

The Gods 1381

Chapter 1381: Audience Meeting — Fate

The 'dice' formed by the star cluster didn't roll far; it was just that the trailing lights and shadows of the stars on it spun rapidly.

It was very difficult for a mortal to see clearly exactly how many points that dice of stars would roll. Cheng Shi was also anticipating; he anticipated getting an answer from [Fate]'s mouth.

Even though he had known that answer long ago.

[Fate]'s verification of His own will was absolutely affirmative, otherwise people in this era would not have witnessed the divergence and split of [Void].

The two rulers of [Void] ultimately walked onto two completely different paths: one was constantly rebellious and refused to submit, while the other wholeheartedly adhered to the fixed destiny and held fast to devotion...

Looking at the dice of stars still 'rolling' in front of him, how much Cheng Shi wanted to tamper with it, replacing that result that caused the era to suffer hardships. Even if this was just a scene of memory and fundamentally wouldn't affect reality, just dreaming about it would be nice.

However, the Fun God seemed to have guessed his thoughts long ago, firmly locking this sole audience member of the memory into the audience seat, unable to move at all.

"Watch honestly." The Fun God's voice coming from the depths of his consciousness sounded more and more like the ice-cold [Fate].

Cheng Shi's struggles bore no results, and he felt extremely helpless: "What meaning is there in watching or not watching? We've known the result long ago, haven't we, Lord Benefactor?"

"How would you know what the result is if you don't watch?"

Right after the Fun God finished speaking, a sudden change occurred before Cheng Shi's eyes!

Boom—

The moment the dice of stars spun to its extreme speed, it suddenly cracked and shattered!

Immediately following, countless stars plummeted downward, falling like rain!

A pair of starry eyes looked at everything in front with panic and bewilderment. The spirals stopped their mysterious spinning, and the starry pupils also suddenly shrank.

As for why it was one pair... it was because the other pair was already gone!

Yes, [Fate] was gone!

That pair of eyes with high-tilted corners and faintly spinning spirals crumbled and dispersed along with the dice of stars, turning into void, directly disappearing into this Starry Sky!

"!!!!!"

A piercing chill rose from Cheng Shi's tailbone, shooting straight to the top of his skull. It made his whole body shudder, almost losing his ability to think.

He looked in disbelief at everything in front of him, looking at [Deceit] who was just as shocked as he was. He seemingly heard those only remaining eyes wailing out loud...

No, he could not hear it.

He only subconsciously felt that [Deceit] was wailing. That hysterical emotion drove the spirals in those eyes into becoming twisted; similarly, Cheng Shi's line of sight also began to become twisted.

The memories were receding, and the void returned once again.

Before Cheng Shi could even react to what exactly happened at the beginning of the era, the current Fun God's two eyes opened above his head once again.

A trace of rare sorrow flashed in those eyes. However, the shocked and bewildered Cheng Shi didn't notice it at all. He just raised his head mechanically, meeting those eyes devoid of joy or sorrow. Then he heard the Fun God say faintly:

"Do you believe it now?"

You have already witnessed His fall."

"!!!!!"

What!?

That scene just now was actually... the fall of [Fate]!?

How was that possible?

[Fate] died at the beginning of the era?

What kind of joke is this? Then who is his Benefactor? Who is the one who esteems the fixed destiny? And who is the one fighting back and forth with the Fun God in the void!?

Cheng Shi's brain exploded, countless fragments of information flashing back through his consciousness:

The two pairs of eyes of [Void] looked exactly identical...

"Don't disbelieve it. [Fate] is far better at deceiving people than I am..."

The disputes of the present world are projections of Their wills, yet [Deceit]'s swindlers are always playing the role of [Fate]'s gamblers...

[Fate] and [Time]'s fusion was also the Fun God causing mischief behind the scenes...

The trials of [Deceit] had to be looked at in reverse. The first to die in the trial was [Deceit], so in reality...

"I am [Deceit], and also [Fate]..."

"..."

Buzz—

Cheng Shi only felt his vision becoming more and more blurry, the world spinning, and his cognition twisting. He felt as if he could no longer clearly see everything in front of him. His legs gave way, and he slumped straight down, sitting into the void.

Ha?

Hahahahaha!

Again?

This damned Audience Meeting, could it be that it is still a trial of [Deceit]!?

Is being toyed with once not enough? Must there be a second time?

But it's already this time, what use is there in toying with the clown again?

During the False Curtain Call, although everything the Outer God said was reasonable, Cheng Shi just couldn't accept that his Benefactor [Deceit], whom he had followed for so long, would be the Outer God [Fate]...

But now, when [Deceit] said that [Fate] had long since died, he actually felt... although he couldn't accept it, it seemed... somewhat reasonable?

After all, it was [Deceit] who had been pushing the fixed destiny. In that case, wasn't He another kind of 'fate'?

At this moment, Cheng Shi figured it out, and also went crazy.

He clutched his belly and pounded the ground, his expression twisted and ferocious.

What a case of [Void] being of one mind, what a case of [Void] being one!

Since its descent, [Void] only had one god left! How could it not be one!

He raised his head, as if he had lost all his strength. Staring absentmindedly at the Benefactor overhead, he crazily mocked himself:

"So both my Benefactors are You, right?"

So this world never had [Fate] at all. [Fate] has been dead all along, and the [Fate] that the people of the world saw was actually Your act, right?

Of course, You are good at acting. Who can see through the lies of [Deceit]?

If they could, then add [Chaos] to it. Wouldn't that be enough to deceive the entire Universe?

I was always curious; [Chaos] is so disorderly, and its authority overlaps with Yours somewhat, so why were You hung up on that Divine Throne? I had already convinced myself that it was probably because the disorderly [Chaos] resonated with Your authority, making it easier to fool.

Wrong! Completely wrong!

What you were targeting was precisely [Chaos]!

[Deceit]'s deception combined with [Chaos]'s confusion—the lie You weave with these will be hard for the Universe to see through again.

What a fine appearance of [Void]. You really did it, keeping all the living beings of the Universe completely in the dark using a giant net woven of lies.

So from the very beginning to the end, the fixed destiny was pushed entirely by You alone. From start to finish, the fixed destiny was also resisted entirely by You alone!

A one-man show!?

Hahahaha, who would have thought that on the stage of the [Void] era, what was performed was actually a one-man show!?

No, I should have realized early on, I should have realized early on... the two of you looked exactly identical; why couldn't you be the same one?

No wonder there wasn't a single corpse of [Fate] in that Cemetery of Gods... I always thought He cared about the fixed destiny, so He never went to the Real Universe.

Ha, so it turned out...

He was long dead!"

Speaking to this point, Cheng Shi's gaze altered, suddenly becoming sharp. He got up from the ground, doing his utmost to suppress his twisted expression, and roared his question:

"But I still don't understand!

[Fate] inherently wielded the ability of prophecy. Why would He suddenly detonate and perish at the beginning of the era?

Whose tampering was this!?"

[Deceit] looked down at Cheng Shi, His tone just like it was at the beginning of the era. Having revealed the whole truth, He could finally return to being His true self.

"Because He prophesied something that shouldn't be prophesied."

"!!!???"

Cheng Shi was dumbfounded. In the next second, he thought of a person:

An Mingyu!

The Blind One had also died suddenly in the trial, and the reason for her sudden death was...

"[Origin]!?"

Cheng Shi's pupils shrank abruptly, and his voice completely deformed.

...

Chapter 1382: Audience Meeting — Fun

[Deceit] closed His eyes and sighed:

"Yes.

The verification method He thought of was to personally seek an audience with [Origin] to request a face-to-face divine oracle.

He thought that the great Creator rectifying the names of the true gods was to let us act as proxies to shepherd the Universe, so it was only natural for a proxy to seek an audience with their Benefactor.

But He was wrong. The Creator is ruthless; [He] only cares about His own experiment and won't care about anyone.

Of course, at that time we didn't know that the Universe was actually just a grand experiment. And the moment I discovered the truth, I loathed [Him] even more than at the beginning of the era, and was even more resolute in my determination to uproot the Divine Throne of [Origin].

[He] was never a Benefactor, but the murderer who killed my only twin god!"

A fierce wind suddenly rose in the void. [Deceit]'s hatred was just like [Fate]'s ice-coldness, roaring wantonly.

But no matter how the chilling wind howled, it bypassed where Cheng Shi was and blew toward the depths of the void.

"I had no choice."

The corners of that pair of eyes finally no longer tilted high. He lowered His eyes dejectedly and said:

"After [Fate] died, [Void] became difficult to sustain. Whether it was for this Starry Sky where He once existed, or to wait for [Origin] to descend again to deliver a vengeful strike against Him, I had to conceal the news of [Fate]'s death, letting 'Him' continue to live in this era.

Thus...

I tore myself apart and created 'Him'.

'That He' is not me in the true sense, nor is it [Fate] in the true sense. I instilled the fixed destiny's will that I hate the most into 'Him', completely cutting off all connections between 'Him' and me, thereby creating a brand-new deity, 'Fate'!

You can consider Him my clone, but He is more like an independent individual.

He never thought He belonged to [Deceit]; He only knew His existence was for the fixed destiny!

So you should understand why He self-destructed in that false era's curtain call. Because...

He is ultimately me.

No matter how the fixed destiny's will paints over Him, the deepest essence in His heart is not the true [Fate], but [Deceit] born from appearance!

When I disguised myself as an Outer God and announced my own death, He could not accept the death of [Deceit], nor could He bear the pain of [Void] once again. Despair submerged His will like a tide, making Him no longer able to hold on, and He thoroughly gave up struggling.

Your guess is not considered wrong. The [Fate] you followed did indeed fall in that false era's curtain call, but the true [Fate]...

He died right at the beginning of the era, and never participated in any progress of this era.

Heh, having deceived myself up to this point, I finally don't need to keep deceiving anymore."

"!!!!!"

Cheng Shi was already completely numb. At this moment, his consciousness was muddy like a quagmire, completely unable to perform the slightest bit of thinking.

He sat stiffly in the void, passively accepting the news of [Fate]'s death, accepting the Fun God's sorrow, and accepting the news he couldn't bear.

Muddleheaded, bewildered, slow-witted, lethargic—at this time, he looked exactly like a wooden puppet.

Amidst the endlessly tumbling and chaotic thoughts, a sentence suddenly flashed through his mind:

Like follower, like Benefactor...

Sure enough, this sentence was also a truth.

The Blind One prophesied [Fate] at the beginning of the game, while her Benefactor [Fate] directly prophesied [Origin] at the beginning of the era...

Ah, fate, it really fucking runs in the family.

But can you inherit something good!!

The eyes hanging high in the void once again glanced over His follower. He saw what Cheng Shi was thinking in his heart, and His tone finally recovered a trace of 'humanity' from its complete ice-coldness.

"Now you should know why you are the fixed destiny, yet that blind friend of yours always sat firmly at the top of [Fate]'s Ladder of Ascent, right?

Because the way she prophesied [Fate] at the beginning of the game was exactly like [Fate] at the beginning of the era...

[Fate] was also exactly like Him, especially in devotion. So 'He' brought down divine punishment for His follower's offense, taking away her mortal eyes that blasphemed a god.

And I both hated that similarity and pitied that similarity. Therefore, after [Fate] took her mortal eyes, I bestowed upon her the ability to peer into fate.

It's a pity that mortals have gods to pity them, but my twin god... didn't receive pity."

"..."

So the reason why everything the Blind One saw looked similar to Mockery and Jeering really was due to the Fun God!

It was just unknown whether the Blind One had ever thought that her being so close to [Fate] wasn't because of her devotion to [Fate], but because she was 'born in Rome'...

Cheng Shi laughed self-deprecatingly, only feeling that this era was becoming increasingly absurd.

Absurd beyond comprehension, ridiculous beyond acceptance.

He let out a long sigh, stood up again, and looked motionlessly at those eyes, once again asking that question that had always been troubling him.

At this point, this question was actually already meaningless. Even knowing the answer wouldn't change anything, but Cheng Shi just wanted to figure it out!

"Why was it me?"

Since An Mingyu was so close to the true [Fate], why did your choice fall on me?

Is it because the will of [Fate]'s descent explicitly stated my name?

Or is it because there must definitely be me in that Divine Throne that [Origin] wants?

I don't understand, exactly what relationship do I have with this bullshit fixed destiny?"

"No relationship."

"???" Cheng Shi froze.

[Deceit] looked toward the depths of the void, seeming to fall into reminiscence. "Before I knew the truth that the Universe was just an experiment of the Creator, I didn't think there was anything special about the Clown.

And the reason I chose the Clown was because the Clown himself walked up to me."

"?

What does that mean? When did I walk to..."

Cheng Shi's words suddenly halted. He widened his eyes, seemingly thinking of something.

[Deceit] nodded and continued:

"Exactly so.

I detest [Fate]'s obsession with the fixed destiny, and I would not pity any creature that approaches [Fate]'s will.

You were the only human who broke your oath to [Fate] right at the Path Starting Point, and what I was looking for was exactly an existence that resisted fate!

Only later did I know that the me in every world chose the you who broke your oath to [Fate] at that exact moment.

Heh, going round and round, how is this not another kind of fixed destiny..."

Every world!!!

When Cheng Shi heard this, he only felt his hands and feet go cold, feeling a chill run through his entire body.

His experiences made him hate fate, and his choice at the Path Starting Point broke his oath to fate, so [Deceit] took a liking to him. This inherently had no problem.

But when the perspective was raised, transcending the Universe, in billions of slice universes, the same script had always been playing out without a single trace of change. Then the problem became extremely huge.

Who would dare to say this wasn't the 'rules' set by [Origin] for this experiment?

Who would dare to say this wasn't the so-called fate!?

Can't escape, fundamentally can't escape!

Cheng Shi forcibly endured his trembling body, raising his head again to look at his Benefactor, and asked word by word:

"Then what about your plan? What exactly is it?"

At this moment, amidst the endless bombardment of cognition, he finally found a moment to notice [Deceit]'s gradually chilling eyes.

He seemingly didn't love to laugh.

Then why was He so passionate about pursuing fun in the Universe?

Thinking of this, a sentence [Deceit] had just said suddenly surfaced in Cheng Shi's mind:

A god's life is too bitter and needs adjustment.

That's right. He witnessed His twin god's fall, tore apart His complete self, and for an entire era alone bore a rebellious will that no one understood, yet pushed forward with His head down. For such bitter times, of course fun was needed as adjustment.

So His laughs were all His bitterness...

So the words [Fate] once said were not false after all. It was just that the one who made a wrong move and went astray was [Fate] Himself, while the one who no longer had a smiling face was the twin god He couldn't let go of—[Deceit].

...

Chapter 1383: Audience Meeting — [Origin]

[Deceit] still didn't mention a single word about His plan.

Cheng Shi, who gradually calmed down, had actually guessed this result long ago, because [Time] once said that [Deceit] had already lost the qualification to guide.

Cheng Shi understood what this meant. To find that path leading to the future, the fixed destiny's will must approach [Origin]. But everything [Deceit] did was moving away from [Origin], so He couldn't pollute him with His will.

Furthermore, the Fun God still had a wisp of [Origin]'s power in His hands. That was the power He fished using Himself as bait during the False Curtain Call, and this wisp of [Origin] power also had problems!

Zhen Xin, who summoned a spacetime storm for him, and Big Cat, who bore the power of [Origin], both strongly reminded him to absolutely never touch the power of [Origin]. So, was it really the countdown to the world's destruction?

Just as he thought of this, that pair of eyes in the void nodded:

"Yes.

When the power of [Origin] descends into the world, the length of experimental time left for the petri dish is locked. This means that no matter how the world struggles, as long as there is no result, it will ultimately completely collapse and perish when the experimental time ends.

And [Time] guessed that this length of time is exactly the span of the [Void] era.

Therefore, everything ultimately returning to void is not [Void]'s expectation for the Universe, nor is it the gods' understanding of the era, but the cruel countdown under the truth of the experiment.

To preserve the world, one must come up with a solution before the era ends."

Cheng Shi's heart tightened, almost 'ignoring' all the information. Only the words 'come up with a solution before the era ends' remained in his mind. The oppression brought by these few words made him feel suffocated, and he blurted out anxiously: "Then when does the era end?"

"Heh."

[Deceit] laughed self-deprecatingly, "This is the most crucial problem. Whether it's me or [Time], no one can say at which moment the endpoint of the countdown is.

But we all feel that that moment is coming soon, because the destruction of other worlds happens at the latest shortly after the Audience Meeting...

Don't be so nervous. The 'shortly' here is relative to the length of the entire era. Viewed with humanity's concept of time, there might still be quite a lot of time.

Who would have thought that the game bestowed back then to fathom [Origin]'s will, its fabricated game rules would also become a part of the fixed destiny.

[Time] is so busy precisely to race against time for this world."

Hearing this, Cheng Shi became nervous again. He brainstormed and thought of many things, but there were still many places he didn't understand. Perplexed, he frowned tightly and asked again:

"The fixed destiny's will cannot be polluted. Fine, I understand, and also accept it.

But this so-called future, it can't possibly be letting a mortal who is still completely ignorant as the end of the era nears, instantly accomplish the reversal of the Creator's experiment, right?

Lord Benefactor, I heard from Wei Mu his conjecture regarding the Fear Faction's plan. You should know what I am thinking.

I just want to ask, did he guess... right?"

[Deceit] cast a glance devoid of joy or sorrow at Cheng Shi, moved His line of sight away, and did not respond.

But this one glance made Cheng Shi's brain break out into a chaotic uproar!

It was true!!!

It was actually true!

[Deceit] and [Time]'s plan was absolutely exactly the conjecture Wei Mu spoke of: letting the fixed destiny replace [Origin]'s gaze, thereby stripping the world out of the experiment!

Otherwise, at such a moment so close to the truth, [Deceit], who had laid out plans for an entire era, would absolutely not let himself have a trace of risk of walking down the wrong path!

His silence was His affirmation!

But the problem was how to replace? How to deceive the true host of the experiment, that Creator standing high above, [Origin]?

Relying on that fished wisp of [Origin] power?

No, the [Chaos] Zhen Xin of the other world had said: do not touch the power of [Origin], do not utilize the power of [Origin], do not keep the power of [Origin]!

The power of [Origin] was a lethal poison and would plunge the Universe into crisis.

Since it was like this, why did the Fun God still fish for that wisp of [Origin] power?

Cheng Shi thought about it over and over, and could only think of one answer. That was to use this wisp of [Origin] power to deduce the true end of the era, to find that exact moment when the world would ultimately return to the silence of void!

He abruptly raised his head, looked at that pair of eyes devoid of smiling faces, and asked nervously:

"Is it like this, Lord Benefactor?"

[Deceit] gazed down at His follower again and gave an inexplicably meaningful snicker.

"Good thought.

It's a pity it's a bit naive.

Those who plot the board shouldn't only plot for others and not plot for themselves. The era's curtain call is imminent. Knowing full well that the road ahead is a dead end, yet still using the only power in hand to measure the distance between oneself and the dead end—this is not a waste, but stupidity."

"..."

"Fortunately, the clown's stupidity did not infect his Benefactor.

I naturally have a use for the power of [Origin], under the premise that when I possess it again."

"???"

What did 'possess it again' mean?

Didn't You already possess it? From the False Curtain Call to the Audience Meeting, it hasn't even been many days in total, and You already used it up?

Even if one had money, this isn't the way to spend it, right?

Wait!

Thinking of this, Cheng Shi suddenly froze.

He was thinking, since the Blind One's prophecy in the trial brought a trace of [Origin]'s power to this world, then [Fate]'s prophecy at the beginning of the era... wouldn't it also have a wisp of [Origin]'s power?

No wonder the Fun God just said the countdown was the span of the entire era. Cheng Shi was nervous for a moment and didn't notice. So from the moment the era opened, the world's destruction was already doomed...

What a fine era of [Void]!

How is this leading to void at all? This is clearly sinking into the silence of void!

But what was that initial wisp of [Origin] power used for?

Although Cheng Shi was the fixed destiny, he was ultimately still just a mortal life. Adding it all up, he had only lived for slightly more than twenty years. With the long span of the era, he had never participated in the countless years of the Land of Hope, so naturally he couldn't find the traces of that wisp of [Origin] power either.

But he really wanted to know what exactly this crucially important power was used on, because at the present moment with 'fundamentally no guidance', the traces of [Deceit]'s layout were highly likely the clues for him to find the answer.

Thus he looked again at his Benefactor, and when he saw the dim starlight in those eyes, a bright light suddenly flashed in his mind.

"!!!"

"Lord Benefactor, when [Void] descended at the beginning of the era, the eyes of the two rulers of [Void] had no dazzling stars to speak of, but now..."

The starlight in your eyes is precisely the projection of the power of [Origin] on your God Body, right!?"

"..."

Perhaps having long expected the arrival of this day, [Deceit] gave a self-deprecating snicker and shook His head:

"The world all thinks the eyes of [Void] are dazzling, yet they do not know that what is truly dazzling is [Origin], not the gods.

The wooden puppets on the stage are ultimately just wooden puppets, nothing more than puppets controlled by threads.

That's right. The starlight you see is precisely the manifestation of [Origin]'s power. The starlight in my eyes is dim at this moment not because I exhausted it, but because I never obtained it in that False Curtain Call!

That ruthless Creator simply didn't gaze down upon this Starry Sky. Even when the fixed destiny that [Fate] had esteemed since His descent called out to it, [He] still didn't cast down even a single glance at this.

This is [Him]. This is the host behind the experiment, that true deity without any emotion whatsoever, [Origin]."

...

Chapter 1384: Audience Meeting — Despair

Didn't fish it!?

Cheng Shi was dumbfounded. He had originally thought that the biggest gain from that despair was the Fun God benefiting from it, stealing a wisp of [Origin] power.

After seeking an audience with [Death], Cheng Shi had always believed that this was the Fun God's motive for writing this script!

But if even the Fun God had zero harvest, then what did everything he had experienced count as?

Count it as me being able to endure it? Count it as me being unlucky?

Cheng Shi fell silent.

For the first time, he felt such sympathy yet hatred toward fishing empty-handed.

One must know, this change that ended in tragedy wasn't just as simple as failing to fish the [Origin] power, because triggering the change also consumed the Fun God's original [Origin] power. Only expenditures and no income equated to a massive loss!

But listening to the Fun God's words, He clearly still needed [Origin] power to do something. So how would this deficit be resolved?

"Is there still a way?"

Cheng Shi focused his gaze and raised his head, meeting that equally solemn pair of starry eyes.

"No." [Deceit] shook His head.

"..."

The light in Cheng Shi's eyes wavered.

Perhaps sensing that His follower was returning to despair, that pair of eyes suddenly changed their ice-coldness and laughed out loud.

"Just tricking you."

"!!!!!"

Cheng Shi's scalp went numb. He widened his eyes, staring at that pair of eyes in disbelief. He actually thought he had heard wrong, but when he saw the corners of those eyes showing signs of lifting slightly, he darkened his face, raised his hand and just said a sentence:

"You..."

Forget it, it wasn't easy for Him either.

For the sake of the Fear Faction, the Clown ultimately endured his impulse. But in the next second:

"...Motherfucker, still deceiving people at a time like this!"

"..."

Cheng Shi's expression was spectacular. He gently shifted his line of sight without saying a word.

What Brother Mouth cursed has nothing to do with me, but this sentence definitely deserves a like for Brother Mouth. He withdrew his hand and quietly gave a thumbs-up.

[Deceit] took in everything in His eyes. He sneered, not punishing the blasphemers, but rather saying faintly:

"Why do you think I wrote the script for this change?"

Cheng Shi froze, his brows tightly furrowed. "Wasn't it for the power of [Origin]?"

[Deceit] shook His head, then nodded again:

"It was. But that was a fallback method temporarily changed after the Clown refused to become the fixed destiny.

I have said before, the fortunate find it hard to see the misfortune of others. Thus by the same logic, those with hope find it hard to see the despair of others.

The Clown, as the protagonist of the era's tragedy, was filled with despair during that curtain call performance. Little did he know that someone who wasn't in despair wouldn't be able to write such a tragedy either...

At that time, I was even more in despair than the Clown."

"!!!"

Cheng Shi was dumbfounded. He looked at those eyes where the spirals had stagnated, and countless despairing scenes he experienced surged into his mind once more.

"To seek stability, [Time] never allowed me to leave this Starry Sky.

But purely confined to a corner, how could we talk about resisting [Origin]? Without taking a look at the Real Universe, how could I know what the other mes were doing?

Holding such expectations, I grafted Mockery and Jeering to the crevices of [Existence], borrowing [Time]'s power to escape the Fence. That's right, it was precisely the time you sought an audience with [Birth].

I thought I would be able to find selves with the same will in the broader universe... Yes, I did indeed find them, but what I found more of were Their corpses.

I never thought that after stepping into the Real Universe, what methods, insights, clues, guidance, answers... there were absolutely none of them. All I received was endless fear and suffocating despair.

Every single one. I can't even count how many slice universes I continuously observed. In every single slice universe, [Fate] had never survived the beginning of the era!

Countless times I experienced the pain of losing Him, yet I still had to seek the answer I wanted within it. But there was no answer either... I only found countless corpses of myself.

The Cemetery of Gods.

You have already been there.

I discovered countless selves in the Graveyard. Even more terrifying was that I found a Divine Throne in the Graveyard!

It was precisely that Divine Throne you secretly brought back. I know you brought it back, and I also brought one back."

As He spoke, [Deceit] materialized a Divine Throne before Cheng Shi's eyes.

Cheng Shi was already unable to speak. He didn't know what he should say, only tremblingly taking out the Divine Throne he had obtained just the same.

The two Divine Thrones were placed together just like this, one high and one low, looking exactly like the 'stairs' leading to the Creator's Divine Throne!

But it's a pity, these stairs had no beginning and no end, only this one section...

"You might be very puzzled about who exactly pieced together this Divine Throne, but I am not in doubt. Because the moment I saw this Divine Throne, I knew that there were already [Deceit]s who chose to give up!

Do you still remember what [Fate] said? This is a will born together with Him. Within the Universe, aside from Him and me, no one knows what true fixed destiny is.

Yet this Divine Throne actually appeared in that Cemetery..."

Hearing this, Cheng Shi finally understood.

[Fate] fell at the beginning of the era. Only the corpses of [Deceit] were in the Corpse Field of Gods. That meant this Divine Throne could only have been pieced together by a certain [Deceit] before death!

But [Deceit] was a god who wholeheartedly wanted to resist [Origin]. He detested that Divine Throne to the extreme. How could He possibly piece together that Divine Throne?

So the answer was very clear. Among countless [Deceit]s, not one of Them had found the answer to resist. Under despair, finally there were [Deceit]s who couldn't bear the heavy pressure and pieced together that Divine Throne.

Perhaps He wanted to use [Fate]'s method to go meet that Creator, to question [Him] why He had to treat [Void] like this. Or perhaps He had already submitted to [Origin]'s oppressive might, no longer able to generate any remaining strength to resist. Or perhaps...

No matter what, that [Deceit] 'submitted'.

And this scene, to the [Deceit] who went to the Real Universe to seek answers, was undoubtedly a devastating blow.

[Origin] was invincible.

These short few words were actually like a gigantic mountain, pinning all the Foolish Old Men who wanted to move the mountain to the bottom.

Cheng Shi felt he could barely catch his breath. He truly couldn't imagine how despairing and how broken [Deceit] must have been at that time.

Admittedly, the fixed destiny had always been the protagonist of the world, and the Universe was all gazing at the fixed destiny. But people had forgotten that gods were also living creatures!

Even if They stood high above overlooking the Universe, in this Creator's experiment, They were nothing more than one of the 'weak and small' living creatures unable to resist within countless petri dishes.

They also had emotions, beliefs, and wills. And all of this was brutally destroyed by a Divine Throne appearing in a corpse pit.

That pair of starry eyes quietly closed. This was the first time [Deceit] displayed a posture with closed eyes in front of Cheng Shi.

"I have set foot there more than once, and know that Divine Thrones there will be continuously 'produced'..."

Every time a defective Divine Throne is born, it represents another me who chose to give up during the struggle.

The good news is, even if they chose to give up, not a single [Deceit] truly surrendered. That Divine Throne was nothing more than Their most unwilling wicked thought before death.

The bad news is, I was crushed by despair, and also developed such wicked thoughts.

After returning from the Real Universe, I began preparing the era's curtain call.

This endless experiment must eventually have an end point. I hoped to personally write this end point. Only like this would countless [Deceit]s and [Fate]s stop continuing to bear the pain of [Void] and the suffering of the experiment.

Thus I activated the Change Authority, and wrote down this curtain call performance.

I was still conflicted at that time. Given that no [Deceit] had ever chosen to submit, do I truly want to submit to [Origin] and offer [Him] the ultimate sacrifice?"

"...You did not want to. You consistently did not want to submit. So you pressed this choice onto the Clown's head!"

Cheng Shi laughed loudly, but this laughter sounded entirely like crying.

"This is the reason why the Outer God insisted I actively submit, right!"

As long as I said I was willing, You would betray all [Deceit]s, using this so-called fixed destiny to end this Creator's experiment that obliterates humanity and divinity. Is that so!?"

"..."

[Deceit] fell silent. After a long while, He nodded and said, "Yes."

"Then what if the me at that time had truly chosen to give up, and chosen to become the fixed destiny? Would You... truly have forged me into that Divine Throne and offered it to [Origin], in exchange for [His] downward glance or the end of the experiment?"

Cheng Shi asked word by word, shuddering all over.

[Deceit] opened His eyes. The spirals in those eyes almost collapsed and dispersed. He looked toward Cheng Shi, and nodded again unyieldingly firmly:

"I would."

"..." Cheng Shi clenched both fists tightly, blood dripping down from between his fingers.

"As long as you agreed, I would."

But I knew, you would never agree.

Because among these countless universes, there might be submitting [Deceit]s, but there has never been a submitting fixed destiny!

The Clown saved his Benefactor once, right in that era's tragedy that had long since dropped its curtain."

...

Chapter 1385: Audience Meeting — Guidance

"..."

A mortal saving a deity; this sounded like a great achievement.

But Cheng Shi didn't feel the slightest sense of achievement. In his heart, he only confirmed one thing: that [Deceit] had once become a Despair Faction member and was pulled back by his own unyieldingness. Therefore, the current [Deceit] was undoubtedly a Fear Faction member.

That also meant that no matter how despairing the past was, or how confusing the road ahead is, he would definitely have the Fun God's support behind him.

This was enough.

Every Fear Faction member has difficult times, and now, we have endured through them together!

Thinking to this point, Cheng Shi wiped the corners of his eyes dry, patted his cheeks, forcefully squeezed out an arc at the corner of his mouth, and reached his hand out toward that pair of eyes, saying:

"Reward!"

This word was spoken powerfully and sonorously. It fundamentally didn't sound like he was begging for a reward, but more like he was demanding compensation!

That pair of eyes blanked for a moment, and then the bitterness, pain, and ice-coldness gradually dissipated from the eyes. He also hadn't expected the Clown's emotional transition to be so fast that it made all His 'backup plans' useless.

But the Fun God was still the Fun God. Even if His fun was an outer garment wrapping the tearing pain of [Void], this outer garment was still joyful enough. Thus He immediately 'took up the act' and said:

"What reward?"

"The reward for saving a deity!" Cheng Shi gave a cold snort, advancing his palm forward another three inches.

"Oh?"

It is only natural and right for a follower to respectfully offer everything to their Benefactor. When did devotion become an excuse to demand a divine gift?"

Cheng Shi had long anticipated that [Deceit] would say this. He also knew that both sides were attempting to restore the harmonious disguise from before the showdown. Although this was self-deception, sometimes people needed to give themselves and give others an excuse, especially when it was mutually willing.

Cheng Shi 'got into character'. He seemingly changed back into that Clown who used sophistry as a weapon, and the opposite side also cooperated to become that deity who loved to tease the Clown.

It was just that this time, the Clown no longer had worries about his life, so naturally he no longer feared the so-called deity.

Thus he counted on his fingers and refuted:

"First, I am the fixed destiny, completely unpolluted by any faith. Naturally, I have no faith, so I don't have devotion.

Second, You are not a deity either. True deities are omniscient and omnipotent; they wouldn't be saved by a mortal. Therefore, the theory of a divine gift does not hold up either.

Right now, it is merely one living creature helping another living creature out of a predicament. And out of moral agreement between living creatures, You need to give me a reward for lending a helping hand."

"Interesting."

[Deceit] smiled. He finally displayed a smiling face again. "But you forgot one thing. If I didn't say it, you would never know that you lent a helping hand, so your goodwill was passive.

I can consider that the Clown didn't have the intention to save a deity. He was just looking out for himself, and incidentally made some contributions for his Benefactor."

"?" Cheng Shi was almost so angry he laughed. "Isn't doing it incidentally still saving? The fixed destiny has already become a fact; You cannot deny my merit."

"That's right. I cannot deny you, but I can deny myself."

"What does that mean?" Cheng Shi's brow twitched. He kept feeling that he had fallen into a pit again.

The corners of [Deceit]'s eyes tilted up slightly, and the spirals spun rapidly as He said:

"Even if I am a living creature, I am a living creature without morals. Without morals, there is no agreement."

"???"

It could even be like this?

Are you shameless?

But isn't having no morals precisely being shameless!?

"..."

Cheng Shi's expression collapsed, his face fully written with speechlessness. But the corners of his mouth clearly hooked up unstopably, and in a short while expanded into complex laughter as he said:

"I still prefer this kind of Benefactor. Can I... still call you the Fun God?"

When the outer garment of joy was stuffed full of bitterness and pain, Cheng Shi became cautious even with this title.

However, [Deceit] didn't mind these things. He smiled and nodded:

"Although nicknames are blasphemy to a deity, I have always been a tolerant Benefactor. I'll simply pardon you of your guilt this time.

Self-deception is the background color of [Deceit]. If one can't even deceive oneself, how can one speak of deceiving all living beings?

On this point, the Clown did a good job.

I had originally prepared several methods to comfort the Clown. But looking at it now, hmm, the Clown truly is a Priest; his self-healing ability is quite strong."

"..."

No, actually, Cheng Shi's self-healing ability was not strong at all. His self-deception ability, however, was extremely formidable, just as [Deceit] said.

If there was anything that could describe the current Cheng Shi, then a sieve net was absolutely the most apt one.

He was like a sieve net full of holes, fragile and covered in cuts and bruises all over. But he knew he couldn't stop moving forward, because even if he was full of holes, he was still the only barrier protecting the friends behind him.

At this point, aside from going forward, he had no path to retreat.

[Deceit] saw through Cheng Shi's inner heart. He smiled in appreciation and didn't speak.

Compared to a sieve net, He felt Cheng Shi was more like a spider web.

More fragile, and also stronger.

He stuck to everything in the world, living bearing heavy burdens, and walking staggeringly.

This was also the reason why the Clown's image in Mockery and Jeering was always a spider web.

Cheng Shi fell silent for a good while. He pondered a lot and recalled a lot. It wasn't until he completely cleared up his thoughts that he raised his head again to look at his Benefactor, asking in a firm tone:

"Lord Benefactor, I know You must definitely have a solution. Otherwise, You wouldn't have laid bare Your inner heart before the era's curtain call, using such despair to strike at the Clown's beliefs.

I also know that I cannot find the answer from Your mouth. The fixed destiny's will cannot be polluted.

But as a mortal, I completely cannot imagine how that plan is supposed to deceive [Origin] and replace [His] gaze.

Therefore, I am confused, I am at a loss, and I am fearful. But today I have also seen Your confusion, loss, and fear...

I am not like some deity who refuses to make a promise, always unwilling to light a lamp and making people grope forward in the dark. Since I trust the Fear Faction, then I am willing to make a promise for this.

I cannot promise too much, but at the very least I can guarantee: no matter how huge a price is required to resist [Origin], even if it is death, I will absolutely never retreat half a step."

"For friendship?"

"Yes, for friendship." Cheng Shi nodded heavily, "And also for resistance!

They are the ones who let me know that in this world, besides Old Jia, I still have attachments.

They have already sacrificed themselves for me once. This time, I won't let the tragedy happen again."

"But what if it's still a tragedy?"

Cheng Shi gave a light chuckle. He looked toward the endless void, saying with relief, "If it's still a tragedy, then pass on the script of this tragedy to eliminate a wrong choice for the other worlds in the Real Universe.

I believe that when all choices have been eliminated, there will eventually be one me who can find the answer, and there will also eventually be one You who can get what You wish for.

This, is passing the fire!

It is what You, and also the Torchbearers, taught me during the False Curtain Call."

"..."

The void boiled!

Psychedelic multicolored brilliance splattered out from the endless pitch black. Within the dense illusions, the corners of countless eye shadows tilted high, as if inviting all the [Deceit]s in the Real Universe right to the front.

And among these starry eyes, the brightest pair undoubtedly belonged to the truly existing eyes of [Deceit].

Even if there was no longer any dazzling starlight in those eyes, leaving only faintly spinning spirals, at this moment, Cheng Shi nevertheless felt that those eyes growing with glorious colors were the most beautiful pair he had seen since seeking an audience with gods.

[Deceit] lightly blinked His eyes, and finally at this moment, found that living creature whose will resonated at exactly the same frequency as His.

"Very good.

The Clown should indeed receive his reward.

No, I should say the deity is about to fulfill His promise.

I remember the Clown once said he did not want to become a god, yet he wanted to deceive gods..."

"!!!"

Cheng Shi abruptly jolted. His eyes filled with excitement as he said in disbelief:

"Authority!?"

But I didn't become rank one on the Ladder of Ascent..."

"Hee~

It does not matter, I never said you had to become the top of the Ladder of Ascent either.

What I said at that time was: when you become my [Chosen One]...

Chosen One, Chosen One. Only the deity's choice naturally counts as the Chosen One.

And now, the deity has chosen you."

...

Chapter 1386: Audience Meeting — Hope

"Smart as the Clown is, all your guesses are correct.

I am about to find the method to save this world. This is not empty talk; rather, I have already seen the direction of the future!

But before that day comes, there are still many preparations to be made.

The Clown cannot help with these things, and I also cannot guide the Clown to do anything. So the Clown can only do what he thinks is right.

Continue your performance, attract the Universe's line of sight, and use the Clown's comicality to cover for me, letting me go to the Real Universe once more to find the final clue to piece together the answer!"

"???"

Going from great sorrow to great joy probably only took a few minutes!

Cheng Shi had never thought he would be able to get such a hopeful answer from [Deceit]'s mouth. He was actually really about to find a method!?

But why go to the Real Universe, and who didn't want Him to go to the Real Universe?

[Time]?

Even if [Time] refused to let [Deceit] go in order to seek stability, hadn't Mockery and Jeering already connected the pathway leading to the Real Universe? For [Deceit] to walk His own path, whose consent did He still need?

Cheng Shi was somewhat unable to understand, but through the words 'attract the Universe's line of sight', he still guessed something. His heart suddenly tightened, and his expression changing slightly, he said:

"You are being watched, right? Who is it?"

[Origin]!?"

[Deceit] slowly moved His line of sight away and did not respond to Cheng Shi, instead continuing to speak on His own:

"Just missing a little bit. Just missing a little bit to be able to connect the clues of the entire era, and just missing a little bit to find the answer concerning the world's future.

I have already seen that little bit, so I must go, and no one can stop me.

But from this moment on, the Clown can no longer leave the stage belonging to him.

I will destroy the stairs leading off the stage, until the Clown's performance drops its curtain.

Furthermore, I must urge the Clown to immediately begin his performance. As the Circus Ringmaster, I will personally pen the script for the era's curtain call. The Clown only needs to remember: no matter how absurd the script is, your performance cannot stop. This is also the key to winning the audience's applause.

As long as the audience is willing to cheer for the performance, I believe this curtain call performance will definitely be able to gamble and win the future of this Starry Sky!

The day I return from the Real Universe shall be the time this world's future arrives!"

"!!!"

[Deceit]'s words were spoken too beautifully, scaring Cheng Shi so much that he almost didn't dare to believe it.

When had the Fear Faction ever fought such an affluent battle?

[Deceit] said He could definitely find the answer. What method exactly had He thought of to deceive [Origin] and break away from the experiment? Could it be that starting from now, [Origin] had already lost its gaze upon this Starry Sky?

That's not right. If it was really like this, why did [Deceit] still need to find an opportunity to go to the Real Universe? Shouldn't He just leave whenever He wanted?

Or was His method of deceiving the Creator starting from deceiving Himself?

Then is it a scam now?

Cheng Shi frowned. He pondered everything before his eyes. Aside from feeling there were a bit too many flags, he seemingly didn't find any flaws in this heart-to-heart session.

Compared to doubting this was a scam, whether emotionally or out of hope, Cheng Shi was more inclined to believe it was true.

No matter what, laying bare His heart to this extent, and with time being tight to this degree, [Deceit] couldn't possibly be deceiving people again...

Right?

Cheng Shi was very panicky. In his heart, he frantically sought an answer from another:

Brother Mouth, how do you see it?

Fool's Lips remained silent for a long time, and gave an answer almost equivalent to a truth:

"I am a mouth, I cannot see."

"..."

Perhaps knowing that this was no longer the time to joke around, Fool's Lips added another sentence after 'going through the motions':

"I am His follower. Although He is named [Deceit], I... will always believe Him."

Cheng Shi froze. Digesting an emotion from Brother Mouth that had never appeared before, he nodded silently.

Understood.

If he still didn't trust at this time, then within this Universe, what else was left that could be trusted?

The Clown raised his head, looking at his Benefactor with a burning gaze. Nodding heavily, he said a single word:

"Okay."

[Deceit] smiled. Even having lost the dazzling starlight, His mysteriously spinning spirals still cast brilliant side glances.

"Very good. Then next, the performance officially begins.

I will bestow upon you the ability to deceive the gods, and incidentally leave this Starry Sky to head to the Real Universe to find the things I need. And the current Clown, before stepping onto the stage, only needs to stand in the audience seats and witness...

The curtain call performance of [Void]."

After saying this, before Cheng Shi could even react, those mysteriously spinning spirals spun faster and faster, so fast they almost smoothed out all the mystery. In an instant, the void moved unusually, and mocking sounds rose from all sides!

Countless Masks, like rain falling upwards, broke through the ground from the depths of the void one after another, streaking across the void like meteors and falling toward the distant firmament.

Every Mask was either ridiculing or laughing, or angry or mocking. Their shouts rose one after another, resonating with the same sound. The twisted sounds accompanied by the void's echoes felt like loudly singing a sonata exclusively belonging to [Deceit].

Cheng Shi situated himself within it, only feeling that above and below were all sneers, and front and back were all ridicule and mocking. He completely didn't seem like an audience member, but more like a clown surrounded by countless audience members on stage being jeered and mocked.

But there wasn't a trace of awkwardness or nervousness on this clown's face, nor a trace of unease. There was only eyes full of solemnity.

He stared fixedly at the eyes blinking lightly in harmony with the sonata beneath countless Masks, seemingly already having guessed the script's direction.

But even if he knew this was only a performance in the script, everything right now still made his heart panic.

This play titled the curtain call performance of [Void]—it turned out it was truly a curtain call. However, just [Deceit] alone couldn't count as all of [Void].

Sure enough, after a short while, the void's melody changed.

The lively sounds of the Masks gradually faded, and the sorrowful and solemn song of fate began to pitch high.

The Masks streaking across the void exploded one after another, scattering into a sky full of dice rain. Every dice was spinning rapidly during the process of rising, and then rolled out countless 1-points in the rain curtain of fixed destiny.

These countless 1-points were even more like mockery than the Masks. They came from the void, and went back into the void. The trajectories they streaked across were like two twisted circles, and the whistling sounds they brought out were like a sharp carving knife, executing a death by a thousand cuts on all living creatures who had suffered the misfortune of fate.

Cheng Shi blankly watched this scene, his eyes gradually losing focus. But in the next second, a loud boom pulled him back from the edge of his trance.

"Boom—"

Exploded!

That was a booming sound that shook the Universe!

The void immediately collapsed! The gods were shocked upon hearing the sound, and descended one after another!

At the center of that explosion, that pair of eyes that should originally have existed had long since vanished. Replacing it was a shattered giant hole leading to the depths of endless void. Howling violent winds roared at the hole's mouth, spewing dazzling psychedelic colors outwards.

These colors were abstract and twisted, dazzling and chaotic, completely out of tune with the pitch-black void.

But it was precisely because of these completely incompatible features that Cheng Shi recognized what these multicolored brilliances were at a glance.

Mockery and Jeering!

This river of [Existence] deeply buried in the void had actually, following that explosive boom, detached from [Void], evaporated into abstract pitch-blackness within the void, and completely dried up...

It wasn't until confirming that this scene before his eyes was real, did the doubtful and alarmed Clown murmur in disbelief amidst the shock of the gods:

"Lord... Benefactor?"

Ha, you self-destructed?

This is the saving you spoke of? This is the fallback method you spoke of?

Who did you save, and whose fallback was it?

I only saw a shameful deserter, who at the moment right before going to the battlefield abandoned his comrades and chose to run away!

[Deceit], come out and see me! Don't think you can deceive me like this. I know you aren't dead, come out and see me!"

Right as his voice fell, a sneer came from among the gods.

A pair of eyes smeared full of chaotic white miasma looked at Cheng Shi in the center of the stage, saying faintly:

"There are many foolish ones in the world, but don't treat all the gods as fools either.

Exactly who is deceiving who?

[Deceit] painstakingly managed things up to this point, yet at the final step chose to self-destruct. Who would believe it?

Even if He had long known that all this was nothing more than a foolish act, would He be willing to resign Himself without personally giving it a try?

Stop deceiving. What tricks is your [Void] playing again?

It is impossible for [Deceit] to die, but it is not necessarily impossible for Him to hide the so-called fixed destiny at the final moment, pulling off a Steal Day.

Speaking thus, Cheng Shi...

Could it be that the current you is actually [Deceit]?

Where did you hide your follower?

Do you think this wouldn't be a foolish act then?"

"..."

At this moment, Cheng Shi understood.

He had never thought that the ability [Deceit] bestowed upon him to deceive the gods was this kind.

...

Chapter 1387: [Deceit] Is Me, I Am [Deceit]

That's right, Cheng Shi was precisely acting just now.

He had to provide cover for [Deceit], covering up His action of fleeing out of the world to head to the Real Universe.

But at the end of the day, [Deceit] didn't bestow upon him anything. As a mortal, he couldn't pull too many tricks under the eyes of the gods. Especially when [Folly] was still present, it was even more impossible for him to easily fool the gods.

Thus he could only take up his old profession—deceiving people. Oh no, now it was deceiving gods!

False is true, true is false.

A lie told by a scammer is of course false words. But if a scammer who has always told false words suddenly tells the truth... do you guess others would believe it?

It was also hard to say for sure.

There were always smart people, for example [Folly], who could see through everything.

And the ingenuity of the setup [Deceit] made to extricate Himself lay precisely here: He gifted the gods an unreasonableness, so much so that it made it difficult for all the deities to judge whether the other unreasonableness right now was reasonable or not after all.

Just like the fixed destiny's identity!

At this point, They perhaps didn't know the truth of [Void], but everyone knew how much effort [Void] had put into this era for the fixed destiny.

Exactly as [Folly] had said, seeing that the era was about to enter its tail end, was it possible for a [Deceit] who had resisted for so long to self-destruct at the end of the era?

It was simply a joke.

Not to mention there was still a [Fate] who hadn't shown up again since a long time ago. No matter how you looked at it, this looked like a trick by [Void].

There was also the fixed destiny. This mortal chosen by [Void] had practically been held in the palm of [Void]'s hand throughout the entire game. The two rulers of the era blocked all storms and rain for him, and now you're telling me he just stood there blankly witnessing his Benefactor's self-destruction?

Even the most absurd screenwriter couldn't write such a story.

According to the gods' understanding of [Deceit], the fixed destiny in front of their eyes absolutely couldn't be the true fixed destiny. He wouldn't allow His answer to solitary attract the Universe's gaze!

It was just that They weren't as bold as [Folly], daring to directly guess that the fixed destiny was [Deceit].

However, it was also reasonable. If the fixed destiny was precisely that Key leading to [Origin], given [Deceit]'s determination to depart from the Creator, He might be using this method to attempt to approach [Him], and giving the Creator a 'fatal strike' when He was closest to [Him].

Cheng Shi also thought through this logic, and directly started showing off his acting skills on the spot, beginning to play a game with [Folly].

[Chaos], no, I should say Zhen Xin—she only shot a glance at Cheng Shi and realized this guy was lying again.

She understood despair too well. True despair was never hysterical shouts and questioning, but silent shuddering and uncontrollable nausea. If [Deceit] truly self-destructed in the world, no matter how strong Cheng Shi's performance was, it would absolutely never be this 'twisted' like now.

So this definitely was a play. She just hadn't figured out whether the one standing in front of her was the [Deceit] that [Folly] spoke of, or the real Cheng Shi.

But no matter. Regardless of who it was, she could coordinate.

Since she realized the Clown was deceiving people, Zhen Xin simply activated the authority of [Chaos], smearing this unclear situation into even greater chaos.

Under such circumstances, stacking on [Folly]'s words, the gazes the gods used to look at Cheng Shi all changed. Even the Fear Faction allies also started muttering in doubt.

[Death]'s eye sockets blazed with green flames, continuously sizing Cheng Shi up and down, His face full of suspicion.

The Leaking World Silent Puppet even drifted behind Cheng Shi silently, attempting to use methods of Assimilation to verify whether the other party was human or god after all.

Cheng Shi only felt his body stiffen, starting to slowly become assimilated. But unexpectedly, it was exactly this scene of being unable to resist [Silence]'s Assimilation that allowed [Folly] to find evidence again, sneering:

"So there are also supporting actors in this performance.

You acted well, but I suggest you not act next time.

No one likes to watch foolish acts."

After speaking, [Folly] left, as if leaving a second later would get Him polluted by the site's foolishness.

[Birth]'s appearance was a routine matter, and [Time] even more so didn't have time to come 'observe the ceremony'. There were hardly any gods of the Universe left. This time, even [Decay] didn't show His face; it was evident His decay had almost reached its end.

[Silence] silently withdrew His hand and left, and [Chaos] also followed and left. She knew Cheng Shi would have to explain to the Jokers sooner or later.

[Death] took a look at Cheng Shi from afar, giving the other party an 'come see me later' look, then gave a faint sigh and transformed into a torrent of white bones, whistling away.

There was no longer the anger of previously being deceived in His eyes. It was visible that the Gravekeeper's return had completely soothed the 'Cold Old Man's' dissatisfaction.

With such a major event having occurred, Cheng Shi was not surprised by Boss [Death]'s attitude. No matter who saw their ally—no, I should say the guide of the Fear Faction—self-destruct right here, they would probably all have shock and doubt in their hearts.

How to handle the mess left by [Deceit] became a problem Cheng Shi had to face, not to mention that right now in the eyes of the gods, he was still bearing a false Divine Name of [Deceit].

But at least at this moment, the void became clean and quiet again. Only one Clown was left, facing the dried traces of Mockery and Jeering with an inexplicable expression.

To tell the truth, from the time [Deceit] extricated Himself and left to the time the gods descended one after another, in this short period of time, Cheng Shi had thought more than once whether [Deceit] had pulled a big one on him.

He saw that the Universe was hopeless, let Himself go, made a bunch of promises, then gave Himself up to despair and turned the fake into real, truly self-destructing right here in front of his face, creating the biggest 'fun' for the Universe.

This was also the reason why Cheng Shi's heartstrings were taut when he witnessed that moment.

But now he seemed to somewhat believe it. Because if [Deceit] truly died, the Fear Faction would absolutely not be so calm. [Folly]'s disdain would absolutely not be so understated either, much less would He commit the foolish act of mistakenly recognizing him as [Deceit].

The most important thing was that [Justice (Order)] did not appear. That indicated that [Deceit] did not leave behind a Final Oracle.

Everything was a script!

"At this moment, [Deceit] is me, I am [Deceit]!"

Cheng Shi clenched his fist, steadying his belief. Afterward, he did not choose to return to reality, but rather prayed towards Boss [Death], requesting an audience.

His own steadfastness was useless; he had to obtain another piece of support and recognition from the outside world.

What was strange was that Boss [Death], who just now still wanted to summon him, hadn't responded for a long time. It wasn't until Cheng Shi felt the other party was perhaps also running about seeking verification and it would be better to return to the Rest Area first, that the torrent of white bones composed of countless small skulls arrived in front of him once again, sweeping him inside and rushing toward the Fishbone Hall in the depths of the void.

Very soon, Cheng Shi once again saw that Milord upon the Bone Throne. This time, he did not transform into a small skull, remaining in Cheng Shi's appearance.

And the other party's first words upon seeing him were:

"What, is He, doing, again!?"

The giant skull's tone was full of doubt. However, upon hearing these words, Cheng Shi's heart stirred. He looked at that Milord with a face full of suspicion and asked faintly:

"Milord, do You know something?"

Otherwise, how did You conclude that the current me is not my Benefactor?"

"?" The giant skull blanked, the green flames in its eye sockets suddenly doubling in size. "If you were Him, You could come to this hall as You please, and leave as You please; what need is there for me to guide You in?"

Cheng Shi smiled:

"Milord, regardless of whether I am [Deceit] or not, right now my role is clearly playing that Clown named Cheng Shi. Since I am acting, naturally I should use a Prayer to see You.

So what You said fundamentally does not hold up.

Looking at Your reaction, You basically haven't suspected even the slightest possibility of me being [Deceit]... This shows that You absolutely know something!

[Folly] said there were supporting actors in this play. At first I didn't believe it, only thinking that [Silence] didn't know the inside story and was indeed probing my authenticity. But now... I believe it.

I am not sure whether [Silence] is a supporting actor or not, but I know You definitely are, right!?"

You had long known that [Deceit] was going to leave, so You are absolutely certain I am Cheng Shi!"

"..."

Boss [Death] fell silent. After a long while, He sighed and said:

"We, do not know, His, specific, plan.

But He, within His words, once said, He still needs, some, preparations.

We can, see, these, preparations, cannot, utilize, the hands of others.

Furthermore, He, seemed to, fall into, some kind of, predicament.

Therefore, right now, He, caused, such a big, commotion. We, guessed, He extremely likely, took the opportunity, and disappeared.

You say, He, has already left. Where, exactly, did, He, go?"

Hearing these words, the stone in Cheng Shi's heart finally landed on the ground.

He chuckled and said:

"I don't know either, He didn't tell me."

"???"

The green flames in the giant skull's eye sockets stagnated, and then instantly burst into a roar, wrapping the entire hall.

...

Chapter 1388: Talk of [Corruption]

Cheng Shi was terrified to the extreme, but to seek stability, he gritted his teeth and just wouldn't loosen his mouth.

Even though he knew Boss [Death] was the most trustworthy Fear Faction member, since even [Deceit] didn't choose to tell the other party, then he couldn't let the cat out of the bag either.

Sensing Cheng Shi's persistence, [Death] already understood the Clown's thoughts.

He withdrew the fake flames that fundamentally wouldn't burn living creatures, His tone becoming disgusted again.

"You, and, your Benefactor, smell, increasingly, similar.

Similar enough, to make one, disgusted."

"Thank You for the compliment." Cheng Shi did not consider it a disgrace, but rather an honor.

"..."

The Bone Throne beneath the giant skull creaked, just as if countless small skulls were gnashing their teeth. Facing [Void], He never had any solutions. Now that [Void] was gone, facing the fixed destiny of [Void], He equally had no solutions, unable to either hit or scold.

This 'incompetent, furious rage' lasted for a moment, ultimately turning into a sigh.

"Did, He, catch, some, trouble?"

"!"

The word 'catch/contract' was very interesting!

Cheng Shi, who was originally still secretly rejoicing, immediately became serious. He looked at the Boss, saying with a solemn face, "Milord, I actually wanted to ask You for guidance on this matter.

You have already guessed that my Benefactor going to such great lengths is to extricate Himself from some predicament. Then do You know where this predicament comes from?"

As Cheng Shi spoke, his eyes kept frequently picking up to look at the sky. [Death] naturally understood his meaning, and after a long silence, gave a slight nod:

"We, roughly, guessed, some."

A bright light flashed in Cheng Shi's eyes, and he stopped beating around the bush, saying: "It's [Corruption], right?"

"..."

For a time, the atmosphere in the Fishbone Hall suddenly became solemn. A formless power of [Death] instantly transformed into high walls, wrapping the entire hall. Then miserably green bone fires directly ignited the void, shielding all external probing.

Under such caution, the giant skull finally responded:

"We, also, think this.

Since, [Deceit], went deep into, the Sea of Desire, He, stopped, as before, constantly communicating, with, Us.

His plan, is no longer, revealed to the outside. Even [Silence], does not know, the real situation.

Perhaps, only, [Time], understands the inside story, but [Time], also refused, to respond, to this.

At that time, We, knew, [Deceit], probably, had, a problem.

And the crux, of the matter, is precisely, in the Sea of Desire!"

"!"

Cheng Shi wasn't surprised. Although this was his first time accurately knowing that [Deceit] entered the Sea of Desire, the Jokers had long had conjectures about this previously.

"Milord, when did [Deceit] go to the Sea of Desire?"

The giant skull recalled:

"After, the Gods, Convention Assembly, regarding, the Divine Throne, of [Oblivion], He, took away, Sin of Desirelessness, and entered, the Sea of Desire, together, with the other party.

We, were worried about, His safety, therefore, guarded, by the side of the Sea of Desire, and personally saw, Him, return, in silence."

"!!!"

It matched up!

When Poison encountered Drasilco, it was indeed the time when [Deceit] entered the Sea of Desire! Previously it was all conjectures, and now it was finally confirmed.

Just as the Jokers guessed, the [Corruption] in the Sea of Desire definitely 'polluted' [Deceit] using some method. This kind of pollution was definitely not a tugging of desires, because whether the one hidden in the Sea of Desire was truly [Corruption] or not remained to be discussed.

Cheng Shi had many doubts in his heart. He didn't know if he should ask, but having talked up to here, not asking would be truly uncomfortable in his heart. So, taking advantage of [Death] personally shielding everything, he boldly asked a few more questions.

"Milord, is [Corruption] truly [Corruption]?"

"?"

Upon first hearing this, [Death] clearly didn't process it, but He quickly realized what Cheng Shi was saying. His entire skull violently shuddered, and He buzzed in an extremely solemn tone:

"We, understand, your, meaning.

Regarding this, We, have not, been without, exotic thoughts.

But, since ancient times, the gods, have always, kept a respectful distance, from [Corruption]. No one knows, what, secret, is exactly hidden, within, the Sea of Desire.

All, the gods, that entered, the Sea of Desire, have developed, problems.

[Order], directly, split, inside, the Sea of Desire;

[War], completely changed, His temperament, starting, to endure silently, and not speak;

[Deceit], no longer, communicates, His plans, with, anyone...

Looking, at it this way, a pollution, that can make, gods, completely change, their normal state... the matter, you, are thinking of, is not necessarily, impossible."

Receiving affirmation, Cheng Shi's expression tightened, and he asked again:

"Then do You feel that the one in the Sea of Desire could possibly be... [Origin]!"

"!!??"

"Boom—"

Green flames combusted explosively, shrouding everything, and Cheng Shi's field of vision directly turned blindingly white.

The giant skull took a long time to recover before appearing from the endless flames again. Scooping up the scorched-dry Cheng Shi, He said in a deep voice:

"Absolutely, impossible!

If, it truly was, [Him], the gods', ending, would not be, being twisted, but, falling, and death!

You have seen, [His], power. That is no, joke, it is, a lethal, poison."

Cheng Shi of course had seen it, but he shook his head and said:

"Milord, You misunderstood my meaning.

I am not saying that a complete [Origin] is hidden in the Sea of Desire. Is it possible that... an 'injured' or 'in poor condition' [Origin] is hidden there?

That Divine Throne [He] made [Void] piece together... is it the key to [Him] recovering His power?"

"?"

[Death] blanked. "What Divine Throne?"

"..."

Fine, the Jokers were already discussing the significance of the Divine Throne, yet Boss [Death] didn't even know what the fixed destiny of [Void] was yet.

[Deceit] kept it hidden completely dead.

Cheng Shi was helpless and could only first speak the matter of the Divine Throne out. Afterward, he saw that giant skull blank out straightly upon the Bone Throne, lowering Its head to gaze at the [Death] Divine Throne beneath Itself, murmuring:

"So, what, [He], seeks, is, a, Divine Throne..."

But immediately following this, the giant skull looked at Cheng Shi and said in a deep voice:

"We, know your, mind, is extremely like, your Benefactor.

But, the Sea of Desire, is not, a place anyone, can go!

Especially, you!

Absolutely do not, have, any, delusions, you shouldn't have!

Even if, [He], really is, weak, and hiding, there, it is not something, you, can fight against."

"..."

Saw through.

The corners of Cheng Shi's mouth twitched slightly. Awkwardly moving his line of sight away, he muttered softly, "I didn't think about it. Even gods have stumbled in there; how would a mortal like me dare to go.

But then again, Milord, what if only mortals can remain unaffected by this kind of pollution?"

"Still daring, to have delusions!"

[Death] got angry. Endless green flames wrapped Cheng Shi once again. This time it wasn't a bluff; the blazing bone fires fired Cheng Shi anew into a shiny little skull.

"..."

Scared, scared. Won't think about it anymore, won't think about it anymore.

Cheng Shi hopped about on the white bone stairs begging for mercy, but in his heart he was thinking about how exactly he could uncover the secrets within the Sea of Desire.

He himself definitely couldn't go in, and the deities standing on his side also couldn't take the risk. But excluding Them, there weren't many deities left within this Universe who could go in to investigate.

[Birth]?

They were opponents. Having [Birth], who wholeheartedly wanted to pop out babies, go swim a couple of laps in the Sea of Desire—that image was simply something he didn't even dare to imagine. Let alone telling Him to go, even just opening his mouth to ask a sentence, he was afraid he would probably be whipped to death by a [Divine Pillar].

But excluding [Birth], the only one left who could still go in seemed to be just [Folly].

[Folly] was not a deity easy to fool. Would He go in?

Or had the Universe-topping-wise [Folly] already long been to the Sea of Desire?

?

Wait!

Cheng Shi blinked, a thought flashing through his mind.

Could it be that [Folly]'s authority...?

...

Chapter 1389: Milord, I Want to Conduct an Experiment!

Probably not.

[Deceit] had once had Big Cat pass a message to him, implying that [Folly]'s authority was highly likely in the hands of [Memory].

And [Memory] had already left now. The Dragon King took over [Memory]'s Collection Hall but didn't mention any abnormality to him. This showed that [Folly]'s authority was either taken away by [Memory], or hidden in a place the Dragon King couldn't touch yet.

[Memory] left right under [Time]'s eyes. [Time] wholeheartedly wanted to save the world; it was impossible for Him to let Him take away an authority related to the world. So the answer could only be the latter.

And as for the land of [Memory] that the Dragon King couldn't control, thinking about it over and over, Cheng Shi only knew one:

That smeared Collection within the Collection Hall of [Memory]!

Fine, going round and round, it went back to the matter of looking for the nose again.

But the problem was, previously Cheng Shi had always thought the Nose of Verification was within Mockery and Jeering. Right now, with [Deceit] 'pulling the ladder after getting on the roof' (burning bridges), Mockery and Jeering had already dried up. Then where else could he go to look for this nose that even Brother Mouth and the others couldn't remember clearly?

Also, if Wei Mu's conjecture was not wrong, behind that Collection there should actually be a segment of memory related to the gods. Could it be that this memory was the key to guiding him to find [Folly]'s authority?

Could it be that [Deceit] had guessed wrong?

Regarding this, Cheng Shi had absolutely no clue.

One person and one god remained silent just like this for a long time. Finally, it was the giant skull that broke the silence, buzzing:

"Next, what, do you prepare, to do?"

After losing their 'backbone', Boss [Death] was clearly also somewhat confused. A deity should under no circumstances ask a mortal for the way. Yet it just so happened that Cheng Shi was the fixed destiny, the person who knew the most secrets in this world besides a few certain insiders. He maintained the world's future, so his every action and movement was paid attention to by the Fear Faction.

But [Death] asking this question wasn't truly asking for the way. He just wanted to confirm that what the fixed destiny was going to do next was still within a controllable range. As long as they kept the fixed destiny safe from problems and dragged it out until [Deceit] returned from the Real Universe, then the world's answer would naturally also be revealed.

Cheng Shi indeed had many thoughts right now.

At first he only had a vague train of thought, feeling that with the road ahead being hopeless, he himself needed some new 'guidance'. But now, after learning more truths from [Deceit]'s mouth, he felt his plan had to be accelerated.

The Universe needed time, and this plan could bring him more time for trial and error.

"I might still need to confirm some things. However, before this, a certain matter should have a result."

In order to set Boss [Death]'s mind at ease, Cheng Shi stated Jie Shu's plan. He said:

"Jie Shu 'stowed away' here from the Real Universe. He grasps the method to enter and exit the world in his hands.

Hey hey hey, don't You panic first. I am not going to take risks in the Real Universe, but there are some things that must be done, and some people must take a trip outside.

My experiences tell me that if one world can find the answer, there is absolutely not only one world working hard behind it. I have once received favors from other worlds, and now the time has come to pay this debt back.

I will use my own method to pass the fire to other worlds, passing the torch that Cheng Dashi handed to me into the hands of other Cheng Shis.

Milord, do You know the Torchbearers?"

The green flames in the giant skull's eye sockets flashed once, without responding.

Cheng Shi nodded on his own and said:

"Then You know. Although the Torchbearers are resisting the gods, they definitely aren't resisting the Fear Faction's gods.

Wei Mu described an extremely terrifying future to me. In that future, the gods...

I don't want to let that future become the true future of this Starry Sky, so I still want to try a bit to see if we can find another path.

Even if we can't, at least tell the current correct path to the other worlds.

After passing on the firelight Cheng Dashi transmitted, I will conduct an experiment. An experiment to gain insight into the future!"

When hearing the two words 'experiment', a strange color flashed in the giant skull's eye sockets.

"The era's curtain call is imminent; we lack time.

However, the miracle of experiments can bring us more time, giving us more opportunities to deduce.

I have already prepared the experimental materials. Right now, it's only missing an opportunity to start it.

Before starting it, I might have to obtain the recognition of all the gods. Because only like this, can I use the gods' power, the gods' authority, and the gods' will to gain insight into the future!"

Perhaps [Death] had guessed something. He looked at Cheng Shi, not commenting on the experiment, but sighed faintly and said:

"Death, is, the end point, of everything.

Within the Universe, there is not, any living creature, that can, avoid, death. And this includes... Us."

"But..." Cheng Shi frowned his eye sockets tightly, his bone color changing.

The giant skull shook its head, interrupting his words.

"But, death, is never, returning to silence, but rather, the beginning, of a living creature's, reincarnation, and new life.

It, is not only, the end point, but also, the starting point.

We, have never, agreed with, the will, of [Oblivion], and do not esteem, absolute, disappearance.

But, regarding, new life, We, and Him, also share, the same feeling.

The cycle of [Life], does not stop. The circulation of living creatures, does not cease.

This is, the true meaning, of the world.

We, like, the gods, are not, unable to die. We just, are unwilling, to submit, beneath [Origin], becoming, not dead, not alive, not a god, not Myself...

Perhaps, [Time], has already, pointed it out, to you.

At, the appropriate, timing, He will, leave. We... will also, leave.

If, We can use, the death, of the old world, to prove, Our, heart of, resistance, and clarify, Our, intention of, fear, then, We, will truly be, this Universe's, biggest, winner.

You, do not have to, feel, sorry, for this.

This is precisely, [Death]!

It is, Our, Divine Name;

And also, Our, fate."

"!!!"

Even though he was still a skull, a trace of shock and being moved flashed in Cheng Shi's eye sockets.

These are gods... for their faith's will, They completely do not fear death.

[Prosperity], [Truth], [War], [Oblivion]... the gods' actions were vivid in his mind. Not a single one of Them didn't use Their lives to expound the steadfastness of Their own wills.

Even [Death] and [Time] were exactly like this.

But I... don't want You all to die!

I don't want any 'living creature' seeking a path of survival for the world to fall before dawn!

If that dawn truly exists...

Cheng Shi fell silent. After a long while, he lowered his eyes and said faintly:

"You have Your will, and I have my plans. What if my path can be walked through?"

Please believe me, this time it is absolutely not a deception. Please also support me, Milord, I urgently need the vote in Your hands."

The giant skull looked at the unyielding small skull beneath His feet. A trace of gratified smile flashed in His eyes.

"Cheng, Shi.

You, go, do it yourself.

Behind you, there is, Us.

Before, [Deceit], returns, the sky... won't collapse."

...

Chapter 1390: Do You Think Your Foolish Act Will Have an Answer?

The Boss was much more reliable than those so-called Benefactors.

When Cheng Shi left the Fishbone Hall, it was exactly like his mood when he was first granted the SSS-rank Servant God Relic, the Bone Servant Le Le'er's Ring—excited and invigorated.

This was of course not because of Boss [Death]'s domineering promise. Anyone can talk; the main thing is still seeing the actions.

Especially for someone like the Greed Lord who doesn't release the eagle until he sees the hare, no matter how extravagantly you speak, it's still not as good as giving some actual benefits.

And the reason he was able to recover the happiness from a long time ago this time, was naturally because the benefits Boss [Death] gave far exceeded his imagination!

Cheng Shi himself had forgotten that the Bone Servant Redeemer's Offspring ring in his hand actually contained one-half of [Thundering]'s divinity, which was stripped from Execution's Hour.

And at that time, Boss [Death] had said that the other half of [Thundering]'s divinity was also with Him, it was just that he was too weak and didn't have the qualifications to obtain it yet. When he had walked further, He would grant him the other half.

At that time, Cheng Shi was seeking an audience with [Death] for the first time. How would he know that the Boss's every spit was a driving nail (His words were as solid as nails)? He actually thought this

was the customary method of gods drawing a big pie (making empty promises), so he just begged the Boss to forge a Servant God Relic ring for him.

But today, just now, Boss [Death] fulfilled His promise. He deemed that Cheng Shi had arrived at the position He had hoped for, and walked a sufficiently far distance!

Furthermore, the way this promise was fulfilled greatly shocked Cheng Shi.

Because [Death] once again used that 'rough' but 'practical' method of creation to strip away the other divinity impurities inside the ring, fused a complete portion of [Thundering] divinity, and used the endless power of [Death] to forge that portion of divinity into something Cheng Shi didn't even dare to imagine:

A Container!

That's right, a Container of [Order]!

It was hard to say whether [Death] already had a Container of [Order] hidden in His hands from the start. After all, Cheng Shi completely couldn't understand the gods' forging methods. He only saw wisps of [Order] divinity shining with holy light being hammered into a lump, and then from that endless light dropped out an [Order] Container that looked exactly like two Holy Light Gavel's connected upside down.

It 'dropped' out, not 'transformed'.

He saw with his own eyes that the [Thundering] divinity was still there, but the Container just appeared like this.

Every time the faith inside the Container dripped down a little, the pitch-blackness in the entire void seemingly also became orderly along with it.

Cheng Shi was dumbfounded. He absolutely never expected that the 'Divine Throne' he sought but couldn't get from [The Wrath of Abomination] was actually pushed right in front of his eyes by Boss [Death].

The moment he received the Container, Cheng Shi proactively 'forgot' the 'clumsy method' the Boss used to take back the [Thundering] divinity.

Let's just consider it as having been forged.

It's not easy for the elderly to act either.

One didn't make a sound, and one 'didn't see' it. The scene was unusually harmonious.

But the 'elderly' ultimately still wanted some face. A moment later, the giant skull buzzed an explanation:

"This is, the Container, of [Thundering].

Back then, He, was executed by, the hands, of [Order]. We, obtained, His, half, divinity, and picked up, His, Container..."

Hearing this, Cheng Shi's brows shot up. Was it really picked up?

Milord, this 'picked up' of Yours... wouldn't happen to be like me, also 'picked up' from someone else's hands, right?

Tsk, no wonder You can play together with the Fear Faction. In some aspects, You guys are indeed very similar.

[Death] seemed to have seen through what Cheng Shi was thinking, but He did not blame him. Instead, He faintly sighed:

"Now, since you, need, voting power, then use this, and take back, the vote, of [Order]."

Of course Cheng Shi wouldn't refuse, and he also had no reason to refuse. He even specially showed his gratitude by not hesitating to spend time at the end of the era where every second counts, eloquently praising the Boss for thousands of words, and then was subsequently directly thrown out of the Fishbone Hall by a dark-faced [Death].

Looking at the [Order] Container in his hand, Cheng Shi sighed with infinite emotion.

Good news: confidence +1.

Bad news: the newly arrived confidence fell into a bottomless heart, so it's still bottomless.

Besides this, there was also a neither good nor bad piece of news: Le Le'er, this pitiful daughter of [Prosperity]... ultimately thoroughly faded into oblivion in this era.

The Bone Servant Redeemer's Offspring ring completely shattered, and Cheng Shi forever lost his Lightning Punishment.

Stroking the only remaining winding and twisting [Time of Eternal Imprisonment] on his finger, Cheng Shi's gaze was firm, instantly beginning a new round of summons.

It was time to head to the appointment with Jie Shu.

No matter when, passing the fire, cannot stop.

...

The world is not one person's world, and the stage will never only have one protagonist.

Just as [Deceit] fled out of the world to head to the Real Universe, and Cheng Shi was busy seeking an audience with [Death], at another part of the void, a few audiences were similarly being staged.

In the depths of the endless void, a pair of deity's eyes completely smeared in chaotic white miasma looked down at the questioner before Him without saying a word.

The floating small wooden puppet did not stop his questioning due to his Benefactor's silence. He repeated for the who knows how many-th time:

"Do You admit that everything You just did was a foolish act?"

Since You already saw through [Deceit]'s foolish act, why did You still want to confuse the public and point out that Yu Xi was actually [Deceit]?

Knowing Folly is a massive crime of blasphemy. As the god of [Folly], whose wisdom tops the Universe in the eyes of Your followers, why did You not hesitate to personally commit a foolish act just to make Yu Xi believe all this?

Can I understand this as You approving of [Deceit]'s foolish act, and thus generating hopes and expectations You shouldn't fantasize about towards a world inherently without a future?"

"..."

[Folly] didn't say a word, yet also did not leave.

The small wooden puppet rested for a moment, and continued:

"I only thought that it was only at the end of the [Chaos] era that [Folly] would head towards [Silence].

I didn't expect that at the end of the [Void] era, [Folly] would still head towards [Silence].

Since You are unwilling to talk about this matter, then let us change the topic.

I have met Galusha. That lunatic who left her name down the ages in the long river of history in the Land of Hope, who worshipped You the most, was most like You, and also once had the most hope of becoming Your Envoy.

Her identity now is a player. Ironically, she turned into how she looked when she was young, and became a follower of [Truth] again.

And the interesting thing is: why would a living creature that should have faded into oblivion in the past appear at the end of the era?

At first I didn't care, because there are many people like her. Mostly they are just to 'stay alive', and have no impact on the era's progress.

Until I found out she was brought out of history by the fixed destiny... On the spider web, there have never hung useless people.

Regardless of who is pushing all this forward, this shows that Your game with Him has had a result. [Deceit] guessed something, so He left behind a backup plan.

And purely by coincidence, the fixed destiny also recently asked me a question. What do You guess he asked?"

"..."

"You definitely guessed it. The gods of the [Void] faction all have preparations for this. I suppose You also have preparations, right?"

The future of this Starry Sky cannot accommodate any single old god. So the fixed destiny pointed at me and said I should be the future [Folly].

Thus I wanted to come and ask You:

Great [Folly], when do You prepare to die?"

"..."

"Look, even if I denounce a god to Your face, or even personally force You to die, You are still sufficiently tolerant towards me.

Aside from [Fate] towards the fixed destiny, I cannot think of any other deity who can reach this step.

Would [Folly]?

No. Based on my understanding of Him, He shouldn't be like this.

But He is clearly the wisest Wise Man within this Universe. Even if He committed a foolish act, it should also have deep meaning. So I thought about it carefully, and then arrived at an answer I shouldn't know and also somewhat cannot accept.

Today's audience is destined to not be pleasant, so I'll just ask directly:

Lord Benefactor, do You still need Your authority?"

Saying so, the small wooden puppet took a step forward.

Those eyes of white miasma ignored the follower before Him, looking with a deep gaze towards the direction outside the world. After a long while, He suddenly let out a sneer:

"A new era is about to open, and the foolish acts belonging to you will also arrive.

Do you think your foolish act will have an answer?"

The small wooden puppet pondered deeply for a long time, and nodded:

"I understand.

This is Your answer."

...