

New Era 511

Chapter 511: Call Me Daddy

The cold wind howled outside,

while inside the bedroom, steam was rising.

Chen Shouyi stripped the Shell Lady's clothes off, picked up the squirming little Shell Lady, and tossed her into the basin of hot water.

"Splash!"

The Shell Lady let out a shriek, emerged from the water, and then contentedly swam back and forth in a dog paddle style in the hot water.

Sigh, what will it take to grow up!

Chen Shouyi sat down on the edge of the bed and sighed.

After waiting for over ten minutes, he took out a large towel, lifted her from the water and wrapped her up, rubbing her with his palms before putting her on the bed and taking out a set of small clothes:
"Dress yourself!"

The Shell Lady rolled around inside a few times before squeezing her body out from the towel, her small, curvaceous body shining with an ivory-like luster: "Oh giant, little one smells even better now, would you like a kiss?"

A kiss my ass?

Chen Shouyi glanced at the shameless Shell Lady: "Get dressed quickly!"

"Oh giant, do you want the little one to dress before kissing?" the Shell Lady asked, puzzled.

"Next time!" Chen Shouyi said helplessly.

As he spoke, his expression froze, feeling that something was odd about the Shell Lady's words.

...

Chen Shouyi finished practicing the thirty-six horizontal training moves and took a cold bath.

He returned to his room, extinguished the kerosene lamp, and lay on his back in bed.

Gunfire could faintly be heard outside, occasionally mixed with the sound of artillery, indicating that the frontline was far from calm.

Chen Shouyi thought about his earlier narrow escape from death, unable to sleep. The formidable power of this Barbarian God left him shocked, even fearful...

"I need to see just how strong it really is!" he murmured to himself.

He closed his eyes and entered the Book of Knowledge Space.

Soon, he found himself in the Memory Virtual World.

...

As Chen Shouyi was fleeing for his life, he suddenly stopped, tossed the Shell Lady in his hand, and looked up at the massive black vertical eye rapidly taking shape overhead.

The light of the world dimmed, permeated with a stiflingly terrifying atmosphere.

It felt like the end of the world, the apocalypse was upon them.

The vertical eye looked utterly terrifying, like a gigantic black moon, its surroundings filled with countless trenches and ravines, with innumerable lightning bolts flashing around it. Even in this Memory Virtual World, as Chen Shouyi stared at it, he couldn't help but feel the urge to urinate.

He cursed his own cowardice in his heart, glanced around, and his eyes lit up.

Not far away, at the entrance of a factory, lay a huge commemorative stone.

He walked up to it, reached out, and lifted this six-by-eight-meter, two-meter-high giant stone horizontally.

At this moment, the giant eye finally formed, and it began to slowly open. Within its pale white eyeball, a blood-red, terrifying pupil appeared. At the critical moment, Chen Shouyi quickly used the giant stone as a shield.

In the next instant, an invisible force penetrated the boulder and instantly struck Chen Shouyi.

"Boom!"

The boulder crashed to the ground, shattering into pieces.

Chen Shouyi staggered, kneeling on one knee on the ground. Perhaps due to the boulder's resistance, the attack felt weaker this time. He gritted his teeth, struggled to stand up, blood oozing from his mouth, and shouted.

"Barbarian God, is that all you've got? Call me daddy!"

The atmosphere unexpectedly fell silent.

A few seconds later, the air currents stopped flowing, and the nearly crumbling vertical eye appeared to receive strong support. Endless fear and resentment in this world began to converge here, and an even larger, more terrifying eye began to form.

"Ignorant and arrogant ant, no one dares to desecrate a god..." a vast, angry voice boomed once again, clearly infuriated.

Chen Shouyi looked at the sky, feeling his scalp tingle.

"Why not just quit?"

Although dying here wouldn't mean actual death, the key issue was that this manner of dying was too painful and terrifying.

But having just passed this hurdle and gotten one step closer to facing the final boss, giving up now was truly unsatisfying.

Chen Shouyi looked at the ground beneath his feet. The Barbarian God on Earth was greatly limited in power. Perhaps in another world, such an attack might be too fast to react to, but on Earth, he had enough time to respond.

Subsequently, he squatted and desperately dug into the ground.

With a transformed strength of about eighty tons in his arms, equivalent to a super excavator, the ground—regardless of whether it was made of steel, concrete, or rock—wasn't much different from soft soil in his hands.

The ground rumbled loudly.

In just a second, he was already buried in the ground.

Two seconds later, he had dug ten meters deep underground.

He continued to go even deeper...

The sky was flashing with lightning, alternating between light and dark.

A powerful, violent will was roaming between the heavens and the earth, filled with anger.

Chen Shouyi huddled fifteen meters underground, taking out massive chunks of Demigod Flesh and wolfing them down to heal his injuries. He took bites weighing tens of pounds each, and in the blink of an eye, half a ton of Demigod Flesh was swallowed into his stomach.

Completely unconcerned.

As for whether his stomach would burst once he returned to normal size,

or erupt uncontrollably from either end?

In the Memory Virtual World, these weren't issues. By then, he would have long since patted his backside and exited.

At that moment, the long-brewing attack finally erupted.

"Boom!"

Chen Shouyi's body shook, snapping back to reality, and he spat out another mouthful of blood.

"It feels about the same as last time. Indeed, the earth is the best shield. Had I been calm and bold yesterday, I wouldn't have been so disheveled," he thought to himself.

Chen Shouyi stayed for over ten seconds, sensing that the outside seemed to have calmed down, before climbing out of the pit.

He looked up at the sky—the vertical eye was already beginning to dissipate, even the oppressive atmosphere was gone, evidently at its wits' end!

"Call me daddy!" Chen Shouyi pounded his chest forcefully and roared loudly:

"Little cutie, I'm coming over to kick your butt!"

For a brief moment, the pent-up frustration in his heart dissipated by more than half.

Just then, the ground beneath Chen Shouyi's feet suddenly cracked open. A terrifying tentacle, two meters thick and interspersed with golden patterns against its black surface, instantly wrapped around Chen Shouyi's body with lightning speed.

His mind barely had time to react before an overwhelming pressure seized him, paralyzing his body as the tentacle coiled tightly around him.

"When did this happen?"

Chen Shouyi struggled desperately, but soon the terrifying tentacle had wrapped around him several times, binding him completely, leaving only his head exposed, unable to move at all.

Meanwhile, the ground rapidly heaved...

With an immense force, countless boulders and soil floated into the sky,

A massive and hideous Giant Beast floated from underground.

...

It was a Giant Beast as if it had emerged straight from Hell.

Its octopus-like black tentacles were covered with golden-patterned scales the size of bowls, its snake-like head and body draped in fur like green ghostly fire.

The entire body was twenty to thirty meters long, and Chen Shouyi, standing five meters tall, was insignificant in comparison.

It was shrouded in an aura of malevolence, while the air was restless and uneasy, faintly echoing with screams and wails of countless people.

It looked extremely terrifying, making one's skin crawl.

Ordinary people would be scared to death upon sight, and even a distant glance could haunt them with nightmares. Without his strong willpower, Chen Shouyi might have been utterly crushed by fear, losing his ability to resist.

A gigantic scarlet vertical eye glared venomously at Chen Shouyi.

No one dares to insult and desecrate a God of Fear of moderate divine power!

And no one can make it call them daddy!

Not even a God with powerful Divine Power!

It barely contained the surging anger in its heart and roared loudly: "Ant, say that again if you dare?"

The roar thundered like an explosion, accompanied by loads of thick yellow saliva, splattering all over Chen Shouyi's face, making his entire body emit smoke as it began to slowly melt.

One could easily guess that the saliva was highly toxic.

"Uh..." Chen Shouyi endured the searing pain as if his whole body was aflame, feeling a bit embarrassed, just having acted cocky and immediately being caught. He struggled briefly, then simply gave up on such a futile action:

"Um... sorry, I'll be leaving for now, let's discuss this next time."

As soon as he finished speaking,

he shifted his thoughts, quickly exiting the Memory Virtual World.

Chapter 512: Power Projection

In the darkness, Chen Shouyi suddenly opened his eyes:

"That scared me to death."

His chest rose and fell violently, and he could still vaguely feel a stinging pain all over his body.

"Huh, something's wrong! This isn't an illusion; it really hurts!" He quickly realized.

He felt around his body and hurriedly got up to check.

His skin was fiery red and vaguely showed signs of some slight ulceration.

"This..."

Chen Shouyi's eyes widened, full of disbelief: "This is impossible!"

This is in the memory world.

The injuries sustained there could actually project onto the real body.

He got up from the bed, lit an oil lamp, and the light quickly flared up. In no time, he noticed that his body was covered with various blood blisters, and his skin had become somewhat ulcerated. A slight pinch with his fingers caused pus to ooze out.

The air was filled with a foul stench.

He realized that the protective legendary energy had absolutely no resistance to this toxin. It completely collapsed at the first encounter, retreating step by step.

Chen Shouyi felt a chill down his spine, his brows slightly furrowed.

"The memory world used to be just the memory world, like playing in an exceedingly realistic virtual world, no different from the real world, yet it was false. No matter the injuries I suffered inside, even death, they would not affect me at all... but now it seems this is obviously not the case."

"Or rather, the level of damage used to be too low!" Chen Shouyi couldn't help but feel a bit agitated: "Damn, fortunately, I didn't mess around too much, and withdrew in time; otherwise, the consequences would be unimaginable."

Luckily, this kind of injury is still within the scope of Natural Healing!

He felt the ulceration slowing down, and soon it began to stop, then slowly diminish.

A few minutes later, the skin completely healed.

He wiped his hand.

Countless scabs fell down, covering the floor in a layer.

With a thought, countless dead skin fragments floated up from the floor, flying into the trash can, and he thought silently: "Faced with such beings in the future, I mustn't mess around again."

...

The night was deep, and for some reason, no sooner had Chen Shouyi lain down again than the sound of gunfire and cannons in the distance became dense, like a pot of boiling thick porridge.

The village was also gradually becoming noisy.

"Seems like something's happening?" Chen Shouyi opened his eyes and quickly got dressed.

Before long, an officer came to the door.

"What, shadow creatures are attacking the front line on a large scale!"

...

Inside a car.

Zhu Xueqing, looking sleepy, covered her mouth, yawned, and asked, "Do you think it might be due to our actions yesterday?"

"It's very possible? After all, yesterday President Chen killed one of the demigods on their side. They might be infuriated, or perhaps they sensed danger and are trying to strike first." Said Wang Lie seriously at the side.

Chen Shouyi didn't speak, but he suspected in his heart that it was because he entered the Memory Virtual World.

The timing was just too coincidental. Hardly had he left the Memory Virtual World when the shadow creatures began a massive attack.

He remembered two years ago, when he went to Hedong to participate in a martial artist assessment, he encountered that mysterious presence on the train.

Back then, he attempted to spy on it within the memory space, but it sensed it keenly, erasing all traces of its existence in his memory with its power projection.

Now he couldn't remember that mysterious presence's specific appearance, nor if it was male or female, or even if it truly existed.

If not for the deep impression the event left on him back then, he might have forgotten about it entirely.

Of course, this Barbarian God was obviously much weaker than that mysterious existence. His memory of its image remained clear and without any ambiguity, though it might slightly sense his spying.

...

The car raced rapidly, reaching the front line in half an hour.

"Bang bang bang!"

Accompanied by the sound of doors closing, Chen Shouyi and others got out of the car.

Chen Shouyi felt the faint field of fear permeating the air, and his heart sank slightly: "It's spread here already; is it because of the soldiers' fear?"

The air was thick with the smell of gunpowder. The fire trails of tracers whipped through the air like long whips, and numerous flares hung high in the sky, emitting dazzling light, making the battlefield momentarily look like daytime.

However, the effect was not good.

...

"Rat-a-tat-tat..."

A young-faced soldier operated a machine gun, firing wildly at all visible shadows in the distance, clearly having lost control of his emotions.

He completely failed to notice a shadow creature creeping silently towards him, on all fours, sticking to the shadows of a small tree. Suddenly, it leaped gracefully and swung its claw.

The young soldier felt a chill in his throat and hurriedly clutched it with his hands, but blood still gushed out from between his fingers. He turned his head with difficulty, looking at a mass of shadow rushing into the crowd and starting a massacre. He opened his mouth, but no sound came out.

His strength drained away as if a dam had burst. His body went limp, and he fell to the ground with a thud, looking blankly at the night sky, his eyes filled with longing for this world.

...

The war was at a stalemate.

In fact, the number of shadow creatures was not large, less than a ten-to-one ratio compared to the soldiers, but each time a shadow creature broke into the lines, it caused small-scale chaos and collapse.

In the night, these terrifying creatures looked almost indistinguishable from shadows, like natural-born assassins, making them hard to guard against. To the soldiers, they were undoubtedly more terrifying than barbarians, like a nightmare.

Even if Chen Shouyi wasn't paying attention, he might overlook them.

The role of him and those Martial Artists was to act as firefighters, quickly killing any shadow creature that broke into the lines and caused chaos.

Until dawn, the shadow creatures retreated like a tide.

...

Many wounded lay on stretchers, carried by soldiers, passing by.

Chen Shouyi stepped over a corpse and looked up at the sky; today's weather was gloomy again.

"Chen Shouyi?" A soldier with a face full of soot looked at Chen Shouyi in surprise, asking somewhat uncertainly.

Chen Shouyi heard someone calling him, turned around, and recognized the other person's face, vaguely familiar.

"You are... Zhu Shaoqiang?"

"It's really you!" Zhu Shaoqiang came over, slapping him hard on the shoulder with a look of delight: "You've changed so much, I almost didn't recognize you. It's been years since we've seen each other, two years, right?"

Zhu Shaoqiang was his classmate back in high school, before classes were divided in senior year, and also the sports committee member of the class.

Back then, he was the most promising one in class to become a Martial Artist Apprentice, but he joined the army before even graduating high school.

Although Chen Shouyi didn't interact much with him before, and they were just casual acquaintances, at this moment, both felt an indescribable sense of closeness.

"Yes, nearly two years. I heard you joined the army, but I didn't expect you to be stationed here!" Chen Shouyi said with a smile.

"Oh, my grandpa and my dad were both veterans of this unit, so I came here due to some connections." Zhu Shaoqiang said, not boasting about his lieutenant rank or martial artist prowess.

When he patted his shoulder just now, he felt like he was patting a rock, as if the other's body hadn't moved at all.

Besides, wearing casual clothes on the battlefield, even using his toes to think, he knew this previously inconspicuous classmate now had an extraordinary status.

Chapter 513: Classmates

The two of them walked while reminiscing about old times.

"You've really changed a lot, how did you become so handsome?" Zhu Shaoqiang remarked.

Chen Shouyi smiled modestly, "It's alright, you've gotten much darker!"

"Well, there's no helping it, being in the army is like that, exposed to the elements every day, even if you weren't dark, you'd become dark." Zhu Shaoqiang said, "I was quite handsome before too, do you remember Chen Fang?"

"Chen Fang? I know her, she was really good at dancing." Chen Shouyi replied.

"She used to write love letters to me, but her chest was too small, so I rejected her. Now I totally regret it, had I known, I would've taken a chance back then!" Zhu Shaoqiang lamented repeatedly.

Chen Shouyi: ...

He was much more handsome than him yet still a virgin.

"I haven't returned to Dongning for almost two years, Chen Shouyi, do you know about the situation with other classmates?" Zhu Shaoqiang continued to ask.

The other classmates might have already died.

He obviously didn't know that Dongning was gone.

Chen Shouyi was silent for a while, shook his head, and said, "I'm not sure. I dropped out in the first semester of the third year and went to Hedong."

Zhu Shaoqiang didn't ask what he was doing in Hedong.

Chen Shouyi didn't say either.

At this moment, a lieutenant ran up quickly: "General Manager Chen, the car is ready."

Chen Shouyi nodded, then turned to the shocked face of Zhu Shaoqiang and said, "I'm leaving first!"

Then he thought for a moment, looked at the lieutenant, and asked: "Do you have paper and a pen?"

"Yes, yes, yes!" The lieutenant hurriedly took out a notebook and pen from his chest pocket.

Chen Shouyi tore off a page, wrote a phone number and address on it, handed it to Zhu Shaoqiang, patting his shoulder: "Remember to find me to hang out when you're in Hedong!"

Zhu Shaoqiang instinctively accepted it, then dazedly watched the two of them walk toward a military vehicle, where the lieutenant respectfully opened the door for him, and soon the vehicle drove away.

"Do you know General Manager Chen?" A voice came from behind.

Zhu Shaoqiang turned around, quickly stood at attention and saluted, saying nervously: "Hello, Captain, he's my high school classmate."

"Relax a bit!" The captain said with a smile, his face and neck scarred, making his smile somewhat intimidating: "You know me?"

"You're Gao Feng, captain of the special operations unit, I've seen your impressive demeanor from afar." Zhu Shaoqiang said respectfully, as he was a Martial Master level powerhouse, the captain of the special operations unit in his unit.

"Impressive demeanor, haha!" Gao Feng was amused.

Soldiers and the wounded were coming and going on the road, and he restrained his smile and said: "Let's talk at the side."

They walked to the roadside.

Gao Feng took out a pack of cigarettes, threw one over to him, and Zhu Shaoqiang quickly accepted it, feeling flattered.

He wasn't dumb, he knew the reason he was being treated differently.

But this was really beyond his understanding. He took out his lighter, his hand trembling slightly, offered a light to Gao Feng, and finally couldn't resist the question in his heart: "Captain, Chen Shouyi...no...General Manager Chen, what is his identity?"

"You don't know?" Gao Feng asked in surprise.

"I didn't dare to ask!" Zhu Shaoqiang scratched his head, showing a bit of embarrassment.

Being in the war zone, news was closed off, he had no idea his classmate had long been famous.

"He's a real big shot! Compared to him, I'm just this!" Gao Feng laughed and made a small gesture with his fingers.

"Captain, you're a Martial Master!" Zhu Shaoqiang said in shock, his military rank already a Major General.

"Compared to him, I'm nothing, and I'm just a quasi-Martial Master, not even daring to approach him." Gao Feng puffed out a mouthful of smoke, cursed, "The teeth of a Martial Master will mutate, I'm still a bit short.

Do you know what level General Manager Chen is in terms of power?"

Of course Zhu Shaoqiang didn't know, he held back the turbulent waves in his heart, guessing as high as possible, probing: "Senior Martial Artist!"

"Even higher, never mind, you probably couldn't guess, he's a legendary power, reportedly killed a Demigod yesterday." Gao Feng said with a look of awe.

When Zhu Shaoqiang heard this, he was dumbfounded.

Chen Shouyi, classmate, legendary power, Godslayer, any one of these is normal.

But connected together, it was really hard for him to believe.

Looking at Zhu Shaoqiang's astonished expression, Gao Feng said: "That's the difference between a genius and an ordinary person, don't compare, just be glad you have such a classmate."

He paused and continued: "By the way, you've reached the Martial Artist level, right?"

Zhu Shaoqiang came to his senses, excitedly said: "Recently passed the assessment!"

Gao Feng took a deep drag, burning half the cigarette at once, flicked the cigarette butt away and patted his shoulder, standing up: "Go write a special operations unit application report."

...

Until the other left.

Zhu Shaoqiang realized something.

The benefits of the special operations unit are the best in the military, and reportedly provide a resource for practice every month, he'd wanted to apply for a long time.

Unfortunately, although once you become a Martial Artist you can hope to join, with the increasing number of Martial Artists in the past two years, applications are increasingly difficult, people like him, newly promoted Martial Artists, ordinary in terms of strength, without special military merits.

He had no hope either.

But now with the captain of the special operations unit hinting, it was clearly not a problem.

...

Although the scouting mission was completed, with the battlefield situation quickly changing, they couldn't leave for a while, Chen Shouyi and several others could only temporarily stay.

Command office.

Chen Shouyi and Zhu Xueqing stood at the door, silently listening to Wang Lie's voice in the room.

"Hello! Is everything alright at home?"

"Things are good here, I'm eating well and sleeping well, nothing to worry about. I'll be back in a few days!"

"Ting Ting wants to talk to me? Sure!"

...

"The signature was done for you long ago, I'll give it to you when I get back, practice martial arts well, be aware the world is in such chaos now, even big Martial Artists are nothing, you are only a Martial Artist..."

"Okay, okay, I won't say more, don't forget breakfast... I'm hanging up."

Wang Lie walked out, looking annoyed.

Chen Shouyi looked at Zhu Xueqing.

Zhu Xueqing quickly said: "You call first! I'll be last."

"Then you two step away!" Chen Shouyi snapped.

"General Manager Chen, are you calling your girlfriend? Don't worry, we won't eavesdrop!" Zhu Xueqing laughed, saying, and stepped back a few steps.

Girlfriend?

He didn't have time for a girlfriend!

Chen Shouyi entered the room speechless, picked up the phone, dialed home, waited for nearly a minute, finally the call was answered.

"Hello, who are you looking for, my brother went on a mission, he's not home!" Wei Chen Xingyue's voice over the phone.

"It's me!" Chen Shouyi said.

"Brother, rare call, what's up?" From the phone, Chen Xingyue said.

"Where's Mom and Dad?"

"You're a step late, they just left, do you want me to call them?"

"No need, I'm hanging up!"

After Chen Shouyi said that, he hung up.

Since home's okay, there's nothing much to say.

Chapter 514: Warning

War is imminent.

The small village where the command post is located is tense and bustling.

Everywhere, officers are jogging around.

At first light, a few reconnaissance planes flew in from a distance, making a rumbling noise. By noon, several units had been urgently mobilized here. Chen Shouyi didn't catch up on sleep; instead, he went to the front lines to take a look.

Everything was calm there.

The shadow creatures that were everywhere at dawn disappeared without a trace during the day.

Upon returning to the small village, Chen Shouyi stayed in his room. Although he hadn't slept all night, he didn't feel a bit sleepy and continued his boring training. Ever since he acquired the Book of Knowledge, he had become increasingly addicted to training over the past two years.

The feeling of constantly growing stronger was like an addiction to some drug, making it impossible for him to extricate himself.

One hour, two hours, three hours...

"Knock, knock, knock!" A knocking sound came from the door.

Chen Shouyi finished a set, went to open the door.

Standing at the door was Zhu Xueqing. Her eyes darted around as she looked at the bare-chested Chen Shouyi with intertwined, taut muscles. Her earlobes, neck, and face began visibly turning red, and her expression seemed somewhat flustered.

"What's up?" Chen Shouyi also felt a bit embarrassed and thought to himself that he should have put on a shirt.

"I still don't understand some of the training methods and wanted to ask for your guidance. May I come in?" Zhu Xueqing whispered softly.

Chen Shouyi was stunned for a moment, then stepped aside and said, "Of course, you can."

Zhu Xueqing walked in, curiously looking around. The room was quite tidy, and it was warm as spring inside, filled with a strong scent of sweat, but it wasn't unpleasant.

Suddenly, her eyes were drawn to a large piece of meat.

The whole piece was estimated to be forty-five pounds, exuding a hazy, shimmering glow with golden red streaks of blood on it.

It was clearly Demigod Flesh!

So much of it, it seemed he ate it like a meal.

But thinking about how easily he killed demigods, it seemed only natural.

She forcefully retracted her gaze: "You're training?"

Chen Shouyi found a shirt to put on and said:

"Yes. Would you like tea or plain water?"

Even on the battlefield, though conditions were simple, the room had all the necessary amenities.

"Tea, please!" Zhu Xueqing said, "I'm not used to drinking boiled tap water."

"Alright."

Chen Shouyi took out another teacup, added some tea leaves, poured water, and handed it over, then poured himself a cup.

Zhu Xueqing took it, sipped cautiously: "Why is it a bit salty?"

"I added some salt to the thermos." Chen Shouyi explained, "You know, losing salt from too much sweating can easily lead to dehydration."

Zhu Xueqing's expression froze.

That made sense, she also often drank salted water to replenish salt, but why did he ask if she wanted tea?

Salted tea, how can you drink that?

It's like putting soy sauce in soy milk, completely a dish of dark cuisine.

But she said: "It's quite tasty."

The two chatted on and off for a while. Then, Zhu Xueqing took off her coat and earnestly asked about the techniques and tips for training. Chen Shouyi didn't hold back and personally corrected a few minor issues in her movements.

"It should be like this here, with your hand a little further back, chest... muscles tighten until you feel a tingling sensation."

She was wearing a thin sweater, without anything confining her chest, which seemed to tremble slightly, sometimes revealing a white expanse through the neckline.

How are they so big!

To a woman, dragging around two heavy lumps of flesh must be a hassle!

"Could you... help me feel it?" Zhu Xueqing said, face flushed and glancing awkwardly to the side.

"... Alright then!" Chen Shouyi said hypocritically.

...

Chen Shouyi closed the door, draining the cold plain water in one go to suppress the fire within.

"Seems like my willpower isn't enough!" Chen Shouyi thought to himself.

Once Zhu Xueqing left, the pitiful Shell Lady, who had been hiding under the quilt for ages, finally emerged slowly, casting a resentful glance at Chen Shouyi, pouting as she realized he hadn't noticed her at all.

She picked up the Glass Bead, turned her back, and played on her own.

As she played, she came to a point of sorrow, and tears silently fell.

This was her and the Good Giant's lair, only she and the Good Giant were supposed to enter!

But now, the Good Giant brought the Evil Giant in too, and they even talked for so long.

She felt that the Good Giant wasn't the same Good Giant as before.

He had turned into an Evil Giant.

...

Tuoan City.

At noon, the whole city felt lifeless.

Zhou Shuhang, who had just come out from a cult meeting, looked around suspiciously, especially in the dark corners, fearing he might encounter the terrifying "Evil Messenger," which he had seen several times before.

Each time it nearly scared him to death.

However, thinking about the Protective Talisman tucked close to his chest, he felt a silent sense of relief.

They say it's quite effective.

With this, he wouldn't be targeted by the "Evil Messenger" again.

He glanced at the sky, which was overcast and seemed like it would snow again.

He pulled his tattered cotton jacket tighter, wondering if his remaining savings would get him through the winter. He had been unemployed for over two months, and since fear descended, the entire city was in a state of panic.

Massive plant closures had left everyone unwilling to work.

Even though things had somewhat recovered recently, and many shops and factories had reopened, things weren't the same as before. Additionally, there were more people than jobs, making it difficult to find work to support oneself.

He regretted not training in martial arts seriously earlier on, as even becoming a Martial Artist Apprentice would have made his situation much better.

Many factories and shops preferred to hire physically strong employees.

He resolved that once he could solve his basic survival needs, he would definitely focus on martial arts training, no matter how hard or tiring. It was said that the new edition of the Thirty-Six Body Conditioning Techniques was very effective, and becoming a Martial Artist Apprentice wasn't as difficult as it used to be.

He kept blaming himself internally.

A pedestrian ahead suddenly stopped.

He almost bumped into them headfirst.

Then, he noticed that all the pedestrians on the street had simultaneously stopped. Before he could figure out why, he heard a faint buzzing sound in his ears and quickly looked up.

He saw two silver-white dots break through the clouds, scattering countless bits of paper from the sky.

"Planes!" Zhou Shuhang's heart surged with excitement.

Yet before he could revel in his excitement,

the very next moment,

a wave of intense fear swept over all of Tuoan City.

The two planes suddenly turned into two fireballs, exploding into countless fragments in mid-air.

Zhou Shuhang's legs gave out, and he collapsed to the ground, his face ashen, body trembling, as a cold sweat enveloped him in an icy dread.

Half a minute later, a piece of paper drifted down beside him, already torn into pieces, leaving only a capitalized red title and a clover-shaped symbol next to it.

"Nuclear Warning Notice!"

Chapter 515: Unease

The energy release from nuclear fission and fusion, compared to the same mass of chemical reactants, is 2.5 million times and 10 million times greater respectively. One kilogram of uranium-235 is equivalent to 2500 tons of coal, and one kilogram of deuterium and tritium is equivalent to 10,000 tons of coal.

Since their inception, nuclear weapons have become a shadow looming over Earth.

No weapon can instill such fear and threat in humanity, and even under mutual nuclear deterrence, has laid the groundwork for long-lasting human peace.

Countless novels, movies, and documentaries depict the horrors of nuclear weapons and nuclear war, and in people's minds, nuclear weapons have subtly become synonymous with doomsday. If there's any fear greater than that of the Evil God, it is unquestionably that of nuclear weapons.

When flyers warning of nuclear strikes scattered to the ground, this deathly still city began to boil.

From a bird's eye view, the streets of the city were filled with people running and screaming in panic.

Countless citizens hurriedly made their way home, while many others simply ran towards the outskirts of the city.

An boundless panic pervaded the city, but this panic was not directed at the God of Shadow and Fear; instead, it scattered the Domain of Fear hanging above them into disarray.

...

Mount Bullhorn.

At the bottom of an abandoned mine shaft.

Here, a massive cave had already been excavated, covering an area of tens of thousands of square meters.

A huge beast, enveloped in a thick aura of fear, lay in the center of the cave. Not far away, a spatial passage floated in silence. Three of its golden-patterned tentacles, resembling giant pythons, extended inside the spatial passage, wriggling slightly.

A scarlet vertical eye, in the darkness, flashed on and off like a searchlight.

The strong energy fluctuations caused the entire cave to tremble, loose stones falling from overhead.

Before hitting the ground, under an invisible force, they were continuously corroded, evaporated, and eventually turned into indistinguishable air vapor.

The air was filled with an oppressive aura; no living being could survive here.

"What on earth is happening? Why is my Domain of Fear weakening?" It roared deeply, its heart restless.

Just as orthodox gods have Domains of Faith, fear-related deities also have Domains of Fear.

Within the domain, a deity's power is immensely strong. A deity can radiate their divine position-related power within the domain without draining any Divine Power.

Even on Earth, though the Original Force is weak, due to the high population density, significant effects can still be achieved.

For instance, within the domain, its power and will can penetrate every corner.

Without even mentioning its name, just the mention or thought of its existence can induce inexplicable fear in mortals.

It could even directly consume the Power of Fear to transform shadow creatures, which could serve as its claws of dread and extensions of its power. However, at this very moment, the domain is gradually weakening.

In reality, this wasn't even what irked it the most.

Starting from last night.

Shortly after its daughter Euron's death, it sensed a trace of unease.

It had a vague premonition that danger was looming.

Thinking about Euron's death, it felt even more anxious and growled lowly in anger, "Useless!"

Euron was its most obedient and satisfactory offspring.

Of course, besides Euron, it had two other offspring, but they had long since betrayed it, escaping its sight during a divine war with other gods.

Only its youngest daughter, Euron, dared not flee.

Regrettably, she was dead.

In this Original Force-depleted world, it was akin to having one of its tentacles severed, causing immense pain.

"And damn that Sun God."

In fact, as an immortal deity, if it could thrive in the Tam World, who would risk their life and venture into this Original Force-depleted world for adventure?

Though it was inherently aggressive and violent, and always acted alone, it had some understanding of the dangers of this world.

This was virtually a graveyard for gods; those who ventured here were either at the end of their rope or extremely ambitious.

Yes, it had been driven out.

As a powerful god with moderate divine power, its territorial reach was vast, bordering the domains of over a dozen orthodox gods. Such a stalemated situation had persisted for millennia.

No one could do anything to each other.

It even gained an upper hand with its immense power. Yet, as the Original Force waned over the past two years, everything changed.

The Tam World was in intense turmoil, with numerous gods perishing in divine wars, while others saw their power expand dramatically during these wars.

And among them was the Sun God, a giant deity.

Being a Sun God with Powerful Divine Power, to maintain its original divinity, once it began to expand, it completely swept away everything, swiftly engulfing the domains of weaker gods around it, even leaving not its territories untouched.

The Sun God's power completely restrained it, and coupled with a higher tier of power, the God of Shadow and Fear didn't dare muster any courage for battle, fleeing in fear.

Just then, a shadow creature tremblingly crawled in, holding a flyer, shivering all over.

Looking at the shadow creature, an inexplicable wrath surged from within it.

With a "boom."

One of its tentacles turned into a blur and instantly crushed its head.

Meanwhile, a flyer quickly soared into the air.

As it fluttered, the text on the flyer was quickly interpreted.

"Nuclear warning notice. What's this thing?"

...

Chen Shouyi initially thought there would be a battle tonight, but surprisingly, the front was very calm, with no shadow creatures in sight.

"Huff, huff!"

His entire body trembled as he stopped.

He picked up a cold towel, wiped away the blood droplets seeping from his body, and then opened the attribute panel.

Strength: 19.0

Agility: 19.1

Constitution: 19.1

Intelligence: 18.8

Perception: 16.9

Will: 17.8

Energy Accumulation: 4.65

Faith Value: 238.6

The fourth optimization of the Horizontal Training 36 Forms had an astonishing effect.

Moreover, after completing a full set of exercises, if practice continues uninterrupted, the stimulation effect on the body will stack.

Due to tasks in recent days, he hadn't had much time to train, yet the progress was quick. Not only had his Intelligence, Agility, and Constitution increased by 0.1, but even his Will had increased by 0.1.

"At this pace, perhaps in just half a year, except for Will and Perception, all my physical attributes could reach 20 points," Chen Shouyi thought to himself.

The thought startled him.

points is almost the boundary between human and god.

Among the demigods he encountered, besides possibly having a slightly higher Strength attribute, their other attributes ranged between 20 to 21 or 22 points, with the highest not surpassing 23 points.

At this level, he would be no different from a demigod. If transformation and burning Faith Value were added, even a True God with Weak Divine Power might not be his match.

"But can a mortal body truly reach such a level?" Chen Shouyi pondered with a tinge of contemplation.

Chapter 516: I've Remembered You

At this moment, Chen Shouyi suddenly furrowed his brow slightly, reaching out to make a slicing motion.

An invisible force swept through, cutting a slit in the wall, followed immediately by the sound of something heavy falling outside.

He quickly opened the window and leaped down.

On the ground, a shadow creature's chest was sliced open horizontally, blood gushing out. It struggled to stand up and escape after landing, but Chen Shouyi caught up in one step, stamping it flat with a bone-crunching sound echoing as the entire chest cavity collapsed.

"They actually managed to sneak in here."

He summoned the patrolling soldiers, who, upon seeing this, turned pale and quickly ran to report.

The alert level quickly escalated, and not long after, a comprehensive search of the area began.

Chen Shouyi, Wang Lie, and Zhu Xueqing also cooperated in the operation.

Fortunately, only a few shadow creatures could infiltrate here, and they were soon discovered and eliminated.

"Everyone, be careful. I have a feeling that something is amiss tonight," Chen Shouyi said with a serious expression.

Wang Lie nodded solemnly. For someone as legendary as him, sometimes there's a mysterious intuition—feeling fortune or misfortune. Since General Manager Chen said something was wrong, it's practically certain.

Zhu Xueqing said, "General Manager Chen, be careful too!"

Chen Shouyi chatted with them for a bit before they went their separate ways.

He walked to his bedroom door, reaching out to open it.

Suddenly, his hand paused, hesitating for a moment, then he sighed and gently turned the doorknob.

The light from the oil lamp flickered intensely, its glow at times bright, at times dim.

An oppressive atmosphere filled the air.

His senses finely tuned, he "saw" the Shell Lady playing dead under the bed, remaining motionless. Feeling slightly relieved, he thought she was at least clever.

Next, he looked toward the shadows in the corner, slowly drawing his sword: "Since you're here, why not come out?"

The shadow wavered, and a blurry shadow creature emerged. The light bending around her made it clear she had followed him all the way here while he was out.

Surprisingly, he hadn't sensed anything earlier.

Unlike ordinary shadow creatures, she had the appearance of a human female.

Her bloodless, pale skin, a pair of alluring and sinister crimson eyes, her perfectly delicate face, and her completely bare body partly concealed by shadows exuded a wicked allure:

"Truly a powerful creature, though a Quasi-God in this world, I hadn't expected the deathly terror wouldn't claim you!" she remarked, studying Chen Shouyi with admiration, her voice gentle and sweet like a whisper in his ear.

Chen Shouyi's pupils contracted, feeling a chill. Her identity was already evident as he tentatively asked, "Beautiful, you didn't come here just to say that, did you? In your current form, your power is far from a challenge for me!"

As he spoke, he glanced around cautiously.

Should she act confidently, he was ready to transform and flee at a moment's notice.

The God of Shadow and Fear's face showed a flicker of anger at his words, but she indeed couldn't defeat him. Her presence was merely a Saint's, comparable to legend-level power, while he wasn't an ordinary legend but one who had slain her futile daughter.

Such an existence had a specific name: Quasi-God.

Suppressing her agitation, she smiled alluringly: "I came only to make a deal with you, a transaction between a medium Divine Power god and a mortal."

Her voice was gentle and sweet, carrying a strong allure.

Medium Divine Power. Having gained some information, Chen Shouyi mentally noted it, feeling a sense of ease gradually return.

It seemed she had nothing to rely on, yet he dared not provoke her completely. The scenes from his dreams were still vivid in his mind, coupled with the past chase by the God of Hunting as a cautionary tale; he felt it better not to offend her too much.

In case she became utterly hateful, willing to risk everything to kill him, there would be no turning back.

Her true form, that terrifying and monstrous creature, wasn't far from here.

"Oh, what kind of transaction? Could it be to make me a god?" Chen Shouyi asked.

He expected her to demand the world, but surprisingly, she readily agreed.

"If you can satisfy me, that may not be impossible. I have an extra Divine Position, and while it can't make you a god instantly, it can greatly accelerate your path to godhood," she said softly.

Throughout the endless years, she had devoured numerous deities.

But more Divine Positions aren't necessarily better. Some incompatible positions can even cause conflict, tearing apart the godhead. To this day, she only held the twin main Divine Positions of shadow and fear.

"How long would it take?" Chen Shouyi couldn't help but be curious and asked.

"If you have over a hundred thousand followers, you can ignite Divine Fire in just fifty years, and within a hundred years, you can become a god with Weak Divine Power," she tempted softly.

Interest waned for Chen Shouyi upon hearing this.

Gathering a hundred thousand followers wasn't difficult. Although his current followers weren't yet at a hundred thousand, he had around seventy thousand, so it wasn't far off.

But fifty years was too long,

And just to become a demigod.

A hundred years merely to become a god with Weak Divine Power.

Too slow.

He was only nineteen years old, having trained in martial arts for less than two years. In that time, he could progress much through dedicated practice.

At least until his strength completely stagnates, he had no intention of pursuing the path to godhood.

She seemed to notice his disdain, smirking coldly: "Quasi-Gods are indeed powerful, but they remain the pinnacle of mortal realms. They can never compare to True Gods. Only by becoming a god can you further your strength."

Truthfully, the Tam World also harbored some ancient evil entities not classified as gods, striking fear even into True Gods.

Yet technically, such beings weren't entirely mortal, many having arisen from the ancient remnants of old god corpses.

"Alright, what kind of transaction do you propose? If it's not too difficult, I might consider it," Chen Shouyi replied evasively.

"I want to obtain your humans' Supreme Divine Artifact, the nuclear weapon. As long as you acquire the nuclear weapon, I'll grant you a Divine Position!" she said firmly, having quickly grasped the situation and understood the source of danger.

Supreme Divine Artifact!?

Could this be the nuclear weapon in the eyes of a Barbarian God?

Chen Shouyi pondered.

"Then you picked the wrong person. I truly don't know, and even if I did, do you think I would betray my race and tell an otherworldly god?" Chen Shouyi said:

"Here's a piece of advice for you: leave this place. This isn't the world you should be in. Humanity has already slain dozens of gods like you."

After all, a nuclear strike is a weapon to kill a thousand enemies while injuring three thousand in the process.

If it could frighten away a Barbarian God, that would count as a victory.

He felt an inexplicable sadness.

Her shadowy form surged, tearing away the disguise, her crimson eyes as menacing as a serpent's fixed on Chen Shouyi, her enchanting face now icy: "Arrogant human, I will remember you!"

Chen Shouyi felt a shiver run down his spine at her gaze.

She swiftly leapt out of the window, melding with the shadows and retreating quickly.

Chen Shouyi stood on the rooftop, a War Bow appearing in his hand, watching from afar with an uncertain expression.

Perhaps feeling the presence of a formidable enemy nearby, she refrained from unnecessary slaughter and soon left the small village. After discerning the direction, she ran swiftly toward the frontline.

However, after running for only a few minutes,

She suddenly halted, and not long after, a figure descended from the sky.

It was Chen Shouyi!

His body began to swell rapidly: "Beauty, after some thought, since you remembered me, I've decided to eliminate you!"

...

Chapter 517: Crushed to Death

In the dark of night.

Chen Shouyi's body rapidly swelled and soon transformed into a Giant standing nearly two stories high, his face twisted with a murderous intent that locked onto the front.

The God of Shadow and Fear squinted, shadows swirling around her, her scarlet eyes seemingly burning with anger: "Ridiculous, ant, you dare not fear death. You really think I can't deal with you..."

Before the words fell, her black hair tore behind her, her face slightly changed, just to see a huge body tearing through the air, rapidly expanding before her eyes, the surrounding grass and trees bending over.

"Slowness!"

Her delicate little foot lightly stamped, and she shouted softly.

A dark light instantaneously emanated from her center, spreading rapidly around.

Her true form was nearby and could borrow some Divine Power, although unable to perform true Divine Art, she could still employ weakened secondary Divine Art (also accessible to Priests).

What the hell, Chen Shouyi was startled by this phenomenon, wanting to dodge, but it was too late, then as the dark light swept over his body, his body stiffened, the legendary Energy within him fell silent, and his fast-moving body almost fell to the ground.

He hurriedly focused his will, instantly purging the negative state.

"Weakness!"

Seeing this, her face changed again, she stamped her foot and softly called.

Another obscure wave swept toward Chen Shouyi.

However, this time the effect was even less than before. At this moment, Chen Shouyi's whole body was covered with an invisible, colorless glow of will. The wave swept over him, and apart from slightly weakening the glow of will, had little effect.

Divine Power and will are similar forces, after all.

The former is the collective Telekinesis of countless believers, the latter is the individual's Telekinesis, the former is vast and powerful, the latter is free and pure, with no fundamental difference.

With his personal will of 17.8, he naturally could not defend against true Divine Art, but on Earth, dealing with secondary Divine Art was still easy enough.

"Corrosive Poison!"

"Corrode your mom!" Chen Shouyi roared fiercely, and at the same time, a giant hand slapped hard at the God of Shadow and Fear.

It was like swatting a tiny bug!

"Boom!"

Like a heavy cannon blast, creating a large pit half a meter deep on the ground, countless crushed stones and soil shooting out like bullets.

"Where is she?" Chen Shouyi withdrew his hand, finding that his hand hadn't hit anything.

Without the ultra-divine state to accelerate his thoughts, his reaction capability certainly wasn't as good.

The next moment, he saw a blurred shadow silently and swiftly escaping into the distance. In a short instant, she had already run thirty to forty meters away.

"Still trying to escape, can you?"

He moved with giant steps, catching up in a few strides.

With her true form at the side, Chen Shouyi dared not drag it out further, preparing for a quick battle,

"Imprison."

He used his Air Imprisonment ability.

As his will strengthened, the power of this innate ability also climbed, now matching the original version, instantly solidifying the surrounding air, the shadow's body stumbled in its run, the next moment, a nearly meter-long giant foot stomped her heavily into the ground.

"Boom!"

A feeling of flesh and slimy texture transmitted underfoot (to clarify, it's blood)

There was a faint sense of struggle beneath his foot.

"Still not dead!"

He ground down with force.

"Splurch, splurch!"

Under the pressure of hundreds of tons, a large amount of blood oozed from the cracks of his toes.

Accompanied by steam filling the air, there was a burning, scorching smell mixed within the air.

He retracted his foot; the woman had turned into a mess of flesh, no trace of her previous allure visible.

Only a blood-streaked head remained intact.

She hadn't died yet.

She stared at Chen Shouyi with bleeding eyes, full of venom: "Ant, run, feel despair and terror..."

Her voice was muffled, faintly resonating with the air, as if not emanating from her mouth but from her terrifying true form, a True God of medium Divine Power.

Chen Shouyi shivered, brutally stomping down:

"Threaten me, huh!"

"Boom!"

"Threaten me, will you!"

"Boom!"

"Can't we speak politely?"

"Boom!"

The head finally shattered, brains splattering.

"Rumble!"

A lightning streak tore across the night sky, producing a thunderous boom, lighting up Chen Shouyi's cloudy face.

"The last God of Hunting who threatened me already crumbled to dust!" Chen Shouyi roared up at the sky: "If you're not afraid of nuclear bombs, come on, call out..."

Chen Shouyi shivered instantly, quickly choking back the word "daddy" that was about to slip out.

Almost fell into the trap again.

He rapidly shrank his body back down, at that moment catching sight of a shadowy sword resembling a piece of shadow in the pit, quickly picking it up, and adding the Sword Scabbard, and tossing them into his space. Having done all this, he dared not linger.

With a heavy stomp to the ground, a wave of air exploded around him, his body soared into the sky, and he swiftly flew towards the distance.

While flying, Chen Shouyi nervously glanced back frequently, in the direction of Tuoan City, there were rolling thunder and lightning, an air of terror.

"Don't be impulsive!

"Maintain your composure!"

"For the descent of a Saint's body, such a trivial loss, the cost and effort to chase me down aren't worth it!"

Perhaps the ominous Barbarian God heard Chen Shouyi's mutterings, the great wrath did not befall.

It was just a false alarm.

A few minutes later, Chen Shouyi returned to his room.

The room was the same as when he left, the window wide open, curtains fluttering in the cold wind.

Chen Shouyi immediately went to close the window.

His heart still pounding violently.

Engaging in mischief under the watch of the Barbarian God was too thrilling; his heart couldn't take it.

At this moment, Chen Shouyi finally remembered Shell Lady.

"Little one, you can come out now."

"Hurry, come out, don't hide!"

Shell Lady remained lying under the bed, playing dead, not moving.

Chen Shouyi was at a loss, quickly walking to the bedside, lying on the ground, and fishing Shell Lady out from under the bed.

Her eyes were tightly shut, not even breathing.

Completely motionless.

He nudged her body a few times.

She still didn't move.

If not for the warmth of her body, still soft, he almost thought she was dead.

"This playing dead ability is too strong, where did you learn it?"

He simply paid her no more heed.

He dressed, stuffed Shell Lady into his arms, and prepared to leave.

A wise man does not stand under a dangerous wall.

This place could no longer remain safe.

This time it was the descent of a Barbarian God Saint's form here, next time, it could be the true form.

He had killed a Demigod of theirs and also the Saint's descended form, if they were to go all out, or if the war turned against them, others might survive, but he would not have such luck.

Even countless soldiers here, including Wang Lie and Zhu Xueqing, could get implicated and die from the Barbarian God's power.

"Sigh, I've offended another True God to death!"

Thinking about a True God harboring deep hatred against him, and a medium Divine Power one at that, Chen Shouyi felt a restless anxiety.

He extinguished the gasoline lamp and quickly headed out, knocking on Wang Lie and Zhu Xueqing's doors.

Explaining what happened today so they would be prepared.

Then promptly proceeded to the command center, to report the intelligence on the Barbarian God.

Chapter 518: Shadow Sword

The atmosphere in the command center was tense.

Upon hearing that the Barbarian God had descended through a Saint and infiltrated here, everyone in the command center broke out in a cold sweat.

Fortunately, there was a legendary human warrior present, otherwise, the entire command center might have been obliterated.

The commander decided on the spot to relocate overnight.

As for Chen Shouyi's suggestion to temporarily take shelter, it was quickly agreed upon.

His presence here made not only himself a target but also put the entire command center at risk. No one knew if the Barbarian God had some special means to easily locate Chen Shouyi.

No one dared to take risks with an impending battle on the horizon.

The final suggestion was to go to a military outpost 50 to 60 kilometers away in the desert where communication could be maintained at all times.

Chen Shouyi had no objections.

He took the map, walked out of the command center, and once far from the small village, Chen Shouyi soared into the sky, flying into the distance.

...

The night was dark, and the rumbling thunder in the distance had already calmed.

The world became utterly peaceful.

He flew at high speed along the way.

Now, his telekinesis was nearing seven hundred kilograms, but his speed hadn't significantly improved. As he approached the speed of sound, air resistance increased exponentially, making speed gains even more difficult.

His wind control ability had a negligible effect at this speed.

Typically, winds of level twelve or above can be classified as typhoons, with speeds exceeding thirty meters per second.

Even super typhoons of level seventeen have wind speeds of just over sixty meters per second.

His wind control could only affect winds around levels six or seven, with speeds of just over ten meters per second.

Chen Shouyi estimated that to break the sound barrier, given his weight and a body completely unaerodynamic, he'd need at least two tons of propulsion.

His telekinesis strength would likely need to reach 18.5 points to achieve that power.

At this moment, he felt a wriggling sensation on his chest.

The next moment, he saw the Shell Lady cautiously peering out from his collar, scared by the headwind, she quickly retreated, and only after a long while did she peek her head out again:

"Good giant, you finally came back to save Little One. Earlier, a terrible bad giant lady came to the nest. Did you kill her?" Shell Lady whispered.

"Yes, I killed her!"

Hearing this, the Shell Lady was relieved and contemplated for a moment before earnestly saying, "That bad giant was very strong, but the good giant of Little One is even stronger!"

Chen Shouyi couldn't help but smile broadly.

The flattery felt good.

...

Chen Shouyi flew at a speed of twelve kilometers per minute, and within just a few minutes, the distant view transformed into a desert, though there was not much yellow sand present.

The entire desert was covered with snow.

Chen Shouyi soon saw the military outpost near the highway and the fluttering national flag.

He started his descent from afar.

One drawback of flying is that it's easy to be mistaken for a flying creature from another world and encounter anti-aircraft fire.

...

The military outpost had already received a call, originally expecting a wait of at least two to three hours. However, they were surprised at the speed of his arrival; just after finishing the call, Chen Shouyi appeared.

Not until he reported his identity at the door did the military leaders realize what was happening.

It was already late at night, and Chen Shouyi, citing fatigue, politely declined the enthusiastic invitation by the military leaders for a midnight snack. His stay at a regiment-level outpost as a legendary warrior was unprecedented.

After settling his accommodations, it wasn't long before there was a knock on his door.

"Knock, knock, knock!"

Chen Shouyi rose to open the door.

"Sir, I've brought you hot water." At the door was a young female service soldier, her eyes curious yet bold as she examined Chen Shouyi.

"Thank you. Is there something on my face?" Chen Shouyi asked, confused, as he took the hot water bottles.

"No... nothing, sir!" The female service soldier blushed, quickly lowering her head, and then mustered the courage to say:

"You're really handsome!"

The outpost in the desert was exceedingly monotonous, almost isolated. Every day was either training or patrolling the highway to ensure smooth traffic. Such a celebrity-like figure, moreover a legendary warrior, was truly extraordinary.

Chen Shouyi awkwardly laughed.

Being handsome was also troublesome for him.

The constant scrutinizing gaze from women of all ages whenever he ventured outside was truly distressing.

"Do you need a bath?" The female service soldier asked, recalling something: "The communal bathroom is on the first floor. If you need a bath, I can have logistics open it for you."

Water is precious in the desert.

Even in winter, it's common to bathe only once a month.

"Thank you, but there's no need to trouble yourself!" Chen Shouyi replied with a smile.

For him, bathing was a habit, not a necessity. A mere exertion of will and his body would be as clean as new.

Chen Shouyi closed the door.

Finally, some peace and quiet.

Here, in the solitude of the desert, the world was silent, giving a sense of isolation.

Since arriving here, the ever-present anxiety in his mind gradually subsided.

Chen Shouyi sat on the bed as the Shell Lady quickly crawled out from his arms, nimbly climbing onto his shoulder: "Good giant, Little One is hungry."

Pretending to be dead indeed drained energy.

"I'll get you something!" Chen Shouyi snapped back to reality, picked up the hot water bottle, poured some into a cup, and then retrieved honey and a spoon from the space.

Soon, he had made a spoonful of honey, placing it on the table.

The Shell Lady immediately leapt onto the table, tilting her bottom up, and began to sip it slowly.

Chen Shouyi sat back on the edge of the bed, sensing the mysterious shadow-like Long Sword in the space.

To be cautious, he didn't dare to take out the spoils.

Who knows if the Barbarian God could sense it?

He took off his shoes and lay on the bed.

With eyes closed, he entered the Book of Knowledge Space.

In the cramped space, various sundries were floating everywhere.

The Long Spear of the four-armed giant, the Giant Transformation Long Sword, more than half of the Demigod corpse, and a bicycle, these took up most of the space.

Besides, there were clothes and numerous odds and ends, even pots, pans, and an assortment of seasonings for improving outdoor meals. All sorts of things made the space look like a junkyard.

"Hmm, after killing a demigod yesterday, the Book of Knowledge didn't change at all," Chen Shouyi suddenly remembered.

Over the past two days, he had been so tense he had almost forgotten, and only now did he sense something amiss.

In the past, when he killed a demigod, he would become subject to the Curse of the Gods, but this time, there was nothing at all.

"Could it be that the Spider Lady was different from ordinary demigods..." Chen Shouyi mused thoughtfully.

In fact, he had sensed something unusual for a while now. This Barbarian God was vastly different from ordinary ones.

Ordinary Barbarian Gods would cultivate faith, but this one showed no such behavior and only seemed to want to instill fear. Their actions were markedly different.

Chen Shouyi pondered for a while before deciding not to dwell on it.

It was just a demigod, no big deal; he could kill a few more next time!

He couldn't take on a True God.

But he felt somewhat confident with demigods.

His ethereal body passed through the clutter, moving towards the shadow-like sword floating in the air.

...

Chapter 519: Shadow Sword (Part 2)

The sword is quite mysterious.

It looks like a mass of shadows, making it difficult to see the blade and hilt inside.

However, it can still be distinguished as a sword in the style of a Martial Arts Sword.

In fact, it's not hard to understand when you think about it. Flourishing civilizations often have a tremendous centripetal force on backward civilizations. The otherworldly civilizations are primitive and barbaric, and this primitiveness includes not only the lower-level barbarians but also the divine beings of the superstructure.

This sword is clearly influenced by humans.

Through the surface shadows, the entire sword looks quite exquisite. A round gemstone, resembling Mo Yu, is embedded in the hilt, with complex patterns engraved on the blade.

Staring for a long time, it seems that all the patterns slowly squirm.

Chen Shouyi circled around this Shadow Sword, feeling a sense of danger from the entire sword, as if it could harm his soul.

He hesitated slightly in his heart, then gathered his will; his body instantly emitted a dense glow, dazzling like a diamond.

He reached out and gripped the hilt, feeling a real sensation in his hand. At this moment, his previously ethereal body seemed to turn substantial.

Yet it lasted only a moment.

His will felt as if it had been viciously struck by a heavy hammer. There seemed to be a faint roar, and his will crumbled instantly; he released the hilt and stumbled back a few steps.

"Such a strong will imprint!" Chen Shouyi thought to himself.

He didn't mind much, as this will imprint was nothing more than a rootless duckweed, much weaker compared to the long spear of the four-armed giant.

After all, this sword could not possibly be a Divine Artifact used by the Barbarian God; it was probably just casually made.

After resting for half an hour, his spirit recovered. He gathered his will again, stepped forward, and grasped the sword; the battle of wills erupted once more...

Three times in total.

The will imprint left on the blade was finally shattered, and his thoughts instantly penetrated it.

An invisible blade nearly half a meter long burst forth from the blade, and in a moment, the entire sword immediately felt like an extension of his body, becoming as controllable as if it were part of him.

Chen Shouyi pointed the Long Sword at the ground and closed his eyes to sense carefully.

After a long time, he opened his eyes abruptly.

He wielded the sword.

The bicycle not far ahead instantly split into two, with both sides slowly separating.

"Good sword!"

...

As Chen Shouyi left the Book of Knowledge Space, he found that the Shell Lady had already fallen asleep on his chest.

He gently picked up her small body and placed her aside.

Then took out the Shadow Sword.

The will imprint on the sword had been removed, and evidently, the Barbarian God could no longer sense it.

He couldn't help but softly utter a sound of surprise.

Previously, in a soul state, he hadn't felt much, but upon returning to his body, he noticed an intense strangeness.

It was as if he were enveloped in a shadow like water; he curiously and newly examined it, then stepped off the bed and found his footsteps silent, with all sounds seemingly absorbed by the shadow.

Not only that, but he also found himself extremely sensitive to the surroundings, especially in various dark corners, with a strong sense of control. He looked at the Shadow Sword, feeling a stirring within his heart.

In the next moment, both the Long Sword and the shadow enveloping him instantly disappeared.

Yet the sharpness of perception did not fade away.

Chen Shouyi checked the attribute panel:

Strength: 19.0

Agility: 19.1

Constitution: 19.1

Intelligence: 18.8

Perception: 16.9

Willpower: 17.8

Energy Accumulation: 4.80

Faith Value: 286.6

He found no change.

"Alas, this sword isn't much stronger than the one I'm using..." Chen Shouyi felt somewhat disappointed.

At least the sword captured from the God of Hunting enhanced perception.

Though as perception grew stronger, the enhancements became less significant, now adding less than one point, which was better than nothing, but at least it still provided a boost. This sword, however, offered none at all.

What good is the shadow, perhaps for assassination or sneak attacks?

For a Divine Saint of medium Divine Power to descend and use this as a temporary weapon is truly undignified.

It's simply... poor!

"Oh well, I'll make do with it! At least it enhances Sword Qi more than the one I'm using. Originally, the Sword Qi of the previous one was only 40 centimeters, while this one is nearly half a meter."

Chen Shouyi casually thrust a few times, then stored it in the space.

...

The night passed peacefully.

Chen Shouyi was awakened by the reveille from outside.

The slumbering Shell Lady alertly opened her eyes, seeing Chen Shouyi beside her, she slowly closed them again and nestled into his arms.

After a while, Chen Shouyi got up from the bed and dressed.

He drew the curtains.

The sky outside was still dimly lit, with many soldiers rushing to the dormitory to assemble on the playground for a day of training.

He closed the curtains, dressed, and went to the bathroom to wash up.

...

"Good morning, sir!"

The soldier at the door saluted immediately upon seeing Chen Shouyi.

Chen Shouyi nodded in acknowledgment and walked out of the soldier's quarters.

A thin layer of snow covered the desert.

It was like a coating of arsenic over feces.

A more than two-meter-long creature, colored yellow and black, resembling a centipede, crawled quickly across the snow-covered ground.

This area, located in the Loess Plateau region, suffers from severe desertification and is rarely populated by people.

The tracks of otherworldly creatures could occasionally be seen.

Chen Shouyi took out the Shadow Sword from space.

He activated the shadow ability and walked behind it, noticing that under the bright daylight, the shadow effect was not evident, only slightly dimming his silhouette.

Evidently, the light restrained this ability.

"Perhaps the effect would be better in the otherworld," Chen Shouyi thought.

Seemingly sensing the approach of prey, the sinister and fearsome otherworldly arthropod twisted its body and quickly lunged at Chen Shouyi.

This was undoubtedly courting death.

It was effortlessly slashed into two by Chen Shouyi's random swing of the sword.

"Oh!" His expression showed surprise.

He found that the bisected corpse was corroding rapidly and within a dozen seconds, it had turned into a pool of nauseating pus and melted into the snow.

He stared at the sword in his hand, somewhat at a loss, not expecting the sword to have such power.

But this was merely an ordinary otherworldly creature, which didn't mean much. Now, what could threaten him were either Demigods or True Gods.

Or... try it on himself.

At worst, if things go wrong, just cut off a piece of flesh.

Chen Shouyi rolled up his pant leg and, choosing the fleshy thigh, steeled himself and made a stroke with the sword.

The skin wasn't cut.

He applied more force, still failing to cut through.

On the fourth try, the resilient skin finally opened a slight cut, accompanied by an excruciating pain that made his scalp tingle, as if the sense of pain had been magnified:

"Hiss, such a small wound, yet it hurts so much."

Fortunately, the throbbing pain subsided slowly.

Correspondingly, the wound began to fester and corrode.

After five seconds, the wound had expanded from an almost imperceptible slit to one large enough to fit a grub.

By ten seconds... the corrosion gradually faded, and the wound began to heal.

"It seems my Natural Healing ability is too strong, making it difficult to see the specific effects." Chen Shouyi inserted the sword into the Sword Scabbard, deep in thought: "But for an ordinary legend, they probably wouldn't be able to resist this kind of damage."

...

Chapter 520: The War Is Not Over Yet

"Finally, my strength has reached 19.1." Chen Shouyi turned off the attribute panel and clenched his fist tightly. The muscles on his body, as if twisted steel wires, instantly tensed, making the air around him slightly blur.

19.1, translated into concrete strength, equates to four tons.

If two tons is the dividing line between a peak Martial Artist and a legend, his strength is already double that standard.

"Sadly, it's still too weak!" he thought to himself.

Chen Shouyi drew the curtains.

All day, there were no calls for him.

He looked into the distant darkness, unsure why, but he had a premonition that something would happen tonight.

Two days have passed, and all those who should have evacuated have done so!

Everything that should be prepared has been prepared.

The war clearly won't drag on indefinitely, the longer it drags, the more changes happen.

"Ring ring ring..."

At this moment, the phone rang.

With a swift step, Chen Shouyi moved to the desk and quickly picked up the phone.

"Hello, this is Chen Shouyi!"

"Commander Zhang, hello."

"2 AM? Thank you for informing me!"

"Alright, understood, I will keep it confidential."

He hung up the phone with a serious expression, the call was from the command post of the war zone, regarding the nuclear explosion.

"2 AM!" He glanced at the time; the hour hand pointed exactly at ten.

"Only four hours left."

...

Tuoan City had become a ghost town, the fear of shadow creatures and the Barbarian God could not prevent the masses from fleeing, and in just two short days, the entire city was empty and silent.

Moreover, with the panic over the nuclear explosion spreading, even the nearby villages have joined the ranks of refugees.

Had it not been for shadow creatures preventing and driving them back, the refugees might have escaped the blockade zone.

Calm!

Neither the human army nor the God of Shadow and Fear.

Maintained an eerie calm.

...

Chen Shouyi dozed off on the bed for a while, then opened his eyes and got up to put on his clothes.

"Good giant..." Shell Lady drowsily opened her eyes.

"You continue to sleep!" Chen Shouyi said.

"Oh!"

Shell Lady closed her eyes again, drifting back to sleep.

He opened the window, activated the shadow stealth ability carried by the Shadow Sword, and silently flew out.

No soldier outside noticed.

Before long, he reached the top of a sand dune, brushed away the snow, and sat down.

He took out a piece of Divine Flesh and chewed it silently while waiting.

The cold wind howled, and the air carried a hint of chill.

As time ticked by, after 1:30, the silence began to break.

From afar, the muffled sound of artillery fire came, evidently to conceal the real plan, and the faint roar of warplanes was heard from afar.

Chen Shouyi quickly finished eating the Divine Flesh, stood up, and gazed into the distance.

A faint red glow spread in the distance, and the continuous artillery fire seemed uninterrupted, going smoothly.

And as the time approached two o'clock.

A distinct bright light arose in the distance, and the sky turned bright.

"Nuclear bomb!"

The brightness didn't last long before it rapidly dimmed, leaving the sky still as red as fire.

Chen Shouyi's eyes were fixed on the distance, his fists clenched unavoidably, his heart pounding.

Half a minute later, a slight tremor came from beneath the ground, and a few minutes later, a dull thunderous roar came from afar.

After that, the entire world fell silent.

No sound of artillery was heard.

"Did it succeed?" Chen Shouyi wondered to himself.

After hesitating for a moment, he pushed off with his foot and flew quickly towards the front line.

...

Chen Shouyi searched for a long time and asked many soldiers before finding the new location of the command post.

Located twenty kilometers outside the front line, in a small-town government building, the area was already overflowing with joy.

"General Manager Chen, you're back, the war is over!" Zhu Xueqing exclaimed excitedly when she saw Chen Shouyi, rushing to give him a hug.

Chen Shouyi could evacuate to safety, firstly because he was targeted by the Barbarian God, and secondly, for the command post's safety, but she and Wang Lie could not evacuate. The enormous pressure of these two days nearly crushed her.

"Did the Barbarian God get killed?" Chen Shouyi broke free from her embrace and quickly asked.

"Not sure, but even if it wasn't killed, it must have fled. According to reconnaissance, the entire Bullhorn Mountain has almost been leveled." Zhu Xueqing replied happily.

Driving a Barbarian God away is a kind of victory for humanity, but Chen Shouyi felt little joy. The great sacrifice, so many lives lost, it felt somewhat disheartening.

"Where is Wang Lie?" Chen Shouyi asked.

"He couldn't stay put and went to see the front line!" Zhu Xueqing said.

...

Thick clouds were pierced by a vast force, revealing a large hole, with a massive mushroom cloud still hanging in between.

Chen Shouyi was in the high sky, not daring to get too close.

He noticed that the Barbarian God's terror field in the air had been significantly diluted but still stubbornly remained.

Without a doubt, the Barbarian God was not dead.

But he couldn't determine whether it was still on Earth or had escaped to another world.

Occasionally, shadow creatures could still be seen on the ground, as if nothing had changed.

...

The next day, the war zone remained calm, with a large influx of refugees.

Numerous refugees with their families rushed to escape the strange land.

The town where the command post was located quickly became overcrowded, bringing not only hustle and bustle but also fear of the Barbarian God!

Passing by a refugee camp, Chen Shouyi heard discussions about the Barbarian God and shadow creatures everywhere.

"Do you know how terrifying that 'Evil Messenger' is? One night, when I went out to get water..." A refugee was vividly and exaggeratedly narrating his horrifying experience, drawing a large crowd who listened with goosebumps.

"That Evil God must be from the Hell of another world... our souls will be taken away." Another group of refugees debated fiercely.

"If you cry again, the Evil Messenger will come!" A young lady impatiently scolded a bawling child.

With the victory of the war, everyone was venting the fear they experienced in the blockade zone, yet they were unaware that fear spread through word of mouth.

Chen Shouyi looked up at the sky, his face serious.

A faint field of terror was forming and spreading, however, no one could see or sense it.

The war was not completely over... This god seemingly spreading fear, as long as it was not eradicated, and as long as humans here would fear It, It would remain rooted in humanity like a virus.

Accompanying mystery and evil is never a pleasant affair.

Chen Shouyi turned on his heels and headed towards the command post.

