

## **The Growth 189**

Chapter 189 21: Future Buddha (3/3)

[You have already lost this war!]

When the faith in the Creator took root in this world, the net woven by the Celestial Tao System had already quietly formed.

The operation of all things in the world falls within the logical operation range of the Celestial Tao System, and every so-called coincidence and surprise is actually an inevitable destiny.

Therefore, Li Hao finally understood the ultimate truth of this world.

The collision of this world with Marz World was not merely due to the similarity in rules between the two worlds.

In fact, this world itself is nothing but "bait."

Drifting through All Heavens and Myriad Realms, colliding with worlds of similar rules...

When a highly developed intelligent civilization starts exploring this world, it becomes captured by the "faith poison" of this world.

It starts with individuals, then groups, and eventually the entire civilization.

Most of those odd-looking creatures in the City of Intelligent Mechanism came about this way.

What the Burrowing Insect Civilization experienced is simply the norm of this world, and Marz World is just one among the many captured worlds.

The "Buddha" hidden behind this world is very cautious.

Once it finds that the world it touched this time is at risk of exposure, it would immediately drive the "bait" away.

This is also why Quinn could never find the space-time rift to return to Marz World.

Because from the moment the Celestial Tao System decided to interfere with this world, the "Buddha" hiding behind it was already alerted, increasing the distance between the two worlds.

During the time Quinn enacted the undead calamity, a battle of higher dimensions quietly commenced.

[Why does using the world as 'bait' feel so familiar?]

[Are you imitating the God Dokwi, or are the gods of the God Dokwi learning from you?]

Under the interference of the Celestial Tao System, this world not only halted, it even started approaching Marz World once again.

[Or should I put it this way, isn't the God Dokwi also your 'bait'?]

[Because your 'bait' got destroyed, you sent another 'bait' to see what happened here!]

[Am I right, the Ancient God who calls itself 'Buddha'?]

Faced with Li Hao's mockery and questioning, an endless Brahma voice suddenly echoed from beyond the world.

Boom!

In a trance, the world seemed to transform into a gigantic lotus.

And atop that lotus, a reclining "Buddha" gradually revealed its form.

This "Buddha" had its hands joined in prayer, wore a treasure crown, and its rotund belly protruded outward, its reclining position catching the eye.

Though lying in a lazy manner atop the lotus, it gave off an adorable, endearing appearance.

——Future Buddha · Eight Bodhisattvas · Venerable Buddha Maitreya!

.....

[Amitabha Buddha, compassionate Buddha!]

The communication between divine beings transcended the barrier of language, Reclining Buddha Maitreya smiled and made a salutation towards the ethereal Li Hao.

[Why should a venerable care about disputes of the lower realm?]

Upon seeing Reclining Buddha Maitreya's true body, Li Hao admitted he was momentarily stunned.

However, in response to the good intentions shown by the other, Li Hao merely gave a faint smile.

[I'm afraid it's not me who's angry, is it?]

What Li Hao spoke was the truth; in this brief confrontation, it was Reclining Buddha Maitreya who appeared impatient.

If not for Li Hao's timely intervention, this world would likely have already left Marz World's range, heading to a more unpredictable dimension.

[Venerable one, my Buddha holds no hostility against you.]

[Had I known earlier that it was you who destroyed the Dokwi Gods, I wouldn't have come to this realm.]

A bit helpless, yet with some acceptance...

Reclining Buddha Maitreya thought that with a good explanation, it should still be possible to gain the understanding of the Ancient God on the other side.

[I didn't sense any sincerity in your words though!]

Li Hao smiled again and suddenly realized that the mythical deities on Earth might not be as aloof as he once thought.

The legendary Maitreya Buddha, when faced with a stiff challenge, didn't perform much better than ordinary people.

[If you really had goodwill, you wouldn't be so eager to run away.]

After a slight pause in his tone, Li Hao continued speaking.

[And you're even taking my follower with you, perhaps you intend to study them to find a way against me?]

With these words, Reclining Buddha Maitreya was taken aback.

Reclining Buddha Maitreya indeed speculated on Li Hao's abrupt actions but never thought that the reason was because of Quinn from the lower realm.

A mere undead—normally, divine beings wouldn't jeopardize their relations over such matters.

[Venerable one jests!]

[I harbor no offense against the venerable, your follower is free to come and go from this realm. I will not stop them.]

Reclining Buddha Maitreya, seemingly realizing something, replied with a gracious smile.

Immediately, Quinn, in the midst of launching the undead calamity, was shocked to find a space-time rift appearing beside him.

It was a space-time rift leading directly to Marz World, where Quinn could even see the equally bewildered Burrowing Insects on the other side.

[What if what I want is more than just this?]

With eyes narrowed slightly, Li Hao, after a brief silence, suddenly asked again.

Whether it was testing the limits or probing boundaries... Li Hao, meeting a reasonable deity for once, needed to understand the normal limits of divine communication.

Without the Civilization Game, once two gods who don't know each other's depths meet, to what extent should probing go before reaching a boundary?

[So, you also see the potential in this world?]

With a glint of realization in his eyes, Reclining Buddha Maitreya, clearly misunderstanding Li Hao's intent, smiled.

[You have a keen eye; this world is a rare 'Godless World'...]

[Due to the resentment brought by the fall of a powerful deity, this world is doomed to never develop a normal civilization.]

[But precisely because of this, it becomes an excellent 'trial ground.']

[The clash of good and evil, the confrontation between right and wrong, any Ascender or Apostle who departs from this world is unmatched in both ability and faith.]

[If you have this idea, I am willing to jointly manage this world with you.]

Seeing the sincerity shown by Reclining Buddha Maitreya, Li Hao finally grasped the worldview of beings at the divine level.

—Using the world as a chessboard, using sentient beings as chess pieces.

In the eyes of powerful deities like Reclining Buddha Maitreya, the world is nothing but a vessel for nurturing combatants.

As long as there is sufficient benefit to be gained, sharing the vessel with other deities is just a normal choice.

[Co-manage this world?]

Li Hao could tell that this should be the utmost extent of Reclining Buddha Maitreya's concession.

Continuing to press harder would most likely be counterproductive.