

Ocean Lord 811

Chapter 811: Catalyst (2)

But a week later, the Lord of Glory army, twice as many as before, struck again, catching them off guard.

The demons paid a price to deal with them all, thinking that this time they would finally stop.

However, another week passed, and these chaotic armies not only did not decrease but instead returned with double the size, showing a fearlessness in the face of death that surpassed their previous encounters.

The demons were bewildered, somewhat frantic. Were these human armies unafraid of death?!

“Yesterday, I stole a squadron of winged demons and exchanged them for a large amount of resources from the elves. It’s enough to replenish the lost troops and make a profit. It feels so damn good!”

“The elves may be annoying, but they’re still generous. It would have been better if we had been allowed to go earlier instead of waiting until so many legions had awakened.”

“It can only be said that it fits the typical image of elves in Western fantasy novels.”

“We’re basically slaughtering them without resistance. With this demon invasion, the rate of territorial development has increased at least tenfold!”

Thanks to the cross-domain chat channel, players could communicate with zero delay regardless of distance, just like organizing a boss fight. Once they discovered any demons straying from the group, they would quickly call for reinforcements via the channel, pulling in ten times the enemy’s troops in a very short time.

Each time, justice prevailed with overwhelming force, almost bewildering the greedy legions.

How did these armies gather so many troops in such a short time?

Furthermore, the armies employed highly unethical tactics, frequently resorting to cowardly retreats during engagements, covering their tracks completely. They displayed unwavering courage in combat, being prepared to fight relentlessly until the bitter end in order to inflict harm upon their adversaries.

And it seemed like their perception that these armies were growing stronger with each encounter wasn’t just their imagination. Each battle became increasingly challenging, and casualties grew larger.

Previously, it only took a squadron of demons to easily wipe out ten times their number of enemies. But now, it took at least five squadrons to deal with one thousand troops, and their own casualties exceeded half.

In the rear, demons were being rapidly produced, but they couldn't withstand such rapid consumption!

The mysterious rate of growth shocked both the demons and the Orderly Camp.

Nowadays, the New Moon Islands, with the influx of a large number of players, had become even more lively. The neatly planned streets were filled with players wearing mismatched and flamboyant equipment, striding with an air of indifference.

Although they were a bit careless, they didn't dare to cause trouble in the Crown of the Ocean. After all, this was the territory of the person who had killed two demon lords, the domain of the Islander.

Even if god were to grant them ten times the courage, they wouldn't dare to cause trouble here.

In addition to players, there were also many elves, humans from the Northern Continent, envoys from various races, merchants, and soldiers in transit on the New Moon Islands.

But whether it was a nation or a race, or even the elves themselves, none dared to be unruly here, all acting cautiously.

They witnessed elves causing trouble under the influence of their elven heritage, only to face swift and decisive annihilation by the Ocean Crown's army, showing no regard for the Elven Empire's reputation.

The Elven Empire dared not say anything, only sternly warning that any elves who arrived at the New Moon Islands, whether merchants or soldiers, were not allowed to cause trouble in the Crown of the Ocean. Otherwise, they would be stripped of their citizenship and personally interrogated and sentenced by a special elven overseer.

With elves leading the way, everyone else worked cautiously, not daring to have any dissent.

There was sincere admiration and awe towards Ji Chen in their hearts. Even the usually domineering elves were reluctant to provoke. How majestic was that?

Players were even shouting out how awesome it was. In the eyes of outsiders, an ordinary epic-tier could actually intimidate the entire elf race from acting recklessly. This was exactly the image of a lord from another world they had imagined!

The western part of the main island of the New Moon Islands was a large area of sea rice fields. Under the improvement of the legendary tier druid Martino, the yield of sea rice increased significantly, almost doubling the original yield.

In addition to the plantation by the sea, after consulting with Ji Chen, Wilus expanded the sea rice fields to the sea surface, creating a large number of floating raft-like water farms connected by chains, planting a large amount of sea rice in them.

Due to the protection of the Ocean Crown territory and Lord Ji Chen's talents, the sea surface around the New Moon Islands was very calm, and the waves were not violent at all, completely capable of accommodating these rafts.

The rafts were interconnected, filling up a large area of the sea surface west of the main island, and also allowing the production of sea rice to reach a very considerable level, filling the warehouses with food storage, and easily supplying the entire Ocean Crown.

Too much food accumulation would only lead to waste, so these grains were also exported on a large scale to supply the elves and other forces soldiers fighting in the southern mainland, adding another channel for increasing income to the Ocean Crown.

And quite a lot at that.

Transporting food from the homeland of the Elf Empire would incur considerable losses, but if purchased directly from the Ocean Crown, they could catch a favorable wind to and from the southern mainland, saving a considerable amount of expenses for the round trip.

The shrewd noble elves soon agreed eagerly and gave their full support.

Not only food, but the powerful industrial capacity of the Ocean Crown also produced large quantities of weapons and equipment, war machinery, and even cannons on a daily basis.

This led to a strange phenomenon: soldiers setting sail from the northern mainland had nothing on them, not even a bag of food, a set of qualified armor, or a handy weapon.

But after passing through the Ocean Crown, all these things were immediately provided.

Wearing a set of dwarven-crafted armor, holding a fine steel weapon in hand, carrying a powerful bow made from precious forest wood on their back, and even each hundred-man team had a set of lightweight mobile field cannons or three mobile ballistae.

It could be said that everything was available.

The more intense the battle, the more prosperous the sales of products from the Ocean Crown became. Sometimes, as many as thirty to forty thousand pieces of weapons and equipment could be sold in a single day.

In the past, shipyards, repair yards, inns, restaurants, and other industries were all striving to complete the territory's industries. Now, they had become industries that made money hand over fist, earning quite a hefty sum of gold coins every week.

Ji Chen didn't keep these gold coins. On the spot, he would use them to purchase various rare resources, and raw materials, buy merchant ships, and reinvest them into production, forming a virtuous cycle.

The workshops in the underground lizardman world were increasing at a rate of one per week. The rich magma resources and ore resources in the underground world provided a continuous stream of raw materials for workshop production.

The industrial railway had already covered most of the underground world.

The rumbling locomotives connected various veins, workshops, entrances, and exits, further increasing production efficiency.

From ore still in the veins to weapons ready for export, the entire production process took no more than a day, and even when the weapons were being packed, they still retained the temperature from forging.

Amidst the tension of war and the rapid development, the giant turtle returned to the Ocean Crown with about a dozen ships full of dwarf refugees, once again adding fuel to the high-speed operation of the Ocean Crown's machinery.

The first batch of dwarf refugees, numbering around eight thousand, arrived, with a considerable portion of them being qualified dwarf craftsmen whose forging skills were superior to those of lizardmen and humans.

Ji Chen offered them protection, and in return, they had to contribute corresponding labor for this protection.

These dwarf craftsmen were not responsible for forging, but for researching higher-tech and more difficult projects such as machine tools, mold manufacturing, and assembly lines.

Basic weapons and equipment were churned out on assembly lines, whereas premium, tailor-made ones were meticulously crafted by hand. The shift towards industrialization represented the inevitable trajectory of future progress, highlighting the unmistakable significance of this shift.

The construction of the second large port in the New Moon Islands was also in full swing, which would greatly enhance the Ocean Crown's capacity to receive ships.

Dramatically, war acted as a catalyst, accelerating the development of the Ocean Crown and the New Moon Islands. Everything was changing rapidly..

Chapter 812: Nora

The Ocean Crown, which was in a rapid development phase, had its master absent from the territory.

At that moment, Ji Chen found himself in a sea area within the Eastern Mid- Ocean, where a spiraling water curtain extended several miles upward into the sky.

Within the water curtain, the sea transformed into numerous exotic ocean creatures: deep-sea fish, fang-toothed whales, giant octopuses... They seemed to move around like real marine life, emitting a lively atmosphere.

Ji Chen looked at the ocean power glowing brightly in his hand. With a thought, he absorbed it into his body.

As the light gradually dimmed, these strange aquatic forms lost their spirituality and form, quickly dissolving back into the sea.

Inside his body, the three strands of ocean power found each other like missing pieces of a puzzle, merging perfectly together.

“The fusion of ocean power is complete, and the authority's strength is restored.”

Feeling the new and familiar majestic power in his body, Ji Chen finally smiled.

He had gathered three strands of ocean power!

Several days ago, he followed the aura, traveling thousands of miles from the Western Mid-Ocean to the Eastern Pacific Ocean to find the lost third strand of ocean power.

Unlike the previous two strands of ocean power, the search and acquisition process for the third strand of ocean power had gone extremely smoothly. In a seabed cave, a group of evil sea beasts had guarded it, which Ji Chen had easily annihilated.

The fusion process had also been very smooth. When the three strands of ocean power merged into one, their power was displayed.

-Mid-tier authority, second place.

The complete ocean power, or ocean authority, had ranked third among the mid-tier forty-eight authorities, just below the first place of earth authority and sky authority.

This ranking was apparent on the surface. However, there had been no definitive conclusion regarding which authority—earth, sky, or ocean—was truly the most powerful among the three domains of land, sea, and sky.

Ultimately, the effectiveness of wielding authority depended on the abilities of the user. Weak wielders found themselves being led by the authority, thus struggling to fully harness its power, whereas powerful wielders could completely command the authority, utilizing it at will and unleashing its power to the fullest extent, sometimes even beyond its limits.

Furthermore, each of these three authorities possessed distinct strengths and specializations. Those who wielded earth authority wisely refrained from engaging in battles at sea against those with ocean authority, just as those who controlled sky authority avoided confrontations on land with wielders of earth authority.

But undoubtedly, ocean authority had been one of the most powerful authorities among the mid-tier authorities, especially in the ocean, where it had reigned supreme.

Even the higher-tier authorities needed to show some respect!

Having gathered the power of the ocean, Ji Chen also paved the way to ascendancy as an ocean deity. Moving forward, all he needed to do was diligently amass fervent followers, continuously build up the power of faith, and enhance his strength, and when the deity's condensation was complete, the divine fire would eventually ignite fully, transforming him into a god.

But if he followed the normal process, it would take quite a long time, perhaps centuries or even millennia.

Becoming a deity was by no means a simple matter. Throughout history, how many strong individuals had reached the end of the world, mastered authority, but ultimately crossed the long road and ascended to become deities? Not many.

The deities at the top of the pyramid were still those familiar names, but beneath the pyramid, countless unnamed corpses had long been piled up.

But Ji Chen had enough confidence to become the one who reached the top of the pyramid. His confidence stemmed from the Military Talent Tree and Authority.

It was already incredibly rare for one person to possess three authorities.

After obtaining the final strand of ocean power, Ji Chen had no intention of delaying any further and was prepared to begin his journey back.

With a single thought, the once tranquil sea and sky surrounding him erupted into turmoil, unleashing a terrifying storm of wind and water.

Seeing this terrifying scene, the surrounding marine creatures panicked and fled, fearing being torn to pieces by the storm.

This was the power of the Storm Authority.

Capable of summoning storms at any time and place, not only could it harm enemies, but it could also conceal oneself within the storm, merging with it.

Satisfied, Ji Chen nodded, then continued on his way without further delay, with the storm following closely behind. He simultaneously increased his proficiency in using the Storm Authority while hurrying on the road.

The storm, regardless of its actual power, looked frightening enough, resembling a sandstorm on land, sweeping across the sea hundreds of meters high and extending for miles, with fierce winds roaring like the howls of demons.

The sky was dark and lightless, with only rolling winds and rain, accompanied by flickering thunder, like scenes from Doomsday.

All the ships encountered along the way, upon seeing what they thought was a naturally occurring storm, quickly veered off course and fled in panic, unaware that it was being controlled by a single human.

Feeling the surging power of authority within the storm, insights continued to emerge in Ji Chen's mind, deepening his understanding of authority's usage.

At that moment, he suddenly sensed a violent energy fluctuation coming from afar, causing Ji Chen to involuntarily shift his gaze.

His spiritual senses swiftly spread forward through the boundless sea, penetrating tens of miles ahead.

"Hmm? Is that... a military force chasing someone?"

Zooming in countless times, Ji Chen's widened field of vision revealed a dark army emitting an extremely evil aura, surrounding and attacking a humanoid figure with transparent wings from all directions.

The figure appeared remarkable, emitting an otherworldly aura. Despite appearing to be of similar age to a human girl, its skin was adorned with intricate colored scales, which appeared not out of place but rather beautiful, akin to a painting.

Chapter 813: Nora (2)

On top of her head were a pair of short horns, and around her body, there was a circle of illusory colorful light, holy and beautiful. The feathers composing her delicate wings were like stars, as if plucked from the night sky and adorned upon her.

At a glance, it was extremely dreamlike, as if a celestial maiden from heaven.

At this moment, this non-human-like winged being was busy dealing with the siege. Although she was the only one fighting alone, her petite body burst forth with formidable strength. Faced with this pitch-black army, even stronger than sixth-tier troops, she showed no fear.

Every time the starlight staff in her hand struck, the space would easily tear apart, and the erupting energy would always annihilate more than ten of the dark troops.

With a wave of her hand, a cluster of light dots, akin to the most intense white- scaled bullets, would instantly melt any enemies they touched.

However, this army of beasts, entirely black and emitting an ominous aura, seemed like emotionless killing machines. Fearlessly, they kept coming, sacrificing themselves in an extremely coordinated manner to create opportunities for their companions.

Finally, one of them found an opportunity. Its claws, harder than meteorite and as sharp as dragon teeth, heavily scratched her abdomen, leaving behind four ferocious wounds on her beautiful colored scales, emitting black smoke, akin to some poisonous venom.

“Hmph.” Nora snorted in pain. Using her staff like a club, she directly smashed the black beast that had injured her into a cloud of black smoke, pushing it back hundreds of meters.

A hint of dissatisfaction and reluctance crept onto her pale face. If her authority hadn’t been sealed, how could she have been so easily overwhelmed by these beasts?

Seeing that the black beasts still filled the sky, with no reduction in their numbers, Nora decisively turned and fled. These black beasts were inherently repelled by the world’s rules due to their evil and deformed nature. Perhaps there was still a glimmer of hope if she could hold out until they were expelled by the rules.

Seeing the hunted target fleeing, the eyes of the black beast group flashed with red light, and they immediately chased after her without hesitation.

Their great master ordered them to kill this solitary guardian deity whose authority had been sealed and bring back her authority and body, completing that supreme feat. How could they let her escape?

Nora swung her staff repeatedly, her body constantly flashing. Soon, she escaped tens of miles away. However, the wound on her abdomen, which had been injured earlier, kept emitting strands of black gas, constantly guiding the black beasts.

“Damn it, I’m really done for this time.” Nora’s face grew paler. The sealing of her authority caused her to lose most of her self-healing ability, and being chased by this group of black beasts from the border to the inside, her strength was about to be exhausted. If this continued, she would surely perish under the claws of these black beasts.

Once her authority and divine body were taken away, she would truly become a piece of meat on the chopping board.

As her strength dwindled, the black beasts became more and more aggressive, and she could even see the mockery and cruelty in their blood-red eyes, making her shiver in fear.

She, a dignified and upright deity, was actually going to be killed by such a group of riffraff. It was really humiliating!

Gasping for breath like a broken bellows, Nora watched the black beast group surging towards her, her eyes gradually filled with despair.

However, at this moment, there was suddenly a fluctuation in authority.

The dark clouds in the sky gathered in an instant, followed by a sudden burst of thousands of thunderbolts, directly splitting the surging black beasts into pure black smoke.

Within a dozen breaths, thousands of black beasts transformed into pure substance, leaving Nora dumbfounded.

???

A string of question marks seemed to float above her little head.

Had that great god received the message and come to the main world to help her?

Between the dissipating dark clouds and thunder, sunlight once again poured down, and a tall figure stood in the air.

Nora squinted her eyes and looked over. She was about to greet the person, but suddenly her expression froze.

Wait a minute, is this... a human!?

The one who just saved her turned out to be an ordinary human, not even a demigod!?

Ji Chen looked at the strange humanoid creature, pondered for a moment, and decided to take the initiative to speak.

“Hello, I’m Ji Chen, the Lord of the Ocean Crown. I was the one who saved you.” Nora looked at Ji Chen, who was approaching, and came back to her senses. Suddenly, she stood with her hands on her hips, her face proud.

“Human, you don’t need to know my name. Just offer your faith and loyalty, and maybe I can accept you as my follower, allowing you to bask in my supreme divine light!”

Ji Chen: ???

What’s going on with this little one? She’s behaving as if he didn’t rescue her.

Could it be that she was scared out of her wit by those dark creatures?

Seeing Ji Chen seemingly stunned, Nora smirked triumphantly and continued arrogantly.

“Hmph, based on your handling of those dark beasts, I’ll give you a chance to serve me. Take me to a safe place and gather as many living beings as possible.” For most deities, the best way to recover was to gather the power of faith. As long as there were enough followers to provide faith, the injuries could be healed quickly, and even the seal could be undone.

This seemingly capable human, if turned into a fervent believer, would surely provide a considerable amount of faith power.

Nora thought smugly, but she saw that the human in front of her didn’t seem quite right.

She was feeling a bit scared now, as she was quite weak at the moment.

But still, she raised her head and said with a forced smile.

“Ahem, is there something wrong with what I said?”

Ji Chen looked at Nora, who was barely up to his chest, and inferred some things from her words.

Faithful, divine light...

These were terms that only an entity in need of faith would use. In other words, the small creature in front of him, with starry wings like a descending fairy, was a deity?

“...Are you a deity?”

Nora immediately raised her flat chest proudly. “Hmph, mortal, it’s good that you know. Behold my majestic presence. This is a rare opportunity.”

“Are you referring to the sorry state you were in when you were chased by those dark creatures?”

Nora’s expression froze. “That was just an accident. If it weren’t for my power being sealed, how could I be bullied by those dark beasts? Usually, I could crush them with just one slap.”

“But obviously not now.” Ji Chen mercilessly shattered her words, his tone becoming heavier. “And I was the one who saved you just now. When saved, one should thank their savior. Have you said thank you?”

Letting a deity say thank you to a mortal?

How could that be possible!?

Dream on!

“...Thank you.”

Ji Chen’s expression softened a bit. “Are you a deity?”

Nora raised her head again, proudly declaring, “I am a dignified deity, a lesser god standing above countless beings!”

“Just a subordinate god?”

Nora glared at Ji Chen, full of disdain. “Do you think there are many lesser gods? What, you look down on lesser gods!? At least I am a deity with lesser god powers!!”

However lowly a lesser god may be, they still belong to the realm of divine beings, to a higher order of life and existence, standing above countless mortal beings. How could they be ridiculed by mere mortals who haven’t even undergone the transformation into divine entities?

Ji Chen didn’t say anything, just extended his hand, and a dazzling purple lightning orb floated in his palm.

Uh— Nora felt like her throat was blocked, and she fell silent.

The power of thunder ranked as the seventh intermediate power, proved to be significantly stronger than her own abilities, which fell even below those of the lesser gods.

Indeed, her lesser god power was a bit lacking.

However, Ji Chen didn't hesitate to deliver another blow.

"The ones chasing you are... called dark beasts, right? Even the enemy deities didn't come to catch you themselves, probably feeling that they could handle you with these dark beasts alone.

How dare you expect someone with intermediate authority to submit to a lesser god like you?"

The more Ji Chen spoke, the redder Nora's face became, until finally, she collapsed, burying her head in her hands. "Stop it, I know I was wrong!!"

Chapter 814: Oceanic Faith

After a series of tortures... ah, conversations, Ji Chen gradually gained some understanding of the little one named Nora.

Her actual name was Nora, a lesser god known as the God of Starlight. She wielded authority over the seventieth lower-tier within the realm of starlight authority.

She belongs to a race called Void Elves, naturally able to live in the void since birth, but other than the name and the connection to elves, she had no relationship with the elves in the main world.

But she still belonged to the fraction of orderly gods.

"Your authority was sealed by a sinister god named the Dark Lord of Deception. In order to escape, you voluntarily fell from the void into the main world, and you were chased by those dark beasts?"

"Yes, the Dark Lord of Deception is considered to be quite powerful among the mid-tier gods, and the authority he holds [Deception] ranks twentieth among mid-tier authorities!"

Nora nodded and looked at Ji Chen, adding, "Of course, this is definitely not as good as your [Thunder] authority."

Ji Chen nodded, his expression serious. "What I'm more interested in now is whether the orderly gods know about the invasion of demons into the main world?"

"Of course we know. The prayers of the believers have long been known to all the great gods." Nora sighed heavily. "But we have no way to respond or interfere, we can only watch."

Ji Chen's pupils suddenly contracted, which undoubtedly confirmed his previous speculation based on the information provided by Lainekel, Leysha, and others.

That was, orderly gods were not unaware of everything happening in the main world, but they were unable to do anything about it.

"Have you been entangled by the Dark Lord?"

Nora looked at Ji Chen with some surprise, "It seems you know quite a bit?"

Ji Chen shook his head. "I don't know, it's just a bold guess based on some information. Neither the elves nor the church can get the oracles and responses of their worshiped gods, and they can only watch the minions of the Dark Lord ravage the land where they depend on to survive. Thinking about it, this is the only possibility."

Nora nodded approvingly. "A good inference and it's quite accurate. However, to explain this clearly, we have to talk about the last god war."

"You should know that hundreds of thousands of years ago, in the god war, the dark gods were defeated and suppressed by the orderly gods in the depths of chaos abyss, right?"

"Of course I know."

"As long as there are believers and faith, the gods are almost immortal. Even if they are killed, as long as their divine soul remains, they can rely on the power of believers' faith to be reborn through Nirvana."

Nora talked eloquently, as if she were a participant, "The same is true for the dark gods. Although the god war was won by the side of order, there are still many evil believers remaining on the earth. With the guidance of the dark gods, they scattered and evaded punishment after the defeat of the god war, giving them a chance to rise again.

However, the majority of mortal beings are unaware that the abyss of chaos is, in fact, a unique space within the void, characterized by an extremely hostile environment filled with chaotic energy. Even for gods, it presents significant danger. Prolonged exposure to the divine body and soul will lead to gradual decay. This is precisely why the gods of order unanimously consented to confine those dark gods there, permitting their divine souls to deteriorate and ultimately achieve complete eradication."

Ji Chen nodded suddenly, realizing that the chaos abyss had such a trick. But then he asked in confusion.

"But hundreds of thousands of years have passed, how can the dark gods still turn the tables and entangle the orderly gods?"

"It seems that the dark gods have found a way to avoid the influence of chaotic energy, and not only have they not decayed, but they have also become stronger. Then, they collectively made a move."

Nora's face was full of indignation. "Who would have thought that they would be so insidious, enduring for more than ten thousand years without making a sound, and then suddenly rushing out while we were not paying attention? It's really despicable!"

In fact, the energy of the chaos abyss not only damages the divine body and divine soul but also isolates the gods from prying eyes, which makes the orderly gods outside unable to know clearly what is happening inside.

As time passed, they could only vaguely sense that those dark gods were growing weaker and weaker, leading to natural rejoicing and a relaxation of their vigilance.

The number of orderly gods responsible for rotation decreased, and finally, the dark gods, who appeared weak, broke through the suppression in one fell swoop.

Ji Chen pursed his lips, surprised to learn it was because of this reason. He didn't know whether to attribute the tenacity of the dark gods in adversity or the arrogance of the orderly gods.

It seemed that the so-called gods were not devoid of human emotions, possessing characteristics similar to mortals. The embarrassing God of the Stars before him was a perfect example.

Feeling the slightly offensive gaze from Ji Chen, Nora angrily waved her fist. "Human, what's with that look? Just because you lucked out with the Thunder Authority doesn't mean you can be so disrespectful to a god!"

Ji Chen shrugged. "Can beings without authority still be called gods?"

Nora's expression froze momentarily, deciding to swallow her pride for now.

When she regained her authority later, she would make sure this human knew the difference between gods and mortals!

Hmph, for now, she would endure and let this relatively competent human help her gather some believers to provide faith power, so she could lift the seal on her authority and restore her strength as soon as possible.

With her plan set, Nora quickly adjusted her attitude, wearing a smile on her face.

Chapter 815: Oceanic Faith (2)

"Well, I'm just a minor lesser god, not comparable to those great gods like Eluvita."

– Eluvita.

Ji Chen's spirits lifted. He had many questions about this immensely famous deity, but now wasn't the time for inquiries.

"...Let's return to my domain for now and discuss matters afterward."

Ji Chen led the divine being back to the Crown of the Ocean, refraining from using his Storm Authority to hasten their journey, nor did he reveal any other abilities apart from his Thunder Authority.

Caution was essential; concealed power was the best response to unforeseen circumstances.

With mastery over three authorities, he was confident in subduing a weakened deity who had been stripped of their powers and injured.

Nora harbored thoughts of using him to regain her strength, and Ji Chen himself entertained the idea of extracting more information about the orderly gods and Eluvita from her.

It was merely a mutual exploitation.

Humans and gods, each harbored their own motives.

Soon, the New Moon Islands came into view. Nora glanced at the bustling Crown of the Ocean with a hint of curiosity.

As a Void Elf, she had lived in the void since childhood and rarely visited the main world. After the Dark Lords broke free from their seals, she had hardly returned for a century.

A hundred years was enough for significant changes in the main world. Dynasties rose and fell, and empires crumbled, so it wasn't surprising to see a thriving settlement in the vast ocean.

However, it was merely a passing curiosity. For this legitimate deity, such mortal realms were inconsequential; only divine realms were worthy of her attention.

Each deity resided in their own divine realm, which served as their true home. These realms varied in size and quality, ranging from expansive domains capable of hosting billions of beings, each with its own rules and systems, to smaller realms resembling massive cities.

However, Nora was unaware that the Crown of the Ocean had only been established for just over a year, from its inception to its current state.

After settling the "descended" Starlight deity, Ji Chen turned to Wilus to inquire about the current situation with the demons.

With the players joining the fray, the situation in the southern continent was gradually improving. Players who were fearless, well-informed, and versatile in combat style brought great trouble to the Greed Legion, much to their chagrin.

Now, in the Desert Alliance, with the joint efforts of the Alliance Fleet and players, they have managed to repel the Greed Legion's attacks and sometimes even organize counterattacks. As more and more players are enticed by the lucrative rewards to join the battle in the southern continent, this land shrouded in yellow sand would once again fall under the control of the forces of Order.

News arrived from the Western Continent that the goblins had finally played their trump card, mobilizing a large-scale war puppet army for a counteroffensive and reclaiming thousands of square kilometers of land.

Meanwhile, the situation in the Eastern Continent, which had been a cause for concern, seemed to have taken a turn. The Markus Empire, feeling pressured, deployed its elite troops along with the Light Church and other forces from the Eastern Continent to bravely resist. For the first time, the Void Lord, who had been advancing triumphantly, had been halted and blocked south of the Hogsback Mountains.

While the demons had made extensive preparations, the Orderly Fraction was not to be underestimated. They had displayed formidable strength in the face of destruction.

Especially now that two of the Five Demon Lords had been defeated, the demons seemed to be struggling to keep up their momentum. Yet, they still inspire fear in ordinary beings.

With the demon invasion, the attention of various factions was focused on resisting them, leaving little regard for the common people. Naturally, they found themselves consumed by fear and confusion.

Especially when they heard about the demons inflicting heavy casualties on the Orderly Fraction and pushing the frontlines forward, their faces paled with fear, as if expecting the demons to attack their doorstep tomorrow.

In times of turmoil, beings always needed some form of spiritual solace. In the past, they could turn to various gods for this, but now the gods remained silent, leaving their souls adrift.

At this moment.

Almost overnight, a church known as the Oceanic Faith emerges in coastal cities across various continents. It was not only highly organized but also had ample funds at its disposal.

Their method of evangelism was quite novel. Attendees of their preaching sessions were given food items such as eggs, meat, and fabrics, or practical household items at the end. If approved, they might even receive specially crafted talismans.

Its preaching emphasized that as long as one believed in a deity called the God of the Ocean, they would be blessed with safety at sea, bountiful harvests, and protection from disasters.

In the Central Ocean, where waves were turbulent and storms were frequent, a slight misstep could lead to shipwrecks and loss of life. Therefore, fishermen, sailors, and merchants who relied on the sea for their livelihood often believed in one or two oceanic deities to ensure a safe voyage.

Some fishermen and merchants, seeing the sudden appearance of the Oceanic Faith offering gifts, joined the preaching sessions with the thought that even if they didn't fully believe, it wouldn't hurt to give it a try for peace of mind.

Initially, they were skeptical, but as some fishermen returned from the open sea with unprecedentedly abundant catches after receiving special talismans, they couldn't help but feel excited.

Could it be that believing in the God of the Ocean really worked!?

On the Northern Continent, in the Lienhardt Grand Duchy, in the coastal city of Rasul.

In a towering stone building in the eastern part of the city, a preaching session of the Oceanic Faith was underway.

Chapter 816: Oceanic Faith (3)

Clad in a deep blue priest robe, a kind priest listened to the confessions of his followers.

"Great Priest, I felt the blessing of the gods when I went out to sea! The winds and waves calmed down, and the sky ceased its downpour. I caught nearly three times as many fish as usual!"

"As long as you believe from the heart, the gods will always embrace you, and your catch will only increase."

"Great Priest! I haven't encountered any bad weather during my recent voyages. Is it because the gods are protecting me?"

“Of course, as a devout believer, the gods have watched over you and ensured your safety throughout.”

One by one, the believers eagerly recounted their safe voyages and bountiful harvests since joining the faith, while the priest patiently answered their questions. Watching this scene unfold, other onlookers’ eyes gleamed with renewed faith.

Among the spectators, the indigenous people pondered whether joining Oceanic Faith could ensure a safe journey at sea.

Soon, as the preaching session concluded, half of the indigenous people present chose to join the Oceanic Faith and become new converts.

If anyone had visited the New Moon Islands, they might have recognized the kind priest as one of the workers of the Crown of the Ocean, one of the earliest batches to join, and the most loyal and fervent residents in support of Ji Chen.

That day, he and thousands of his companions gathered together. Upon witnessing the supreme power and command of the divine, they set out without hesitation, armed with substantial funds, to preach from the New Moon Islands to various coastal cities along the mid-ocean.

Scenes like this preaching session were occurring in coastal cities across the region, fueling the fervor of the Oceanic Faith.

This novel approach to proselytizing was imported by Ji Chen from the Earth and proved to be quite effective in the otherworldly realms.

In essence, joining the Oceanic Faith, and receiving the so-called specially crafted talisman, did indeed grant believers varying degrees of blessings from the sea gods, a decision based on the protection offered by the Crown of the Ocean’s territory.

With the territory advancing to a Domain City, the protective blessings underwent significant changes.

[Territorial Blessing]: Ocean’s Grace (residents and troops can catch more fish at sea, greatly improve their water skills and sense of direction, and reduce the likelihood of encountering sea disasters)

Through investigation, Ji Chen discovered that as long as they believed in him, his followers were considered to some extent as his residents and thus enjoyed varying degrees of protection from territorial blessings. This became the core driving force behind the spread of the Oceanic Faith.

While other deities were less likely to notice the insignificant individuals, believing in Ji Chen and joining the Oceanic Faith did indeed offer a certain level of protection.

Hence, the advantages and disadvantages were clear at a glance. The indigenous people were not fools, especially those whose livelihoods depended on the sea, such as fishermen, sailors, and merchants, who had a high demand for such protection.

This was Ji Chen’s unique advantage, one that others found difficult to replicate.

Amid the heavy pressure of demon invasions, the expansion of the Oceanic Faith was astonishingly rapid. Excluding the local followers of the Crown of the Ocean, within just two weeks, the number of followers on various continents reached as high as five hundred thousand.

This was still under the condition of relatively low visibility for the Oceanic Faith. As long as the base of believers continued to increase, its influence would only exponentially rise, eventually leading to explosive growth.

And Ji Chen, reigning over the Crown of the Ocean, felt the scattered faith from all directions of the continents converging, gathering like rivers into the sea, coalescing into the divine presence of the Oceanic God.

The path to godhood took another step forward.

Chapter 817: Mordor Strait

Amidst the chaos of the world, the turbulent times provided an ideal opportunity for the Oceanic Faith to rapidly expand.

The highly organized, premeditated, and unified actions of the Oceanic Faith quickly caught the attention of various kingdoms.

Within the Lienhardt Palace.

“Sebastian, have you found out about the Oceanic Faith?”

“Father, not yet, but I’ve sent people to investigate in several coastal cities. We should have results soon,” Sebastian replied, bowing his head.

Julius frowned. “The Oceanic Faith appears to have sprung up out of nowhere. Its missionaries are popping up in nearly every coastal city, and its influence has grown rapidly. I’m worried if it turned out to be something like the Deep Sea Church.”

The Deep Sea Church had caused them quite a bit of trouble. They had expended considerable effort to root out their strongholds, temporarily driving them back into the sea.

Sebastian pondered. “From what we know so far, the Oceanic Faith hasn’t shown any malicious tendencies. Its teachings mainly revolve around offering faith for protection and safe voyages at sea.

If it were just that, it wouldn’t be much different from other preachy religions. However, what’s most surprising and worrisome...”

As Sebastian spoke, Julius furrowed his brow, bluntly interjecting, “Don’t leave me hanging halfway. Do you want me to start throwing punches?”

Sebastian coughed nervously and, with some embarrassment, hurriedly continued because he knew his father meant what he said.

“...What concerns me the most is, according to the initial reliable reports we’ve received, those who have joined the Oceanic Faith have indeed received some level of protection.”

“Explain in detail.”

“To be more precise, those fishermen are catching more fish, and sailors encounter fewer adverse weather conditions...”

Julius interrupted again, “That’s probably just coincidence. The sea is ever-changing. How could it suddenly make the fishermen more successful or the weather more favorable?”

Sebastian said gravely, “I initially shared your thoughts. However, if one, ten, or even a hundred instances could be dismissed as mere coincidences, what about when a thousand or ten thousand people from various locations encounter the same phenomenon? Can we still call it a coincidence?”

Monica, who had been silent all along, spoke up, “Perhaps deities can accomplish such feats. They are supreme and possess immeasurable power.”

Upon hearing this term, Julius felt a weight in his heart. “Monica, are you saying that this so-called Oceanic Faith is truly worshipping a deity?”

In fact, not every church worshiped deities. Most of the so-called churches worshiped by the faithful were fabricated by false priests to deceive followers for money. They couldn’t possibly attract the attention of real deities or produce such strange “coincidences.”

A genuine divine church wasn’t something just anyone could establish; it required the approval of the “deity” themselves.

The deity was on the verge of becoming a deity, marking the beginning of absorbing followers.

This meant that a new deity was being born.

Just as the three were contemplating, a soldier pushed the door open and entered, holding a rolled-up parchment.

“Reporting to His Highness, the paintings used by the Oceanic Faith missionaries have been brought back.”

Sebastian’s expression was firm as he immediately took the parchment and unfolded it on the table after the soldier left.

Julius and Monica approached, seeing the slowly unfolding painting depicting a tumultuous sea.

“Is this the ocean?”

At first glance, the painting seemed ordinary, like a landscape painting by any artist. But upon closer inspection, they noticed the waves in the painting were actually moving.

Before their eyes, it seemed as if an ever-rolling and surging ocean appeared, with billions of tons of water rising and then crashing down with the force to shatter mountains before merging back into the sea.

The interconnectedness of all beings

They felt like they had become small waves, merging into the surging waves, joyfully leaping and rolling together, forgetting the troubles and worries of the world.

They also felt enveloped by endless seawater. Yet, they didn’t feel cold; it was like becoming a babbling toddler embraced by the gentle arms of the ocean, hearing soft murmurs, warm and safe.

“Embrace the arms of the deity-”

In the boundless ocean, a blurry and majestic figure stood, as if becoming the entire world.

After what felt like an eternity, as if awakening from a beautiful dream, the three slowly came to their senses.

Looking at the painting on the table again, it had returned to normal.

Feeling somewhat frightened, they realized they had involuntarily immersed themselves in this painting?

“...Is that the deity?” Monica asked in disbelief.

Sebastian was at a loss for words, the blurry figure lingering in his mind, difficult to dispel.

In fact, a surge of belief in this existence even rose within him.

Now, the answer seemed to be forthcoming. The Oceanic Faith did indeed worship a deity; otherwise, a painting wouldn't have had such an effect on them.

“...Royal Father, should we take any action against the Oceanic Faith?”

Julius furrowed his brow. A church with a genuine belief in a deity couldn't be handled lightly. After pondering for a moment, he said, “Don't hinder the Oceanic Faith. No matter what, they're only spreading their faith near the ocean, and their doctrine poses no threat to us. Let's leave it for now and see how the situation develops.”

Chapter 818: Mordor Strait (2)

“We have no other choice.” Sebastian and Monica nodded.

None of them noticed that the figure of the “divine being” in the painting cast a glance toward them.

Ji Chen slowly opened his eyes, a trace of peculiarity flashing in them.

As an entity capable of gathering believers' faith power, he could sense part of the believers' situation through the power of faith.

Julius in Lienhardt, along with Sebastian, Monica, and the others on the Northern Continent, appeared to have already detected the Oceanic Faith's movements.

However, he couldn't keep this hidden for much longer, particularly among nations and factions that held strong religious beliefs in gods. Their response would likely be even more pronounced.

Ji Chen's activities of the Oceanic Faith were currently limited to the Mid Ocean and coastal areas because these places had the soil for preaching. There wasn't a fisherman, sailor, or maritime merchant who could refuse a god who could protect them and ensure their safe voyage.

In this respect, even revered deities such as the Goddess of Light, the Lord of Stars, and the Elven Mother Goddess couldn't rival the influence of his Oceanic Faith.

If those ordinary gods' beliefs only solved spiritual needs, then Ji Chen's faith simultaneously solved spiritual and material needs, with tangible benefits.

Furthermore, the Oceanic Faith's believers had a broad foundation. Not only humans but also elves, dwarves, goblins, and even marine races could show faith. There were no restrictions on race or nationality.

The broader the base of potential believers, the easier the expansion would be, and the stronger his power would become after becoming a god.

This was also one of his advantages.

After saving the fallen starlight god Nora, Ji Chen also obtained a lot of information about the current situation of the orderly gods from her.

There was a considerable difference from previous speculations. After the unsealing of the dark gods, the orderly gods were caught off guard, and the divine realms of multiple orderly gods were breached, resulting in heavy losses.

Now, most of the orderly gods relied on their own divine realms to support each other in attacking and defending against the dark gods, making it difficult to pay attention to everything happening in the main world.

And it seemed that the dark gods were also aiming for this purpose: to occupy enough time for demons to invade the main world, eradicate the foundation of orderly faith, and thus achieve the complete destruction of orderly gods.

But from another perspective, if a large number of evil races like demons, who believed in dark gods, could be cleared, it would also achieve the goal of weakening the dark gods.

Considering this approach, Ji Chen decided not to sit idly by and continue to take the initiative, turning his gaze to the Decay Lord in the Western Continent.

Ji Chen set off with the giant turtle and the army secretly, without attracting anyone's attention.

In the Mordor Strait.

Heartwing demons filled the skies, while massive floating warships dominated the sea surface, and numerous aquatic demon patrols lurked beneath the waves.

Hundreds of places diagonally above had been occupied by the Decay Lord since the invasion of demons.

The Mordor Strait, originally an important route for commercial trade between the Western and Southern Continents, was now already occupied by a stench – corroded soil. The cities on both sides of the strait had become a paradise for demons, with towering demonic war buildings, terrifying and terrifying.

This was the headquarters of the Decay Legion's attack on the Western Continent, and the defense was naturally extremely tight.

However, not a single demon knew that hundreds of meters beneath their perception and line of sight, a giant turtle was carrying war structures and tens of thousands of troops, slowly swimming through the seabed, swaggering through the alert line.

Lurking beneath the sea.

Ji Chen stood in front of the tower, with two columns of heroes of the Crown of the Ocean in front of him, and further away were tens of thousands of Crown of the Ocean troops.

To ensure that this time they could destroy the headquarters of the Decay Legion in one fell swoop, he basically mobilized all the elites of his territory.

Krakens, Alice, Herald-

Divine Ocean Crystal Wyvern, Naga Iron Colossus...

All elites were deployed for this decisive battle.

As the scheduled attack time gradually approached, Ji Chen looked at everyone, his tone decisive.

“Launch the attack!”

The quiet Mordor Strait suddenly exploded, and the troops of the Crown of the Ocean broke through the water, spraying attacks all over the sky, killing demons in droves, and destroying war structures.

Powerful heroes killed the demons who reacted.

The claws roared, the song wept blood, the dragon’s breath filled the sky, the sword light left no trace, and the divine arrows flew like lightning.

Patheia swung her long sword, effortlessly cutting down dozens of demons rushing towards her with the flickering of her blade. Then, spreading her wings, she transformed into a shadow and soared towards a nearby demon hero.

The huge demon head flew high, the cold face showing no emotional fluctuations, continuing to search for the next target.

In the continuous honing and battles, after Ji Chen used the Military Talent Tree to increase the potential upper limit of Patheia, she soon broke through to the legendary tier, and her swordsmanship became even more exquisite and terrifying.

Even when facing three demons of the same level, she was not inferior.

Alice’s singing was irresistible even to the most evil demons, who turned into soul puppets one after another, wielding their knives against their comrades, and even some low-level demon heroes went crazy and slaughtered their own kind.

Elisya was no longer hiding among the Crown of the Ocean. Riding on an agile Divine Ocean Crystal Wyvern, she drew her bow, and every shot brought down a high-level demon.

[Meteor Arrow Shower (Orange Skill, unleashes a large-scale group arrow rain covering a range of thousands of meters, each wave of arrows totaling ten waves of elemental arrow rain, containing different elemental properties)]

Each wave of Meteor Arrow Shower was like a colorful downpour, leaving behind enemy corpses covered in arrows.

Group skills and single-target skills were alternately used.

[One Strike Through the Stars (Orange Skill, launches a highly penetrating elemental arrow with a 1000% increase in penetration, accompanied by armor penetration, heavy injury, and locking properties, containing a certain chance of fatal effect)]

Under this ultimate skill, even legendary demons were killed with a single blow, yielding the most results.

This sudden raid caught the Decay Legion off guard. The main forces of the Decay Legion were basically engaged in frontline combat, leaving only over ten thousand demons at the headquarters.

With just over ten thousand demons, facing the Crown of the Ocean troops who had taken the elite route to the extreme, they immediately showed a trend of defeat upon contact, with about seventy to eighty thousand casualties in just half an hour.

Demon corpses were everywhere, but casualties among the Crown of the Ocean troops were few.

Under relentless destruction, the war structures built by demons at great cost collapsed one after another, and a large amount of supplies destined for the frontline turned into ashes in a sea of fire.

Just as the battle was nearing its end.

A pitch-black cloud suddenly flew in from the north, and a demon with two feet and four hands, with wings on its back, appeared from the clouds. Looking at the Mordor Strait engulfed in flames, there was both joy and anger in its eyes.

The joy was that the Lord of Glory attacked here with his army, and the anger was that he didn't expect the attack to be so fierce. The army he left here for defense turned out to be so vulnerable, almost completely wiped out in just half an hour.

But it didn't matter, as long as they killed that Lord of Glory, then everything would be worth it.

The Decay Demon Lord's eyes shifted slightly, quickly focusing in the distance on Ji Chen, standing with his hands behind his back on a Crystal Dragon. He decisively unleashed the trump card he had prepared long ago.

"Please, gods, descend and kill this man!"

The sky darkened.

The sky cracked open, and five streams of black smoke quickly merged into the container that the Decay Demon Lord had prepared for a long time.

The five dark gods' divine bodies merged, suddenly erupting into a storm like an avalanche, everything around was lifted, leaving behind bodies slowly opening their eyes.

The Decay God, Intermediate God.

The Sinister God, Intermediate God.

The Fury God, Lesser God.

The Mighty Strength God, Lesser God.

The Master of Hell, Intermediate God.

The five dark gods descended upon the world at the same time, with the sole purpose of killing Ji Chen and destroying this human who posed a great threat to the dark side!

Chapter 819: The Might of the Gods

At that moment, the Lord of Decay was thoroughly pleased, his eyes brimming with mockery and taunting.

“Human, I admit you are strong, strong enough to consecutively kill Balzarna and Maldonis. If you were to grow a little more, perhaps no creature in this main world would be your match.

With your existence, we demons find it difficult to occupy the entire world!

However, you are too arrogant, arrogant enough to dare to lead an army alone to attack the Mordor Strait. If you had stayed on your little island, hiding in the sea, I wouldn't have been able to do anything to you.

Today will be the day you die!” the Decay Lord said maliciously, observing Ji Chen's expression. However, to his disappointment, he did not see any fear or panic on Ji Chen's face.

Facing the divine apparitions that caused the heavens and earth to change color, he remained calm, as if unaffected.

His indifferent demeanor infuriated the Decay Lord, feeling as if he was being scorned.

He said mockingly, “Do you think you can still walk away unscathed before the five great gods?”

Ji Chen finally looked at him, but it was just a glance.

He said lightly, “You talk too much.”

The Decay Lord was enraged by his retort.

“I hope you can still act so arrogantly later.”

Then, he looked at the five divine apparitions that were about to fully merge their power into the vessel.

His expression was respectful and humble to the extreme.

“Please, divine beings, kill this man.”

One by one, the divine vessels slowly opened their eyes, emitting a terrifying black light that sent shivers down people's spines. The surrounding power surged once more, shaking the heavens and earth as if it were the end of days.

Even a single dark divine apparition could already evoke dramatic changes in the heavens and earth, but with a total of five now present, the tidal energy they unleashed rendered the remaining demons below incapable of even the slightest movement. They lay sprawled on the ground as if weighed down by immense boulders, their faces drained of color with fear.

These five beings surpassed even the Epic tier in power, emanating their majestic divine strength.

One of the demonic apparitions, with its eyes open, emitted an aura of decay, slowly speaking.

“Lowly worm, you escaped earlier, but you won't be so lucky this time.”

As soon as the words were spoken, Ji Chen realized that this dark divine apparition was previously summoned by the Undead Lord, the Decay God whom he had slain using his Thunder Authority.

This time, it descended to kill him.

Or rather, it was the Decay God's suggestion to other dark gods to descend together to kill this human who had become a major threat to the demons.

At this moment, the Decay God even regretted a little, regretting why he didn't discover Ji Chen earlier. If he could have suppressed and killed him earlier, then the situation wouldn't have become so bad.

"Is this the human who killed the current generation Balzarna and Maldonis?"

At this time, another Warlord divine apparition also spoke slowly. As soon as it spoke, the surrounding air suddenly became cold and sinister, making people feel icy all over, as if they were in an ice cellar.

This was the Sinister God, in charge of the Authority of Corruption. It was good at bewitching souls and was one of the intermediate dark gods with a relatively good relationship with the Decay God.

"It doesn't seem like there's anything particularly special about him... But I heard he took down one of your avatars?" A Flame Lord, engulfed in flames, spoke in a mocking tone.

This was the Master of Hell, ruler of the chaotic abyss of purgatory. Skilled in using purgatory flames, he was one of the strongest among the intermediate gods of darkness. To ensure the success of the ambush on Ji Chen, he specially invited him to join the descent.

Upon hearing this, the Decay God's face darkened, and he snorted lightly.

"This human not only possesses the power of the ocean but also wields the authority of thunder. We'd better take him a bit more seriously."

"The power of the ocean? Isn't that the power of the ocean god we slaughtered in the first divine battle?"

The Warlord, with a wicked laugh and infinite cruelty in his eyes, said, "I never expected to encounter his successor in this second divine battle. It's truly fate."

This was the Lower God of Fury, controlling one of the Seven Sins, [Rage]. Although he belonged to the lower authority, his combat power rivaled those of the intermediate authorities.

"Of course, but he only controls a part of the power of the ocean. In terms of strength, he can't compare to the previous ocean god."

The Lord of Fury said with satisfaction, recalling some unpleasant memories. He pretended to be careless, saying, "Even if he resurrects again, we can easily kill him once more."

However, in reality, the Ocean God relied on the power of the ocean to withstand so many dark gods. His heroic and fearless posture, facing them alone, even made them feel a hint of admiration, along with an unsettling sense of foreboding.

The last avatar spoke at this moment, "Regardless of the power of the ocean or the authority of thunder, after today, they will all be under our control, causing the loss of two powerful authorities from the orderly camp."

This was the Lower God, the Giant Strength Demon God. From the muscular body that descended, it was evident that he excelled in strength. With one punch, he could easily shatter a mountain.

The five dark gods spoke one after another, seemingly convinced of Ji Chen's fate.

With three intermediate gods and two lower gods, this lineup was enough to launch a small-scale divine battle. However, at this moment, they all appeared together for a single human.

Chapter 820: The Might of the Gods (2)

The Heroes of the Ocean Crown saw the overwhelmingly dark divine apparitions, feeling as if a mountain were pressing down on them. Despite their reluctance, they knew that facing enemies at this level would only burden their Lord.

If they were to stay forcibly, it would only drain Ji Chen's energy to protect them. Therefore, at this moment, they all remained silent and retreated a considerable distance with the Ocean Crown army.

The dark divine apparitions paid no attention to these insignificant beings and let them depart.

Ji Chen looked at the five dark divine apparitions before him and suddenly chuckled, causing the dark divine apparitions to freeze in place.

"You lowly scum, even at the brink of death, you dare to laugh," the Decay God frowned.

Ji Chen slowed to a stop, his tone mocking.

"The memories left behind by the previous generation of the God of the Ocean from tens of thousands of years ago tell me that back then, you were all thoroughly beaten.

If it weren't for a sneak attack by higher-ranking gods, several of you wouldn't even have been able to defeat a single God of the Ocean. It's truly lamentable."

The Decay God and the God of Fury were first stunned, then their faces darkened.

It was something they preferred not to discuss.

In reality, at that time, the God of the Ocean could easily suppress them with just his own divine power. If not for the later sneak attack by their higher gods, the outcome of the battle would have been uncertain for both sides.

Because it was embarrassing to admit being overwhelmed by one against five, they had always kept silent about it.

Now that Ji Chen had exposed it so blatantly, they immediately felt the strange gazes from the other three allied divine apparitions, causing them to become increasingly infuriated.

The Decay God didn't want to waste any more words and released a wave of grayish decay.

"Scum, feel the anger of the gods!"

The Decay God launched an attack, and the God of Fury no longer hesitated, activating the Authority of Fury. Ji Chen suddenly felt a rush of restlessness and anger in his heart, and his vision began to turn blood-red. He felt an intense urge to vent his anger.

The Authority of Fury stirred up the primal rage deep within the hearts of living beings, causing it to multiply infinitely. It could blur combat awareness, expose numerous attack vulnerabilities, and, in severe cases, lead to a loss of rationality and become slaves to the rage, regardless of friend or foe.

It was related to the most primitive emotions of living beings, which was why it was considered a lower-tier authority but had effects comparable to intermediate-tier authorities.

Ji Chen couldn't help but be affected, feeling the desire to unleash this emotion. However, the power of the ocean circulated throughout his body in the next moment, clearing his burning mind and gradually restoring his vision to normal.

The Authority of Fury had been broken.

The God of Fury widened his eyes in disbelief. How could this human block his authority so quickly? He hadn't even had a chance to act yet!

For some reason, a sense of unease surged in his heart.

Therefore, during the first divine battle, the God of the Ocean also easily blocked his authority of rage...

The decay energy emitted by the Decay God was also blocked by the "Power of the Ocean" that surged forth. As a specially crafted divine descent body, it could not contain more power than the avatar he had previously used.

Therefore, he did not intend to rely solely on himself to deal with Ji Chen.

Seeing the "Power of the Ocean" entangled by the decay energy, he urged slightly impatiently, "Strike now."

"Alright, let these ants witness the true power of a deity." The gaze of the Sinister God was like that of a venomous snake as he opened his mouth to utter a curse.

A sharp and piercing sound suddenly spread out, as if it could pierce deep into the soul and turn into a soul puppet.

The authority of [Sinister Speech], its effect was quite similar to Alice's mind control but more domineering. Words spoken would lead to action, directly grinding away the souls of living beings, leaving only their bodies like a puppets controlled by the authority.

But [Sinister Speech] also had another name, called [Divine Speech].

When used by evildoers, it was the power to grind away souls, an evil force. But when used by good people, it was the power to soothe the soul and inspire it.

Ji Chen felt a series of extremely piercing noises in his ears, like the wailing of evil spirits from the bottomless abyss, and the wailing of demons from the boundless purgatory. His soul was in turmoil, and his consciousness was swaying.

Using the divine descent body to display authority, although not at full power, its might was still considerable.

If he had already ignited the divine fire and transformed into a god, he would naturally not fear this. However, at this moment, he was still in a mortal body, and [Sinister Speech] was an intermediate-tier authority. Even with the protection of the Power of the Ocean, he was still significantly affected.

Suddenly, a thunderous roar rang in his ears, dispersing the sinister words of those fiends.

Gradually, his consciousness recovered.

And a mighty divine descent body had already arrived not far away.

“Insects, dying by my hand is your honor!”

The Mighty Strength God swung his fist, and even the air emitted a sharp sound not inferior to the sinister words.

This power even sealed off the surrounding space, making it impossible to use the teleportation ability of the Void Ring. Realizing that it was difficult to evade, Ji Chen hastily erected a water curtain to block it.

Boom!

Countless splashes of water rose into the sky as a figure flew backwards into the sea like a cannonball, causing towering water columns to surge.

“My Lord!!”

Alice and the others exclaimed in shock.

Ji Chen reappeared from the sea, but his clothes and hair were slightly disheveled, and there was a hint of blood at the corners of his mouth.

The blow from the Mighty Strength Demon just now had inflicted considerable damage on him. At least, the hastily erected water curtain couldn’t block all of the force.

The full-force strike of the divine descent body had already caused damage to this body that was evolving towards godhood, but ultimately it was not the body of a god. Four or five ribs were broken, there was internal bleeding, organ damage, and ruptured blood vessels...

Ordinary beings would have long since perished from this blow, but Ji Chen was, after all, above the epic tier, so he barely withstood the blow.

The power of the ocean flowed continuously from his feet, repairing damage throughout his body, while also working at full capacity to heal.

But the enemy didn’t give him any time to recover. The sky suddenly lit up, and tens of thousands of flames fell abruptly, evaporating countless seawater before reaching the surface. In the rising white mist, Ji Chen’s clothes began to ignite spontaneously.

In the sky.

The Master of Hell cast a cruel and cold gaze, and with a wave of his hand, another blaze that burned all things fell.

The authority [Inferno], the twentieth intermediate-tier authority.

Just as the sky was about to engulf the human in flames, a vast and boundless storm suddenly rose from the sea, extinguishing the flickering flames and, in an instant, enveloping the five divine descent bodies.

When this mighty storm swept in, the five dark gods exclaimed in unison.

“Storm authority!?”

They had not expected that this human, in addition to the power of the ocean and the authority of thunder, also possessed the nineteenth intermediate-tier authority, the authority of storms!

Even the Decay God had not anticipated this. Realizing that there was no turning back, he had to grit his teeth and say, “With three authority powers combined, this person is a great threat to us. We must not let him ignite the divine fire. Now is the best time to kill him!”

The five dark gods reached a consensus and no longer concealed their power, unleashing the full power of this divine descent body.

Sinister words surged, flames engulfed the sky, words of rage resounded, mighty forces tore through the air, and decay pervaded.

However, they underestimated Ji Chen’s power.

They saw that this storm was not just the power of the storm authority alone. An invisible domain unfolded, with thousands of thunder serpents flashing above, and the mighty power of the ocean permeating every part of the storm.

This was a composite attack formed by the convergence of the power of the ocean, the authority of thunder, and the authority of storms, creating an endless assault of storms, lightning strikes, and violent eruptions of ocean power, like waves of relentless attacks.

The murmurs of sinister words were overshadowed by thunder, the rage was washed away, the inferno was extinguished by the storm, the stench of decay disappeared with the rolling waves, and the ferocious might swayed weakly in the wind.

That figure stood amidst the storm, merging with it.

Though not a god, he wielded the power of a god.

When the storm subsided and the thunder dissipated, what remained was a tall figure.

Alice and the others finally let go of their held breaths at this moment, cheering loudly.

And in the city, which resembled a ruin, countless demons watched this scene in dumbfounded amazement, their expressions filled with confusion.