

## **The Growth 133**

Chapter 133 - 12: Child of the Candle Dragon (1/5)

"Wait, where did Old Four go?"

Just as the other companions were engaged in discussion, Mang Qi suddenly noticed that the fourth brother in their team was missing.

As a Skeleton revived from the same bones, Old Four had always been the most active and resourceful brother in the group of seven.

But precisely because of this, Old Four often liked to leave the group and act alone.

The last time the seven brothers were caught by the Bone Chant and sent to the City of Corpse for punishment, a substantial part of the reason was due to Old Four's rash actions.

"Old Four, could he have caused trouble again?"

Instinctively looking back, Mang Yi suddenly realized that Mang Si seemed to have been missing for quite some time.

"Does anyone know where he went?"

In this unfamiliar place called the City of Corpse, Mang Si's disappearance made the brothers feel an unspoken sense of foreboding.

"Well... Old Four seemed to say... he seemed to have stolen something interesting..."

At this time, Mang Liu suddenly spoke in a low voice.

"Steal? In this City of Corpse, whose things can he steal?"

A vague sense of foreboding arose, and Mang Qi hastily asked.

But before Mang Qi could finish his question, an explosion sounded from a place not far from them.

Boom!

With a fierce explosion, the surface of the City of Corpse was directly blown into a massive crater.

Next, a terrifying "monster" began to crawl out of the pit, letting out a horrifying howl.

"Roar!"

It was an indescribable amalgamation of bones and flesh.

The bones forming its main structure were infused with flesh, dismantled, and hung in fragments upon the flesh tendrils.

Furthermore, those abnormally wriggling flesh tendrils kept growing, spreading, and devouring every Skeleton they could touch.

"Old Four!?"

Recognizing the bones at the center of that mass of flesh, Mang Qi couldn't help but gape.

Though torn to pieces, as a brother revived from the same bones, Mang Qi immediately recognized whom it was.

"Wait! Is it coming towards us?!"

The first to react, Mang San could no longer care less, instinctively calling out to his brothers to start running toward the city's center.

"Go! Find those freaks!"

"Only they can deal with such a monster!"

As Mang Qi and his small group began to flee, other nearby Skeletons also noticed the terrifying flesh-bone monster.

"What is that?"

"What's happening?"

"Did that explosion just come from the 'Reception Library'?"

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Amidst shouts and cries, the terrifying, hideous monster had already crawled out of the pit.

And in the pit that had exploded, there were vaguely visible various unknown devices scattered at the bottom.

It was clearly not the home of any Skeleton, but a place specifically meant to store various unknown devices.

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In the center of endless storms and mist, above the wreckage of the Sky City.

The Dragon-headed Giant, in its long slumber, suddenly seemed to sense something, abruptly opening its eyes larger than lanterns.

"Yayu?"

Feeling that long-lost scent of the Dragon Race.

The enormous body of the Dragon-headed Giant quivered involuntarily, like a mountain range.

In the next moment, those immense, sharp eyes pierced through the layers of mist, focusing on the City of Remains at the edge of the storm.

With the perception of the Dragon Head, one could clearly see the monster rampaging in the city's center.

Even though it had completely lost its shape, even though there was no rationality at all...

The Dragon-headed Giant still sensed a familiar vibe from its presence.

[Yayu?]

Almost simultaneously with the Dragon-headed Giant, Li Hao became aware of the existence of that flesh monster.

In a mystical instant, Li Hao pulled his perspective away, focusing his attention on that flesh monster.

For some reason, Li Hao also felt a sense of déjà vu from the flesh monster.

Rapidly sifting through his memories, Li Hao quickly found records about Yayu in the "Classic of Mountains and Seas."

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— "Classic of Mountains and Seas: Records of Lands Within the Seas, Southern Classic": Yuyu, with a dragon head, resides in Weak Water, west of the People-Knowing Apes, resembles a dragon head, devours humans.

— "Classic of Mountains and Seas: Northern Mountain Classic, First Northern Sequence": Two hundred li north, it is the Shaoxian Mountain, without grass or trees, mostly bluish green.

There is a beast, shaped like a cow, with a red body, human face, and horse feet, named Yuyu, sounds like a baby, devours humans.

The Dunwater flows forth, eastward to the Water of Yanmen, full of Zidizhi fish. Eating them kills humans.

— "Classic of Mountains and Seas: Records of Lands Within the West": Yuyu, snake body and human face, slain by Minister Duo and Lord Fu.

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Simply put, the pronunciation Yayu is synonymous with Yuyu, roughly described in two forms in the "Classic of Mountains and Seas."

One is the human-devouring dragon-headed beast form, and the other is the snake-bodied, human-faced form slain by "Duo" and "Fu."

The former is akin to a Fierce Beast, while the latter's status in the "Classic of Mountains and Seas" is equivalent to Gods.

However, what truly left Li Hao both startled and puzzled is the identity of Yayu.

For if the places described in the "Classic of Mountains and Seas" are indeed the Mountain and Sea Realm, then Yayu holds another identity within the Mountain and Sea Realm — Child of the Candle Dragon.

[Does this mean I've suddenly got a son?]

Whether Yayu is truly the child of the Candle Dragon, Li Hao was unsure.

However, what he could confirm was that the flesh monster rampaging in the City of Corpse could not be Yayu.

Or more precisely, not in the normal state of Yayu.

After all, having inherited the Mountain and Sea Realm for so long, Li Hao had basically concluded that the Dragon Race in this world was either extinct or had left long ago.

The unlucky Dragon-headed Giant was left as the sole Dragon Race due to the Seal.

As for this flesh monster before him?

Others might not know, but Li Hao understood.

It was "activated" because of the experiment being conducted by the Skeletons in the White Bone City.

Yes, Li Hao used the word "activated" here.

From quite early on, Li Hao found it a bit strange.

No matter how imaginative the Skeletons could be, their Second Generation Skeletons and current research seemed somewhat over the top.

Thinking back now, the Mountain and Sea Realm wasn't a barren, naturally evolved world; it once had the Dragon Race at its peak civilization.

Be it archaeological-like research or the inherent instincts of revived Skeletons from Dragon Bone...

By chance, the Skeletons may have unknowingly retraced the Dragon Race's path, replicating certain technologies from the Dragon Race's peak civilization.