then would the three of us be able to return to how we were" Gu Qing Shan muttered in a low voice.

Crow glanced at him, then said: "I think that duck plushie probably doesn't want to turn back"

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

Crow gestured with her eyes.

Gu Qing Shan followed her gaze and saw a group of pretty aristocratic young ladies.

The duck plushie was being passed around their hands, rubbing a bit here, being hugged a bit there.

Gu Qing Shan hesitated a bit, then sent his voice to the duck plushie: "Yu Juan, you want me to save you?"

The duck plushie's excited voice immediately returned:

"No no no! This is the highest point of my entire life, give me a bit of time to commit this to memory!"

Gu Qing Shan: "..."

Seeing Gu Qing Shan's expression, Crow smirked teasingly: "Are you curious why those aristocratic ladies are so interested in a small plush toy that's only worth one copper coin?"

"A little bit" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"Because it belongs to you" Crow replied.

Gu Qing Shan was surprised by that answer.

Crow observed him for a bit, then continued: "A handsome 15-year-old young man, confirmed as the first Condemner in hundreds of years, courageous enough to face monsters head-on, being personally received by the Viscount as soon as you arrived, and you'll soon be conferred a Baron title. I have no doubts that many of the ladies here are thinking of nothing but how to approach you"

As soon as she finished, music began to play.

"The first dance is about to begin, look at those ladies, all of them look like they're preparing themselves to get on a battlefield——"

Halfway through, Crow stopped talking.

"Greeting, Rhode, may I have this first dance?" an aristocratic young lady approached Gu Qing Shan and gracefully asked.

Gu Qing Shan quickly stood up, apologetically telling her: "My apologies, I think I'll sit still for a bit longer"

The young girl giggled, then continued: "You are probably saving the first dance for the young lady of the Viscount; that is fine, I'll take this loss and accompany you for the second dance"

Without waiting for Gu Qing Shan to refuse any further, she turned around and left.

Gu Qing Shan raised his hand halfway, but couldn't really pull the other party back, nor could he shout his answer at her.

Under everyone's scrutinizing gazes, how could he publicly refuse a young girl's invitation?

Wouldn't that cause her trouble?

Dejectedly, Gu Qing Shan lowered his hand.

Crow commented on the side: "See, this is the lady's way, backing off as a way of advancing. Not only did she display her grace and etiquette, but she also ensured that you couldn't reject her for the second dance"

Gu Qing Shan complained: "I'm not here to dance, I'm——-"

Before he finished his words, another aristocratic young lady slowly approached.

"I saw what happened earlier, Rhode, I'd like to reserve your third dance"

The girl then silently winked at Gu Qing Shan and lowered her voice: "Rhode, I'm a high-ranked worshipper of the Goddess of Enjoyment"

She put up one finger and drew a small circle in the air, implying that none of the girls here were better than her.

She then left.

Watching this, Crow frowned in dejection and muttered: "Enjoyment... I really want to experience that once, how unfortunate that I've become a woman"

A butler suddenly approached Gu Qing Shan and quickly informed him: "Young master Rhode, the Viscount had returned. Once the first dance is over, he will personally confer your title and peerage"

"I understand, thank you" Gu Qing Shan replied.

The butler nodded, then turned to leave.

Gu Qing Shan relaxed a bit.

It seems Count Heath's matter was over.

With these bigshots' discerning eyes and strength, they should be able to issue a warning against the Apocalypse's invasion to everyone.

At this time, the first dance had officially begun.

Gu Qing Shan glanced around, only to see the two daughters of the Viscount glancing at him.

Their eyes contained a...

Something that caused Gu Qing Shan to feel scared.

"Crow"

"What?"

"Dance with me"

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"What——"

Before the words could be said, she had already been pulled by Gu Qing Shan onto the dance floor.

The music became louder.

Everyone officially began to dance.

"Do you have ... gynophobia?"

While dancing, Crow curiously sent her voice and asked.

Gu Qing Shan replied: "No, we don't have time to be doing these unnecessary matters"

Crow displayed a disapproving expression: "The joy of life comes from the sum of all these unnecessary matters"

Gu Qing Shan glanced at his War God UI.

His Soul Points value was still going down, 300 points every second.

"Right now, we need to focus everything we have on resolving the issue of this world" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"I'll remind you; you're pushing up against my chest" Crow said with a very stern expression.

Gu Qing Shan looked down, then silently stepped back a bit.

Suddenly, some commotion could be heard outside.

A group of men wearing cultivator robes and yaksha masks entered the hall.

They spoke a bit to the butler, but didn't join the ball and instead went into a secluded corner, silently standing still.

Next to Gu Qing Shan and Crow, an aristocratic lady whispered: "Why did these guys come here?"

Her dance partner was a gentleman, explaining: "These men are known for their careful working attitude, so the Viscount occasionally allows them to participate in these events. Consider it a kind of reward for them, if you will"

The aristocratic lady smiled jokingly: "I understand, so they're like the hound dogs that my family raises; whenever I'm in a good mood, I'd throw them a bone or two"

"That's exactly what they are"

Gu Qing Shan and Crow exchanged glances.

"Look, the people of this world have already gotten used to the existence of the wraiths" Crow whispered.

Gu Qing Shan glanced around.

Just like the previous pair, the other young ladies and gentlemen only gave them a curt glance before ignoring them completely.

On the other hand, Gu Qing Shan became more cautious.

He could sense the gazes of these wraiths occasionally wandering towards him.

When the song was over.

As soon as Gu Qing Shan left the dance floor, a wraith walked up and clasped his fist: "Esteemed young master Rhode, we of the Wraith realm have a gift we would like to present to you, please follow me"

Gu Qing Shan stood still and asked: "Do you present a gift to every noble at their title conferring ceremonies?"

Behind him, another noble chimed in: "That's right, Rhode, for the last few thousand years, they had always respected the strong like us. Go, accept the homage and dedication of these off-worlders"

Gu Qing Shan stayed silent for a moment before smiling: "Then I suppose I shall"

At this point, several things had occurred at once—

Two lines of glowing text suddenly popped up on the War God UI:

[You've completely grasped the Sword Dance of Offering, and you've performed a normal dance] [Attention, when the next dance begins, your dancing skills will be improved]

At the same time, at the end of the hall, the Viscount suddenly showed himself.

His appearance was celebrated by everyone.

"He had returned, I wonder how things are going on the other side" Crow muttered.

"There should be no issues, such monsters would definitely draw the attention of stronger Combatants" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"---Rhode, come" the Viscount smiled and called out to him.

He was holding an intricate ceremonial sword in his hand.

"I would like to ask for everyone here to bear witness, for I shall officially confer Rhode as a Baron" the Viscount loudly declared.

Everyone began to clap.

Gu Qing Shan told the wraith: "It seems you will have to wait a bit"

"That is natural" the wraith stepped out of his way.

Gu Qing Shan began walking towards the Viscount.

Suddenly, he felt a burning sensation on his wrist.

Whispering voices resounded by his ears:

[¬] You have unveiled the beginning of the Plague Apocalypse to the upper brass of this world, successfully rousing their caution <code>」</code>

^Г The living beings of this world should now be able to make the early preparations to fight against the Apocalypse J

^Г Even so, important historical moments of history would still occur one after another as time continuously goes by J

[「]That is the first moments of the wraiths' destruction of this world J

^T This incident has concluded; your mission has been perfectly completed J

Within Gu Qing Shan's inner sight, the indigo sword pattern on his wrist began to burn, turning into a completely new pattern.

——-a skull.

^Г You have received our recognition, as such we shall explain to you the origin of this world's previous destruction J

^T The betrayal of the wraiths began from a minor incident J

^T That incident would occur on this day in history, exactly one hour from now J

[[] Historians would later call this incident: Death of the young Baron J

Chapter 1338

Translator: La0o9

Gu Qing Shan was walking among the people, but everything around him slowly disappeared one by one.

The banquet hall and ballroom were both gone from his sight.

A tiny sword that exuded blue flames appeared in front of him.

Following that, a sea of stars encircled him, whispering to him in thousands of voices:

[¬] The strongest Combatants of this world have begun to notice the descent of the Plague Apocalypse J

[[]Your actions have proven yourself worthy for the Deities to open a temporal passage for you]

[¬] We shall bring you to the past to witness how the young Baron died in the previous Saint Spirit world's history J

[「]That was the beginning of the Wraith realm's destruction of this world J

The tiny blue sword shattered into a mass of light that enveloped Gu Qing Shan.

•••

Langlois Prefecture.

Viscount Warren's manor.

A handsome young man was enjoying a graceful dance accompanied by the Viscount's eldest daughter.

Gu Qing Shan hovered in mid-air, carefully watching over him.

"Was this the true Rhode of history?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

Countless voices replied at once: $\[\]$ Indeed, he had become a Condemner, then met the wraiths inside the Viscount manor J

Gu Qing Shan silently nodded.

So there was a deeper reason for the world spirit to turn me into this young man.

Below.

When the first dance concluded, the wraiths reached out to the young man, wishing to present him with a gift.

"Very well, in consideration of your earnest display, I shall accept your gift" the young man replied.

The scene quickly changed.

The Viscount showed up, conferring the young man as a Baron.

The banquet became even merrier, the young man immersed himself in it, becoming acquainted with many aristocratic young ladies.

That night, when the young man returned to his room and opened the wraiths' gift, he found that it was a few thin pieces of jade.

At first, the young man didn't really care for them, but the closer he looked at them, the more serious he was, muttering: "Such advanced archery techniques, just perfect for me to use..."

"But where did these wraiths find such a powerful set of archery techniques from?"

The young man appeared cautious, then took out a black handbook and flipped it open.

----the Condemnation Codex.

The few pieces of jade that contained the archery techniques were placed onto the handbook.

"May the signs of all unsalvageable sins be displayed"

The young man chanted the incantation.

Gu Qing Shan noticed that the real Rhode obtained a completely different Condemnation Card from him.

But that makes sense, how could a young man like him immediately obtain a powerful weapon like the Crimson Demon Divine Spear right away?

Gu Qing Shan continued his observation.

With an abrupt blood-curdling scream, all the jade pieces immediately became broken.

The young man's expression suddenly changed as he ran out of his room with the black handbook.

"Quickly help me report to the Viscount, I need to see him immediately!"

The young man shouted as he ran.

A man who looked like a butler quickly appeared, talking to him in a low tone: "Baron Rhode, please calm down, for what reason are you in such a hurry to see the Viscount?"

The young man quickly explained: "Those wraiths, they were up to no good. The Archery techniques they gifted me was a malicious trap!"

"Oh? What kind of trap was it?" the butler asked.

"As long as I practiced those archery techniques, they would be able to take over my body!" the young man loudly shouted.

Gu Qing Shan scowled.

What a familiar sight.

Could it be that everything here, as well as everything that happened in the Tomb of Myriad Beasts, were orchestrated by the wraiths?

The butler appeared confused and muttered: "Really? How strange, this technique has never been discovered before"

Another voice replied:

"There are simply too few Condemners, not only do they not worship any Deities, but the Condemnation Codex is also one of the strangest and most powerful artifacts in existence. It makes sense for there to be a Card among them that happens to be able to discover our technique"

From the darkness, a man in a yaksha mask appeared.

He was holding the young man's head in his hand.

At some unknown point, the young man was already killed.

His headless body collapsed on the ground; bright red blood continuously spilled on the floor.

A second later.

Boundless wind blew towards Gu Qing Shan and pushed him away from this moment of the past.

Under the illumination of the starlight, everything disappeared again.

After a short moment of disorientation, Gu Qing Shan noticed that he had returned to the banquet hall.

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In front of the merry crowd, Viscount Warren was standing at the other side of the ballroom, raising the ceremonial sword and loudly called out to him: "Rhode, this is your moment!"

Gu Qing Shan regained his senses and quickly made his way towards the Viscount.

It turns out ...

Such a thing actually happened.

Arriving in front of the Viscount, Gu Qing Shan knelt on one knee.

The Viscount lightly tapped the side of the ceremonial sword on his shoulder a total of three times, then began to recite the conferring incantation:

"This conferring is meant for he who had contributed to the world of Saint Spirit—— pioneer Rhode"

"I hereby bestow him with the title of Baron, not in hope that he shall use it to display his superiority, but in hope that he would always keep in mind the power of faith"

"Stand up, Rhode"

As Gu Qing Shan stood up, faint Divine Script began to manifest around his body.

This was the conferring incantation recognized by all Deities and the world itself, jointly devised by the acting avatars on this mortal plane.

Viscount Warren then presented a suit of armor representing the title of Baron to Gu Qing Shan.

This was the symbol of a Baron, representing both his identity and authority.

Accepting the armor, Gu Qing Shan bowed towards Viscount Warren.

The Viscount then encouraged him with a few more words.

Under everyone's loud cheers and clapping, the conferring ceremony was considered to be completed.

In front of everyone, the wraiths approached Gu Qing Shan once again.

"Rhode, Baron Rhode" the wraith leader called out.

"Speak" Gu Qing Shan replied with a casual smile.

"We sincerely present this gift of treasure from our world, hoping that it would be able to accompany you and provide you with aid"

The wraiths bowed and lifted a treasure box with both hands.

As everyone looked at the box, they all felt natural.

This was the same thing that has been happening for over a thousand years.

They had gotten used to it.

Gu Qing Shan looked at the box, then at the wraiths in front of him.

"What's inside?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

The wraiths kept the treasure box raised, not answering him.

They weren't sure if this young man truly wanted them to open the box, or was just asking out of formality.

A second later.

Gu Qing Shan opened it directly.

Several thin pieces of jade silently sat inside the box, giving off a glittering transparent light.

"It looks like a scripture or something of the same nature"

"The Wraith realm had helped us conquer many places, obtaining quite a bit of benefits"

"Although the majority of it must be turned in anyways, things they present as gifts to nobles must be quite good regardless"

Everyone discussed among themselves.

Seeing how he actually opened the treasure box in front of everyone, the wraith leader volunteered the information without being asked: "Baron Rhode, these are excellent archery techniques that even the Deities had praised to be powerful, worthy of being spread in the esteemed Saint Spirit world"

The sound of discussion became louder, quite a few people even looked at him in admiration.

Gu Qing Shan smiled, then slowly replied: "I appreciate the thought, but now that I'm a Condemner, I've decided to no longer study the path of the bow and instead focus myself on studying the Condemnation Codex, so I shall not accept this"

The wraiths were surprised.

—-it was not that he wouldn't accept their gifts, but rather that these things were no longer of use to him.

This made perfect sense.

The wraith leader didn't have anything to say, and especially no way to convince Gu Qing Shan to accept these jade pieces.

He continued to hold the treasure box with both hands and shook his head: "Then it seems our preparations were lacking in consideration"

Suddenly.

Viscount Warren spoke up:

"Rhode, I suggest that you still accept these jade pieces and take a look at them whenever you have the time"

Gu Qing Shan's heart slowly sank, but kept a bright smile and said: "Sir, I——"

Viscount Warren cut him off, sincerely telling him: "Your father back then was an expert archer, so as his son, even if only to commemorate his past glory, you should continue to practice your Archery"

Gu Qing Shan nodded: "You're right, sir"

Saying so, he reached his hand out to take the jade pieces.

Viscount Warren nodded, silently sending his voice to Gu Qing Shan: "Rhode, I'll be frank. I'm preparing to recommend you to study at Torrance city and take this chance for you to join Count Heath as his subordinate, I'm hereby asking if are you willing to do so"

Torrance city was the capital of the Duchy, and Count Heath was the military minister with factual authority in his hands, how could a low-ranked noble not want to become acquainted with him?

Gu Qing Shan displayed an excited expression and returned by sending his voice: "Thank you, Viscount Warren. I'm naturally willing"

Patting his shoulder, Viscount Warren continued sending his voice: "Count Heath was in need of an expert archer under him, so I decided to recommend you for the job. But if the Archer skills you display in front of the Count are too shoddy, you wouldn't gain anything from it—— and my credibility would take a hit as well, understood?"

Gu Qing Shan replied: "Don't worry sir, I shall seriously study the Archery techniques that the wraiths presented, ensuring that I do not fail your expectations"

It was only now that Viscount Warren finally displayed a pleased expression.

Chapter 1339

Translator: La0o9

Night.

Gu Qing Shan was standing on top of the mountain outside the manor with a black bow in his hands.

On the grass field next to his laid several jade pieces.

"They prepared everything for me already..."

Gu Qing Shan muttered, drew an arrow, and knocked it onto his bow.

Then let loose.

The arrow turned into a blurred image and disappeared into the unknown darkness in an instant.

Gu Qing Shan simply stood like that for a long while without moving.

"Gongzi, haven't you already dealt with this situation before?" Shannu asked out of concern.

"That's right, in the worst-case scenario, you'll just have to lead them here and stab them to death again" Luo Bing Li followed up.

Gu Qing Shan was still pondering.

The Earth sword then said: 「You don't understand, as long as he had gone through it once, Gu Qing Shan would never be willing to experience the same thing again 」

"Why not?" Shannu asked.

^Г Inserting something into his body with his own hands is an exceedingly painful experience J the Earth sword profoundly replied.

Clang!

A heavy sound of something being hit resounded.

The Earth sword was struck down by the Heaven sword, then got pummeled over and over by the Six Paths Great Mountain sword.

After a while, the Chao Yin sword couldn't bear to watch it any longer and silently tapped Gu Qing Shan with its hilt.

"Leave it at that, don't hit it anymore" Gu Qing Shan called out.

It was only now that Luo Bing Li and Shannu let that go.

Gu Qing Shan slowly spoke: "I was thinking that, if I have to stab myself twice every time I run into this issue, that's also a failure"

"We don't know how many people have already been replaced by wraiths in this world. In the case that they had actually form a huge force, there's a very real chance of me being discovered immediately after I kill my replacement—— which leaves my outcome as questionable as before"

Hearing that, the four swords all went quiet.

Indeed, this was a huge issue.

Gu Qing Shan held the jade pieces in his hand, evaluating them a bit.

"Not a single one of these archery techniques are clean"

He chuckled.

From the Heaven sword, Luo Bing Li's voice asked: "Gu Qing Shan, what are you going to do now?"

"I'm still thinking ... "

Gu Qing Shan sifted back and forth between the jade pieces until he finally picked one to hold in his hand.

Following this action, lines of glowing text instantly appeared on the War God UI:

[Archery technique: Snowdrift]

[Divine Skill, Inheritance technique]

[Activation requirement: You must be able to sense blood from an enemy in order to activate this archery technique]

[Snowdrift: Any arrow you shoot has a range of 100,000 miles, every 10,000 miles that an arrow flies, it will be infused with one offensive ability, with ten abilities being the maximum]

[Ability 1: Shield Breaker – Increasing damage against defensive items by three-fold]

[Ability 2: Rain Shower – When a shot strikes an enemy, instantly manifest five more of the same attack]

[Ability 3: Chaos Elemental – Randomly choose an Elemental power and infuse it into the arrow]

[Ability 4: Critical – Your arrow will definitely hit an enemy's vitals]

[Ability 5: Feather Blade – The longer the flight distance, the more powerful the attack, increasing to three-fold at most]

[Ability 6: Bleed – The arrow wound cannot stop bleeding]

[Ability 7: Explosion – When the arrow is blocked, it will instantly explode, all other abilities infused will instantly be triggered]

[Ability 8: Dazzle – Cannot be discerned through eyesight, an enemy can only use other senses to detect this arrow]

[Ability 9: Venom Borne – The one struck by the arrow will manifest countless venomous insects inside their bodies that consume their flesh]

[Ability 10: Snowfall – The time for the arrow to fly the distance of 100,000 miles will be the same as 100 miles, the accuracy also remains the same]

[To comprehend this inheritance Divine Skill, you'll need to expend 1 million Soul Points]

---this was the most precious jade piece among all of them.

After skimming through, Gu Qing Shan sighed emotionally: "What a huge investment indeed, even willing to give up a Divine Skill of this caliber. It was because Condemners were so rare that they wanted to take over my body no matter what, huh?"

This [Snowdrift] technique that infuses 10 abilities combined with the black bow with its [Flying Shadow] ability is nothing short of a first-rate offensive combination.

The only shortcoming was that the activation condition for this Divine Skill is a bit too harsh.

While Gu Qing Shan was thinking, a line of glowing text appeared on the War God UI:

[Special note: This Divine Skill is an Archer inheritance technique, in consideration of the previous 'Ethereal' matter, the system is able to convert 'Snowdrift' into pure knowledge]

[Knowledge is absolutely clean and safe; would you like to convert it?]

"No, no need to" Gu Qing Shan replied.

He spent 1 million Soul Points and fully comprehended this Archery Divine Skill.

A warm flow appeared from the jade piece, entered his arm, then finally gathered inside his Thought Sea, allowing Gu Qing Shan to instantly grasp this inheritance Divine Skill.

The swords could all feel his change.

"Gongzi, will it be me and the Earth sword who act this time again?" Shannu asked.

"No, we're in no hurry"

Gu Qing Shan whispered: "Someone's coming"

The swords instantly faded into the void of space and hid into his Thought Sea.

One breath.

Two breaths.

A figure appeared from the darkness.

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Viscount Warren.

"Why is our young Baron alone at such a secluded place? Could you have gotten your heart broken by a certain young aristocratic lady?" he spoke teasingly, but his gaze already contained a bit of chill.

"Not at all"

Gu Qing Shan curtly answered, drew an arrow from his back, and knocked it onto this bow.

A unique fluctuation began to emanate from the black bow.

Viscount Warren's gaze became focused and asked:

"Have you already begun to practice one of those archery techniques?"

With a loud 'bang', the arrow escaped from the bowstring and instantly disappeared without a trace.

"I am, what an unimaginable technique, I really couldn't imagine that the wraiths would have such a thing" Gu Qing Shan praised.

The chill was blown away from Viscount Warren's body by a passing gust of wind.

"This is [Snowdrift]—— I know of this archery technique. The wraiths have gifted this Divine Skill to quite a few aristocrats, but regretfully none of them managed to comprehend it at all. You were the very first one"

While explaining that, he evaluated Gu Qing Shan.

So that's the reason.

This young man went so far in the middle of the night, simply to find a place to secretly practice his skills.

From his power fluctuations and the arrow shot just now, that seems to be the truth.

——his comprehension abilities are quite strong, having already gained a preliminary grasp on the entire technique.

Viscount Warren's expression softened up as he handed a document to Gu Qing Shan.

"To be able to practice such a powerful archery technique, I expect much from you——- these are the necessary documents required for heading to Torrance city. When you arrive, report directly to Count Heath"

Gu Qing Shan received the document with a hesitant expression.

"What's the matter?" Viscount Warren asked.

"Sir, I have a bit of an unreasonable request" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"Speak" the Viscount said.

"Earlier, there were two wraiths who were infected by some sort of unknown power and were turned into monsters that ate some people in my village——" Gu Qing Shan purposely prolonged the words, then looked towards the Viscount.

"Indeed" the Viscount signaled for him to continue.

Gu Qing Shan then went on: "Could I ask to take one of their corpses back? I wish to hang it on the main entrance of the village, for everyone to see that the monster has been thoroughly defeated and there was nothing to fear"

Viscount Warren remained silent.

Those two unlucky fellows... even their souls had been thoroughly eroded, not even a revival Immortal Craft would have been able to save them.

Although their corpses are now useless, they were still my comrades—-

At the same time, this Condemner would soon become my comrade as well.

There's no harm in agreeing to his request for now, lest there are other issues.

"I can let you borrow it for a few days, but by the time you set off for Torrance city, I want you to take the corpse with you and hand it over to Count Heath, understood?" Viscount Warren replied.

"Of course, no problem" Gu Qing Shan happily accepted.

Viscount Warren tapped the void of space.

A ferocious monster corpse appeared on the ground.

Gu Qing Shan put the corpse away, then bowed to the Viscount: "Sir, then I will return to my village first. After practicing my archery for two more days, I will immediately set out to Torrance city"

Viscount Warren replied: "Very well, when you set out to Torrance city, come and see me again"

"Understood"

Gu Qing Shan tilted his body a bit and disappeared into the darkness.

Silently standing still for a while, Viscount Warren muttered:

"A Condemner... truly an unusual existence"

•••

On the other side.

Gu Qing Shan and Crow had just returned to Ramon village.

"So we're heading off to the capital in a few days?" Crow asked.

"That's right. Since there is nothing to do for the next two days, use that time to reorganize yourself" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"Come, let's go have a drink" Crow pointed at a bar on the other side of the street.

"You go first, I have a small matter I need to take care of, I'll join you later"

"Alright"

Crow happily kicked open the door of the bar and walked inside, loudly shouting: "Give this lady the best drink you've got"

As the door closed again, her voice couldn't be heard again.

Gu Qing Shan shook his head and disappeared right away.

In the wilderness outside of the village, he chose a spot with little disturbance and arranged 7-8 concealment formations using his formation plate.

The monster's corpse was placed on the ground.

"Gongzi, what are you doing?" Shannu asked.

Looking down on the monster's corpse, Gu Qing Shan replied:

"When we finished dealing with the wolf outside of the village, a wraith appeared to check the situation"

"There was, and so?"

"The only thing around this Ramon village is the barren wilderness, there wasn't anything that the wraiths could have been interested in. The only target of any value was the young Rhode who is about to be conferred a peerage, meaning..."

Gu Qing Shan's gaze became profound:

"From the very start, they were already making preparations to switch my soul"

Chapter 1340

Translator: La0o9

Six scattered legs.

A jet-black full-body carapace, which contained rotten flesh.

Pus was flowing from the mouth that had turned into a cross shape, all the teeth had been altered to become more irregular.

---as well as the shape.

This was a wraith who had been infected by the plague.

Right at this moment, Gu Qing Shan sat crouched in front of the corpse, carefully examining it again.

"Alright, the corpse had been very thoroughly treated, and also very clean. Everything extraneous had been confiscated, even the layers of hidden runes on his body had disappeared"

Observing the corpse, Gu Qing Shan felt pleased.

"Gongzi, what do you mean by hidden runes?" Shannu curiously asked.

"Protective techniques"

Gu Qing Shan pointed at a part of the monster's body for Shannu to see.

A layer of that portion seemed to have been skimmed off, leaving the muscles inside exposed.

"When we fought, I paid close attention and saw that there used to be runes here, most likely the wraith's Life Talisman or something of the same nature, but now they're nowhere to be seen" Gu Qing Shan explained.

"They'd be willing to go so far as to strip every piece of skin away rather than leaving the runes for others to see, for what reason?" Luo Bing Li asked.

"To hide the wraiths' true strength" Gu Qing Shan replied.

He stood up, muttering: "No protective Life Talismans, no weapons, no armor, literally nothing of any value. With a corpse so clean, no wonder they were so willing to give it to me"

——-saying that, he drew the Heaven sword.

"You want to use [Chaotic Flow]?"

Luo Bing Li's voice sounded from the Heaven sword.

"That's right, I'm sorry, but you'll probably have to sleep for a few days" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"—–Before I sleep, I want to know exactly what you're planning" Luo Bing Li asked with interest.

Gu Qing Shan cleared his throat, then answered: "The wraiths have always been highly cautious, I've already known that since arriving at Void City, as they forbid nearly everyone from going into their world"

"In this world where time had been reset, they are displaying the same level of caution, only giving me the corpse after cleaning it up in every possible way—— and this was done after I had already begun to practice their archery technique, in consideration that I would soon become one of them"

"That's why this will be the only opportunity"

"An opportunity for what?" Luo Bing Li asked.

"I suspect that they have an entire squad responsible for the preparations of switching my soul, and this body happened to be the one responsible for observing me within that squad—— as far as I know, for a poor border village like Ramon, other than the young man who was about to become the Baron, there should be no reason for them to be in this place. Furthermore, a wraith immediately showed up as soon as I killed the wolf, this meant that they were originally in my vicinity"

"—–which brings up a certain possibility, would the one preparing to switch with me also be part of this squad?"

"Why do you think that person would be in this squad?" Luo Bing Li asked.

"Because they need to understand everything there is to understand about Rhode and constantly know his every move, only then would they be able to switch with Rhode and not be exposed by Rhode's acquaintances or even close subordinates" Gu Qing Shan replied.

After a bit of thought, Luo Bing Li agreed: "That's indeed the case, so you're going to act now?"

Gu Qing Shan's expression was a bit cold as he muttered: "I've always acted on the premise of having enough intel, but the wraiths have always operated so carefully that they never leave any loose ends. Even if I manage to kill them, it would still be exceedingly tough to collect any intel from them, so I had no choice but to patiently wait and find an opening" "——and this would be the opening you've been looking for?" Luo Bing Li asked.

Gu Qing Shan nodded: "A rare opportunity"

Luo Bing Li didn't say anything else, but the Heaven sword gave off a light chime.

This was her expressing that she was ready to activate [Chaotic Flow].

Gu Qing Shan immediately began to act.

He took out the Chao Yin sword and Six Paths Great Mountain sword, thrusting both of them into the plague monster's body and pinned it tightly to the ground, then arranged several more restraining formations using his formation plate.

With everything ready, he raised the Heaven sword——–

[Chaotic Flow] activate!

[Chaotic Flow: At any moment that the Heaven sword strikes an entity, you may force that entity to skip to any moment in time of your choosing]

With a single slash, the monster's gigantic body quickly shrank until it returned to human form.

The man slowly woke up and opened his eyes, only to see nothing but dirt.

All his powers had been completely restrained by dozens of formations, unable to exert them or use them to even check his surroundings.

He abruptly howled in pain: "Arrrggh!"

He was currently facing the ground, pinned down by three swords, not only was he unable to move a single muscle, but he also had to experience intense pain.

At this point, Gu Qing Shan had taken out a black handbook, holding onto the back of the man's head with one hand and the book with the other, quickly chanting:

"The creation and destruction of all things are but a single moment, with my power of Condemnation, your suffering shall surely be atoned for——"

"[Divine Word: Cleanse]"

Boom!

A gloomy burst of light instantly appeared from the man's body, then faded into nothingness.

Gu Qing Shan's eyebrows twitched, then shouted: "Shannu, [Law Breaker]!"

"Understood!"

Shannu replied as the entire Six Paths Great Mountain sword gave off faint and sharp sword phantoms.

Cackle!

Several layers of gloomy light glowed but quickly became dim.

7-8 techniques had just been dispelled at once!

Gu Qing Shan put the black handbook away, wielded the sleeping Heaven sword, and thrust it through the man's heart.

The man's eyes opened wide.

"Who exactly..." he spat up blood, completely clueless of what was going on.

—-you clearly resurrected me, so why did you suddenly kill me again?
Please support our website and read on novelbold
Who exactly are you?
Why won't you even let me see anything?

Sensing the man's life slipping away, Gu Qing Shan reached his hand out and pressed against the back of the man's head again.

[Soul Reading], activate!

Countless chaotic images filled Gu Qing Shan's Thought Sea.

Gu Qing Shan was taking every last memory from this male cultivator of the Wraith realm.

One breath.

Two breaths.

Three breaths.

The male cultivator slowly lost his consciousness, about to die.

Finishing his soul reading, Gu Qing Shan still didn't let him go and shouted: "Shannu, Chao Yin sword, protect my body!"

The two swords flew out from the corpse, protecting his front and back.

Gu Qing Shan sat down with his legs crossed, each hand forming a different seal.

——-Secret Art, [Sealed Body Yin Shift]!

——Secret Art, [Soul Comes Soul Goes]!

These two techniques must be activated at the exactly same time, leaving no room for mistakes.

Both of Gu Qing Shan's hands finished the seals at the same time, stopping at the very last one.

His breathing stopped, his body temperature decreased, his spirit energy receded into this Dantian, his heart became still.

At the same time, he opened his eyes.

Gu Qing Shan's soul had left his body, hovering in mid-air.

"Kill"

He spat out that single word.

The Earth sword slashed and erased that male cultivator's body from existence.

Only a soul was left.

Before the soul even understood what was going on, Gu Qing Shan wielded the Earth sword and unleashed another full-power slash.

The soul was instantly slain.

Since Gu Qing Shan was now a soul, he was able to see a single spark left of the other party's soul, which was quickly fading into the void of space.

Gu Qing Shan clenched his fist, shouting: "Come!"

A line of glowing text quickly flashed through the War God UI:

[As you've received the blessing of the past worlds and dedicated the power of over a hundred million dead souls to Primal Chaos, Primal Chaos has appeared before you]

Boundless unreal wind filled his vicinity as a golden waterfall descended from above, drifting around Gu Qing Shan's body.

Primal Chaos!

Gu Qing Shan completely ignored his magnificent sight, instead, he narrowed his eyes to carefully search.

Suddenly, Gu Qing Shan discovered the soul spark from before!

Wielding the Earth sword, he quickly said: "Earth sword, leave no scrap behind!"

「Got it!」 the Earth sword responded.

A cold gleam.

[Earth's Choice]!

As the spark was struck, it broke into fine dust and became scattered into Primal Chaos.

[Earth's Choice] was capable of slaying any entity, but an individual would turn into a soul after their death, and the soul would turn into a spark after being destroyed. This was the rule of the three layers of destruction determined by Primal Chaos, one that not even the Earth sword could bypass to directly erase someone.

That was why Gu Qing Shan had turned into a soul in order to eliminate each of these layers one by one, killing that wraith a total of three times and erasing every last trace of his existence.

Only after that was done could Gu Qing Shan finally relax.

He descended and returned to his body.

His eyes opened.

Everything was as normal.

"Gongzi, did you succeed?" Shannu asked out of concern.

"Hm, this person was originally corroded by the Plague Apocalypse, then resurrected by me and killed three times in a row. All of his traces have been erased, there won't be any other issues" Gu Qing Shan replied.

He looked up at the sky.

It was profoundly dark, the darkest moment of the day.

There was still quite a bit of time until dawn.

"Let's go" Gu Qing Shan said.

"Where to?" Shannu asked.

"When I used soul reading earlier, I found one of their bases, so we're going to head there and see the wraith that's about to try and take over my body" Gu Qing Shan casually replied.

The swords all returned to his Thought Sea.

Gu Qing Shan's figure slowly shrank, turning into an orange cat.

Picking out a direction, the orange cat immediately began to head deeper into the wilderness.

From above, its body looked like a ghostly shadow, which then quickly disappeared into the boundless shadow of night.