

The Growth 201

Chapter 201 9: Mountain God of Yunmeng Marsh (3/3)

When David awoke once more, he was already in an entirely unfamiliar world.

This was a world completely different from the Cyber World.

In the sky, two suns, one bright and one dark, hung high. One remained stationary, while the other moved timely.

"This place is..."

In disbelief, David surveyed the surroundings only to find mountains and plants everywhere.

You must know, in the Cyber World, everything is artificial, even the ground beneath is made of reinforced concrete.

At his most extravagant, David had only ever nurtured a small plant in his apartment.

And to keep that tiny plant alive, David used artificial organic soil, an air self-circulation device, and simulated natural light radiators among other luxurious equipment.

"What exactly is this place?"

Slowly getting up from the ground, David's prosthetic eye constantly expanded and contracted, scanning everything nearby.

The result shocked him: this wasn't some virtual data-structured bionic space, but a real, genuine natural world.

"This is the Yunmeng Marsh!"

Just as David hesitated to reach out and touch the ground, a voice suddenly came from behind him.

Whether it was a sound wave sensor or a life detection device, none had detected anything unusual in advance. David quickly turned towards the direction of the voice, on alert.

Unexpectedly for David, it was indeed not a normal living being.

Suspended in mid-air in a bizarre posture, David could even see through its body the forests behind it.

"An electronic life form? Or a virtual projection?"

Unable to suppress his inner doubts, David cautiously took two steps back.

Upon hearing David's words, the near-ghostlike presence across from him seemed momentarily taken aback.

"Are you a Burrowing Insect?"

The body gradually shifted from ghostly shadow to substance.

The unknown entity frowned, a hint of curiosity in its words.

"No, you don't resemble a Burrowing Insect."

"Those beings may modify their bodies, but they would never turn themselves into a complete steel monster like you."

Here, we must mention David's current form.

After years of prosthetic implants and biological modifications, David was no longer the physical form he once had.

The current David more closely resembled a freely moving shape-shifting machine.

The multi-footed chassis allowed him to be as steady as Mount Tai...

The metal limbs, agile like those of an octopus, could extend and retract freely...

In addition, David installed multi-eyed prosthetic eyes for a broader perspective...

At this moment, David's overall appearance seemed both bizarre and majestic, even evoking an unusual sense of beauty.

Of course, although David's form was bizarre, the unknown presence opposite him was not any normal creature either.

Even transformed from a shadow to substance, the unknown presence remained in a half-human, half-beast form.

With a slim body, sharp claws and teeth, and wings at the arm positions...

The unknown entity resembled a banshee from Earth mythology yet added with several hints of terror and savagery.

"Allow me to formally introduce myself, I am the Mountain God of this mountain—Chi."

Lightly flapping its wings, Chi continued to curiously scrutinize David on the opposite side.

"You are not a creature of this world; you are not even a living being."

"Like the skeletons outside the mountain, you are a life form existing between life and death."

"How peculiar, that such a unique existence as you can exist in this world, and I can even sense the power of a 'God' within you?"

"Are you an Ascender? Or an Apostle?"

Perhaps not having spoken to anyone in a long time, Chi seemed extremely talkative.

In this barrage of questions, David, unable to grasp the situation, looked utterly confused.

Fortunately, David's electronic auxiliary brain was operating swiftly, quickly extracting useful information from Chi's words.

"Mountain God? You are actually a God?"

With a hint of amazement, David compared Chi with the deities in his database.

He found that the other indeed bore some resemblance to deities.

But the power gap between them was extraordinarily vast; Chi did not seem omnipotent like genuine deities.

"Of course I am a God!"

Appearing to dislike having its identity questioned, Chi promptly emphasized.

"Though I am currently just a Mountain God..."

"But at least I am closer to the True God and the great Creator than you Ascenders!"

This was the second time Chi mentioned the term "Ascender."

With a vague inference, David suddenly opened the palm of his prosthetic limb at the front, revealing the Misfortune Paper Crane that had turned into the "Eye of the Creator."

"I think I was brought to this world by this totem."

"Is this ancient god you mention the 'Creator'?"

Although phrased as a question.

David, as he said these words, actually already knew the definite answer in his heart.

As expected, seeing the "Eye of the Creator" left Chi dazed on the spot, unable to collect its thoughts for a long time.

"Why is the Creator's totem in your hands?"

After a brief stupor, Chi looked at David with a shocked expression.

In the Mountain and Sea Realm, the Creator's totem is not a rare item.

Even in the Marz World, where Burrowing Insects exist, the Creator's belief is widespread throughout their civilization.

But now the problem was, David clearly was not a follower of the Creator.

Moreover, the Creator's totem in the hand of the other party wasn't something that an average Prophet could make.

Rich in divine power, subtly emitting spirituality, and possessing an aura like a true God...

In Chi's understanding, even Balian, the Prophet closest to God among the Immortals, could not produce such a level of Creator's totem.

Rather than calling it a totem, it seemed more like an incarnation of the Creator, in a sense.

"I found it."

With Chi's expression of bafflement and ineffability, David casually stated.

"If you don't want to say, then don't make excuses."

"The Creator's totem is spiritual, especially this level of Creator's totem."

"If it doesn't want someone to find it, no one can."

"Conversely, it means you've received the Creator's recognition."

Chi, eyes rolled to the heavens, felt David was stalling.

In her experience, no one ever claimed to have simply found the Creator's totem.

"Fine, on behalf of the Creator, I reluctantly accept your explanation."

"After all, seeing you like this, you can't possibly be a native creature of the Mountain and Sea Realm..."

"In the Mountain and Sea Realm, there are rules, especially in Yunmeng Marsh, which is my territory!"

"If there's something you wish to ask or know, you can directly ask me now. Just don't make any significant commotion."

"Otherwise, if you attract the attention of other Mountain Gods or River Gods, don't blame me for not protecting you."