

New Era 541

Chapter 541: My Stomach Hurts a Little

Provincial Government Building, meeting room.

Six negotiation experts were flipping through documents, whispering to each other, exchanging opinions in low voices.

Even though nothing could be seen on the surface, from subtle deep breaths or the frequent wiping of palms on pant legs, and the unconscious shaking of legs, one could see their nervousness.

Among these people, some had presided over large business negotiations.

Some were international affairs officers from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Some were micro-expression analysis experts.

They had seen countless big scenes and had robust psychological resilience.

But facing possibly the most powerful human in history, an existence equal to the Barbarian God, this kind of nervousness still inevitably spread out.

The meeting room was quite silent, with only the sound of papers rustling and quiet murmurs.

This negotiation was too tricky.

First of all, the value of the Divine Flesh was simply immeasurable, pricing it was a major challenge.

It had never appeared in the market before, and only once on the black market, priced at one billion dollars per pound, approximately 0.9 jin, but this type of goods is extremely rare, and the price driven by extreme market demand has no reference value.

This time it wasn't ten or a hundred jin.

Nor was it one or two tons.

But five hundred tons, one million jin, at this price, it amounts to 110 trillion dollars.

No country could afford such a colossal price, unless it sold the entire Great Xia Country.

But pricing it like pork, that would obviously be inappropriate.

A person who can rival a True God is enough to make any country handle with care, the only way is to use items of equally incalculable value to execute this deal.

However, the key is, what thing... or how many things can match the value of these full 500 tons of True God's blood and flesh, or meet the other party's psychological expectations!

With each passing minute.

Suddenly the door opened, and a middle-aged man said, "The person is here, everyone get ready, there are about 5 minutes left!"

"Minister Zhang, rest assured, it's fine," said an official from the Ministry of Commerce after looking at his watch and taking a deep breath, though a layer of cold sweat had already seeped onto his forehead.

...

In front of the Provincial Government Building, a military vehicle quickly drove up.

"Screech..."

The car tires scraped against the ground, producing a sharp noise.

A soldier quickly got out of the car and opened the door.

Chen Shouyi got out of the vehicle, followed by Bai Xiaoling.

He glanced around, and security was tight, soldiers were everywhere.

"Sigh, why make this so complicated!" Chen Shouyi remarked, wasn't this a simple transaction, in the past demigod corpses were dealt the same way, even he was affected by this atmosphere.

No one responded.

He glanced at the timid Bai Xiaoling and found her listless, causing him to be speechless internally.

He suspected asking her to negotiate on his behalf might have been a mistake.

Just as they stepped out of the vehicle, a group of people warmly welcomed them.

After some introductions.

Chen Shouyi shook hands with a few key figures.

The visitors were of high rank.

A deputy-level senior official from the Ministry of Commerce, a Major General from the military, and an accompanying deputy senior official from Jiangnan Province, clearly showing great seriousness regarding this transaction.

They had to be serious.

Five hundred tons of True God's flesh, just mentioning it could scare you to death.

Once acquired, for the entire precarious situation of Great Xia Country, it would be like a shot of adrenaline.

After some pleasantries, they quickly got down to the main topic.

...

Inside the meeting room.

"Sister Bai is my liaison, let her discuss with you," Chen Shouyi said, stepping aside to reveal Bai Xiaoling, who was as timid as a quail.

"President Chen, pardon my boldness to ask, is she fully authorized by you?" one of the negotiators asked cautiously.

"Pretty much!" Chen Shouyi replied, "Of course, I still make the final decision!"

The negotiation experts gave each other a look, and couldn't help but breathe a sigh of relief; even if the talks collapsed, there was still room for maneuver.

Moreover, this young girl seemed to emit an aura of weakness, which should be easy to handle.

"I...I..." Bai Xiaoling forced a smile, yet looked like she might cry; even the lowest-ranked here was at the division level, the one leading the negotiation was a deputy ministerial bigwig, her slender little shoulders really couldn't bear this.

President Chen overestimated her too much.

Before coming, she had repeatedly said she didn't know how to negotiate, couldn't negotiate.

At most, she could only haggle, and this was such a big matter, such a grand setting.

Yet President Chen insisted on pushing her to come.

She would mess everything up.

When that time comes, selling her to work for President Chen as a lifetime servant wouldn't even be enough repayment.

"So... sorry... everyone... leaders, sorry President Chen, I... my stomach suddenly hurts, I need to go to the bathroom." She stuttered, bowed, and quickly slipped away!

Slipped away...

The atmosphere suddenly got a bit awkward.

Everyone looked at each other.

Chen Shouyi's face was sweaty, such a grown-up, yet utterly unhelpful, but... he himself had never negotiated either, he couldn't even haggle.

Let him kill barbarians, and slay demigods, those he excelled at.

But negotiation was simply not his forte.

"Is there anyone else authorized to negotiate on behalf?" Zhang Deqing, who was hosting the meeting, asked.

Who else could there be?

It could only be him stepping up himself.

"No one else, it'll be me!" Chen Shouyi said with a calm expression.

"President Chen is a pillar of the nation, before coming, the president specifically instructed me, as long as it doesn't violate the constitution and the Anti-Heresy Law, any condition can be discussed," Zhang Deqing smiled while saying this, secretly observing Chen Shouyi.

Seeing Chen Shouyi without any unusual reaction, he breathed a sigh of relief.

What he feared was a figure like this beginning to pursue belief like the Barbarian God.

At that time, how to manage and respond would be a huge challenge; on one hand, such a figure couldn't be classified directly as an enemy like the Barbarian God, and on the other hand, it'd be impossible to agree to open up belief.

Whether the Barbarian God from the otherworld or the homegrown human becoming god, there was essentially no difference for Great Xia Country.

Humans are capable of change, no matter how pure one's nature, no matter how beautiful one's initial intent, when one holds supreme power, and through belief, gains the people's hearts, the whole society will inevitably step from a human society into a dark theocratic one.

But compared to choosing the Barbarian God as an option, this choice seemed relatively better.

However, this was a hopeless last-resort option; as long as humanity had a glimmer of hope, they would never want to become a pawn for the gods, providing power.

Because they are humans.

They are the terrifying upright apes.

Thousands of years ago, they gradually wiped out the saber-tooth tigers, the mammoths, and various subhumans, ultimately standing atop Earth's food chain.

Chen Shouyi was unaware of the other party's complex psychological thoughts, curiously asked, "Any conditions can be proposed?"

"Yes," another negotiator said.

"Then using these 500 tons of Weak Divine Power True God flesh, exchanging for one or two Divine Artifacts shouldn't be too much, right!"

"This..." Zhang Deqing opened his mouth, wasn't the protocol to first have a rough value estimation both sides could accept, only then proceed with the deal once each was satisfied?

Skiping the valuation and directly naming a price was simply too crude.

A negotiator beside him quickly tugged his arm.

Zhang Deqing's sluggish thinking finally sobered, repressing his excitement, some stuttering spoke, "If... if it's just one, umm... it's still acceptable."

Saying this, he felt slightly embarrassed and added, "You can pick whichever you want!"

How can this be called excessive, it's not excessive at all!

Compared to these 500 tons of True God's flesh, what are Divine Artifacts, those Divine Artifacts left to collect dust in the labs, haven't been studied thoroughly.

"By the way, do you also take bones?" Chen Shouyi, observing their reactions, felt like he was short-changed and, moved by the thought, asked again.

Zhang Deqing excitedly said, "Yes, yes!"

The bones contain marrow, which is even more precious than the flesh, of course, they'd take it.

"Then add one more Divine Artifact!"

Chapter 542: I Was Wrong

The negotiation quickly concluded.

Both parties were quite satisfied.

Both felt they had made a profit.

This is how the value of the same item can differ in the eyes of different people.

To primitive people, a nugget of gold is just a slightly heavier stone and they would pay it no heed, but among humans, it's a common equivalent of currency.

Is a divine artifact precious?

Of course, it is extremely precious, immeasurable in value.

The Book of Knowledge is a divine artifact.

To Chen Shouyi, the Book of Knowledge is everything; even a divine corpse with weak divine power is worth less than one-ten-thousandth of its value.

The Soul Pearl is also a divine artifact.

It protected the soul and alleviated the mental shock during battles with gods. Without it, he might have died in the last battle in the alternate world. Its value also greatly exceeds a divine corpse.

But in the eyes of the country, a divine artifact also has immense research value; through research on divine artifacts, they can visually observe and study the composition of divine artifact materials, the operation of Original Force, and understand the mysterious essence of the alternate world.

However, the research progress is too slow.

Over the course of twenty years, there have been few成果.p>

Especially after the mutation, computers can no longer be used, and many high-tech experimental equipment can't be operated, so all experimental progress is almost stagnant.

Given the precarious situation now, compared to the five hundred tons of True God flesh that can instantly enhance the strength of Great Xia Country, offering two divine artifacts to the country is entirely acceptable.

...

Dozens of heavy trucks lined up like a long dragon on the road, with soldiers standing on both sides.

Chen Shouyi and Zhang Deqing chatted leisurely in the first car. A deputy minister-level high official had no airs whatsoever, making Chen Shouyi feel as if he were bathed in a spring breeze.

Chen Shouyi certainly knows his price offer is a bit low this time.

It hasn't reached the country's psychological bottom-line.

But why bother to gain every advantage, fighting for every inch?

Besides, he never intended to get more. As a member of Great Xia Country, in this wartime era, countless young soldiers have given their lives in wars with the alternate world.

He personally witnessed soldiers driving self-exploding trucks to greet attacks from the Barbarian God, and saw people pull the pins on grenades and perish with the barbarians.

Although he doesn't have the courage to die generously, he also doesn't want to be overly meticulous about these external possessions.

Having two divine artifacts is already enough satisfying.

In this war era where life is uncertain, personal strength is everything, and everything else is superficial.

As long as he is strong, as long as he survives, everything else—money, power—is just an accessory to strength.

"How many divine artifacts are there now?" Chen Shouyi asked curiously.

"About five!" Zhang Deqing, who was accompanying him, said politely with good spirits, "Now they're all in major laboratories. Two of them were seized twenty years ago. It's a pity that there were initially three at that time, but one was eroded due to improper preservation. When you go over, we'll transfer the divine artifacts from the lab, and you'll pick two."

Chen Shouyi knew about this.

At that time, Earth's Original Force was barely perceptible and couldn't sustain the supernatural powers of the alternate world.

Many divine artifacts, after staying in this world for a long time, started to erode, with the mystery fading away. When he acquired the Book of Knowledge, it was already riddled with holes.

However, twenty years ago, how many Barbarian Gods were killed around the world?

...

A factory warehouse, here it has been completely cleared out, and the floor has been cleaned.

Sentries were stationed all over the place, and soldiers wearing hazmat suits stood everywhere, with an area of one kilometer in radius sealed off.

Chen Shouyi walked into the warehouse and said blandly, "It's big enough here, move aside a bit!"

Upon hearing this, everyone behind him quickly retreated.

The next moment, the ground suddenly shook as a massive heap of golden-hued True God flesh appeared out of thin air in the open space.

Then came the huge crystalline bones, dinosaur-like in size. Looking at the extravagant "Sea God" set, he even felt a bit wistful.

Quickly shaking his head, he drove such peculiar thoughts out of his mind.

The space still held over twenty tons, enough to last him for years, especially the brain portion was preserved, weighing about a hundred pounds.

A stifling atmosphere began to spread.

Even if everyone was wearing lead-plated hazmat suits, they felt like a massive rock was pressing down on their hearts, making their breathing become heavy.

Chen Shouyi looked back and saw everyone staring at the mountain-like pile of True God flesh, no one paying attention to how this meat appeared out of thin air, causing him to feel a bit disappointed.

Someone quickly regained their senses.

"Everyone, take your positions. All present align to the right, at ease!"

"I want to reiterate the discipline. Being chosen for this mission indicates you are seasoned warriors, and the country is in danger..."

...

Next, there was nothing for Chen Shouyi to do.

After asking Zhang Deqing for a phone to arrange a visit to the Capital City in two days to select divine artifacts, Chen Shouyi declined the vehicle transport and walked home.

The afternoon spring breeze was warm, carrying a mysterious floral fragrance in the air.

A few children were chasing each other in a nearby park, filled with laughter.

Everything seemed so peaceful.

As he neared home, Chen Shouyi saw Bai Xiaoling standing by the door, her eyes red and filled with uneasy anticipation.

"Waaah... President Chen, I'm sorry, I betrayed your trust!" Bai Xiaoling burst into tears as soon as she saw Chen Shouyi.

"Oh! I'm not blaming you; why cry? It was my mistake for oversimplifying!" Chen Shouyi sighed and said.

Bai Xiaoling's face turned pale, fearing Chen Shouyi might fire her: "President Chen, I was wrong... waaah... please scold me instead, just don't fire me."

I've never heard such a request before.

Chen Shouyi flipped a middle finger: "Damn! Who said I'm firing you? Stop crying; it's getting on my nerves."

Bai Xiaoling immediately broke into a smile, hurriedly wiped her tears, and suddenly blushed while looking quietly at Chen Shouyi's handsome profile: "Chen... President, you don't blame me anymore?"

"I overestimated your capabilities; you're no better than me!" Chen Shouyi replied in a peeved tone. At least he never flinched in any situation.

Yet she fled.

Leaving him embarrassed.

He had no choice but to step up himself.

"Of course, I'm not as good as President Chen!" Bai Xiaoling said, embarrassed, lowering her head into her chest.

Hmph.

Finally, some self-awareness.

"I have a batch of Demigod flesh to sell; this time, not to the government, but to martial artists. I need someone with influence, at least known throughout Jiangnan Province. Better yet, organize an auction. Can you manage it?"

"I can, definitely. President Chen, rest assured, this time I'll make it splendid," Bai Xiaoling promised eagerly, nearly thumping her chest.

Watching the incapable Bai Xiaoling leave briskly.

Hopefully, no mishaps this time, right?

He thought to himself.

Chapter 543: Gained Weight

Family members were absent, leaving the house cold and desolate; Chen Xingyue probably returned to school as well.

Chen Shouyi headed towards the bedroom on the second floor.

...

On the floor.

The Shell Lady was licking the divine blood in the spoon, looking drowsy, her face flushed.

At this moment, her ears twitched, her body trembled slightly, and she hurriedly dragged the spoon like a mouse quickly to the dark underside of the bed, her peripheral vision warily glancing at the doorway, relaxing completely only after Chen Shouyi entered and closed the door.

She continued licking the divine blood.

"Where's the little girl gone?" Chen Shouyi feigned ignorance about the Shell Lady's presence under the bed.

Upon hearing his voice, the Shell Lady snorted quietly, not wanting to pay heed to the silly giant, and continued to lick the divine blood joyfully.

"Naughty little girl, hiding where?" Chen Shouyi teased further.

This was intolerable; the Shell Lady stopped immediately, crawled out from under the bed, and exclaimed eagerly, "Good giant, I'm a good little girl, not a naughty one."

"Alright, alright, I misspoke; turns out you were hiding under the bed!"

Chen Shouyi laughed, bent down, picked up the Shell Lady, and gave her a kiss, finding her soft and chubby.

"Why does it seem she's gotten much fatter!" Chen Shouyi thought to himself.

Her chubby cheeks had turned into round little cherries.

"Supplying her with unlimited divine blood, won't she become a blob of flesh?" Chen Shouyi couldn't help but worry; she rarely ate honey now.

"Good giant, why are you staring at me?" The Shell Lady asked, puzzled.

"Have you gotten fatter?" Chen Shouyi said bluntly.

Unexpectedly, the Shell Lady just responded with an "Oh," without much reaction, her body wriggling continuously, "Good giant, let me down!"

Chen Shouyi released his hand, and as soon as the Shell Lady landed, she quickly scampered back under the bed to continue licking the divine blood.

Well, let her be chubby; she looks quite adorable anyway.

Chen Shouyi turned away, no longer concerning himself with her, and opened his attribute panel.

Strength: 19.3

Agility: 19.5

Constitution: 19.3

Intelligence: 19.6

Perception: 17.3

Willpower: 18.0

Energy Accumulation: 10.61

Faith Value: 1889.7

These days, not having much time to train, progress has been quite slow; compared to before going to the other world, only strength, willpower, and perception have increased by 0.1 point, which is better than nothing.

Additionally, tomorrow he would go to the Capital City to select a divine artifact, which would probably take another day.

Sigh, if this goes on, he'll soon be overtaken by others.

He glanced at the faith value of 1889.7.

With a thought, he added eighteen hundred points to the Giant Battle Body.

The next moment...

"Boom!"

His body felt as if filled with scorching lava, his skin turned bright red, veins bulged, steam rose, emanating high temperatures.

...

Half a minute later, as the heat dissipated.

The former "Giant Battle Body (Advanced): 42.05%"

Had now changed to:

"Giant Battle Body (Advanced): 60.05%"

Chen Shouyi closed the attribute panel:

"Find a place to test it out!"

...

At the foot of the mountain, Chen Shouyi parked his bicycle, then thought better of it and placed the bicycle into the space.

Nowadays, there are too many thieves.

Such a new-looking bicycle, if left here, would surely be stolen without a trace left.

Even he had already lost several bicycles to theft.

His body darted into the forest like a shadow, in mere breaths, he reached the mountainside, where his body suddenly paused.

"Transform!"

With a thought, his clothes instantly burst apart.

Countless flesh appeared out of nowhere, growing spontaneously.

In a blink, a giant standing 6.5 meters tall appeared before him, significantly less intimidating than the thirty-meter giant, akin to a ten-story building, in the other world; on Earth, this ability was undoubtedly diminished.

Just the power difference was over a hundredfold.

Although the size and power couldn't compare, it clearly was more agile.

Chen Shouyi glanced at the attribute panel, with only a reduction of 0.2 in agility.

The body's agility was virtually unchanged from its untransformed state.

There was even an illusion of greater nimbleness.

"However, if facing the Sea God in this state..." Chen Shouyi simulated a battle in his mind, and his expression turned serious.

He realized he had absolutely no chance of winning.

But this was the Sea God from the other world.

If on Earth,

He didn't know how much the Sea God could be weakened?

But the situation wouldn't likely be optimistic.

Small creatures inherently have a disadvantage against larger ones.

No matter how nimble a cat is, it cannot contend with a wolf.

His height of 6.5 meters wanting to defeat a nearly thirty-meter-tall Sea God seemed a bit tight.

But...soon enough.

He looked at the attribute panel; within just half an hour, the faith value had returned to a hundred again.

He felt that in no more than a month, the advanced Giant Transformation's evolution rate would reach one hundred percent.

...

The next day, Chen Shouyi was preparing to head out to the other world to train.

Bai Xiaoling came bustling over, panting heavily: "General Manager Chen, here's the newspaper!"

She was wearing a dress with floral prints, exposing two clean and fair thighs, her chest heaving rapidly due to her swift running.

Recently, the weather has gotten increasingly hotter!

Chen Shouyi glanced at her in puzzlement and accepted the newspaper, still emitting the scent of ink, and upon reading the second headline on the front page:

"Shocking! It's reported that the creator of the Chen Clan's cultivation method, renowned Martial Arts Grandmaster General Manager Chen, intends to auction off a batch of demigod flesh soon!"

He read swiftly, scanning over the page, then glanced at the newspaper's masthead.

It was Jiangnan Daily.

"You arranged this?" Chen Shouyi said in a daze.

This is official media, the paper circulated province-wide, surprisingly having such low standards.

"Yes, I contacted the provincial government, and they expressed strong support," Bai Xiaoling said.

"What about the auction house?" Chen Shouyi asked again.

"The auction house has been arranged too; it's a large conference room for three thousand people," Bai Xiaoling said. "It should be spacious enough."

"Didn't spend money, did you?"

"Didn't spend a penny, all arranged by the province," Bai Xiaoling replied.

Chen Shouyi sighed; alas, this money is becoming increasingly difficult to spend, normally beyond buying bicycles or clothes, he really had no other expenditures.

"Good job."

"Actually, I didn't do much," Bai Xiaoling said embarrassedly.

She just made a few phone calls, and the province handled everything.

At this moment, she remembered, "Right, General Manager Chen, you haven't set a date yet."

Chen Shouyi thought for a moment and said, "No rush, in a few days I'll pick an auspicious date!"

His purpose for the auction wasn't money, but influence, for faith values.

Money-making was merely incidental.

He wasn't interested in money at all!

Of course, the longer the atmosphere is cultivated, the more people who know, the better.

Wait until they are impatient, until they're about to cuss out, then release it, not a moment sooner.

Bai Xiaoling beside him looked bewildered; it's just an auction, not a wedding, does it really need an auspicious date?

Not just any date would do!

...

Chapter 544: Dragged Into the Water

Lucy Country Hedong Office.

"Bang!" A sound.

A strong middle-aged white man rudely pushed open the office door with a newspaper in hand: "Hey, Victor, big news!"

"Yevgeny, I think I reminded you to knock when you enter... Forget it, are you talking about God Chen auctioning the demigod flesh?" A white man with a scruffy beard looked up at the indifferent Yevgeny, helplessly waving the newspaper in his hand.

"So you've already seen it. It's probably the one God Chen killed in the other world." Yevgeny said, unapologetically taking a cigarette from the other's desk, lighting it, taking a deep puff, and pointed to the headline on the newspaper with his thick fingers:

"Considering God Chen's usual actions, I feel this time it's definitely a big move, with at least a few hundred kilos. We can't miss it!"

"Our office doesn't have that much budget." Victor shook his head and said: "Even the Beijing Embassy can't consume this batch of demigod flesh."

Whether in Great Xia Country or Lucy Country, divine corpses are definitely strategic-controlled goods, controlled by the highest wartime committee, basically priceless and hard to measure with money.

This market release is like detonating a nuclear bomb.

Anyone with money would go to the auction even if it means going bankrupt.

With their office's limited budget, it's estimated they can barely buy one or two kilos.

"You didn't understand me. Did I say we have to buy it all?" Yevgeny flicked his cigarette and asked in confusion.

"Then what do you mean?" Victor asked in puzzlement upon hearing that.

"Have you ever consumed divine blood?" Yevgeny asked: "Pure divine blood!"

"No!" Victor shook his head. He was just an ordinary official martial artist in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Such precious things were basically for front-line fighters; he'd never even seen it.

His eyes suddenly burned, and his breathing started to get slightly rapid: "Are you saying?"

"There's now a large amount of divine blood in front of us, just for a little money. You're not a bit tempted?" Yevgeny flicked the cigarette onto the ground and exhaled a long puff of white smoke.

Divine blood is a generic term, not specifically referring to the blood of gods. Plasma and cellular extracts are considered divine blood.

"But... my money is mostly at home." Victor was silent for a moment and said.

"Same here!" Yevgeny shrugged and said.

The two men exchanged a glance.

The atmosphere in the office instantly quieted down.

After a long time.

"But the budget deficit will be discovered!" Victor swallowed hard and whispered, struggling powerlessly in his heart.

"If the accounts are done well, who could know? For instance, as a budget for God Chen's activities." Yevgeny tempted like a devil.

"Two people's risk is too great. We have to involve everyone in the office!" Victor paused for a while and said softly.

"I think they'll all agree. This opportunity is once in a lifetime. Miss it, and it might never come again."

...

Midnight.

Chen Shouyi completed the thirty-six styles of horizontal training five times in a row.

Finally exhausted, he stopped.

He looked down, covered in sticky red blood and sweat.

The whole room was filled with an extremely strong bloody smell.

This four-times-optimized version of the training method is extreme and damaging. Without his self-healing ability and the nourishment of a large amount of divine flesh, his body would have collapsed already.

Once he recovered a bit, he took a piece of divine flesh from space, gobbled it down in a few bites, and then picked up a cup of salt water, gulping it down.

He checked his watch, found it was already nine, and rushed to the bathroom, turned on the faucet, and quickly took a shower.

After changing clothes and getting everything sorted, he opened the window.

Outside, the clouds were thick, pitch black, with no hint of starlight.

"Seems like good weather for traveling." Chen Shouyi thought to himself.

He gently picked up the Shell Lady sleeping soundly on the bed, put her into his pocket, and then his body slowly drifted out of the window.

Without alerting any patrolling soldiers.

He started flying slowly.

Then the speed kept increasing.

After ten seconds, he broke through the clouds.

Chen Shouyi pulled out a Great Xia Country map and studied it carefully.

"North on top, south below, the sun is to the east, the capital should be in this direction..."

Given his ability to fly consciously, it's obviously best to fly over on his own.

After identifying the direction.

Chen Shouyi immediately began flying.

As his willpower increased to 18 points, his maximum speed could now reach 230 meters per second. But at this speed, like extreme running, the mental consumption was shocking. He could maintain it for one or two minutes, flying twenty or so kilometers.

During usual flights, he controlled his speed at around 150 meters per second.

At this speed, air resistance was only a tenth of the extreme speed, making it economical and labor-saving, allowing for a hundred kilometers of flight.

His mental recovery speed was very fast, half an hour was enough.

Hedong is over a thousand kilometers from the capital city.

Chen Shouyi felt that if there were no mishaps, he might arrive before dawn...

...

Morning, Dingjiang City.

Mayor Huang Youpeng was processing documents with his head down.

At this moment, the door knocked.

"Come in!" he said in a deep voice.

The visitor was his secretary.

"Mayor... Mayor, someone wants to see you?"

Huang Youpeng's eyebrows slightly furrowed at the words, raising his head to look at the shocked and stunned secretary, instantly feeling that things were not simple: "Who is it? Get to the point!"

"It's... It's the General Manager Chen."

"Which General Manager Chen?"

"The one who pioneered the Chen Clan's training method, the General Manager Chen, I've seen his Legendary Martial Artist certificate..."

"Bang!"

Huang Youpeng's body shook violently, suddenly stood up, knocking the chair behind him over with the intense motion, and said: "Where is he?"

"In the reception room!"

...

Chen Shouyi sat expressionlessly at the table, looking at the spread-out map.

At this moment, he looked haggard, with dark eye bags, as if he hadn't slept for days.

He roughly estimated the distance on the map, muttering to himself: "Damn, still 600 kilometers left!"

Initially, as he thought, mental recovery speed was indeed rapid, but after several tries, the recovery speed sharply declined. Plus, the route had deviated a bit. At dawn, he had barely covered half the distance.

"Haha, Chen... General Manager, I've heard much about you, hello hello, I am Huang Youpeng. Welcome to Dingjiang City. I wonder... Have you come over for a mission or just visiting friends?" Huang Youpeng walked in warmly, probing.

This kind of legendary figure suddenly appearing in small Dingjiang City really makes people think a lot.

"Mayor Huang, you've been kind. Just calling me Chen Shouyi is fine. I just... inadvertently passed by here." Chen Shouyi said, paused, and somewhat awkwardly continued: "By the way, do you have a helicopter going to the capital today?"

Chapter 545: The Mysterious Divine Artifact (Part 1)

One hour later.

At the helipad of the Dingjiang military base, a helicopter's rotor blades spun as it flew into the distance.

After several hours of flying, the helicopter began to slowly descend at the military base located on the outskirts of the Capital City.

"General Manager Chen... General Manager Chen, we have arrived!" A accompanying officer carefully reminded him.

Chen Shouyi, who was asleep, opened his eyes and wiped the drool: "Oh, we are in the Capital City already?"

After a nap, he felt completely refreshed, with all the fatigue from last night's flight dispelled.

Sigh, if only I had known, I would have just taken the helicopter directly here.

"We are still in the outskirts; our helicopters can't directly enter the Capital City!" the officer said.

"Okay, thank you!" Chen Shouyi replied. He checked his watch and found it was already two in the afternoon.

"General Manager Chen, you are too kind, this..." The officer hesitated a moment before taking out a notebook and pen: "Could you please sign it for me? I'm a huge fan of yours!"

Chen Shouyi paused for a moment, then said: "Of course!"

Satisfying such small requests from his fans is a given.

It's just a pity it's a man.

He took the notebook and pen and asked: "Would you like me to write a blessing as well?"

Upon hearing this, the officer became excited: "Yes, yes!"

"Wishing you Martial Arts success — Chen Shouyi.

2017.4.8."

Each character was written carefully, as neat as printed type.

After Chen Shouyi finished writing, he felt slightly satisfied.

It's no use.

If he wrote spontaneously, the characters would look terrible.

Scribbles, like chicken scratches.

Totally unbecoming of his esteemed status as a legendary strongman.

...

The helicopter slowly landed on the helipad.

He lowered his head and disembarked the helicopter. Outside, the leaders of the military base had come to greet him, but for someone like him now, wanting to keep a low profile was becoming increasingly difficult.

After some pleasantries.

Chen Shouyi borrowed the military base's phone and directly called Minister Zhang's office.

By the time it was almost evening, Minister Zhang's car finally arrived.

The two sat in the back seat.

"I thought you would come in the morning."

Cough! I was supposed to come in the morning, but something unexpected came up.

"I was delayed by some matters before leaving!" Chen Shouyi said with a straight face.

Fortunately, Minister Zhang didn't press further and began speaking about what Chen Shouyi cared about: "The Divine Artifact has been transferred from the laboratory and placed in the underground warehouse. Should we eat first or go check out the warehouse?"

"Let's go to the warehouse!"

What's there to eat for dinner.

He's already eager to go.

The car drove all the way, finally arriving at a heavily guarded place before night fell.

Even Minister Zhang's car, which had various passes, couldn't pass unhindered, for this place housed all five Divine Artifacts of Xia Country.

Priceless value.

Their vehicle was stopped and checked five or six times along the way before arriving in front of a large warehouse.

The warehouse was brightly lit.

Inside, there were guarded soldiers everywhere, as well as some researchers.

As soon as the two got out of the car, an old man quickly walked over, tightly gripping Minister Zhang's hand, with an excited face:

"Minister Zhang, these are precious experimental samples that can greatly advance and be of reference to human technology. Many are unique and cannot be replicated. They truly cannot be sold; to place them in the hands of a martial artist is an absolute waste."

"Elder Luo, calm down, it's not my decision, it's the country's decision." Minister Zhang, helpless, rubbed his forehead: "Moreover, it's only two items, there are still three left."

Enough for your research!

You understand the current situation; it's difficult for all sectors, and the country has always prioritized research, and Divine Marrow has always been given priority, and this won't be an exception now."

Minister Zhang's mix of persuasion and promise left Elder Luo unable to respond.

These few Divine Artifacts have been in the laboratory for twenty years, without any groundbreaking results, let alone considering the current research environment.

Human technology is still at a primitive stage, with only electromagnetic force of the universe's four fundamental forces being slightly applicable, while the rest — strong nuclear force, weak nuclear force, and gravity — remain in the exploration stage.

Not to mention the more mysterious Original Force from another world.

And since the True God's Flesh has been received, the transaction is complete; there's no option to go back and undo it.

Not to mention others; he himself wouldn't agree!

Just a bit reluctant about these valuable research materials.

Seeing Elder Luo at a loss for words, Minister Zhang smiled and said: "Let me introduce you. This is General Manager Chen, the founder of the Chen Clan's cultivation method, and this is Academician Luo Chaoyuan of the Science Academy, an expert in Original Force energy."

"You... are General Manager Chen?" Luo Chaoyuan's old face showed some embarrassment. Only then did he realize the person next to him was the key figure all along. He thought the man was Minister Zhang's follower.

So young!

Can't tell at all.

Same age as his granddaughter.

Chen Shouyi, who had been silent, extended his hand and smiled: "Hello, Academician Luo, I've heard a lot about you."

He still held great respect for scientists.

His childhood aspiration was to become a scientist.

Of course, it's better not to mention it now.

Luo Chaoyuan looked at Chen Shouyi briefly, then extended his hand for a handshake: "You know me!"

Chen Shouyi's face froze briefly.

He might recognize a few female celebrities, but as a slacker, who would take the trouble to know a scientist?

It's just polite talk, isn't it?

"Haha, just joking, don't mind. I've heard your founding of the Chen Clan's cultivation method can sense and absorb Original Force, can you share what the thought process was?" Luo Chaoyuan eagerly shook Chen Shouyi's hand and asked curiously.

How should I know what this thought process is?

It's all the Book of Knowledge's doing.

"There's no real thought process; it's just after pondering for a while, I had a sudden inspiration." Chen Shouyi said calmly.

"Sudden inspiration is good; many researchers just lack that bit of sudden inspiration. You've pioneered a completely new path, based on this alone. If there were still Nobel Prizes, you'd surely get one this year.

Are you interested in doing research? I'd be your assistant, and I'm sure many people would be interested." Luo Chaoyuan said excitedly, his eyes glowing. A legendary strongman who can constantly feel the Original Force is undoubtedly the most suitable person to study it.

For ordinary people, instruments are needed to detect Original Force; for this person, they're wholly unnecessary.

Minister Zhang, standing nearby, looked dark-faced.

You're asking someone who can compete against a True God, the strongest human, to do research with you.

What are you thinking?

"Maybe in the future!" Chen Shouyi said awkwardly yet politely, at the same time discreetly withdrawing his hand and looking towards Minister Zhang: "Where's the Divine Artifact?"

Minister Zhang got the hint and immediately called over a soldier, inquiring briefly before turning to Chen Shouyi: "The Divine Artifact is stored underground; I see it's getting late, let's head over now."

Chapter 546: Armor

The divine artifact is placed more than twenty meters underground.

A group of people followed the spacious transport passage directly to the underground. Before getting close, Chen Shouyi already felt the Original Force surging in the air, the atmosphere dense with energy.

The light bulbs in the passage flickered nonstop.

They intermittently brightened and dimmed, emitting a "zzzz" sound.

Obviously, they were strongly interfered with.

"Divine artifacts are weapons used by Barbarian Gods. Taking them won't be of use to you, and most divine artifacts are enormous, making them difficult to transport," Luo Chaoyuan tried to make his final effort on the way, nagging incessantly, "Why not simply leave them at the research institute? They're still yours, and if there are any research outcomes, it would count as a contribution to the country."

Chen Shouyi turned a deaf ear.

This was what he exchanged for five hundred tons of True God flesh!

It was very hard to kill.

And who said he couldn't use them?

The Book of Knowledge and the Soul Pearl, isn't he using them just fine?

As for being enormous, the bigger, the better!

He still lacked a weapon for his Giant Transformation in the other world!

Turning the last corner, a vast empty space appeared before them.

"Wow, it's huge!" Minister Zhang couldn't help but exclaim in shock.

Five divine artifacts were displayed one by one, like exhibits, each larger than the last.

The smallest divine artifact was a black sphere about one meter in diameter, with intricate golden patterns on its surface.

The second smallest was an entirely dark yellow vessel about one meter tall and two meters in diameter, resembling a bowl, with a thin, gauzy layer of energy flowing slowly on its surface, emitting an obscure and indescribable aura.

These two were relatively normal.

But the next three were colossal behemoths.

A long spear about twenty meters long, looking emerald green like jade, exuding bursts of sharpness.

A gigantic black axe with a handle ten meters long, with an ancient appearance.

The largest was a bone club about twenty-six to seven meters long, with one thick end and one thin end, its surface glistening like jade!

Chen Shouyi couldn't take his eyes off this bone club as soon as he saw it.

No other reason!

The length of this bone club was just right for use during Giant Transformation in the other world.

"Is this a thigh bone?" Chen Shouyi asked without blinking, his head not turned.

"It could be, but it might not be, after all, species in the other world are different from ours, we've never seen this creature, so it's hard to make a judgment," Luo Chaoyuan said cautiously.

That's true.

"How is its hardness?" Chen Shouyi asked.

"Not clear!"

"Not clear?" Chen Shouyi turned his head in confusion at the words.

"Because so far, no means have been able to cause any damage to it!" Luo Chaoyuan explained, "Its atomic arrangement is quite dense, the atoms are much smaller than normal, seemingly compressed, and its physical properties are astonishing."

This is good!

Chen Shouyi, hearing this, became excited and approached.

"Be careful, don't touch it with your hands," Luo Chaoyuan quickly reminded.

"Don't worry, it's fine!" Chen Shouyi waved his hand indifferently.

He had long been acutely aware of the destructive energy this bone club was emitting, even the surrounding concrete had been eroded into a thin layer of stone powder.

However, this kind of unconscious energy emission was not a big deal for a legendary powerhouse whose attributes were close to those of demigods.

He walked up to this huge bone club as tall as a floor, tapped it with his finger bone, and the bone club did not make any sound.

It indicated that its hardness was impressive, with very little deformation.

"This counts as one; I'll take it!" Chen Shouyi said.

"President Chen, this thing is difficult to transport, how about you choose another one..." Luo Chaoyuan made his last struggle; the research value of this divine artifact was among the top of all divine artifacts, especially those peculiar atoms, which remained an unsolved mystery.

However, before he finished speaking,

he was taken aback on the spot. He couldn't help but rub his eyes, discovering it was indeed gone.

The colossal bone club, which lay horizontally like a building, had disappeared without a trace.

Chen Shouyi turned back for a glance, seeing the other's mouth slightly agape, body unmoving, as if petrified, he couldn't help but worry if the other person would suddenly faint: "Academician Luo, are you okay?"

At such an old age.

"Ah... oh... I'm fine, but just now, what happened?" Luo Chaoyuan snapped back to reality, jogging to the spot where the bone club was, finding it certainly wasn't an illusion, and looked at Chen Shouyi with a face full of shock: "You... how did you make it disappear?"

This was a normal reaction!

Looking at those other people, hmm, Chen Shouyi thought everyone was indifferent to it.

"I have a talent for space manipulation," he kindly explained.

"But, how could there be such a talent?" Luo Chaoyuan murmured in disbelief: "This... this is not scientific."

Blame it on me then!

Chen Shouyi thought secretly.

Minister Zhang, already having seen it once, was not as shocked this time, smiling as he said, "Elder Luo, don't get excited. Science also needs to follow the laws of development. If science could explain everything now, we would have already conquered the other world."

Minister Zhang, after much persuasion, finally quelled Academician Luo's intense thirst for knowledge.

Next, it was hard to choose the next divine artifact.

The long spear and giant black axe were first ruled out; one weapon was enough, and they appeared too small.

What's left was the black sphere with unknown golden patterns and the dark yellow bowl.

The bowl was the most eye-catching.

It was flowing with a veil-like pale blue energy, emitting a slight hum in the underground space, clearly a powerful divine artifact.

And the metal sphere, though it showed no energy fluctuations, had mysterious patterns that moved slowly, similarly looking extraordinary.

"Which one is from twenty years ago?" Chen Shouyi suddenly asked.

"It's that sphere, said to be an armor, but taking it won't help. We've conducted countless experiments but have been unable to transform it into armor; probably only Barbarian Gods can use this sort of thing," Luo Chaoyuan, having recovered, poured cold water from the side.

Armor!

Chen Shouyi's eyes lit up, immediately looking at the golden-patterned black sphere.

How could this be an armor?

He stepped forward, placing his hand on the sphere, focusing his mind to probe inside, discovering no trace of remaining consciousness.

It felt like a city with wide open gates.

He effortlessly seized control all the way to the divine artifact's core.

Will is a power similar to Divine Power, others cannot control divine artifacts because their will is scattered, unable to condense like Chen Shouyi.

A few seconds later.

Chen Shouyi felt a sense of ultimate control, arising spontaneously.

"This thing weighs over ten tons, better to take the long spear, it's very sharp..." Luo Chaoyuan continued to babble, seeing that Chen Shouyi didn't listen at all.

Chen Shouyi, engrossed, remained unaware, silently chanting in his heart.

"Arm!"

Accompanied by a melodious chime echoing in the basement.

The next moment.

A black armor with golden patterns instantly covered his entire body, and at the same time, a mysterious force field spread out.

The surroundings moved without wind, countless small tornadoes arose out of nowhere, lifting a large amount of dust.

The atmosphere suddenly fell silent.

"Good stuff, I'm taking this armor!" Boomed the voice from within the armor.

Chapter 547: A Loss

The black and gold-veined armor appeared both ferocious and splendid, exuding a faint, Divine Power-like aura.

No one responded.

The surroundings were silent, unusually tranquil!

Luo Chaoyuan opened his mouth, unable to speak, as he was awestruck by this Divine Power, his mind in a haze.

Unconcerned with everything else, Chen Shouyi remained oblivious.

At this moment, he was already immersed in his own world, delightedly examining this new toy.

His will was intricately linked with the armor, a curious sensation, as if the entire armor was part of his body.

The armor snugly adhered to his body, seamlessly fitting.

Apart from his eyes, every part of him was enveloped inside, yet he could hardly feel its existence.

Warmth, comfort, and a profound sense of security.

His skin could sharply sense subtle changes in the environment... no, it had become even more sensitive, as he could feel tiny air currents brushing against the force field emanating from his armor, curving elegantly behind him, and even the impact of dust particles.

More wondrous still.

He could not feel any weight from the armor, as light as if it was nothing.

It was hard to imagine that this item weighed entirely over a dozen tons.

The material didn't even seem metallic but more like a kind of biological tissue that could extend at will. Chen Shouyi felt that even if he used the Giant Transformation, it should be perfectly usable.

In fact, he now felt it was a bit too thick, with the chest alone being over ten centimeters thick.

Luckily, there was no sense of awkwardness.

Chen Shouyi attempted to take a step forward.

"Whoosh!"

A black silhouette leaped three to four meters away like a phantom, and if not for Chen Shouyi's timely reflexes and swift bodily adjustment, he might have stumbled to the ground.

"Phew, so fast! But it actually requires consuming mental energy!" Chen Shouyi silently thought to himself.

With just one action, his mental energy flowed away like water.

It made sense, after all, this was a Divine Artifact.

Using it surely required consuming Divine Power.

Without Divine Power, he could only consume a will akin to Divine Power, otherwise, how could he feel as if the dozen-ton weight was light as a feather, without even sensing any inertia from its mass.

Chen Shouyi loosened his condensed will.

Sure enough,

the next moment,

he felt an immense weight pressing down on him, while simultaneously, the force field and the Divine Power aura emitted by the armor also vanished without a trace, becoming ordinary.

Chen Shouyi wanted to experiment a bit longer, but clearly now was not the time.

He removed the armor and stored it in the space.

Only then did the awestruck onlookers come back to their senses.

"It's incredible, how... how did you do it?" Luo Chaoyuan, with his elderly frame seemingly restored to youthful vigor, approached briskly, his face flushed with excitement.

This scene was truly baffling.

This Divine Artifact, dormant for 20 years, had actually "come alive."

"It requires control over it; as long as you invest your mind, you can refine the Divine Artifact," Chen Shouyi, in a good mood, did not hold back.

He thought for a moment and continued, "You can practice my modified cultivation method, probably barely able to refine it as well!"

Beside him, Minister Zhang opened his mouth, wanting to speak but stopping, a thought lingering incessantly in his mind.

Loss!

Such a big loss!

This single Divine Artifact alone might be worth five hundred tons of Divine Flesh.

No wonder, initially, the other party only dared to request one or two Divine Artifacts, perhaps his mental pricing was only one.

Fortunately, the flesh ultimately remains within the pot; as General Manager Chen grows stronger, it also benefits Great Xia Country.

He pondered whether to suggest to the higher-ups to use surplus Divine Flesh to exchange for a batch of Divine Artifacts from other countries, taking advantage of the current underappreciated value of Divine Artifacts to quickly acquire more.

There might not be another chance later.

...

Finally shaking off the zealous curiosity of Academician Luo and other researchers, Chen Shouyi walked out of the heavily guarded warehouse, exhaling a deep breath.

Feeling mentally exhausted.

...

Inside the car.

"Divine Artifact... no, let me treat you to dinner tonight, stay in the Capital City for the night, and tomorrow I'll arrange a helicopter to take you back, how about it?" Minister Zhang suggested.

"Can you arrange a helicopter now?" Chen Shouyi inquired upon hearing this.

What's the point of staying in the Capital City?

Another day wasted!

Having just acquired two Divine Artifacts made him eager and impatient to test them out.

Every minute wasted felt like agony.

"It's possible, but aren't you being a bit too hasty!" Minister Zhang checked his watch and advised, "It's already eight o'clock, you came all this way, and I haven't even treated you to dinner yet..."

"I have Divine Flesh," Chen Shouyi said.

Upon hearing this, Minister Zhang fell silent.

Faced with such a figure who dines on Divine Flesh, he found it impossible to respond.

Simply from a different world.

It even made him feel a sense of inferiority.

"Since you're in such a hurry, then I won't delay you; the City Government is right beside us, and there's a helicopter there. By the way, how much Divine Flesh do you have left?" he probed cautiously.

After the transaction two days ago, it was discovered that the actual weighed tonnage of the True God was over five hundred twenty, not just five hundred.

This casual attitude clearly indicated the other party still had plenty left.

Chen Shouyi immediately became vigilant: "Not much left!"

Only about twenty tons.

It'll be consumed in a few years.

"Haha, just asking casually, don't mind it."

"No worries!" Chen Shouyi said, pausing to glance at him: "Why not give you a few pounds!"

As soon as he finished speaking, the driver, startled, trembled, losing composure, causing the car to swerve and almost crash.

Minister Zhang's face shifted several times before he wryly smiled and said, "Please don't put me in a bad spot, that'd be a mistake."

Chen Shouyi instantly felt disinterested.

Just a few pounds.

Could scrape it out from between his teeth.

...

The car drove all the way to the City Government.

After coordination and arrangement by Minister Zhang, a helicopter soon soared into the sky.

The moonlight was cold and clear.

Chen Shouyi lay covered with a thin blanket, under which the Shell Lady crawled around like a mouse, her courage much bigger under the cover of the blanket, entertaining herself merrily within.

Chen Shouyi couldn't be bothered with her, gazing out the darkened window.

With a sense of emotion overwhelming him.

Helicopters were truly comfortable!

...

The sky was beginning to brighten.

The helicopter finally reached Hedong safely, landing on the balcony of a building within the Safe Zone.

He exited the building, quickly avoiding the patrolling soldiers, swiftly heading home.

It was only four o'clock in the morning, and his family hadn't woken up yet.

He levitated, using his will to open the window, floating into the bedroom.

After placing the already asleep Shell Lady on the bed.

Seeing that there was nothing around, Chen Shouyi, unable to resist the urge, took out the sphere from the space again.

Instantly arming his body.

The next moment.

With a "crack,"

his foot sunk, the floor beneath him instantly shattered under the weight.

Chen Shouyi gaped, utterly perplexed, not daring to move, fearing he might collapse the floor.

"Almost forgot the armor isn't light!"

Chapter 548: Urgent and Burning

At dawn, Chen Shouyi called Bai Xiaoling and talked about the floor situation.

After washing up, he went downstairs and showed his face in front of his parents and sister.

Indicating that he was back.

When Bai Xiaoling arrived, he handed her the key, then rode his bicycle, feeling anxious in his heart, rushing to the other world.

Besides being filled with money, there wasn't anything valuable in his bedroom.

They had known each other for almost two years, and he still trusted Bai Xiaoling.

Except for being a bit impractical.

He was an impatient person, having good things and keeping them hidden was more painful than killing him.

He pedaled his bicycle swiftly all the way.

Even the harassment from female hooligans on the road didn't faze him, speeding past quickly, the gust lifting numerous skirts, revealing a forest of white legs.

Hmph!

...

The other world.

After releasing the Shell Lady, Chen Shouyi eagerly stripped off all his clothes.

His eyes sparkled with excitement.

He took out the Armor Ball from space.

The arming speed was swift, from taking it out of space to covering his body, it didn't even take 0.1 seconds.

Almost at the moment of appearance, it already covered his body.

"Bang!"

The next moment, a pressure as heavy as a mountain struck him, and even though he was prepared, he almost kneeled.

Under three times the gravity, the entire armor weighed forty tons, ten times the strength of his arms, nearly reaching his carrying limit.

It has to be said, this is a True God's Divine Artifact.

Just the weight alone could crush him.

It's entirely unmanageable for someone of his level, even though his physical qualities were nearly demigod level.

Perhaps to the unknown True God, this artifact was as light as clothing, but to the normal state of Chen Shouyi, it was a heavy burden.

He growled, veins bulging on his neck, and his back straightened with difficulty.

"Phew, so heavy, in normal times, it could be used for weight training." He breathed out, thinking to himself.

Within a few seconds of standing, his legs started to tremble, barely able to support.

"Let's begin!"

He immediately concentrated his will, connecting his mind with the armor.

The golden patterns on the armor's surface began to light up.

An invisible force dispersed instantly, lifting a cloud of dust, the unbearable heaviness of the armor vanished, becoming as light as a feather, meanwhile, his mind also started to deplete rapidly.

The depletion rate was faster than on Earth.

Chen Shouyi dared not waste time, immediately beginning experiments.

He stomped the ground forcefully.

With a "boom!"

The air emitted a sonic boom.

Completely unprepared, his body landed heavily on a sand pile, rolling violently.

"Ha... hahaha! Too fast!"

With a thought, his body stopped instantly from movement, floating in the air.

He looked shocked:

"This... this is just too... too incredible!"

"Including the weight of the armor, it's forty tons, yet the inertia seemed to vanish, as soon as I thought, my body abruptly halted!"

Strong!

So strong!"

However, at this moment, a deep fatigue washed over him.

His mind was rapidly depleting, soon feeling powerless.

"No... damn it!"

The next moment, the armor seemed to lose power, falling quickly from the air, crashing heavily to the ground, with his whole body prone on the sand.

If it were not for the soft sand here.

Just an impact like that could seriously injure him.

He quickly dispelled the armor.

His body swayed as he got up from the sand, clutching his head with a splitting headache, feeling as if his mind was drained.

He completely didn't know whether to be excited or frustrated.

"This Divine Artifact is indeed powerful, but unfortunately, the time is too short!"

In total, it lasted less than five seconds, during intense combat, it might only be effective for one strike.

"It seems at this current stage, I still can't use this armor, entirely beyond my ability."

Just then, a thought crossed Chen Shouyi's mind, pondering: "However... it could serve as a last-ditch effort!"

The armor indeed was heavy.

But this was only in his normal state.

For the Giant Transformation, it was nothing.

Not to mention the other world's Giant Transformation with ten-thousand-ton strength, even on Earth with a hundred and eighty tons, it could barely handle this weight.

After all, a hundred and eighty tons was only arm strength, he had previously tested his whole body load limit, it was ten times this strength.

Eighteen hundred tons, with the armor on Earth weighing just thirteen tons, was negligible.

Chen Shouyi ate some Divine Flesh, rested for a while, and his mind quickly recovered.

"Try again."

He began transforming.

In the blink of an eye, a magnificent giant appeared in the desert.

Compared to the last time in the other world, his height had hardly changed.

The higher-level Giant Transformation, the less the height changes as it advances, shifting toward agility.

Chen Shouyi once more tentatively armed the armor.

Found that it still covered his entire body, the entire armor fit closely, feeling as if he had an extra layer of thick black gold-patterned skin, joints in the hands, knees, and top of the head were covered with hard golden spikes, looking extremely menacing.

He felt his chest, as if really touching his skin, feeling a real sensation.

Moreover... incredibly resilient.

During the process, he tried to break one of the golden spikes, yet his terrifying hands, which could crush the hardest skull of those with Weak Divine Power, couldn't damage it in the slightest.

"The original owner of this armor probably wasn't an ordinary True God." He turned serious.

Weak Divine Power is just the weakest tier of a True God, only slightly stronger than a demigod, above that, there are Lesser Divine Power, Intermediate Divine Power, even Powerful Divine Power.

"Who knows what level of deity the opponent was?"

But at least it must have been Lesser Divine Power.

Chen Shouyi had long noticed not all gods possess Divine Artifacts.

Like the God of Hunting, or the Sea God he killed.

Of course, aside from their strength and foundation, some beasts becoming gods might not have the habit of using weapons.

Ordinary weapons couldn't enhance their power.

As for the two swords he had, they probably wouldn't even count as Divine Artifacts in the True God's eyes.

Probably made casually using divine power.

Chen Shouyi took out another Divine Artifact from his space, a large bone club, his hand slightly sinking, feeling handy: "Little one, move a bit further!"

The voice rolled like thunder.

The Shell Lady, who was watching curiously from afar, was scared and immediately flew a little farther.

"A bit farther!"

"Farther!"

...

Under Chen Shouyi's repeated urging, the Shell Lady flew several kilometers away.

He finally relaxed, looking at the several hundred meters high Hollow Mountain in front... and the five or six meters high small hill next to it.

Eyes sharp.

He rapidly burned Faith Value.

Thoughts raced, and everything around began to calm.

He took a deep breath, will condensed, and mind linked with the armor.

The next moment.

The air burst with a shockwave, leaving a white cone of sound cloud on the spot.

His figure flashed like a shadow.

"Boom!"

With a burst of flames, the entire five or six-meter-high small hill was smashed into pieces by the bone club, countless fragments flying into the sky.

The whole hill was completely leveled.

Chapter 549: I'm So Stupid

"Capital City, April 10th, People's Daily—The President attended the reactivation ceremony of the Electromagnetic Cannon at Celestial Spirit Mountain, and during his meeting with the chief engineer and the commander of the defense forces, he pointed out that the other world cannot defeat or intimidate the Great Xia Country, but will instead make the Great Xia Country more resilient in war. The toughest times are over!"

It is reported that this electromagnetic cannon can launch various types of shells, including tactical nuclear bombs, at a maximum speed reaching nine times the speed of sound. It has an independent nuclear power plant for its power system, with a maximum range of up to 300 kilometers. This refurbishment makes it once again a crucial defense weapon for the Capital City.

In the next one or two years, electromagnetic cannons across the country will also be gradually reactivated..."

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has dispatched diplomatic missions to neighboring countries, issuing stern warnings to stop invasive and disturbing actions, otherwise, they will face our wrath..."

"At 7:40 a.m. on April 15th, Capital City time, our country successfully test-fired a 300-ton yield hydrogen bomb with a missile in the Nipu Desert, and successfully destroyed the target.

It is reported that the missile was launched from 500 kilometers away, utilizing a new type of aperture radar to emit a super high-frequency microwave beam for guidance.

In the current Original Force environment, shortwave and medium wave are severely disturbed and scattered, unable to propagate.

This is also the reason why wireless and satellite communications have been unable to recover for a long time.

Only super high-frequency microwaves have the ability for directional propagation. The success of this test marks the preliminary restoration of our strategic nuclear missile strike capability."

...

Chen Shouyi flipped through the news of recent days, his eyes flickering.

In just two short years since the mutation.

Human technology is recovering at an unimaginable speed.

From the steam age, it has once again stepped into the electrical age, technology has largely returned to the level of the 1950s.

Apart from the fact that this technology is essentially retraced, war is also the best catalyst for technology.

...

The book-loving Shell Lady was reading in bed, the pages rustling as they turned.

In recent days, Chen Shouyi had bought a large pile of books again.

Mostly at kindergarten level, with illustrations, which she also liked.

However, such books are becoming increasingly scarce these days, and no longer does any overly fastidious publishing house print them, and even if they did, the quality wouldn't be good.

He felt embarrassed to ask Bai Xiaoling to help buy these.

He had to search each shop himself, finally finding some at an old book stall.

However, what Shell Lady liked most was mathematics.

He didn't dare buy anything above primary one for her, not because it was too difficult for her.

But worried it might be tiring for her.

It felt like child abuse.

Yet, she was delighted every day, completely enthralled.

...

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

"Brother, Elder Qin is here to see you!" Chen Xingyue said.

"Got it, I'll be down right away!" Chen Shouyi replied.

With a thought,

The air suddenly quivered.

A stack of newspapers on the table transformed into a barely visible powder, then rose into the air unaided, forming a grayish-white stream that flew into the nearby trash bin.

Newspapers that didn't mention his name were clearly worthless.

Immediately, Chen Shouyi got up, opened the door, and walked down the stairs.

...

Qin Liuyuan, sitting on the sofa, stood up somewhat awkwardly when he saw Chen Shouyi come down.

The two were no longer in the same league, even though they had known each other for a long time, meeting still induced some tension: "General Manager Chen, just dropping by to visit you, hope I didn't disturb you!"

"We're old friends, no need to be so formal, and why did you bring a gift!" Chen Shouyi glanced at the bag nearby and chuckled.

"Just some worthless tea leaves." Qin Liuyuan smiled apologetically.

More tea leaves again.

Why does everyone give him tea leaves?

Does he seem like a tea drinker?

Tea is for middle-aged folks!

He usually just drinks salt water.

Chen Shouyi didn't mind, sitting down beside him.

After chatting for a while, they talked about the recent blockade on East Pavilion Mountain to clear out the overpopulated creatures from the other world.

"Were many people killed?" Chen Shouyi asked out of curiosity.

He had heard a word about it from Bai Xiaoling last month but hadn't paid much attention, such tasks no longer concerned him.

"Yes, quite a few, over two hundred military and civilian martial artists sacrificed their lives, and even a martial champion was killed!" Qin Liuyuan replied solemnly, "They also discovered a Barbarian settlement there, numbering over a hundred."

Chen Shouyi listened intently, but his heart remained unmoved. Invisible deaths were always like cold, hard numbers.

After sitting for a little over ten minutes, Qin Liuyuan got up to say goodbye.

As Chen Shouyi escorted him to the door.

Qin Liuyuan hesitated for a moment, then gritted his teeth and stopped: "Oh right, General Manager Chen, I almost forgot, I wanted to ask when that auction will be?"

Ever since the news came out.

He had been waiting for a week.

Selling off second-hand weapons, investment shops, and various valuable collectibles, everything that could be sold was sold off, a massive sum of money raised, just waiting for the auction.

But then nothing happened.

Now a whole week had passed, and even the auction date hadn't been announced.

He went to the Provincial Government every day to inquire about the news.

It was truly testing his patience.

Had he taken his pants off just to see this?

Chen Shouyi paused: "Auction? What auction?"

Qin Liuyuan's heart nearly collapsed, surely you haven't forgotten?

Fortunately, Chen Shouyi quickly realized: "You're talking about the Demigod flesh? It should be in the coming days. Are you planning to attend the auction? Why spend the money, I'll give you some!"

Hearing this, Qin Liuyuan couldn't help but start breathing heavily, instinctively saying, "No, no, that's too precious, I can't accept it, can't accept... General Manager Chen, please stay, I'll be on my way."

Chen Shouyi wasn't one to insist, since he declined so firmly, he didn't press further.

...

The moonlight was faint.

Qin Liuyuan walked down the street and suddenly slapped himself hard.

A crisp sound echoed.

His face quickly turned red and swollen.

"I'm really stupid, truly!" he muttered to himself.

This is someone who's slaughtered four demigods, the Demigod meat they have must be calculated in tons, for them Demigod meat is probably like pork.

When they offered to give it, they truly meant it, it wasn't just politeness.

"Slap!"

As he thought more about it, he regretted it even more, giving himself another slap.

For someone like General Manager Chen.

A pound or two,

they'd be embarrassed to even offer such a small amount.

It would be a disgrace!

Given their past relationship, he estimated it would at least be over ten pounds, possibly twenty or fifty pounds.

If auctioned, how much money would that be worth?

Even bankruptcy wouldn't be enough.

"And yet, I damn well turned it down!"

"I'm really stupid, truly!"

"Slap!"

Chapter 550: Fever Pitch

After reluctantly sending Qin Liuyuan off, Chen Shouyi returned to his room and closed the door.

After eating a piece of True God meat, he took off his clothes, seized the time, and began to continue his training.

As for when to hold the auction, it had long been cast aside in his mind.

The fourth optimization of the Horizontal Training Thirty-Six Forms already had minimal effectiveness fading. Coupled with the stronger nourishing effect of True God meat, his power began to grow rapidly again these days, with progress speed comparable to when it was first optimized.

In just seven days.

His strength and physique increased by 0.2 points, while intelligence, agility, and perception each increased by 0.1 points.

Almost every day upon waking, he could see the attribute changes.

This feeling... is incredibly wonderful.

It made him indulge in it, completely unable to extricate himself.

...

The temperature in the room started visibly rising, and a bloody smell gradually permeated the air.

Fortunately, both Chen Shouyi, who was training, and the Shell Lady doing math problems on the bed, were focused and seemed completely unaware, paying no mind at all.

...

Early the next morning, just as Chen Shouyi was about to head out,

Bai Xiaoling blocked his way.

"General Manager Chen, I'm begging you, we really can't delay any longer, please set a date." Bai Xiaoling said, somewhat collapsing.

Her eyes were bloodshot, her face haggard, as she hadn't slept well for several days.

Initially, only district-level leaders would indirectly inquire about the auction date.

Later, it was department-level leaders, equally polite, but ultimately asking when the auction would be held.

She barely managed these inquiries, but by yesterday, even provincial-level leaders started to show concern, calling specifically about the matter.

This made her feel immense pressure, causing her to lose sleep entirely.

It's not because she's incompetent; it's just that her frail shoulders can't bear such immense pressure!

In recent days, more and more martial artists have been flocking to Hedong, many having heard the news and coming from other provinces, specifically waiting for the auction, even seven or eight Martial Artists have come, let alone large numbers of Martial Artists.

These Martial Artists and great Martial Artists have been staying in Hedong for a long time, and it has even begun to affect the safety issues of various brotherly provinces, with provincial leaders being driven mad by this matter.

If this continues, even the central government will have to pay attention.

They also can't directly approach Chen Shouyi, so the pressure falls on Bai Xiaoling.

Seeing her distressed look, Chen Shouyi also felt a bit embarrassed: "How about I... pick another date?"

The Faith Value growth rate has been quite good these days, so, of course, if it can be delayed for a day, it should be.

Bai Xiaoling, hearing this, swayed, her eyes turned red, tears almost falling. She hastily sniffed, and with a slight sob, said:

"General Manager Chen, I've checked the almanac, and the day after tomorrow is a great day this month. It's good for wealth, opening a market, trading, signing contracts, and opening light, a completely auspicious day. Otherwise, we'd have to wait until next month, you wouldn't want to delay it until then, right?"

Is that so?

Don't fool me!

Chen Shouyi suspiciously looked at Bai Xiaoling.

But seeing her on the verge of tears, his heart softened.

Even though he didn't feel her pressure, considering the pressure she must be under in recent days, he helplessly said, "Fine, the day after tomorrow it is."

"General Manager Chen, you agree?" Bai Xiaoling said in surprise.

"I agree, stop crying!" Chen Shouyi replied irritably.

"I'm not crying!"

...

After Bai Xiaoling left, Chen Xingyue, who had been eavesdropping nearby, asked curiously, "Brother, just how much Demigod meat do you have?"

"A little over ten tons!" Chen Shouyi replied.

"Are you auctioning it all?" Chen Xingyue asked nonchalantly.

"Yes, what else should I do with it?"

"You're—you're not going to save any for your adorable sister?"

Chen Xingyue couldn't bear it anymore.

Why?

How could her brother be so mean?

She was his only sister, after all, when he couldn't beat her before, she never bullied him, at most just teased him a bit, and yet he's selling it all for money without leaving any for her.

"You want some?" Chen Shouyi realized and asked.

Chen Xingyue quickly nodded emphatically.

"You're currently in a stagnant period regarding your strength; what use is Demigod meat? Wait until you evolve and breakthrough as a Martial Artist!" Chen Shouyi gave her a glance and said.

In fact, breaking through is quite simple.

Just use the Divine Blood of the True God; he has plenty of it in his space.

But such a breakthrough, Chen Shouyi feels, has too many aftereffects.

A person's attributes include not only strength, physique, agility, intelligence, and other physical attributes but also secondary attributes like perception and will. The former can take shortcuts, while the latter must be progressed steadily, particularly will, which requires experience and even life-and-death adventures.

The imbalance between the two is quite severe.

For a time, Chen Shouyi felt particularly irritable, unable to control his own desires, occasionally wanting to vent. Seeing a woman's bare legs would remind him of nudity, and seeing nudity... well, you know!

Fortunately... he feels much better now.

This is largely due to his inherently good nature. As for his little sister, who's full of mischief, if she suddenly rocket to the Peak Martial Artist stage, she'd likely end up completely corrupted.

Chen Xingyue, anxious, said:

"But you can't auction it all off."

"If you sell it all, even if I reach Martial Artist, there won't be any left."

"You should at least save some for me. I've heard that Demigod meat has a long shelf life and doesn't spoil easily!"

Chen Shouyi was speechless. Her little brain is thinking quite far ahead as he walked towards the garage and took out his bicycle: "Ask me for some when you breakthrough!"

Chen Xingyue quickly grabbed the back seat of his bike to stop him from leaving: "Promise me, how much will you save for me?"

"Enough for you!"

Enough to fill you up, make you eat until you're full, and even make you puke!

"Brother, you said it yourself!"

Chen Shouyi's face darkened, this is ridiculous, it's just a bit of Demigod meat, do you have to be so stingy?

Really?

She's his sister; he won't shortchange her.

In his space, there are over twenty tons of True God meat lying around!

...

The next day, the news regarding the auction date, published by Jiangnan Daily, completely set off a frenzy across the entire Jiangnan Province and even surrounding regions. For the next two days, countless martial artists who sold their homes, carrying bags full of cash, flocked to Hedong.

The whole city was filled with the scent of money.

Since the mutation.

The credibility of banks suffered a devastating blow, and many people no longer had the habit of saving money. Money was always hidden at home, either piled into walls, spread across beddings, or stuffed into refrigerators.

Money stopped circulating, and the financial system became stagnant.

This made the authorities extremely frustrated but helpless.

Once bitten by a snake, for ten years, they fear a well rope; no amount of propaganda would work, as no one wants to see their hard-earned money vanish again.

With such a massive influx of people, the city's guesthouses and hotels were completely inadequate.

To accommodate these martial artists properly, the city government distributed a large number of tents.

Yet even so, all major parks in the Safe Zone were already overcrowded.

The tents, like dense mounds of graves, were everywhere filled with martial artists as if they were refugees.