

The Growth 125

Chapter 125 - 4: Misfortune Relic (3/5)

In the Tomb of the Gods of the Fallen Area.

Although the Gods have fallen, only remnants of their thoughts linger in an interface unobservable to ordinary humans.

Yet as long as there is life, faith will inevitably arise.

When these masterless beliefs cannot be accepted by the Gods, they will seek out their own path like life.

Either attaching to a fixed object, or adhering to a fixed concept...

In such moments, an existence that seems like a god but isn't, is born.

If in a world where True Gods exist, they are innate elves, born demigods, the most primal totems of belief.

However, on Earth, especially in today's technologically advanced age.

They are merely a group of spirit monsters destined to stir no waves, existing only in the shadows of human society.

The man who stole Huo Dou's salary is such an existence.

According to ancient customs, people living in this land call him a "Blessing God".

When a Blessing God commits evil, they are condemned as a Plague God.

[Hmm, very much in the style of the Chinese...]

After understanding the man's identity, this was the thought that first flashed through Huo Dou's mind.

The Chinese attitude towards gods is never reliant but selectively utilitarian.

If you are useful to me, I'll worship you, and during festivals I'll burn incense in your temple.

But if you neglect your duties or harm me, then even if you're a True God like the Dragon King, you'll be dragged out of the temple and beheaded.

In contrast, within traditional Chinese mythology, the Five Blessing Gods always lacked presence and being demoted to the "Five Ghosts" isn't too surprising.

And in He Bo's ensuing explanation, Huo Dou roughly grasped why the other party had targeted him.

Even as a Blessing God that no longer possesses any faith, his unique birth granted him rather special abilities.

Sensing the presence of gods and wanting to steal corresponding fortune from them...

This is clearly why the Blessing God targeted Huo Dou.

Unfortunately, the Blessing God underestimated Li Hao's standing.

Without Huo Dou needing to intervene, the Blessing God attempting to steal Li Hao's fortune suffered a backlash from his fate.

If Huo Dou hadn't arrived in time, this unlucky Blessing God might have died from the ensuing series of seemingly coincidental misfortunes.

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"So, am I the unlucky one, or is he?"

Facing Huo Dou's question, He Bo was at a loss for words.

Huo Dou is unlucky because he lost his money, and the money he retrieved clearly couldn't be used anymore.

The Blessing God is unlucky because although he absorbed Li Hao's fortune, the following misfortune clearly cannot be offset just by this bit of fortune.

One can only say that this is a lose-lose outcome.

"Anyway, you did some good work this time."

Being demoted to a Plague God in the Chinese Earth Realm, this man is clearly not benign.

Without knowing exactly what crime he committed, He Bo decided to first transfer this dangerous individual to other departments.

After all, the 749th Bureau cooperates with many agencies, including those specializing in handling such cases and dangerous individuals.

"Is there anything else you need me to do?"

A rare flash of curiosity in his eyes, Huo Dou showed interest in special government institutions like the 749th Bureau and Institute 507.

"No, for now, you don't need to do anything."

Seeing through Huo Dou's thoughts, He Bo unhesitatingly refused him.

At least until Huo Dou's details are fully understood, He Bo will absolutely not allow him easy access to more confidential institutions.

This has nothing to do with temperament or personality, it's purely He Bo's responsibility as the director of the 749th Bureau's division.

As long as He Bo is the director of the 749th Bureau's division, he will bear this responsibility, maintaining the city's order and safety.

Thinking of this, He Bo couldn't help but silently sigh in his heart.

Because he knows, perhaps this is the last contribution he can make to this world.

Considering the Ancient God within him has awakened again, it's unpredictable when it might fully revive.

[Maybe, I should find a way to train a successor.]

Such a thought flashed and He Bo swiftly dismissed it from his mind.

Pessimism is not He Bo's style, and he would never submit to the Ancient God.

"Then what about this money? How do you plan to handle it?"

Focusing on the bag of money at his feet, He Bo spoke up before Huo Dou could respond.

"If you find it inconvenient to deal with, just leave the money with me!"

"As for your salary, I'll apply to the higher-ups to give it to you again in cash."

These bills tainted with misfortune have, in some sense, become a medium for "curses."

"No need to trouble yourself, I'll handle these bills!"

Giving He Bo no chance to retort, Huo Dou swiftly picked up the backpack at his feet.

Immediately, the backpack full of bills vanished under He Bo's nose, as if it had never appeared.

"What are you going to do with that money?"

Feeling a twitch of his eyelids, He Bo quickly asked.

He sincerely feared these bills spreading, then causing some serious consequences, leading to significant trouble.

"I'm quite interested in items tainted with 'misfortune'."

Of course, Huo Dou couldn't say he feared the 749th Bureau couldn't deal with this bag of bills, right?

Thus, he casually made up an excuse, one that made He Bo roll his eyes.

No point in refusing, why bother with such a clumsy lie.

"Since you're interested in these items, then you handle them."

"But you must ensure these bills don't get circulated, can you?"

Calmly nodding, Huo Dou's act before permission just came from worry that He Bo might reject his approach.

Now that the other party agrees, Huo Dou will naturally make the necessary assurances and promises.

After all, Li Hao is learning to embrace his role as "God of Poverty" gradually.

Isn't it just a month's salary?

No problem in buying what I want next month then!

With such thoughts, Li Hao's consciousness returned to his body, eager to examine the bills tainted with misfortune.

As for Huo Dou's body?

Li Hao opted, just like yesterday, to allow him to act freely.

However, before departing, Li Hao didn't notice He Bo's expression relax slightly.