

## **Apocalypse 1181**

Chapter 1181: Who is slave race

Gubler Race disappeared after Ye Zhongming's furious declaration, and the space calmed back down.

If Luther People's invitation tempted Ye Zhongming slightly, he was disgusted with the proud Gubler Race.

He didn't know where that pride came from, and that caused him to clash with him.

Of course, Ye Zhongming guessed some things from what the Gubler Race person said.

Rather than this being a test for evolved, it was more of a selection where the races in the universe selected warriors. In truth, this was similar to how humans chose pets. If they were interested in it, they would buy it. No one would care about what the pets and animals thought.

The only good thing in comparison was that this selection followed the rules, and those people couldn't force him into accepting.

But no matter what, it couldn't change the fact that human evolved was being forced and made use of.

Give you some benefits? Yes, but you might end up dying.

Good equipment can't change the fact that people are using you.

This was not something Ye Zhongming hoped for and could accept.

He didn't want to become cannon fodder and die for those lifeforms that enslaved Earth.

Ye Zhongming sat in the space and lowered his head. The light was blocked, making his face look dark, which was similar to what he was feeling.

Things were more severe than he thought.

When he first knew about the Slave Race, he thought they were the culprits behind the apocalypse, that they were his final target.

But as he got stronger, grasped more power, and saw more things, he knew that other lifeforms existed—from Li Qiang, he knew about those lifeforms on the ship.

Ye Zhongming didn't know if they were from the Slave Race, but according to their outer appearance, they shouldn't be the same race.

Then, was one type of lifeform called the Slave Race, or were they called the Slave Race as a whole?

Ye Zhongming learned about the Luther People and the Gubler Race. Where did these lifeforms come from? Were they all Slave Race? Were they the subordinates of the Slave Race? Were they the same level? Or was there something else?

Many questions wrapped around his heart, which made him feel uneasy.

Were there thousands of races fighting over Earth?

These lifeforms had to follow some rules now so they could not land on Earth. But what if, one day, these rules were broken? How would Earth react?

Also, what was the relationship between them and the wheel?

With these uneasy thoughts, Ye Zhongming didn't notice the space's color changing. Another voice appeared.

"I am a noble warrior from Saint Sangru, the conqueror of the Saint Mountain, Harry Defu, who will never back down. I represent our noble Saint Sangru War God Hades and invite you to join us. If you agree to join, you will get a drop of war god blood and the king's blessing!"

Ye Zhongming was jolted to his senses but quickly smiled coldly and listened.

"Saint Sangru is..."

This person said sentence after sentence. Ye Zhongming listened and didn't say a word until a certain moment.

“Who is the Slave Race? What is the wheel?”

This Harry Defu backed out. The space's color changed, and a new race came.

Ye Zhongming listened in silence before he asked the same thing.

Who was the Slave Race?

What was the wheel?

None of those races who were cold, warm, proud, threatening, or begging answered him.

Ye Zhongming felt they knew the answer; they either didn't want to or couldn't tell him.

Ye Zhongming stood up. He just listened to which race they were from before rejecting.

Seemed like he had to search for the answer he wanted.

When the space recovered and didn't change color for a long time, Ye Zhongming knew this selection was over. He was ready to head out.

But a voice rang out.

"Why don't you choose?"

Ye Zhongming was stunned. Based on the pattern, each race represented a color, but no race would appear in this space. Where did the voice come from?

"You will have to choose in the end. This is pretty much the basis of surviving on this planet. I understand that strong people are proud, but pride can't make you strong. The strong people rely on evolution level, equipment level, and battle experience."

This voice didn't introduce himself. He didn't ask Ye Zhongming to choose but analyzed the issue from another angle.

"If you don't choose, you are rejecting them all. It will make things tough in the future."

Ye Zhongming asked, "Who are you?"

That voice stopped and then said, "Gore Race."

When Ye Zhongming asked him something else, he noticed he was out of the space and before the next step.

It seemed like the choice was over.

Ye Zhongming found it a waste. After all, the other factions gave good conditions. Some rewards tempted him, but he didn't regret them.

He knew that he still had time. Those races had to follow the rules and protect the evolved on Earth. Before the rules were broken, he could do many things.

After entering the next step, he stopped being so perfect. He used the fastest way to solve it, and his progress picked up.

Ye Zhongming didn't think much, but those who observed the rankings were in an uproar.

Ye Zhongming had stayed on the 36th step for a long time. The other three were already over 40 steps.

When he was making his choice, Deacon Tong had reached the 46th step, a full ten more than Ye Zhongming. Deacon Water and Zhang Hetai were on the 45th.

The gap was huge. Some people even discussed that Ye Zhongming was trapped on the 36th step and would be eliminated quickly. Some news from those who left before was that the challenges would be dangerous, so people guessed that Ye Zhongming might have fallen inside and lost his life.

A comedic change occurred when everyone didn't have high hopes for him.

Chapter 1182: Pushing forward

"Ye Zhongming moved!"

A person pointed at the rankings and shouted in shock.

Everyone stared at Ye Zhongming and saw he went from 36 to 37.

"I thought that he was going to fall on the 36th step. Who knew that he would get out? As expected from a seven-star evolved."

Although he said that, the person's tone was mocking. Some people laughed.

“I am not rude to Boss Ye, but his strength lies in crafting and not fighting. Sky Monument Path tests an evolved’s overall ability. Allow me to be honest; this isn’t suitable for Boss Ye. Haiz, what a waste. Although the apocalypse changes everything, we have to follow the rules. People have their own strengths. But for him to reach this stage is already quite decent.”

A Five Ring Money person said it. He felt he had fairly evaluated Ye Zhongming’s performance, but it didn’t sound good to either side.

People who opposed felt that this person thought too highly of Ye Zhongming. He just used his equipment to push his way up. The overall ability that the Sky Monument Path tested didn’t care much about equipment, which is why Ye Zhongming found it challenging now.

Moreover, he had a chance to back out but didn’t and chose to continue. He thought too highly of himself. Since he knew that it would be tough, why make things hard? Just retreat. He would be able to get rewards.

But he had to compete for the near-impossible first place. Was he stupid?

Those who supported Ye Zhongming felt that although he was slow, he was still progressing. He might stop on a step, but he wasn’t eliminated, which meant the challenge was still going on.

Since that was the case, what was the point in saying all that? Why did you conclude before the outcome was out?

The happiest was Zhang Zhongzhen. Like his father, he didn’t like Ye Zhongming. This didn’t come only from Cloud Peak and the Resistance Zone’s conflict but because of Mu Xinfei’s support.

If there hadn't been Cloud Peak, Zhang Hetai, and Zhang Zhongzhen could have swallowed S Zone and become the largest faction in the Resistance Zone, even in the entire country.

If Zhang Hetai married Mu Xinfei, the two zones would merge.

Unfortunately, Cloud Peak made a move and helped Mu Xinfei, which crushed Zhang Hetai's wishes.

Ye Zhongming spoiled their chance of becoming the country's overlord.

That meant many things: unlimited resources, a huge battle squad, and high-level advanced potions.

But those disappeared because of Ye Zhongming.

How would he be nice to him because of that?

Now that Ye Zhongming was the worst, he wouldn't give up on that opportunity.

"This is a dangerous dungeon. If your boss suddenly... Disappears, will you cry?"

Zhang Zhongzhen smiled, and his actions were exaggerated to anger those from Cloud Peak. Gao Yi, Zhao Xiangxue, and the others knew it, but there was nothing they could do. Ye Zhongming was far behind.

“Keke, it is best he dies inside. I hope he does.” A voice interrupted, causing Gao Yi and Nalan Battle Squad to stare.

The Royal Guild’s chief smiled, his expression a little twisted. He looked at Ye Zhongming’s name with hatred.

His injuries were healed, so you couldn’t see anything, but he was handicapped and would never be able to fight.

He hated the person who caused it.

Gao Yi and the others knew why, so they just smiled coldly. They knew their boss’s agreement with Five Ring Money and knew that this old fellow was just being hot-headed. He didn’t dare say why he hated Ye Zhongming or Five Ring Money would kill him.

But the others didn’t know. Seeing that both sides wanted to clash, they were happy.

Zhang Zhongzhen looked at them and was deep in thought.

Deacon Bai and Deacon Ouyang looked at each other and kept silent. They didn't help the Royal Guild chief but didn't stop him.

"Look!"

Someone pointed at the rankings and drew everyone's attention over.

Everyone noticed that Ye Zhongming moved and progressed to another step.

Everyone was silent. Those people who evaluated Ye Zhongming felt like they had been slapped in the face.

"Cough cough, although Boss Ye improved, I still think this is his limit. The gap to those in front is too huge and he used too much time."

A person who didn't think highly of Ye Zhongming said awkwardly.

"Based on what you say, our boss didn't use much time on that step."

Zhao Xiangxue replied furiously. These people saw that Ye Zhongming was lacking behind but ignored the time he used to clear the step.

“Beautiful. The steps aren’t in stages, so what if he passed them quickly? Maybe he faced a challenge that needed him to use equipment. That is your boss’s strength.”

A Zhang Zhongzhen subordinate giggled and helped his Master.

“Go get ready to welcome your boss back.” Zhang Zhongzhen giggled and mocked.

“You...” Zhao Xiangxue wanted to say something, but Li Qiang tugged at her. She looked and saw that this gunner was looking at the rankings emotionally.

She saw that the number behind Ye Zhongming’s name had increased!

Boss progressed!

No one said anything else about Ye Zhongming. They looked at the rankings. They were both anticipating something but also afraid of something.

Oh---

The number increased again, which meant that Ye Zhongming had progressed!

Too quick. He passed three steps in such a short time.

Everyone felt that something would happen.

As expected. He moved again and entered the next step.

Gao Yi and the others were excited. Many Nalan Battle Squad people cheered. They had been dissed previously.

People, including Zhang Zhongzhen, looked worse and worse. Each increase felt like a slap to their face.

But Ye Zhongming didn't pity them and quickly pushed on!

Ye Zhongming quickly reached the 40th step.

Resistance Zone and Five Ring Money heaved a sigh of relief as this was tough. The other three spent a huge amount of time on it.

That should stop Ye Zhongming.

But they were disappointed. He spent slightly more time and passed it.

“This... Impossible!”

Zhang Zhongzhen shouted and clenched his fist.

But Ye Zhongming definitely wouldn't listen to him. Those people watched as he got close to the other three!

Chapter 1183: Fifty

Some things were like that. When you thought that it was impossible, it would change your mind in extraordinary ways.

No one had high hopes for Ye Zhongming. Nalan Battle Squad even tried to console themselves by saying no one was perfect.

But everyone was shocked when the guy they had no hopes for used such a decisive way to push up the rankings.

The difficulty of the steps didn't exist for Ye Zhongming. He used a similar speed to advance. Standing on the 48th step, he was already ahead of everyone else.

Everyone was stunned and took a long time to come to their senses.

Those who dissed Ye Zhongming wished they could hide behind everyone. Although Gao Yi and Zhao Xiangxue didn't attack them, their faces were filled with disdain, which made them feel bad.

Zhang Zhongzhen felt his face was hot, but he had some hope. He prayed that Ye Zhongming would face huge dangers and die.

Zhang Zhongzhen thought his hopes would come true. When Ye Zhongming was on the 49th step, he used a slightly longer time, which let the other three catch up a little.

No matter the length of time he took, he could still get to the 50th step.

No one was paying attention to the other three. They stared at Ye Zhongming and were guessing whether the 50th step, which should be the most difficult stage so far, would be able to stop Ye Zhongming. Or would that person cross it?

Time passed bit by bit. Apart from the three others who progressed, everyone else continued staring. It was as if they were waiting for judgment to be passed.

When the other three passed the 48th step and were a step away from Ye Zhongming, everyone was in an uproar again.

They saw that Ye Zhongming had stopped, and the others were catching up. The gap was not at a level that would fill one with despair.

But the entire Sky Monument Path shook when everyone felt that the three would stand on the same step as Ye Zhongming. The four people all appeared in a wide area, and the Sky Monument Path disappeared.

Only Ye Zhongming was calm. Deacon Tong was shocked before he kept silent. But when he looked at Ye Zhongming, he was slightly confused. Deacon Water and Zhang Hetai were in a bad state. They were probably in a fight and couldn't hold back, which resulted in them wasting some energy.

Fortunately, they were standing far away from the crowd, and the energy didn't fire in that direction, causing any accidents.

These two people didn't know what had happened. They looked around and noticed the rankings on the stone pillars. Their faces were complicated.

Ye Zhongming was first, 50 steps. Deacon Tong second, 49 steps. Deacon Water and Zhang Hetai were third on 48 steps.

Which meant that Deacon Tong had completed the 49th step challenge in that instance.

Ye Zhongming stood for a while and didn't see the space change colors. He looked at the rankings and was deep in thought.

At that point, four balls of light appeared at the Sky Monument Path entrance they chose, which gave off a weak white light.

These should be the rewards.

The four of them went to take it, but they didn't open it. They returned to their teams.

The Sky Monument space was about to close, so everyone exited. Deacon Tong tested it, and his control of Bright Water World remained. Moreover, it had significantly increased. Some things entered his mind for the first time.

Bright Water World's adventure had ended, and he had obtained control of it as he wished.

Of course, it wasn't complete control. He was even a long way from being the real master of this space, but he was now the only heir. One day, he would gain complete control.

The various factions left. After Zhang Hetai and his son led the Resistance Zone away, Ye Zhongming and his group were the last to leave.

"Who did you choose?"

Ye Zhongming looked at Deacon Tong and Deacon Water and asked.

The two deacons weren't shocked. It was as if they had expected that question.

“Gore Race.”

Deacon Tong said a name that made his heart jump.

It was that race that didn't cause any color changes. Since they had that ability, they should be the creators of the Bright Water World, or the main creator.

“What about you?”

Deacon Tong looked at Ye Zhongming and asked.

Ye Zhongming shook his head, “I didn't choose.”

That surprised the two deacons.

To them, they had to make a choice. Any race would be able to wipe Earth out. Since that was the case, why didn't he choose?

But they didn't ask. Both sides only exchanged information because they were working together; if not, this was a big secret.

“See you next time.” Ye Zhongming led his people away.

Deacon Water and Deacon Tong looked at his back view and couldn't describe their feelings. They witnessed the gap between Ye Zhongming and themselves again. Although the number gap on the Sky Monument Path was small, the two deacons knew what that number represented.

It might be life.

They couldn't see through that person anymore.

Ye Zhongming led his people and bumped into the Cloud Peak merchant squad. Gao Yi and Zhao Xiangxue met the Chameleon members and disappeared. Only Li Qiang remained.

Gan Lan and Mei Na revealed that they wanted to join Cloud Peak, and he agreed. They would head back and clean up before gathering in Cloud Peak.

After heading out of Bright Water World, the information wasn't sealed. Ye Zhongming learned that although Secret Realm had some fights, the level nine expert didn't appear. That made him heave a sigh of relief. He rushed back quickly and appeared in the Imperial City.

After meeting the few surprised kings, he gathered the core Cloud Peak members.

“Boss, I miss you. Is there something good?” Only Little Tiger could speak to Ye Zhongming like that. He giggled and walked beside Ye Zhongming.

Mo Ye kicked him aside and stared. That fellow became more well-behaved and stood beside Candy with a wronged expression.

Everyone laughed and focused on Ye Zhongming.

“Little Tiger is correct. The main part of his meeting is to distribute good stuff.”

Chapter 1184: Seven Star

Ye Zhongming rarely gathered people to give out rewards. He usually gave them to people who needed them.

But if he had organised such a big meeting, the things he had taken out would have been the best.

Everyone’s eyes lit up, even Xia Lei.

Ye Zhongming smiled. He understood them well.

In the apocalypse, the level of evolution was important, but they also needed equipment to support them.

Those in Bright Water World might attack and diss Ye Zhongming, but what were their true thoughts? Each person was probably jealous. If they had a chance, they would fight to the death for equipment.

Since the country's equipment rankings appeared, Cloud Peak and Ye Zhongming's equipment strength had spread through the continent.

The fame of being able to craft purple equipment made Ye Zhongming popular among any evolved.

Although Cloud Peak benefited from Ye Zhongming's Smith job, no one would mind having too much equipment. Especially when they were switching to new equipment, everyone was anticipating.

Ye Zhongming placed two badges on the table.

Everyone was familiar with this; it was the battle contribution badge.

Since he obtained this in the competition death wheel, it had been really helpful to Cloud Peak and Ye Zhongming. Ya Ni and Ya Tian's equipment were things that were ranked. Some special equipment for Chameleon members also came from this battle contribution system.

The core members knew about this. After all, the reduction in points and the changes in the system were visible to anyone with a badge.

Those hot weapons were all handy in the large-scale wars.

Now that they saw the two badges, those who hadn't gotten one were tempted.

The badge was upgraded, and more secondary badges appeared. But Ye Zhongming didn't feel like it was an all-around upgrade. It was just releasing the equipment's potential. It was already a gold piece of equipment; if it had been upgraded, it should have turned purple.

He consumed some battle contribution points to get two more badges.

Although it wasn't an all-around upgrade, it was an accumulation as the number of such upgrades increased and reached the marks for an all-around upgrade, that could let the contribution badge turn purple. &

This process would need much more than upgrading it at once.

Most of Cloud Peak's core members had badges. One was given to Li Qiang, and the other to Gan Lan and Mei Na.

Including Ye Zhongming's badge, the overall number of badges reached 25.

The people who got badges were all captains of battle squads. These people were able to best use the badges. Le Dayuan, Liu Zhengong, etc., did have the status to get one, but they didn't need it, as it was a waste.

“This six-star potion is also yours. The other two are for Gan Lan and Mei Na.”

Ye Zhongming passed three six-star potions to Li Qiang.

Li Qiang, Gan Lan, and Mei Na performed well in Bright Water World. They showed their potential to enter Cloud Peak so Ye Zhongming wouldn't treat them poorly.

He also made his mind up to draw talented evolved with shooting jobs or skills to form a ranged squad. Li Qiang would be in charge of that.

Gan Lan and Mei Na would be captains with the members they brought as the base to build a new team.

Li Qiang took the six-star potions, and the hand he held a gun in was shaking. Since meeting Ye Zhongming, he felt like he was dreaming. He got from four to five stars and broke free of Five Ring Money. Now, he was about to become a six-star evolved. Everything felt unreal.

But the potion was in his hands. As a newcomer, he was filled with a sense of belonging toward Ye Zhongming and Cloud Peak.

The others immediately knew that Li Qiang, Gan Lan, and Mei Na would become new core members, so they congratulated him.

Cloud Peak has always done well in terms of unity.

Li Qiang didn't dare to be impolite. As a newcomer, he bowed and thanked whoever thanked him.

He was a five-star evolved here and was in a room with experienced six-star evolved. These people probably wouldn't even speak to him if he didn't have his current identity.

After all the words, Ye Zhongming placed three more potions on the table. The core members weren't as calm as before, as these three potions were all seven-star!

Although Cloud Peak's core members were strong, they were even stronger than any other faction; most hadn't reached seven stars.

Cloud Peak didn't have more than six seven-star evolved. How many core members were there? Close to 30!

Those who weren't seven-star wanted to get the potion. But Cloud Peak was good in the sense that everything had rules. You looked at two things to get items: one was contribution, and the other was whether it was suitable.

Of course, Ye Zhongming was selfish. Those who followed him from the start and proved their loyalty would be considered by him.

Some people who knew they didn't have rights, like Ah Yang, Candy, and Tang Tian, quickly expressed that they weren't participating.

Under such a situation, the potions were easily distributed. Cloud Peak now had nine seven-star evolved: Ye Zhongming, Xia Bai, Xia Lei, Park Xiuying, Liang Chuyin, Mo Ye, Little Tiger, Shengyuan, and Guang Yao.

If that number were announced, it would stun everyone.

With many factions only having one or two seven-star evolved, Cloud Peak was nearing two digits. If others found out, they would definitely think that Cloud Peak was cheating.

In truth, Ye Zhongming, who had the Elimination Technique, was pretty much a cheater. He only had a hundred level seven crystals and was very lucky to get three potions.

"Boss, what about you?"

Little Tiger was an extroverted person, but he wasn't foolish. This fellow was very thoughtful of others compared to most people in the apocalypse.

Little Tiger knew that if Ye Zhongming went to trade those potions for things, he could get stronger and become the strongest in China. But he distributed it to them.

The others looked on in concern.

Ye Zhongming smiled, "Me? Of course, I have good things, like this..."

He flipped his palm, and another potion appeared. When everyone saw it, their mouths were agape.

Chapter 1185: Eight star

"Oh my god!"

"Damn."

"What is this?"

"Boss, you are my idol."

"Boss, let me kneel down for you!"

"Boss, do you need something around your leg?"

"Zhongming, you surprise us."

“Dear, let me take a photo, no, a selfie. I want to keep it as a memento.”

“Zhongming, when can you get one for me?”

“Boss, I will be by your side forever!”

Everyone surrounded Ye Zhongming, but their eyes were on that potion.

Only some people were looking at Ye Zhongming, like Guang Yao.

Was he not attracted by the potion? Of course not. He was not so noble to treat such gold as dirt.

But when he looked at the potion that would definitely cause a storm outside, Guang Yao didn't have an urge to take it. He didn't even envy him.

He looked at Ye Zhongming's face, remembered how he had joined Cloud Peak, and became very emotional.

If nothing changed, he would still be an officer in the Resistance Zone. He would still feel proud of being part of the top faction in the country.

But when his loved one's corpse became cold in his arms, he broke free from that system.

Sometimes, at night, Guang Yao felt lost about the future. He didn't know how he would develop in Cloud Peak.

Although everything was prosperous here and looked like they would get better and improve, he was still nervous. After all, any faction would seem like this at this stage.

The Resistance Zone that he now hated was the same.

He thought about it and had an answer. But when he saw Ye Zhongming's potion, the answer became clear.

Guang Yao couldn't deny that Cloud Peak's core members were elite. These people had more morals and strength than other factions, but they weren't enough to support Cloud Peak.

Only that guy could help this faction reach the top.

Guang Yao had never seen someone manage so many subordinates while still becoming a top expert.

Like the Nalan Battle Squad, those two women cared for their subordinates, but their evolution level fell behind. If not for Ye Zhongming, their outcome would be sad. ❖

But Ye Zhongming grasped the balance between his organisation and himself well and was able to help both improve.

Although Guang Yao wasn't the leader of the entire Resistance Zone, he controlled a battle squad. He helped Wen Zhong manage an entire zone and knew how hard it was.

Ye Zhongming did things that many couldn't.

Guang Yao truly realised that Ye Zhongming was Cloud Peak's spiritual totem and was their spiritual leader.

Only such a person could lead this group of experts down the apocalypse.

Ye Zhongming sensed something and looked over. They smiled.

The potion that everyone surrounded was actually an eight-star potion!

Why did Ye Zhongming choose dungeons? Why did he clash with No Man's Zone to get Sauron's Box?

It was for the eight-star potion.

When Ye Zhongming found out about it from the mysterious person, he decided to complete his eight-star evolution.

He collected enough intermediate and advanced potions and used the box's first ability. After using some crystals to provide energy, he merged into this potion that could make him the strongest person on Earth.

He handed Li Qiang three six-star potions and the others some seven-star potions. These were all that remained after he merged for the eight-star potion.

Sauron's Box was overpowered.

Although he consumed many advanced potions, it was worth it.

At this stage, it was tough to kill level eight lifeforms. Since he was not able to get level-eight crystals in a short time, Sauron's Box was a shortcut.

Ye Zhongming was influenced by his subordinates' excitement, but he kept calm. He warned everyone not to let down their guard and wait for him to wake up.

He told them about the universe races in Bright Water World and made his stand clear.

After everyone heard it, their excitement dropped. But they felt proud when they learned their boss rejected those strong races.

They heard a few words from his calm voice.

Never be a slave!

Although you would get many benefits by becoming the warriors of those races, it wouldn't change the fact that you became a dog for others!

Cloud Peak reached its current stage step by step and was trapped many times. They were surrounded and attacked by many factions and even had to face a level nine expert in the Secret Realm.

These were difficult. Sometimes, if outsiders judged them, they would say they were reckless.

But Cloud Peak was proud because it faced this world head-on. They were stubbornly moving forward.

Cloud Peak had their pride that even though it was tough, they wouldn't betray their soul!

Ye Zhongming used his special way to lead everyone with pride.

So what if they faced gods and demons? They would fight them!

“I am terrified that all of you are supporting me without question.” Ye Zhongming shrugged, causing everyone to laugh.

“I have many things to thank all of you.”

Ye Zhongming jumped on the table. He held his space equipment and poured it on the table.

The others watched as shining equipment fell. When Ye Zhongming stopped, the items had formed a small mountain. They shone, which dazzled everyone’s eyes.

Little Tiger opened his mouth and gulped. His neck was stiff as he glanced toward Ye Zhongming, “Boss, did you get Doraemon from the wheel?”