

New Era 661

Chapter 661 - Cloud Giant

Chen Shouyi landed in the rural area outside the city, changing into a set of clothes.

The injuries on his body had completely healed, leaving no trace, but the heaviness and anxiety in his heart remained unchanged.

He sneezed, expelling blood residue from his lungs, took out a watch, checked the time, and found it was already ten thirty. He quickly made his way towards the spatial passage.

The whole Zhonghai was solemn, with a large number of artillery guarding the rooftops on both sides, destined for a sleepless night.

Chen Shouyi passed through the passage, returning to the alternate world.

It was still evening here, and his family hadn't slept yet, though the relatives had already left, leaving only his cousin Jiang Yanyan, who had clearly been left behind by her parents.

"Brother!" Jiang Yanyan greeted timidly.

"Are you getting used to the alternate world?" Chen Shouyi forced a smile, patiently asking.

"Yes, quite used to it. Not long ago, during our military training, we went to the alternate world once. I even spoke on stage as the representative of the freshmen," Jiang Yanyan said, her face flushing, feeling as if she was facing an elder rather than her cousin.

Nowadays, martial arts apprentices were almost widespread among young people, though becoming a martial artist without relying on external forces was still extremely rare.

"Quite good," Chen Shouyi responded.

"Better than you back then," Mrs. Chen laughed.

Jiang Yanyan's face reddened further upon hearing this. At the start of the semester, the vice principal had specially chatted with her, being very approachable, resulting in her becoming the representative of the freshmen afterward.

When it came to college entrance exam scores, many were better than her. Regarding martial arts cultivation, she was only a martial arts apprentice on the surface.

She wasn't foolish, initially puzzled, but quickly figured out the reason.

After chatting with her for a while, Chen Shouyi returned to his bedroom.

The bedroom was quite simple, with only a bed and a table, nothing more.

Chen Shouyi sat on the bed silently, in a daze.

Two little ones crawled out from under the blanket, becoming active again, using his body as a playground, scrambling to climb constantly.

Feeling somewhat annoyed, he pushed the two little ones aside.

After sitting for a while, he laid down on the bed, entered the Book of Knowledge Space, and chose a memory fragment to enter, not caring at this moment whether it was discovered or not.

...

"Boom..."

In the distance, dark clouds gathered, lightning flashed and thunder roared, a figure flying at twice the speed of sound, skimming the ocean towards the Rising Sun Country.

The sea water stirred up a long streak, shooting like an arrow towards the distance.

Faith Value burned slowly, everything before his eyes slowing down, his gaze calm, as if a flame was burning in his eyes. The enormous pressure of these days crushed him like a Great Mountain, making him feel breathless.

Many times, his heart was filled with confusion and struggle.

One side showed the collapse of human civilization, the predicted death, while the other clung to survival, preserving the fire of humanity for the greater good.

The greater the power, the greater the responsibility, a phrase that often seemed like a joke. He had thought so before, but upon reaching such heights, it was no longer a joke but a tangible pressure.

Especially when all soldiers were prepared to valiantly face their deaths in the face of despairing war, fighting without retreat.

No one's life was more precious than another's.

The light of the nuclear blast lit up the entire night sky, illuminating his exceptionally calm face.

From the void, a solemn gaze looked over.

With a thought, he transformed into a giant, simultaneously deploying a vacuum field and armored suit.

"Boom!"

A thick lightning bolt instantly struck the vacuum field, illuminating it with blinding light, the massive electron flow engulfing Chen Shouyi's body as he collided into the sea, creating a gigantic splash.

The next moment, the sea churned, a giant clad in armor shot out, continuing to stride across the surface. His heart was invigorated, finding that after the vacuum barrier, the lightning's energy was weakened substantially.

The armor added, leaving him unscathed, not even the slightest rigidity remained.

With a physique of 41.4, he perfectly withstood the opponent's attack.

"Boom!"

"Boom!"

...

The Lord of Lightning seemed somewhat surprised by this, lightning struck down in succession. Chen Shouyi didn't even pause his movements, his immense power crushing the sea surface.

A series of gigantic bowl-shaped depressions formed, with countless ocean creatures reduced to pulp in his wake.

Half a minute later, he had already reached land.

The torrential rain poured down, the distant city lay in darkness, not a single light in sight.

"Barbarian God, come!" He stood firm, looking up and roaring at the dark clouds.

The mighty sound waves sent the heavy rain flying backward.

"Ignorant evil being, you are courting death." The voice echoed as if heaven and earth resonated.

As they spoke, large expanses of dark clouds began to descend, rapidly transforming.

Amidst it all, a holy chant echoed spaciouly, and invisible forces began to converge. Soon, a majestic giant formed from dark clouds gradually took shape.

This was a terrifying cloud giant that towered over a thousand meters, with a body that connected heaven and earth, filling the space.

Countless lightning bolts shuttled within its indistinct body, bursting with streaks of blue light.

Chen Shouyi gasped, his face filled with shock. What astounded him even more was that this was not its true form, but merely a projection of power. The true body was hidden somewhere unknown.

The giant's hand made of dark clouds slowly lifted.

The weather changed dramatically.

Simultaneously, a blue lightning bolt gradually began to form.

Chen Shouyi retreated step by step, feeling completely locked on.

There was no escape, nowhere to hide.

A nuclear missile quickly launched toward the cloud giant, but it exploded mid-air several kilometers away. The shockwave from the nuclear explosion blew away one side of the giant's body, but soon more dark clouds descended to repair it.

The lightning bolt grew increasingly bright, and the giant formed by dark clouds assumed a standard spear-throwing stance.

His hair stood on end.

"Come on." He took a step back and roared loudly, his voice like thunder.

In the next moment,

he was engulfed by an endless light.

"Boom!"

Moments later, as the light faded, a giant figure shrouded in smoke stood firm at the scene.

"Heh heh... hahahahah..." Chen Shouyi laughed maniacally, "Barbarian God, bring out your true body, your current power is insufficient to impress."

...

Several minutes later.

He exited the memory virtual world, staring at the ceiling.

It took him quite a while before he sat up.

He glanced at his body, still marked with burn scars. The fiery pain on his skin didn't bother him; he picked up a cup on the table, poured himself some water, and drank it in one gulp, ignoring the heat.

Perhaps it was the threat of the super nuclear missile, or perhaps he was simply not deemed a threat; the true body never appeared from start to finish.

It made him a bit discouraged.

He paced back and forth, brows furrowed.

Just then, footsteps approached, and sensing something, he opened the door and walked outside.

Ye Zong, Luo Jingwen, and two Caucasians hurriedly approached.

"Lao Ye, Lao Luo, you're here too!"

"Ha, long time no see." Luo Jingwen forced a faint smile.

Ye Zong nodded as well, speaking heavily, "We received the orders this afternoon and were dispatched here... By the way, let me introduce you, this is Anderson."

Anderson felt slightly nervous, not daring to slack off, hurriedly extending his hand and respectfully speaking in awkward Mandarin, "Hello, God Chen, you can call me by my Chinese name, An Haoran."

Chen Shouyi shook hands with him.

"This is Mark."

Mark was even more nervous than An Haoran, his face seeming nearly frozen.

Chen Shouyi looked at him, his gaze becoming sharp, "I've seen you before, a legend of the Pantheon, right, Anderson, now I remember why the name sounded so familiar. Are you both from the Pantheon?"

"Yes... yes." Mark felt as if he were being stared at by a prehistoric giant beast, his face pale, unable to speak.

"God Chen, please don't misunderstand, there is no Pantheon anymore. Both of us have been pardoned by the Great Xia Country, and now we are citizens of the Great Xia Country," An Haoran, sweating profusely, hurriedly explained.

Chen Shouyi glanced at Ye Zong and Luo Jingwen, seeing them both nod, "I hope things are as you say."

Mark and An Haoran felt the pressure lift, their entire bodies almost collapsing, feeling as if they had taken a trip through hell, unable to keep the fear from their hearts, feeling that even facing a True God was no different.

Luo Jingwen tried to ease the tension, "Let past grievances be the past, now we are all one."

Chen Shouyi was not one to hold grudges, so he let it go, turning to Luo Jingwen, asking, "Have Wang Lie and Zhu Xueqing come over?"

The only martial artists from the Capital City he had a good relationship with were these few.

Upon hearing the question, Luo Jingwen immediately fell silent for a moment before speaking, "Wang Lie has already sacrificed himself; Zhu Xueqing should be coming over."

Chen Shouyi was taken aback, still clearly remembering the middle-aged man who sheepishly asked him to sign an autograph for his daughter, only to know he had also made the ultimate sacrifice, "When did this happen?"

"Almost half a year ago," Luo Jingwen said softly.

Chapter 662 - Hope

Chen Shouyi exhaled and said:

"Let's take a walk together."

The group walked towards the forest ahead, Fang Haoran and Mark exchanged glances, then quickly followed.

The autumn in this alternate world was in full swing, with golden leaves occasionally drifting down from above, and the ground covered in fallen leaves felt exceptionally soft underfoot.

"Winter is coming soon." Chen Shouyi reached out, and a leaf automatically flew into his hand.

If humanity is defeated, this winter might be quite difficult.

"Yes, according to the alternate world's calendar, there are still 55 days until winter." Luo Jingwen said on the side.

The atmosphere was somewhat oppressive.

Chen Shouyi looked towards An Haoran and Mark: "You two came from the Yan State?"

"Yes, God Chen, sir!" The two didn't dare to slack off and said honestly. At this moment, who could tell that these two were once notorious big shots in the Pantheon, now they seemed as harmless as two little rabbits.

"Have you seen the Lord of Lightning?" Chen Shouyi asked.

"N-no!" An Haoran quickly replied, thinking that if they had seen him, they wouldn't be standing here now.

Chen Shouyi felt disappointed, gently patting a nearby big tree.

Everyone couldn't help but look over.

Seeing the tree unmoved, they subconsciously breathed a sigh of relief. Facing this God of Martial Arts, a human strongman comparable to a True God, even a casual gesture was terrifying.

Even Ye Zong had to admit, the current Chen Shouyi had far surpassed him, reaching an unfathomable realm.

Unfortunately, it's still not strong enough!

At this moment, an officer quickly approached and saluted: "General Manager Chen, the President called."

...

General Manager Chen stepped through the spatial passage, walked quickly to the base's phone room, and picked up the phone.

"Hello, this is Chen Shouyi."

The other side was silent for a long time, only the sound of heavy breathing was heard.

"General Manager Chen, sorry to disturb you so late." The voice on the other end was a bit weary and hoarse.

"It's still just evening in the alternate world, the sun hasn't set yet." Chen Shouyi said.

"Indeed, this time humanity... might really not hold on. We've persisted for three years, and in the end, we're still going to fail... I might be the most incapable president in history." The President rambled on.

Chen Shouyi was silent for a moment, then offered comfort: "You've done your best."

"Humanity has been too complacent for too long. If we had foreseen the invasion of Original Force from the beginning, humanity would not have been defeated so quickly. If we only had ten more years, no, five more years, perhaps the outcome would be different. But alas, it's too late!" The President sighed.

Chen Shouyi quietly listened to the words of this respected elder, without speaking.

Because he knew, speaking more at this moment would be pointless.

"Don't take risks, preserve your usefulness. For the last hope of humanity, sometimes it takes more courage to live than to die." The President continued his worried admonishments.

He believed in the prophecy, because except for discrepancies in timing, everything else had come true. But three months was really too short, even though humanity had given its all, it couldn't reach a qualitative improvement.

Chen Shouyi nodded, then realized the other side couldn't see him. He opened his mouth and said, "Don't worry, I won't take risks."

"That's good, that's good. Ah, won't talk anymore. Thank you for listening to an old man ramble for so long."

...

Chen Shouyi hung up the phone, stood still for a moment, and then walked out the door.

Outside the door stood soldiers, heavily guarded. Seeing Chen Shouyi come out, they stood up straighter, faces filled with excitement.

He paused for a moment, then walked towards the passage.

...

Deep in the night.

Listening to the howling cries of beasts from the forest outside.

Chen Shouyi lay awake, his eyes open, unable to find sleep.

He opened his status panel.

Strength: 23.2

Agility: 23.2

Constitution: 23.3

Intelligence: 23.1

Perception: 21.9

Will: 21.9

Energy Accumulation: 51.23

Faith Value: 1001.5

"My will has increased by 0.2 points." He muttered to himself, "But it's completely useless."

The Lord of Lightning can't be dealt with just by an increase of 0.2 in willpower.

He decided not to sleep anymore, glancing at the two little ones snoring beside him, cautiously got up, closed the door, and then soared into the air, flying towards the depths of the forest.

Not long after, he landed, immediately transforming.

A shockwave exploded on the spot.

The next moment,

an arc of electricity danced, and a majestic giant eighty meters tall stood in the forest, scaring countless beasts and birds into fleeing in all directions.

He clenched his fist hard.

The air exploded, producing a thunderous roar, causing the surrounding trees to lean and sway.

Feeling the terrifying power within, Chen Shouyi's previously heavy mood lightened slightly.

"If on Earth I had this kind of power, there'd be no need to fear the Lord of Lightning. Those lightning strikes would probably just tickle. Even if I couldn't kill, I'd still inherently be unbeaten." He mused to himself.

"Unfortunately, on Earth, my strength is also greatly weakened, down to about one percent."

Then he had a sudden epiphany, with his expression momentarily stunned:

"Wait!"

"Perhaps there's a chance I can defeat the Lord of Lightning."

"The spatial passage separates the two worlds. If I ambush on one side of the passage..." He carefully considered the possibilities, his eyes growing brighter, and his heart filling with excitement:

"Maybe it could work..."

...

The next day, the number of people flooding into the spatial passage increased, it was a sea of people.

The area of tents alone covered several square kilometers, with an estimated crowd of over a million. Fortunately, the government was organized and orderly. After the mutation, with frequent wars, they were experienced in managing refugees.

Otherwise, even just the issue of feeding them would be a huge disaster.

...

The sky changed dramatically.

Countless white clouds passed like fleeting horses, constantly shifting, an invisible force gradually spread here.

...

"Great Giant, let's go back." the Shell Lady said.

Little Two whispered, "I'm not afraid. It's very dangerous here, but the Great Giant is more powerful."

Compared to the timid Shell Lady, Little Two, who had grown up in the Forbidden Land, was undoubtedly more knowledgeable and braver... a little.

The Shell Lady felt belittled and hurriedly said, "Then Little One isn't afraid, Little One is the bravest."

"You're not the bravest, I am."

"No, you're not, Little One is."

Seeing the two little ones about to start fighting again, Chen Shouyi said, "Stop quarreling!"

Then he quickly walked towards the small town ahead. If he remembered correctly, there was a medium to large spatial passage there. Time was tight, and he could no longer afford delays.

...

Chapter 663 - The Wind Rises

It was already October; the rice paddies on both sides had grown to a meter high, the ears of rice heavy and ripe, ready to be harvested before long.

The roads were filled with hopping frogs and frantically scurrying field mice.

"When the river warms in spring, the ducks are the first to know," it was clear that these animals sensed the looming threat as if it were a natural disaster.

The spatial passage represented danger; whenever a spatial passage was discovered, the government would organize an evacuation.

Generally, within a kilometer's radius, it was uninhabitable, and this spatial passage was situated in farmland, making it even more remote, with no villages within five kilometers. Chen Shouyi looked around, feeling somewhat satisfied.

He briskly approached the passage, took out his credentials, and directly summoned the base's leader.

...

"Evac... Evacuate? President Chen, I... I can't make that decision," said the camp commander, sweating profusely.

"Then contact your superior. Your mission here is done," Chen Shouyi said, expressionless.

"Alright, alright, please wait a moment."

...

An hour later, the soldiers of the base had completely evacuated.

A loud "boom" followed.

A massive iron door, three to four feet thick, was kicked flying by him; the solid walls of the passage were covered in cracks, dust, and rubble falling as if they couldn't bear the strain any longer.

He stepped on the twisted iron door and continued forward.

The iron doors ahead were destroyed one by one.

Soon, a huge spatial passage with a diameter of over fifty meters appeared before him, unmistakably the largest spatial passage he had ever seen, feeling vast and awe-inspiring.

Of course, this was only for his true form.

Feeling the Original Force here, denser than in ordinary regions, Chen Shouyi focused and rapidly transformed.

The next moment.

The entire giant building shuddered violently, instantly covered with web-like cracks; large chunks of concrete broke off, and countless steel bars snapped inside, with a huge bulge forming on the building's top.

The bulge didn't last long before the entire roof was uprooted by a terrifying force, tons of concrete seemingly defying gravity, soaring into the sky while a massive and terrifying head emerged.

...

At that moment, the evacuating soldiers hadn't gone far.

Witnessing the scene, they were shocked, wide-eyed, and speechless.

"That... that's President Chen!"

As a military facility guarding the portal to another world, the spatial passage itself was heavily fortified. The giant building above the passage was constructed to extremely high specifications from its inception.

The whole thing was like a giant concrete jar, with walls over ten meters thick, impervious even to armor-piercing bullets.

Yet at this very moment, it seemed no better than tofu.

...

"Boom, boom, boom!"

Chen Shouyi recklessly destroyed the building, quickly reducing it to rubble.

Thanks to the denser Original Force here, his transformed height doubled to over forty meters, with his strength amplified more than twenty thousand times compared to his true form.

"So this is how it is." Excitement surged in his heart.

He suddenly punched out, the world around shifted colors, accompanied by a terrifying sonic boom. His fist, rubbing rapidly against the air, burst into flames, with a light red high-pressure air column shooting one or two miles away, painting half the sky red.

Even the two little ones observing in the distance were blown back dozens of meters by the fierce wind.

...

A few minutes later.

A small car stopped at the ruins.

The door opened, and a high-ranking official from Zhonghai City stepped out swiftly, with his secretary following closely behind.

Seeing the space passage base where President Chen was long gone, he stood in place for a few minutes, sighed, then turned to the secretary and said, "He's already gone; let's head back!"

"To the evacuated spatial passage?"

"No need. He's already made his decision. Perhaps that's why he became humanity's supreme being."

The secretary said nothing, as nothing would be appropriate at this moment.

"How long have you been with me?" the official asked.

"Three years and five months," the secretary promptly replied.

"Didn't realize it's been that long. I remember your son was in the third year of middle school, right?" the official mused.

"He just started high school," the secretary smiled, though his smile was slightly bitter. In this moment, he let go of his usual caution:

"I told him to train in martial arts, but he couldn't bear the hardship and is now over two hundred pounds. My wife is gentle and can't manage him. Sometimes I feel like I want to beat him."

During wartime, everything must yield to military affairs, even for me, a high-ranking secretary in Zhonghai City, a department-level official, as a non-combatant, I can't enjoy a divine blood allocation.

"People need to face adversity to grow, but you should advise calmly; he's in a rebellious phase now." The official then took a vial of Divine Blood from his chest: "Give this to your son. I'll arrange for him to enter the spatial passage when the time comes."

Seeing this, the secretary was shocked and promptly refused: "Chief, this is the state's evacuation allocation for your relatives; I... I can't take it."

"I have no sons or daughters and live alone. It's useless to me, better to give it to someone who can use it."

...

"The wind is picking up!"

On the way back, the sky turned windy, blowing several plastic bags swirling through the air.

Countless citizens, under the soldiers' order-keeping, were queuing to go to the nearest air-raid shelters, their faces uneasy and confused. Chen Shouyi watched for a while, then quickened his pace, soon returning to his dwelling in the other world.

"Dad, Mom, I'm going out for a few days," Chen Shouyi announced.

"Why is there a mission at this time?" Mrs. Chen asked worriedly.

"Yes!" Chen Shouyi smiled, pretending to be lighthearted: "It's a small mission, won't take long to return."

"Don't lie to me; rumors about the Barbarian God's arrival are everywhere. They even plan to deploy nuclear landmines at the passage entrance. What are you going out for?" Mrs. Chen turned her head aside, silently shedding tears.

"Brother, you're not really going to kill the Barbarian God, are you?" Chen Xingyue, alarmed, asked hurriedly.

"What are you all thinking?" Chen Shouyi replied, "It's really just a small mission. Alright, to be honest, it's to explore another passage, prepping for any possible danger here, so we can go there. But it needs to be confidential; don't tell anyone."

Father Chen, who had been quietly smoking, was skeptical: "Really?"

"Really, when have I ever lied?"

...

After appeasing his parents, Chen Shouyi returned to his room, thought for a moment, and took out a case of Divine Blood, then called Chen Xingyue outside.

"After I... leave, remember to take care of Mom and Dad!" Chen Shouyi instructed.

"Go without worry; I'll handle everything here," Chen Xingyue replied.

This made Chen Shouyi flinch inside.

What do you mean by 'go without worry'?

So inauspicious.

But he didn't bother to argue.

Chen Shouyi handed over the case of Divine Blood: "Inside are thirty vials of True Divine Blood."

"Brother, all for me?" Chen Xingyue said in surprise and delight.

"Temporarily keep it with you. If there's danger, you can use it, but return it when I'm back."

"I know, brother." Chen Xingyue said, overjoyed.

Chapter 664 - Clouds Surging

The atmosphere was growing increasingly tense. As Chen Shouyi approached the passage, the soldiers had already begun setting up the nuclear bombs.

As the nuclear landmines, each the size of a barrel, were carefully lifted from sealed special vehicles by the soldiers and buried in the ground, even Chen Shouyi felt a chill run down his spine, his heart pounding.

This was undoubtedly the most terrifying minefield in the world; once detonated, everything within several kilometers would likely be vaporized.

"It seems that even if I'm not here, this place is temporarily safe enough," Chen Shouyi thought to himself.

When one's strength reaches a certain level, they have an almost predictive intuition about danger. With these nuclear landmines here, the Lord of Lightning wouldn't dare to step in.

Although access here was already forbidden, he still left the passage smoothly after showing his credentials.

It wasn't long before he entered another spatial passage.

This was an endless grassland, speckled with scattered trees. In the distance, herds of animals could be seen leisurely grazing. The environment here was neither advantageous nor disadvantageous for battle.

Chen Shouyi quickly flew into the sky, familiarizing himself with the surrounding terrain.

He had only one chance.

If he missed, he would only be able to flee.

If lucky, he could escape with his life.

If unlucky, well, then it's the end of the road, letting fate decide.

To the west, more than ten kilometers away, there's a big river. Hmm, it could serve as a backup escape plan.

To the north, two hundred kilometers away, there's also a bottomless chasm. The entire chasm seems to divide the continent, almost reaching no end, only it's a bit too far.

...

Countless pieces of information flashed through his mind.

He then descended from the high altitude, exhaling a sigh. Thinking about escape before even fighting was an ominous sign.

The grassland was full of wildflowers; the two little fellows became lively as soon as they got here, energetically gathering nectar, carefree. Watching the two little ones, his heart gradually calmed down.

"In the end, who will win is still unknown!"

...

East Sea.

Endless dark clouds spread like a black curtain, beginning to stretch over the distant continent.

In just a day or two, the Rising Sun Country had already fallen, completely losing its power to resist. Facing this unseen enemy, Rising Sun Country was utterly powerless. From beginning to end, the true body of the Lord of Lightning was never seen, only endless dark clouds.

"Quick, quick, launch!"

A gigantic missile erupted from the missile silo, its tail spewing scorching flames as it rapidly flew towards the clouds. Within half an hour, it violently exploded with a blinding glow.

Under the hundreds of millions of degrees from the hydrogen bomb explosion, all material was transformed into high-energy particles, with massive clouds seemingly wiped away instantly, puncturing a hole dozens of kilometers in diameter.

No creature could survive such an attack, not even a True God with powerful divine power. Facing such a sky-wrath-like strike, it would be instantly vaporized, without any struggle.

Unfortunately, no matter how powerful, it still had to hit the target to be effective.

The cloud paused for a few seconds, then dodged the void and continued pressing forward. A few minutes later, even the void was repaired.

However, this was just the beginning.

Missiles soared from various coastal areas, exploding amidst the clouds. Anyone witnessing this apocalypse-like scene would shiver all over. When a nuclear-armed nation goes all out, even gods and demons tremble before it.

Nobody spared a thought for whether Earth would face nuclear winter in the future because if humanity was defeated, humans wouldn't have to worry about such matters anymore.

The clouds were pierced by a massive net full of holes from the numerous nuclear bombs, its advancement slowing. Each glow of a nuclear bomb drained its divine power, yet, that was all.

The clouds kept advancing, unwavering.

Tens of billions of believers, half a year of rigorous preparation allowed the Lord of Lightning to amass terrifying power. Nothing could stop it, not even equally powerful divine forces.

...

Chen Shouyi stood amidst the ruins, watching missiles soar into the sky and the auroras dancing like ribbons at the horizon, his gaze solemn. He could clearly feel the chaotic magnetic field in the distance.

The wind was getting stronger.

Though it was still the blazing afternoon sun, it felt like dusk was approaching.

After watching for a while, he returned to the alternate world, continuing to train as usual, only unable to suppress his frequent urge to urinate, relieving himself five or six times. When he stepped out of the alternate world again, he found the outside world remained unchanged.

"Damn it, why is it so slow? Just come if you're coming." Chen Shouyi was feeling uneasy, like during high school when awaiting exam results while the teacher announced scores from the podium, that excruciating wait for judgment.

Chen Shouyi returned to the alternate world again.

He opened the attribute panel, looking at the faith value that had reached 1550.3.

He hesitated for a moment, finally adding a thousand faith points to Self-Healing.

He had long noticed that the progress of each talent ability diminishes with more points added, but increasing a thousand faith points on Giant Battle Body wouldn't show much change, whereas on Self-Healing, the improvement was noticeable.

"Hopefully, it will be of some use."

He stood up, "Red Little Spot, Green Little Spot, come here quickly."

The two little ones playing among the flowers swiftly flew over, landing silently on Chen Shouyi's shoulder.

"Good giant, what's the matter?" Shell Lady asked.

"Yeah, yeah," the second Little Spot echoed.

"When I tell you to run later, you both should run as fast as you can, as far as possible," Chen Shouyi said seriously.

"Good giant, are you going to fight the bad giant again?" Shell Lady asked worriedly.

Seeing Chen Shouyi nod, Shell Lady wrinkled her brows, softly asked, "Do you need Little Spot's help?"

Chen Shouyi's mouth twitched, thinking, "Isn't that a polite refusal?"

As if you could help, not getting in the way is already helping,

"No need," Chen Shouyi replied, speechless.

"Alright, Little Spot will cheer for you then."

"I will also cheer for the good giant," the second Little Spot quickly added.

"That's good, you're both good little points."

...

It was already early morning on Earth. The clouds gradually obscured the moonlight, and the world turned completely dark.

In the distance, barely audible thunderous roars echoed, a faint oppressive aura spreading.

Chen Shouyi sat on the ruins, constantly consuming the meat paste of powerful divine power.

The two little spots didn't dare sleep, standing on Chen Shouyi's shoulders, eyes wide, like two human radars, nervously staring at the sky,

Time ticked by, second by second.

More clouds gathered.

"Boom!"

A bolt of lightning streaked across the sky, crashing to the ground, illuminating the world.

The two little ones trembled in fright.

Chen Shouyi stood up, took a deep breath, and said slowly, "You two, run away quickly."

"Okay!"

"Okay!"

The pair fled into the spatial passage, without a moment's delay, continuing to fly rapidly into the distance.

Chapter 665 - Lord of Lightning (Part 1)

Zhonghai Luoming Island Military Base.

"Quick, quick, quick!"

Soldiers hurriedly loaded nuclear shells into the cannons, their actions mechanical and numb. This was a desperate war, unseen enemies, no specific targets, the only thing to do was load, and then... fire.

In the dead of night, all missiles were exhausted, only a dozen nuclear shells and some conventional weapons remained.

The sky alternated between light and dark, with blinding "suns" attempting to tear through the clouds in the distance, but obviously futile.

Larger raindrops fell from the sky, stinging the faces of those they hit.

"Boom!"

Suddenly, a massive lightning bolt with a diameter of several meters struck down, instantly vaporizing a nuclear cannon, turning the ground to magma. Countless thick electric arcs spread rapidly like a web, causing soldiers nearby to turn to char and stick immobile to the ground before they could react.

Soon, the dancing lightning ignited the explosives.

...

Capital City.

Supreme Military Power Committee Command.

Countless phone rings echoed one after another, the atmosphere tense and oppressive.

The President stared blankly at the map, eyes vacant, mind seemingly not present.

A military officer hurried over and whispered in his ear:

"Mr. President, we've lost contact with the East Sea Military Region!"

The President nodded, said nothing, only clenched his fist tightly, everything that could be done had been done, now only waiting for the judgment of fate.

A few minutes later, the officer returned: "We've lost contact with both the Central Sea Military Region and the Jiangnan Military Region."

The President remained silent for a moment, finally spoke hoarsely: "What about the Air Force?"

"No news yet!"

No news is the worst news.

...

Chen Shouyi looked into the distance, watching a mushroom cloud slowly rise in the distance, feeling the violent tremors of the ground, his gaze sharp.

"Come on!" he muttered to himself, crushing the stone in his hand.

He took a deep breath, black armor swiftly covering his body, as his figure began to swell, the ground beneath him constantly crumbling. Faith Value slowly burned, his gaze sharp as he looked towards the dark clouds, with waves rippling around him, and numerous stones floating up.

"Lord of Lightning, get out of here, this is no place for you!"

He roared to the sky, a howl echoing for miles, breaking the dark clouds overhead with sound waves.

Even the Lord of Lightning could not ignore such an existence. Soon, a majestic gaze landed on him: "Ah... so... it's... you!"

The voice was grand, regal, as if the entire world echoed with His voice.

In the next moment.

A lightning bolt struck fiercely into Chen Shouyi's vacuum domain.

His body remained unmoved, a hint of rebelliousness on his face: "Too weak, try harder, I can still take it."

Just as his voice fell, the dark clouds began to churn violently, an invisible force rapidly gathered towards this location.

"You... are... courting... death!"

Lightning descended one after the other, dense as rain, the sky alternated between light and dark, countless bolts striking the vacuum domain, creating bizarre colors—dangerous and terrifying.

Yet, to such a formidable giant, His Divine Power was of no harm.

Chen Shouyi silently endured.

In theory, this was a highly tense moment.

But his mind began to wander.

He remembered as a child dreaming, one day becoming rich with a bottomless pocket, thinking of becoming a Martial Artist who invoked screams from beauties just by appearing, but never thought, one day, he would be battling against the strongest Barbarian God of an alternative world.

This is damn insane.

However, to live and fight such an enemy, even to die is worth it!

Fortunately, he left his sister with thirty vials of True Divine Blood, enough for her to become a peak Martial Artist, as long as she doesn't encounter Barbarian Gods, or other powerful beings, she can survive in the otherworld.

...

At this moment, from a distant building, a black-clad young man coldly gazed this way, his eyes entirely black, icy and indifferent.

"To become so powerful, in just twenty years, humans have developed such strength, truly surprising me," he murmured to himself, then looked towards the dark clouds: "Heh, great Lord of Lightning, didn't expect this, did you?"

His fingers slowly elongated, becoming sharp, with a hint of radiant glimmer, then his figure gradually faded, soon disappearing from the window.

...

Seeing nothing achieved for a long time, the cloud giant from the last Memory Virtual World appeared again in the sky.

The giant, tall as mountains, connected heaven and earth.

At a glance, it occupied most of the sky, accompanied by countless sacred chants, resonating through the heavens, majestic and grand.

Yet, having already witnessed its power, Chen Shouyi felt no fear, allowing the lightning strikes to fall.

Last time, he sustained only some superficial injuries, but this time, completely unscathed, leveraging the dense Original Force near the Spatial Passage, his strength, physique, and defense had increased significantly.

Trying to solve him with force projection fell far short.

"Foolish ant, kneel and call me daddy, then I'll spare your life." Chen Shouyi shouted arrogantly, attempting to provoke the other side.

The power of heaven and earth suddenly became furious, the dark clouds churned wildly, a dominating will wandered through the sky, with a hint of anger: "No one has ever dared to challenge me, you're the first, feel the embrace of death."

As he spoke, the cloud giant seemed to electrify, rapidly brightening, the lightning bolt in hand quickly forming, becoming ever brighter, turning the dark night into day, the aura of terror pervading.

Chen Shouyi sneered, did they really think he could only stand and take hits?

But before the opponent could attack.

He casually picked up a hundred-ton concrete chunk, forcefully throwing it skywards.

A wave exploded, the concrete like an electromagnetic cannon shot out of the barrel, instantly glowing red from air friction at high speed, crossing the distance of several kilometers in the blink of an eye. The lightning bolt in the cloud giant's hand hadn't yet been cast when its arm was torn off by the concrete, falling away, bursting with stray electric light.

The cloud giant looked at Chen Shouyi, its cloud-formed hollow eyes flashing with electric light, as if burning with anger. It watched for a long time, then slowly turned back into clouds.

Everything quieted down.

However, Chen Shouyi did not relax in the slightest. He sensed the atmosphere growing increasingly oppressive, static flashing wildly, the distant buildings' lightning rods dancing with countless arcs.

His scalp tingled, heart filled with a sense of impending doom.

"The Lord of Lightning is coming!"

No matter how calm he was before, no matter how much psychological preparation he had done, when the true form of the Lord of Lightning really arrived, he still felt uncontrollable fear.

Chen Shouyi retreated step by step, finally standing at the channel's opening, taking a bone club from space, and gripping it tightly.

Chapter 666 - Lord of Lightning (Part 2)

The twenty-eight-meter-long bone rod slanted towards the ground, resembling a giant sword.

Countless pieces of gravel on the ground leapt violently, then continuously shattered.

Chen Shouyi's heart pounded fiercely, time seemed to slow down.

The originally pitch-black night became increasingly brighter.

The aurora danced across the sky, thunder cracked through the dark clouds.

The oppressive atmosphere kept rising, as if it would never end.

Suddenly, Chen Shouyi abruptly looked up.

He saw a figure composed of lightning breaking through the clouds, coming swiftly from afar, accompanied by the chanting of holy hymns, vast and mighty, like a god, like a saint.

A great terror descended.

Chen Shouyi's heart trembled slightly, fear mixed with a strange excitement. He couldn't see Its specific figure, for Its entire body was shrouded in lightning, or perhaps It was the embodiment of lightning itself.

He had never seen such a terrifying opponent. He had killed the God of Light on Earth and encountered the God of Flames in another world, yet even ten Gods of Flames combined couldn't match the terror of the Lord of Lightning.

The terrifying pressure nearly suffocated Chen Shouyi, as if his soul was burning.

Facing the figure of the Lord of Lightning, his whole body's strength penetrated through him in succession, using the bone rod as a sword, he barely managed to launch the first strike.

A compressed red high-pressure air column shot straight into the sky, even piercing a large hole through the dark clouds.

The figure of the Lord of Lightning flickered and avoided it.

After the first strike, Chen Shouyi's movements didn't stop in the slightest, launching another thrust...

Red air columns shot madly towards the sky.

A distant skyscraper was affected by the air column, with half of the building blowing into the sky.

"Boom boom boom..."

The sky thundered loudly, yet it was useless, merely slightly delaying its speed.

"Arrogant and ignorant evil creature, if this is the power you rely on to challenge me, then let me grant you destruction!" the Lord of Lightning coldly said, then it raised its hand.

A bolt of lightning struck Chen Shouyi's bone rod fiercely.

The entire bone rod instantly erupted with a blinding light.

Chen Shouyi's body trembled, smoke rose from him, and his body suffered mild burns.

If it weren't for the leather armor on his hand blocking most of the damage, the injuries would have been even more severe.

"No good!"

He hurriedly dropped the bone rod.

With this delay, the opponent was already within three hundred meters, and Chen Shouyi's heart sank.

The opponent's speed was extremely fast, as if traveling at the speed of light, flying at an estimated speed three to four times the speed of sound, which eliminated his chance of escape.

He stepped back a pace and stabilized, with the spatial passage just a step away behind him.

"Wait a little longer."

"I only have one chance...now is not the time yet!"

As he was thinking this, the figure full of lightning in front of him rapidly enlarged before his eyes, and in a blink, it was already right before him.

Its body was about thirty meters tall, compared to the more than forty-meter-tall Chen Shouyi, it only reached his chest, yet the horror and danger were completely not something determined by size.

"Air Imprisonment!"

His hair stood on end, as he used Air Imprisonment, the figure momentarily paused imperceptibly, but then the imprisoned air was shattered by the strong Divine Power.

The next moment, Chen Shouyi moved, his massive body took a step forward, and he swung a punch toward that figure.

But the opponent easily dodged, and at the same time, a vague lightning spear, like a stream of light, stabbed towards Chen Shouyi.

Even Chen Shouyi could only see a phantom, as he had just captured the opponent's action, it was already too late.

Since obtaining the leather armor, no force had ever been able to damage it, yet this time it only lasted for a moment before the spear pierced through, the devastating Divine Power poured into his body, erupting in a blinding light.

"Ah!"

Chen Shouyi let out a roar of pain, opening his mouth, electricity spewed from his mouth and nostrils.

He swung a punch towards the God of Lightning, forcing It back.

"Is this your strength? Truly not worth mentioning," the Lord of Lightning taunted, "You want me to kneel and call you daddy...then I'll mercifully give you a chance to live, kneel and shout 'daddy'."

"Kneel to your mother?" Chen Shouyi, feeling the almost carbonized chest and abdomen, roared and charged once more.

"Foolish!" the Lord of Lightning sighed.

Before the words were finished, his chest was pierced by the lightning spear once more, lightning exploded, illuminating his chest.

"Too weak, I can't bear to kill you,"

Chen Shouyi felt he had no strength to fight back, so he simply canceled the vacuum field, glaring at the opponent with bloodshot eyes, "To kill me, you're not qualified."

"Is that so!"

Its figure turned into an afterimage again.

"Imprison it for me!"

Chen Shouyi fully activated Air Imprisonment, staring wide-eyed, trying hard to capture the opponent's movements, his chest pained again, but this time, before the spear could withdraw, in a split second, he grabbed the spear tightly, the terrifying lightning on the spear making his arm muscles spasm, blue smoke billowed, but gritting his teeth, he pulled it out from his chest, veins popping on his forehead.

A huge force came from the Lord of Lightning's hand, Its face showing a hint of surprise.

Such terrifying strength.

It immediately let go of the spear, instantly moving forward, and with a fist wrapped in fierce lightning, struck heavily on his charred chest.

Chen Shouyi's massive body was struck flying backward, letting him see the strength of the Lord of Lightning. Without considering the strong Divine Power, Its strength attribute was only between 35 and 36, a tenfold difference from his own.

Purely physical attacks couldn't even break his defense.

Yet with the Divine Power, just three strikes had already seriously injured him, nearing death.

"I can't delay any longer, if I delay further, I'll die." Chen Shouyi tossed the lightning spear into the space, feeling his body rapidly weakening, anxiety in his heart.

At this moment, the internal organs in his chest and abdomen were mostly destroyed, even his heart had turned into charcoal. If it were someone else, they'd be dead without question. The reason Chen Shouyi could persist was because his energy transfer no longer completely depended on his heart.

Especially after the Giant Transformation, energy spontaneously generated, turning into his physical strength, even without all blood, he could still support combat for a short time.

He made a decisive decision, instantly linking with the armor in his mind.

The golden lines upon it lit up one by one, his will consumed without restraint, a surge of strong strength erupted, his body made a sharp turn without inertia, rushing rapidly towards the spatial passage, leaving an afterimage in place.

"Trying to escape!" The Lord of Lightning's face turned cold, fury rising in its heart as the spear was taken from it.

It immediately followed closely.

However, just as it was about to enter the spatial passage, a strong sense of foreboding surged within it.

It rapidly retreated.

But it was still a step too late.

In a flash, a giant fist wrapped in solidified air, like a rapidly approaching asteroid, suddenly emerged from the spatial passage. The Lord of Lightning's face changed drastically, and its strong Divine Power erupted.

But just upon contact, it was shattered in an instant. Under the millions of tons of force from Chen Shouyi, the Divine Power's defense field was no better than a piece of thin paper. In the next instant, the giant fist struck its body, accompanied by a dense, creepy sound of breaking bones. Its giant body was blasted away like a meteor.

A terrifying shock wave swept in all directions.

Suddenly, another scream came from the God of Lightning:

"Thief of destiny, dare you?"

"Boom!"

The sky lit up with a blinding light.

Chapter 667 - Is It Over?

In the alternate world, Chen Shouyi stood still, his whole body emanating wisps of smoke, frozen in the act of throwing a punch.

Time ticked by, second by second.

Half a minute later, his body swayed, and with a loud crash, he fell to his knees, creating a large crater in the ground.

He tried to struggle to his feet but found that his strength had completely vanished, unable even to stand.

"But, it seems safe now."

Chen Shouyi was utterly certain that his punch had hit the Lord of Lightning.

He wanted to go outside to check the situation, but his body wouldn't allow him to stand, so he simply let it be.

He laboriously distanced himself from the Spatial Passage, sitting on the ground.

"Haha... cough, cough!" He grinned, but the movement strained his chest and abdomen wounds, causing a sudden cough.

Dry black blood, mixed with charred innards, spewed from his mouth.

Yet Chen Shouyi didn't care at all, laughing madly with a face full of satisfaction.

"I actually survived."

He didn't know if the Lord of Lightning was dead, but having taken his punch, it surely wouldn't be pleasant, at least severely injured.

He laughed for a while, then gradually stopped, beginning to tend to his injuries.

He glanced down and was surprised to find that the armor, once pierced by the opponent's Long Spear, had self-repaired, though he was not in the mood to investigate further.

He removed the armor and threw it back into space, simultaneously exiting the Giant Transformation. His body was charred black, with minute Divine Power lightning flickering at the wounds, continuing to damage his body.

Injuries from Divine Power are quite troublesome.

In essence, it is a kind of Telekinesis, mind over reality. The Self-Healing ability has some effect, but it's snail-paced, and without clearing this Divine Power first, the wounds might persist for days or even weeks.

But this time, the injuries were just... too severe.

He touched the charred hole in his chest and reached inside, pulling out a handful of blackened stuff, still sparking electrically.

The sight made his scalp tingle.

If he wasn't mistaken, this must be his heart, now turned to charcoal.

Damn! Damn! Damn!

Chen Shouyi quickly tossed it away.

Then he reached into his chest again, pulling out another heap of the blackened stuff; this time, it was his lungs, also completely dead, decayed at a molecular level.

He sighed, continuing to extract pieces without stopping.

Spleen.

Liver.

Stomach.

Kidneys.

Large Intestine.

...

Initially, Chen Shouyi could barely watch, feeling wholly uneasy, thinking about pulling out his own viscera, leaving a chill in his heart.

But soon, he became numb.

"Perhaps this is what being hollowed out feels like," he thought somewhat boredly.

A cold wind blew past, and he shivered all over.

His body felt increasingly weakened, yet he stubbornly continued living, sensing he could live for quite a while.

After cleaning out his organs, he then cleared other necrotic parts.

Looking at the massive pile of charred flesh on the ground, he estimated it was about a third of his body weight, perhaps even more.

"This time, it was really too close; if my head had been hit, I wouldn't be so lucky," he thought with lingering fear, lightly coughing a few times; this time, there were no internal organs to spit out, as there were none left.

After doing all this, he began clearing the residual Divine Power bit by bit.

...

A dozen minutes later, two little figures, feeling safe, finally flew back.

Chen Shouyi was covered in blood, and the little creatures wanted to get close but didn't dare, anxiously flitting around him.

"Great Giant, what happened to you? Does it hurt?" Shell Lady asked, tears welling up as she looked at Chen Shouyi.

Chen Shouyi weakly glanced at her.

What do you think?

"Little One will blow on it for you."

No!

Chen Shouyi opened his mouth, ready to speak, but found he couldn't make a sound, his vocal cords already damaged.

"I'll help the Great Giant blow too," the second little figure hurriedly said.

What a complete mess!

He closed his eyes, exhausted, to regain his energy.

Yesterday's journey to the Rising Sun Country was just the Lord of Lightning's power projection, weaker than mid-level Divine Power and quickly recovered from injuries. But this time was a full Powerful Divine Power; with his willpower at 22 points, recovery in the short term was impossible.

Chen Shouyi could only engage slowly, using his willpower bit by bit, not knowing how long it would take.

At this moment, he suddenly had a thought: "I wonder if Faith Value would help?"

He opened his attribute panel.

Seeing only 253 points of Faith Value left, he hesitated for a moment and added two hundred points to Self-Healing.

"Boom!"

In an instant, a rush of heat surged through his body, clearing the Lord of Lightning's residual Divine Power quickly.

"Didn't expect it would really work!" Chen Shouyi opened his eyes.

The Book of Knowledge, in some sense, had a function similar to a divine aspect.

For example, the intelligence boost from burning Faith Value or the evolution of innate abilities.

Moreover, this virtual divine rank seemed exceptionally high, and Chen Shouyi even suspected it might exceed the divine rank of Powerful Divine Power.

This rush of heat was essentially a high-level Divine Power.

As the heat surged, his previously numb body started to feel intense pain again, soon becoming itchy.

A hint of joy appeared on his face.

His body had begun Self-Healing.

Don't underestimate these two hundred Faith Value points; they equate to two hundred devout followers praying for a year, or 1,752,000 devout followers praying for an hour, or 105 million devout followers praying for a minute, or...

The rush of heat quickly faded and vanished in an instant.

In the end, two hundred Faith Value points only increased his Self-Healing ability by 0.01%.

However, Chen Shouyi didn't mind this little waste at all.

He felt his internal organs regenerating, and once his stomach and esophagus took shape, he immediately started consuming large amounts of food to replenish what had been spent.

The material source for replenishing flesh and blood for Self-Healing doesn't come from nowhere; it's all from oneself. Without timely food replenishment, even muscles would decompose, resulting in self-consumption.

Yet even so.

When fully Self-Healed, his body had become much thinner, looking somewhat emaciated, but with a few days of care, he could grow back.

Chen Shouyi waved his hand, signaling the two meddling little creatures not to blow and stood up from the ground, taking a deep breath.

"You two stay here; I'll go have a look outside."

"Oh!"

"Oh!"

The timid little creatures immediately responded obediently.

Chen Shouyi took a deep breath and stepped out of the passage.

Outside, all was calm.

The Divine Power's aura in the air had entirely disappeared, and the dark clouds overhead had faded away, leaving only patches of white clouds, tinged with gold by the dawn light on the horizon.

Daybreak was near, and today would clearly be a sunny day.

He stood amidst the ruins, unmoving for a long time.

"Is it over?"

Chapter 668 - After the Battle

Within a few hundred meters of Chen Shouyi's location, a massive bowl shape has formed, resembling a meteorite crater. Villages several kilometers away have been leveled by the shockwave, and even buildings over ten kilometers away have suffered varying degrees of damage. Looking around, devastation is apparent everywhere.

Chen Shouyi, with two little ones in tow, walked slowly along the fragmented highway.

A gust of wind blew, sweeping up a cloud of dust.

The road was silent, not a single pedestrian in sight. The crimson rays of the morning sun fell warmly on him, a relaxed smile on his face as he enjoyed the quiet of having survived the disaster.

From afar, a military vehicle sped towards him, quickly stopping beside him. Several officers got out.

"General Manager Chen!"

"General Manager Chen!"

...

Meeting the reverent and admiring gaze of the officers, Chen Shouyi waved his hand and continued forward.

Clearly indicating he did not want to be disturbed, the officers exchanged glances, helpless, none daring to approach to inquire about the state of the war, letting him be.

Upon reaching the city, soldiers were scattered everywhere on the streets.

Some looked bewildered, some visibly anxious, some excitedly searching for news. The thunderstorms earlier had completely destroyed the power supply, communications disrupted. They clearly still had no idea what had happened.

Chen Shouyi saw a tender-faced soldier crouched in a corner, clutching his rifle in suppressed sobbing, tears and mucus streaming.

Ordinary people facing such a war were truly left with nothing but despair beyond despair.

No civilians were visible, clearly still hiding in the air raid shelters.

When Chen Shouyi arrived at the evacuation spatial passage, he found it sealed, the entrance shut with a thick iron door. He approached and knocked, only after a long while did someone respond from inside:

"Who are you? Which unit? Password!"

"I'm Chen Shouyi," Chen Shouyi said.

"Incorrect password, military zone, please leave immediately..." as the voice inside was cut off halfway.

"Are you daft? This is General Manager Chen, open the door now."

"Captain, even if it's General... General Manager Chen, we can't violate orders. Without the password, we cannot open."

"Shut up, open the door."

Inside was a whisper of conversation, accompanied by the sound of iron chains rustling, the heavy iron doors gradually opening, and five soldiers appeared, quickly saluting upon seeing Chen Shouyi.

"General... General Manager Chen, what is the situation outside?" the leading captain asked nervously.

"It's temporarily safe now!" Chen Shouyi responded.

Everyone was stunned, then their faces lit up with excitement, several soldiers even teared up.

"That's great!"

"General Manager Chen, it's truly safe?"

"It should be safe, the Barbarian God has retreated," Chen Shouyi patiently explained, then asked the group: "Are you the only ones here?"

"Yes, someone had to stay outside. We're all without parents, no regrets, compared to those comrades who have sacrificed, we are lucky," the captain sheepishly smiled.

They weren't ordinary soldiers; each was a martial artist, ordinary soldiers couldn't carry out such missions.

Chen Shouyi opened his mouth but ended up saying nothing.

He walked into the spatial passage, led by the soldiers, passed through the nuclear minefield, and soon returned to the camp, ready at any moment to depart. Rows of steam trucks were already filled with people.

Even the forests had been rapidly opened up to create a passage several kilometers long.

...

Inside a tent.

"According to the maps from the airships, there's a valley over a hundred kilometers westward, with ample water supply, hidden terrain, easy to defend and hard to attack, making it a potential temporary station for us," a staff officer said.

"Approximately how many days to reach there?"

"Normally, it would take about ten days but in an emergency, abandoning all supplies and gear, going in light, might only take one to two days."

The atmosphere was somewhat silent.

Abandoning all supplies and gear meant discarding everything; humanity would need to start anew, and surely, there would be casualties.

"Of course, that's the worst-case scenario. The war may not necessarily end in defeat," the staff officer remarked.

"We came here to prepare for the worst and any wishful thinking would be irresponsible to human kind," Commander Zhang Simin softly reprimanded, looking at the middle-aged man with glasses next to him: "Academician Fang, is the soil here suitable for farming?"

"The soil here is slightly acidic, still suitable for most crops, but it's now deep autumn, soon to be winter, it would take half a year for planting. Though, vegetables could be planted in greenhouses," Academician Fang sighed.

For decades, humans have researched the climate changes, environment, and vegetation of the alien world, perhaps even knowing more than the Barbarians. If not for the Barbarian God, the entire alien world might have been occupied by humanity long ago.

At that moment, a soldier rushed in.

Everyone jumped at the suddenness, immediately looking towards the entrance, only to see the soldier in excited tremble, "Report Commander, just now... just now General Manager Chen returned from outside, bringing important information."

"What information, quickly tell us!" Zhang Simin quickly asked.

"He said... he said, the Barbarian... Barbarian God retreated, we... we won!"

The tent fell quiet.

Then erupted.

"Where is General Manager Chen?" Zhang Simin, taken aback by the shocking news, asked, mind somewhat dizzy with excitement.

"He said one sentence and left."

How could he just leave after saying one sentence?

"Quickly get General Manager Chen here," Zhang Simin ordered, then said: "No, I'll go myself."

With that, he rushed out of the tent.

...

Accompanied by soldiers, Chen Shouyi searched from one vehicle to another.

There were cars everywhere, densely packed by the thousands, making it difficult to locate even with numbered sections.

"Brother, brother, it's brother, he came back!" Chen Xingyue spotted him keenly, excitedly waving, "Brother, we're here."

With that, she couldn't wait to jump out of the car, quickly running over.

"Boo hoo... Brother, you finally came back, if you hadn't come, we would have left," Chen Xingyue cried with excitement.

Chen Shouyi's heart fully relaxed, smiling, "Didn't I return, don't cry, you're grown up now."

"You still laugh, I thought you... you wouldn't return." Chen Xingyue wiped her tears, but the more she wiped, the more her tears flowed.

"Didn't I say it's just a small task, how could I not return!"

Chen Xingyue paused and stared at Chen Shouyi: "You've become so thin."

Just one day out, and his skin was almost wrapped around his bones.

Chen Shouyi naturally knew his condition, but lazy to explain, said while walking: "Normal, in a few days it'll be fine."

Chapter 669 - Farewell, Mysterious Man

Zhang Simin comes from the Central Army Group and is the youngest vice admiral of Great Xia Country. His resume is brilliant, having participated in or commanded several battles, and his own strength has reached the peak of a martial artist.

With a tall and towering figure, thick eyebrows, large eyes, and a square face, any casual photo of him can serve as a model for soldiers.

A person like this naturally possesses a determination and confidence that ordinary people find hard to match.

But at this moment, facing the imminent meeting with Chen Shouyi, even the strongest and most resilient mindset evaporates. As they say, a famous person casts a long shadow. For this human God of Martial Arts, whose power rivals that of the Barbarian God, to be honest, unless necessary, he really doesn't want to interact.

The pressure is too great, like an ant dealing with an elephant, there's an unavoidable sense of anxiety that he could be crushed at any moment. By comparison, it's much more relaxed dealing with the president; at least the latter doesn't bring a sense of life-threatening danger.

He finished a cigarette, tossed the butt away, and quickly walked toward the truck ahead.

...

Chen Shouyi chatted with his parents for a while before seeing a soldier come over to report that the commander sought a visit.

He nodded, jumped out of the car, and saw Zhang Simin already respectfully standing below:
"Commander Zhang, what brings you to me?"

"General Manager Chen, please just call me Lao Zhang. I'm here to ask about the situation outside,"
Zhang Simin smiled and tried to ask in a casual tone, feeling somewhat awkward all over.

"You mean security issues? I feel there's no need for a guard, the war has temporarily ended," Chen
Shouyi said as he walked.

Zhang Simin fell half a step behind, closely following: "Do you know what happened?"

"I fought with Him and injured Him, so He retreated!" Chen Shouyi stated honestly.

"In... injured!" Zhang Simin's lips trembled, and his Adam's apple bobbed as if he swallowed a mouthful
of scalding hot water.

This isn't just any random creature.

This is the Lord of Lightning, a Barbarian God at the top of another world.

For this war, humanity used every power available, nearly exhausting all nuclear reserves, and even
gathered elites ready to flee to another world if the situation went south.

But the result...

The Lord of Lightning was injured by General Manager Chen.

What a... damn.

Chen Shouyi didn't mind that the other's expression became somewhat twisted with shock; he had seen such reactions many times and was used to them, thinking nothing of it. He said calmly, "Of course, I don't know the specifics either. The Lord of Lightning is extremely terrifying. This time, I only managed because He was careless. Next time, I don't think He will be fooled again."

Zhang Simin listened until his scalp tingled, and he became disoriented, barely able to stand.

When Chen Shouyi saw the other staying silent for a long time, he felt a bit uninterested: "Alright, that's the general situation. Go ahead and get busy!"

Zhang Simin came back to his senses and instinctively gave a military salute: "Yes, General Manager Chen."

...

The gloom over the camp dissipated, and it bustled with activity.

Chen Shouyi found peace, and a few hours later, with the nuclear landmines removed at the passage entrance, his family left the base by car.

With the news of the Barbarian God's retreat, Zhonghai City erupted like a hurricane. The entire city boiled over, and countless citizens emerged from air raid shelters, some excitedly waving their arms, others sobbing uncontrollably.

Over the past few days, the clouds of war had loomed over the city—tense, oppressive, fearful, and uneasy. It was as if everyone had been strung tight like a taut string, and at this moment, they were all released, unable to contain their excitement.

Chen Xingyue lay by the window looking outside, then suddenly turned and asked, "Brother, did you really drive away the Barbarian God?"

Chen Shouyi relaxed back in his seat, a slight smile on his lips, and replied with a "Hmm" upon hearing the question.

Chen Xingyue's lips twitched slightly. She had just asked casually: "Brother, don't you want to save face?"

"Why do I need face?"

Father Chen and Mrs. Chen watched with smiling faces as the siblings bickered.

Chen Xingyue felt her heart constrict and was too lazy to bother with her unscrupulous brother. She greedily watched the scene outside the window. Just a few hours ago, she thought she'd never be able to come back again. After a while, she couldn't help but ask, still unable to believe: "Brother, is the war really over?"

"It's over. You've asked several times already," Chen Shouyi said. In fact, he knew in his heart that this was only temporary peace.

The car moved slowly through the crowd, stopping and going.

"Gurgle!"

Chen Shouyi felt a strong hunger again. His cells were rapidly dividing to restore the depleted body.

Even after filling his stomach an hour ago, he immediately felt hungry again. He said, "Mom, Dad, you continue riding in the car; I'll get out and walk around."

The car quickly stopped.

He opened the door and got out, squeezing through the crowded throng, and checked his status panel.

Strength: 23.2-3.4

Agility: 23.2

Constitution: 23.3

Intelligence: 23.1

Perception: 21.9

Will: 22.1

Energy Accumulation: 51.56

Faith Value: 198.4.

"My strength has actually decreased by 3.4 points; no wonder I feel so weak." He looked at his skinny arms and thought to himself.

However, apart from strength, nothing else had diminished; will had even increased by 0.2 points. After all, agility and constitution are not much related to physical weakness, and perception and will aren't correlated.

He didn't mind; he estimated he would recover in a few days.

He walked to a deserted corner and wolfed down a piece of Divine Flesh, gobbling five or six pounds in a row before the hunger in his stomach gradually subsided.

To him now, the Divine Flesh with weak divine power is just ordinary food to satisfy hunger.

"Chen Shouyi!" A voice said faintly behind him at this moment.

When did they get here?

He abruptly turned around and saw a young man in black quietly standing behind him. The familiar face sent a chill down his spine:

"Is it you?"

The visitor was none other than the mysterious person who had given the prophecy to humanity.

"Fate is like a fog, filled with countless possibilities. I gazed into fate, yet I did not know that I, too, was within the vortex of fate!" The young man had a faint smile on his lips, but his face showed no trace of mirth, carrying a hint of indifference: "We meet again, the mightiest of humanity?"

So much talking; it seems like he's not here to kill me.

Chen Shouyi calmed down inside and asked, "Why are you looking for me?"

"You only need to know that we are not enemies. Without me, do you think this war would have ended so quickly, or that you'd still be standing here alive?"

"Did you kill the Lord of Lightning?" Chen Shouyi asked.

The youth's face showed a slight hint of unease at these words: "Battle is not my forte, and the Lord of Lightning, as a powerful combat deity, is not so easily killed."

Chen Shouyi breathed a sigh of relief; the young man seemed to see through his thoughts and continued, "But killing you would still be quite easy."

Chen Shouyi's heart skipped a beat, so he changed the topic: "You're not here just to say these things, are you?"

"I came to remind you and your humans: the Lord of Lightning is already very weak. Don't give Him the chance to recover. Next time, you humans won't be so lucky. With billions of followers, ha, it won't take long before He becomes the only Supreme God of Tamu," the mysterious person said with a faint smile, his face tinged with seriousness.

Chapter 670 Stomach Damage

The mystery man left quickly.

Chen Shouyi's hand trembled slightly as he lit a cigarette, took a deep puff, and slowly exhaled, relaxing his tense nerves completely.

"Damn it!" he cursed.

Then he threw away the cigarette butt and walked back.

Seeing the crowded and cheering people on the street, his gloom was somewhat dispersed. Indeed, no matter how severe the future situation might be, it couldn't be worse than the day before. At least for now, the adversary wouldn't start a war again.

"Hey handsome, want to join?" a pretty young lady said with a smile, her tight t-shirt containing two big, full bosoms that seemed ready to burst forth.

Heh, women!

The women of Great Xia Country are still somewhat reserved. If in the European Union, they'd wear far fewer clothes.

Of course, Chen Shouyi didn't care about any of this.

Moreover... for him, it didn't make any difference.

He lazily ignored these shameless women, keeping a cold face as he squeezed through the crowd and walked forward.

With his abundant experience, he knew that once he responded, they'd stick to him like gum, impossible to shake off, and there wouldn't just be one - more would come, putting him in an awkward and irritating situation.

When he got home, his parents and younger sister were already there cleaning. The house had accumulated a layer of thick dust after a few days of absence.

"Mom and Dad, don't bother. I'll do it," said Chen Shouyi.

"No need for you to help, just rest," Mrs. Chen quickly replied. Looking at her son, who had lost several pounds, she felt a pinch in her heart. She couldn't imagine what hardships he had suffered on his trip; if he hadn't said he'd be fine in a few days, she would have insisted on him going to the hospital.

As she was speaking, she witnessed a shocking scene.

Countless specks of dust, as if drawn by an invisible force, stuck to the ground and moved quickly and silently, turning the floor into a blanket of gray.

These dust particles weren't just from the living room; they came from the kitchen, dining room, guest room, and even upstairs and the basement.

All the dust moved like shifting sand, clinging to the floor without causing ripples, without any smell of dust; even the air seemed filtered, becoming extraordinarily fresh.

Within just a few seconds, all the dust surged into the trash can, leaving the entire room spotless, even the grime in the tile cracks vanished completely.

Uh!

Watching the stunned faces of his family.

Chen Shouyi realized he had never shown this ability in front of his family; he scratched his head and chuckled awkwardly, "It's all clean now, I'm going to my room."

Then he quickly walked upstairs.

After he left, Mrs. Chen came back to her senses and asked in surprise, "Xing Yue, does your brother know magic?"

Chen Xingyue replied, "It's not magic; it's willpower, making things happen as you wish. You don't know; he can even fly. He's demonstrated it in previous lectures."

Father Chen was secretly amazed, realizing only today his son had such abilities. He asked, "Can you do it too?"

Chen Xingyue felt a moment of stagnation in her heart; why must everything be compared with my brother? After all, we're on completely different levels. She admitted sheepishly, "I...I'm still not quite there. This is very difficult. Not many people in the country can do it."

...

Chen Shouyi returned to his room, and two little creatures jumped out from his embrace. After bathing and feeding them, he picked up the phone, intending to call the presidential office, only to find that the phone line had long been disconnected.

"Well, it's not urgent. I'll deal with it later," he thought inwardly.

He took off his shoes, laid on the bed, closed his eyes, and soon fell into a deep sleep.

His body was so depleted this time, losing almost a third of his weight; it was impossible to pretend as if nothing was wrong. As he relaxed, exhaustion and weakness erupted like a long-suppressed volcano.

He slept deeply, unaware of his parents entering his room several times.

When he woke up, his stomach was burning with hunger.

He checked the time and found it was already the afternoon of the next day.

Chen Shouyi retrieved the two little creatures from his clothes, wondering what mischief they had gotten into while he was asleep last night.

He got up and went to the bathroom, looking at himself in the mirror.

His once scrawny body had gained some weight, and he looked noticeably recovered.

After washing up, he brought out some Divine Flesh and started to eat ravenously. Though the Weak Divine Power of the True God Flesh was slightly less effective, using Powerful Divine Flesh was far too extravagant. For a hungry stomach, True God Flesh sufficed.

He walked out of his bedroom and downstairs.

"Brother, you're awake?" Chen Xingyue was practicing martial arts in the living room; she greeted him with a joyful expression when she saw him coming down.

"Where are Mom and Dad?" Chen Shouyi sat down on the sofa.

"They went grocery shopping. You wouldn't believe how lively it got last night after the lifting of the curfew; the streets were packed with people," Chen Xingyue said.

"Didn't you go?" Chen Shouyi asked.

"You were asleep, and Mom and Dad were worried about you, so no one went."

"What's there to worry about," Chen Shouyi said.

Not long after, his parents returned with groceries, and seeing him awake, they breathed a sigh of relief and immediately started arranging for him to eat. No matter how much he insisted he wasn't hungry, they wouldn't take no for an answer, soon stuffing another big bowl of porridge down his already full stomach.

"You haven't eaten for a whole day and night; solid food can hurt your stomach. Fill it first and have dinner later," Mrs. Chen advised with her simple wisdom.

Hearing this, Chen Shouyi couldn't help but burp, almost bringing up food from his stomach.

Stomach injury?

Not possible.

If it breaks, it'll be replaced.

He thought about that original stomach, now charred, feeling a bit melancholy. That old stomach, which had accompanied him for almost twenty years, is now useless. It's like having to replace the engine in a new Mercedes.

And not just the stomach, but also the heart, liver, spleen, and kidneys.

Including the unfortunate lower half.

He felt like all the parts of his body had been swapped out at least once, except for his original brain.

He got up and went to the bathroom; his stomach felt much better afterward.

"Mom and Dad, I'm going out for a walk."

...

Chen Shouyi walked out of the house; outside, calm had returned. Workers were everywhere on the road repairing electrical circuits. The biggest damage from Lord of Lightning's invasion was likely the electromagnetic storm-induced electrical disruptions.

To human civilization, the Lord of Lightning was a complete nemesis.

By harnessing natural forces, Its power expanded infinitely, producing astonishingly destructive effects.

"Powerful Divine Power..." he muttered to himself.

Powerful Divine Power was already like this; if one became the Supreme God as mentioned by the mystery man in passing, the Earth would be within Its grasp, completely unable to struggle. He remembered that terrifying presence deep in the Forbidden Land that caused space itself to warp and tremble.

Perhaps, it's a force like this.