

Starchild 141

Chapter 141: Mumu's Expectation

The third star trial didn't start as soon as Yun Xi had expected. The girls had been living on the island for half a month from when they fell down from the sky. As Hua Yue had expected, no rescuers came. Even if it was the White Lotus Sword Domain master, he wouldn't dare enter the Eye of the Storm, not to mention others. Maybe they were the first visitors setting their feet on the tropical island.

"Mei'er, why hasn't the trial started?" Yun Xi had waited for half a month and was well prepared every night, however, he still didn't see any signs of the trial starting.

"Probably because the star trial this time involved too many strong beings." As the stars' prolocutor, Yun Xi's exclusive star elf Mei'er had a special premonition.

This time, the star trial wouldn't be some niche like the previous two trials. The first trial, in the dark forest, and the second trial in the tall tower, weren't at the same level as the next trial.

They were in the middle of the Eye of the Storm, the dead zone which may have a frightening monster that could even eliminate a hero-ranked team. No one knew exactly how many monsters were in the Eye of the Storm.

"If so... I'm really behind the eight ball." Yun Xi forced a smile.

No one could know beforehand how terrifying the star trial could be. If Mei'er was right, then he would encounter monsters from the Eye of the Storm island, and the intruders from the void. It would be a nearly impossible task for him.

How many times would he die in this trial? One thousand times, two thousand times, or more?

But he had to face it, because only the deepest despair would help him understand the value of life and freedom, so that he could vitalize his potential. At the very least, he was the only person who had a chance to save everyone on the island.

“At least, I must learn to master my Sky Flying Sword to the extent that I can face true hero-ranked existences.”

This was a goal Yun Xi made for himself. No matter how many times he would die, he must accomplish it!

“Mei! Can you look for my papa with me?” As Yun Xi swore that he must become strong to protect the girls, he heard Mumu’s sweet voice.

“Mumu, are you still looking for your father?” Yun Xi took a breath, looking at Mumu running towards him.

They had waited too long time. Even though Hua Yue hadn’t told them the truth, the girls still gradually became depressed. At this time, Mumu became their favourite delight as she was still carefree and optimistic. Yun Xi wondered how her mom raised her. She was just like a blank sheet when she encountered many common sense situations of life. She didn’t even know how to find her way in the wild, and often lost her way carelessly in the forest.

“I’m not a direction idiot! There were just too many trees!” Mumu insisted that she wasn’t a direction idiot, even though it had become a daily task for Yun Xi to look for Mumu.

Incidentally, the several squirrels who harassed Mumu in the past had become familiar with her. They often followed her running in the forest, and that was one of the reasons why Mumu often lost her way in the forest.

Mumu's mom must be a beauty judging from Mumu's appearance. Why would she agree to let Mumu look for her father alone? Her confused daughter couldn't even find the way by herself!

"Mumu, your papa isn't in the forest. At least, he can't be on this island. This is a desert island!" Yun Xi stroked Mumu's head and persuaded her.

"But papa and mama met each other and fell in love on an island!" Mumu raised her head, looking at Yun Xi seriously, "So, Mumu thinks that it's very likely that papa is on this island! I just haven't found him yet!"

"Well... the possibility... I can't say that it's zero..." Yun Xi whispered, finally surrendering to Mumu's innocent eyes.

That man! The man who abandoned his cute daughter and virtuous wife! Come and bring your daughter back!

If no one looked after Mumu, she was very likely to be kidnapped by strange men.

"Mei, can you be my papa's bride? If so, I can call you mama!" Mumu suddenly said something flabbergasting as she looked at Yun Xi.

"No... impossible! No way!" Yun Xi felt his back cold. It was really a bad joke.

“Mama said that papa was too amorous and irresolute. As a result, he faced a ‘nice boat’ [1],” Mumu said, then asked Yun Xi in confusion, “What are the meanings of ‘amorous’ and ‘nice boat’?”

Oh, so that’s what happened... the man finally paid for what he did! Yun Xi quickly shook his head. This wasn’t something that children should know. He didn’t want to expose the ugly adult world to her.

“That should be your mom’s joke. Your mother must like your father a lot!”

“En! Mama said that she must be the woman who liked papa best! To this point, she won’t give up or concede to anyone! No matter how many years pass and how many rivals she has to defeat, she will be papa’s only lover! As long as he is still alive, she will pay any price to find him!”

What a persistent woman! However, it was also a manifestation of love.

To Yun Xi, who couldn’t stay with his first love, he also longed for such a pure, persistent love.

How would any boy not be that pure in front of his first love?

Suddenly, Yun Xi started to worry about Hua Huo. What was she doing now?

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“There are too many of them! If I can’t get rid of them and find Little Xi as fast as I can, he will be in danger!” Hua Huo wiped her sweat away. The situation around her was becoming worse and worse.

Compared to the first battlefield, the situation now was developing towards the worst direction.

The Eye of the Storm. She shouldn’t have come here at this time!

[1] “Nice boat” is a meme spawning from the imageboard 4chan from the cancellation of the regular broadcasting of the anime “School Days” in Japan. The program was then replaced with relaxing images of scenery and classical music. A boat was pictured, and someone commented “Nice boat”.

Chapter 142: The Monster

Walking through the moist tropical jungle, Yun Xi curiously looked at Mumu bouncing and vivacious like a bunny. Looking at her from her back, the strange headwear on Mumu’s head looked like a pair of cute long rabbit ears.

“Mumu, who made your headwear?”

“It was papa. It was papa’s gift. Mama always told me that papa was a great man. He can do many things that no one else can do. He knows how to dig out unusual meaning from any trifle! So, Mumu’s papa is a very, very, very great man!” Mumu opened her arms, trying her best to describe her papa, the man she hadn’t even seen once.

“So, what was his job?” Yun Xi felt confused hearing Mumu’s words.

What kind of person was Mumu’s father? He abandoned his wife and daughter, but they still loved him and never complained about him.

From Mumu's words, Yun Xi felt that her father was an amorous, unreliable man, but Mumu still thought that he was a great man.

"Papa knew how to make beautiful things. He had created a cute doll that could act like a living human. He had written an old long poem, which recorded the truth and future of the world. He had created a gem that was as beautiful as the sun and as mysterious as the moon. Even the gods contended with each other for his gem. Anyway, Mumu likes him best! He is the greatest father in the world!"

Is that so?

According to Mumu's words, Yun Xi imagined her father's appearance in his mind.

He should be a man about thirty or forty years old and was unfettered. Maybe he was an innocent, unworldly artist?

Since he could even enchant Mumu's mother, who must be a great beauty, his artistic talent must be very high and unique.

He knew how to write poems, make gems and dolls, and his artworks were popular among the upper classes. Because he was too absorbed in his artist creations, he didn't pay too much attention to his emotional life, and his daily life was also a complete mess.

After Mumu's mother conceived and had Mumu, he didn't want to undertake family responsibility, so he ran away without leaving a message. And it seemed that he had also had relationships with other women.

Sigh. Were artists all irresponsible like him?

Mumu is looking forward to meeting you. She even came to look for you alone.

Since you have had a child, why don't you return home and enjoy the happiness of a family union?

A child like Mumu will be very poor if her father can't stay with her.

However, it was impracticable to look for Mumu's father on the island. As an artist, he probably had run to the high society in Western God's Domain.

"I hope you can find your father." Yun Xi walked to Mumu, staying on the summit of the volcano together with her. He looked around the island, suddenly, he felt something wrong.

Was it due to the atmosphere or the island's shape? Yun Xi couldn't accurately describe his weird feeling.

Every time, when he stood at this place and overlooked the island, he always had this feeling, as if he subconsciously noticed something wrong in his sight.

His instinct had discovered it, but his mind still hadn't discerned it.

"The island... is something wrong?" Yun Xi murmured unconsciously.

“Of course. Because this is an eye.” Mumu answered naturally.

“Eye?” Mumu’s words made Yun Xi see the light. He finally noticed it.

The island was too flat! Especially the coastline, there were no reefs which all natural islands should have!

The island’s shape looked like a narrow eye.

The highest volcano he was standing on was the center of the eye, and the volcanoes around formed the pupil together with it.

Could it be... the truth of the island was... Looking at the ground under his feet, Yun Xi felt creeped out.

If the whole island was an eye of a massive monster, then how big was the monster?

Could it be bigger than the White Holy Dragon who was a hundred kilometres long?

“The secret treasure in White Lotus Sword Domain... Can it be...” Yun Xi had a crazy guess in his mind, but he quickly shook his head.

He shouldn’t speak it out. He wouldn’t expose the truth to others.

The island under their feet was just a part of a creature... That was too creepy.

If the creature woke up, then none of the girls on the island would survive!

Why? White Lotus Sword Domain was just a lower-level sword domain. Why was there a sleeping super monster?!

Yun Xi finally understood why the star trial hadn't started. It must be a giant project to drag the sleeping monster into the stars' dream.

Yun Xi could think of no way to defeat the sleeping monster in the star trial.

It had nothing to do with his will or courage. It would be just as desperate as using an egg to break a stone, when the stone was a diamond that was one million times larger than the egg!

"I saw it when I fell from the sky! This is its eye, that is its tail, and that is its heart!" Mumu waved her hand, pointing out the big secret hiding in the Eye of the Storm.

"It's a very, very big guy! It seems that it had slept for a very, very long time. Maybe the storms in this area are its dreams."

Did she see it? Had she also found out the truth about the Eye of the Storm?

Yun Xi looked at Mumu in surprise. When Mumu fell from the sky, she had found the weird part of the sea area.

Hua Yue was right. There was really a frightening monster in the Eye of the Storm.

Hua Yue just didn't expect that the monster was actually this massive.

They were standing on the monster's eye!

Chapter 143: Transformation of the Stars (1)

After finding out the desperate truth, Yun Xi was uneasy for several days. After all, the truth that the girls and he were on the eye of an incredibly large monster was too appalling.

Only Mumu was still carefree, which made Yun Xi feel really envious.

At the same time, some changes, although ordinary people hadn't noticed them, were happening.

Every night, the girls on the island could see the stars in the sky becoming brighter and brighter, and the number of stars in the sky were also increasing.

Normally, unless one was an astronomer, it would be hard to discern the stars save for the famous stars. Most of the stars were lifeless. Only the stars that could be intelligent species' habitats had the probability to form an embryonic form as a new god's domain.

Sky Sword God's Domain was a large god's domain located in the eastern star river. It was formed by countless sword domains, including thousands of stars. Every sword domain had its own Sword Palace.

Sky Sword God's Domain had hundreds of lower-level sword domains. Most of them, including White Lotus Sword Domain, Flying Swallow Sword Domain, and Stygian Sword Domain, took "sword" as their names.

The middle-level sword domains were more complex. Some sword domains were named after famous swords such as "Dragon Abyss", "Xuanyuan" and "Sky River", but there were also dozens of sword domains that used country names such as "Da Liang", "Da Jin" and "Da Ming".

As for Sky Sword God's Domain's greatest honor, top-level sword domains, there were only four: "Da Xia", "Da Zhou", "Da Han" and "Da Tang".

Da Xia Sword Domain, which was known for its oldest artifact, was the capital of all the sword domains.

Da Zhou Sword Domain, Da Han Sword Domain, and Da Tang Sword Domain had the largest population and were known as "the three holy sword domains". Most of "Sky Sword" were born in the three sword domains.

The rank of a sword domain wasn't immutable.

White Lotus Sword Domain was a lower-level sword domain, but it had once been a middle-level sword domain. Most of the noble families in White Lotus Sword Domain had been founded during that period of time.

All thanks to the only Sky Sword in the history of White Lotus Sword Domain, Yun Hai, White Lotus Sword Domain managed to upgrade to become a middle-level sword domain at that time.

He forged an artifact, the symbol of middle-level sword domain, for White Lotus Sword Domain, and left his legacy here. After doing that, he left White Lotus Sword Domain and became a Sky Sword.

Benefit from Yun Hai the Sword Master's efforts, his birthplace finally had the honor to be regarded as a middle-level sword domain, even though both its population and territorial area didn't meet the requirements.

After Yun Hai's departure, no new legend-ranked person had been born in White Lotus Sword Domain. The sword domain gradually descended to become a lower-level sword domain again. Even so, White Lotus Sword Domain still attracted many geniuses from other sword domains.

Every year, when Sword Palace's entrance test began, many geniuses came to this sword domain to try their luck. They wanted to repeat Yun Hai's experience and obtain his legacy.

Anyway, all the sword palaces in the whole Sky Sword God's Domain were an integral whole. Unfortunately, so many years had passed, no one had comprehended what Yun Hai saw and understood in Sword Palace.

The secret treasure of White Lotus was still a mysterious, alluring tale.

The traces of stars couldn't be changed easily. Even with the destruction of a star, the end of the world to the living beings on it, was just a small wave in the vast star sea.

The stars in the star sea always followed certain rules, to be a part of the memories of the river of time, and to be a part of the entire universe. However, several days ago, some people suddenly discovered that the stars in Eastern God's Domain, especially in Sky Sword God's Domain, were changing in an incomprehensible way.

Many people thought that they were mistaken when they saw the first change. There were various tools that had observed the change: such as a star observation tower on a hill, a large magic circle on the mountains, and a matrix formed by countless mirrors in a desert... There was even an all-seeing eye, which was transformed from a planetoid and wouldn't even waste its computing power to observe small sword domains.

They had all observed and recorded the change. The data they recorded was so inconceivable that it could even make their observers have a heart attack.

Looking at the data, many people's world outlook crashed.

"It's impossible!" Some people were hysteric.

"Gosh! There must be something wrong with my eyes!"

"Tell me, this is not true! This is not true!"

Whether it was a saint in Western God's Domain, or an astrologer in Eastern God's Domain, when they observed the absurd change, they went mad.

Soon afterwards, several god's domains got into a mess. Most of the people who could divine via astrology or calculate destiny were in the leading class of their god's domains. After they commanded, the whole god's domain had to follow their orders.

Twenty-four hours passed, they had assembled more observation tools. Hero-ranked people, even legend-ranked people were all working for this.

The star saints and astrologers who dedicated themselves to astronomy all fell into a frenzy. They shouted unintelligible terms and acted very excited as if they were children who just discovered a new toy.

All the observation tools were aiming at the same location. At that star region, the stars' orbits were breaking.

On the second day, they observed the same phenomenon.

No matter whether they looked like old men or young boys, these god-like powerful beings were all staring at that star region as if they were possessed.

The stars' orbits shouldn't change within such a short time. They should never change within a thousand years, ten thousand years, or even a million years. Their life cycle was beyond mortal's imagination, as long as the universe itself. However, they witnessed it with their own eyes now. They observed that the never changing star orbits, were changing.

Many people's world outlook was shaken. They even started to wonder if they mistook the nature of the world in their past lives.

Chapter 144: Transformation of the Stars (2)

On the second day, after their world outlook was shocked again, they built more observation tools and used a wider variety of monitoring magic to observe this star region. Some people had even stepped over the star bridge, travelling to Sky Sword God's Domain day and night in order to observe the abnormal phenomena with a closer look.

The astrologers in Eastern God's Domain had already gathered around Sky Sword God's Domain to observe the rare astronomical spectacle at the closest place.

Since the beginning of the history of Eastern God's Domain, it was the first time that so many astrologers had gathered together.

On the third day, finally the visitors from Western God's Domain had reached Sky Sword God's Domain. After giving a previous notice to their fraternities in Eastern God's Domain, they quickly arrived at some remote corners and started to build their observation tools.

That night, they witnessed the mysterious, beautiful scene again.

Taking Sky Sword God's Domain as the center, countless stars shone and cheered, converging together, forming a bright star sea around Sky Sword God's Domain. Some stars that had nearly reached the end of their lives even started to self destruct of their own initiative, turning into bright lights.

"The stars are killing themselves!"

"Why? Why? Why?!"

“The stars’ orbits are changing! So harmonious! So beautiful!”

“The stars are cheering!”

People exclaimed whilst looking at the stars self destructing. They didn’t even dare to breathe when they saw any star’s orbit changing. They shouted and wrangled, then quickly calmed down, waiting for the next change.

Only the star saints and astrologers knew the meaning of the change. It exposed a part of the world’s nature, and it showed a corner of the eternal truth of the universe.

“It must be God’s heartbeat!” A believer kissed his cross and praised the God of Light.

“No. It’s the universe’s heartbeat!” Other people retorted him. Compared to gods, who were only omnipotent in their god’s domains, what was happening now was greater and contained more meanings.

Although they knew the stars very well and some of them were so strong that they could even destroy stars as easily as blowing off dust, none of them knew why this fantastic scene was happening in this star region. They didn’t know how to explain what was happening in front of them. No theory or rule could explain it. The knowledge they had learned and found in the past wouldn’t be any more useful than waste paper in front of this miracle.

From three days ago, since the stars began to change, all the theories and rules in the past would definitely be rewritten in the future.

It didn’t matter. They had enough time to record and calculate the meaning of the changes.

To them, when they devoted themselves to study the stars, a thousand years was as short as blinking one of their eyes. Every achievement was worth being written into the annals of history.

Undoubtedly, the change of the stars was a phenomena that was worth being written into the annals of history. It would be researched by countless people for thousands of years.

All of them hoped that the fantastic phenomena would continue for as long as possible, so that they would have more time to record it.

They believed that it was a gift from the great stars!

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“Mei’er, is it about time?” Yun Xi raised his head, gazing at the starry sky. He felt that more and more star wills were gathering around him.

It seemed that this time, the star trial would really be unusual. How many people did the stars want to drag in?

“En. The stars have finished writing rules. Be careful, master. This time, the dream will be infinitely approaching to the real world. The more creatures in the trial world, the more benefits you can obtain. After all, the stars love you!”

Mei’er sat on Yun Xi’s shoulder, looking at the starry sky together with him.

“But master, you must remember to hide your true identity even in the star trial. The apostle will also appear in your trial.”

Yun Xi forced a smile. The apostle was an eighth-ranked White Holy Dragon! Oh stars, why would you drag it into my star trial? Your love is really difficult to stand.

“I will become strong!” Yun Xi stretched out his hand, opening his five fingers then held his fist.

“Someday, I will be strong enough to defeat the apostle!”

“Yes! This is it! Master, as long as you can become stronger and stronger, you can finally solve all your problems! At that time, you don’t even need to worry about your four ex-girlfriends!”

Mei’er had confidence in her master, because her master was the greatest man in the world, the beloved starchild!

With the stars help, nothing could stop her master. Moreover, her master was trying to become strong!

On the fourth day, the fifth day, the sixth day... In the eyes of the star saints and astrologers, the stars’ change finally reached an end.

A transparent ring spread in the star sea, performing a song of stars.

On the seventh day, 7 o'clock, Yun Xi's mouth was covered by his star elf's lips again.

Above the girls' fort, countless starlight turned into fragments floating in the air, shining down on the Eye of the Storm which was always covered with some weird power.

Even the weird power couldn't stop these star fragments.

"Hum? Why? Is papa in the neighborhood?" Mumu looked at the star fragments with curiosity. She stretched out her small hands, catching several fragments.

At that moment, the world's time stopped.

No. Time didn't stop. It was because this other world was accelerating incredibly!

The stars forced the time velocity in the world it created to accelerate. In order to perform this, hundreds of stars self destructed into star fragments, raising a small wave in the river of time.

"Language and cognition, behavior and appearance, soul and body!"

The stars created a complete world for their beloved child. They even reversed the rules between life and death to create an immortal spark.

This was the stars' blessing given to Yun Xi, the truth about the transformation of the stars.

Chapter 145: Water God's World

Under the starry sky, many people were forced to fall into a deep sleep.

Star fragments dropped to the ground, dragging the beings on the Eye of the Storm into the dream, including the beings who hadn't slept or didn't have the physiological function of sleep.

This star trial was different from the previous two star trails. More precisely, the previous two trials were just used to help Yun Xi get acquainted with the star trial.

It wasn't just a corner of a vast nightmare world, or that had only involved the beings Yun Xi was around at that time. This time, the dream the stars created for Yun Xi was a real world!

For this star trial, hundreds of stars burned themselves of their own initiative. They turned into star fragments, floating in the whole Sky Sword God's Domain.

Most of them were just beautiful stardust, only the fragments in the Eye of the Storm contained the essence of stars.

Everything was for one person: their beloved starchild, Yun Xi.

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Crack! Crack!

Yun Xi heard the familiar sound. It was from the burning bonfire.

Starting again?

After twenty-one days, the star trial started again. This time, how hard would it be?

The stars even dragged the eighth-ranked apostle, the White Holy Dragon, into Yun Xi's star trial. Did they want Yun Xi to challenge the dragon now? The dragon could kill him as easily as blowing off dust!

Yun Xi hoped that he could obtain more good seeds this time. They had better be as good as Hua Huo's Seed that could be absorbed by him perfectly and immediately.

Yun Xi had prepared to die thousands of times in this trial. He opened his eyes.

"Gee?"

The scene in front of him was out of his expectation.

There was no endless dark forest, nor lifeless old stone towers.

The sun was shining brightly.

Scarlet clouds floated in the distant sky, the sunlight dyeing them golden, as if they were shy girls that were pulling up their socks.

Behind the gold-red clouds, the sun exposed itself. The sunlight shone on the whole world, covering a layer of gold clothes on everything on the ground.

Endless white mists rose from the ground, making the world look like a heaven. Under such an environment, the bonfire in front of Yun Xi looked so inconsistent with the world.

“Weapon system! Spoil Container! Forge System!”

After opening the three menus, Yun Xi finally confirmed that he was in the star trial and not a simple dream with a bonfire.

Crane Wings Twin Swords were more handy in the trial world. Perhaps it was because Yun Xi had obtained their entities in the real world.

Looking at Crane Wings Twin Sword, Yun Xi obtained more information.

Crane Wings Twin Sword: Forged by Ou Ye Zi the Godly Craftsman. After thousands of years, they have become a pair of artifacts.

Property One: The higher the holder’s talent is, the more powerful the twin swords will be.

Property Two: Flying Crane Wings. The twin swords were made of top-class materials. Even a mortal can use it to perform the sword skill "Flying Sword".

Property Three: Sword Souls. After thousands of years, two sword souls were finally born in the twin swords. Only the chosen swordsman can hear their voices and be their master.

Additional Property: The twin swords can only be used by male.

Your current state: Have been accepted by the sword souls. You can use them to perform hero-ranked attacks.

At the same time, the Stars System told him this trial world's information and his final mission.

"The trial world's name: Water God's Fantasy Island."

"The world's background: An old fantastical creature named Water God is sleeping under the island. Every hundred years, it will wake up and look for its bride."

"A lot of Water God's believers have betrayed their god because a 'Sky Sword' has reached the island and is going to slaughter the god."

"Your final mission: Paired Choice."

"First Option: Join Water God's camp, help Water God find its bride, and you will receive Water God's reward"

“Second Option: Join human camp, become the Sky Sword’s partner to slaughter the god, and you will obtain the Sky Sword’s reward.”

“Optional Side Mission One: Girl Fights Evil Dragon. A brave girl is looking for an evil dragon! You can choose this side mission after you join human camp.”

“Optional Side Mission Two: The Apostle’s Call. A great apostle has reached this world. Swear your loyalty to her and become a Dragon God’s subordinate! You can choose this side mission after you join Water God’s camp.”

“Optional Side Mission Three: The Truth of the Mist. The people on the island are living in a world that is surrounded by endless mist. Go find the secret and expose the truth!”

“Optional Side Mission Four: To Love, Starchild! Life is too short, just enjoy it! Propose to as many girls as possible! After obtaining their marriage contracts, you can have the girls’ power. You are never alone!”

“Secret Mission: ??? It will be exposed after you finish three side missions.”

“No!” Even though Yun Xi had known that the trial wouldn’t be easy, but he still gasped after seeing the final mission.

He had to defeat the fantastical creature, Water God – if he chooses to join the human camp.

Or he has to defeat a Sky Sword, one of the strongest people in the whole Sky Sword God's Domain – if he chooses to join Water God's camp.

Whatever he chooses, he has to defeat a legend-ranked presence!

As for these side missions... Yun Xi was speechless. He knew the first side mission, but what the hell were the other three missions?

Especially the fourth side mission: To Love, Starchild! Is it really not a joke? Propose to as many girls as possible to obtain their power... Are the stars encouraging him to be a playboy?

Why does this star trial seem so different from the usual?!

“Ok! I will choose the human camp and find Hua Huo as quickly as I can!” Yun Xi decisively made this decision in a second.

He had once done the side mission “Girl Fights Evil Dragon”. Perhaps this was the only mission he was familiar with in the trial world.

Hua Huo, I will see you soon! With this hope in his heart, Yun Xi left the bonfire.

Then, he saw a giant eye.

Chapter 146: Mask

The eye appeared without warning. Yun Xi was sure that this place had nothing a second ago, but after he had left the bonfire, the eye had instantly emerged. The eye looked at Yun Xi and his twin swords with curiosity and confusion.

“Who are you? Where are you from? Where will you go? Why are you here?”

Yun Xi nervously gazed at the giant eye. Sweat dripped from his face.

It wasn't a real eye, but formed by countless mist crystals. Tiny crystals of mist reflected colorful lights in the sun, as fantastic as if a dream.

The eye's pupil was an engaging dark blue, looking like a very profound gem.

It could control the mist in the air so easily. Since the trial world was named “Water God's Fantasy Island”, Yun Xi had already guessed what the eye in front of him was.

Water God! It was the fantastic creature sleeping under the island, the strongest, god-like creature in this trial world!

What the hell?! He had just left the bonfire and then immediately saw the ultimate boss of the world. Yun Xi felt desperate. What should he do now?

It wasn't even “Hell Mode”. It was the “Nobody Survives Mode” he was facing!

“Why don't I see my mark in your body? You... You don't belong to this world?”

Fortunately, even though it was the world's ultimate boss, Water God looked it was still half awake and half asleep. Its voice sounded deep.

The mist crystals resonated, shaking both Yun Xi's body and heart.

Undoubtedly, it was a legend-ranked creature that wouldn't be inferior to the White Holy Dragon. Its existence itself was enough to change this world's rules.

It was like lightning, a storm, a volcano. As a legend-ranked being, it was as miraculous as god.

Water God was undoubtedly an ancient creature that was as strong as a god!

It was impossible to defeat such a god-like creature!

The difference between them was as large as the difference between a drop of water and an entire ocean.

Did he still have a chance?

Yun Xi let out a sigh of relief after he realized that Water God wasn't going to kill him directly.

Fortunately, he wouldn't be killed countless times immediately after he left the bonfire. Even though he could revive in the fire, he didn't want to fight against the ancient creature, Water God.

The gap between the nature of their lives was too wide. It would be meaningless to repeat such combat.

“What’s your name?” Water God gazed at Yun Xi with no hostility. On the contrary, Yun Xi felt kindness from its tone.

“I’m...” Yun Xi almost told it his true name. Fortunately, he remembered Mei’er’s warning at the last second.

“Yun Hai!” Finally, Yun Xi said a common name in White Lotus Sword Domain.

Yun Hai the Sword Master was the whole White Lotus Sword Domain’s pride. He had once helped White Lotus Sword Domain promote to become a middle-level sword domain, and was one of the founders of White Lotus Sword Palace and a Sky Sword!

People in White Lotus Sword Domain often named their children “Yun Hai”, hoping that their children would be as great as Yun Hai the Sword Master.

“Yun Hai... What a memorable name...” Water God blinked.

Ah! Yun Xi suddenly realized that as an ancient creature, Water God must have lived a long life.

If Water God’s true identity was the monster sleeping in the Eye of the Storm, then it may really have met Yun Hai the Sword Master in the past.

Besides, the stars told him specifically that a Sky Sword would appear in his star trial. Would it be Yun Hai?

“So, you are my old friend’s descendant. No wonder that I feel a sense of familiarity from you. Just in time, after a month, my world will hold a ceremony. You can be my apostle. I hope that you can help me find the most beautiful and excellent bride for me.” Water God’s Eye turned into a stream of transparent crystals and fell to Yun Xi.

Yun Xi heard a series of system beeps.

“You have chosen your camp. You have become Water God’s apostle. Once you finish choosing your camp, you can’t change or betray your camp. Please play as Water God’s apostle in this world. The world line has been changed. Please help Water God find the most beautiful bride to complete its wish.”

...

.....

...!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Yun Xi didn’t expect that his lie about his true identity directly made him leave the human camp and become the Water God’s apostle.

What did this mean? It meant that he could never join the human camp to fight against this world’s boss together with Hua Huo, the twin witches, Hua Yue and Xiao Cao!

Why? Why can't I challenge the world's strongest boss together with the others?

Why did the world's ultimate boss directly find me and select me to become its subordinate?

"I have lived a long, long life. To be honest, I'm tired. As this world's god, I desire change, even if it means new enemies. My old friend's descendant, can you help me look around the world with your eyes? I want to see what will be changed in this new century. The world may have boundless beauties, but only one love is needed in my life. As a god, I'm looking for a person who can span time and space, becoming my lover!"

Countless mist crystals converged on Yun Xi's face, finally turning into a silver mask, covering Yun Xi's face.

"Hence, I give you my mask. You will become my eyes, my ears, my sword, to look for my bride!"

With four white sharp horns projecting upright from the mask, the mask looked like some dragon's mark.

"Remember, you have my mask, so you can use my power. You will become the 'utawarerumono'! [1]"

The system beep echoed in Yun Xi's mind again, "You have been recognized by Water God. You have obtained Water God's Mask. After you wear the mask, you will obtain the fake 'power of king'."

Chapter 147: Fake

After Water God's Eye disappeared, Yun Xi walked to the stream, looking at his reflection in the water in confusion.

The silver mask perfectly covered his face, and only his eyes and mouth were exposed. No one would know Yun Xi's true appearance through the mask.

Four silver horns stood on his forehead with old, mysterious rune words engraved on them.

Yun Xi had just worn the mask, but it already made him look ten years older. He looked like a middle-aged adult, revealing traces of the passing of life on his appearance.

The most amazing thing was that Yun Xi couldn't feel the existence of the mask, as if it was a natural part of his body.

"What... is it?" Yun Xi touched the silver mask, feeling it was cold and smooth.

Yun Xi's fingertip caressed the edge of the mask. He could clearly feel the power inside it, a power that was far beyond his imagination.

The star system automatically showed the mask's information.

Water God's Mask: An artifact that contains god's power.

Special Property One: Water God's blessing. It is a crystal transformed from a sleeping fantastic creature's blood, having incredible power.

Special Property Two: Fake Mask. The person who wears the mask will become Water God's apostle.

Hidden Property: ??? The mask contains some secret. You need to discover it by yourself.

"God's artifact..." Looking at his own reflection in the water, Yun Xi felt something unusual from the description.

Was this middle-aged man really him?

Why did he see wisdom and vicissitudes in his own eyes? It apparently didn't belong to him, but it wasn't fake. He really felt traces of life inside his pupils.

He couldn't even recognize himself now.

"Crane Wings Twin Swords, come back!" Yun Xi put the twin swords back in his Weapon System. Now, nothing would expose his true identity.

From now on, he was Water God's apostle!

"This... isn't just a joke. Where can I find a bride to satisfy Water God? There isn't even a standard." Yun Xi sat down under the tree besides the stream with gloom.

Compared to this tough mission, he preferred to fight against the green hippo again, feeling the meaning of his life through blood and death.

This world was too different compared to the previous two worlds.

On the island, he could only see bright sunlight and vibrant forests. Both the world's size and complexity were far beyond the previous two dark worlds.

No wonder that the stars needed such a long time to create this world. This time, the star trial was too complicated.

"No, I shouldn't give up now. Since this is a trial world, there must be some method to solve my problem!" Yun Xi calmly analyzed.

"First, the two camps in this world."

Yun Xi drew two circles on the ground under the tree.

The first circle represented Water God's camp – Although he only saw Water God's Eye and confirmed its existence just now.

It seemed that Water God was still sleeping. Only a part of its consciousness had woken up. Therefore, Yun Xi could move freely now.

It was no doubt that Water God was the strongest ultimate boss in this trial world, and according to what Yun Xi knew, its true identity was the monster sleeping in the Eye of the Storm.

The second circle represented the camp which Yun Xi had planned to join at first – the human camp.

Its leader was a Sky Sword. Yun Xi didn't know who the Sky Sword was, but he knew that the Sky Sword was going to slaughter Water God.

Sky Sword was the strongest title in Sky Sword God's Domain. From the beginning of the history of Sky Sword God's Domain, only a dozen people had the honour to obtain this title. Each of them was a legendary hero.

Yun Xi didn't know who this Sky Sword was, but it would be a matchless swordsman that could even slaughter a god.

Hua Huo, White Lotus, Red Lotus, and the Starwings Knights' girls undoubtedly belonged to human camp.

In this case, he would be their enemy. This was the worst situation Yun Xi could imagine.

It seemed that it was hard to say which camp was stronger, because both the Sky Sword and Water God were undoubtedly super strong. However, there was a variable.

"The apostle, White Holy Dragon." Yun Xi drew the third circle on the ground.

The third circle was close to the circle represented by Water God's camp, because it was a dragon from his ex-girlfriends' camp. It was very likely to help Water God.

Besides, the “Optional Mission Three: The Apostle’s Call” had clearly told him that the apostle was naturally biased to Water God’s camp.

If so, then it would become a huge variable, a counterweight that would finally change the balance between the two camps.

As an eighth-ranked creature, once the White Holy Dragon chose to help one camp, then the other camp would be defeated quickly and unquestionably.

However, will it really be that simple? Yun Xi didn’t think so. The stars wouldn’t let his trial be so easy.

After all, this was the first time that he had to choose a camp, had four side missions, and a hidden mission.

Besides, Water God didn’t play by the rules. It instantly found Yun Xi and chose him as its apostle after Yun Xi left the bonfire.

Everything implied that this wasn’t a simple world. The most doubtful point was, why was this world so real?

Yun Xi uncovered the soil beside the stream. Several earthworms wriggled and slowly moved away from Yun Xi’s hands. Several small crabs were scared and immediately escaped into the stream.

No, something was wrong. This world was so real that it couldn’t be called “a dream”.

This was just one of his star trials. Was it really necessary to create such a perfect world?

Chapter 148: Water Mist

The dark forest in the newbie trial and the tall tower in the formal trial were two different worlds, but had the same style: igniting a bonfire in the lifeless, dark world, as if a nightmare had become reality.

However, Water God's world was beautiful, bright, and picturesque.

"Am I really in my star trial? Or I have been transported to another world?" Yun Xi smelt the soil in his hand in confusion.

Even though Mei'er had told him that this time the trial would be as authentic as the real world, only till he really entered the trial world did he finally understand how real it was.

"Roar!"

Yun Xi heard a frightening sound.

"Finally, the enemy comes!" The familiar sense of danger made Yun Xi return from his pondering.

Yes. No matter what this world was, his goal wouldn't change. He must become stronger and stronger, otherwise, he would be caught by his ex-girlfriends and fall into misfortune forever.

“Let me try this weapon.” Yun Xi took out his indecomposable, unbreakable, newbie sword, preparing to fight.

He must finish the Water God’s quest.

He must become stronger.

“Swoosh! Swoosh!” Yun Xi smelt a frightening a scent in the wind. He knew that a huge creature was approaching from a distance.

“Come on!”

Yun Xi walked to the place where the frightening scent came from.

“Roarrrrr!” With an earth-shaking roar, a white tiger that was ten metres long appeared. Its abnormal red eyes stared at Yun Xi, then it instantly pounced at Yun Xi.

It leapt through dozens of metres. Its large paws broke the wind, even leaving green tracks in the air.

It was a kind of super ability! It was a hero-ranked monster!

Undoubtedly, it was at the same level as the fiery male dragon. It was a monster that had transcended the limit of flesh and blood! However, Yun Xi wasn’t as terrified as he had been when he first saw the fiery male dragon.

He did feel a bit of a sense of pressure, but held no fear facing the tiger.

Was it due to Water God's Mask? Yun Xi could feel the fantastic power inside the silver mask.

A refreshing feeling was released from the mask comforting Yun Xi's heart, making him keep calm even in such a critical situation.

Transparent mist surrounded Yun Xi, making his skin as flawless as dewdrop. This was a blessing from the Water God, a power from a god. His iron sword was also covered with a veil of mist, becoming sharper and colder.

"Flying Swallow!" Yun Xi leapt up, facing the giant white tiger with no fear.

In the air, Yun Xi's body was more nimble than the giant tiger. In an instant, he had attacked the white tiger sixteen times, exposing the frightening air combat capability of his Flying Sword. However, it wasn't as effective as Yun Xi had expected.

"Roar!" The white tiger fell to the ground. It trembled and a few bundles of fur fell off.

"What a sturdy body!" Yun Xi looked at his iron sword. He had hewn the white tiger sixteen times, but hadn't even left a scar on its body.

"Hiss!" The white tiger became fiercer after landing on the ground. Its bloody eyes stared at Yun Xi with killing intent.

“Not bad. Taste my sword!” Yun Xi knew it was a hero-ranked monster, but it didn’t scare him and instead made him feel more excited.

It was a pleasurable feeling from the bottom of his heart, as if it was a very comfortable thing to fight against the white tiger.

“Roarrrrr!!!” The white tiger lowered its body. Its body was surrounded with countless green lights.

It was the white tiger’s supernatural power: Wind Blade.

Compared to human beings that had to obtain magic or sword skills through study, hero-ranked creatures could naturally inherit super abilities through their bloodlines.

The white tiger not only had almost invulnerable fur, but was also a natural controller of wind.

“Hiss!” Its large paw broke the wind, leaving three green traces in the air.

“Not bad!” Yun Xi brandished his sword three times, dispelling the three green traces in the air.

He felt it! He felt the difference after he wearing Water God’s Mask!

Super ability! He had a real super ability now, blending in his body and bloodline.

Water Mist. This was the name of the super ability he had obtained from Water God's Mask. After acquiring this power, Yun Xi could fight against hero-ranked beings now.

Water God's apostle wasn't just a title. He was really blessed by the Water God.

"Ice Blade!" Yun Xi understood naturally how to control the mist to form ice blades in the air.

A row of sharp, silver ice blades instantly pierced through the soil, piercing through the white tiger's belly.

The first ice blade was only a metre long, but the last ice blade was three metres long!

If it wasn't the white tiger but a human instead, it would have been cut open. However, the white tiger was stunned for just a few seconds. Just like the Flying Swallow Yun Xi performed before, the ice blades weren't able to break its defence too.

"Unbelievable. Is this the third rank?" Of course, Yun Xi was still a mortal, but after wearing Water God's Mask, he could see the world through the eyes of hero-ranked beings.

He was Water God's apostle, so his hero-ranked super ability was "Water Mist". The limitless water mist on the island was like a part of his body. Every time he breathed, he could absorb a lot of water mist into his body, then turn it into shapes he imagined and controlled them to fight.

The water blade on his sword.

The healing mist on his skin.

And the ice blades he controlled just now.

He had transcended the limits of his body and naturally knew how to control the power between the sky and the ground. He had temporarily reached hero rank.

He was at the fourth rank now!

Chapter 149: Familiar Person

“Ice Blade!”

“Ice Blade!”

“Ice Blade!”

Yun Xi acted like a child who had just obtained a new toy. He played with the fierce white tiger, ignoring that it could kill him a thousand times over if its paws touched him.

Water God’s blessing was far beyond Yun Xi’s imagination. He gradually understood the secrets of hero rank in the battle, especially the ice blade transformed from mist. They seemed to be very good fit for his body, and soon after, they had become the skill he knew best.

“Ice Blade! Burst!”

Thousands of ice blades exploded at the same time. Countless fragments of ice crystals flew towards the fierce white tiger, interweaving into a vast net in the air – it was a net that could bring death!

Trees, rocks, and soil... everything was as fragile as a piece of paper in front of the sharp fragments of ice crystal. They were torn to shreds immediately, and soon afterwards, the shreds were torn to dust in the face of more ice crystal fragments, till they turned into imperceptible particles and vanished into the air.

“Roar!” The white tiger was seriously injured. Its two paws covered its head, lying on its stomach in front of Yun Xi.

“Whoohh!” It acted as if it wasn’t a bloodthirsty monster but an aggrieved puppy.

“Ok, stop pretending! I know you are ok.” Yun Xi was satisfied with the ice blades’ effect, but he knew that they wouldn’t damage the white tiger so much.

The white tiger acted like it had come to its senses and realized something.

“Roar!” As Yun Xi had expected, the white tiger raised its head. Its pupils had turned from red to black.

The white tiger carefully walked to Yun Xi after realizing that Yun Xi wasn’t going to attack it. It bent down on its forepaws and licked Yun Xi’s feet, then rolled on the ground and exposed its belly, showing that it was not hostile anymore.

“Smart tiger.” Yun Xi stroked the white tiger’s head. He had known that there was something wrong with the white tiger from the beginning.

Perhaps it was because of the Water God’s Mask, he vaguely knew about all the living beings on the island.

The giant white tiger was a natural king in the forest. It had an invulnerable body and could control the wind. This was Water God’s world and naturally, the white tiger was one of Water God’s subordinates. However, it had suddenly lost its sanity recently and became a bloodthirsty monster.

If Yun Xi hadn’t become Water God’s apostle and had the hero-ranked ability: Water Mist, probably he would have been eaten by the furious white tiger.

“Roar! Roar!” The white tiger licked Yun Xi’s face, acting as if it was a puppy. Then, it picked Yun Xi’s sleeve and dragged him, trying to guide him to some place.

“Where are you going?” Yun Xi sensitively felt the white tiger’s intention.

“Roar! Roar!”

The white tiger wagged its tail and picked up Yun Xi to put him on its back, then ran at full speed.

“Is it a very important place to you? It has something to do with your change? Is there something wrong at that place?”

Based on his intuition, Yun Xi asked the white tiger and got its affirmation.

“Roar! Roar! Roar!”

As a hero-ranked creature, its intelligence wasn't inferior to ordinary humans. Yun Xi carefully made out the meaning of its roar.

“Danger! Blood! Strange person!”

Yun Xi understood. The white tiger encountered a strange person before. They had a tough fight, but there was no winner. Both of them had suffered great losses. The white tiger lost its sanity and the strange person was dying.

“Strange person...” Yun Xi guessed that it was an outsider who was involved in his trial world by the stars.

However, there was no victor in the strife between the strange person and the white tiger, which meant... probably the person wasn't one of the Starwings Knights' girls, nor was it Hua Huo or the twin witches.

Was it a passenger from White Lotus? Or...

Yun Xi rode on the white tiger's back in deep thought. They tramped over a dozen of mountains, finally reaching the white tiger's den.

It must have been a fierce fight. The ground looked as if it had experienced a typhoon, covered with countless crushed stones and dozens of melted holes in the ground.

A tall man was lying down on the ground in front of the white tiger's den. The blood under his body had dyed the ground around him red.

It was apparent that there was two types of blood on the ground. Through his mask, Yun Xi could see that one contained fierce blood power and the other one contained a mysterious magical power.

"You... are..." Yun Xi looked at the man in surprise.

The man wasn't a stranger to him, because he was the archer in red in his second star trial, who had stopped Yun Xi on the bridge countless times. More than once, his arrows had cut through Yun Xi's head and heart. Much more often, the archer just shot him through his hands and feet, stopping him from escaping from the stone soldiers' attacks. He had even been killed by the archer's twin double knives once.

In the second star trial, the archer in red had almost become a psychological shadow in Yun Xi's heart. And judging from the evaluation of the stars, the archer in red did have the highest potential amongst the four strongest enemies in Yun Xi's second star trial.

The three Childes were no match for him. He was a real genius that had the potential to reach the hero rank. If Yun Xi hadn't kissed his childhood sweetheart Hua Huo to raise the complete degree of Hua Huo's seed, Yun Xi didn't know how many times he would have been killed by the archer.

It looked that the mysterious archer had also become stronger after the trial. After all, he could end the battle between him and the white tiger in a draw now. Yun Xi wasn't sure if he could do this if he took off Water God's Mask.

Chapter 150: The Second Apostle

“He was injured seriously.” Yun Xi lowered his head and touched the archer in red’s back. Blood stained his fingers.

His Water Mist wasn’t omnipotent. It could heal wounds but couldn’t save a dying person. The archer in red was alive only because he had strong will to live, so that he could persist till this moment.

Looking at his deep wounds and the messy ground, Yun Xi could barely imagine the violent battle between the archer in red and the white tiger.

“Roar!” The white tiger raised its paw, preparing to kill the strange man who inexplicably came to its den and fought with it.

At that time, the white tiger smelt no scent of the familiar humans on Water God’s Island from the archer in red, so it attacked the archer with no worry. It just didn’t expect that both of them would be injured so seriously in the fight.

If it hadn’t met Yun Xi, it would probably be still crazy. If it had hurt the humans on the island who often came to offer it sacrifices... the consequences would be too ghastly to contemplate. After all, as the Water God’s subordinate, if it slaughtered the god’s people, it would definitely be punished by the god.

Fortunately, Yun Xi saved it from that terrible misfortune. Now, the white tiger only wanted to eat the chief criminal who had made it go berserk.

Anyway, it wasn’t a human. It’s ok to eat the chief criminal, right?

“No! Little... Mu, you can’t eat him. You don’t need to eat humans to fill your belly, right?” Yun Xi knocked the white tiger’s head and gave it a nickname “Little Mu”.

Ok, Yun Xi admitted that he missed Mumu now. Upon remembering that he had joined Water God’s camp and had to make enemies with the human camp, Yun Xi couldn’t stop sighing.

“Cough! Ga!”

The archer in red coughed and twitched on the ground, then gradually opened her eyes. Even though her eyes looked blank and dazed, but the will in her eyes still made Yun Xi feel surprised.

An archer must have an iron will. No matter how serious he is hurt or attacked, he never gives up, and he never steps back.

To the things he insisted on, he would fight till the last moment. Even if he died on the battlefield, he wouldn’t topple down.

If the human will can create miracle, then it must include him.

“Trace... on...” He struggled, trying to release his secret skill.

No, I can’t die here. I must survive. I can’t give up, because I still have a mission to finish.

An archer doesn’t die with her hands bare!

A large amount of mist suddenly surrounded them, forming a familiar shape. Countless ice crystals reflected sunlight, reflecting a deep blue inside his pupil.

“I didn’t expect to see this cursed bloodline again. Answer my question and make your choice. Tell me, who are you? Where are you from? Where are you going? Why are you here?”

The archer in red froze. His body slightly trembled in front of Water God’s Eye.

“I’m Yun Que. I come from the distant Western God’s Domain. I came here for my mission.” (Yun Que: skylark)

Her name was fake, and her identity was fake, but it was necessary.

“Yun Que” was her title in the “organization”, but it was also the name of one of the strongest people in Ten Leaves Alliance. “Yun Que” was a woman who got entangled with Yun Hai the Sword Master, and her most favourite heroine.

“Ha ha, Yun Hai, Yun Que... good names. I see. This... must be fate.”

Water God’s Eye gazed at the archer in red meaningfully.

“Very well. You made your choice, and I miss this name too. He is Yun Hai and you are Yun Que, then I will let you become my apostle too. Accept my blessing and put on my mask, to satisfy my desire!”

Countless fragments of ice crystals dropped from the sky, forming a mask in the archer in red's hands.

"Hundreds of years have passed, I'm eager to see the world's changes, I have longed to marry the most beautiful bride!"

It was different from Yun Xi's mask. It was as red as the archer's clothes, as red as blood.

"Yun Hai, Yun Que, go! Go look for the most excellent bride for me!"

At the top of the mask, a sharp red horn pointed upwards. Although the archer's mask had only one horn, but the horn on his mask was three times longer than Yun Xi's silver horn.

After obtaining the red mask, Yun Que's blood started flowing backwards. Not only the blood that stained her clothes, but also the blood on the ground had also flowed backwards into her body.

"My blood flows on the ground and into the sea, tinting the whole world red!" Yun Que touched the mask, then naturally understood how to use the power inside his mask.

It was a power named "Blood". After putting on the mask, she had obtained her hero-ranked ability to control blood.

Unlike Yun Xi's "Water Mist", Yun Que's mask was biased towards strengthening herself. As long as her head, especially the part she wore the mask on, hadn't been destroyed, she wouldn't be killed.

Even if her bones were broken or her heart had been torn up, she could be restored to normal by using her blood. If she went a step further, she could even reform her bones and nerve system, strengthening her physique to an inconceivable extent.

The sword is her body and fire is her blood. This was her road, a road named "lonely hero".

The mask had granted her the real hero-ranked power. Undoubtedly, it was a power that belonged to god.

"Water God..." Yun Que raised her head, looking at the Water God's Eye in confusion.

Why did the good treat her so well? The god should have detected her inapt lie and disguise.

She didn't think that her secret skill could cheat a god.