

New Era 731

Chapter 731: Rematch (Final)

Actually, Chen Shouyi did not hit the mark. At the moment of swinging his shield, the Lord of Lightning narrowly avoided the blow.

But even the aftershock is not something anyone can withstand.

Currently, the strength of Chen Shouyi's true form alone reaches 60 tons. With the amplification of his sixty-meter-high Giant Transformation, his power can be terrifyingly equivalent to three million tons. A single punch is akin to the explosion of a miniature nuclear bomb.

Had it not been for the powerful Divine Power defense field automatically protecting the Lord of Lightning, this strike would have shattered Him into pieces. Nonetheless, the Lord of Lightning is now covered in blood, looking utterly disheveled, directly stunned by the blow.

Strike while He is down.

Watching the airborne Lord of Lightning, a hint of ruthlessness flashed across Chen Shouyi's face.

He slightly bent his legs, and in the next moment, his feet suddenly stomped the ground.

A deafening "boom" echoed.

Accompanied by a violent tremor, the ground shattered into a massive circular crater. Simultaneously, his colossal figure, engulfed in flames, surged skyward, as if tearing the sky apart.

In mere moments, he had already caught up with the Lord of Lightning.

He stretched out his large hand, breaking through the thick, crimson air, reaching for His lightning-covered terrifying body.

The true form of the Lord of Lightning is not small, standing at thirty meters tall—a standard giant. However, in comparison to Chen Shouyi, He's like a kindergarten child.

But at this moment, a frightening Divine Power suddenly erupted from the Lord of Lightning's body. Chen Shouyi did not have time to close his eyes before a blinding light forced its way into his view. Smoke rose from his eyes; he was already blind.

"Destroy!" The Lord of Lightning shouted.

In the next moment.

A dark-golden Long Spear, like an unsheathed sword, shot lightning-fast towards Chen Shouyi's pupil.

In an instant, the situation changed.

At the critical moment, Chen Shouyi turned his head with difficulty, and the Long Spear tore through his Armor, grazing his skull, leaving a deep bloodstain on his head.

Chen Shouyi hurriedly forced it away with his sword.

...

Their fighting styles were vastly different.

The Lord of Lightning moved swiftly like a bolt, as precise and efficient as a highly accurate machine, elusive and enigmatic.

Meanwhile, Chen Shouyi's attacks were violent, and every move caused the heavens and the earth to tremble.

Their battle in mid-air was frenzied, and wherever they passed, the air was reduced to elementary particles, enveloped in a glaring light. The energy released was akin to the explosion of atomic bombs with tens of thousands of yields per second.

Here, not to mention anyone ordinary, even Gods with ordinary Weak Divine Power would be shattered if they ventured too close.

Below, an empty city.

Countless buildings torn apart by shockwaves were destroyed, with huge chunks of concrete rolling and crashing in the ferocious winds. Amid this disaster likened to a nuclear strike, even the sturdiest structures fared no better than blocks of tofu.

"Boom!"

A massive giant plummeted down like a meteor.

Just as He landed, a blurred phantom raced against the shockwave, rapidly charging towards the giant.

Now, the Lord of Lightning's face was devoid of previous confidence and became fully grim. This abomination was wholly on par with Him, with both defense and power frighteningly formidable.

Despite His repeated successes, all He managed was to cause slight injuries, not harming the essence.

When did the Earth birth such an existence?

Or perhaps He came from Tamu!

"Boom!"

The ground was plowed by Chen Shouyi's sword into a trench that was more than ten meters wide and five or six meters deep. The Lord of Lightning swiftly darted to the side, and the fierce airflow dissipated even before approaching.

Due to being far from the Spatial Passage, Chen Shouyi's body had shrunk significantly, now only forty meters tall, yet His power was still enough to crush the Lord of Lightning.

"Even Powerful Divine Power is no more than this. How about I fall back a step, you kneel and call me daddy, and I grant you a way out?" Chen Shouyi sneered.

"Courting death!"

The Lord of Lightning was infuriated upon hearing this. He pointed with His hand, unleashing all His Divine Power.

"Thunder Shackles!"

As soon as the words fell, countless thick, golden lightning bolts appeared out of thin air, chaining Chen Shouyi unexpectedly and tightly. The terrifying energy penetrated His body, making Him numb all over.

Meanwhile, the Lord of Lightning pressed forward, the Long Spear swiftly stabbing towards His brow.

"Abomination, it's over! Let me grant you eternal death."

Chen Shouyi's face twisted, muscles bulging all over. The lightning shackles abruptly broke. He raised His Shield, protecting His forehead, simultaneously linking His mind to His Armor. Golden patterns lit up one by one on the Armor, and a feeling of effortless control arose.

In the next moment, His body seemed to defy inertia, transforming from stillness to rapid motion, meeting the Lord of Lightning's attack head-on.

Just recently confident, the Lord of Lightning saw this anomaly and His expression drastically changed.

It must be said His reaction speed was immensely quick. In the blink of an eye, He unleashed all His Divine Power, attempting to dodge.

Unfortunately, it was already too late.

As Chen Shouyi lunged, the distance between them was less than twenty meters. Such distances for both Chen Shouyi and the Lord of Lightning were nearly as if facing off directly, with no room to evade.

"Boom!"

Like Mars colliding with Earth.

Accompanied by an intense light, the Lord of Lightning, together with His Spear and body, was viciously launched.

This time, there was no good fortune like the last. He felt excruciating pain all over, His bones unsure of how many were broken. Before He could react, He found His leg had been grabbed.

In the next moment, the world inverted, His body was lifted and brutally hurled to the ground. Millions of tons of rubble and dust abandoned Earth's gravity, flying skyward.

His heart trembled with dread finally feeling fear.

He unleashed all His Divine Power, attempting to break free, but as soon as He thought to act.

He was again smacked hard against the ground.

Chen Shouyi's expression was violent, gripping His leg and madly smashing the ground.

Blinding flashes filled His vision, temperatures soared over tens of thousands of degrees Celsius, with continuous explosions, shockwaves sweeping in all directions.

The Lord of Lightning's struggles grew progressively weaker, eventually fading away.

Chen Shouyi stopped only after smashing dozens of times, panting heavily. He glanced at the Lord of Lightning, now a heap of mangled flesh, and tossed Him aside, sitting on the ground, somewhat drained.

He looked up at the sky. The once vast clouds had been dispersed by the battle. The scorching air carried a faint reddish hue, indicative of the previous fierce combat.

He found His heart surprisingly calm.

Neither excited by surviving nor joyful at defeating a formidable foe, only a sense of detachment and weariness from witnessing countless events.

He glanced at the pile that used to be the powerful Divine Power Lord of Lightning.

Loneliness awaits the master!

This is likely what it feels like to be invincible in the world.

Chapter 732: A New Era (Part 1)

The sky poured down with torrential rain, and thunder and lightning roared.

On the muddy road, the traffic jam formed an endless line of vehicles, while countless wild animals darted out from the bushes on either side of the road, crashing about like headless flies as if a catastrophe was imminent.

Many wild animals even directly rammed into trucks, meeting untimely deaths.

However, at this moment, no one paid the slightest attention.

All the soldiers turned their heads towards the sky, their expressions fearful and bewildered.

In the distance, the edge of the sky was tumultuous, with clouds swirling. The originally ink-black thunderclouds were eerily dyed into a fiery red sky, accompanied by an earth-shattering rumble that continued endlessly.

It was akin to rolling thunder, yet countless times louder than thunder, the air vibrating intensely, even sending shivers through the body.

The atmosphere was oppressive and heavy; everyone felt like their chests were weighed down by a giant stone, struggling to breathe.

A young soldier couldn't stop trembling, facing a scene that seemed apocalyptic, his mouth moved:

"It...it's...the Lord of Lightning!"

After saying this, his face turned deathly pale.

Calling a god's name directly was taboo, known to every soldier, especially in this somewhat mystical Flame Continent, where countless soldiers, either by luck or carelessness, have died without knowing why.

Fortunately, the loud noise in the distance completely drowned out his voice, and no one noticed what he said.

Even the Lord of Lightning probably had no interest in noticing an ant at this moment.

The loud noise lasted for just over a minute before suddenly stopping abruptly. The fiery red sky began to fade quickly, everything returning to silence, as if nothing had happened. Even the oppressive atmosphere gradually dissipated.

The originally quiet crowd began to stir quickly, the noise growing louder.

"What happened!?"

"What's going on?"

"Was a nuclear bomb launched!?"

"Looks like that's the case."

Everyone's faces were filled with tension, fear, unease, mixed with excitement, agitation, and hope.

Many couldn't help but cry, but under the rebukes of their squad leaders, their crying gradually turned into sobs, and soon, the sound of military songs became loud and clear.

...

The Command Center.

The place was in chaos.

Phones rang one after another, and even walking was done at a jog.

"What, General Manager Chen went to face the battle, reckless!"

Zhang Huaihe was being scolded harshly while holding the phone, barely managing to explain: "It was General Manager Chen's own decision, I..."

His words were abruptly interrupted.

"Then why didn't you stop him, and only revealed it now? You must have ulterior motives, what exactly do you intend to do?"

Zhang Huaihe gritted his teeth, under pressure, agitatedly said, "General Manager Chen's life is life, but aren't the soldiers' lives also lives...that Barbarian God descended, and with our current human power, we simply can't stop it. Only General Manager Chen has a sliver of hope..."

If he can block it once, maybe he can block it a second time. If General Manager Chen is unfortunately sacrificed, I'll atone with my life."

The person on the other side was silent for a long time, breathing heavily. After a while, he spoke heavily:

"You'll atone with your life? If something happens to General Manager Chen, humanity will have no hope. Executing you a hundred times won't be enough to redeem you, and you'll be humanity's sinner!"

As soon as he finished speaking, he slammed down the phone.

Zhang Huaihe held the phone, listening to the buzzing tone, dazed and crestfallen, as if he had aged several years in an instant.

At that moment, the office door burst open, startling Zhang Huaihe as he saw the head of the information and intelligence department rushing in, his face full of excitement.

"Chief, something's happened!"

Hearing this, Zhang Huaihe felt a wave of dizziness, his body swaying slightly. He mustered his spirit and quickly asked, "What happened?"

"Acc...According to radar, the target has disappeared!" The officer gulped with difficulty and continued, "Also... including General Manager Chen, who was battling with It, both are now missing, life or death unknown."

Zhang Huaihe's eyes widened, his scalp tingling as if electrocuted, his face flushing slightly: "What did you say? Are you sure!"

The officer excitedly repeated it again, then handed over the final radar coordinates detected.

Zhang Huaihe suppressed his excitement, paced back and forth a few times, then snapped out of it and said, "You may leave now!"

"Yes, Chief."

The officer saluted and left the room, closing the door respectfully.

Zhang Huaihe looked at the radar coordinates on the document, his body trembling uncontrollably, his face showing mixed expressions. He quickly picked up the phone, his hand trembling as he dialed the number for the nuclear strategic forces.

No one can guarantee whether the Lord of Lightning is dead or not, in case...

Facing this most terrifying adversary in human history, the most secure method is a nuclear strike.

Only the Barbarian God reduced to ashes is a good Barbarian God.

But after a long time, he didn't press the last number. He suddenly hung up the phone, then quickly picked up the receiver and dialed another number:

"Comrade Xu Chunwei, I order your unit to proceed immediately to coordinates X:***, Y:***, and rescue General Manager Chen at all costs. This is an order!"

He hung up the phone, only to realize that his back was completely soaked.

...

"Hahaha..." Chen Shouyi looked at the divine manifestation covering half the sky, laughing heartily, feeling extremely delighted.

This terrifying existence from another world has finally met its end, eternally vanishing amidst the heavens and earth.

The Powerful Divine Power now seemed nothing to him.

Unfortunately, there was no one here, no one paying attention, making him feel somewhat uninterested.

After laughing for a while, he stopped out of boredom.

Chen Shouyi stood up, shrinking his body, and threw the massive Divine Corpse on the ground into space.

From start to finish, Chen Shouyi never got a clear look at what the opponent looked like.

During the battle, It was covered in Lightning Divine Power, now reduced to a pile of rotten flesh, completely unrecognizable.

But Chen Shouyi didn't mind either.

Just like an honest person taking over doesn't need to care about a goddess's past.

When eating meat, why care about what the opponent looked like?

As long as it's delicious!

He conjured a set of clothes, leaping out of the massive crater he had made, several kilometers wide. From high above, the surrounding mountains had been flattened, the vegetation turned to ashes, the ground looking as if hit by a meteorite, full of pits and craters, with some areas even flowing with lava.

The range affected by this battle spanned tens of thousands of square kilometers, and if placed in densely populated areas, the casualties would easily reach tens of millions.

Fortunately, it was far from the front lines, and with the migration of believers, all the people here had already headed towards Bujumbura, avoiding a catastrophe.

Chen Shouyi glanced around but saw no human corpses, then quickly accelerated, leaving a sonic boom cloud in his wake, his body streaking swiftly towards the Spatial Passage.

After such a long time, those two little ones must be getting anxious.

Chapter 733: New Era (Part 2)

Compared to the bleak encounter with the Lord of Lightning last time, Chen Shouyi was barely injured this time.

A person's physical defense is roughly equivalent to their own attack. With an attack of thousands of tons of equivalent force, not to mention cruise missiles, even nuclear bombs can't harm him as long as he's not at ground zero of the explosion.

The Lord of Lightning's long spear couldn't even pierce his body; it was naturally entwined by layers of muscle, and the remaining Lightning Divine Power was mostly blocked by the will of his body's cells, at most causing superficial wounds.

"Oh, I seem to have forgotten the long spear!"

At this time, Chen Shouyi finally remembered the long spear of the Lord of Lightning, which he had knocked away, hesitated slightly in his heart.

"Forget it, it's just a piece of junk divine artifact anyway..."

The lightning spear was probably a temporary replacement after he snatched it.

He's not into picking up garbage.

With his current level, even in Tam World, he would be a dominant force. He feels that his perspective should be raised from now on; picking up garbage from defeated underlings is beneath him.

Although his combat power mainly relies on Giant Transformation, now there's hardly any difference between the giant and normal states, and he can maintain any form eternally.

In fact, from a certain perspective, Giant Transformation is his true form, while the human state is his self-sealed state.

Of course, no gifted ability is perfect, and this gifted ability still has significant flaws.

For instance, it can only enlarge, not shrink.

Also, its limit can only reach a height of about one hundred meters, and only can be achieved in another world. If it expands to three thousand meters... ten thousand meters...

It's estimated that one punch... or dozens of punches would penetrate Earth.

The destructive power of this is exhilarating just to think about!!!

Of course, Chen Shouyi wouldn't do such a thing. He might at most attack Earth's siblings, like Venus or Mars... though that might greatly affect Earth too, so it's better to play in Tam instead.

...

Just after entering the spatial passage, two tiny figures eagerly flew over from the flowers, clearly having not taken his previous instructions to heart.

"Didn't I tell you to hide far away?" Chen Shouyi got angry. This is really dangerous—if anything unexpected happened, like a strategic retreat, the two little ones would be reduced to dust by the aftershock of the battle between two people.

"Little ones are concerned about the good giant; in case the good giant can't win, little ones will help," the Shell Lady excitedly rubbed her face against Chen Shouyi's face, showing affection.

"Yeah, yeah," the red little one chimed in quickly, agreeing.

Chen Shouyi felt the itchiness on his cheek, wanting to scold them further, but the words got stuck in his throat and he swallowed them down.

Okay, you made sense.

...

Chen Shouyi did not stay long in the alternate world.

After dealing with his injuries, he promptly returned. On his way back, he encountered several groups of helicopters and fighter jets, numbering in the hundreds. He didn't know what they were doing.

He flew rapidly through the high sky.

...

Night gradually descended.

When he returned to the small town where the command center was located, the lights had just come on.

The storm that had lasted a whole day and night had long stopped, and the clouds had dispersed, leaving the air with a fresh scent. The originally dilapidated small town now seemed pleasant to his eyes.

Chen Shouyi walked with a light step towards the command center.

Ever since he killed the Lord of Lightning, the haze and heavy pressure that had been lingering in his heart were completely dispelled, making his whole mind feel unburdened and lively.

Just as he arrived at the entrance of the command center, a soldier on guard looked at him as if he'd seen a ghost, utterly shocked:

"Chen... General Manager Chen!"

Chen Shouyi nodded in acknowledgment.

The soldier's face twitched awkwardly, attempting a smile that looked more like a grimace, took a few steps back, and then quickly turned around, running away stumbling, yelling as he went, "General Manager Chen is back, General Manager Chen is back..."

...

May 18, 2019, evening.

The streets of Berlin were cold and desolate, empty except for soldiers, with the piercing sound of air raid sirens echoing continuously in the sky.

A massive missile launch vehicle was blatantly set up on the street, not just in Berlin, not even just within the European Union, but globally, everything had entered a level-one combat alert status; all the nuclear missiles in the silos had been urgently refueled.

A cloud of fear gathered overhead like tangible matter.

Joseph, the Prime Minister of the European Union, looked haggard while inspecting the combat readiness situation. Since the day before yesterday, he and his bureaucratic think tanks hadn't slept for two nights. Perhaps all this preparation is worthless...

Perhaps it's all in vain...

Perhaps all this preparation won't withstand a single blow.

But as Prime Minister, it's his responsibility, no matter how pessimistic and desperate the future may seem; he must stand firm in this last line of duty. Fear will not subdue humanity; at least he must prove that he is not a coward afraid of dying and that his term isn't the worst.

Looking at the eyes of numerous young soldiers on the street, Joseph's mouth moved a little, choked up. He cleared his throat and, with slightly reddened eyes, said:

"Do not be afraid. There's a saying in Great Xia Country: some people die as lightly as a feather, and some as weighty as Mount Tai..."

The soldiers listened quietly, not a sound was heard.

"We are not fighting for conquest, nor for profit, nor even for hatred; we are fighting for the future of human civilization, for the freedom of future generations!"

Many had tears streaming down their faces; even the most resolute found it difficult to suppress genuine emotions at such a moment of despair.

"This is an absolutely just war. Perhaps... we may die, but we will die with a clear conscience..."

At this moment, an inappropriate cheer seemed to erupt from afar.

Joseph's eyebrows twitched slightly, pretending not to notice; he wiped the corner of his eyes and continued, choking, "We will not be condemned by our conscience, for everyone is a hero for humanity..."

The cheering from afar grew louder, so loud that it drowned out the air raid sirens. The soldiers who had been listening to his speech were gradually affected, looking around.

"What's happening?"

"Did it fall, or perhaps... a peaceful liberation?"

Joseph stopped his speech, dumbfounded and stunned.

He had a strong premonition that something major had happened.

Just then, the air raid sirens were suddenly switched off by someone, soon replaced by an exceedingly excited voice inside:

"Hello, hello, hello..."

"Hello, hello, hello..."

"Prime Minister Joseph, ladies and gentlemen, and all honorable soldiers..."

The speaker seemed to take a deep breath, pausing:

"According to the message just received from the multinational forces in Yan State, we... have won!!!"

Chapter 734: New Era (Part 3)

Capital City time, three thirty in the morning, only a few hours until dawn.

At this moment, the lights inside the People's Daily newspaper office blazed brightly, everyone suppressing their excitement, enveloped in tension and busyness.

The newspaper's chief editor, Zhang Jianguo, wearing a pair of reading glasses, carefully considered the draft of tomorrow's headline news. As the once sharp editor of the newspaper, he rarely handled things personally since becoming the chief editor, focusing more on administrative work and final approvals.

But today was a special day.

Just half an hour ago, the newspaper received exhilarating news: humanity's nightmare, the powerful Barbarian God, Lord of Lightning, was slain by the God of Martial Arts, Chen Shouyi, in the Yan State.

Under central government instructions, tomorrow's originally approved headline was urgently withdrawn. Without surprise, the understanding... No, today's newspaper is destined to be recorded in human history along with this great event.

It is predictable that when the news comes out tomorrow, not only the entire Great Xia Country but also the whole world will be in an uproar, thrilled.

And so, bearing the heavy responsibility as the author and chief editor, the pressure he felt was imaginable.

He pondered over the headline:

"Evil deeds lead to self-destruction!"

He quickly crossed it out; such official wording might be usable sometimes, but at this moment, it was clearly inappropriate, too bland.

"Breaking through the clouds to see the clear sky!"

Still, it wasn't shocking enough.

He stood up, paced back and forth. The streetlights outside were dim, the east was faintly red, unconsciously, dawn was approaching.

He suddenly had an inspiration, swiftly sat back at his position, grabbed a pen, and completed it in one go.

"The Human Race Welcomes a New Era!"

Countless people stayed awake throughout the night.

...

At eight o'clock in the morning.

The gate of the United States embassy was deserted, sparsely populated at the entrance.

Back when the United States was overrun, taking advantage of the chaotic situation, many high-ranking officials, wealthy individuals, and scientists managed to escape from North America by ship, and a good portion of them came to Great Xia Country to establish a restoration organization.

Out of respect for the former world hegemon and considerations for the human united front,

Great Xia Country offered considerable support.

Initially, the restoration organization was quite imposing, with monthly gatherings attracting tens of thousands of American participants, and donations were enthusiastic.

Due to interruptions in sea lanes and shipping when the mutation occurred, a considerable number remained in Great Xia Country and acquired Xia Country citizenship, with over tens of thousands just in the Capital City.

However, as time passed, the hope of restoration became increasingly faint, enthusiasm waned, and more secretly acquired Xia Country nationality, many compatriots who came with them to Great Xia Country left never to return.

Ultimately, ideals cannot withstand reality.

Hope was ground away in bouts of despair.

Facing the terrifying Lord of Lightning and attempting a restoration across the sea was undoubtedly an ethereal endeavor, even the survival of human civilization was an unknown.

Perhaps they wouldn't last until the end of the year.

...

"Mr. President, it's not very safe recently; the situation is not good over in the Yan State, it would be best not to go out these few days." In the embassy, a staffer advised.

The Great Xia government had long since sent danger warning documents to the embassy.

"If Great Xia falls, where could we hide, in bomb shelters?" Davis, the vice president of the former world hegemon, now the president of the restoration organization, said despondently: "Let's take a walk together; perhaps there won't be another chance."

The staffer hesitated a bit, then nodded forcefully: "I'll notify the security advisor!"

"Haha, no need, no one knows us. Oh, I forgot to tell you; Karl resigned yesterday, and I approved it."

"That traitor, a national betrayer, an American traitor, he must have been bribed by Great Xia Country." The staffer was stunned for a moment, then vehemently said.

"Don't blame him!" Davis sighed, comforting: "I understand him, a dignified legendary powerhouse, how could he guard an ordinary person all day long? His faith was just shattered."

"You are the president of the United States!"

"The United States is no more, we all know. I remember when we came to Great Xia Country, there were 8,345 of us, how many still remember the United States now, five hundred, a thousand?"

The staffer felt a twinge of sorrow, it was somewhat bleak, the once mighty world hegemon had fallen to such a state.

The two walked out of the embassy, the streets deserted.

These days, factories were on holiday, schools suspended classes, most citizens had entered bomb shelters, except for soldiers and police, streets were desolate.

"Do you think this time Great Xia can hold on?" Davis suddenly asked.

"I don't think so. Great Xia has indeed developed rapidly these years but now its military strength is just slightly above ours at that time." The staffer shook his head and said.

The United States had the right to be proud, as the former world police, they maintained an overwhelming superiority in weaponry and equipment, standing supreme, and its strong scientific research capability allowed it to recover fastest among countries post-mutation.

They didn't lose to strength, but to luck.

Unfortunately, now they could only reminisce the past glory in memories.

"President, the heavy weapons on the streets have disappeared." The staffer suddenly said in puzzlement.

"Never mind; maybe they went to deploy elsewhere!" Davis said.

The two wandered around and were preparing to go back,

when suddenly, a large crowd began to emerge from the bomb shelter not far away, under soldiers' order maintenance, everyone was cheering, running, like a carnival.

"Victory."

"We won."

"General Manager Chen**!"

...

The two couldn't help but stop their steps, faintly guessing something, yet somewhat unable to believe it. Davis quickly stopped one clearly Caucasian Great Xia citizen among them, eagerly using stilted Mandarin: "Sorry, could you tell us what happened?"

"Oh, you don't know yet? We won. General Manager Chen killed the Lord of Lightning last night; there will be no more shitty wars, we will usher in peace, peace!!!"

This middle-aged white man's excitement was uncontrollable, his face flushed, if not worried about being caught by the police, he would have stripped and streaked, maybe burned some cars to celebrate.

"Oh, right, this is today's newspaper, I'll give it to you." The white man slapped the crumpled newspaper to his chest: "I need to buy another one, no, a hundred copies. Believe me, this newspaper will appreciate in value, absolutely."

The president was utterly oblivious, his whole being stunned, his feet seemed to float. He picked up the newspaper fallen to the ground dazedly, and the front-page headline read:

"The Human Race Welcomes a New Era."

Five large characters.

The subtitle below read,

"God of Martial Arts General Manager Chen, in Yan State, killed the Barbarian God, Lord of Lightning with Powerful Divine Power, the war is over."

He quickly scanned downwards, his face suddenly flushed, overwhelming joy surged from his heart, soaring to his head, his whole body trembled uncontrollably, tears inexplicably flowing:

"Victory... Victory..."

He murmured.

Chapter 735: A New Era (Part 4)

The news of Chen Shouyi killing the Lord of Lightning spread rapidly like a stone thrown into a calm lake.

From the Rising Sun Country in the east, to the European Union in the west, Lucy Country in the north, and West India in the south, even including those occupied areas.

The whole world was shaken by it, as if a magnitude nine earthquake had erupted.

While some rejoiced ecstatically, others trembled in fear and unease.

At this moment.

In the Holy Alliance Country, the mood was not delightful, or rather, heavy.

This was the earthly realm of the Lord of Lightning, encompassing not only the United States but the entire North and South America, with a land area of 42 million square kilometers. In a sense, it was the largest country ever.

New Port City.

This once bustling international metropolis and global financial center had rapidly decayed over the past year, and its former prosperity was no more.

The weather was gloomy, the air filled with an oppressive and sorrowful atmosphere; distant gunshots and cries could be faintly heard. Countless police and soldiers wearing black uniforms with the emblem of the God of Lightning patrolled the streets fully armed, their expressions grim.

Since the night of the incident, New Port City had been under full lockdown and entered a state of highest alert. All citizens were strictly ordered not to leave their homes; violators would be shot on sight.

James exhaled and signaled to his young partner: "Let's have a smoke."

Hawke nodded.

The two walked to the corner of the wall, James took out a cigarette and tossed one over, lit up and took a deep drag, exhaling thick smoke.

Nobody spoke, each person silently pondering their thoughts.

James understood as well.

Over the past year, a regime driven by faith thrived on informing, spies were everywhere, and the oppressive police state struck fear into people's hearts. Society grew increasingly tense; relationships became cold and defensive, and during his tenure, he'd arrested or shot over a dozen non-believers on the spot.

Although he knew many were innocent.

Sometimes, a simple careless comment or act could be proof of blasphemy.

As a policeman, he had no choice and couldn't afford a shred of sympathy; he could be the next one arrested, and the informant could be someone close.

Feeling suffocated by the oppressive atmosphere, James broke the silence, forming smoke rings:

"I heard you were seeing a girlfriend?"

"Broke up," Hawke said tersely.

"Broke up?" James was shocked.

"She was just a shallow believer with little faith. Rather than having me send her to prison, it's better to part ways sooner." Hawke glanced at him, paused, and spoke.

James patted his shoulder: "It's good this way. As a policeman, family issues are the biggest taboo; you must strictly enforce it, especially during this time."

Hawke nodded, feeling confused inside.

He sensed that beneath the calm facade of the Holy Alliance Country, a massive storm was brewing.

The Lord of Lightning had fallen, how could nothing happen? This event led to the complete collapse of the faith foundation of the Holy Alliance Country. Priests could rise with the power of divine rights, followed by believers.

Soldiers could unite and obey orders by relying on their faith in "the Lord," fighting for the Lord.

But when the divine figure of belief falls.

The foundation that once united them ceases to exist.

...

But none of this concerned them; they were just small-time policemen, trying to make a living.

Shortly after the occupation, these former policemen were notified to resume duty; the only difference was changing uniforms. After all, no matter how society changed, experienced policemen like them were still necessary.

It's predictable that in the coming period, societal atmosphere would become extremely oppressive, and they would become even busier.

Just then, shots rang out from the distance:

"Something's up!" Hawke said.

"Don't bother, it's not our problem. We just need to maintain order." James signaled with his eyes to nearby soldiers and said.

Their eyes met, and suddenly they laughed.

For some reason, Hawke suddenly felt a long-lost sense of relief, as if a heavy stone had been lifted from his chest, and everything around him brightened.

To hell with faith,

To hell with the Lord of Lightning,

I am a non-believer!

...

Holy Alliance Country's capital, Huacheng.

In a grand cathedral conference room newly built this year, over a thousand chief priests from various regional parishes gathered for intense debate.

Each person's face was anxious, excited, angry, mixed with sadness, confusion, and unease.

The fall of the Lord of Lightning felt like the sky was falling for them, but more so they were worried about their own situation.

Just a few hours ago, they were excitedly planning for the unification of the world upon the Lord of Lightning's descent, discussing what rewards they might receive, and how the world would become wonderful.

However, they did not anticipate the lightning from clear skies.

A nightmare they didn't want to recall.

Done for, it's all over.

"Quiet, quiet..." The Sect Leader on the podium called out several times to no avail, then suddenly shouted angrily: "Shut the hell up."

He was an elderly white man wearing a crown, his silver hair meticulously groomed. With swollen eyes, he cast a dignified glance across the room, quickly restoring silence:

"Useless bunch!"

"The sky hasn't fallen yet, which parish is having a rebellion? We still hold nuclear weapons, we still command armies. They and us share interests, and some are even part of us."

Indeed, many began to realize this and calmed down.

The years of military purges meant no one who rose to power was completely clean; they were all part of the self-interest group.

As long as the army is stable.

Even if the country is chaotic, it's temporary.

Moreover, North and South America are isolated by a vast ocean from World Island; this is a land of destiny. Given current human technology levels in various countries, who could invade?

And furthermore, the Holy Alliance Country is not molded from clay.

Even without "the Lord," they are still the world's hegemon.

...

The meeting ended quickly.

The Sect Leader stood up, quickly left the conference room to attend another meeting.

There, the main generals of the Holy Alliance Country were gathered.

Despite his confident facade during the previous meeting, as if everything was under control, in reality, he knew better than anyone that the current situation was precarious, like walking on a tightrope.

How did the former Lucy Country disintegrate?

Now the situation in the Holy Alliance Country is a hundred or even a thousand times worse.

This is the collapse of faith!

And the collapse of public trust.

If mismanaged, the whole Holy Alliance Country could splinter overnight, even plunge into warlord strife.

Then, as Sect Leader, he and those once high-up priests would struggle to survive.

Chapter 736: Mainly Thanks to Hard Work

Hotel Presidential Suite.

A group of high-ranking military officials gathered at the door, pacing back and forth with anxious expressions.

Zhang Huaihe whispered, "Why hasn't he woken up yet? He's been sleeping for a whole day and night."

"Perhaps he's just too exhausted, after all, battling with a Barbarian God of the Powerful Divine Power level like the Lord of Lightning isn't easy," a European Union general whispered. "By the way, when Chief Advisor Chen returned, didn't the doctor examine him?"

Everyone exchanged glances and looked at each other in dismay.

When Chief Advisor Chen returned, he was full of energy, looking radiant. Not to mention injuries, his skin wasn't even scratched. If it weren't for the confirmed death of the Lord of Lightning, one might suspect he simply went out for a leisurely stroll.

Now, to ask him to undergo a full-body examination?

It's simply ridiculous.

Besides, Chief Advisor Chen would have to agree to it.

However, come to think of it, just because there's nothing on the surface doesn't mean there isn't anything wrong inside. Just because he seemed fine upon returning doesn't mean issues won't arise

later. After all, that's a Barbarian God with Powerful Divine Power. For ordinary people, just getting close would cause their soul to collapse.

Somewhat insidious and treacherous means are entirely normal.

The more Zhang Huaihe thought about it, the more uneasy he felt, his forehead breaking out in cold sweat.

Let nothing happen, please don't let anything happen here.

He signaled with his eyes to the Deputy Chief of Staff beside him, "Open the door!"

Shan Zefeng's heart pounded wildly at the words, thinking why me, not right, why me specifically, is it just because I'm the lowest rank?

He couldn't help swallowing, feebly protesting, "Sir, I don't have the key."

From the back of the crowd, completely unnoticed and lacking common sense, the hotel manager immediately handed over the key with a smile, "Here you go, Sir, Generals, the key is right here. I've prepared it long ago."

Shan Zefeng gestured to the hotel manager to open the door, but found the other party wasn't getting the hint. Helplessly, he had to take the key, making one last effort, "Or... let's wait a bit longer, maybe Chief Advisor Chen is just asleep, waking him might not be good!"

"I told you to open it, so open it," Zhang Huaihe snapped impatiently.

A Deputy Chief of Staff, how could he be so timid.

Showing no hint of the fearless spirit of a soldier.

Chief Advisor Chen isn't some primal beast, and his demeanor is quite agreeable during interactions, without the slightest arrogance and defiance one would expect from someone so powerful. Even if woken up, at most he'd just have a bit of morning grumpiness... right?

Shan Zefeng took deep breaths repeatedly, his hand trembling as he tried to insert the key into the lock hole. Silence fell behind him, except for the rapid sound of heavy breathing. Everyone's faces were serious, their bodies instinctively leaning back.

As if the door before them wasn't just a regular door, but instead the Gates of Hell, or that inside there rested a terrifying Fierce Beast ready to awaken anytime.

In fact, it's not much different.

Shan Zefeng tried several times with the key, but his hand seemed to completely disobey him, trembling uncontrollably, unable to insert the key into the lock smoothly. Time ticked away, and soon his back was soaked through.

Finally, whether it was the ninth or tenth try.

The key finally slid smoothly into the door lock.

Before it could be turned, the door automatically opened.

Chen Shouyi appeared, his eyes sleepy, as he opened the door, wearing only oversized shorts, his upper body bare. Glancing at everyone, finally focusing on Zhang Huaihe, he asked with a puzzled expression, "What do you need from me? Another Barbarian God showed up?"

"No, no, nothing!" Zhang Huaihe quickly waved his hand. "We just came to check on Chief Advisor Chen, you've been sleeping for a day and night."

"Yes, yes."

...

Everyone echoed.

"You're too kind, there's nothing to check on me for. I was just too tired yesterday. Why don't you come in and sit for a while?" Chen Shouyi said with a smile, one of polite insincerity.

The death curse from the Lord of Lightning wasn't easy to endure. Yesterday, as soon as he returned to the hotel, he collapsed into bed, only just waking up.

"No, no, we won't disturb Chief Advisor Chen's rest," Zhang Huaihe said awkwardly, then he remembered something, smiling brightly. "Oh, some media want to interview you, is Chief Advisor Chen interested?"

According to the information he had, Chief Advisor Chen always enjoyed accepting media interviews, and never refused any when asked.

After all, he was young.

Indeed.

No sooner had he finished speaking than Chief Advisor Chen inquired, "Which media outlets?"

"All of them, all of them, from all countries," Zhang Huaihe tapped into Chief Advisor Chen's interest, shamelessly saying even though only the European Union Daily had expressed a willingness to interview, getting Chief Advisor Chen interviewed wasn't difficult.

Where is this place? It's a war zone.

Except for soldiers, what's most prevalent are war correspondents from various countries. No need to say a word; just express the desire, and these journalists will swarm like flies drawn to the smell of dung.

Furthermore, maybe a press conference could be organized.

"That many?" Chen Shouyi couldn't help but show a hint of a smile.

Everyone lowered their gaze, eyes staring at noses, noses to hearts, deeply hiding their thoughts amidst their distracted expressions.

...

In a small conference room.

"Sir God Chen, hello, conducting this interview with you is an honor and a privilege in my life. My name is Catherine," said Catherine, a senior reporter from the European Union Daily, extending her hand, her face flushed.

He's ten times more handsome in person than in the footage.

The camera quietly recorded everything.

"Oh, hello," Chen Shouyi shook her hand.

"You've always been my idol, I even have your wallpaper hanging in my bedroom!"

The European Union is popularizing my wallpaper?

Unsure of how to respond, Chen Shouyi merely offered an awkward smile.

After all, there's a camera here.

Fortunately, she just mentioned it to lighten the atmosphere, quickly moving on to the main topic:

"You killed the Lord of Lightning, single-handedly saving human civilization. Could you describe the battle at the time?"

"Saving human civilization might be a bit exaggerated. I'm not that capable," Chen Shouyi modestly replied. "Actually, with the power of human civilization, defeating the Lord of Lightning is possible... though it would come at a cost."

Catherine's gaze, like flowing water, focused on Chen Shouyi's face. "You're too modest."

Chen Shouyi continued, "As for the battle, it's difficult to describe in a few words. Truth be told, my strength and the Lord of Lightning's were almost equal, and being able to kill Him smoothly was largely due to good luck."

"To us ordinary people, it's truly unimaginable," Catherine remarked. "There's a question many are curious about: how is it that your power is so strong?"

"If I were to say my martial arts talent wasn't innate, that would be dishonest. What I'd like to say is, it mainly comes down to hard work," Chen Shouyi replied earnestly.

"And you're leaving out the most crucial part, your intelligence comparable to Einstein's," Catherine said, full of admiration, like a devoted fan. "Your various versions of the Chen Clan cultivation method have pioneered a new era in Martial Arts."

"It's mainly due to hard work," Chen Shouyi adamantly maintained.

Chapter 737: New Ability: Insight

Without his sweat and effort, what use is the Book of Knowledge? It's just a dead object.

Edison once said: Genius is 99% sweat and 1% inspiration, and his current strength is also 99% sweat plus 1% the Book of Knowledge.

Subsequently, Catherine asked some questions about life, hobbies, and family, to which Chen Shouyi responded one by one.

The interview proceeded in a friendly and harmonious manner.

When you are strong enough, the whole world will yield to you, with smiles and pleasantness. Fortunately, Chen Shouyi possesses such qualifications.

Afterwards, the busy Chen Shouyi rushed to accept interviews from the People's Daily and Lucy News Agency; after all, he couldn't neglect any of them, and the published reports would contribute to his Faith Value.

In fact, since last night, the explosion of Faith Value had already begun.

...

Strength: 25.7

Agility: 25.7

Constitution: 25.8

Intelligence: 25.7

Perception: 24.3

Willpower: 24.5

Energy Accumulation: 44.62

Faith Value: 12034.2

Auxiliary Abilities: Accelerated Thinking; Insight.

Talent Abilities: Self-Healing (Super): 35.01%; Giant Battle Body (Super): 99.99%; Control Atmosphere: 55.01%.

Returning to the hotel room, Chen Shouyi awakened and opened the attribute panel for the first time.

With just one glance, he was dumbfounded.

After just a nap, the attribute panel had undergone earth-shattering changes.

In just one day, the Faith Value had increased by over ten thousand; compared to the usual four or five hundred points daily, it had multiplied more than twentyfold.

This wasn't the main point.

What surprised Chen Shouyi most was the addition of a new line on the attribute panel.

"Auxiliary Abilities: Accelerated Thinking; Insight."

Auxiliary abilities are, as the name implies, not inherent abilities; they are abilities supported by the Book of Knowledge.

"It seems absorbing the Lord of Lightning's death curse caused the Book of Knowledge to evolve again?" Chen Shouyi felt a mix of joy and surprise, as each new change in the Book of Knowledge brought him surprise.

And this time, there were two changes at once.

But soon, Chen Shouyi realized he was overthinking.

The first, Accelerated Thinking, was simply an 'extraordinary state.'

Thinking speed was still only accelerated threefold, and the consumption of Faith Value remained the same.

The only difference was that this was previously a hidden function not shown on the attribute panel, and now it appeared.

But this Insight...

He focused his eyes on the sub-option of "Insight," and suddenly, countless information flooded into his mind.

Once he digested it, a trace of shock and disbelief appeared on his face.

This Insight was actually opening "four-dimensional vision."

As everyone knows, ordinary human vision is two-dimensional, capable only of receiving two-dimensional information.

This is because light can't bend, and each line of light entering the eye can only carry information from the closest non-transparent point on its path, forming a two-dimensional image that transmits information to the brain.

As for why we perceive three dimensions? That's just the brain's interpretation based on the variations in light and shadow.

A sketch of a cube can easily deceive human eyes into generating a sense of depth in the brain.

This is true for ordinary people, but Chen Shouyi, having evolved into a sub-god, had his vision develop into three dimensions, no longer relying solely on light. He could simultaneously see every side—front, back, left, right—and inside every corner of a teacup on the table.

His field of view is several times that of an ordinary person, allowing him to see what's behind him even when facing forward; his sight could "bend" around mountains and the curvature of Earth to view hundreds of kilometers away.

What would four dimensions be like?

Chen Shouyi's heart pounded wildly, feeling both curious and fearful.

Two-dimensional and three-dimensional are within his understanding, but four dimensions were completely beyond the scope of his imagination.

"Should I try...?"

"Hey Giant, the little ones have been calling you several times, why didn't you hear?" Shell Lady said loudly from the side.

Hearing this, Chen Shouyi snapped back to reality: "Forget it, there's no hurry; I'll try when I'm in the other world. It's too dangerous to do it here, it would be disastrous if there were any accidents."

It's not that he's worried about himself being endangered, but rather concerned about collateral damage.

With his current willpower, the little ones can already rival a Barbarian God with Weak Divine Power, and his physical strength even in ordinary state can compare with a Barbarian God with Weak Divine Power. If he unconsciously emits an aura during the experiment, everything around might perish.

Chen Shouyi closed the attribute panel: "What happened?"

"The little ones are very hungry, you're almost starving us." Shell Lady said pitifully, on the verge of tears.

"Yeah, yeah!" Red Little One nodded vigorously.

Chen Shouyi felt embarrassed upon realizing he hadn't fed them for an entire day and night: "Alright, alright, it's my mistake; today we're having a feast."

...

Chen Shouyi didn't stay long in Yan State, ignoring the enthusiastic invitations of the command center, returning early the next morning.

It's almost the end of May.

Zhonghai City's noon sun shone fiercely; the chill of winter had just passed, and the climate quickly turned hot.

Countless young girls, young ladies, middle-aged and older women wore short skirts, medium skirts, and long skirts... Their dazzling whiteness dazzled the eyes, leaving no time to take it all in.

Walking down the street, Chen Shouyi occasionally saw many Southeast Asians or Caucasians, most of whom were refugees streaming in from the border. Since the mutation, the focal point of human civilization began to rapidly shift eastward at an unprecedented and unstoppable pace.

Although the Great Xia Country hadn't officially acknowledged it yet, its influence and strength had already made it the undisputed leader of humanity.

Upon returning home, Chen Shouyi found the whole family present.

Seeing him return, Mrs. Chen eagerly came forward: "Why did you take so long? Let me see if you're hurt."

"No, no!" He, being so grown, felt shy about being examined and quickly said, "Mom, don't worry, there's not a scratch on me; the doctor has already checked."

"Shou Yi is already grown, he can take care of himself. Have you eaten lunch?" Chen Dawei said, patting his belly, trying to maintain the dignity of a father, yet his heart was far from calm.

His son actually killed the Lord of Lightning?

According to the newspapers, this was a Barbarian God with Powerful Divine Power, even one of the strongest Barbarian Gods in the other world.

Just last night, the president specifically took time out of his busy schedule to call and offer congratulations, chatting for a long time; he still felt dazed.

"I've eaten," Chen Shouyi replied.

"Brother, is what the newspaper said true?" Chen Xingyue, who had been holding back for a long time, finally couldn't resist asking.

"Just a more powerful Barbarian God; it's not the first I've killed." Chen Shouyi said matter-of-factly, paused, and then casually asked, "Did the newspaper publish it? Let me see."

"I'll go get it for you right away." Chen Xingyue, extremely obedient, ran off to fetch the newspaper.

Chapter 738: Terror

How much is a newspaper worth?

The printing cost of a newspaper is less than ten cents, but when placed in a newsstand, it's about one yuan.

Very cheap.

But this measurement is one-sided. Chen Shouyi believes that the value of a newspaper is not reflected in money, but in the value and significance of the news itself. Some newspapers' value cannot be measured by money.

And this newspaper is clearly like that.

Chen Shouyi took the newspaper from Chen Xingyue's hand and glanced at the title:

"Humans usher in a new era."

"God of Martial Arts President Chen, slays the Barbarian God Lord of Lightning with powerful divine power in Yan State, the war is over!!!"

He said faintly, "Well, it's not written inaccurately, but it's rather exaggerated."

Looking up, he saw Chen Xingyue's face full of admiration.

...

The news of Chen Shouyi's return spread quickly, and by the afternoon, several military and political officials from Zhonghai City formed a group to visit.

He keenly felt that everyone's attitude towards him had subtly changed.

Awe, fear, cautiousness.

Although this situation has existed since he slayed the god, it has never been as obvious as today.

If Chen Shouyi used to represent a country alone, now he represents the entire Earth. His powerful strength and influence have established his transcendent position in the Great Xia Country.

...

In the evening, Chen Shouyi hung up the president's condolences call.

Suddenly a bit unaccustomed.

"Alas, blame it on my excessive strength!" Chen Shouyi looked at the chimney billowing smoke in the distance, sighing for the umpteenth time.

However, in this treacherous era, what other choice is there?

He was helpless too.

Without strength, one would die.

Next, he looked at the newspaper again, then opened the collection cabinet, carefully placing the newspaper among a thick stack of newspaper types.

Now he has developed the good habit of collecting newspapers.

...

In the early morning, the sky was still dimly lit.

He opened the window, took two still sleeping little ones, and quietly flew out the window.

Now the "Icefield" spatial passage has almost become his private passage, and the soldiers on duty saw him coming, not checking his credentials at all, swiftly opened the passage door.

Breathing in the slightly cold fresh air of the Icefield, Chen Shouyi's mood improved.

These years, massive heavy industrial construction, and the use of steam engines have worsened Zhonghai's air quality. Even on a windy sunny day, the sky remains hazy, filled with thick fog and strange odors.

But it can't compare to the absolute pristine pollution-free nature here in this world other than Earth.

Especially here, within hundreds of kilometers, everything is covered in snow, not even a single creature can be found.

After settling the two little ones, he swiftly flew to a mountain peak dozens of kilometers away.

This time, he came before dawn to experiment a bit with the "insight" ability.

He took a deep breath, his face becoming serious, his heart began pounding violently.

He dared not be careless at all.

This ability instilled a sense of danger in him instinctively, he didn't know what situation might occur, nor did he know what terrifying thing he would encounter, everything was unknown, the four-dimensional world is far too mysterious for three-dimensional beings.

Just thinking about it made him shiver.

He hesitated for a moment, but decided to accelerate his thinking first.

He didn't know what he would see next?

But one thing is certain.

The information contained in four dimensions is infinitely greater than that of three dimensions.

And this infinite might just be limitless...

After quickly accelerating his thinking, thoughts became lightning fast, time seemed to slow down, feeling his state at its peak, his mind gradually calmed down.

Let's begin!

"Insight!"

He slightly moved his thought.

The next moment.

"Boom!"

The entire world seemed to suddenly shake before his eyes, then turned upside down, simultaneously his eyes turned silver white, exuding an eerie glow, as if his mind had breached another dimension, colors, light and shade, quickly faded from before his eyes.

Replacing it was... the essence of the world.

Indescribable, impossible to depict all he saw before him, the real world had never revealed itself to him so truthfully, distant snowy mountains unfolded with all their details before his eyes.

He could see not only the surface.

But also see all the internal details simultaneously, there was no "front" or "back," no "inside" or "outside," this was his first time seeing space's existence so intuitively.

In his four-dimensional vision, space harbored no secrets anymore.

His sight became boundless, tens of thousands of kilometers, hundreds of thousands of kilometers, he even saw this slightly "curled" yet "uneven" space.

His angle of view seemed to overlook the world at a higher-level perspective.

Then, he looked at his own hand.

Skin, blood vessels, muscles, bones, like the previous mountain, all details also appeared before him, but even more complex.

The skin alone had countless layers, every layer had countless details, every detail contained endless information, and all this information presented itself simultaneously in parallel before him.

It felt like his entire hand had been analyzed, and this astronomical level of information was forcibly stuffed into his brain for digestion.

Only lasting barely a dozen milliseconds, roughly about zero point zero one seconds.

Chen Shouyi just felt a piercing pain in his brain, forced out of the "insight" state.

He held his head, stumbling as if his head had been hacked with an axe, his head aching terribly.

Moreover, the brain turned groggy, thoughts slowed like rusty gears, seemingly clogged by astronomical information nearly crashing his system.

"Damn! Damn! Damn!" Chen Shouyi couldn't help but curse.

This feeling was unbearably painful, a thousand times worse than mental exhaustion.

A few minutes passed.

He gradually regained composure.

He found the memory of the four-dimensional experience had already blurred, he could only recall roughly, his memory had fuzzed, no matter how hard he tried to remember, he couldn't recall the previous details.

"It seems my intelligence is too low." Chen Shouyi shook his head, thoughtfully.

To this moment, his brain still felt somewhat sluggish, not as clear as before.

Chen Shouyi's intelligence was only 25.7.

Even burning faith value to accelerate thinking would only be 28.5, just the level of medium divine power.

Far inferior to the Lord of Lightning, but Chen Shouyi believed that even the Lord of Lightning, when activating "insight," couldn't last long.

Three dimensions and four dimensions.

Seemingly only differing by a word.

Yet entirely different in essence.

In comparison, his transformation from a mortal to a god was merely a quantitative change, entirely distinct across dimensions.

"What is the origin of this Book of Knowledge, to evolve such a terrifying function?"

Chapter 739: Courting Death

"Perhaps the Book of Knowledge's predecessor, the World Tree, inherently possessed such an ability."

The information contained here is chilling upon deeper thought, leaving Chen Shouyi feeling horrified.

He savored the hazy memories in his mind.

"Omniscient." This was the only word he could think of to describe it. At that moment, the world held no mysteries in his eyes.

Material, energy, space, the flow trajectory of time—all of it was laid bare before him, leaving nothing hidden, as if he possessed the ability to do anything.

Of course, he knew this was just an illusion created by having complete information, and it wasn't truly omnipotence.

Yet, even so, this kind of power was terrifying in the extreme.

"It's fortunate that those ancient deities have fallen. Otherwise, even if I became ten or a hundred times stronger, humanity would probably stand no chance." Chen Shouyi felt a trace of relief but also a subtle unease.

Have all the ancient deities truly fallen?

If it were a war, there would always be victors!

For all to perish with no one left, the odds are lower than winning the lottery.

Or perhaps there's some existence responsible for the current state!

He recalled the terrifying presence in the Forbidden Land of the Gods and was unwilling to ponder further.

No matter how much he thought about it, with his current strength, it was pointless. Perhaps, compared to Earth, Tamu and those gods were more worthy of concern.

"However, that feeling just now was so wonderful."

"Pity it was too brief," he thought bitterly in his heart.

What can be done in 0.01 seconds?

Snapping back to reality, he opened the attribute panel, and just one glance made him feel as if struck by lightning.

"Damn it!"

He discovered that his painstakingly accumulated over ten thousand faith points were gone... gone!!!

Not a single point left.

Of course, saying not a single point isn't entirely accurate. During those few minutes just now, he had accumulated over a dozen faith points.

But that's not the point.

The point is,

these were over ten thousand points.

If added to his talent abilities, it could have increased the progress by more than ten percentage points. If used for accelerating thought, it could have lasted four days and nights...

Yet, after just enjoying it for 0.01 seconds, it was all gone.

The intense heartache left him distraught.

"No wonder! Earlier, I was puzzled how I could easily withstand the astronomical, massive information from the four-dimensional world in such a short time without my brain crashing. It turns out the Book of Knowledge took on the pressure," Chen Shouyi thought through gritted teeth.

The amount of information in the four-dimensional world is billions of times that of the three-dimensional, which is not something at Chen Shouyi's level that he could handle, even for an instant.

"But you consumed so much, yet you didn't say anything. How was I supposed to know?"

...

At the western border of India, where humans are scarce, the snow-covered mountains stretch endlessly.

Early in the morning, a young man in a white robe walked alone to the mountain summit, treading through the ice and snow.

He was slender, with deep-set eyes and a high nose. His eyes, a mix of tranquility and childlike innocence, were particularly striking.

This was the embodiment of the newly ascended human deity, Summit.

His ascension to True God was relatively smooth, from gathering divinity, igniting the divine fire, to consolidating the divine position, an almost obstacle-free process.

Compared to a certain high school dropout, he was the true prodigy.

He entered university at thirteen, obtained a Ph.D. in physics from Lu Ye University at twenty, became a university professor at twenty-five, and at twenty-eight, after seeing through the world, returned to the country as a dedicated practitioner, during which he founded a church.

It wasn't until he was thirty-five that he formally encountered martial arts.

From then on, he soared to fame.

He was humanity's first legendary strongman.

Aside from political factors, many considered him the world's strongest.

But that was the past. He gazed northeast, unmoving for a long time, and finally sighed.

To this day, he still couldn't understand why such a terrifying entity emerged among humans, one that killed the Lord of Lightning with powerful divine power.

Soon, he sat cross-legged among the ice and snow, quietly waiting.

Time passed second by second.

Soon, a burly man with a bare torso appeared at the mountain top. He glanced disdainfully at the cross-legged Summit, saying, "So you're the arrogant new god, daring to organize an alliance?"

"Respected God of Power, please have a seat," Summit opened his eyes calmly, saying, "We're all grasshoppers tied to the same rope."

The God of Power snorted coldly but said nothing more, seating himself on an exposed rock.

Earth is not like Tamu; the situation is complex, and the mortal forces are considerable. The other party appeared to be a newly ascended deity, but their overall power was far superior. Not to mention anything else, India's vast nuclear arsenal was enough to make him keep his distance.

The God of Power hadn't been there long when the mountain summit welcomed the arrival of the Goddess of Agriculture.

She wore a headdress woven from rice and wheat. Her arrival seemed to bring a touch of spring to the cold summit. The two exchanged greetings; she was a very low-key goddess, who quietly occupied the entire Ba Country, leaving no trace.

She was also a deity with weak divine power.

"Apologies for being late, God of Truth, I've long admired you," the Goddess of Agriculture said with a light smile, taking the initiative to express goodwill towards this new god, "I agree to the alliance you mentioned, we indeed need to unite."

"Respected Goddess of Agriculture, that's great," Summit replied with delight, sincerity evident on his face.

The God of Power sneered:

"You all have no idea how terrifying that existence is. Even the great Lord of Lightning perished at his hand. Do you think just the few of us can face death? I have no wish to become an enemy with that being."

The gap in power cannot be compensated for by numbers; it is a gap of despair.

Not to mention two deities with weak divine power and one with weak divine power; even three deities with medium divine power wouldn't suffice.

Since the news of Chen Shouyi slaying the Lord of Lightning spread, he had begun preparations for relocating his followers. Not only will all the martial artist-level followers on Earth be relocated to Tamu, soon followers on Tamu's side will also undergo a mass migration.

The farther from the spatial passage, the better.

The current situation left him feeling very insecure.

The Goddess of Agriculture felt a weight in her heart; a trace of worry appeared on her serene face.

Summit smiled slightly: "Actually, you all worry a bit too much. There is no justice between countries, only interests. Driving us away doesn't benefit the Great Xia Country; instead, they'd inherit a mess and countless refugees needing assistance.

At least not in a post-war, frail state, for them, we pose no threat, and we've stabilized the surroundings.

Moreover, our alliance isn't meant to confront that being..."

Just as he was speaking, he suddenly felt something, his gaze sweeping towards a massive rock a hundred meters away: "Who's there, come out?"

Everyone was startled and their faces changed as they couldn't help but stand up.

A rustling sound came, and soon a sneaky figure emerged from behind the massive rock, displaying an unnatural expression: "Uh, respected God of Power, respected Goddess of Agriculture, and this God of Truth, I was just passing by, didn't hear what you were discussing?"

"God of Plots and Enchantment!"

"Are you looking to die?"

Chapter 740: Commercial Port

Looking at everyone with fierce and murderous looks, as if wishing to kill her immediately.

The God of Conspiracy felt very innocent.

She really was just passing by unintentionally.

Unlike other Barbarian Gods, she rarely transforms and travels among mortals. As a competent God of Conspiracy and Enchantment, she has many incarnations on Earth, maintaining three to four at all times. Wherever there is chaos, there is her presence. Even if there is no chaos... she will create it.

This time she suddenly had a whim, suddenly sensing that something major would happen here.

So she hurried over eagerly.

Who would have thought that so many gods' incarnations would gather together, and she "unintentionally" overheard something she shouldn't have.

Although their conspiracy excited and delighted her.

But she knew, she had gotten herself into big trouble.

Her mind raced, and she quickly said, "Wait!"

"What else do you have to say?" the God of Power said coldly.

Had it been his past temper, an incarnation of such a weak god would have been killed without hesitation.

Want to explain? Ask his axe first.

But the situation on Earth is complex, forcing him to be cautious, fearing the attention of the Great Xia Country, and his temper has improved a lot.

Based on lessons from recent years, all the troublesome and restless have died.

Previously there were the God of Light and the God of Order, later there was the Lord of Lightning.

The former two are gods of medium divine power, while the latter is a giant under powerful divine power, a dominant lord.

In contrast, the God of Conspiracy and Enchantment, bordering the Great Xia Country, has always been steady, as if they have not seen at all.

Now he vaguely understands, as the God of Truth said, the Great Xia Country needs stability and harmony around them. They don't want trouble, and it doesn't matter whether it's divine rule or not.

The God of Power regretted it a bit after speaking, facing such a god who is eloquent and disturbs people's minds, one cannot let her speak.

"I also want to join you." the God of Conspiracy said, "The Great Xia Country has always been eyeing us..."

The words had not yet fallen.

Only to be rudely interrupted by the Goddess of Agriculture:

"A weak god full of lies and deceit, put away your filthy and pitiful divine power, you are not welcome here."

The God of Conspiracy and Enchantment!?

Hehe.

Want to be a double agent?

"I have intelligence you need, I know many secrets about God Chen..."

"Scram!"

The God of Conspiracy quickly shut her mouth, turned and walked away in a mess, unspeakably shabby.

Sigh, why does no one believe her?

However, this bit of humiliation she doesn't care about at all...she is already used to it.

She let out a malicious low laugh in her heart.

Keh keh keh keh keh, you will regret it, you will definitely regret it.

...

Watching the God of Conspiracy disappear from view, both the God of Power and the Goddess of Agriculture unconsciously breathed a sigh of relief.

"Why not let her join, with one more strength, we will have one more power?" Summit, who had been silent, asked in confusion.

"You are still a New God, not understanding the treachery of divine power, you can never speak too much with such a god whose divine position is conspiracy and enchantment, otherwise one's mind will be unknowingly influenced by her." The Goddess of Agriculture said with a smile to remind.

"It is said the death of the God of Blood is related to her, and there are rumors that the fall of the God of Light also has her shadow." The God of Power spoke, with a grave face.

Summit couldn't help but take a breath when he heard this.

Such a goddess is really too dangerous.

This is simply the source of chaos.

Sure enough, he is still too young, too naive, unlike those old gods who have lived for thousands, tens of thousands of years and experienced countless storms.

...

On a train bound for the Tai Buddha Country.

The carriage is full of people.

"Brother Shen, how is Langkai Prefecture, is it safe?" A newcomer dispatched to the Tai Buddha Country's office by a state-owned fur company asked the senior next to him.

"That depends on how you look at it. Langkai Prefecture is a trade port and a special zone of the Tai Buddha Country. It has always been especially focused on by the respected God of Conspiracy and Enchantment, and it is very safe there! Of course, you also need to respect other people's beliefs. This is very important if you want to deal with the Tai Buddha Country priests."

Wang Kaiping nodded, he had received special training before setting off and understood the basic situation of Langkai Prefecture.

But he still felt uneasy without clarifying.

After all, he was about to go to a region ruled by gods.

The fall of the Tai Buddha Country did not stop the trade between the Xia and Tai countries, especially in the past year, the total amount of bilateral trade has been increasing.

Ores, furs, gold, jewelry, fruits, every day a large number of fully loaded trains are shipped to the Great Xia Country.

Some come from another world, while others are from the Great Xia Country itself.

It is said that those barbarians in another world have also found an ultra-high-grade iron ore vein.

"However, it's fine to associate with those priests, but don't be really bewitched into believing in their religion. Of course, in general, those priests wouldn't try to convert us Xia country people." the middle-aged man kindly reminded.

"I know that." Wang Kaiping quickly said.

Believing in the Barbarian God is explicitly prohibited, once discovered, his future would be over.

The train continued for two more hours, finally slowly stopping at Langkai Prefecture, and a large number of passengers disembarked.

As they stepped out of the station, in the distance, a huge statue of a goddess was faintly visible, seemingly emitting a divine glow.

"Don't look too much!" said the middle-aged man.

Wang Kaiping quickly lowered his head.

"Staring at a divine statue here is considered blasphemous, although the respected God of Conspiracy and Enchantment is a gentle and kind goddess who won't mind our offense, it's better to follow local customs since there are still many believers who cannot accept it." the middle-aged man explained.

Wang Kaiping expressed understanding.

Subsequently, after some bargaining, the two took a local tricycle to the company's office.

On the way, Wang Kaiping saw a large number of steam trucks loaded with goods, flowing endlessly. The sides of the road were also full of shops marked in Xia and Tai characters, if not for the fact that every one or two kilometers he would see a temple converted into a church, he almost felt as if this was a city in the Great Xia Country.

At this time, his eyes widened.

Looking at a military base across the street, hanging the coat of arms of the Great Xia Country, he exclaimed in shock:

"Brother Shen, are those the troops of the Great Xia Country?"

"Didn't I tell you there are Great Xia Country troops in Langkai Prefecture?"

Wang Kaiping shook his head in confusion.

"Well, actually, there aren't many troops, only the size of a regiment, mainly escorting some valuables like gold."

"But..."

But this is a region controlled by the Barbarian God!

The middle-aged man looked at Wang Kaiping's surprised expression, he didn't need to guess what the other was thinking:

"Don't make a fuss, you're still young, you will understand in the future, and perhaps it won't be long before you come to like it here."