Apocalypse 561

Chapter 561: Ancient creatures

The mountain-like black monster was flying upwards in a flexible manner.

When it was several hundred meters away from Gu Qing Shan, the monster suddenly disappeared.

This is—–

Gu Qing Shan noticed and immediately used [Ground Shrink].

As soon as the monster disappeared, so did Gu Qing Shan.

One man and one monster went out of sight at the same time.

When the monster reappeared, it was at where Gu Qing Shan was before.

———and missed Gu Qing Shan again.

[Insect of another world, can you only run?]

The countless faces on the monster's body mocked him.

Then it felt a sharp pain.

Gu Qing Shan stood right behind it, both swords pierced into its body.

"I'm only getting into position"

Saying so, Gu Qing Shan suddenly activated a Secret Art.

Boom--

With his full power, two strikes of [Water Flow Severance] combined into one and exploded all at once inside the monster's body.

Immense sword phantoms erupted in a brilliant light, breaking the monster's black body apart.

Large pieces of the monster's body broke off, dropping from the sky.

It could only let out a short desperate scream.

Without knowing that this was only the beginning.

Gu Qing Shan's body moved, his swords flew around leaving countless afterimages, slashing at the monster nonstop.

He was simply too fast!

In the time the monster screamed, Gu Qing Shan had already struck it 36 consecutive times.

From the first Secret Art to the 36th strike, it took him a single blink of the eye, the monster couldn't even react to it.

In the span of one breath, the monster's body had been finely diced by the two swords, scattering around the air.

Having done all that, Gu Qing Shan took his swords and flew backwards.

One sword in front, one sword behind, he was cautiously shielding his body.

"Oong?" the Chao Yin sword asked in confusion.

"Its power level didn't decrease at all, instead it's getting stronger" Gu Qing Shan said.

As he spoke, the monster's countless body pieces quickly gathered again, writhing.

After just a second, the monster had recovered.

So this insect uses cold weapons

All the faces on the monster's body angrily roared at Gu Qing Shan and spoke.

Gu Qing Shan became more cautious.

Teleportation, indiscriminate devouring, void evasion, body parts fusion recovery, every single one of these characteristics were powerful.

To a cold weapon user, monsters that had a quick recovering characteristic were quite hard to deal with.

Furthermore, it knows how to judge my battle style. This monster...

While Gu Qing Shan was thinking, the monster had already moved.

This time, it didn't use its teleportation abilities to suddenly approach him, instead made some distance from Gu Qing Shan.

[Your swords are very fast, it must've killed quite a few people who couldn't react in time. But next, I will have you experience ultimate despair] the countless faces spoke.

Its black body began to writhe chaotically again.

The faces appeared to be in pain.

One of the faces suddenly detached itself from the monster's body.

This seemed to be the signal.

Five faces, dozen faces, hundred faces, thousands of faces.

Over a hundred thousand faces detached from the monster's body, lightly hovering around it.

A particularly mature male face silently hovered forward.

In a flash, it travelled a long distance and appeared in the sky.

Then it disappeared again.

Consecutive teleportation?

Gu Qing Shan's eyebrows twitched, thrusting his sword forward.

As soon as the face appeared, it was pierced by the Earth sword.

The male face screamed.

Sword phantoms flashed.

The face was cut to pieces.

Gu Qing Shan managed to kill it in one strike, but he wasn't at all glad.

This face was much more flexible compared to the mountain-like monster.

It can teleport twice in a row! If all the faces were like this...

Gu Qing Shan's gaze turned to the monster.

Sure enough, all the faces around the monster disappeared at once.

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They flashed once to approach Gu Qing Shan, then came right before Gu Qing Shan in the second flash.

They appeared all around him, wanting to tear his body apart with their teeth.

In that split second, both of Gu Qing Shan's swords attacked.

Secret Art, [Drawn Shadow] Secret Art, [Drawn Shadow]

Two [Drawn Shadow]s bloomed to form black sword shadows without leaving any gap, slashing back and forth nonstop in the sky.

Sha sha sha sha sha!

All the monster's faces were cut apart, screaming as they faded away.

The black sword shadows gradually faded as well.

Gu Qing Shan appeared again.

With both swords in hand, he was staring down the monster.

The faces were growing back on its body.

They were all glaring at Gu Qing Shan, discussing.

 \llbracket His reaction is too fast rbrace

[His sword is impressive]

 ${\ensuremath{\,{\rm I}}}$ We need to think of something else to eat his flesh ${\ensuremath{\,{\rm J}}}$

Then let's use that attack 🌡

As their discussing voices came out, the faces quickly filled the monster's entire body again.

Every single face that was killed was revived on its body.

"Revival? So it has an ability like that as well?"

Gu Qing Shan muttered.

He was also observing it, trying to find its weakness.

Looks like I'll have to try attacking its main body again, hopefully it doesn't have the annoying revival property as well.

While Gu Qing Shan thought that, all the faces on the monster's body opened their mouths.

🛚 AaaaAAAaaa—– 🌡

They let out a blood-curdling scream.

From this scream, various illusions appeared.

A vast burning land appeared floating in the sky as countless ghosts and revenants gathered, looking down at Gu Qing Shan as if waiting to attack him.

All of a sudden, a 7-colored light appeared from Gu Qing Shan's body.

From the void of space, golden petals and flowers appeared together with various beasts of luck.

This was the Guardian Deity Secret Art that the Great Monk of Sorrow gave him after the decisive battle in the cultivation world.

Whenever Gu Qing Shan's soul vessel came under attack, this Secret Art would automatically activate to counteract it.

But obviously, the opponent was too strong this time around.

As soon as the 6 armed deities appeared, they started becoming faint.

Before they could protect Gu Qing Shan, they were already shattered.

Gu Qing Shan felt an intense headache and an immense pulling force acting on him.

"Not good!"

His expression changed, quickly taking out a formation plate and consecutively arranged soundproof formations.

Shortly after, the noises disappeared, the illusions became faint and the ghosts and revenants also faded away.

But until the very last moment, those ghosts and revenants were still staring straight at Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan realized.

This wasn't a simple soul vessel attack.

This was some sort of combination attack that really could have ejected me to another world.

In the brief moments just now, Gu Qing Shan could almost feel the existence of that other world.

To have so many skills, this monster was truly terrifying.

While he was thinking, the monster's body started to writhe again, seemingly preparing for a new round of attacks.

This time, it sprouted a pair of jet black arms.

The monster waved these arms to create a zone of darkness.

This darkness quickly spread all around.

From the looks of it, this monster was about to unleash some sort of spell.

Gu Qing Shan's gaze became tense.

I can't let it keep going like this!

As he raised his sword, another figure had already jumped out towards the black monster.

It was an old man covered in blood.

Ah? There was still someone left alive? I the monster was shocked.

The old man took a few steps before his body suddenly magnified.

Crash!

The old man charged straight into the monster, sending it flying, crashing through countless coral buildings before landing several hundred meters away.

The darkness around them disappeared—— as the monster's spell was cut-off.

Gu Qing Shan was stunned.

Because the old man had just turned into an ancient life form, exactly the same as the corpse he saw in the divine temple.

The ancient creature looked similar to humans, but compared to humans, they were noticeably uglier and fiercer.

But this ugliness and fierceness combined created an air of solemnity and majesty instead.

Perhaps the people of this world can turn into the ancient life forms? Which means, the corpse of the ancient creature I saw on top was the corpse of people of this world? No.

That's not correct.

Perhaps not everyone in this world can turn into an ancient life form.

Otherwise, so many people wouldn't have fallen victim to the monster so easily.

Probably, only a small portion of people in this world have that ability.

Suddenly, the ancient creature looked up at Gu Qing Shan.

"Those attacks are useless, not even my attack can do anything to it!" The ancient creature loudly told him: "I can feel the power of Lightning in your body, only Lightning can counter it"

Chapter 562: Mediator

In fact, it wasn't like Gu Qing Shan had no way to deal with it.

Halfway through the battle, he already checked the War God UI.

Before, when I killed the 11 Entropy Ghosts, my Soul Points had almost reached 1 million. Even without spending the Soul Points, when I killed those Entropy Ghosts, the Taiyi Sword Array had once again been applied with [Iaido] four times, boosting its power to 16-fold.

Should I use the 16-fold Taiyi Sword Array to kill it?

No, that would be similar to killing a cockroach with a flamethrower.

The 16-fold Taiyi Sword Array is now my ace in the hole, a weapon to be used only at the most crucial moment.

It was because of this that Gu Qing Shan still hadn't been fighting at full power yet.

"Are you sure Lightning Element is effective?" he asked.

The ancient life form replied in a loud voice: "Lightning is the tool of punishment of the Gods in our world, this was a Law established when the Gods created this world, that's why its power vastly overshadows that of other elements, almost impossible to surpass"

Although the ancient life form looked hideous, he was speaking in a fluent pre-modern immigrant language.

This was a common language of Demis, also recorded in the Spire Keeper Association's dictionary.

"Then I'll give it a try" Gu Qing Shan said.

A few hundred meters away, the black monster once again stood up.

With a swift thought, Gu Qing Shan had the Earth sword and Chao Yin sword both fly towards the monster.

Ignoring the monster raising its arms up to defend, the Earth sword slashed downwards.

Dong!

The ground broke apart and sank, but the monster managed to withstand the Earth sword's 86,370,000 tons of force.

However, the countless faces on its body screamed of pain in unison.

Obviously, the attack wasn't completely useless.

Taking that chance, the Chao Yin sword pierced through the monster's chest.

Lightning Thaumaturgy, [Severance]!

The monster was stunned in place, unable to move.

In the next three seconds, its soul vessel would be forced out of its body, incapable of controlling it.

What can he do in 3 seconds?

Gu Qing Shan suddenly appeared, taking the flying Earth sword in hand.

[Vacant]! [Spur]! [Wind Twist]! [Consecutive]!

With a flash of the sword, all seven strikes were completed.

White-blue arcs of lightning the size of an arm quickly infused from Gu Qing Shan's body into the Earth sword.

The brilliant electrical arcs flickered on and off around the Earth sword, illuminating the world around into a world of flashing lightning.

In a split second, several arcs of lightning had gathered on the Earth sword.

"[Flowing Dragon]!"

Gu Qing Shan shouted.

A ferocious dragon head made of blue lightning appeared from the tip of this sword.

Following the head was a winding dragon body made from a mix of lightning and sword phantoms, ascending to the sky from the Earth sword.

Roar!

The lightning dragon brought the monster all the way to the sky.

 \llbracket AaaAArG! No! Why is there still someone who knows how to use Lightning in this world—–! \rrbracket the monster screeched in an ear-piercing tone.

Halfway through its flight, the lightning dragon turned into a blue orb of lightning, completely trapping the monster inside.

It was as if a blue sun had just appeared in the sky.

Night turned into day.

The black monster was slowly eaten away by the lightning.

The light faded.

Arcs of lightning scattered away through the sky before dissipating completely.

The black monster was nowhere to be seen.

It had been completely eliminated.

Seeing this, Gu Qing Shan finally understood.

So the Old Gods had established the Law of this world to have Lightning act as a punishment tool. With the combined power of reinforced Lightning and the Six Paths Great Mountain sword's anti-Law property, no wonder I could kill so many Entropy Ghosts so easily. After all, no matter how weak they were, Entropy Ghosts are still Chaotic Demon Lords!

Gu Qing Shan turned back.

The ancient life form had turned back to an old man.

The old man opened his mouth wide, staring at the sky in shock all the way until the lightning dragon had disappeared.

Noticing Gu Qing Shan's gaze, he finally snapped out of it.

"I'm sorry, I've never seen such impressive Lightning ever before" the old man said.

Seeing how he was covered in blood, Gu Qing Shan casually threw him a pill.

The old man received the pill and sniffed it.

His eyebrows raised.

Without hesitation, the old man put the pill in his mouth, chewed and swallowed.

"I still haven't said anything and you've already eaten it? Aren't you scared I might have done something?" Gu Qing Shan was surprised and asked.

"There's no poison that can harm this old man, furthermore, with a few hundred years under my belt, this old man can easily tell that it's a beneficial thing" the old man puffed out his chest and gloated.

"Then I'll tell you something else, besides healing wounds, that pill I just gave also has a detoxifying effect"

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"...Why didn't you say that sooner"

Gu Qing Shan helplessly shrugged: "You already ate it before I got the chance to tell you"

The old man clutched his stomach, wobbling to find somewhere to expel his waste.

"Wait a minute, are there any other living people in this city?" Gu Qing Shan loudly asked behind him.

"I'm the last survivor here!"

While answering, the old man hurriedly ran into one of the coral buildings.

Gu Qing Shan was shocked.

"To be that reckless and still survive, seems like he's quite strong" he muttered.

While waiting for the old man to go to the toilet, Gu Qing Shan headed towards the plaza from before.

He didn't know exactly what the black monster did to make the entire plaza disappear like this.

It now had a really deep hole.

----a bottomless hole.

Gu Qing Shan tried releasing his inner sight downwards to check but still couldn't reach the bottom.

Gu Qing Shan then walked around the area surrounding the plaza to take a look.

Beneath him, the originally dark blue ground had completely disappeared.

The ground of the plaza was now burning with a reddish-brown flame.

The flames appeared from the ground, constantly spreading when blown by the wind instead of being snuffed out.

At a glance, these flames seem to be sentient, as they all let out light and gathered together, forming an area completely quarantined from the rest.

The Earth sword spoke up: 「These are the flames of Purgatory 」

"Purgatory? Is it a normal world?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

「What do you mean by 'normal'?」

"Not covered by the [Demon King Order]"

[「] It used to be quite normal, but who can say now 」 the Earth sword answered.

"What about these flames?"

The flames of Purgatory had always been like this, sir 🌡 another voice replied.

Gu Qing Shan looked back.

From moments unknown, a person had already appeared standing in the middle of the hole.

He was wearing a black business suit, from a glance you could tell he was quite tall and a polite gentleman.

 \llbracket Hello, Mr. Gu Qing Shan. I'm a representative of Purgatory. My master said that, if you won against that monster, you would qualify to accept our mediation \rrbracket

"Mediation?"

rbrace Indeed, my master would like to mediate between you and the [Demon King Order] rbrace

"Why so?"

[Mr. Gu Qing Shan, a world's civilization, or rather, all of the worlds' civilizations, do you know why they are called 'civilization'?]

"I don't like guessing games. If you have something to say, go ahead say it"

The man stretched out one finger and answered: $\[$ Only [Order] can represent the existence of a civilization $\]$

[Order]?

Gu Qing Shan became cautious.

"But I heard that Purgatory was supposed to be the most chaotic place there is" he said.

 \llbracket Ah, indeed our place is chaotic, but chaos is also a type of [Order], and the master of Purgatory enjoys chaos \rrbracket the man replied.

"Why exactly did you come here to find me?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

 $lap{l}$ Mr. Gu Qing Shan, in truth, both you and I shouldn't be here $~
lap{l}$

"What do you mean by that?"

[[Worlds Apocalypse Online] is the [Demon King Order], but you yourself don't represent any [Order] at all, so we hope that you will become a bystander, that way you will obtain the friendship of Purgatory]

"So you belong with [Worlds Apocalypse Online]?"

I No, we are a neutral party J

The black suit man kept talking: If you are willing to stop, or even better, leave right away, we of Purgatory would be more than willing to help you leave the battlefield, furthermore we guarantee that the [Demon King Order] will never affect you ever again]

"Why do you need to mediate?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

The man smiled apologetically: $\[$ If I answer that, our secret will be revealed, so I'm sorry $\]$

 \llbracket Mr. Gu Qing Shan, accept the mediation, that way the [Demon King Order] will stay away from you, and our Purgatory would always welcome you as our esteemed guest ightharpoonup

"You're convinced you can persuade me?"

 $\[$ Indeed, because you, sir, are only a small insect. And since you don't belong to any [Order], there isn't a reason for you to seek death $\]$

"It seems your actions are to flatter or please someone"

[You are sharp. Too sharp. Mr. Gu Qing Shan, please tell me your choice now, I am not able to tell you anything else]

"I refuse"

"Then go on, I'm listening"

[If you refuse our mediation—-] the man smiled full of malice, [when you die, the master of Purgatory will personally come to collect your soul, you will be burned in the furnace of Purgatory for eternity. No matter how much you cry, scream, or regret your choice, you will be given no second chance]

Gu Qing Shan went silent briefly before nodding: "It seems your master and I have the same idea"

The man smiled: [The same idea? Very well, Mr. Gu Qing Shan, please tell me what that is]

Gu Qing Shan also smiled: "Indeed, from today onwards, your master and I, both of us will gain an archenemy"

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The tall black suit man maintained his polite appearance.

He was smiling at Gu Qing Shan, waiting for the answer he was hoping for.

But the words he heard completely stunned him instead.

Gu Qing Shan continued: "I've already given a very polite and definitive answer to your master's proposal, you can go back and report to him now"

The tall man's smile froze over.

[Mr. Gu Qing Shan] his tone became cold, [Have you always been this arrogant and ignorant?]

"Expressing my own will and choice is hardly arrogant" Gu Qing Shan replied.

The man reached out his hand pointing at the endlessly burning flames of Purgatory beneath his feet.

From the bottomless hole, the flames were burning bright.

If you took a careful look, you'd find that there were a large number of monsters hidden inside the flame.

The flames acted both as a barrier and the ground for the monsters, running back and forth doing their own things.

As the tall man pointed at the flame, all the monsters stopped and looked Gu Qing Shan's way.

They all lowered their bodies, baring their fangs maliciously.

Perhaps you don't know, just how big a price I have to pay to project a corner of Purgatory to this Old God's world 1 the man spoke.

Gu Qing Shan smiled back: "Of course I don't, unfortunately, that monster you prepared couldn't kill me, so you have no choice but to come out and talk"

Two swords appeared behind Gu Qing Shan from the void of space.

He continued: "Now that I think about it carefully, the monster just now tried to summon an illusion, and almost succeeded in taking me into it. That world in the illusion must've been your Purgatory, isn't it?"

The tall man went silent.

🛿 You truly are sharp, Mr. Gu Qing Shan 🎍

Saying so, he pulled up his sleeve to reveal his left arm.

There was a circular burning brand on his left wrist, depicting a two-horned monster inside.

Without waiting for him to act, a sword had stabbed through his chest.

From behind, another sword stabbed him at the same angle.

A light 'ki' was heard.

The two swords struck each other, one of them turned into an afterimage and disappeared, while the Chao Yin sword spun back.

Gu Qing Shan raised one eyebrow unexpectedly and caught the sword.

[Swallow Returns] wasn't able to hit him, how unexpected.

[It's useless, this projection is several million worlds away from the true Purgatory where I am, you can't reach me] the man laughed.

He was staring at the sword in Gu Qing Shan's hand with a look of greed: [] If it weren't for this sword of the Old Gods, you think you would even be qualified for me to pay such a huge price to come here!?]

"You can't even fight properly. So you guys at Purgatory just talk others to death?" Gu Qing Shan regretfully mocked him.

 \llbracket No, you underestimate us too much, Gu Qing Shan floor the man grunted.

As he raised his left arm, the burning brand on it started to give off a smell of sulfur.

[Through the summoning of the Entropy Ghost, I will have you rethink your actions in Purgatory ~
floor

The flames started to manifest, rising from his arm.

An endless yellow flame rose to the air, forming the outline of a two-horned monster.

🛿 Master of the flames, Demon Lord of Time and Space 📱 he chanted.

Gu Qing Shan scowled.

I can't kill him, but he can use a spell to affect me? That's impossible. The Laws of Time and Space are mutually binding. As if just now...

He let me attack first to prove that I have no way to hit him?

The Earth sword suddenly urged him: 「Quickly! Right now! Only when he attacks can you hurt him! 」

"Just like I thought"

Gu Qing Shan's mind moved quickly and formed the hand seals again.

"Kill him!"

With his order, the Earth sword flew forward in a flash straight at the man.

[With such a trashy sword, you think you can—--]

The man scoffed.

He waved his other hand to create several barriers of flame to stop the flying sword.

But he couldn't finish his sentence.

The Earth sword flew straight through the barriers of flame and manifested a large bluish arc of light.

Secret Art, [Crescent Slash]!

The tall man was bisected from head to tail.

He froze in place.

In the sky, the flaming monster suddenly cried a scream of unwillingness.

Before it could fully manifest, it had already been dissipated.

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The Earth sword stood straight up, silently hovering in front of the man while blood dripped down its blade.

[「]You garbage imp of Purgatory dared to mock me? 」 the Earth sword spoke in a low voice.

[You... what exactly...]

Before his words could finish, the man's body had already fallen to either side, dropping down the bottomless hole.

The endless flames of Purgatory covered his body, burning it to ashes.

Boom!

The flames rose to the sky.

A huge and ferocious figure appeared in the flame.

 ${\ensuremath{\,{\rm I}}}$ Seems like the mediation had failed ${\ensuremath{\,{\rm J}}}$

The ferocious figure sighed.

It looked around before finally locking its gaze on Gu Qing Shan.

"You're his master?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

[Correct, so you are the insect?] the figure clicked its tongue: [At this important junction in time, you dared to go against the flow of history? Should I call you brave, or foolish?]

Gu Qing Shan raised his sword: "History is merely the result born from the struggles of countless people. If you're brave enough, stop hiding behind the curtains and get out here, we'll see what choice history makes"

🛛 I already did 🌡

The figure spoke in an apologetic voice: $\[$ This soul spell of mine can only be performed by having a subordinate sacrificing their own life, so I've already done what I needed to do $\]$

Gu Qing Shan suddenly felt a burning sensation on his arm.

Looking down, he saw a black burning mark.

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

[The master of Purgatory had placed a soul insignia on you: Purgatory's Embrace] [Purgatory's Embrace: At the time of your death, the master of Purgatory will bypass the restraints of time and space to appear in front of you] [The master of Purgatory will take your soul back to Purgatory]

The figure spoke: I Let us say our goodbyes. When you die, I will personally give you punishment in Purgatory I

Gu Qing Shan smirked and waved his hand: "See you later then"

[What kind of attitude is that?] the figure was surprised and asked.

"If a coward that only knows how to hide in the shadows like you actually dares to take me to Purgatory, then prepare to lose your place" Gu Qing Shan spoke.

The Chao Yin sword and Earth sword both acted at the same time.

His hand seals activated.

Sha!

Two large arcs of light passed through the giant black figure.

I missed!

Gu Qing Shan silently told himself.

Sure enough, he's still hiding in the projection of Purgatory, so I have no way to hit him.

Full of nonsense just like always, mortals like yourself will never truly understand true fear until the very moment of your deaths 1 the figure casually replied.

"Then we'll meet again at that time, let's see who REALLY has something to fear" Gu Qing Shan also replied.

[Hmph! Right now, if it wasn't for that sword of yours]

The figure glared at the Chao Yin sword and regretfully shook his head.

Soon after, both the figure and all the flames of Purgatory disappeared without a trace.

The only thing left there was a large empty hole.

[[] He ran too fast, I didn't have a second chance to attack] the Earth sword muttered.

It returned to Gu Qing Shan.

"A Daemon?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

^Г It was. Probably a lucky small fry that managed to survive from Purgatory's Age of Old J the Earth sword answered.

"Why do I feel like you're not really ok right now?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

During that last attack, Gu Qing Shan felt a slight lag between the Earth sword's movement and his hand seals.

There was a faint connection between a sword cultivator and a sword spirit, which was why Gu Qing Shan asked this.

^Г I haven't had Soul Points to nurture myself lately so it's just a few old problems acting up J the Earth sword replied.

Gu Qing Shan felt a bit heavy.

The Earth sword was the sword that had been with him the longest, an heirloom of the sect, but now it seems it's feeling a bit sick.

"I'll give you some Soul Points"

Gu Qing Shan had the War God pour some of his Soul Points into the Earth sword.

Since he had almost 1 million Soul Points right now, Gu Qing Shan directly transferred 100,000 of that into the Earth sword.

[「]Ahh, that feels much better, thanks 」 the Earth sword replied.

Gu Qing Shan tried a simple hand seal.

The Earth sword quickly flew to the sky and flexibly performed a full set of Wind Slash Style.

Sensing the Earth sword's state returning to normal, Gu Qing Shan felt a bit more assured.

Chapter 564

The flames of Purgatory were slowly dissipating.

The ghosts, corpses, as well as the illusions of Purgatory monsters, also disappeared with it.

The entire city returned to silence.

Gu Qing Shan sighed, standing still to think.

Purgatory claimed to be a mediator, but they've already turned to the side of the [Demon King Order]. Who knows how many legendary worlds in the 900 million World Layers are still standing at the crossroad to make their choice?

And that man just now said that I don't have an [Order], so I didn't need to go against the [Demon King Order].

Could it be, there's still another secret behind Purgatory?

"My leg is wounded, having to squat for so long is really unbearable!" (1)

A complaining voice came from afar, cutting off his thoughts.

Gu Qing Shan turned around.

Not too far behind him, the old man came out from one of the coral buildings.

From the look of it, his leg seemed to be hurt as he was still limping.

"Your wounds have gotten better now, but you'll need to keep taking more pills to fully recover"

Gu Qing Shan glanced at the old man and made his evaluation.

He took out a few more pills from his Inventory Bag.

"But this type of recovery is so uncomfortable, if those pills on your hand are still the same kind..." the old man was breathing heavily.

"You won't take them?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"...please give me another"

"...you're that desperate?"

"It can't be helped, we're now facing the urgent threat of extinction, I need to recover quickly to return to the battlefield"

"You're the only one left alive and there's still a battlefield?"

"Of course there is, young man. We need to set out quickly" the old man spoke.

"To where?"

"To Tidal city, that is the only place left with any people alive, and the only place that could resist the invasion of these monsters!"

"Alright, then wait for a bit, I need to get my companion first"

"Your companion? Wait, you still have other people here?"

"Only one person"

The old man was disappointed, but at the same time intrigued: "Are they as strong as you are?"

"In a sense, she has the ability to make a lot of people happily work for her"

"Such powerful magic?" the old man was surprised.

"Indeed, it's a kind of magic that no one will refuse or resist"

"Very well, then let's get your companion first, then we'll search the entire city again, maybe there's someone still alive here"

"Search for survivors? I'll just go with you for that first"

"Why not bring your companion as well? Could it be they're busy doing something else?"

"Indeed, she has something very important to do right now"

•••

Thanks to Gu Qing Shan's inner sight, the search was quick and efficient.

A few dozen minutes later.

On the main road of the city, a bright, deep blue flare was released to the sky.

In the darkness, this bright and colorful signal flare was extremely eye-catching.

But no matter how long Gu Qing Shan and the old man waited, no one came.

"It seems they are all dead" the old man sorrowfully spoke.

He waved his hand.

The light quickly returned to him.

The shining medal that gave off light became dim.

"Old man Jiao, how many people are there that can take the form of ancient creatures like you did?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

The old man who introduced himself as Jiao appeared sorrowful.

"I'm not sure how many others are left, but I was the only person who could do it in this city"

"What about other cities?"

"Communication between the cities had already been cut off for too long, I don't know for sure how many of us Divine Seeds there is left"

"Is it such an intense war? Isn't the Old God's barrier there to protect you?"

"If we don't go out to fight, the demonized mob would simply proceed with their summoning rituals on the World Shell, they would summon more and more Entropy Ghosts to invade our world" Old man Jiao sighed: "We really don't have a way to deal with the Entropy Ghosts"

"That's why, in order to stop their summoning ritual, you can't help but go out to fight?"

"That's right, we've gone out quite a few times already, but there are too many enemies to kill. As soon as we show up, we will be surrounded by wave after wave of demonized, occasionally we would be able to ruin their ritual, but ultimately the only end for us is to die"

Gu Qing Shan fell silent.

There were over 2 million demonized outside.

Even if I were to go out, facing that number of enemies would only end in my death as well.

"How come Tidal city can still hold up for so long?" he asked further.

"Tidal city is the city of God's chosen worshippers, there is a powerful outsider there to help us. Of course, that isn't nearly enough, and we need to take a look at the actual situation"

"An outsider?"

Gu Qing Shan suddenly realized something.

"Indeed, she knows a kind of unique magic that can, to a certain point, control the Entropy Ghosts, it's thanks to that magic of hers that all the remaining people alive in this world have gathered at Tidal city"

"That outsider, is she perhaps called Frost of the Cold Night, Ilya?"

"Hah? How did you know her name?" old man Jiao asked him.

"Because I was also looking for her"

Gu Qing Shan became less tense.

No wonder I couldn't find her no matter how hard I searched on the outside. Even after such a big commotion, she still didn't appear at all. It was because Frost of the Cold Night Ilya had already entered the inner world before I arrived.

Gu Qing Shan now felt a bit more confident.

Frost of the Cold Night Ilya is a powerful Combatant at the same level of the Light of Dawn Triste, the supreme commander of the Bramble Bird Kingdom military. She vowed to protect Laura. She is without a doubt someone on our side. I need to bring Laura to her as soon as I can!

"Let's go, I'll go wake up my companion and we'll set out right away" Gu Qing Shan quickly decided.

"Wait a minute, wake up?" old man Jiao was surprised, "didn't you say your companion had something really important to do?"

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"Of course she did. It's because you don't know how scary a dreamscape is, in fact, there are a few powerful racial magic that can only be activated through dreams"

"Is that so?" old man Jiao wasn't convinced.

"That is so" Gu Qing Shan insisted.

"...it must be because this old man isn't knowledgeable enough, let's go then"

The two returned together.

Soon enough, they reached where Laura was resting.

After opening the almost 100 layers of formation, Gu Qing Shan brought old man Jiao inside.

"Gongzi, you've returned" Shannu stood up and said.

"I have, how is she?"

"She slept well"

Gu Qing Shan went next to the bed to look at Laura.

The little girl was sleeping very deeply.

Perhaps because she had been through a lot in the last few days, her breathing was heavy with a slight bit of snoring.

Gu Qing Shan reached his hand out, hesitated a bit and pulled his hand back.

"Let's wait a bit longer, get ready to leave" he said.

Shannu nodded, turned into a sword and disappeared into the void of space.

Old man Jiao opened his eyes wide looking at this.

This person who spoke with a female voice looked exactly the same as the swordsman. But the person first turned into a girl, then into a sword and disappeared without a trace!

If he didn't see it with his own eyes, old man Jiao wouldn't have believed that such a ridiculous thing was possible.

But the truth was right there.

He couldn't help but silently sighed, telling himself that the world was big and there were always stranger things.

Thinking back, what the swordsman said about fighting in a dream wouldn't be too strange at all.

"Your companion is still fighting in her dream?" old man Jiao respectfully asked.

"Ah, probably" Gu Qing Shan replied.

He looked at Laura.

Laura was sleeping so well that he didn't quite want to wake her up yet.

"How impressive, but we'll need to be on our way as soon as possible" old man Jiao said.

"Why so?"

"Tidal city's defense is strict, we need to first tell them about our existence before they can let us in" He continued: "There's not much time, if and when the battle resumes, they won't be able to let us back in again"

"Can you communicate with them?"

"I can"

"Then let's be on our way"

Gu Qing Shan sighed.

He reached his hand out, lightly stroking Laura's forehead.

He poured a bit of spirit energy into her body.

Laura slowly woke up.

"What's the matter, Gu Qing Shan?" Laura got down from the bed and anxiously asked.

Her gaze was locked on old man Jiao.

"Good news, we found Ilya. Ah right, this is old man Jiao, a native here, I asked him to lead the way so he'll bring us there" Gu Qing Shan explained.

"You found Ilya? Really?" Laura rubbed her sleepy eyes and asked in disbelief.

Gu Qing Shan nodded.

"That's great then!" Laura excitedly jumped.

The three gathered their things and prepared to leave.

Before they left, another problem appeared.

The black horse could only carry two people.

"Maybe we should fly after all, it'll be quicker" Gu Qing Shan said.

"No, I refuse to fly. Just now I dreamt of falling from the sky" Laura refused.

"Then—"

Laura said: "Just leave it to me. All we need to do is travel with three people, right? I have a solution"

Thinking for a bit, Laura took out a turtle shell from her backpack and gave it to old man Jiao.

"Thank you, will it turn into a giant Turtle God's Seed to carry me?" old man Jiao excitedly asked

"It is not that complicated, the way it travels is very simple. Furthermore, in case of danger, you can also use it as a shelter" Laura explained.

So the three of them set out.

"Where are we going? Tidal city?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"No, we must first communicate with them" old man Jiao said.

"Is the communication hub outside of the city?"

"Yes, the Whispering Trees can only grow in a forest"

"...What a strange method of communication, let's go then"

The black horse galloped in full speed, running towards the outskirts of the city.

It was going as fast as lightning.

Gu Qing Shan sat with Laura on the black horse's back.

A long rope was tied to the black horse, extending behind to connect to a turtle shell.

Old man Jiao was standing on the turtle shell, holding onto the rope with both hands as he directed them: "Next intersection, remember to turn left!"

"Understood" the black horse replied.

They were heading towards a large forest.

Note:

(1) squatting: A lot of establishments in Japan and China still use an old type of toilet where you need to squat down instead of sit down to use.

Chapter 565

"Arg... my head hurts" "Where am I?"

She opened her eyes and muttered.

Her vision slowly became clearer again.

Within the darkness, there was a faint light.

Indeed, this is the light of a drinking bar.

Looking up at the rows of bottled liquor in front of her, she became a bit more slightly awake.

Across from her, a black dog sat on the bar on all four legs.

The black dog looked at her with a cold gaze.

"There has never been someone that violated the rules as much as you in the Holy Church, I have to issue you a stern warning" Black Hound coldly told her.

"What rules did I violate again?" she was still confused.

"You drank all night!" Black Hound couldn't help but shout.

She tilted her head in thought.

...right, I did drink a bit too much yesterday.

"Do you have any idea how easy it is for people to take advantage of you when you're so blackout drunk?" Black Hound continued to criticize her.

"Wasn't this a bar owned by our Church?" she was still confused.

"Even so, you can't be this careless! You slept for over 4 hours straight, if it weren't for me being here to stand guard, who knows what would've happened!" Black Hound angrily leapt off the table and went out of the bar.

Anna froze.

There seems... to be something not quite right.

Behind the bar, a beautiful woman with a cigarette in her mouth came closer.

While cleaning a glass, she consoled her: "Anna, don't be mad"

"I'm not mad, I'm just—-"

"Yeah, it only woke up one minute before you did"

"And also --- "

"Yep, it drank thrice as much as you did"

"So——"

"It didn't pay either, hah, here's the bill for both of you. Ah, I really have to say, the next time you want to go drinking, you really don't have to take that limp dog as a drinking buddy"

"Damn you Black Hound!!!"

"He ran really quickly, no need to chase"

"...Hah, fine, give me the bill"

Anna took out a piece of diamond skull and slammed it on the table.

The beautiful woman waved her hand to collect the diamond skull.

"Impressive, so you can obtain such a nice thing already huh" she praised.

Putting the skull away, the beautiful woman thought for a bit and said: "In truth, you can probably be assured, since this place wasn't that far away from the main Church, no one would dare to touch a hair on your body, but if this was any other place, you definitely can't drink that much" "Not to mention, being too drunk will affect your fighting capabilities"

"I know, I'm not that stupid" Anna was still angry.

"Then last night was?"

"Just a little celebration"

"Ah? What was the occasion?"

"The Church's Holy Relic awakening ritual"

"Ah?" the beautiful woman's eyes lit up and the pitch of her voice was also raised slightly. "According to the rules, I shouldn't try to pry into this, but seeing how happy you were, you must've gotten quite a wonderful Relic of Death huh"

"Let's just say it was decent, thank you but I have to go now"

"Alright, congratulations"

"Thanks"

Anna waved her hand and quickly left the bar.

It was already daytime outside.

The street of the battle zone was full of hustle and bustle, people going in and out nonstop.

Being hit by the sudden sunlight, combined with not having fully sobered up, Anna staggered and almost tripped.

Shaking her head, Anna regained her balance.

"Extra, extra, hottest news today, Barry has recovered, the Super Dimensional worlds' stock market exploded more than ever!"

A paperboy walked by as he was doing his morning rounds.

Hm? Barry? Who's that? My mind is still mixed up, let's just go back and sleep first before anything else.

Thinking that, Anna briefly determined the direction to the Church and slowly staggered her way there.

Her messed up state quickly drew a lot of attention.

Countless gazes peered her way, as soon as they discovered it was the beautiful Anna---

They all averted their gaze as soon as possible.

The street became hurried, many people even quickened their steps.

A hoodlum who didn't know anything wanted to try his luck, but was pulled away by his group and quickly left the area.

In a secluded alleyway.

"Why did you pull me away? That was a great beauty, and quite the immature one as well, definitely top-grade merchandise!" the man angrily questioned.

The rest of them exchanged looks and bitter smiles.

"Just let it go, the brothers only did it for your own good" their boss said.

"Boss, but why—-"

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"Because that girl is a member of the Church of Death"

Hearing that, the man couldn't help but shrink a bit.

But he still wasn't convinced and tried to refute: "But even so we didn't need to run that far, the Death God wouldn't allow his believers to harvest other's lives so easily"

This time, even the boss was smiling bitterly.

"Last time she got that drunk, there was a group that wanted to capture her, do you know what happened to them?"

"What happened?"

"They all tripped and fell, banging their heads on the ground and died on the spot"

"That's impossible! Being able to reach the Strife Zones, they must be elites among Combatants, how could they just trip and fall?" the man didn't believe it at all.

But no one said anything else, even their boss went silent.

It was now that he noticed that they were telling the truth.

Recalling something, his face became pale as cold sweat started dripping down his forehead.

"Causality... there is an aspect of Death by her side..."

"Correct, that's why if you don't want to trip and die, or choke while drinking water and die, or even choke while eating and die, then stay as far away from her as possible"

The boss patted his shoulder and lightly said.

The black horse galloped through the wilderness.

High in the sky, occasionally a golden circle would appear and expand.

That was the Old God's barrier's reaction whenever an Entropy Ghost attempted to infiltrate this world.

According to old man Jiao, the demonized mob were constantly using a complicated ritual to summon more Entropy Ghosts from the Fallen Zones.

And their side no longer had enough people to interfere with the summoning ritual.

Gu Qing Shan retracted his gaze and sensed the presences in the wind.

"How long until we reach the place you said?" he asked.

"With our current speed, about 10 minutes is enough" old man Jiao loudly replied.

10 minutes—-This journey will be a bit hard.

Pulling back his inner sight, Gu Qing Shan patted the black horse: "Ignore everything and keep running forward"

"Got it" the black horse answered.

It sped up.

It was now a black afterimage that dashed through the wild like an arrow that had been shot.

While sitting on the horse, Gu Qing Shan tapped his Inventory Bag to take out a formation plate.

His hands quickly moved around operating the plate.

A flash of light appeared out of nowhere, enveloping the black horse as well as the turtle shell it was pulling behind.

The light quickly stabilized, displaying itself as countless spirit runes and disappeared.

A formation was formed.

Gu Qing Shan's hands didn't stop.

Soon enough, another flash of light lit up the wilderness.

Gu Qing Shan had arranged another formation.

"What are you doing?" old man Jiao asked.

"Putting up formations and preparing for battle"

Among the flickering flashes of light, various large-scaled formations were quickly set up.

"There's an enemy?" old man Jiao was anxious.

"Don't worry, nothing I haven't beaten—— your wounds are still not fully recovered so don't do anything yet, otherwise it might open again" Gu Qing Shan said.

"But what if they try to attack me?" old man Jiao asked.

Hearing that, Laura told him: "I'll help you a bit, uncle"

She waved her hand.

The turtle shell he was standing on shook a bit and quickly formed a smaller shell.

This smaller shell was almost like armor, quickly attaching itself to old man Jiao's body.

Right after that—-

Another smaller shell appeared from the armor and attached to old man Jiao's head.

"This is——" old man Jiao looked at his full set of armor.

"Don't worry, the shells are really hard, as long as you pull your body inside, your enemies won't be able to hit you" Laura said.

While they talked, a loud 'bang' rang out.

A 5-story huge flying ghost went straight towards them and crashed into the anti-ghost formation.

Since both sides were moving so quickly, the monster was sent spiraling backwards.

——-it didn't think there would be another formation inside the void of space, and that the barrier could stop it briefly.

"An Entropy Ghost!" old man Jiao exclaimed in fear.

Behind Gu Qing Shan, an autumn-like blue sword lit up in Lightning before disappearing in a flash.

With a brief cry of pain, the area returned to silence.

The sword slowly returned and disappeared into the void of space behind him.

"Did you just chase the Entropy Ghost away?" old man Jiao couldn't help but ask.

"Killed it" Gu Qing Shan curtly replied.

Chapter 566

Night.

The running hoofs sounded like a night shower.

Brilliant spectacles of light had completely encircled the black horse.

Around the light, various strange noises and screeches mixed and melted into each other, as if countless enemies were hiding in the dark, discussing something.

Three flying swords were quickly flying around the inside of the formations.

They were giving off nonstop slashes, killing the monsters that attempted to infiltrate the formation.

As fast as the swords were, it almost looked as if this was a monster meat grinder, killing the ghosts and revenants as they tried to enter.

None of the ghosts could escape being killed.

Gu Qing Shan even had the time to casually check the War God UI.

Killing the Entropy Ghost gave him a large haul of Soul Points.

The scattered ghosts that came from it also gave quite a bit of Soul Points.

Feeling relaxed, Gu Qing Shan stopped paying attention to the number of Soul Points he was getting.

Earlier on, he gave the Earth sword 100,000 Soul Points, but after killing the Entropy Ghost, this expenditure was quickly replenished.

Right now, his Soul Points were steadily increasing.

Suddenly, all the formations lit up at once.

This meant that the amount of enemies had exceeded the perceived limit, forcing all the component formations of the array to go into an overclocked state.

Back in the cultivation world, or even the Suspended world, for this sort of large-scaled formation array to enter this state meant that the war had reached a pivotal point.

But here, in this lost world of the Old Gods, the large-scale formations reacted like this from a mere skirmish.

Countless ghosts and revenants surrounded the formations, sticking close to the moving formation array.

As if they were preparing for something.

"Be careful, they're coming!" old man Jiao informed him in a loud voice.

Gu Qing Shan's gaze extended further.

In the wilderness, there were ghosts everywhere.

They had accumulated enough to look like a rampaging tsunami that was about to sweep everything away.

Immediately after that, a huge amount of ghosts rose up to obscure the night sky before crashing down like a real wave on the black horse.

The three swords quickly reacted.

They turned into afterimages moving around the inside the light of the formations, slashing away without stopping.

Wave after wave of ghosts were forced back.

Occasionally, a few lucky fishes who got through simply got struck by three swords at once and died in pieces.

But the scales of battle were quickly tipping.

There were too many monsters.

They had completely encircled every layer of the shining formation array, even when killed by the flying swords they didn't give up at all.

Under the sheer force of number, the formations were starting to break down.

"Too many!" Laura screamed.

Gu Qing Shan muttered: "Don't worry"

Unequipping the [You Ji General] title, he equipped another title, [Talented General].

[Title: Talented General] [Equipping this title grants you the unique Skill: Rampaging Sword Qi] [Rampaging Sword Qi: Countless fine sword qi drifts about the blade of your sword, whenever you activate this skill, the sword qi will manifest into phantoms and attack an additional time]

With a thought, he activated the hand seals.

All three swords abruptly stopped.

They no longer dashed around chaotically, instead each aiming at a different powerful revenant.

Sevens strikes. Sevens strikes. Sevens strikes.

In a flash, second lights had lit up on all three swords.

[Flowing Dragon]!

With a shout, Gu Qing Shan fully circulated his spirit energy to trigger the hand seals.

Secret Art, [Seven Stars Flowing Dragon].

Arcs of lightning as large as an adult's arm manifested around the swords.

The blinding lightning turned into a ferocious sea of lightning, illuminating the area as bright as day.

The blue lightning formed a terrifying dragon head that sprung out from the tips of the swords.

Following the head, a flowing dragon body made from sword qi and lightning also appeared from the swords.

But that wasn't all!

As the lightning dragons took flight, another lightning dragon appeared from the swords.

Three swords, three [Seven Stars Flowing Dragon], thanks to the effect of the [War God Title], had turned into six lightning dragons!

Bang!

Six lightning dragons scattered all around from the shining light of the formations, quickly destroying the wilderness indiscriminately.

What wave of ghosts?

What army of revenant?

Under the power of lightning, it all returned to nothing in a few short moments.

Feeling the power of the heavenly lightning, the ghosts and revenants wanted to flee.

But who can flee from the pursuit of six lightning dragons?

Flying around the wilderness in a destructive dance, the lightning dragons quickly killed everything.

After 10 breaths' worth of time, the blinding white-blue electrical power gradually faded.

At this time, everything returned to silence.

There were no longer any ghosts, no longer any noise.

Laura rubbed her eyes as she cautiously looked around.

They were supposed to be cornered, but in the blink of an eye, all the ghosts had disappeared.

--what ghosts?

It was as if the overwhelming waves of monsters just now was a delusion or a fake illusion.

The night was silent.

"What kind of swordsmanship is that?" old man Jiao asked in a hoarse voice.

"Ghost-killing swordsmanship"

While answering him, Gu Qing Shan also felt a bit drained and exhausted.

[Seven Stars Flowing Dragon] has always been a powerful Secret Art.

Even at his current level of cultivation, using all three swords to consecutively perform [Seven Stars Flowing Dragon] three times was a bit hard to swallow.

The three swords returned from the now desolate wilderness, gently hovering towards Gu Qing Shan.

With a wave of his hand, all three swords disappeared into the void of space behind him.

Tapping his Inventory Bag again, this time he took out a gourd of liquor.

This gourd was made from a 1000 years Fire spirit jade, they say that the taste of liquor becomes more intense when brewed in this material for a long time.

The outside of the spirit jade was carved with a seemingly casual bouquet of hundred flowers.

This bouquet looked arbitrary at a glance, but the more you look the more animated they felt.

Even a bouquet that was casually drawn flowed with life and inspiration.

This was Qin Xiao Lou's art.

The liquor was also brewed by Qin Xiao Lou using rare herbs and flowers, the Bai Hua medicinal liquor.

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This bottle of liquor was beneficial to every cultivation, but normal people couldn't even dare to think about drinking a drop of this.

Back when Gu Qing Shan was still at Bai Hua sect, using their close relationship, he shamelessly asked Qin Xiao Lou for a few dozen gourds.

As he returned to his original world, he drank and gave it all away a bit too freely so this was the last remaining one.

...I really should return to take a look after all this is over.

Thinking of Bai Hua sect, Gu Qing Shan tilted his head up and drank the entire gourd dry.

As the strong alcohol flowed down his throat, he felt his entire body being refreshed, his spirit energy once again stimulated to gather.

Even his inner sight became clearer from that as his spirit was lifted.

Sitting on the horse's back, he suddenly laughed joyfully: "How satisfying!"

Lying in her bed, Anna was also holding a gourd of liquor.

The same gourd, the same liquor.

Staring at the gracefully carved bouquet of flowers, she was silent.

She had asked for this from Gu Qing Shan when she noticed he was drinking this alone.

At this time, Anna had just returned to her room in the Church and was about to sleep.

But she couldn't fall asleep at all.

To become stronger, I went to the Fallen Zones of the 900 million World Layers. To chase after Gu Qing Shan's footsteps, I've been working hard to train my skills, to become stronger everyday. Living in the battle zone was tough, but it also built character. In all the harsh battles, I was always the first to step forward. I've endured all those torture-like training regimes. No one has worked as hard as I did. Everyone believes me to be a devout believer. But no one knows what exactly I'm actually fighting for. Endure, and endure some more.

Finally, all of my efforts had paid off.

Anna carefully put the Bai Hua medicinal liquor away and took out something else.

This was a small, sealed black vial, as you lightly shook it, you could faintly hear a sigh coming from inside.

The Tear of Death.

This was the treasure she received from the Church's Holy Relic awakening ritual.

In yesterday's ritual, there were a total of 8 members of the church who received the chance to awaken a Holy Relic from their exemplary behaviors.

Before her, there was a person who awoke a new God's Chosen Skill, capable of turning themselves into a blood red bat that caused everyone's attention.

Right after that, someone received an antique 7-shot revolver, after going through the Hound Deity's confirmation, it was determined that this was the legendary firearm: [Flower of Death Bloom]

Some received a Secret Art of the Church called [Void Three-set Shadow Evasion].

It was clear that everyone received considerable rewards.

Finally, when it was her turn, all she got was this sealed black vial.

The two aspects Deities didn't say anything, only mentioning that this was a secret potion that increased her body's reaction speed.

The companions who participated in the ritual with her didn't think too much of it either.

So she was quite disappointed.

But after the ritual was over, once everyone had gone away, the Hound Deity and Crow Deity both came to see her.

They carefully told me to use the thing inside this small vial well. They said this belongs to the God of Death from the Age of Old. For several ten thousand years, this thing had never appeared before. Even they were not sure why this treasure suddenly showed up, or why it chose me.

Remembering the two aspect Deities' stern expressions, Anna felt a bit triumphant.

Seems like I'm some sort of chosen one.

For the last 24 hours, Anna had been using her soul flame to connect with this black vial.

And now, the time has come, the vial could finally be opened.

She lightly touched and easily opened the vial.

A black drop of liquid came out from inside, gently hovering in the air.

Following the two aspect deities' teachings, Anna waved her hand.

"Manifest" she muttered.

A long scythe appeared in her hand.

The shaft of the scythe was jet black, at the end of it was a black skull.

The blade of the scythe was a burning crescent-shaped flame.

This was Anna's weapon, created from her talents with the darkness and the Fire Element.

Every battle up to now she had been using this weapon.

Apparently sensing her scythe, the black drop of liquid began to move.

It touched the scythe and quickly disappeared from sight.

And then—--

Nothing happened.

Still holding the scythe, Anna was stunned for a brief moment.

"What? Don't tell me it's a fake? Why can't I feel anything?" she muttered in a low voice.

0om!!!

The scythe abruptly started to shake intensely.

A thick black fog erupted from the shaft of the scythe and quickly enveloped the whole thing.

The red burning flames on the blade disappeared.

Instead, it was replaced by a silently burning black flame.

Various strange powers were accumulating in the black flame as if it would immediately be released when Anna attacks.

Various mystical runes started to appear on the black shaft of the scythe, as the black skull at the end also disappeared, instead replaced by a shining black gem.

At this time, the scythe gave off a sense of solemnity and coldness.

The black fog didn't dissipate either, it kept lingering about the scythe, occasionally boiling and drifting away just a bit.

Anna was stunned.

This is a manifestation of my powers, how did it change appearance?

She held the scythe as she normally would and lightly swung it.

Wherever the black flame blades passed, the void of space was ripped open.

The chaotic, faint, misty wind came out from the rip, blowing against Anna's flowing hair.

"The space vortex... I haven't done anything yet, why did the space vortex open?"

Anna was shocked.

••

On another side.

Deep inside the Church.

The Hound Deity had come here.

It was staring at a large statue of a God.

On the God's hand, a jet black crow stood.

The Crow Deity.

The Hound Deity.

They were servants of the God of Death, the aspects who spread sleep and death.

They were having a secret discussion regarding Anna.

"You made little Anna black out drunk?" Black Crow asked.

"That's right, it wasn't easy to deceive her, but compared to other methods, this was the simplest and most effective way" Black Hound anxiously answered, "what of the fortune telling results?"

"I've asked Nine Lives, it said that the outcome had changed, little Anna won't go to Aboul, and she won't be stripped of her life by the [Demon King Order]"

"That's good, I don't want her to become a grudgeful spirit—- our Church has had more than enough of those" Black Hound sighed in relief.

"Indeed, little Anna is one of our people, she shouldn't be stolen away by the [Demon King Order]" Black Crow agreed.

"The [Demon King Order]... it's speeding up its actions, what do we do now?"

"It's not time for the results to come out yet, with the other Orders being gone or waiting in the dark, it's better for us to silently sit on the sideline for now"

"Hm..."

Chapter 567

The wilderness was silent.

With the black horse's speed, it quickly travelled a large distance, finally entering a dense forest.

After going through the waves of ghosts and revenants from before, the road up to now could be considered safe.

There weren't any ghosts hiding in the woods to attack them, much to Gu Qing Shan's surprise.

At last, the black horse stopped next to an evergreen large tree.

"This is the Whispering Tree?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"It is" old man Jiao replied.

Gu Qing Shan got off the horse first before carrying Laura down as well.

Laura stood on the ground, silently looking at Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan then put her back on his shoulder.

It was now that Laura smiled.

Old man Jiao took off the turtle shell armor he was wearing and walked before the Whispering Tree.

He gently stroked the side of the tree, silently sensing something, then suddenly broke out crying.

"Why, why is everyone already dead ... "

Old man Jiao knelt down in front of the tree, his head propped on the side of the tree while his body trembled nonstop.

Laura wanted to say something, but Gu Qing Shan gestured to her to remain silent.

"Let him let his emotions out, it's beneficial for him" Gu Qing Shan explained.

Laura went silent.

The two just silently stood there until old man Jiao's crying finally stopped.

"I'm sorry, I lost it for a bit" old man Jiao said.

"It's fine, we can understand"

"It was truly despairing" old man Jiao shook his head dispiritedly, "besides Tidal city, communication with every other cities have been cut"

"It's been cut? What does that signify?"

"The Whispering Tree of each city would not cut off unless the very last person had died"

"... My condolences" Gu Qing Shan sighed and muttered.

It seems [Origin]'s invasion is quite fierce, enough for this lost world of the Old Gods to fall to ruin.

"For now, I need to contact Tidal city" old man Jiao calmly said.

He closed his eyes and placed his hands on the Whispering Tree.

Everything returned to silence.

After a while, old man Jiao opened his eyes again.

He excitedly spoke: "Old Jiao, you're still alive! That's great news!"

"It is" old man Jiao's tone became low again: "I'm the only one left"

"Damn Apocalypse, damn ghosts!" he changed his tone, cursing.

Old man Jiao suddenly became stunned.

"Shut up, all of you. Listen to old Jiao for now, let's hear what news he has for us" saying so, he gestured around himself to be silent.

Old man Jiao returned to his calm voice: "There are two outsiders with me right now, they said they know lady Cold Night"

He suddenly turned to Gu Qing Shan and Laura, staring at them with an observing gaze.

"By outsiders, you mean them?"

"Yes" he answered his own question, "They saved my life, and helped me quite a bit on the way here"

Old man Jiao kept staring at Gu Qing Shan and Laura, nodding: "They certainly don't look demonized, but we still need to confirm their identities first"

"Of course, this is natural"

"Please wait for a bit, I'll go get lady Cold Night"

Saying so, old man Jiao became silent again.

Gu Qing Shan and Laura exchanged looks.

"Apparently, he can let others use his body through this tree" Gu Qing Shan muttered.

"How impressive, this is also the first time I've seen such a tree"

Laura curiously looked at old man Jiao and told him in a low voice.

A few moments later, old man Jiao woke up again.

"Lady Cold Night asked who you are" old man Jiao told them.

"I am a certain adult Bramble Bird who has not received the Saint Bramble Tree's coming of age blessing, tell her that word for word" Laura said.

Old man Jiao nodded and stopped once again.

Gu Qing Shan looked at Laura questioningly.

Laura whispered to Gu Qing Shan's ear: "A Bramble Bird that reaches adulthood must receive a blessing from the Saint Bramble Tree, but it was too high so I couldn't go up"

"That's why Frost of the Cold Night can tell right away that it's you as she heard those words?"

"Yeah, in the entire Bramble Bird race, I'm the only one who couldn't climb up to the Saint Bramble Tree out of fear" Laura lowered her head and said.

Gu Qing Shan gently stroked her head, saying: "It's not your fault"

Old man Jiao suddenly spoke up again: "Lady Cold Night said to prove your identity, she wants you to say her vow"

"She vowed to protect me" Laura replied.

Old man Jiao stopped again, then nodded: "She's now fighting off almost a hundred Entropy Ghosts so she can't get away, but she knows an absolutely safe route that can lead directly to Tidal city's outskirts" "She wants you to reach her as soon as possible!"

"Yes, tell her that we will be on our way immediately"

"Then it's decided, when you arrive, we will have people to receive you" "On the other hand, we've told old Jiao the route, he'll guide you here safely" "Understood"

Right then, Gu Qing Shan could faintly sense a lot of inner sights suddenly leaving old Jiao's body.

Super-distance inner sight possession? How wondrous.

"Let's go, I've just received a secret passage that can directly bring us to Tidal city where we can perfectly avoid the ghosts' attack" old man Jiao said.

"Alright, we need to get going"

As soon as he said that, Gu Qing Shan abruptly looked up.

Old man Jiao and Laura followed suit.

In the darkness of the night sky, various rings of golden waves were expanding again.

Suddenly--

A blinding light began to erupt in the sky and expanded all around.

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The entire night sky slowly but surely turned golden.

The golden light had chased the night away, completely covering the sky as light shined on the ground.

A wonderfully brilliant sight, just like sunlight at dawn.

But various strange creatures quickly appeared in the sky one after another.

They were quickly flying towards the ground.

"Ah... my god, my creator!"

Old man Jiao looked up to the sky, stunned.

He fell to his knees on the spot, feeling completely hopeless.

This never-before-seen brilliant sight meant that the entire Old God's barrier has been fully activated.

Large numbers of Entropy Ghosts appeared in the sky.

They were quickly approaching.

Gu Qing Shan tried to count, but found that he couldn't get an accurate number.

There were too many Entropy Ghosts to count.

They were breaking through the Old God's barrier to attack this lost world at once.

"Wasn't this type of Chaotic Demon Lord supposed to be rare?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

^T They are, they've only appeared twice in the last 1000 years J the Earth sword spoke confidently.
"If that's the case, [Origin] is currently using all the power it can muster" Gu Qing Shan said.

He suddenly thought of something.

[Origin] was so desperately trying to invade this world, enough to give him a chance to live, just so that he could help it do something.

[You received a chance to live because I need you to come up with a way to take over a certain place]

[Origin]'s cold voice still lingered by his ear.

Right after, he also recalled War God UI's words.

[It requires a few special materials left behind by the Old Gods across the 900 million World Layers. These materials can help all non-organic life forms evolve] [Once Origin evolves again, it will turn into Worlds Apocalypse Online: Revolution]

At this point, Gu Qing Shan's mind was moving quickly.

I was exactly right.

[Origin] wanted to take over this world to collect the remaining materials left behind by the Old Gods. It wanted to become stronger!

"This isn't good, we need to go faster" Gu Qing Shan said.

He leapt onto the black horse, waved his hand to levitate old man Jiao and put him on the turtle shell.

"Are you in a hurry, sir?" the black horse asked.

"Full speed ahead!" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Boom—–

The black horse turned into an afterimage as it rushed towards the direction of Tidal city.

Time quickly passed.

In the sky, the golden light was getting brighter and brighter.

Countless Entropy Ghosts were getting through the barrier, falling to the ground like gigantic drops of rain!

Laura was now sitting in Gu Qing Shan's chest and looked up.

The Entropy Ghosts were quickly approaching them.

In just a minute, they will have passed through thousands of meters to reach the ground.

At that point, there will be nothing but Entropy Ghosts here.

Even if Gu Qing Shan was vastly stronger, he couldn't possibly win against such a large army of Demon Lords.

Laura gritted her teeth.

"Gu Qing Shan!"

Since the black horse was running at full speed, within the howling wind, she couldn't help but shout.

"What is it?" Gu Qing Shan also shouted back.

"Are we going to die?"

"Before you actually die, stop thinking about dying!"

Laura pursed her lips, sobbing: "I'm sorry, it's all my fault, if we had flown in the sky earlier, maybe we would've have already made it"

"Don't be dumb, everyone has something they're afraid of, we can't blame you for that"

"I'm a coward—–"

"No, you're just a bit afraid of heights, that's nothing! And you have to believe in something else"

"In what?"

Gu Qing Shan pointed ahead: "We're not going to die here!"

Laura looked forward.

A city.

A large city appeared in front of their eyes.

Unlike the cities they saw before, this city was situated high on the mountains, looking like a large-scaled war fortress at a glance.

Tidal city!

Finally, they're about to reach Tidal city!

"Old man Jiao!" Gu Qing Shan loudly called out.

"I'm here, what is it?" old man Jiao replied.

"Coming up, you might have to join in the battle as well" Gu Qing Shan told him.

Old man Jiao looked towards Tidal city.

Among the jagged high cliffs, a large city that looks like a war fortress stood.

An army of ghosts and revenants had already taken over the area directly outside the city.

They had the entire mountain surrounded, laying siege to the fortress city.

The war has reached its fiercest point!

"No problem, for the kingdom of the Gods, I am willing to lay down my life right here and now!" old man Jiao roared.

"Very well, then we're about to charge!"

Gu Qing Shan held the horse's reins.

Three swords silently appeared around the black horse.

They weaved among each other, flying forward.

Laura had hidden inside Gu Qing Shan's chest again.

Chapter 568

The golden light in the sky illuminated the ground below.

Under the shining light of the Old God's barrier, countless Entropy Ghosts were descending from above.

They quickly appeared everywhere.

At the same time, a black horse was galloping like mad through the forest.

It was almost like a bolt of black lightning.

Because of how fast it was, the black horse had already left the forest and kept running on the wide plains outside in just a few minutes.

In their vision, a tall mountain could be seen resting at the edge of the wide plains, right at the horizon.

At the foot of the mountain, several large ghosts were directing thousands of other ghosts and revenants to line up, slowly forming a war formation.

Tidal city was right on the mountain, while the army of ghosts were gradually but surely approaching it.

"There are too many ghosts, I can't get through, what do we do?"

While running forward, the black horse asked.

"Wait a second" Gu Qing Shan replied.

With a wave of his hand, the Earth sword spun and returned.

Gu Qing Shan held the Earth sword up, pointing towards the sky.

Lightning surrounded the sword.

The Elemental Lightning descended from the golden light above, turning into a glowing blue ball.

From afar, this ball of lightning was extremely eye-catching, like an obvious signal.

"There's no reaction! Tidal city isn't reacting!" old man Jiao loudly screamed.

Can they not see this?

Gu Qing Shan muttered as he circulated his Lightning even more.

Hiss hiss hissssss...!

The lightning ball let out a high-pitched sound as it turned into a pillar of light that rose all the way to the sky.

This time, even a blind person could feel the immense power of Lightning present in the air.

Tidal city finally reacted

Gu Qing Shan saw a figure wearing a bright blue armor taking to the sky.

"It's her! It's Ilya!" Laura exclaimed in joy.

"Finally they noticed" Gu Qing Shan also sighed in relief.

The figure gave off a bright blue glow as she chanted an incantation that rocked the entire area.

"I, Frost of the Cost Night Ilya, with the magic of the Bramble Bird King's royal bloodline, summon thee" "O' great Saint Bramble Tree, heed my call and direct my kin to me!" "Target——"

The bright blue figure suddenly stopped and coughed up blood.

She staggered a bit and stopped.

From the looks of it, she was wounded quite heavily.

"Ilya!"

Laura shouted.

Gu Qing Shan's heart also sank.

However, at the end, the blue figure still managed to point at the black horse and shouted desperately:

"Quickly, protect the last royal bloodline of our race!"

As the incantation finished, the blue figure descended back down to Tidal city.

At the same time, a strange phenomenon appeared in the sky.

The shadow of a tree so huge it connected heaven and earth appeared.

Within the faint shadow of the tree, 7-8 glowing lights gathered in place.

These lights condensed into a falling star that quickly headed for the plains.

At some point, the falling star suddenly let out a heavy sound of impact and sped up.

With that same heavy sound of impact, space around the falling star started to crack.

Even the Old God's barrier opened up to allow the falling star to move straight in

"The Old God's barrier didn't stop it... because it was summoned from inside this world?" Gu Qing Shan muttered.

"That's right, this is the call of the Bramble Bird" Laura spoke worriedly.

The fortress on the mountain was being surrounded by numerous ghosts and is in a dangerous situation, I hope Ilya can still hold on.

"What? This is the call of the Bramble Bird?" Gu Qing Shan was surprised.

"As you know, the call of the Bramble Bird is the call to people of various worlds to have them deal with menial chores for us, but that is only what the outside world call it" Laura continued to explain: "The true call of the Bramble Bird is actually a summoning spell"

"Spell?"

"Yes, the call of the Bramble Bird is actually an ability awakened by the Bramble Bird royal bloodline once they enter adulthood"

"The abilities received by each royal family members are different, but all of them are called by the same name"

"Ilya received permission from my father, that is why she could use my father's reinforcement summoning technique"

"The Bramble Bird royal bloodline... does that mean you can also cast a spell of similar nature?"

"No, I can't"

"Why not?"

"Because the Saint Tree is too high, I couldn't climb it and conduct the coming of age ceremony" Laura pouted: "Only after going through the coming of age ceremony can the Saint Tree awaken our Bramble Bird bloodline magic"

Gu Qing Shan stroked her head and said nothing else.

He looked up towards the sky.

The falling star drew an arc in the sky, flying right on the path of the black horse.

"Stop!" Gu Qing Shan held the reins.

The black horse also quickly stopped its charge.

--boom!

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Dust picked up.

Ten fully armed knights and six blue-robed female mages appeared.

Gu Qing Shan understood.

Breaking through the limit of time and space, directly summoning their comrades from the Mystic Zones, so this is one of the real calls of the Bramble Bird. This summoning technique is supposedly the former Bramble Bird King's own bloodline ability. Ilya managed to summon 16 Combatants just by having his permission. If the Bramble Bird king had used his 'call of the Bramble Bird' himself, he might have been able to summon the entire kingdom's army. Unfortunately, the King had already been assassinated. While Laura hasn't awoken her own bloodline ability.

—-even if she had, it was unlikely that she could have awoken an ability that was the same type as her father.

She might've awoken another ability instead.

"Only this many people? Can she still summon more?" he couldn't help but ask Laura.

"It's impossible, Ilya isn't a member of the royal family, with the permission my father gave her, this is the most she could do" Laura dismissed his thought.

Gu Qing Shan looked towards the Combatants.

There were both male and female knights, but they all wore uniform silver armor and had a weapon in their hands, quickly moving into formation as soon as they appeared.

They had entered an alert battle state.

The six blue-robed female mages arrived in front of Laura and bowed.

"Princess Laura, we've contacted the Saint Tree, it had granted special permission and prepared a superdistance warp for you" one of them said.

The five other people exchanged looks and began to chant.

As they chanted, a screen of light slowly appeared among them.

Through the screen, they could faintly see a huge tree branch with greens growing all over it.

With this screen, they could only see a part of the branch, not even 1% of the entire tree.

Laura looked at the tree, stunned as she muttered: "Going home..."

The robed woman urged her: "Your Highness Princess, please return quickly, this place will soon become a battlefield"

Laura looked to her home on the other side, then once again around herself.

The army of ghosts and revenants were quickly approaching them like a huge surging tsunami.

Indescribable creatures writhe and crawled, fully intent to kill and devour everyone here, quickly kicking up huge amounts of dust on the plains.

They were approaching.

Laura took one step towards the screen of light, then suddenly turned around: "Gu Qing Shan, go with me"

The six mages all followed her gaze to look at Gu Qing Shan.

"I can't leave" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"Why not?"

"Because I need to fight"

Laura froze.

Spoken so casually, this guy... Fight... That's right, why can't I just fight?

Laura nodded and retreated her step: "If that's so, I won't leave either"

The robed mage hurriedly call out: "Princess, this place is too dangerous, you can't risk yourself like this, you're the last remaining member of our Bramble Bird royal——-"

"-family" Laura finished her words, "indeed, I know that very well, that is why I cannot leave"

The mage desperately asked: "Why not?"

"Because someone had killed my mother and father. Right now, as long as that person can take over this lost world, all of her ploys will have succeeded"

"If I simply return and hide myself away in the Mystic Zones, what kind of princess would I be? Our Bramble Bird royal family has never had such a weak bloodline!" Laura clenched her fist: "And I want to fight"

All the robed mages were frightened and knelt down: "It's too dangerous, princess, the Bramble Bird race can no longer handle any further losses"

Laura nodded and calmly spoke: "The royal family was killed without anyone left but me, General Ilya's life and death is still unknown, the culprit behind all of this will soon achieve everything she has ever dreamt of. At this point in time, any action of mine to back down will represent the entire Bramble Bird royal family backing down"

Her voice trembled, but she kept a determined tone: "Mother once said, as a sovereign, it is essential to know when to retreat, and when to stand up and fight"

"As your Empress, I will not back down before my enemies"

"I want Triste to pay for our blood with her own life!"

The other mages all lowered their heads and said nothing else.

The robed mage leader hurriedly: "But the Demon Lord army had already gathered and attacked, the only thing we can do is to bring you back. We don't even have a way to save General Ilya"

Laura looked at Gu Qing Shan, only to see Gu Qing Shan was still smiling calmly at her.

"Gu Qing Shan..."

Laura's gaze was begging him.

"Alright, then I'll tell you something. A huge commotion should be occurring right now outside" he said.

"What do you mean?"

"How do you know that?"

Laura and the mage leader asked him at the same time.

"Because you told me before, whenever a Bramble Bird uses their power inside the world of another Bramble Bird, they would be immediately found out"

Gu Qing Shan's gaze went towards the ghost army quickly approaching them and briefly explained: "I think that Ilya believes it's no longer necessary to hide herself, and that you must be taken out of here right away. That's why she had used the call of the Bramble Bird just now"

"At this point, Triste must've already noticed Ilya's spell, with how strong she is, she should've already regained control of this world and unsealed it"

"But now, even after so much time had passed, even when the ghost army had ran past half the plains, nothing had happened yet"

"That's why, there must be some person, or some very important thing must have occurred in the outside world, leavingTriste unable to act without thinking"

"Under this presumption, I feel that the outside situation must have changed——- in a way that benefits us"

He muttered at the end: "Fighting back... is not necessarily impossible"

The six mages and ten knights all looked at him.

They looked back at the gigantic tsunami of ghosts, as well as the rain of Entropy Ghosts in the sky, then back at Gu Qing Shan again.

Are we really going to fight?

With just this many people here, we're going to go against the army of ghosts numbered in the millions?

Laura walked up to Gu Qing Shan and softly clutched his hand.

She looked up at him.

"Gu Qing Shan, I am the princess of the Bramble Bird race, the only surviving member of its royal family, the future Empress of the Bramble Bird Kingdom. I hereby request that you will take me to fight by your side"

Gu Qing Shan looked down at her and said nothing.

Laura bit her lip, trying her best to not let her voice tremble.

"Gu Qing Shan, during our journey together, you've taken care of me like my mother does, so I've gotten to know you"

"I believe you must be carrying a lot on your shoulder, enough to ignore even your own life and death. At the moment of the world's end, you would rather continue to fight against your enemies until the very end"

"Gu Qing Shan, I believe you are the same as me, you have an enemy you must go against no matter what, and you have sorrow and suffering that you must face"

"Gu Qing Shan... you can bring me with you, and win together?"

"As long as I can fight by your side, even if I die in the end, I will definitely not complain"

Saying so, Laura silently waited, but still heard no reply.

Her heart slowly sank.

Laura dejectedly lowered her head, whimpering: "Bring me, with you, is it not possible..."

Suddenly, the man in front of her moved slightly.

Laura abruptly looked up.

To see that Gu Qing Shan had knelt down on one leg, bowing.

He smiled at her, and whispered: "Then I shall fight for you, your majesty"

Chapter 569

Aboul resort hotel complex.

The royal green room

Spirit of the Holy Tree, Lady Tethys was deep in thought.

Just now, in the observatory, I found out that shocking truth. Unfortunately, there wasn't enough time and I could only talk to Laura for a few dozen seconds. Laura managed to tell me everything from start to end so I understand the whole situation, however... Laura didn't manage to tell me where that world was hidden.

Tethys scowled.

A mogul as herself very quickly caught onto the key of the matter.

I must definitely not allow Triste to find her world first! Otherwise, once Triste unseals it, [Worlds Apocalypse Online] will spread all over Aboul! But then, where exactly did Laura hide it? What a headache.

Without another anchor to use as a catalyst, she couldn't return to that world or ask Laura anything.

It's not enough, I have to find that world before her!

Tethys glanced at the big rooster.

He was still extremely dispirited, chugging down his bottle of liquor bit by bit.

Never mind, he has too much of a big mouth, and his thoughts are written all over his face, if Triste happens to notice something, it won't be good. I'll have to do this myself.

Tethys stood up and paced around the green room.

Firstly.

Laura is currently with Gu Qing Shan. And I brought Gu Qing Shan here because of his girlfriend's matter. In all this, from the start, Gu Qing Shan was someone who came here to ask for a favor. Since he came with clear motives, he wouldn't have ran around all over aimlessly. Then...

Gu Qing Shan should have stayed in the royal green room.

Wait a minute.

Gu Qing Shan was supposed to have stayed here, but now he's with Laura in the other world.

Lady Tethys stopped and silently assessed the green room.

She muttered a chant: "Creations of the god, spirits of all things"

An invisible wave came from her and swept all over the green room.

Silence.

1 second.

2 seconds.

3 seconds.

"Now, can someone tell me if these two people were here?"

Lady Tethys opened her palm.

A bright green flow condensed into Gu Qing Shan and Laura's images, standing still on her hand.

「Hm, I met them 」

A dull voice came.

The bottle of liquor in the big rooster's hand just spoke up.

The big rooster was shocked and threw the bottle on the table.

The bottle swayed a bit back and forth before it could stand upright on the table.

The bottle breathed heavily as it responded: \lceil I've seen that young man. I really must say, he's quite the liquor connoisseur, his gaze only fell on me and the other decent bottles of liquor as he made his choice \rfloor

「Indeed he was」

Very much correct

「∣agree 」

The other bottles in the ice box also stood up and spoke.

"Then what about this little girl? Which one of you have seen her?" lady Tethys asked.

The bottle responded: \lceil I can't really be sure, because she would always appear briefly before she disappeared again, I really had to doubt my eyes \rfloor

"So none of you saw her?" lady Tethys asked.

[「]Not quite, she had actually always been here, sitting on me 」 an armchair sofa cut in and said.

Tethys looked back at the sofa.

There were only large and comfortable sofas in this green room, the armchair that talked was the only one of its kind, placed in a secluded corner of the room, you could say it was the most awkward position in the entire place.

Which means, Laura had been in this room from the very start?

Lady Tethys asked: "When did she leave? Did she leave together with the boy?"

 \lceil I only know that she was in this room, as for whether or not she left, you have to ask the door \rfloor the armchair replied.

The green room's door quickly responded as well: No, they definitely did not leave the room, if they had, I would've definitely noticed

Lady Tethys smiled: "Very well, then we're one step closer to the answer, can someone tell me where they went?"

The voices in the room disappeared.

Even after waiting, no one replied to her question.

She couldn't help but sigh.

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These items were mundane and didn't contain a single bit of life force, and definitely no spirit to speak of, so even if I used a spell, they could only answer very simple questions. Do I really lose the trail here?

While lady Tethys was thinking, a faint cry could be heard.

She suddenly turned around to see the large 12-layer cake.

"How is it? Are you sad about something?"

Tethys gently asked.

Originally, this cake couldn't have possibly gotten any chance to become sentient, being able to cry like this was already the limit of her spell.

[I-I'm annoyed, I'm sad] the cake answered.

"Why are you sad?"

[¬] Because those two appeared to be interested in me, I've even prepared my most wonderful buttery smell, but in the end they didn't even bother to savor my taste <code>____</code>

"Where are they now?"

「 They hid— 」

While she was listening, Tethys' expression changed.

Triste was almost here!

Tethys waved her hand to dispel this technique, quickly chanting: "Spirits of all things, return this world to silence"

This was a defensive-type concealment technique, capable of hiding all presence and energy residue.

Even Tethys herself couldn't get through this technique to find a hidden item.

Since Triste was about to arrive, this was a non-solution solution.

In a split second, Triste appeared in the room.

She appeared incredibly joyful, muttering in a low voice: "So you were hiding here..."

Going to the table, she tried checking everything, the bottles, the fruits, the vases.

Not here?

How strange, I clearly sensed the activation of [Call of the Bramble Bird: Guard summoning] just now from my world, the location was this exact place. Why did the technique's energy residue suddenly disappear?

Triste fell silent briefly.

She tried double-checking everything on the table again, to no avail.

Tethys stood still without changing her expression, only her eyes closely following Triste while she quickly thought about what she just heard.

Just where did they hide? Why did the newly-born cake spirit cry? How unfortunate, just a bit more and I would've found out.

After that, under the close observation of Tethys, Triste searched like mad through every object in the room.

But she still couldn't find her world.

No, it must be here! If a Bramble Bird had used their spell in my world, the concealment technique used on the world must've been dispelled as well. Then why could I only sense the world's presence for only a split second before it disappeared again?

Triste abruptly looked up at the Spirit of the Holy Tree, lady Tethys.

Could it be her...

"What are you looking for?" lady Tethys asked first.

Triste replied: "Perhaps you know what I'm looking for"

Tethys smiled: "Of course I know you're looking for Laura, you even had me help"

"I could sense her right here just now"

"You felt wrong, we were here the entire time and didn't notice anything"

"Is that so? This room is giving me a really strange feeling, would you happen to sense it as well?"

"My apologies, but I couldn't sense anything"

The two of them stared straight at each other, then broke their gazes at the same time to look around.

Laura and Gu Qing Shan never left this green room, Tethys thought.

I clearly sensed the energy signature of a Bramble Bird spell in my world coming from this room, Triste thought.

Their gazes locked once again.

"Esteemed lady Tethys, would you like to move elsewhere to rest?"

"It's not necessary, I can rest in here just fine. Rather than that, don't you have a lot of work that you need to attend to right now?"

"I also want to take a short rest here to forget those troublesome matters for now"

They both smiled at each other and had the same exact thought.

Where is that world being hidden?

Chapter 570

Tethys' gaze dashed back and forth, then suddenly fell onto the 12-layer cake again.

A small corner of the cake was cut out and taken.

Someone actually took a corner out of the cake in this green room?

She was a bit surprised.

The cake...

She then recalled the cake's words: \int Because those two appeared to be interested in me, I've even prepared my most wonderful buttery smell, but in the end. they didn't even bother to savor my taste \int

They didn't savor the taste, but were interested in the cake...

Suddenly, Tethys had a thought.

When she wanted to try touching the cake, she didn't notice how Triste was still paying close attention to her.

Triste slammed the table, splitting the cake into numerous pieces.

A transparent crystal ball that let out a faint glow slowly floated in the air.

"Come!" Tethys' expression changed and shouted.

"Ahahaha, this is my world, Tethys, you think to steal it from me?" Triste laughed loudly.

She chanted in a low voice.

The crystal ball immediately flew into her hand.

Right away, Triste quickly chanted another incantation to unseal the world.

Tethys shouted: "Stop her!"

She began to hurriedly chant a long and advanced barrier spell.

If the world's seal was undone, there must be another powerful barrier present to stall [Worlds Apocalypse Online] from spreading!

But that was all it could do, stall.

Next to her, the man with the red mohawk suddenly disappeared without a trace.

Triste had already predicted that and stopped her chanting, instead blowing a dark glow from her mouth.

It was a dark medal that gave off a cruel and ferocious air.

"True Demon Protection!" she quickly muttered.

The dark medal flashed and disappeared.

Boom!

The big rooster was hit by the medal and got caught by it as it crashed through the wall of the room, then of the hotel and all the way out of Aboul.

Triste then turned to the crystal ball and continued her chant: "World Rele—-"

"Shut up"

The cold barrel of a gun was placed right on her head as a cold, unfamiliar voice rang by her ears.

Triste went quiet.

She could tell, if she had uttered another syllable of the spell, she would immediately be shot dead.

Then came the sound of mechanical parts.

Another 7-8 gun barrels were pointed at various points on her body.

Triste didn't dare to move a single muscle.

She knew full well who just arrived.

Across from her, seeing the pistols that were pointing at Triste, Tethys also sighed in relief.

Reinforcement had arrived!

"Are you the only ones here? Did he come as well?" she asked.

"Boss is here" the pistols all replied in unison.

The green room's door opened.

An automatic machine gun hopped in.

"Tethys, long time no see, as soon as I got your message, I brought the boys straight from White Elephant Mountains here"

"Ah, isn't chicky here as well? Where is he?" the automatic machine gun asked.

"He was hit outside by the Demon medal, not sure where he is now" Tethys replied.

"Don't worry milady, the 900 million World Layers allied army had already gathered, a part of them went to help Barry and Bloodcloak"

"Barry and... Bloodcloak? Why did they fight alongside one another again?"

"Because the Demon Lord Breeder had appeared, joined by more and more powerful True Demons as time passed. What an impressive sight that was, I really had to wonder whether or not the decisive battle had just begun"

"Since the situation is dire, I was worried for your safety so I came to Aboul first, milady"

"It's good that you made it in time" Tethys sighed in relief.

"It's nothing, our enemies are so terrifying after all"

Saying so, the automatic machine gun pointed his barrel straight at Triste.

"Triste, you little birdy, I suggest you sit really tight on the sofa and don't make any sudden moves, otherwise if I pull my trigger by mistake, not even a hair would be left of you"

It was now that Triste thoroughly understood.

So my plan was already found out.

Against these famous Combatants of the 900 million World Layers, I don't even have an opening to try and resist.

Triste slowly walked to the sofa and sat down.

Facing almost a dozen gun barrels, she suddenly smiled in relief.

"Hand over your world" Tethys said.

"Lady Tethys, I believe the initiative is on my hands right now" Triste lifted her crystal ball.

"If you dare to try anything, I will kill you" the automatic machine gun's cold voice rang out.

"So what if I lose my life? If you insist on using force, I'm more than willing to trade my life for billions of worlds to be covered in the [Demon King Order]'s influence"

"We won't kill you, as long as you hand over that dangerous world" Tethys softened her tone a bit and said.

Triste's smile became even brighter or perhaps even a bit crazed.

"Do you not understand? This world on my hand right now is the trigger to decide the fate of billions of worlds. If you dare to try anything, even if I have to die I will detonate it!"

Tethys and the automatic machine gun exchanged looks, noticing the severity of the situation.

On another side.

Triste's collection world.

The plains.

Laura was quickly having her guards exchange their equipment.

"Hodge, your saber isn't good enough"

"This is already the best standardized-quality blade, your Royal Highness"

"No, no, no, here, use this Epic Lord blade, Red Dragon Harvester, catch"

"...Thank you, princess"

"Novija, why are you still using this staff?"

"I've always used this staff, and it's a Wondrous item, your Royal Highness"

"We're about to begin a decisive battle, you can't keep being so frugal. Here, I have an Epic staff, the Lapis Forest Song of Vitality, take it"

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"Princess, this staff is too heavy"

"Then try this one, the Fire Phoenix's Reincarnation, slender and flexible, it fits you"

"Thank you, princess"

Gu Qing Shan stepped forward and asked: "Did you contact Ilya yet?"

One of the robed mages spoke: "We just received words from General Ilya, the General expressed both joy and grief at the princess' decision"

"Tell her there's no need to grieve, take that time to organize the troops, when we give the signal, immediately break out of the city to rendezvous with us"

The robed mage nodded, took out a green leaf and whispered into it.

In truth, she felt like she was almost going crazy.

The army of ghosts had filled the hills and plains, easily numbered in the several millions.

This small group of theirs wouldn't be able to go too far into the enemy's ranks before being ripped to shreds.

Yet this man claimed to want to join up with Tidal city's troops.

Laura asked: "Gu Qing Shan, why do we need to be so hurried? Can't we kill off these ghosts that are coming from the back first before we move on?"

Gu Qing Shan stared intently at the approaching army of ghosts, then further away.

"Because the city is about to fall" he said.

They all turned to look.

Sure enough, their group had been too focused on the approaching army that they failed to notice that a part of the city walls had already been taken over by the ghosts.

Having gained this vantage point, the ghosts were rallying to strike hard into Tidal city!

At this time, the robed mage's leaf shined briefly.

She quickly closed her eyes, then looked up to ask Gu Qing Shan: "The General said she had gathered the last remaining troops she had and prepared to leave the city to meet up with us. She also asked what the signal will be"

Everyone looked at Gu Qing Shan.

He wanted to counterattack.

He wanted to save that city.

He said he could bring princess Laura to fight, and find a path to victory.

It was now the final deciding moment.

It was now time to test whether or not this man was deceiving their princess or did he really has something planned.

Gu Qing Shan only placed Laura on his shoulder and lightly leapt onto the black horse's back.

He announced to everybody: "Prepare to move out, we're going straight into Tidal city.

The knights prepared their equipment and summoned their steeds.

When the entire squad had gotten on their horse, and fully prepared, the army of ghosts finally reached them.

Stopping briefly at a distance around 1000 meters away from where Gu Qing Shan was to judge the situation, they quickly rushed forward at even greater speed.

Their enemies were a mere ten people, they could easily kill them all with just a single push.

It was now that Gu Qing Shan told the robed mage: "Tell General Ilya to wait for the wind to come"

"For the ... wind to come?"

The robed mage was sitting on a horse's back and was stunned as she heard that.

"That's right, when the wind reaches Tidal city, she can immediately move out to meet up with us" saying so, Gu Qing Shan drew the Earth sword.

"All troops, move out!" he loudly ordered.

"Move out!" Laura clenched her tiny fist and shouted in unison.

The black horse's speed was as fast as ever, quickly charging towards the countless army of ghosts.

"Protect the princess!"

The 10 Bramble Bird knights gritted their teeth and followed the black horse's charge.

Even if they still couldn't imagine what could possibly come out of this, her Highness the royal princess was still riding the black horse.

Since they were chosen specifically for a rescue mission like this, their loyalty was absolute.

They were all prepared to die in battle.

Within the cloud of kicked out dust and dirt, the 11 riders quickly approached the army of ghosts.

The faces of those ghosts at the very front were beginning to become clear.

Looking at the endless numbers of ghosts, Laura started to feel a bit nervous.

She silently poked Gu Qing Shan and asked: "What now? We look very much like we're going to die in battle"

"We won't" Gu Qing Shan answered.

With a thought, three flying swords appeared from the void of space.

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

[You've accumulated 5 times of laido]

[You may unleash a Taiyi Sword Array at 32 times power]

[To unleash such a powerful technique, you will need to pay 100,000 Soul Points to fuel its power]

"Do it!" Gu Qing Shan confirmed without hesitation.

[Soul Points have been prepared, you may begin infusing your swords with Soul Points] the War God UI responded.

Gu Qing Shan smiled and manipulated all three swords with his inner sight.

All three swords reacted at once.

They all let out an intense 'wu wu' sound, as if they were already impatient, fully ready for battle.

"Go, we're starting" Gu Qing Shan whispered.

Without a sound, the wind began to pick up around the swords.

"This is ... wind?"

Laura noticed it and was confused for just a second before her eyes lit up.

She remembered Gu Qing Shan's sword technique that wiped out an entire city.

Just now, Gu Qing Shan told Ilya to wait for the wind as a signal.

So that's why. There really was hope!

Laura finally couldn't contain her excitement anymore.

She looked around.

Her guards around the black horse also appeared surprised.

They noticed as well.

An immense wind force was moving along the void of space.

This was an unimaginable and insurmountable storm of swords!

Laura held a scepter in her hand, standing up on Gu Qing Shan's shoulder and ordered her guards

"The wind is here! Everyone, follow me and Gu Qing Shan, charge!"

"For the princess!" her guards loudly shouted.

Their horses started to speed up.

They were charging straight into the enormous army of ghosts.

Chapter 571

"Gu Qing Shan!" "Gu Qing Shan!" "Gu Qing Shan!"

Laura shouted anxiously.

"What?" Gu Qing Shan finally replied.

"How do we prepare the battle formation?"

She looked at her guards around the black horse, then at the army of ghosts that they were just about to crash into.

"Charge straight in and eliminate them" Gu Qing Shan replied.

He took out a formation plate as he said that, quickly preparing several dozen large-scale war formations in a row.

Layer upon layer of formations rose from the formation plate to cover the entire squad.

"Everyone, prepare your defenses" Gu Qing Shan ordered.

"What about attack?" someone couldn't help but ask.

Gu Qing Shan didn't reply.

Just as the squad was about to crash straight into the army of ghosts — —

Gu Qing Shan suddenly shouted: "Array activate!"

With his command.

From the back of this cavalry squad, from the vast plains, from the high sky above, from the endless sea of clouds, wind began to blow.

The Earth sword.

Chao Yin sword.

Six Paths Great Mountain sword.

All three swords had arrived at the sea of clouds from moments unknown.

They quickly dashed around the thick clouds, moving with speeds that had transcended speed itself.

As they moved, they left behind images of swords one after another, quickly forming a unique formation array—–

1 sword, 10 swords, 100 swords, 1000 swords, 10000 swords, 10000 swords.

An enormous formation created purely out of swords was manifesting!

At a certain point, all the sword images stopped in place and let off a rattling sound.

Taiyi Sword Array.

Formed!

Hoh hoh hoh hoh ——

The intense wind blew all the way to the sky, sweeping even the clouds above away.

Instead, a sword array filled with killing intent replaced the layer of clouds, spreading all over the sky.

Abruptly, all the sword images moved.

The invisible storm of swords descended from above onto the plains below.

The gentle breeze swept across the ground, quickly catching up to the black horse.

The breeze gathered to slowly form a gust, quickly overtaking the cavalry and crashed into the army of ghosts ahead.

Without a sound or warning, the gust had weaved itself among the army of millions.

Boom!

An abrupt explosion of wind!!!

A large portion of the ghost army simply disappeared, as if they were erased from this world.

Wherever the sword storm passed, without a single sound, everything simply died.

The ranks of the ghost army were eaten through, forming a straight and wide path for them to take.

Gu Qing Shan and the guards kept galloping forward on the path created by the wind.

Whenever a ghost or revenant tried to get in their way, it would easily be blown to dust by the sword storm.

『A——void——-that——wind! 』

A huge commander ghost noticed the bad situation and shouted an order.

The ghost army quickly parted to either side.

Indeed, the range of the sword storm was huge.

But the plains were bigger, as long as they avoided it and waited until the storm had passed, there would easily be a lot of ghosts that survived.

At that time, it still wouldn't be too late to surround and kill them.

Which created this strange scene below.

The huge army of ghosts and revenants kept parting to make way while the small squad of 11 horses easily galloped through

The black horse kept charging forward, taking the group of 16 guards together with it towards Tidal city.

While sitting on the horse, Gu Qing Shan was still paying attention to his rocketing Soul Points value.

But at a certain point, the speed had slowed down.

Gu Qing Shan glanced around to see the ghosts were quickly fleeing.

"We're almost there, Tidal city is just ahead!" Laura excitedly shouted.

"Indeed, your Royal Highness!"

The guards also joyfully replied.

At first, they thought this to be a suicide mission, but it seemed like they won't have to die.

Everyone was glad and morale was high.

Only Gu Qing Shan was regretfully looking at the fleeing ghosts.

——those are all Soul Points… Wait a minute. Wait wait wait. Gu Qing Shan suddenly remembered something.

He checked his newest [War God Title]: [Starflame War God]

[Equipping the title: Starflame War God, you will receive a unique skill: Conquer]
[Conquer: When you use this skill, every enemy you target will be compelled with a legitimate reason to attack you]
[Note: This Skill belongs to the Mystic-type, a Causality Skill, unavoidable] (1)
[Note: To conquer or be conquered, that is the question]

What if... I try it here?

Doing beats thinking, so Gu Qing Shan immediately changed out his previous title [Talented General] to [Starflame War God].

As soon as he equipped it, he selected the entire army of ghosts as the target and activated his unique Skill: [Conquer]

At the same time, the situation of the battlefield changed.

For some reason, the commander ghost noticed Gu Qing Shan.

It looked at Gu Qing Shan, then at the giant sword array in the sky.

With a single glance, it noticed the same sword qi on Gu Qing Shan as the thing in the sky.

I see!

The commander ghost swung its weapon, pointing at Gu Qing Shan and shouted: [Kill——-him—— or——wind——won't——stop!]

The fleeing army of ghosts stopped when they heard that.

Countless of their kin had died at Gu Qing Shan's hands.

But they could only run.

An army against a mere dozen people, yet they were running so desperately!

The ghost army was already agitated with anger.

Now that their commander had issued the order, they no longer needed to control their bloodthirsty nature.

Roar!!!

The army of ghosts scrambled towards Gu Qing Shan.

They wanted to kill him!

In mere seconds, the fleeing army changed directions again, all charging into the sword storm!

Even if they had to sacrifice a few, they were determined to get through the sword storm and kill that human!

However, how could mere foot soldiers endure the power of a 32-fold [Taiyi Sword Array]?

Like a meat grinder, the sword storm spun and spun, easily erasing the army of ghosts in large portions at a time.

Laura and her guards were all stunned when they saw this.

"What the? Are the ghosts dumb?" one of the guards asked.

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"It can't be, maybe they're hoping to kill him?" another guard refuted him hesitantly.

The guards all looked to Gu Qing Shan.

While Gu Qing Shan was focused on his Soul Points value.

Since the army of ghosts were throwing themselves into the sword array to be killed, his Soul Points was rocketing again.

Great!

Gu Qing Shan happily raised his eyebrows.

But soon, the army of ghosts couldn't endure it anymore.

They once again turned around, trying to flee.

Ridiculous! This type of wind isn't something I can endure, let the other dumb ghosts run to their death!

Seeing the increase of his Soul Points slowing down, Gu Qing Shan squinted.

——that's no good, using the 32-fold sword array cost me 100,000 Soul Points, if I can't get it all back when I have the chance, wouldn't that be a huge loss?

He looked back at the title [Starflame War God] on the War God UI, gritted his teeth and activated the Skill [Conquer] again.

As soon as the skill was activated, the ghosts sensed something.

This attack is finally running out of power!!!

The ghosts were all so glad they wanted to cry.

Being chased by this terrifying kind of wind, even one slip could end in death was branding immense fear on the ghost army.

Good, good, your attack is about to end. Then we're charging again! Roarr!!!

The army of ghosts once again turned around and charged towards Gu Qing Shan's group.

No—-they were charging at Gu Qing Shan himself!

They wanted to tear him piece by piece while he was still alive!

The 16 guards all became cautious and got ready to receive the attacks.

Everyone also noticed the sword storm was calming down.

Which meant, they will soon have to risk their lives!

"Prepare yourselves!" Laura loudly declared.

She then lowered her head and whispered to ask him: "Gu Qing Shan, is your attack about to end?"

Gu Qing Shan looked at the tsunami of approaching ghosts and fell silent briefly.

He muttered to reply: "Ah, this is the sign of the sword array finishing its encirclement, now we're about to begin"

Now we're about... to begin?

Laura was stunned.

She couldn't help but look up.

There wasn't a single cloud in the sky.

The winds overhead were sharply howling.

And then...

0om—–

Like a true waterfall, the gust of wind crashed down from above.

The sword storm once again clashed with the army of ghosts.

It swept through.

A large portion of the ghost army was erased.

The wind kept sweeping.

An entire army squadron was gone.

To the army of ghosts, this was the start of a horrifying massacre.

Within the howling, crying and screams, the ghosts wanted to flee again.

But the sword array's encirclement had already been completed, where else were they going to run?

One sweep, eliminated.

One sweep, decimated.

One sweep, annihilated.

The Soul Points value on the War God UI was increasing at an exponential rate.

Gu Qing Shan was silently very glad.

"No good, Gu Qing Shan, quickly take a look!"

Laura hurriedly tapped Gu Qing Shan and said.

Gu Qing Shan looked up.

The end of the plains was in sight.

While they weren't paying attention, the squad had already ran past the whole army of ghosts and was about to reach Tidal city.

But Tidal city was in horrible shape.

After long and intense battles, one of Tidal city's walls had already crumbled.

The army of ghosts over there were roaring triumphantly.

They had already begun to invade Tidal city!

Laura nervously said: "Gu Qing Shan, Ilya herself is wounded, they might not be able to hold on"

"I can see that, we're picking up speed"

Gu Qing Shan urged his horse.

Indeed, without the city wall and how quickly the ghost army could move, Ilya was unlikely to stop them.

The situation became very serious.

How can I quickly help them alleviate the pressure...

Gu Qing Shan looked at the city and quickly made a decision.

A moment later, he activated his unique Skill [Conquer] again, targeting all the ghosts laying siege to the city.

At the same time, a particularly huge revenant appeared on the top of the mountain.

Its roar shook the heaven and earth: [There's a tough bastard on the plains, he's the key to ending this battle, all troops, kill him!]

The ghosts all answered.

Roar!!!

The army of ghosts quickly gave up the city and reorganized themselves to march down the mountain.

They were quickly heading for Gu Qing Shan.

In the city, quite a few ancient life forms had transformed and were covered in blood, ready to risk their life on a final stand to die along with the enemy.

At the last moment, their enemies suddenly retreated.

What the hell—–

The ancient life forms were completely stunned, unable to understand what was happening.

The 16 guards on the plains were also shocked.

"They gave up sieging the city and came for us?" a guard couldn't help but comment.

"This is a strategy, to strike reinforcement before they are ready" another guard tried justifying it.

"No, you're both wrong, perhaps the ghost army actually craves to fight with a true Combatant" another guard spoke with a tone of respect.

Gu Qing Shan stared at the tsunami of approaching enemies and went silent.

I really couldn't believe [Starflame War God]'s unique Skill [Conquer] would be able to be applied this way.

This Skill alone changed the flow of the entire war.

"System, this title, [Starflame War God] is a bit unreasonable, isn't it?" he silently said.

[Ting]!

The War God UI replied.

[Please pay special attention, the suffix of this title is 'War God', representing the War God's exclusive Skill]

[Furthermore, you need to understand what a Causality Skill really is]

Chapter 572

The War God UI briefly explained.

[The things called Causality Skills transcend all things, directly bypassing the limit of time and space to directly bring out an 'effect', tracing back through the 'cause' and change things at the source, altering the natural flow to accumulate the likelihood of something happening until the result they want is finally achieved] (1)

"...Causality Skills ... so that's what they are"

[Do you understand the meaning of Skills of this type now?] the War God asked.

"Not really" Gu Qing Shan honestly replied.

This was the very first time in his two lives that he even heard the term 'Causality Skill'.

[Slowly think about it]

Saying that, the War God UI temporarily ignored him.

At this time, someone among the guards shouted.

"Look! Entropy Ghosts are coming!"

Gu Qing Shan left the thought behind for now and looked up to the sky.

The Entropy Ghosts that got through the barrier before were now all heading towards their squad.

"Leave them to me"

Gu Qing Shan declared.

His spirit energy boiled with Lightning Element, infusing it into the Taiyi Sword Array.

In just a few moments, Lightning began to flow from the Six Paths Great Mountain sword in the sky.

Which led to the sword storm also beginning to fill up with arcs of lightning.

Lightning!

The most authoritative tool of punishment in this world, as set up by the Gods!

Together with the Six Paths Great Mountain sword's anti-Law property, the power of his Lightning was greatly increased!

The Entropy Ghosts were all extremely sensitive, as soon as they noticed the presence of Lightning, they immediately turned around to run.

The sky quickly cleared.

Gu Qing Shan retracted his Lightning spirit energy, tapped his Inventory Bag and took out a high-tier spirit energy replenishment pill and swallowed right away.

Ahead of them.

The rest of the ghost army had already given up on attacking the city and were instead heading straight for their small squad.

Gu Qing Shan glanced at the sword array in the sky.

The sword array was currently at its strongest.

About 12 breaths later, the [Taiyi Sword Array] will run out of energy and disappear completely.

Which means I'll have to finish this battle within 12 breaths!

Gu Qing Shan decided his course of action.

Putting Laura on the black horse's back, he shouted: "Everyone, protect the princess!"

"Protect her Royal Highness!" the guards all replied.

They urged their steeds forward, quickly got close to the black horse and surrounded it to protect Laura.

Gu Qing Shan leapt off the horse's back and took to the sky.

Riding the sword storm upwards, he activated a Divine Skill!

[Divine Skill – Ground Shrink: Select any location within range or through locking onto an enemy's presence, bypass the restraints of space through using a special movement technique and directly appear at the targeted location]

[Effective range: Your inner sight's range]

In the past, on the Demon Cloud River, to steal the Tianma vase from the Visible Tianma Saint King, Bai Hua Fairy once traversed the entire river in the blink of an eye and knocked them away with a single punch.

And now, while Gu Qing Shan was inside a storm of swords that was starting to form a tornado, he used the very same Divine Skill.

He disappeared—-

Then abruptly reappeared among the army of ghosts.

"Hah, the battle isn't over just yet!"

With him as the eye of the storm, Gu Qing Shan's gaze fell onto the millions of ghosts around him as he muttered.

[Starflame War God] Unique Skill, [Conquer] was once again activated.

The ghost army all screeched as they leapt towards him.

In a few moments, the howling tornado had already reached its peak, scattering in all directions.

Swish Swish Swish

Gu Qing Shan quickly moved forward along with the tornado, erasing the army of ghosts from the face of the earth as he did.

Just like that, he alone faced off against millions.

The ghosts were almost completely eliminated.

At the same time, Gu Qing Shan sent out a bit of wind towards Tidal city.

It silently flew.

And Tidal city quickly noticed.

A bright blue figure appeared on the city wall.

---he told them to wait for the wind as a signal, and finally it had come!

The bright blue figure carefully looked over the battle situation on the plains.

Ever since she finished the call of the Bramble Bird summoning technique, she had been waiting for the wind to arrive.

She witnessed everything that had happened on the plains up to now.

The once ferocious and intimidating army of ghosts were now reduced to a shadow of its former self, leaving sparse and small squads all over.

And even those squads were scrambling to escape.

"The time is now! We're going to counter-attack!" "Everyone, charge!"

The bright blue figure ordered.

A few dozen mountain-like ancient life forms leapt out from the city, landing on the plains with a huge 'thud'.

"""For the world of the Gods!"""

They all roared.

They quickly charged towards the scattered smaller groups of ghosts and attacked with everything they had.

The bright blue figure lightly leapt and bypassed the entire battlefield, heading towards the rear of the plains.

There, a small group of horses were approaching her with a black horse protected in the middle.

At this time, Gu Qing Shan stopped.

And so did the wind.

The Taiyi Sword Array had ended, and soon so will the battle.

Three flying swords returned from the sky above, circled around him twice before orderly disappearing into the void of space behind him.

Everything went just as planned.

Gu Qing Shan turned around and looked behind.

Frost of the Cold Night Ilya had received Laura and was currently heading towards him.

Both sides met up.

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The ancient life forms had also finished dealing with the fleeing monster and were quickly returning.

Everyone was finally reunited.

Ilya was a tall and slender female warrior fully clad in a bright blue armor, including a helmet, which made it impossible to see her face for now.

"For the sake of safety, we need to return to Tidal city first!" she shouted to Gu Qing Shan.

"Got it, you go first, I'll come soon as well" Gu Qing Shan responded.

His gaze was locked at the rear of the plains.

A few particularly huge commander ghosts were on the other side of the plains, shouting and cursing while rallying their troops again.

Once they reorganized themselves and received reinforcement from the countless Entropy Ghosts in the sky, they would probably launch another attack on Tidal city.

"Laura"

"Ah?"

"Let me borrow your horse for a bit"

"Alright"

Laura leapt off from the black horse and led it in front of Gu Qing Shan.

"Gu Qing Shan, what are you planning?" Laura asked, concerned.

"Just a few minor details, you can return to the city first, I'll catch up very soon" Gu Qing Shan smiled and stroked her head gently.

Then he leapt on the horse.

The black horse asked: "Are you in a hurry, or will you fight?"

Gu Qing Shan pointed at the rear of the plains, at the slowly rallying ghost army: "We're going to fight"

Sha—-

The black horse instantly charged forward.

"What does he want to do?" Ilya couldn't help but ask.

"I'm not sure" Laura replied.

Ilya was confused: "That attack of his just now was completely unreasonable, it doesn't match his strength at all. I had thought that he paid a great price in order to use it just once, why is he charging forward again now?"

The others also had their own suspicions.

Laura replied again: "I don't know either, but I trust him—- we're going to wait for him here"

Hearing that, Ilya signaled everyone around.

The ancient life forms quickly scattered to protect this area.

"Your will has been carried out, your majesty"

Laura was briefly shocked.

Ilya silently smiled.

"A country cannot be without a ruler for a day, Laura"

"Ah..."

It was now that Laura had to face the harsh truth.

That's right, father was murdered by Triste using vile means while he was off-guard. Mother is also no longer here. And brother as well. Right now, I am the last remaining person in the royal family. Me. Alone.

An indescribable sorrow rushed to her head, filling her body.

Laura shook her head but was unable to contain her emotions anymore.

Her tears came flowing.

"Laura, calm yourself down" Ilya sighed and spoke.

The princess is still too young, I don't know if she will be able to take over the burden of the kingdom. But there is no other way now.

"I know, I'm just..."

Laura's tears were still pouring down, unable to control herself.

And then, her gaze passed through the plains.

A black horse was galloping across it at high speeds.

The rider was still unsatisfied with its speed and loudly urged: "Hah!"

He was holding a sword in hand.

He was heading for the army of ghosts on the other side of the plains—- heading straight ahead.

Laura was stunned briefly as she saw this.

Then, some memories surfaced in her mind.

"I'm already used to a life like this, and also... being an orphan has its benefits" he once said that.

"What benefits?"

"When we die, we won't have to worry about too many people crying for us"

"What kind of benefit is that...?"

"You don't think it's a benefit? When you see others being sorrowful because of you, you would only feel more sorrow, but we are superior since we can perfectly avoid this"

"... Is that really superior?"

"Of course"

Laura couldn't help but shake her head.

Really... What kind of superiority is that supposed to be? And also—-He's all alone right now, what gives him the courage to actually head straight towards the remaining millions of ghosts? He already used his sword array, there should be nothing left to use against them!

Thinking about it more and more, Laura slowly forgot her grief.

She pursed her lips, stopped looking at him and nodded to Ilya.

"I'm ready"

Even while her tears were still rolling, she confirmed it with conviction.

Ilya immediately knelt down on one knee, bowing in front of Laura.

After her, all the Bramble Bird guards got off their horses and also bowed around Laura.

"Laura, from today onwards, you will be the one and the only sovereign of the Bramble Bird Kingdom" Ilya declared in a low voice.

"Your royal majesty!"

The guards all bowed and spoke ceremoniously.

Laura looked around at her guards, then at Ilya.

Ilya removed her mask and gave her an encouraging smile.

Laura took a deep breath, forcing her emotions to calm down.

Then she took a glance at the figure on the black horse.

She wiped the tears off her face.

While under the protection of over a dozen ancient life forms, in front of her subjects of the Bramble Bird Kingdom, Laura regained her composure.

She declared: "From today onwards, I will cry no longer" "I will lead my people to win against all enemies on our way" "I will protect my country, my land, my subjects and their everything" "I! Am Empress of the Bramble Birds!"

the "Mystic Eyes of Death Perception" that Tohno Shiki and Ryougi Shiki from the Fate universe possess, where the "effect" is death, and the "cause" is having their death lines cut. The entire Fate universe is actually full of abilities like this, if anyone is familiar with them.

Chapter 573

The black horse was running at full speed.

Gu Qing Shan sat tight on the horse's back, observing the army of ghosts ahead.

Two ghosts that were around 7-8 meters tall ran back and forth, loudly urging the scattered troops to rally again.

With weapons in hand, they killed every ghost or revenant that refused to listen to their orders.

Under such forceful persuasion, the ghosts stopped being restless and quickly followed their superior's orders.

At this rate, given just a bit of time, the ghost troops would reorganize into an army.

Even though their numbers had been greatly culled compared to before, the remaining army still easily totalled up to the hundred thousand.

Against this number of enemies of this level, even Gu Qing Shan wouldn't be able to do anything.

If he really did charge straight into the army of over a hundred thousand ghosts, he would die.

But that was impossible.

Gu Qing Shan muttered as he charged forward, "But I can't let you reorganize yourselves so simply either, otherwise there would be trouble..."

His mind moved.

Oong!

The Earth sword appeared from the void of space.

"Up" Gu Qing Shan said.

The Earth sword disappeared in a flash as it shot towards the sky.

A few moments later—–

A blurred shadow fell from the sky, quickly crashing down towards the army of ghosts.

This was the Earth sword, flying downwards with its weight of 86,370,000 tons.

Height, speed, force, with these three combined factors, Gu Qing Shan didn't even need to consider using any sword techniques.

He simply guided the Earth sword and aimed towards one of the commander ghosts.

Boom!!!

The impact kicked up a huge cloud of dust.

The entire plains area shook.

The ghosts fell into chaos briefly.

A large, round hole appeared.

The commander ghost that was hit by the Earth sword got instantly vaporized.

Gu Qing Shan's gaze turned to the other commander ghost.

Oong!

The Earth sword flew out from the hole, dashed through the air and headed straight towards the large ghost.

🛚 🗛 Aaaaaa, DIE! 🌡

The ghost swung its weapon, trying to stop the attack.

Kih!!

With a resounding sound of impact, the Earth sword's strike was stopped by the commander ghost.

The commander ghost was forced back a few steps, falling on its butt.

Its head flew into the air, blood scattering everywhere.

At the moment the weapons clashed, another sword had appeared behind it and took its life.

Secret Art, [Swallow Returns]

Two commander ghosts, eliminated!

The rallying groups of ghosts were thoroughly thrown into chaos, showing signs of restlessness and unrest.

An Entropy Ghost managed to fly down just in turn, shouting towards all the ghosts.

As a sentient Chaotic Demon Lord, this Entropy Ghost took over command of the army.

Under its command, the ghosts and revenants slowly calmed down.

"Tch, a new problem, seems like it's your turn now"

Gu Qing Shan said behind himself.

The Six Paths Great Mountain sword vibrated briefly before flying past the black horse and flew into the army of ghosts.

With a few gleams of light, the sword had already found its way into the army.

The autumn-like blue sword erupted in arcs of lightning, striking straight at the Entropy Ghost.

The Entropy Ghost quickly evaded!

It fled to the sky.

The sword spun once and turned into Shannu,

Holding the sword in her hand, her figure disappeared in a flash.

Divine Skill, [Ground Shrink]!

Shannu turned around in midair, slashing her sword at the escaping Entropy Ghost.

Secret Art, [Crescent Slash]!

A gigantic light blue crescent moon covered in a thin layer of lightning struck down from above.

Without being able to even utter a scream of pain, the Entropy Ghost was directly vaporized.

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When the other Entropy Ghosts saw that, they quickly retreated.

Even from afar, they could feel the anti-Law property of this sword.

Not to mention the reinforced power of Lightning on it.

This sword was their natural-born killer, they can't even attempt to resist even if they wanted to.

Seeing that, Gu Qing Shan nodded satisfyingly.

In a few moments, two commander ghosts were eliminated, an Entropy Ghost was destroyed, and the other Entropy Ghosts were forced to flee.

Now there was no one else to command the ghost army.

"Your turn"

He muttered behind himself.

The Chao Yin sword vibrated in joy and dashed out without being urged to.

It was also heading towards the ghost army.

All three swords had gathered in one place again.

Gu Qing Shan activated his hand seal.

Taiyi Sword Array, go!

The three swords surrounded the army of almost a hundred thousand ghosts and began to prepare their sword images again.

The sword images were being arranged in a unique formation in the void of space.

Some ghosts tried to attack the sword images, but found that their weapons directly passed through without being able to do any damage.

Sword images filled the air.

The wind began to pick up.

A faint gust of sword-infused wind could be felt.

The ghost army immediately recognized this prickly feeling.

Hundreds of thousands of ghosts all screamed in unison.

—–no, not this attack again!

This type of sword-infused wind had already left a deep scar in their minds.

The power of the 32-fold Taiyi Sword Array had struck fear deep into their core.

And now, the same wind began to pick up again.

The army of ghosts instantly made their moves.

———without waiting for a single second, not even one ghost tried to stay behind to see how powerful this sword wind would actually be.

Because the only impression they had of the sword-infused wind was--

Running one-second late meant death!

They threw down their weapons without hesitation and scattered.

They ignored everything else.

Survival over all!

In the blink of an eye, the newly rallied army once again split up all over.

And there wasn't anyone to stop them from doing so.

Almost a hundred thousand ghosts ran for their lives, scattering into the forests outside the plains.

Gu Qing Shan held the horse back and urged it to stop.

When the army had fully scattered and there weren't anymore ghosts on the plains, he dispelled the Taiyi Sword Array.

Even the normal Taiyi Sword Array cost spirit energy to use.

Since he already achieved his goal, there wasn't a reason to waste spirit energy.

After all, even if he exhausted himself to death, he couldn't possibly stop a hundred thousand ghosts alone.

"A burnt child dreads the fire, that kind of army is as good as useless"

Gu Qing Shan sighed.

He turned the horse around and headed back towards Tidal city.

After that scare, the army of ghosts probably won't rally again so easily.

And to gather enough numbers for laying siege on Tidal city once again would be even harder.
Gu Qing Shan urged the horse to run fast, quickly returning to where Laura was.

"Ah? Why haven't you returned to the city yet?" Gu Qing Shan asked with surprise.

"You big fraud, that was clearly just to deceive them" Laura said.

This guy is really too sly, being able to come up with such a method to chase the enemies away.

"I won't fight a war campaign if something can be resolved in a simpler way, too tiring" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"What if those ghosts hadn't ran away and instead charged at you?" Laura couldn't help but asked.

"If they don't run, I will. Let's just say, I still have other solutions if push comes to shove" Gu Qing Shan casually said.

"Are you really ok like that ...?"

"An enemy that's scared to death isn't scary no matter how many of them there are" Gu Qing Shan stroked her head, then habitually put her on his shoulder.

Laura very naturally took her seat, even adjusting her position to sit more comfortably.

Chapter 574

Laura comfortably settled down on Gu Qing Shan's shoulder.

Silence surrounded them.

The guards exchanged confused looks.

Frost of the Cold Night Ilya opened her eyes wide, unable to believe what she was seeing.

Chronologically, the following things had just happened in a row.

Gu Qing Shan rode the black horse out alone.

Laura vowed to become a suitable sovereign.

Gu Qing Shan returned.

After her vow, Laura obediently sat down on his shoulder.

The guards all exchanged glances, looking at each other for an answer.

Isn't this a harmonious scene? But why does it feel like something is wrong... Fucking hell! Of course something is wrong! The sovereign of the Bramble Birds is sitting on that man's shoulder!

Laura quickly noticed the strange atmosphere.

Especially the threatening air radiating from Ilya.

With a casual expression, Laura said: "Gu Qing Shan, this is our Bramble Bird Kingdom's General, Frost of the Cold Night Ilya"

"Ilya, this is Gu Qing Shan, he helped me escape from Triste's pursuit. On the way here, he has saved my life many times"

This was to explain the current situation clearly.

Ilya could only nod.

"Thank you for saving our sovereign" she gave him her thanks.

"Ah, you're welcome, I only did what should have been done" Gu Qing Shan quickly replied.

They exchanged some pleasantries.

The atmosphere calmed down a bit.

Ilya took a deep breath, wanting to say something, but noticed the nervousness and begging look in Laura's gaze, she sighed.

Very well, Laura is young, but she has always had her own reason for doing everything. Not to mention, ever since they showed up on the plains, Laura had been sitting on his shoulder already. Seems like Laura has recognized him.

After losing all of her family members, having someone as a warm father figure is beneficial for her growth.

And then again, during this battle, not just Laura's but my own life was also saved by him. When the situation took a turn for the worst, it was him that led the sieging ghost army away. But then...

He doesn't seem to be very strong? How did he accomplish such a feat... Something is strange here.

I need to find an opportunity to ask Laura myself.

Disregarding Ilya's inner thoughts for now, the group quickly gathered and headed back towards Tidal city.

Deep in the night.

The shining golden light that had been continuing for a while slowly faded.

All the Entropy Ghosts had infiltrated this world, and without any stimulations, the Old God's barrier gradually returned to a dormant state.

The darkness of the night fell.

There wasn't a lot of sound or commotion in the city.

There were simply too few people that could endure the intense invasion of the ghost army.

Even those who could transform into ancient life forms were in the same state, there were only 20 of these so-called Divine Seeds left.

These Divine Seeds split into two groups, one group escorted old man Jiao into the divine temple of the city, the other headed outside the city walls, trying to repair it.

Every free hand was dispatched to help repair their only defensive means remaining.

Frost of the Cold Night Ilya had brought Laura away to find her a place to rest.

She needed to talk with Laura alone.

Gu Qing Shan wandered around the city by himself.

Since he changed the entire situation of the war by himself, there wasn't anyone that tried to order him to do anything.

After taking a short stroll, Gu Qing Shan decided to pull one of the Divine Seeds away to ask a few things.

"Where is old man Jiao being taken to?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"To receive our tribe's test of bestowal" the Divine Seed replied.

Since he was feeling grateful towards Gu Qing Shan for dispatching the ghost calamity, the Divine Seed answered as he was asked.

"Test of bestowal?" Gu Qing Shan was a bit surprised.

"Yeah, the goal of those ghosts and demonized are the treasure of our tribe, the heritage of the Old Gods"

"Why do you know that's what they want?"

"A messenger was sent over several times, but since we kept refusing to hand over our tribe's treasure to them, they started this war"

Hearing that, Gu Qing Shan noticed the weight of this matter.

[Origin] withheld nothing to attack this world in order to find the item that would help it evolve.

This item was supposedly special materials left behind by the Old Gods all over the 900 million World Layers, capable of helping all non-organic life forms evolve.

The Divine Seed sighed: "Truthfully, over the course of our existence, our tribe has always been worshipping the heritage of the Old Gods without desires to take it for ourselves. But now that the situation had become so severe, we have to take its test to see if one of us could obtain it and trigger the power of the Gods to help us protect our home"

"Then, if you had old man Jiao take the test, does that mean the rest of you have already failed?"

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"It's shameful to admit, but the tests of the Gods are simply too difficult. The test given to each person is also different, so none of us have managed to pass it yet"

"Aren't there still a lot of you here?"

"Only those who are Divine Seeds in our tribe are qualified to take the test, normal tribesmen are unable to take the test, nor can they use the method left behind by the Gods to fuse with the heritage"

"So that's why"

No wonder old man Jiao left so hurriedly. If he could obtain that heritage of the Old Gods, [Origin]'s scheme will have failed. So old man Jiao was the key to this. But apparently, the tests are very hard, none of the Divine Seeds here managed to pass the test to obtain that thing. Hopefully, old man Jiao will be able to. If he also fails...

"What are you going to do with the treasure if old man Jiao also fails?" Gu Qing Shan quickly asked.

"Our tribe is the creation of Gods, we will never sell the heritage of the Gods for our own gain. We will fight to the very end, then destroy it!"

"Well said!" Gu Qing Shan praised him.

Even in the worst-case scenario, even if they have to destroy the treasure, they won't leave it for the enemy to take.

That's quite some backbone this tribe has. If that's the case, there won't be any problems.

Gu Qing Shan was relieved.

At this point, a female voice came from behind him.

"Mr. Gu Qing Shan"

Gu Qing Shan turned around to see that it was Ilya.

"Where's Laura?" he asked.

"Her Majesty is currently providing equipment for everyone"

"Ah"

"Mr. Gu Qing Shan, although the ghosts and revenants have retreated, I still have an uneasy feeling in my mind, so I was planning to scout the situation, would you be willing to accompany me on this?"

"No problem!"

Gu Qing Shan instantly agreed.

In truth, he himself also had a bad feeling about the situation.

"But you don't seem like you're fit to scout right now, rather it'd be better if you rest"

Gu Qing Shan evaluated her.

Ilya had quite a few terrible wounds on her body.

Although the bleeding had stopped, the wounds were still deep, if an intense battle occurred, she might not be able to fight at capacity.

"It's fine, wounds like these are nothing big" Ilya laughed it off.

Gu Qing Shan went silent for a brief moment.

He then tapped his Inventory Bag and took out a pill.

"What is this?" Ilya received the pill and asked.

"An effective pill to mend external wounds"

Ilya sniffed it first before smiling.

"The six arts of cultivation, they are quite famous even among the infinite worlds, especially the art of formation and alchemy, I've always admired them"

Saying so, Ilya put the pill in her mouth, chewed and swallowed.

Looking at her consuming the pill, Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but feel like this was a familiar scene...

He then faced-palmed himself.

"Ah, I'm sorry, I forgot to tell you, this pill has an effect to mend external wounds very quickly, but it also has a detoxifying effect on your body"

Detoxifying effect?

Ilya had a strange look on her face.

After a bit, she lightly scowled and clutched her stomach.

Indeed, this feeling is ...

"Excuse me!"

Leaving a few curt words, she disappeared on the spot.

Gu Qing Shan was still trembling a bit.

Her wounds are really bad, so it'll probably hurt a lot worse than old man Jiao when she does 'the thing'.

Gu Qing Shan breathed in deeply and stopped thinking more about it.

...is she going to beat me up for this? Ok, let's think about it a bit more next time. Even if it's out of goodwill, there are other ways. So what should I do now?

Gu Qing Shan looked around.

The Divine Seed had already climbed to the top of the city walls, transformed into a mountain-like monster to repair it.

There wasn't anyone around here.

Then I'll just wait here for her a bit, hm, just a bit. Blades probably won't be clashing over such a small matter.

Chapter 575

Ilya had been the Bramble Bird Kingdom's military general for many years, her title wasn't just for show.

The only reason why she got wounded was that she was up against a large number of Entropy Ghosts and an army of several millions while trying to defend the city.

If she really wanted to beat me up for that... I can only use a Divine Skill to run away.

Deciding that, Gu Qing Shan stood still and waited.

A few moments later, Ilya returned.

"Your pill was great, my wounds have gotten much better" she praised him.

Gu Qing Shan nodded to signal his agreement.

Indeed, in the cultivation world, individual strength wasn't actually that great.

——especially after meeting the Combatants of the 900 million World Layers, Gu Qing Shan understood that even clearer.

But the reason why the cultivation world managed to hold off the demon's fierce invasion for 10 long years was due to the 6 arts.

Divination, Formations, Pills, Smithing, Talismans and Cooking.

These were the culmination of a civilization's knowledge, they were created by humans, at the same time becoming the tool and basis for them to advance.

"We can set off now to see what the ghost army is planning" Ilya said.

"Yes, I also wanted to do that" Gu Qing Shan replied.

But he didn't go right away, instead summoned a sword.

The Six Paths Great Mountain sword.

The autumn-like blue sword spun once in the air and turned into Shannu.

"Gongzi, you have use for me?" Shannu asked.

"In case Entropy Ghosts stage an ambush, the people here won't be able to stop them, you stay here to watch over them and take care of Laura"

"Yes"

"If something happens, use inner sight to contact me right away, you already know all my techniques and abilities"

"Understood, I will pay close attention" Shannu answered.

Gu Qing Shan was a bit more assured.

Since a flying sword and a sword cultivator were always connected through inner sight, no matter what happens, Shannu could temporarily hold the fort for him.

And since Gu Qing Shan had [Ground Shrink], he could easily return here faster than anyone else.

Seeing him be that careful, Ilya silently nodded in approval.

"Ok, let us go" Gu Qing Shan said.

"Indeed" Ilya replied.

The two of them flew out from the city wall, heading towards where the ghosts had retreated.

Gu Qing Shan thought about it for a bit but didn't take out the airship.

Since they were scouting, there was a need to stay hidden at all times, Ilya herself didn't summon any steed either.

The two of them melded with the darkness, quickly flying close to the ground.

It wasn't until they got to the border of the plains that they slowed down.

It was here that the ghosts had rallied before being scattered by Gu Qing Shan again.

There were chaotic marks of destruction all over the place.

"What do you think they're going to do next?" Ilya asked.

"I'm not sure, I haven't met many ghosts or revenants yet so I don't know them well"

Gu Qing Shan explained.

Entropy Ghosts were a unique type of Chaotic Demon Lord, having the ability to pass through everything.

After infiltrating this world, they could scatter into countless ghosts and hellspawns of Huang Quan, or use summoning techniques to call in more ghosts from outside.

This was a unique monster with unique capabilities that Gu Qing Shan had only met for the first time.

Ilya sighed and said: "This was also the first time I've seen so many Samsara Daemons, it seems we have no choice but to find them first before probing their next moves"

She pulled out two long daggers emitting a cold chill from behind.

Gu Qing Shan grabbed the air and held the Chao Yin sword in his hand.

Ilya looked at the Chao Yin sword.

"Laura said you have three Legendary swords, enough for her to want them for herself"

Using the Mystic Zones' standards, items were divided into 4 tiers: Wondrous, Epic, Legendary, Divine.

Wondrous items are only considered decent in a Bramble Bird's eyes, but they're first-rate magical items in any other world.

Epic items in any other world are considered treasures that everyone wanted to get their hands on.

But the Earth sword, Chao Yin sword and Six Paths Great Mountain sword were judged by Laura to be Legendary items.

That was why every time Gu Qing Shan used his swords, Laura would watch him closely with clear desire burning in her eyes.

"Ah, that's right, she said she wanted to trade other things with me for them, but since these three swords are like parts of my own body, I didn't agree" Gu Qing Shan smiled.

"Then you should be careful, it's very easy for swords of this level to draw unwanted eyes" Ilya reminded him.

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"I understand that"

Ilya changed the subject a bit: "We're going to have to infiltrate the enemy's base from here on, but we still aren't clear of each other's strength so it won't be easy to coordinate"

"You mean?"

"Let's spar for a bit and get to know each other a bit more" Ilya said.

Gu Qing Shan looked at her in surprise as his thought turned quickly.

Ilya is the supreme military general of the Bramble Bird Kingdom, together with Triste they are the two strongest people of the Bramble Bird Kingdom.

And she's considered a decent Combatant even with the infinite worlds' standard.

But she wants to spar with me.

This...

... is probably because of that pill...

"How can I actually fight you?" Gu Qing Shan smiled bitterly and continued: "We're here to scout, let's leave sparring for later"

"It'll be a short sparring session, don't worry, we'll just exchange 10 attacks, after 10 attacks, I'll stop" Ilya looked at Gu Qing Shan and added: "Don't worry, I'll limit my power to be just around your level"

Saying so, her presence gradually reduced until it matched Gu Qing Shan's level.

Gu Qing Shan sighed.

Seems like a fight is unavoidable.

He thought briefly and spoke: "If you limit yourself to just around my level, there might be a problem"

"What problem would that be? Or do you want me to lower my strength further?" Ilya stared straight at him and asked.

"That's not necessary, I'm just afraid you might be at a disadvantage" Gu Qing Shan replied.

Ilya looked at him and smiled.

"Say that again after you can take 10 attacks from me"

Saying so, she swung both daggers and rushed forward.

Her stance was flexible and sly, seemingly capable of stabbing through Gu Qing Shan at any time during her blade dance.

Even stranger, as Ilya wielded her daggers, her body seems to have entered a blurred state.

Her movements became difficult to judge, both direction and speed.

Gu Qing Shan silently praised, feeling like he had his eyes opened again.

Using the swings of the blade to obscure her body movements, at the same time using those movements to attack, not only did it perfectly fit the characteristics of a dagger, but it was also the pinnacle of the art of assassination.

Although Ilya did reduce her strength, her fighting techniques and experience were still fully there.

Gu Qing Shan decidedly took a few steps back to carefully observe her.

Ilya wasn't using any special abilities or spells, purely attacking with her daggers.

...without a hint of killing intent no less.

Seems like she's still sensible enough.

Gu Qing Shan couldn't use any special sword styles like Secret Arts either.

Seeing him backing off again and again, Ilya stopped and disapprovingly asked: "Do you only know how to retreat? I've already limited my strength and you still can't spar?"

Gu Qing Shan just smiled and stepped forward with his sword.

In a flash, the sword and daggers clashed, both sides not letting up, leaving countless blurry afterimages as they attacked.

Clang, clink, clang, clang clink~!

Soon enough, 10 attacks had passed.

The sword held both daggers back and pushed.

Ilya was pushed back together with her daggers, only regaining stability after 7-8 steps.

She was surprised at Gu Qing Shan: "Seems like you aren't all talk after all"

—-at which attack did he notice my flaw? That final attack just now? No, let's confirm it again.

Deciding that, Ilya's presence began to rise.

Gu Qing Shan noticed it right away.

Her power waves now far exceeded the Sainted realm.

And Ilya herself looked extremely excited.

Indeed, normally in battle it's always a step away from death, how often do you have someone to reduce their strength to your level and spar with pure sword or blade skills? This was also a good chance to learn from her.

Thinking that, Gu Qing Shan brandished his sword, asking: "Again?"

"Again!"

Ilya disappeared on the spot and reappeared behind Gu Qing Shan.

Her daggers drew several arcs of cold gleams.

Kih!

Gu Qing Shan's sword stopped them all, quickly maintaining a distance.

"Running again?" Ilya smirked and pursued.

Two figures quickly moved about in the air and ground, weaving evasion with attacks, occasionally metallic sound of weapons clashing could be heard.

At the 30 attack mark, Gu Qing Shan once again held both daggers back with his sword and pushed.

Ilya was sent backwards again.

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As Ilya was forced backwards; she twirled and stably landed on the ground.

"Excellent swordsmanship, you must've put quite a bit of effort in it" Ilya commented.

Her two daggers began dancing around her fingertips like fluttering butterflies.

"You praise me too much" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"I'm going to get a little bit serious now, it'll be hard to hold myself back so try not to get yourself killed"

While saying so, Ilya slowly shortened the distance between her and Gu Qing Shan.

The two dancing daggers were swiftly caught in her hands.

Dozens of afterimages appeared around where the daggers were, making it impossible to judge where they were going to strike.

Gu Qing Shan was also itching to try as well.

Having an expert assassin of this degree lower their own power to spar with was something that happened maybe once in a blue moon.

Gu Qing Shan stepped forward.

"Please" he said.

Ilya understood his sentiments and smiled.

Like a shadow or a mist, her body moved forward at unpredictable stretches, brandishing her gleaming sharp daggers.

Gu Qing Shan thrust his sword forward.

Oong-

The two daggers parried his strike, giving off a screeching grind of metal.

This time it was Ilya who parried his sword with her daggers!

In that split second, she opened her mouth to release a tiny dagger that aimed straight for Gu Qing Shan's throat.

Clang!

The Earth sword appeared from thin air, knocking the dagger away.

Seeing the sword parrying her dagger before slashing towards her, Ilya retreated.

Gu Qing Shan held the Earth sword in hand.

He was now dual-wielding.

"Again?" he invited.

"Dual wielding? It's quite difficult to use two swords at once to an agreeable degree" Ilya observed the Earth sword and spoke.

Gu Qing Shan replied:" This sword might be heavy, but it's linked to my mind and flexible to use"

"Very well"

Ilya shook her head as her presence increased once more.

As the power she could use increased, so did the power and speed of her strikes.

Without saying another word, she brandished her daggers once again.

This time, they exchanged over 100 attacks in just the blink of an eye.

Seeing an opening, Gu Qing Shan suddenly thrust his sword.

This attack struck where Ilya couldn't help but defend with her daggers.

With a slight push, the strike knocked Ilya away.

"Very well done"

Ilya stroked her chin.

Having swordsmanship of this caliber, it's easy to see how he managed to protect Laura this far.

It was essential to know that a high proficiency of swordsmanship wasn't something you could achieve through blind practice.

An expert swordsman wasn't only skillful, their mind must also be sharp and flexible as well.

Because that was the nature of the sword, only those with talent could truly manifest its power.

Gu Qing Shan put his swords away, saying: "We can stop now"

"Not continuing anymore?"

Gu Qing Shan smiled bitterly: "If you increase your power further, I won't be able to keep up with pure swordsmanship, the battle will cause a huge commotion that will attract the attention of the ghosts"

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Ilya nodded and put her daggers away as well.

"In the cultivation civilization, there exists a type of cultivator who only cultures the sword, called sword cultivator—— you are one such sword cultivator, are you not?" she asked.

Gu Qing Shan silently nodded.

"Laura told me that you came from a Scattered world, but from your swordsmanship, I can see a deep understanding and grandness that simply cannot be used by someone who hasn't seen a fair share of the worlds"

She fell in thought as she evaluated him.

"I feel that your swordsmanship is being held back by your current level of power, unable to demonstrate its full potential"

"From how you fought with the ghost army, you could already control flying swords, which meant you should have already reached the level Sword Saint by a sword cultivator's standard"

"Just now, my power level was about twice as much as yours, but you still managed to win, even though we only sparred with pure skill and techniques, it was still a very impressive feat"

"With your talents and temperament, if you are able to keep improving yourself at such a rate, in a few hundred years' time, you will be able to surpass the level of Sword Saint and take another step forward" "If that's the case, it isn't a bad thing for Laura to have a friend like yourself"

She showed a friendly expression before concluding that.

So that was the true reason why she tried to probe Gu Qing Shan's strength.

But she didn't know that Gu Qing Shan was an exceptionally talented sword cultivator who was reliving his life, and he had already received some pointers from Bai Hua Fairy.

In the entire cultivation world, Bai Hua Fairy herself was the very cream of the crop, if it weren't for the Laws of the world limiting her, she would've already reached a much higher realm than she was now.

From back then, Bai Hua Fairy had already concluded that Gu Qing Shan would definitely become a Sword Saint.

After leaving the cultivation world, Gu Qing Shan went through so much hardship, experienced many tough battles, then received all of the Asura King's battle experience and techniques in Huang Quan.

That was why Gu Qing Shan's vision, skill and experience all received an extremely potent boost.

If it weren't for his cultivation limiting him, his swordsmanship alone would make him vastly stronger than most people of his peers.

Hearing Ilya's comment, Gu Qing Shan didn't act humble like he usually does.

Because he caught a few crucial words in her evaluation.

Gu Qing Shan's expression turned serious, clasped his fist and asked: "Just now, you said I can surpass the level of Sword Saint and take another step forward?"

Ilya nodded.

"Might I ask, what is the level above Sword Saint like?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"It's still too early for you to ask this" Ilya shook her head.

"The only thing I can tell you is that you're still limited by your own cultivation, unable to fully demonstrate the power of your swords"

"If one day, you are able to use your swords at 200% capacity as freely as breathing, only then can you break through to the next level"

"The next level ... "

"Yes, that is so-called 'using them at will', only once you've completely released the power of your swords can you begin to think about how to converge its power"

"Converge? Why would I converge?" Gu Qing Shan was surprised.

Ilya thought briefly and told him: "Then I'll ask you this, the wind sword array technique that you used to eliminate the ghost army, was it strong?"

"It was strong. That is my most powerful strike" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"Then imagine for yourself, what kind of power can it demonstrate if you converge all its power into a single, explosive strike?"

Gu Qing Shan froze.

He had never heard of this kind of idea and theology before.

After becoming a Sword Saint, there was no longer anyone who could teach him anything.

So far, what he had achieved was what he found out himself.

And now, someone stronger than him had put forward a new idea about his own swordsmanship.

The 32-fold Taiyi Sword Array, turning into a single strike?

Gu Qing Shan went silent for a bit as his expression gradually changed.

"If that was the case... this strike would be able to cut through anything and everything..."

Gu Qing Shan muttered.

"Correct. Convergence is much harder than release. When you can converge and release the power of your swords at will, that will be the phase when your swordsmanship reaches its pinnacle, when you can finally surpass the level of Sword Saint!" Ilya concluded.

Hearing that, Gu Qing Shan felt like he was being infused with power.

He clasped his fist sincerely: "Thank you for your teaching, I will remember this favor"

"No need to thank me. You've saved Laura, which is the same as saving our Bramble Bird Kingdom, consider those words of mine as thanks for your efforts"

"Not to mention, these aren't my words, but rather the words of a sword-user friend of mine from 1000 years ago"

"Can I ask who that friend——"

"He is currently at the Strife Zones, the battlefield of all races, the cradle and grave of countless Professions and Combatants. Back then, Barry and Kitty also went there to rise up and finally become Lord-class Combatants"

"If you have the time, you can try going there to battle and cultivate, it'll be very good for you" Ilya said.

Since she now recognized him, she decided to worry for his sake and informed him all he needed to know.

"Thank you for the teachings"

Gu Qing Shan nodded and said.

Chapter 577

Once their sparring session was over, both people found they understood each other a bit better.

Ilya used the sparring as a method to understand Gu Qing Shan.

But Gu Qing Shan was also doing the same thing.

After sparring, Ilya had given Gu Qing Shan some very useful and direct advice.

At the same time, Gu Qing Shan also evaluated Ilya.

----seems like Ilya is a trustworthy person.

First of all, Ilya had sworn to the Saint Bramble Tree to protect Laura.

Laura had said that a Bramble Bird who goes against their vows would be stripped of all their powers.

Secondly, in the battle just now, Gu Qing Shan could sense that she was gradually increasing her strength according to his limit without malice.

Otherwise, with the difference in their power levels, Ilya could have abruptly used all her strength to overpower him.

Since Gu Qing Shan was basically walking on thin ice, he had been constantly on guard just in case.

It wasn't until the very end when Ilya gave him advice on how to further cultivate himself that he was able to feel a bit relieved.

And now, Gu Qing Shan asked something he had been wondering since the start.

"I'm curious, why didn't you become a target for [Worlds Apocalypse Online]?"

"Why did you think to ask this?"

"Because there are over 2 million demonized who carry [Worlds Apocalypse Online] outside, none of them went against it"

"It's not that no one went against it, but rather everyone who did became a source of Soul Points for it" Ilya sighed and continued: "It did try to coerce me, but I refused, so it sent several Demon Lords to try and catch me. At that point, I immediately hid into the ice below—— because I couldn't retaliate or I would risk Triste noticing"

Gu Qing Shan nodded: "Please go on"

"I dived downwards following the flow of the water and finally found out that this world was the one separated by a wide-world ocean, above it were the frozen wastelands, while the world below it was protected by the Old God's barrier. I had to use a precious item to get through the divine barrier and enter this lost world"

"That reminds me, there wasn't anyone in this lost world that carried [Worlds Apocalypse Online] at all" Gu Qing Shan muses.

Ilya replied: "Because this is a world created by the Old Gods, the barrier contains their divinity, preventing [Worlds Apocalypse Online] from infiltrating it. It could only send Entropy Ghosts in to scout, and once they did, they scattered themselves into other ghosts and summoned more ghosts from the outside"

"With a large force of ghosts, they scouted this world and found the treasure of the tribes, conveying that information back to the [Demon King Order]"

Up to this point, Ilya stopped briefly and thought about something: "That treasure, the tribe people said it was a relic left over by the Old Gods. I feel that the [Demon King Order] desperately wants it for some reason"

"Why do you think so?"

"The ghost army offered a lot of precious items and benefits to trade for just the treasure" "But right after the tribe people rejected its offer, the [Demon King Order] immediately started a war of extinction" "The world of the tribe people was destroyed bit by bit, only because I happened to be at Tidal city and used a lot of treasures to help the Divine Seeds fight that they managed to hold out for so long"

"Is there a difference between Divine Seeds and Demis?"

"Of course there is, Demis are the offspring and descendants of the Gods, they can learn and master Divine Skills, Divine Seeds are creations of the Gods, a completely different species"

"So that's why" Gu Qing Shan said.

Then everything is clear. The only thing left to do is to find out what the ghost army will attempt next.

While Gu Qing Shan was thinking, Ilya took out a set of full body armor from somewhere.

This was a bright blue set of battle armor, consisting of the breastplate, shoulder pads, arm guards, wrist guards, gauntlets, belt, knee pads, marching shoes as well as a full helmet. A completely new set of full body armor from head to toe.

The armor gave off a faintly bright blue light that was almost blinding.

Ilya lightly put it in front of Gu Qing Shan.

"Wear it, the battles to come will only be more and more dangerous, but you don't even have a piece of protective gear, as a sword cultivator whose expertise lies in close-combat, this shouldn't be the case at all"

Gu Qing Shan looked at the armor and felt a bit hesitant.

The Bramble Birds lived in the Mystic Zones, their wealth was well known across the 900 million World Layers.

If that wasn't the case, there wouldn't be so many people who came at the Light of Dawn, Triste's call.

Naturally, as a Combatant just as renowned as Triste, Frost of the Cold Night, General Ilya would also have many treasures of her own.

This armor just standing by itself already created an unnatural phenomenon, you could easily tell it wasn't something average.

Gu Qing Shan's own You Ji General armor was destroyed by the ice mountain's divinity as he climbed it.

And Gu Qing Shan could tell at a glance that this armor right here was vastly superior to his previous one.

In every war, a sword cultivator always takes the foremost position at the frontlines, without armor, a sword cultivator would always be alert, unable to truly let go of himself to deal the most amount of damage.

As a sword cultivator, Gu Qing Shan was feeling slightly ashamed of himself for not having a single piece of protective gear to wear.

"Thank you, then I'll accept it"

Gu Qing Shan finally clasped his fist to thank her.

"Don't mention it, simply touch the armor and use your mind to sense it, it'll don itself on you" Ilya told him.

Gu Qing Shan took a deep breath and touched the armor.

As soon as he did, a few lines of glowing text appeared on the War God UI.

[Item name: Bramble Bird General War Armor]

[Epic item]

[War God Skills: This is a brand new Bramble Bird standardized General armor, it doesn't contain any skills for you to learn]

[Doomsday Chronicles: This is a brand new Bramble Bird standardized General armor, there is no historical event linked to it]

Stroking the outside of the armor, Gu Qing Shan clearly felt the cold and hard metal surface.

That's right, a sword cultivator with armor is like a tiger with wings on the battlefield!

He released his inner sight to connect with the armor.

Clink!

Following his thought, the armor scattered into pieces and started to circle around him.

As the pieces were about to attach to him——

Unexpectedly, the pieces let out a short cry before returning to where they were.

The pieces reorganized themselves into the shape of an armor in front of Gu Qing Shan again.

The Bramble Bird general armor refused to attach to Gu Qing Shan!

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"What's going on?" Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but ask.

Ilya was also surprised to see this.

"How strange, this Bramble Bird General Armor of mine is a highly adaptive Epic battle armor, why did it reject you? Wait, are you perhaps wearing a hidden armor right now?"

Gu Qing Shan face-palmed: "Ah, that's right, I forgot, actually Laura already gave me an armor"

Ilya glanced at him from top to bottom: "Where's the armor?"

"I'm wearing it right now, but it still hasn't manifested itself"

"How strange, could it be a sentient armor—– did she tell you what kind of armor it was?"

"She said it was an armor taken from a fragment of the Unending Abyss of the broken worlds"

"That's impossible!" Ilya exclaimed in shock.

"Why is it impossible?"

"Because only Bramble Bird royal family members who awaken the [Shelter of Infinite worlds] ability can go there. The only one capable of doing that in the entire history of the Bramble Bird Kingdom was a King of several thousand years ago"

"Laura had apparently also awoken this ability"

Ilya refuted: "No, she only has the ability, to fully awaken it, she must complete the ceremony of blessing by the Saint Bramble Tree, and she has not yet done that"

Which means, Laura hadn't actually gone to the Unending Abyss of broken worlds. Then where did this armor I'm wearing come from? What is this thing exactly?

Gu Qing Shan looked at the War God UI.

"System, display my armor" he said.

A few lines of text appeared on the War God UI.

[Unidentified]

[Unidentified is ready, currently waiting to awaken]

[This is an item from the Unending Abyss of the broken worlds, a place where no living being could go—except for very few Bramble Birds]

[Before Unidentified awakens, the System is unable to find out its details, please patiently wait for it]

Strange, the War God System wouldn't make a mistake.

Which means this armor really did come from the Unending Abyss of broken worlds

But Laura couldn't have possibly gone there. So what's going on?

Gu Qing Shan was very confused.

He silently asked: "System, this unidentified thing on my body, what is it exactly?"

[An armor] the System responded.

"Then why can't I feel it at all"

[It still hasn't awoken so it can't be used]

"How do I awaken it?"

[A few special requirements need to be fulfilled, as for the specifics of these requirements, the System doesn't know]

Gu Qing Shan gave up.

Ilya thought about it, but she didn't have a clue either.

There were simply too many treasures in the Bramble Bird royal family's personal collection, it was basically impossible to know which one Laura gave him.

For now, Gu Qing Shan can't wear other armors.

Ilya told him apologetically: "Laura is still young, perhaps she wanted to show off that she gave you a strange armor, claiming it to be from the Unending Abyss of broken worlds. She definitely didn't try to deceive you on purpose, so I hope you won't blame her for it"

Gu Qing Shan replied: "I won't. After all, regardless of what happened with this armor, it was still her good will"

Seeing his attitude like this, Ilya was pleased.

With such a personality, no wonder Laura is so close with him.

Ilya smiled: "Very well. Let us go and scout the ghost army to see what they are planning"

"Yeah"

The two leapt and went on their way.

At the end of the plains was a large and thick forest of trees.

Before, Gu Qing Shan had brought Laura and old man Jiao through this forest in order to reach the plains.

And the ghost army also retreated into the forest as they fled.

Since the ghost army retreated in a hurry, they didn't have a lot of time to cover their tracks, together with the fact that both Gu Qing Shan and Ilya were experts at war, they quickly found traces of the ghost army's retreat.

All the signs pointed towards the inside of a dark valley.

They exchanged glances and quickly hid while proceeding closer towards the valley.

As they got closer, Gu Qing Shan felt more and more suspicious.

There weren't any guard posts or alert-type barriers set up around the valley at all.

Was the ghost army always this careless?

Gu Qing Shan decided to directly release his inner sight to search the valley.

"No, how could that be?" he muttered.

"Indeed, something is wrong..." Ilya agreed.

They both noticed that there was nothing in the valley at the same time.

There were clear traces of the ghost army all over the valley.

But the ghosts themselves were nowhere to be seen.

An army of a hundred thousand ghosts had completely disappeared without leaving a single trace.

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It was already a bit past midnight.

A cold mist filled the valley as it kept a stunned silence.

Gu Qing Shan and Ilya both stood in the empty valley, not knowing what to do next.

All traces of the ghost army ended as they entered the valley.

But there wasn't a single ghost here to be found.

"An army of 100,000 can't just disappear without a trace" Gu Qing Shan commented.

"I agree, that is impossible. This is a lost world of the Old Gods, even ghosts and revenants have to follow the Laws set by the divinity, not to mention, a large portion of them were Entropy Ghosts that scattered themselves, so they clearly still had to follow the most basic Laws of this world, as they couldn't appear or disappear out of thin air" Ilya agreed.

Even after turning the entire valley upside down to check, they still couldn't find any other clues.

Ilya scowled: "I have a bad feeling about this"

"Same here"

Gu Qing Shan replied.

He released his inner sight again to scour through every last inch of space in this place.

After he had checked the mountains, the trees, even the dirt, Gu Qing Shan still couldn't find anything.

Ilya spoke: "Seems like we'll have to use a few special means"

Saying so, she took out a large, polished bronze mirror.

Carefully setting it on the ground, she sternly spoke: "Magic mirror, please tell me if there were any voices here within the last 200 breaths"

The mirror stayed silent.

Ilya squinted her eyes, muttering: "Troublesome..."

She thought a bit more and asked: "Magic mirror, please tell me if there were any voices here within the last 1000 breaths"

A low voice came from the mirror: $\[\]$ To search for voices within the last 1000 breaths, you need 1735 units of Divine Power $\]$

Divine Power?

As Gu Qing Shan heard that, he looked at Ilya.

Ilya seemed clearly troubled.

My wounds still haven't fully healed, if I use the remaining Divine Power I have to investigate an unclear piece of intel, that might be a bit unproductive. It's fine if we manage to find out important intel. But if there still isn't any intel after that, then it would be a huge waste.

While she was hesitating, Gu Qing Shan came forward and asked: "So you need Divine Power? Just 1735 units are enough?"

[[] Correct, 1735 units of Divine Power is necessary to start the search] the magic mirror answered.

"I'll pay"

Gu Qing Shan placed his hand on the magic mirror.

Ilya hurriedly knocked his hand away, reminding him: "You can't, the amount of Divine Power a living being can possess is limited, with your current strength, the maximum amount of Divine Power you can hold won't even be 1735 units, you will die!"

"Don't worry, when it comes to Divine Power, I'm naturally talented" Gu Qing Shan explained.

Ilya was stunned.

Naturally talented? Is there such a thing?

Gu Qing Shan once again put his hand on the magic mirror.

The mirror asked: $\[\]$ Are you sure you want to pay 1735 units of Divine Power? If you die, I can't be blamed $\]$

"Do it"

Following Gu Qing Shan's voice, the number of Soul Points displayed on the War God UI changed.

[1735 Soul Points has been deducted] [Remaining Soul Points: 510,000/400]

Gu Qing Shan glanced at it and silently nodded.

After deducting the fractional amount, the remaining Soul Points was now a round number.

All that effort and energy he spent into killing the ghost army wasn't in vain after all.

As the magic mirror was supplied with Divine Power, voices and noises began to appear.

Ilya and Gu Qing Shan stood in front of the mirror, carefully listening to it.

This was a mirror, but it could only give off sound...

Gu Qing Shan was a bit surprised: "Why are there only sounds without any images?"

"This magic mirror can only search for sounds. But that's already quite a feat, searching for past images is much harder so there are hardly any treasures capable of that" Ilya explained.

Gu Qing Shan nodded.

For some reason, he suddenly recalled the first time he met Bai Hua Fairy.

At the time, to check whether or not his words were true, Bai Hua Fairy invoked a Divine Skill.

[Truth from Void]

Using Gu Qing Shan's badge as a catalyst, Bai Hua Fairy managed to see all of Gu Qing Shan's battles up to that point.

She could even see whether or not the people around him were dead or alive.

...Gu Qing Shan fell into thought.

A treasure that came from the Mystic Zones of the 900 million World Layers can't even compare to one of Shifu's Divine Skills? Now that I think about it, every single Divine Skill that Shifu possesses wasn't as simple as they seemed.

While he was thinking that, clear voices began to appear in the magic mirror.

He quickly refocused himself to listen.

At first, there were a lot of noises and commotion coming from the mirror, together with restless screaming and shouting.

A few moments later, most of those sounds had calmed down, leaving only the sparse screeching of some ghosts.

Until finally, a thunderous voice speaking in ghost language came out from the mirror.

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All troops, retreat

After this, there were no longer any sounds.

The two of them exchanged looks of disbelief and continued to wait.

But the magic mirror just continued to stay silent.

Just as Gu Qing Shan and Ilya were about to give up, a faint sound came out from the mirror again.

It was the deep sigh of a woman.

Such a sound coming from the perfectly silent valley caused both Gu Qing Shan and Ilya to be caught off guard.

This was supposed to be where the ghost army gathered, why was there a sigh of a human woman?

A few moments later, a soft singing voice echoed in the dark valley.

"A journey so far. Far outside of my wildest dreams. Sometimes I still dream. Of how much I miss home..."

The singing voice disappeared.

At this point, there were no longer any sounds.

"Universal human language!" Ilya commented.

"That was unlikely to be a human, demonized people have no way to infiltrate this world" Gu Qing Shan refuted her.

"Then just who was that woman?" Ilya asked.

Gu Qing Shan couldn't answer.

All they heard were a few lines of singing, how would they know who she was?

"No, there still isn't enough intel" he muttered.

Ilya crouched down, putting her hand on the ground and chanted: "O' Mother Earth, she who watches over all, grant me witness to the sky, the wind, the rain, the mountain!"

As she completed her chant, the valley itself began to tremble.

Large mountain peaks began to sprout from the ground.

A majestic mountain range that stretched far was created out of thin air, standing tall between heaven and earth.

The place where Ilya and Gu Qing Shan stood was now the top of a towering mountain peak.

"There are no traps within a 3-kilometer radius in the ground, nor are there any buildings, it's all clean"

Ilya sighed and told him.

Gu Qing Shan took out a formation plate and quickly operated it.

Grand Anti-ghost formation, activate!

A yellow cluster of light began to expand from the peak of the mountain downwards.

A faint and curt grunt of pain abruptly came.

Both Gu Qing Shan and Ilya disappeared on the spot, reappearing where the sound had come from.

It was a large rock.

"That rock was originally underground, it only appeared on the outside of the mountain because of my spell" Ilya quickly said.

Gu Qing Shan slashed it with his sword.

The rock was instantly sliced to pieces, a jet black shadow rolled out from the rock, groaning while lying flat on the ground.

This was a shadow-type monster, its entire body was made of an incorporeal fog of darkness, but the head revealed its fierce and disgusting true self.

A Soul-devouring Revenant of Huang Quan!

"Apparently it was hiding inside a rock underground, if it weren't because of your formation causing it to feel pain, it wouldn't have let out a single sound" Ilya commented.

Gu Qing Shan nodded.

When he first came into this world, he saw one of these ghosts before.

At the time, the ghost had attached itself to a corpse, and Gu Qing Shan only managed to trap it using his Lightning power.

[¬] A ghost of Huang Quan, need me to contact it? [¬] the Earth sword couldn't help but ask in a low voice.

"Wait a bit" Gu Qing Shan said.

He walked forward, crouching down in front of the revenant and carefully checked.

This monster's limbs were all torn apart, it was also very heavily wounded, enough for it to die at any time.

The wounds were clearly caused by sword-infused wind——— as if it was barely brushed past by the wind.

Who would've thought it could survive for this long.

[The light, uncomfortable, take away your light...] the Soul-devouring Revenant moaned

Sensing that it was about to die, Gu Qing Shan dispelled his anti-ghost formation.

It was now that the revenant stopped its heavy breathing.

A sword was pointed right at its forehead.

The shining light of Lightning, filled with a presence of destruction had concentrated right at the tip of the sword.

"Come, tell me, why are you the only one left here?" Gu Qing Shan pointed his sword at the revenant and asked.

Having the power of Lightning so close caused the Soul-devouring Revenant to feel extreme discomfort, but it still smirked sarcastically.

 $\[$ I hid here simply because I didn't want to be eaten by other ghosts. I never thought I'd be found out like this $\]$

"Then tell me what happened, I promise to think of a way to heal your wounds" Gu Qing Shan said.

[Too late] the Soul-devouring Revenant shook its head, [everything is about to be over, and you're all done for as well]

Saying so, the Soul-devouring Revenant turned into a puff of black smoke that gradually faded away.

It died.

Chapter 579

The Soul-devouring Revenant died.

They didn't find anything besides it.

The entire valley was turned into a mountain, but there still wasn't any trace of the ghosts.

The only clue they had was the strange female voice.

But how could they find out who the voice belonged to?

"What that monster said just now, do you believe it?" Ilya asked.

"It wasn't trustworthy, but I could tell that the boastful tone of its voice was real" Gu Qing Shan replied.

"What about the ghost army? Just now we heard someone order them to retreat, could they have really given up on attacking?" Ilya asked.

"That shouldn't be the case, no loss is too great for [Origin], it will only come up with more and more desperate solutions to obtain what it wants" Gu Qing Shan answered without hesitation.

"But its army already disappeared"

"Perhaps it's not that they disappeared..."

Gu Qing Shan looked up at the sky and continued: "If they leave this lost world, they will definitely return to the world above the ice"

Triste's collection world was known to be split into three parts, the ice layer, the ocean layer and finally the lost world.

If the ghost army left the lost world, the only place they could've possibly gone was the ice layer.

Where all the demonized were currently gathered.

Ilya was troubled: "The treasure I used to get through the barrier was a single-use item, once I leave, I won't be able to return"

"It's fine, I can guarantee our return"

"Very well, then we'll go take a look"

The two of them leapt off the peak of the mountain, flying up towards the outside world.

Once they reached the protective barrier, Gu Qing Shan used the Chao Yin sword.

The barrier obediently opened a gap for them to pass through.

As he went out, the flowing water outside the barrier also parted by itself, forming a path upward.

"So this sword is a tool forged by the gods, capable of controlling water" Ilya sighed, "no wonder Laura likes it so much"

"Let's go, we need to take a look at the outside world's current situation" Gu Qing Shan said.

They flew straight upwards.

When they were about to reach the ice layer, Gu Qing Shan stopped.

"What is it?" Ilya asked.

"We're still under the ocean, observing them from here will be more discreet" Gu Qing Shan explained.

Ilya looked up.

A thin layer of white frost had formed above the clear blue ocean water.

With her strength, even while in the ocean she could sense what was happening above the ice, there really was no need for them to get all the way up.

"True, then we'll follow the current to investigate and see if we find anything"

Only after swimming for a few minutes, they stopped.

Right above them, where the ice was originally white from the snow, thick miasma had formed from countless ghosts gathering in once place.

The ghost army was stationed here!

They exchanged looks, sensing the surprise on each other's faces.

Did the [Demon King Order] really did retreat?

Ilya was surprised, but at the same time, she couldn't help but feel a bit relieved.

Gu Qing Shan, on the other hand, squinted his eyes.

This can't be right.

Even if he saw the ghost army retreat, Gu Qing Shan would still not believe that [Origin] would simply give up.

He knew it well.

Cold, indifferent, greedy, cruel and not afraid to use any means at hand.

How would such a thing simply give up and have its army retreat?

Even the Chaotic Demon Lords, those Entropy Ghosts had already retreated from the underground lost world.

What key point did I miss?

Gu Qing Shan fell silent.

"Let's go, we're going to check those demonized to see what they are doing" Ilya suggested.

"Yes" Gu Qing Shan agreed.

They dived back into the ocean, swimming to where the demonized had made camp.

Ilya carefully observed them.

Gu Qing Shan carefully used the presence concealment seal as he checked what was happening above.

The demonized were all packing their belongings and preparing to leave.

Even their base camp had been dismantled.

They were all ready.

The demonized really were preparing to leave.

"If they really are going to retreat, then we'll be safe" Ilya commented.

Gu Qing Shan trembled a bit, still in disbelief.

"Under what condition would [Origin] pull away all its fangs?"

He couldn't help but mutter to himself.

"Perhaps the [Demon King Order] gave up on attacking us" Ilya replied.

"Other than that" Gu Qing Shan said.

Ilya thought for a bit, then asked him: "Then under what condition would you give up on fighting?"

"Me? I wouldn't give up, and I'm sure [Origin] is the same"

For some reason, he suddenly recalled the sighing female voice.

The voice sang faintly: "A journey so far. Far outside of my wildest dreams. Sometimes I still dream. Of how much I miss home..."

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This song itself wasn't special, but the style of which it was sung caused him to recall something.

Gu Qing Shan let himself float inside the deep blue ocean, carefully thinking of every detail.

The current situation is completely out of expectations. Something must've happened, I don't know about it, but it must've happened. Gu Qing Shan closed his eyes and fell into thought.

He was recalling every detail of every event he went through ever since he entered the lost world.

At the time, because I didn't know anything, in order to remain hidden, I chose a secluded location on the outskirts of a city to land.

What did I see then?

A male and female, hugging each other.

They both had a look of despair and fear on their faces, already dead.

Then, the Entropy Ghost came.

While they went on their way, there was nothing but large coral buildings around them. Those buildings were full of people.

Those people were either eating, walking, running or talking, they all maintained the same gestures while they were alive.

Their expressions were still very animated as if they didn't know that they were already dead. At a certain point, the black horse mentioned that it felt as if it saw one of the corpses smiling. After I carefully tucked Laura to bed, I even had the Six Paths Great Mountain sword remain to protect her while I went alone deeper into the city to scout.

What did I see at the time?

Tens of thousands of corpses were neatly lined up with a strange smile on their faces, silently walking towards the plaza.

On the plaza, a black monster as large as a mountain was eating those corpses.

Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but mutter.

"That's very strange..."

"What kind of thing can take away a living being's life before they know it?"

"What kind of thing can manipulate the bodies of the dead to continue being that animated?"

While Gu Qing Shan was thinking that, he remembered the Soul-devouring Revenant that died just now.

Something... is off That Soul-devouring Revenant had its own will, its own fears, the way it spoke to me made it clear that it was conscious. But the Soul-devouring Revenant I met at that time wasn't the same. What did Shannu say about it?

"I can't, they've already lost their sentience, they only know how to kill now"

Those were Shannu's exact words.

That's very strange.

Why did the Soul-devouring Revenant I met back then lose it sentience, while the one I met just now was conscious even before death?

Could it be...

Someone purposefully placed the Soul-devouring Revenant there the first time? Even if that was the case, the only thing it managed to accomplish was to let me discover and kill it. ——could it be a coincidence? No. There's no such thing as such a convenient coincidence. Especially when I haven't met a single other Soul-devouring Revenant since then until just now.

Thinking about it more and more, Gu Qing Shan's eyebrows became knitted even further.

He suddenly asked the Earth sword: "When we just arrived at the underground lost world, we met a Soul-devouring Revenant from Huang Quan, at the time it attached itself to a corpse, do you remember?"

[[] I still remember] the Earth sword replied.

"How does that monster kill living beings?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

□ Kill living beings? J the Earth sword found that to be a bit unexpected, but still answered, □ this type of revenant came from Huang Quan, it can only devour the dead souls of Huang Quan, making them experience the torture of their souls being eaten J

"It can't devour a living being's soul?"

[「] It can't, the way it kills living beings should be the same as any other monster 」

Gu Qing Shan began to laugh bitterly.

I missed such a simple detail.

He asked Ilya: "I have a very important question, please answer me truthfully"

Seeing how serious he was, Ilya also became stern: "Go ahead, I'm listening"

"The Chaotic Demon Lords, the Entropy Ghosts, how do they kill their enemies?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

"I've seen this happen many times, they will directly bypass all of their enemy's defensive measures and devour them whole"

"Devour them?"

"Yes, an Entropy Ghost is created from fusing countless hellspawns and ghosts of Huang Quan, they enjoy eating raw flesh" Ilya appeared disgusted as she told him.

"Are you sure that's the case?"

"I'm sure"

Gu Qing Shan deeply sighed.

Then that is extremely abnormal.

To assess the situation, at the time I personally checked those corpses.

Each and every corpse was completely unharmed inside or out, they had no wounds to speak of. Some of the corpses still had a bit of warmth.

At the time, I had correctly guessed that they died from a soul vessel attack.

But I took a wrong turn, assuming that this was done by the Soul-devouring Revenant or the Entropy Ghost.

Ilya said Entropy Ghosts likes to eat raw flesh.

And the very first Entropy Ghost I met also attempted to go through the formations to eat me alive. Which means Ilya isn't lying.

Which means——

The thing that killed the people of that city wasn't the Entropy Ghost! Nor was it the Soul-devouring Revenant!

As for the monster from Purgatory, its ability was to devour those corpses, it didn't have any way to kill people without them knowing about it.

Suddenly, the sighing female voice once again echoed in Gu Qing Shan's mind.

A sudden thought appeared, resurfacing from his memories.

Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but laugh bitterly again.

It seems... I've been careless.

I really didn't think that [Worlds Apocalypse Online: Origin] would be this deviously scheming. Perhaps the times I had gone against it before made it wary of me.

While I became relaxed thanks to the Old God's barrier's protection after entering the lost world. I had forgotten that [Origin] attempted to infiltrate this world a lot earlier than I did, so when I got in, it had already set up several layers of schemes.

The first was the Entropy Ghost's sudden ambush, then purposefully placed the Soul-devouring Revenant there for me to discover and kill.

It had even used a monster from Purgatory.

As soon as I finished off every threat, the mediator from Purgatory came.

Every step of the way, every meeting, every monster, were pre-arranged by [Origin].

Facing so many monsters and schemes, even though I had noticed something, I was still led to arrive at the wrong conclusion.

"[Origin] ... is impressive"

Gu Qing Shan took a deep breath and silently thought so.

It seems that in the previous life, it wasn't simply because of humanity being too weak or not knowing enough that the world was led to collapse at the hands of the [Demon King Order]. The truth is that [Origin] was strong, in more ways than one.

At this point, the faint female voice once again echoed in Gu Qing Shan's mind.

"A journey so far. Far outside of my wildest dreams. Sometimes I still dream. Of how much I miss home..."

The voice had softly sung that.

Gu Qing Shan's heart jumped.

"Go, we need to hurry back!"

After thinking everything through, he ignored everything else, grabbed Ilya's hand and flew downwards as fast as possible.

"Did you notice something?" Ilya asked cautiously.

"I noticed that we shouldn't have left Tidal city, argh, we were too careless"

Gu Qing Shan couldn't help but shook his head.

"Did something happen?"

"I don't know yet, but according to my conjecture, there is only one circumstance where [Origin] would be retreating right now"

"What situation would that be?"

"It had already gotten what it wanted"

"That's impossible!" Ilya spoke in disbelief.

Gu Qing Shan showed a mixed expression and said: "It's not completely impossible, if it could summon even that unique creature, it very well might have already..."

"Unique creature? You mean the truth behind that female voice?" Ilya quickly understood and asked.

"That's right, this was the truth behind everything" Gu Qing Shan sighed.

The water parted, forming a path for them straight to the bottom of the ocean.

Thinking of the female voice again, Gu Qing Shan's unease only grew worse.

"Not enough, we need to go even faster!"

Gu Qing Shan's spirit energy flowed, as he formed a hand seal, his body flashed downwards like an arc of lightning towards the lost world of the Old Gods.

At a certain point, he suddenly tapped his Inventory Bag to take out a certain item.

It was a small bracelet with 5 bells attached.

The bells were unexpectedly heavy, bringing with them a chilling air that even spirit energy couldn't isolate.

Gu Qing Shan put the bracelet on his wrist, securing it.

While he flew towards the bottom of the ocean, the bracelet was shaken by the wind, letting out clear and gentle chimes.

The sound of the bell passed through the void of space, transmitting to some unknown world.

Chapter 580

Deep in the night.

Within the jet black sky, a streak of light suddenly appeared.

The streak of light flew with breakneck speed directly from the sky towards Tidal city.

Boom!

A crater was formed in the ground, dust and dirt flying all around.

But when one tried to look, there wasn't anything in the crater at all.

While still grabbing Ilya's hand, Gu Qing Shan activated [Ground Shrink].

In the blink of an eye, they both appeared where Laura was.

As soon as they appeared, dozens of weapons were pointed straight at them.

"It's us" Gu Qing Shan said.

"General!"

"Gongzi!"

When the guards and Shannu confirmed it was them, they put their weapons away.

Gu Qing Shan's inner sight quickly scanned through to find that everything was still completely fine.

"Did something happen here?" he asked.

"Nothing at all. Because the Divine Seeds are currently conducting their ritual at the divine temple, we weren't allowed to come close, so I stayed by her royal highness Laura's side" Shannu answered.

"Laura!"

Ilya walked forward and carefully confirmed Laura's state.

Laura was perfectly fine.

"What is it, Ilya?" Laura was extremely confused.

Ilya looked to Gu Qing Shan.

Gu Qing Shan didn't have time to explain more, only throwing a formation plate to Shannu.

"Shannu, set up a network of formations. If anyone dares come even close to this place, kill them" he said.

"Yes!" Shannu replied.

Gu Qing Shan's inner sight quickly covered the entire city and found his target.

"Protect Laura, I'll go scout the situation!" he then told Ilya.

"Alright"

Ilya stayed close to Laura.

Now that they had returned, after hearing his conjecture, she didn't want to risk staying even a step away from Laura.

Gu Qing Shan directly invoked [Ground Shrink] and disappeared.

At the same time, Shannu operated the formation plate and began to set up a formation array.

"What's going on? Why do both of you look like you're panicking?"

It was now that Laura could finally ask.

Ilya sighed: "He suspects that [Origin] had already gotten what it wanted"

"How is that possible when the ghost army still hasn't even attacked the city yet?" one of the guards couldn't help but ask.

"Have any of you heard of a Samsara world?"

"I have, it's a type of miraculous closed-cycle world that can only be seen very rarely in the Mystic Zones" another guard replied.

"According to our guess, the Tianma of the Samsara world have also arrived" Ilya told them.

"Tianma!"

Laura's expression changed.

The guards still didn't quite understand.

Laura looked at the group and explained: "The Tianma are a special type of existence within the Samsara world"

"For some special unknown reason, the Old Gods spent a huge amount of effort to create the wondrous Samsara world. The Tianma are a unique type of spirit that was born from that creation process, their preferred food is the souls of living beings from Samsara"

Ilya continued: "The existence of the Tianma wasn't part of the Old Gods' plan, so they originally wanted to eradicate them all, but they soon found that it was impossible to actually do so" "Because the Tianma were actually part of the Laws of a Samsara world, they have the responsibility of maintaining balance for the entire Samsara world"

"You mean this type of monster can simultaneously control 6 worlds?" one of them asked in shock.

"No, they only notice beings whose desires are too great, or too powerful, they will do everything they can to devour the souls of these beings, in the process preventing the Samsara world from being destroyed by these beings"

"Are Tianma strong?"

"They might be, at the same time they might not be. The scariest part about them is how they attack they always appear from the inner thoughts of all beings. When you are eating, walking, talking, or even when you're sleeping, at any time, they can and will silently sneak into your mind. Long story short, those without experience will never be able to defend against them, dying by having their souls eaten by the Tianma without ever noticing it"

The guards tried thinking of such a situation and couldn't help but shiver.

Since Shannu had Gu Qing Shan's memories, she had already noticed something strange since a while ago.

——the Suspended world had no Tianma, while Tianma existed in both Shen Wu world and the cultivation world.

Suddenly, she noticed something that was completely unrelated to the current situation.

"Could it be, both the cultivation world and Shen Wu world were Samsara worlds?" Shannu muttered in surprise.

On the other side.

Gu Qing Shan directly appeared outside the divine temple.

His inner sight tried to reach inside, but was blocked by the temple's gates.

—-so this divine temple even has the ability to block out inner sight's clairvoyance.

Gu Qing Shan sliced the gates open and stepped in.

The divine temple was full of people.

Almost all the tribe's people were here.

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Seeing the large crowd of people remaining still without moving, Gu Qing Shan felt sorrowful.

Everyone was kneeling close to the ground, seemingly conducting some sort of divine ritual.

They all had strange smiles on their faces and even warmth on their bodies, but they were all dead.

This was exactly the same scene that he saw in the city.

Old man Jiao was standing at the far end of the temple, both hands lifting something up with a look of worship and sincerity.

But there wasn't anything in his hands.

--perhaps there used to be, but it was already taken away by the Tianma.

Old man Jiao was also dead.

He was the host for the Tianma, as soon as he touched the Old God's leftover treasure, even before he took the test, the Tianma inside his mind had already manifested and devoured his soul, stealing the treasure.

"Old man Jiao..." Gu Qing Shan muttered.

At the same time, the entire War God UI suddenly turned blood red.

An eye-catching streak of light flew to the center of the UI, turning into large letters.

[Caution]
[Unique fluctuations of the world Origin detected]
[After comparative analysis, the current conclusion had been drawn]
[Worlds Apocalypse Online: Origin had become dormant]
[Conclusion: Origin is currently evolving]
[One day later, Worlds Apocalypse Online: Revolution will official launch]
[Revolution will spread over 300 million World Layers, merging with the Demon King Order of the Fallen Zones, together evolving into a higher level of Order]
[The 900 million World Layers will enter the final decisive war]

Gu Qing Shan was stunned looking at the final words.

He suddenly wielded the Earth sword in anger, shouting: "GET OUT HERE!"

Numerous layers of Lightning appeared on the Earth sword, raining down on the divine temple like real lightning from the sky.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The Lightning quickly exploded, plunging the divine temple into a sea of light.

At a certain point, the lightning apparently struck something.

A mocking voice came.

[Look at you, a failure, a tiny insect who stood on the wrong side of the war, have you always been this impatient?]

Gu Qing Shan withdrew his sword, dissipating the lightning.

"Who are you?" Gu Qing Shan asked.

I We've already met once I the voice told him.

As they talked, the corpses of the Divine Seeds gradually melted into a pool of blood.

This blood was apparently sentient, quickly forming into a large blood rune on the ground.

Flames began to appear from the rune.

Long streaks of flame weaved together as they rose upward, forming a curtain of fire.

Oom!

The flames rose all the way to the ceiling.

A large and ferocious figure appeared from the flame, talking down to him with a graceful and arrogant tone.

That sense of fulfilment when you are about to taste the fruits of victory and show up in front of the losers, watching their fearful and desperate expression truly is unlike any other. I'm sorry to say, but I have always been addicted to this feeling \rfloor

The master of Purgatory—— a legendary existence from ages ago.

He once again appeared in front of Gu Qing Shan.

[I came to tell you that everything went perfectly according to our plans, even the end of the war had already been fully scripted] the master of Purgatory smirked and told him.

Gu Qing Shan swung his sword.

The sword phantom slashed through the flame, breaking a huge hole on the ceiling of the temple.

---- I missed, this is just another projection.

Gu Qing Shan scowled: "Do you only know how to talk trash? You ancient cockroach?]

The master of Purgatory stayed silent.

 \llbracket You should know, when you die, I will personally come to receive your soul ~
rbrace

"But I'm still living just fine"

 $\[$ He who picked up the ancient sword, my little prey, he whose soul belongs to Purgatory, I'm going to tell you of your imminent death $\]$

The master of Purgatory's voice suddenly became excited $\[\]$ [Revolution] is coming! Never mind an insect like you, no creature, no living being can possibly stop the torrent of history in this great moment! $\[\]$

🛿 Soon, 300 million more World Layers will become the new Fallen Zones! 🌡

[Once the flames of war have burnt through all 900 million World Layers, we supporters of the [Demon King Order] shall receive the ultimate glory and become the rulers of every world in the 900 million World Layers!

Gu Qing Shan casually replied: "This is the first time I've heard a hunting dog daydream that big"

The ferocious shadow went stiff.

Its voice then become gloomy and vicious: I Tiny one who likes to run his mouth, I will make sure your soul becomes an ornament on the head of my war steed, unable to die while suffering from the eternal flames, watching as the 900 million World Layers fall to ruin I

"That day will never come" Gu Qing Shan shook his head.

Foolish! I the shadow laughed in a frenzy, I the flow was already set, pitiful insect. are you still not clear? [Revolution] is coming, you're done for, you're all done for I

"The war still isn't over!"

Gu Qing Shan swung his sword again.

This time, his target was the blood rune.

Crack!

Struck by the power of Lightning, the rune crumbled and broke.

The curtain of flames quickly faded away with it.

[Once [Revolution] is born, it will surely kill you before anyone else, at that time, I will definitely come for your soul myself...]

Saying so, the ferocious shadow disappeared together with the flames.

Note: Anyone still remember the Pope and how she left with a certain devil from a certain hell? Remember how [Origin] and [Kindling] are remarked by the War God UI to be a "newborn" [Order]? Remember how God's Chosen can supposedly sacrifice their soul to create an [Order]? Remember how that devil told the Pope that an [Order] can be used to enslave people? I'm just putting this out there as a theory, nothing is confirmed.