

Ancient 621

Chapter 621: Epic Windfall

After the illusion of the Penglai Fairy Island collapsed, Gu Jianlin returned to the normal dimension.

He was still in the state of a Shadow Avatar, only now holding a translucent Luminous Pearl, facing the ruins of a thousand years, real and desolate compared to the dream, frozen by ice and snow.

The last voice of Xu Fu echoed in his ears:

"This is my gift to you alone, because you are different from others. I sensed the aura of at least three Ancient Supremes in you. Be cautious with the curse of the Gu Family. I don't know why you can interfere with the Vermilion Bird's Authority, but I suppose that's why it wants to deal with you. I don't think every Gu Family member has this ability, but they would rather kill mistakenly than let it go."

"The Qilin Venerable has placed a bet on you, maybe intending to use you against the Vermilion Bird Venerable? As for the Candle Dragon Venerable, I don't know how you offended it, but I can tell you without a doubt, it is invincible. However, in this world, violence doesn't solve everything; you'll have to figure it out yourself."

"Ha, throughout human history, I didn't expect to encounter another unlucky person like me, simultaneously offending three Ancient Supremes. This amuses me greatly, my path is not lonely!"

"Of course, I hope you don't end up as tragically as I did, because you are the hope of the Human World."

"This Luminous Pearl in our time was called a Space Artifact, but it's one-time use. I placed the fragments of the Qilin Wedge inside, along with some materials you'll need for your ascension. As for my Forbidden Spell, you don't need to learn it from me, you should find that Heavenly Person, she's way more skilled than I am."

"I've also left the method of using the Eternal Bone inside. This is a good thing and needs to be used with my unique Alchemy Matrix to maximize its effect. This was prepared for the Emperor back then; although it's two thousand years late, leaving it to his descendant now is still putting it to good use."

"You also need to practice more on the Heavenly Person Realm usage. Though your talent is monstrous, your time as an Ascender is too short, and your basics are not even as good as the goose the Emperor's family raised back then. Such powerful Breathing Techniques and Forbidden Spells, you're using them like a spa massage. You're supposed to save the world, not be a bathhouse master."

"Lastly, the Coffin Secret Skill Tang Zijing got was incomplete, and couldn't save his great-granddaughter. It truly seemed hopeless, but now things are different because of you. You've broken the boundaries, and when the time comes, you just need to feed her your blood. Just a tiny bit of side effect though."

"Not a big deal, just that after you feed her your blood, she..."

Rumble.

A thunderous sound erupted, and a massive sheet of ice fell before him, shattering into pieces.

The last sentence couldn't be heard clearly.

Damn, right at the most critical moment!

He remained silent for a moment, thinking that since it wasn't a big deal, he might as well ignore it.

This Great Sage of the Human World, who had been dedicated to humanity for two thousand five hundred years, even in death, did not forget to leave a legacy and now fulfilled his long-cherished wish, departing with satisfaction.

He was admirable and respectable.

He bowed deeply to the wind-swept sky to express his respect.

At that moment, the sound of blood splattering rang out.

The strategists, whose consciousness had returned, were chopped into pieces, blood flowing like a waterfall.

It seemed that dying in a dream indeed had repercussions in reality.

Not just them, three more people staggered out from the ruins.

"Uncle!"

Si Wei'an shouted in despair, half of his body was missing, blood gushed out continuously.

No time to use the Divine Sacrificial Fire, he died immediately.

The second to die was Xia Yu, but this woman, clutching her blood-drenched abdomen, showed no fear of death, merely gazing silently at the young man before her, before closing her eyes forever.

"No, this can't be my ending! I was supposed to glimpse the Mystery of Immortality, Xu Fu's legacy was within reach, how could it be snatched! I won't allow it, I'm meant to stand at the pinnacle of the world! How could I die here! I refuse to accept it, absolutely refuse!" Old Master Si crawled in the snow with his upper body.

"This is your doing against me!"

He let his hair loose, his face twisted like an evil spirit, he laughed madly: "Haha, who'd have thought, luckily I prepared a backup! You're all on the first layer, I am on the fifth!"

Gu Jianlin was taken aback, after all, this was an old devious one.

Who knew what he'd do before dying!

Old Master Si gave a hideous smile and then took out a quaint wooden box from his pocket.

He opened it fiercely!

Inside the wooden box, surprisingly, was... an Ancient God's Blood!

Gu Jianlin was all too familiar with this Ancient God's Blood.

Dark golden, seeming liquid yet resembling a Crystal Stone.

It was the Ancient God's Blood he created, previously left in the Returning Burial Forest, later dug out, auctioned at the Bren Hill, and finally taken all the way from the real world to the Qilin Immortal Palace.

All who briefly possessed it perished.

The final owner was said to be Instructor Wan.

But unexpectedly, the genuine item appeared here!

In Gu Jianlin's shocked gaze, Old Master Si swallowed the Ancient God's Blood!

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Evolution!

Old Master Si roared at the sky, dense black mist bursting from his entire body.

His hunched body seemed like a dead tree meeting spring, becoming twisted and burly, propped up by an imposing power.

Almost as if it were about to explode!

Finally, this centenarian roared at the sky, sprouted a pale Qilin Horn on top of his head, his body covered in iron-like scales, a tail sprouted from his back, clearly in the form of a Divine Servant!

Evolution successful!

This old man actually succeeded in evolving!

We must understand that you cannot generalize people and their constitutions, as the vast majority of people cannot endure the baptism of the Ancient God's Blood, for example, the earliest Yan brothers would deform on the spot, having no use at all.

Among the many people he encountered, most people also had no value worth controlling, and as for those strong ones, unless you could break them down, you could not forcibly infuse the Ancient God's Blood.

Even if you surprise them with it in their mouths while they are unprepared, they could force it out before the fusion.

Moreover, there has been no standard to determine whether one can withstand the Ancient God's Blood so far.

Talent, in any case, is useless; it's more about luck.

Unexpectedly, Old Master Si turned out to be such a rare unlucky guy.

No, lucky!

Bang.

The wind blew up Gu Jianlin's bangs as he saw this old man burst forth with terrifying power, charging forward like a raging beast, grimly laughing as he threw a punch towards his face.

However, in an instant, Old Master Si suddenly froze, his fist stiffened mid-air, unable to advance.

Because he discovered that his thoughts had unexpectedly been affected!

Gu Jianlin was silent for a long time, finally sighed: "Is this what you refer to as your hidden trump card? Indeed clever, managing to sequester away the Ancient God's Blood without anyone noticing, that is your skill."

He retrieved a pre-prepared ancient token from the fragment of the Qilin Wedge.

This special ancient token could directly contact his own entity.

Old Master Si very much wanted to escape but could not.

He couldn't even speak, and his mind was a blank slate.

Gu Jianlin put that ring-like ancient token on his finger, then pointed towards the direction of the howling snow, expressionlessly saying: "Alright, after you return, remember to use this ancient token to contact me. After you get back to You Ying Group, try your best to help the Moon Princess avoid being

hunted. This includes protecting Lu Zijin in the dark, as for other matters, follow my instructions after you return."

He exhaled cold air and said: "Now, go as far as you can."

However, these words in Old Master Si's mind seemed like oracles that could not be disobeyed, he unhesitatingly turned, ran wild into the depths of the wind and snow, the Divine Servant Transformation dissipated, snow fluttering, north wind howling.

Gu Jianlin fell into deep thought.

"Is this how the Si family was subdued?"

He murmured to himself in his heart, feeling it incredibly unbelievable.

Crack.

He crushed the Luminous Pearl in his hand, and various strange items burst out.

The most eye-catching was a section of jet-black sword blade, the entire body glowed with a cold and eerie luster, and the strange runes inscribed on the sword radiated astonishing mystery, suddenly absorbed into the boy's body all at once.

Fragments of the Qilin Wedge!

In the depths of his consciousness, the broken sword and the sword blade merged into one, needing only half of the sword body to completely fuse.

In addition, there was a delicate wooden box, inside was a cluster of dark purple spider silk, like a heart of solidified molten lava, as well as a stone glowing with blurred starlight, all resources needed to ascend to Star Lord.

"Ghost-faced Demon Spider's silk, heart of the Molten Beast, Star Illusion Stone."

He murmured: "All that's left is the Water of Nether River, then it's all collected."

Of course, these are the ascension materials for the Divine Path, and the ritual involves a Female Sacrifice.

This thing is a bit over the top, and he was strongly opposed to it.

Lastly, there was an ancient Jade Scroll, engraved with the usage method of the Eternal Bone.

He touched his pocket, luckily the Eternal Bone was still there.

Gu Jianlin put all these precious resources into the fragment of the Qilin Wedge, taking a deep breath.

Wonderful, a long-awaited bumper harvest.

The teammates were unknown as to where they had been teleported, he still had to search for them.

This ancient ruin is vast, but fortunately, they were not too far apart overall.

The Scholar and Butcher were still alive, both sleeping on the ground, and their ranks had surprisingly advanced, the former finally stepping into the Superdimensional Level, becoming a Fourth Rank Refiner, while the latter had become a Fifth Rank World King.

Ning Chen also fainted beside them, surprisingly having gained advancement as well.

Mr. Liu snored thunderously, embracing an Ancient Sword that appeared extraordinary, an unknown type of Mythical Weapon, this fat man had also gained something.

In the ancient temple, amidst the wind and snow, a petite and graceful silhouette faintly appeared.

Gu Jianlin strode over: "Youzhu, what is it?"

Su Youzhu awoke quite early as well, gripping the Heavenly Cluster Cloud Sword, she silently paused before shaking her head and said: "The two Yingzhou people are missing, Aunt Zijin flew into the sky to search, we don't know if there's any harvest."

The sound of breaking through the air came from above, Lu Zijin landed in the temple, shaking her head and said: "No, I checked within a kilometer nearby, didn't see them. Clearly, when the illusion collapsed, they were still by our side."

Gu Jianlin was slightly startled: "Those two Yingzhou people..."

"You must know, those two Yingzhou people are not simple."

Su Youzhu's eyes held suspicion: "I was able to break through the control of the Dark Realm Curtain, thanks to their help. Although I went inside to rescue you, everyone else stayed together, they shouldn't have disappeared into thin air."

Gu Jianlin was taken aback: "Two at Fifth Rank, broke through the Dark Realm Curtain?"

He knew how strong Xu Fu was, it was nearly an impossible feat.

On the boundless ice field, two snow vehicles galloped in the heavy snow.

"Why the rush to leave?"

Da He Wang driving the vehicle, with a huge sniper rifle on his back, wore a hat and goggles, his jacket covered in snow: "We finally made new friends this time, I haven't even said goodbye."

Yuuki Yocchi's black hair fluttered in the wind, releasing Holy Light to shield the howling wind and snow, she said faintly: "Miss Su is not a fool, we exposed our strength by sending her inside at the end. The Think Tank once hinted, that Mr. Gu is quite terrifying, if we meet him again we will definitely be found out."

She spat out a mouthful of blood, dying the frost-white snow.

A squirming live worm was actually in the blood clot.

Da He Wang also spat, similarly spitting out a worm, sighed: "This worm is truly disgusting, if not to suppress rank, beating me to death a million times wouldn't make me eat it again."

At this moment, a familiar voice, carrying a smile, came over the communication channel.

"Shadow Demon, Snow Woman."

The smiling voice of the Think Tank arose: "Mission accomplished?"

Yuuki Yocchi cleared her throat and answered: "Think Tank, the mission is accomplished, Miss Yue Ji returned alive from Penglai Fairy Island, she probably gained quite a bit, exceeding expectations."

Da He Wang calmly said: "Our identities were not exposed either."

The Think Tank laughed: "That's good, having loyal subordinates like you is a blessing for me. Of course, I also know what you're thinking. Miss Yue Ji is crucial to us in the Dark World. But the problem is, the Dark World now, is not solely under my control."

"After all, my current combat prowess isn't even enough to beat a cat."

"And ever since Jiang Family collaborated with those monsters from Buzhou Mountain, they have become incredibly formidable. Until we amass enough power, we shouldn't make a move against them. When you return, do not forget to tell Jiang Muxue, her precious daughter is safe, let her carry out her mission with peace of mind."

He paused, sighed regretfully: "Tsk, Old Master Si survived, I was hoping he would die on Penglai Fairy Island, making him dead without evidence. Hmm... let me think, what means I can use to draw him out as false testimony, to keep our dear Miss Yue Ji in the Twilight Candidate?"

Chapter 623: Even the Candle Dragon Venerable Has Been Offended by Me...

Gu Jianlin was silent for a moment, thinking about the two Yingzhou people who were indeed somewhat unusual, and shook his head, saying: "In any case, there's no time to bother with them now. Let's leave here first. According to the progress of the Ether Association, the Strategy Group is about to break into the Dragon Nest, and who knows what will happen then."

Su Youzhu suddenly said, "The key!"

Lu Zijin also gazed at the distant wind and snow, licking her vermilion lips: "Yes, we need to find the key. After the first layer is conquered, according to the special mechanism of the Ancient God Realm, we must gain the qualification to enter the second layer. Generally speaking, the mechanism and rules of each layer of the Ancient God Realm are completely different."

Humans have now moved past the era of ignorance and can even launch a counterattack against the Ancient God Realm.

Therefore, the understanding of the Ancient God Realm is more comprehensive than in the past.

The Qilin Immortal Palace, it seems, is undoubtedly the most dangerous Ancient God Realm in history.

Even just the first layer has unimaginable hidden treasures, and even cross-era, supreme-level secret techniques have appeared, not to mention what might be in the second layer of the world.

Gu Jianlin even knew that the third layer had the legendary Candle Light Divine Tree, something even the Ancient Supremes fought over, almost enveloping the entire world, though its specific use is unknown.

"The key might appear in various forms, but according to the teacher's research, the area of the second layer is fifty times that of the first layer, equivalent to three-quarters of the Earth. Generally, the higher-grade key we obtain, the deeper we can explore the world of the second layer," Su Youzhu explained.

"So we should continue to fight deep."

She calmly said, "Aunt Zijin is almost back to the Holy Land level."

Lu Zijin smiled and said, "Hmm, probably another two or three hours. After all, I've already conquered the SS-level dungeon, and the rest are not worth mentioning. Even if we encounter Ancestral Ancient Gods, they're not to be feared. As expected, the Heavenly Person Realm will soon envelop this place."

Gu Jianlin thought for a moment: "I have no objection, after all, I'm just a projection."

Su Youzhu also calmly said, "I'm also a projection."

Lu Zijin suddenly didn't want to talk to them anymore.

Since they've decided to continue moving deeper into the Sea of Eternal Life, transportation should be prepared.

Fortunately, Old Master Si left behind a lot of heavy armor vehicles and countless supplies.

The prisoners lay sprawled on the cold ice, unable to wake up for the time being, otherwise, these transport means might have been driven away by them, along with the supplies.

"Wait."

Lu Zijin's eyes flared with murderous intent: "Could it be that Old Master Si is still alive?"

Su Youzhu, who also held a grudge against the old man, said with a cold gaze, "I haven't seen the old bastard's corpse. He's always been old and cunning. If he really has a way to survive, it's not surprising."

Gu Jianlin raised his hand, manipulating the just awakened Corpse Ghosts to load everyone including the Third Master into the car.

Listening to their conversation, he fell into thought.

Undoubtedly, these two women are both vengeful.

If no action is taken on his part, the old man might really be killed by them.

"It's like this, Old Master Si indeed gained some benefits in the illusion and didn't die. However, his mind seems not quite right, so he probably won't bother us in the future."

Gu Jianlin waved his hand: "I don't know how to explain it exactly, just trust me on this."

Since he said so, there was no need to pay much more attention.

Lu Zijin was on the verge of advancing to the Holy Land Level and had no fear of being pursued, except that being wanted by the Ether Association was somewhat annoying; everything else was going quite smoothly.

She sat in the driver's seat, humming: "What happened to you all in the end?"

Su Youzhu thought for a moment, then recounted the overall situation, deliberately omitting the final events in the Reincarnation Nirvana World, as she too was overawed by the ancient divine might and noticed nothing.

"In short, it was the layout of the three Supremes. We were forced into it and almost died."

She mumbled, "Truly frightening."

Lu Zijin, adjusting the car's dashboard, exclaimed, "So dangerous? It seems Xu Fu truly deserved to be called a Great Sage. In the end, he was able to regain consciousness; otherwise, you'd surely be dead. But getting caught by three Ancient Supremes in one's lifetime, that's just too unlucky, isn't it?"

Su Youzhu acknowledged with a hmpf, suddenly sensing the youth's gaze.

"Why are you staring at me?"

She turned her head and suspiciously asked.

Gu Jianlin looked down at the night pearl fragments in his hand, contemplating that only one kind of transcendent material for ascension was missing. Should he complete the ceremony first, lest the night be long and dreams many?

After all, the progress on the Divine Path had reached this point.

For efficiency, there's really no need to go from scratch and toil over the Ghost Slayer Path's ascension.

Wait!

What was he thinking!

The youth shook his head frantically, driving away unrealistic thoughts.

"Oh, I just remembered."

Su Youzhu's face, as exquisite as snow and ice, showed a hint of a subtle smile, and she said softly, "You're about to advance to the Fifth Rank, aren't you? You have mastered the Breathing Technique, and you'll have no lack of Spiritual Secret Medicine. Accumulating spirituality shouldn't be difficult for you. I wonder, did Xu Fu leave you materials for ascension?"

Chapter 624: I've Even Talked Back to the Candle Dragon Venerable..._2

Gu Jianlin coughed lightly; this girl's intuition was just too sharp.

"So, the only thing missing is the ritual, right?"

Su Youzhu removed her down jacket. With arms crossed, she accentuated the exaggerated scale of her chest, while her black silk-clad legs beneath the short skirt crossed together, her little black leather shoes swinging leisurely. "You still need a Female Sacrifice."

Gu Jianlin held his forehead with his hand. He really didn't know the Divine Path could be this mind-boggling.

Mainly, the ceremony for the Ghost Slayer Path is quite complicated, requiring Master Level Sword Skill. One of the materials is particularly hard to find; it's the Moonstone Heart, which was fought over last time on Bren Hill.

"Huh."

Su Youzhu sneaked a glance at him, her pretty face blushing a bit.

Though they've kissed and hugged, fast-forwarding right to the final step was still a little embarrassing.

After all, they haven't confirmed their relationship yet.

However, if Gu Jianlin truly avails himself of her, he should confess to her, right?

Yeah, with his personality, he definitely would.

If she were a cat, her tail would be proudly raised right now.

Actually, she had anticipated this day for a long time.

After she discovered he became Divine, she'd been focused on this crucial juncture.

No way she would let other women snatch the opportunity.

"A clone can't meet the requirements for the ritual."

Su Youzhu sat next to him, arms crossed, casually mentioning, "The day after tomorrow, my parents won't be home; they're off to clean the nail salon. Next Monday is their wedding anniversary, and they'll travel to Ying Province. Also, on June 4th, they're going back to their hometown, because my second uncle passed away, and they're attending the funeral."

Gu Jianlin was shocked, turning stiffly to look at her, only to find she was pretending to enjoy the scenery.

He merely had an idea in his mind.

Didn't expect she'd really be willing, even having scheduled the time.

Su Youzhu turned her head to avoid his gaze; her icy face revealing a blush, eyes filled with both shame and annoyance.

What's there to look at? So annoying!

She simply turned around and flopped onto his lap, covering her head with her down jacket.

"I'm gonna sleep for a bit, don't talk to me for now!"

Vroom.

Lu Zijin started the engine, peering at the young couple through the rearview mirror, snorting.

As an adult, witnessing two teenagers discussing such topics with each other, one should probably intervene. But considering they're about to become adults and are Ascenders, just let them be.

"Young people these days are getting more and more daring with their games."

She smirked slightly, stepped on the gas pedal, and drove into the depths of the wind and snow.

In the lounge of Deep Blue.

Gu Jianlin opened his eyes, temporarily retracting his attention from the clone.

As if waking from a long dream, after getting up from the bed, he stretched with a lazy yawn.

Then he froze.

At some unknown time, Ji Zhou had indeed sat by his bedside in a brown long coat, hands in pockets, with overlapping long legs wrapped in thigh boots, heels tapping the floor in rhythm.

"Awake?"

She turned her head, eyes cold, voice stern.

Gu Jianlin froze; he never expected she'd be in his room. Instinctively guilty.

However, for some reason, Ji Zhou's expression was so stern, yet in his unique vision, she seemed relieved, her gaze softer than ever, tinged with a bit of compassion.

"Qilin Forbidden Curse; you've really got it figured out. I don't know what means you've used to break the distance limit between body and clone, but you must admit, you've got guts. While everyone else is scrambling to the Sea of Eternal Life, and countless perish on the way to Penglai Fairy Island, you actually dared to charge in?"

Ji Zhou raised a hand, poking his forehead: "Do you think you're special or something? The renowned 'Chair Killer' being invincible? Ah no, you're Qilin now. Do you think you're Qilin Venerable? If you can siphon the entire Pacific Ocean's Life Force for your own use, I'm not stopping you."

The overwhelming pressure; Gu Jianlin didn't dare to move, letting her poke him.

For whatever reason, he suddenly felt a sense of *déjà vu*.

As if he was back at age four or five, punished for playing too long and returning home late, with his mom scolding him directly.

Yeah, that feeling.

"I made it back in one piece."

Gu Jianlin thought for a moment: "It wasn't that dangerous."

"Not that dangerous?"

Ji Zhou stared at him spitefully: "Do you know you nearly lost your life?"

Gu Jianlin instinctively scratched his head: "It's mainly for Tang Zijing's situation, because after fighting him several times, I feel he's not that simple, so I went to investigate his tracks."

Ji Zhou sternly knocked his forehead: "What does Tang Zijing have to do with you?"

Gu Jianlin paused, unsure of how to respond.

"What, you like Thunder?"

Ji Zhou crossed her arms, speaking coldly: "If you like her, I can help arrange a match for you. With your talent, you're destined to reach the top of the world, and you're well-suited for her. Compared to Rhein, you match her better. Your temperament and character also check out."

Gu Jianlin hadn't imagined Ether Association had paired Thunder with Rhein.

He doesn't care who that girl likes.

But if it's Rhein, it really bothers him.

Ji Zhou seemingly noticed his thoughts, coldly laughed: "Relax, Thunder doesn't fancy Rhein. In this regard, the entire Order World respects her opinion; she doesn't necessarily need a partner."

Chapter 625: I've Even Talked Back to the Candle Dragon Venerable..._3

Gu Jianlin breathed a sigh of relief, then said: "That's good. Since you're here, I have some questions to ask you. You've been avoiding me on purpose, haven't you?"

He vaguely guessed.

Probably because something happened to him on Penglai Fairy Island, that's why this senior appeared.

Although Senior Ji seemed cold on the surface, he could feel a sincere warmth.

"Me? Avoiding you?"

Ji Zhou sneered: "Why would I avoid you?"

Gu Jianlin calmly asked: "Then can you tell me, what's going on with Tang Ling? What is the Spirit Coffin? And the Flower Transplant Plan? That was created by Qilin Venerable, used by the Supremes to adapt to the real-world environment. So, why was this plan used on Thunder? What will happen to her?"

Ji Zhou looked at him coldly: "You know quite a bit."

Despite the cold gaze, there was a deep hidden emotion.

Gu Jianlin wanted to see this kind of look.

What he disliked most was these so-called adults treating him like a child.

Not telling him anything.

Just like Old Gu did back then.

The teacher was like that.

Senior Ji was like that too.

"Are you still planning on hiding from me?"

Gu Jianlin asked seriously.

"What difference does it make if I tell you? What can you change?"

Ji Zhou said expressionlessly: "I'll be blunt, Thunder is now in the depths of the Sea of Immortality, being escorted to undergo a life and death trial. What can you do? With your rank, you're not even cannon fodder. Can you rush in to rescue her? I know you may have found something useful to her on Penglai Fairy Island."

"But I can be very clear, even if you are by her side, it won't be of much use to her."

She paused: "She must complete the Ascension Steps to achieve her final transformation."

Gu Jianlin's heart sank slightly: "What if she can't complete it?"

Ji Zhou replied indifferently: "Death."

A storm suddenly flashed across Gu Jianlin's eyes: "Why let her go through this?"

Ji Zhou waved her hand: "This isn't something you should be concerned with."

"Whom I choose to care for, no one can interfere. Why does it have to be Tang Ling? Tang Zijing never intentionally betrayed the human camp. He possesses Xu Fu's Summoning Technique, enabling him to gain temporary freedom, but why didn't he tell his great-granddaughter? Why is he considered a traitor to humanity by outsiders?"

Gu Jianlin stared at her, refusing to back down: "The Heavenly Person Realm in Penglai Fairy Island was originally left by Gu Ci'an and Tang Zijing. Without absolute trust, you couldn't have left such an important thing with them. Let's not talk about my father's matter; I don't believe you're unaware of Tang Zijing's situation."

He emphasized: "I've always been curious about how the Ether Association's intelligence comes about. How did you know that the Kui Dragon Ancestor would hold a Blood Sacrifice in the Underwater Palace? Including the matter of Kui Dragon Ancestor in the Sea of Immortality, your reaction was unbelievably fast. I even suspect you knew about the existence of the Ascension Steps."

Ji Zhou remained silent.

"After all, the Ether Association is the guardian of order. You can't expect us cannon fodder to gather intelligence."

Gu Jianlin said softly: "So, Tang Zijing is your mole, right?"

Silence persisted for a long time.

Ji Zhou raised her eyes and said lightly: "Do you know that smart people should hide their weaknesses?"

"You won't harm me, so what am I hiding?"

Gu Jianlin shook his head, staring into her eyes, and said: "You know what I've done before. If I don't do some things, it's more humiliating to me than death."

"Have you ever thought that your life is worth much more than your so-called persistence? If it were a matter like Black Cloud City, I could kill a thousand, ten thousand families like the Yan family. Tens of billions of such small fish wouldn't compare to one year of your life. But involving yourself in these matters will cost you your life."

Ji Zhou said coldly: "If it hadn't been for the President saving you, would you have survived? You've seen Xu Fu's strength, and the Kui Dragon Ancestor can only be stronger, not weaker. The depths of the Sea of Immortality are an absolute forbidden zone. Someone like you entering there is just seeking death. What use is knowing this? To go to your death?"

Her gaze was cold, carrying indisputable authority: "I've given you many opportunities, allowed you to kill Zhang Xuzhi, permitted you to secretly let the Shadow out. But now, you've crossed the line. If you were to ascend to the Holy Land Level right now, I'd say nothing and let you go."

"At your young age, living and cultivating is what you should care about. Everything else is irrelevant."

She reprimanded: "Is it that I'm too lenient with you or are you going through a rebellious phase?"

Gu Jianlin was prepared, reaching into the blanket to connect with the Qilin's Wedge Fragment within him.

"If I don't go, then the President won't get this thing either."

He slapped the object in his hand onto the bed.

A piece of bone, crystalline like jade, like the most perfect jade in the world, exuding a noble luster.

In an instant, a rich fragrance filled the resting room, like the Immortal Energy from mythical legends.

Ji Zhou's gaze suddenly fell on this piece of bone, her cold eyes showing a hint of shock.

"Eternal Bone."

Gu Jianlin unemotionally slapped the Jade Scroll onto the bed and calmly said: "Xu Fu's legacy, the Alchemy Matrix used with the Eternal Bone. I don't know how many years it can extend life, but the effect is certainly not weak. I plan to split this piece of Eternal Bone into three parts, giving them to you, the teacher, and the President."

For a moment, Ji Zhou raised her eyes, staring at the boy.

"I'm not worthy of using this."

She snorted coldly.

Gu Jianlin shook his head: "Don't fool me, I don't believe you're only at the Eighth Rank."

Ji Zhou squinted her beautiful eyes.

Gu Jianlin pushed the Eternal Bone and Jade Scroll forward.

"Go ahead, keep scolding me."

He said expressionlessly: "I'm listening."

As if with his courage, how could he fear being scolded?

He had even fiercely contradicted the Candle Dragon Venerable.

Who in this world could be fiercer than that woman?

Ji Zhou: "..."

Chapter 626: Candle Dragon Authority, Demon Soul Dance

Ji Zhou was silent for a while, and the look in her eyes toward the young man became complicated.

"Is this why you insist on going? Penglai Fairy Island, the Mystery of Immortality, and Tang Zijing's secret—you aim for these? Do you know what you mean to the Human World now? People like the President and the King of Qing are not worth your sacrifice."

Her tone softened, and she said gently, "No one is worth such a sacrifice from you."

Gu Jianlin shook his head and said, "No, I think my teacher treats me well, and so does the President. I was able to return alive this time, thanks to that Golden Phoenix Feather you gave me, otherwise, the President would not have intervened."

"Heh, what's on Huai Yin's mind, only heaven knows."

Ji Zhou sneered, "The President didn't go to save you; that was to kill enemies."

"It's no different to me, and I believe the President bears me no ill will."

Gu Jianlin said earnestly, "Besides, you've been very kind to me, you're over four hundred years old, and also need the Eternal Bone to extend your life. Don't tell me you're just an eighth-rank Divine General—I'm no fool, I don't believe it."

In truth, he had a vague and bold hypothesis, though not currently confirmed.

The identity of this Senior Ji was questionable, but since she didn't tell him, he pretended he didn't know.

Ji Zhou's gaze at him became ever more complicated; for over four hundred years, she had guided the Human World forward, an undisputed tyrant. Even the Catastrophes who now stood atop the world, she could point at them and scold, none daring to retort. As for those demigods, they quivered at her sight.

It was the first time in her life that she wanted to scold someone but couldn't bear to.

Even though she was quite displeased, there was no reason to punish this child.

Over the years, she had always been a martyr for the Human World.

Some people wished her alive, while others wished her dead.

She was well aware that ever since she pioneered the Heavenly Personification, even the Ascenders of the Order World, her own students, and the two vice presidents might wish her dead.

She knew, but didn't care.

For whether she died didn't matter, as long as someone could carry the world forward.

Her sacrifices never considered repayment.

This was the first time someone reciprocated her.

Not Qing and Chi, not Gold and silver, nor the two vice presidents.

Not those families who loudly proclaimed loyalty.

But a child.

A child who's never received fair treatment since stepping into this world.

"The Eternal Bone is useful to you too."

She said softly, "Why not keep it for yourself?"

Gu Jianlin waved his hand and said, "I don't need such things. I don't like the idea that people close to me die before me because then I would constantly miss them, which is a lonely affair. In comparison, if I died, it's not a big deal, as long as it's without regrets, it's an end."

Actually, as for the matter of not fearing death, there was another reason.

That was because he possessed the supreme position.

And the supreme position meant an Undying Body; perhaps it merely meant a slumber spanning millions of years.

Thus, it diluted his fear of death.

"Then what about those around you?"

Ji Zhou raised her eyes and asked, "They would also be very sad."

Gu Jianlin leaned against the bedhead, speaking calmly, "Doesn't matter, as long as they live well. As for feeling sad, that's not something I need to consider. Even if they're heartbroken, life will offer other healing moments. In truth, I am a very selfish person; whether they are sad has nothing to do with me."

That is why he was indifferent by nature, detached from the world.

For a moment, Ji Zhou didn't know how to retort.

You call him gentle, and he seems flawless.

You call him heartless, and it's true he has no emotions.

"Sometimes, I really wish you weren't such a nice kid."

Ji Zhou said coldly, "Then I could slap you dead."

Gu Jianlin smiled silently, placing the Eternal Bone on the table and drawing the Tang Blade from the sword bag.

Jiuyin unsheathed, flashed past!

Crack!

The Eternal Bone split into three!

Ji Zhou's pupils slightly trembled at the sight, for this was the Eternal Bone, a rare treasure in the world.

And the stance of this young man was as if he was chopping pork ribs.

He took two wooden boxes from his backpack and packed the separated Eternal Bone.

"I will leave this box for my teacher."

He then took out an empty reagent bottle, sliced his finger with the blade, and squeezed out a bottle of fresh blood, saying, "Xu Fu said that the Soul Coffin Technique Tang Zijing initially obtained was incomplete, but with my blood, it can save Thunder. I also have Xu Fu's Summoning Technique; please wait a moment."

At that moment, Taihua gazed intently at his blood, her eyes becoming extremely strange.

She seemed to know something.

Hesitated to speak, yet said nothing.

Gu Jianlin took out paper and pen, drawing bizarre and intricate lines on the table.

While he had no study of the language of the Ancient God Clan, he inherently possessed the power of the Qilin and Candle Dragon.

Remembering these things wasn't difficult.

Nor did it affect his spirit.

"This thing is Xu Fu's Summoning Technique. Combined with the formula researched by Yu, and the Holy Light Matrix developed by Captain Lin, it should be able to completely liberate a Primordial Ancestor Level Divine Servant."

Chapter 627: Candle Dragon Authority, Demon Soul Dance

He said seriously, "I have only one request, no matter what, you must save Tang Ling and Tang Zijing."

Ji Zhou was silent for a moment. She was not the type to be sentimental. She casually packed those things into her satchel and said blandly, "I understand your intentions, and I've accepted these things. No reward can repay your contributions to the Human World. I need to go back and discuss how exactly we should reward you."

"Of course, don't expect me to help you investigate the Blood Moon Slaughter Incident."

She paused: "That's something someone of your rank shouldn't be involved with."

Gu Jianlin fell silent. Actually, this Senior Ji in front of him should be considered one of the elders who treated him best since he entered the Extraordinary World, even subtly more than his teacher.

The reason for not letting him investigate, aside from the impact of the incident itself on the internal factions of the Order World, likely includes other reasons that would cause trouble for him if he discovered anything.

"It's related to the Vermilion Bird, right?"

He said softly, "That's why my father died back then too."

Ji Zhou glanced at him silently without saying a word.

But the meaning was self-evident.

"I'm leaving."

She got up, turned, and walked towards the door: "You've just learned Heavenly Person's Breathing, you need to practice well. The Candle Light Law is so strong, yet you're using it like a scraping technique, don't embarrass me by going out like this."

With that said, she strode away.

Gu Jianlin's face turned dark, as he had already been insulted several times for his basic skills.

These people just won't let it go!

"Got it."

He couldn't help but say, "Senior Ji, I'll leave Tang Ling and Tang Zijing's matters to you!"

Ji Zhou halted her steps and gave a faint "hmm" without any emotion.

For a moment, Gu Jianlin sensed something was amiss, because in her voice devoid of any emotion, he caught a fleeting lack of heart and guilt, as if she'd resolved something.

That gaze eventually turned completely cold.

Gu Jianlin instinctively had a sense of foreboding, stepping forward: "Senior Ji?"

Suddenly, a golden light screen materialized out of thin air, interweaving into a net at the door, blocking his way.

Gu Jianlin punched the light screen, it didn't budge!

"Don't waste your effort. This is punishment for your wandering around. Until the matter at the Sea of Eternal Life is concluded, you're to stay here obediently and go nowhere. This is power condensed from the Heavenly Person Realm, all your current methods are useless. Someone will bring you the secret medicine later, make sure to practice well."

Ji Zhou glanced at him and turned to leave: "There will naturally be someone to save Tang Ling, but even with your blood, she must still walk the Stairway to Immortality, whether she survives is up to fate."

Bang!

Gu Jianlin punched the light screen again, watching her leave silently.

His gaze growing colder and colder.

He never thought that this elder, who had always been gentle to him, would pull such a move in the end.

The elder only mentioned Tang Ling.

But said nothing about Tang Zijing.

Red light swept through the cabin, Taixu's soft voice resonated throughout the spaceship: "Attention all Strategy Group members, the SSS-level hunting mission Azure Sea Dragon Nest is about to begin. The Heavenly Person Realm is ready, frontline strategists please prepare, you have five more minutes to leave messages for your families."

Taihua strode down the corridor, adjusting her posture to restore her dignified and graceful appearance.

The final operation to conquer the Sea of Eternal Life was about to commence.

Lin Dong and the others were about to depart.

As the President, she should have been at the forefront at this time to boost morale.

But at this moment, her mind was elsewhere.

She recalled the moments she just spent with the young man, thinking about his efforts and contributions.

Her eyes bore increasing guilt and struggle.

Ultimately, it all turned to indifference.

"I'd rather you hate me than let you take risks again."

She said softly, "Taixu, help me call Huai Yin."

She was currently in the Qilin Immortal Palace, but through the dimension frequency synchronization of alchemy technology, it was possible to communicate between different Ancient God Realms, connecting to far-off Buzhou Mountain.

Of course, this technology was very expensive, costing billions of funds per minute of conversation.

"Understood."

Taixu promptly operated.

After a brief silence, Huai Yin's cheerful voice came through: "Hello, Master."

Taihua said indifferently, "What are you doing?"

Huai Yin's side had a deafening roar, he laughed: "Oh, I'm fishing by the Nether River! Hahaha, I actually caught a Luo Yu just now, who dares say I'm a novice? But it's been so many years, and this guy still hasn't evolved into a Primordial, I thought I could find an Eternal Bone!"

Taihua's lips curled into a barely perceptible smile, she said blandly, "I just got one."

Huai Yin was stunned: "What did you say?"

Taihua continued to taunt: "It was presented to me by your disciple."

Huai Yin was shocked: "Master, that's unfair, this is my heir! If you do something so unfair, I might turn to the Divine Race against you. Where did this Eternal Bone come from? Not from Penglai Fairy Island, right? That boy is confused!"

Taihua loved seeing him eat crow and sneered: "Don't worry, your disciple left you a third, he thought Ji Zhou and the President were two people, so he gave me more than half."

Chapter 628: Candle Dragon Authority, Demon Soul Dance

After a brief silence, Huai Yin instinctively asked, "Did he leave a piece for me?"

For some reason, his voice suddenly changed, becoming cautious and probing.

It was as if he was expecting something, yet unbelievable.

"Yes, your disciple narrowly escaped death and charged into the Penglai Fairy Island to snatch this piece of Eternal Bone."

Taihua's eyes flickered as he softly said, "The reason is that I casually mentioned there might be something in the Sea of Eternal Life to ease your pain, and he went for it. Originally, these matters had nothing to do with him."

There was a long silence on Huai Yin's end, as if he exhaled a breath.

"I will share this piece of Eternal Bone with you."

Taihua suddenly said, "The condition you mentioned last time, I can consider it."

Huai Yin seemed surprised, exclaiming, "You've figured it out?"

"But I have only one request."

Taihua coldly said, "I want to know everything about this child."

Huai Yin sighed softly, "Why go to such lengths? You should be enjoying your twilight years, getting involved in such trivial matters does you no good, nor does it help the world. Don't forget, you are the President, many things can't be done according to your whims and temper, you have a responsibility to this world."

"I am his Grandmaster."

Taihua however said coldly, "I have my own plans."

"Alright, this matter is significant, I'll talk to you when I return."

The booming sound from Huai Yin's side sounded like the collapse of heaven and earth, he softly spoke: "Candle Dragon Venerable is about to awaken. This time the situation is a bit different, I sensed his Spiritual Domain, it seems abnormal. Unprecedentedly empty, devoid of any emotions, compared to the past, he is like a different entity, like an empty shell."

Taihua frowned, knowing what he was referring to.

As the President, she naturally had also crossed paths with that strongest Supreme.

Since ancient times, Candle Dragon Venerable has always been a god rich in emotions.

One could even describe him with the words "emotional sensitivity".

"This time, Candle Dragon Venerable isn't even singing. What a pity, I wanted to hear it again."

Huai Yin sighed: "I'm starting to act, you can begin on your end too."

Taihua acknowledged with a hum and hung up the phone.

Gu Jianlin slammed his fist against the light barrier at the door, drenched in sweat, panting heavily.

His front hair was already soaked with sweat, his gaze sharp as a knife.

Half an hour had passed, no matter what method he used, he couldn't break the light barrier in front of him, it was like an insurmountable chasm, completely blocking his path, making him realize the difference in power.

This is the absolute power gap brought by Rank differences.

"Don't waste your efforts, the woman who cast this light barrier is unfathomably strong, definitely above Demigod Level, her mastery over the Heavenly Person Realm is extraordinary, you have no chance of breaking through, even if you use me, it's futile. This power's source is roughly equivalent to a Lord in a human form."

Jiuyin in his hand trembled slightly, "Even if you break me, it won't help."

Gu Jianlin fell silent, casually tossing Jiuyin onto the bed, sitting on the chair, panting.

Damn.

These old guys really have no sense of integrity.

Playing dirty tricks on him.

As the saying goes, accept one's help, one loses one's strength; accept one's meal, one loses one's soft voice.

This person really took things and turned cold on him.

Now he knew.

The big shots of this world, their skins are really thick, and their hearts truly dark.

Four hundred-year-old elders bullying a seventeen-year-old child.

"Is there really no way?"

Gu Jianlin asked, "Is this all the strength you have?"

Jiuyin said eerily, "That's only if I recover to my full strength, I also need to grow, my power is closely tied to yours, even if we gave it our all now and used the Lord's power, we still wouldn't be able to break through! Speaking of which, I sense the soulful fragrance of a Lord on you."

Gu Jianlin thought, "Fragrance of the soul, my foot."

Jiuyin asked eagerly, "Have you met the Lord?"

This stupid blade hadn't been taken into the Reincarnation Nirvana World, but left in the dream of Penglai Fairy Island.

Thus unaware.

Gu Jianlin, in a bad mood, said coldly, "Yes."

Jiuyin pressed, "What did you do?"

Gu Jianlin said flatly, "Nothing much, engaged in a friendly and deep exchange to solidify bilateral relations and expressed the longing from days of separation. The Lord is about to ascend, and told me to protect her well."

Jiuyin was shocked, hissing, "The Lord is about to ascend, and you're not by her side, what should you do? Don't worry, I'll think of a way! Can't let the Lord fall into danger!"

Gu Jianlin paused for a moment, indeed this stupid blade is the one even old monsters complain about.

This intelligence, truly unrivaled.

At this moment, the voice of Taixu sounded in the room.

"Zunjin's Omega Sequence. According to the superior's instructions, to prevent you from feeling anxious and bored during this confinement period, I will specially broadcast the battle situation of Buzhou Mountain for you to watch and learn!"

Gu Jianlin was stunned, not expecting this turn of events.

The projector in the lounge automatically turned on, the light screen condensed in the darkness, reflecting the fragmented sky dome, the broken upright pillar reaching the sky, the surging Nether River, and the terrifying Dragon Roar.

It is as clear as a Blu-ray blockbuster, with world-destroying special effects.

If this were a movie, an estimated billion dollars would be burned in a minute.

In the realm stood a silhouette frost-white as snow, it was a woman akin to a peerless Sword Immortal, countless flying swords slashed through the sky like a burning meteor shower, falling toward the broken Heavenly Pillar.

Silver King!

The phantom majesty of Gold overlooked the earth like a giant god, above his head was a golden sword that pierced the Sky Dome, tens of thousands of splendid sword lights crisscrossed, Sword Qi bursting forth.

Golden King.

Finally, there was a massive green Qilin that seemed to prop up the sky, trampling the earth.

And atop the Qilin sat an elderly man with white hair.

His weapon was unexpectedly... a fishing rod!?

Gu Jianlin was shocked, his teacher's style was indeed different from others.

"Such strong humans, I didn't expect that after hundreds and thousands of years, humans have truly mastered such forbidden power. These are the Golden and Silver Kings you mentioned before? Yes, they are indeed at the forefront of the Evolution Path. Wait, that old man must be your teacher, right? This guy is at least Quasi-Supreme Level!"

Jiuyin seemed somewhat apprehensive, surprised, "He seems more like the Ancient God Clan than the Ancient God Clan themselves?"

Just as the words fell, it began to tremble wildly, as if it saw something exciting.

Because above the Sky Dome, thunder and lightning flashed, the solemn Ancient Dragon coiled at the extreme of the sky dome, a pair of emotionless blood-red eyes were terrifying like the fissures in time and space, the majestic Dragon Roar pierced through the heavens and earth.

As the bloody rain poured down, the Mandala Flowers of the entire world were in full bloom.

Faintly, a peerless woman danced at the edge of the world.

Countless threads of bloody light swirled, just like her skirt!

Like a peerless dance!

As if traversing time and space, a massive majesty came pressing.

Gu Jianlin couldn't help but lean back!

Old monster!

Didn't expect to see her again.

The last separation wasn't long ago, but seeing her again felt like an acute stress response.

However, for a moment, he felt something was off.

Because this time's appearance of Candle Dragon, though as powerful as ever, gave him a different vibe.

Not so real.

Instead, it felt like an empty shell.

"Demon Soul Dance! This is the Lord's Demon Soul Dance!"

Jiuyin became excited, "But the Lord's grace remains, queenly and city-toppling!"

Gu Jianlin asked suspiciously, "What's the Demon Soul Dance?"

Jiuyin huffed, "The Lord's Authority is Karma, it can only be fully unleashed in the state of Primordial Return. When she performs the Demon Soul Dance, it means she is barely serious, because these three humans are indeed strong."

Chapter 629: Hacker Invasion, the Mysterious Think Tank

The light curtain projected by the projector shook violently, as the alchemical instruments could no longer withstand the terrifying magnetic field fluctuations, forcing a temporary interruption of the broadcast. The screen froze at the moment the Ancient Dragon soared into the sky.

In the center of the destructive storm, one could vaguely see an unparalleled silhouette spinning, the hem of her dress eclipsing the sun and sky.

Finally, the image resumed, indeed showing the scene of destruction on the Pamir Plateau. Meteorologists worldwide had detected the anomaly here, but only those with spirituality could see the truth in another dimension.

Sky-high pillars of solid black stone crumbled as if they were mountains, while meteors plummeted down.

The roar of dragons pierced the heavens and the earth, accompanied by the roar of the Qilin.

Blinding flashes of sword light crisscrossed in every direction.

Even though it was just a projection, one's eyes were still stabbed by the intense light.

"Truly terrifying."

Gu Jianlin touched his chest, feeling the pounding connection to the depths of his bloodline, a sudden heartbeat sensation, silently thinking: "This old monster, beautiful indeed, but truly terrifying as well. Not as horrifying as a female ghost but a hundred thousand times more frightening."

The prettier the woman, the more dangerous she is—this much is certain.

Especially after devouring the Dragon Bone, Gu Jianlin even developed complex emotions for this woman.

Well, even if there were no Dragon Bone, any normal man would admire her.

This was very normal, after all, there probably wasn't a woman more beautiful than her in the world.

"Speaking of which, what exactly is this Primordial Return? The Venerable's Primordial Return looks just like a mega Sky Splitting creature—sometimes it's black, sometimes it's red."

He asked curiously.

"Primordial Return is the most original state of the Ancient God Clan. After they came to this world, they limited themselves to human form to adapt to human rules. The so-called Primordial Return is the

release of one's spirituality and manifestation of the Mythical State. For example, the black dragon summoned by the Venerable is her toying with you."

Jiuyin snorted delicately, "When they are dark red, they show you a slight respect, treating you as human. And when they're truly serious, their human form fully integrates with the Mythical State, which is the true form of Candle Dragon!"

Gu Jianlin thought, so that's how it is. Looks like this old monster wasn't being serious.

"But I never expected that even humans could achieve Primordial Return. Your teacher is unbelievably strong, some might even think he is the Qilin Venerable."

Jiuyin quipped, "Little guy, can he achieve Primordial Return in the real world?"

Gu Jianlin was silent for a moment: "He actually seems to be capable of it."

Jiuyin also fell silent, beginning to worry for the safety of Candle Dragon Venerable.

After all, Candle Dragon Venerable was on the brink of Ascension. If she was left here, well, it wouldn't bode well.

Gu Jianlin also remembered the old monster saying she was about to Ascend.

If something went wrong, she might sleep for three thousand years, and even wanted to take him with her.

Ha, dreaming.

Go teacher, go 师叔 and 师姑!

At this moment, Taixu issued an alarm, its once gentle voice turning cold and deep: "Detected hacker intrusion, intercept system activated for you, would you like reverse tracking?"

Gu Jianlin was startled and threw Jiuyin to the side by the computer desk.

It's imperative to know Taixu was a revolutionary supercomputer. Though her simulated personality was a little girl, it was merely to lower people's guard. She was a strategic level weapon, casting a shadow globally.

No idea who was bold enough to invade Taixu's system.

"Track."

He sat in front of the desk, and the computer automatically turned on.

Once the screen lit up, it remained completely black before abruptly showing a surge of data streams.

Reflected into the boy's mind like an ocean.

This was Taixu functioning as a Hunter, reverse capturing the intruder to her domain. In an instant, she traveled across the world—any attempt to hide IP addresses was useless in her perspective, no illusions could deceive her logical process. She calmly cast and reeled in the net, accurately capturing the target.

"Tracking complete."

Taixu's icy voice rang out.

At last, the screen, though still black, displayed a line of words.

"As expected of Taixu, who would've thought after all these years she evolved to such a degree. Remember when the King first created her, she was just a little girl."

Gu Jianlin looked at the line of words, vaguely guessing the identity behind it.

Think Tank!

Taixu coldly stated, "I am still a little girl."

Think Tank's words resurfaced: "Alright, my apologies. However, I'm not here for you; I'm searching for Mr. San. Dear Miss Taixu, if possible, please allow us a few minutes. After this, you can submit our conversation to the Ether Association's higher-ups."

Taixu seemed to hesitate, falling silent.

Think Tank typed another line: "Even if you refuse, I have other ways to contact Mr. San. After all, since the President can plant spies next to me, I can also plant my people in your Strategy Group."

Gu Jianlin raised his hand, "Taixu, give us a few minutes."

After a while, Taixu said, "Alright."

As the screen flickered, the dark background was replaced by a spacious cabin.

Chapter 630: Hacker Invasion, the Mysterious Think Tank_2

A young man with a head full of white hair appeared on the screen. He seemed to have just woken up, his eyes bleary with sleep. He wore slightly loose white pajamas with Snoopy patterns.

Though he appeared only fifteen years old, he somehow resembled a centenarian, with a profound and weathered look.

This was Gu Jianlin's first encounter with a top figure in the Dark World. He folded his hands under his chin, stared earnestly at the person onscreen, and said softly, "Think Tank?"

The Think Tank smiled faintly, "Mr. San."

Gu Jianlin said calmly, "Even top figures in the Dark World would come looking for a nobody like me?"

The Think Tank waved his hand with a friendly smile, "Don't say that. Actually, I'm not a big shot in the Dark World, just a 996 working man. Although everyone thinks I'm the king's heir, the truth is, today's Dark World isn't under my reign."

Gu Jianlin raised an eyebrow, "I heard that the Red King is the faith of the entire Dark World."

The Think Tank laughed, "Tsk, even the famous Qilin is just a child in the end. You have to know that faith is the most ridiculous joke; it collapses under the weight of interests."

Gu Jianlin questioned, "Really? My pet mocked Jiang Hanyi once, and these people felt their faith was defiled and relentlessly hunted me down."

Unexpectedly, the Think Tank waved his hand disdainfully, "Those fools are better off gone. You managed to kill the three of them, which has helped me clean up. But the current Dark World isn't under my control because the Six Major Families have found new backing, trying to replicate the Order World's path."

Gu Jianlin squinted; the last sentence instinctively sent a chill down his spine.

Replicate the Order World's path.

What does that mean?

Bear in mind, the entire Order World is essentially supported by the President alone.

The most powerful Heavenly Person in history.

Besides that, there's the support of the Ancient God Clan.

"Yes, just what you're thinking,"

The Think Tank said with a smiling face, "This isn't really a secret, but your elders definitely won't tell you. That's right, the current Dark World is backed by the Candle Dragon Clan. Just like how the Bai Ze Clan supports the Ether Association. This is the path they chose after the king's death."

Gu Jianlin was taken aback, "Candle Dragon Venerable?"

The Think Tank shook his head, "Who knows? But I think the Candle Dragon Venerable would disdain to ally with humans. It was a decision made by the ancestors of the Candle Dragon Clan to welcome the coming of a new world."

Gu Jianlin shuddered at the thought of how crazy this world has become.

Humans cooperating with the Ancient God Clan.

"Did you come to me just to say these things?"

He asked expressionlessly.

"No, no, of course not."

The Think Tank held up a finger, "Did you forget the game I want to play with you? You ruined my plan, so I want you to lose someone who is crucially important to you?"

For a moment, Gu Jianlin's eyes flared with fierce gold, like searing molten lava.

"Oh my, how terrifying, Heavenly Person's Breathing!"

The Think Tank showed a wary expression, "It seems your trip to Penglai Fairy Island was very fruitful for you. As an Evolver, you've mastered the power of a Heavenly Person. This is the kind of person the President has been waiting for hundreds of years. If the ancient gods of the Bai Ze Clan knew, I doubt they'd believe it."

Gu Jianlin thought, as expected, this guy knows everything.

Wait.

He suddenly realized something: "Yuuki Yocchi and Da He Wang are your people?"

The Think Tank sighed, "Mr. San, your intuition really is sharp. Yes, they are indeed my people. The Penglai Fairy Island expedition is the will of the entire Dark World, primarily to help Miss Skylark complete her ultimate transformation. The operation was led by Old Master Si, but the team was a mixed bag."

He paused, "The things on Penglai Fairy Island are of little use to humans; the danger and rewards are disproportionate. Only fools who are tricked would rush in to die. That's why few wanted to take on this mission, so the lineup wasn't luxurious. But you guys went in, which gives me a headache."

Gu Jianlin asked in a deep voice, "Your people are to protect the Moon Princess?"

This surprised him greatly.

As for the so-called Skylark, it's the owner of that broken blade.

Xu Fu had already warned him.

"Of course, I have high hopes for the Moon Princess; as the descendant of the Red King, her talent is astonishing."

The Think Tank shrugged, "Of course, I need to send someone to protect her, otherwise her mother would be at my throat."

Gu Jianlin thought, so that's how it is.

"Enough of that, I'm curious how you mastered the Heavenly Person's Breathing?"

The Think Tank asked curiously, "Are you also a sufferer of the legendary Frida's Schizophrenia?"

Gu Jianlin was stunned, "What?"

"Frida's Schizophrenia."

The Think Tank repeated, "A condition with currently only two cases out of seven billion. People with this disease experience a certain degree of soul fragmentation, suffering immensely. Without intervention, they generally die around the age of six. And this disease, coincidentally, is also a rare experimental subject, used for experimenting... the Yihua Plan."