

The Growth 23

Chapter 23: End of Volume: Candle Dragon Mask

"Meng Yao? Ancient god bloodline?"

Thinking of what the Great Serpent had told him, a meaningful expression appeared on Li Hao's face.

"It seems that the Winged Serpent God isn't the only one capable of maintaining rationality in the Fallen Area."

After a soft whisper, a rift suddenly appeared in the center of Li Hao's forehead.

Soon after, a vivid, ever-turning eye was revealed.

"If I had to say it, am I considered an 'Ancient God' now?"

The celestial eye on his forehead not only granted Li Hao a broader perspective but also allowed him to see things he couldn't before.

For instance, the Ancient God's Will, whose obsession never dissipated.

And then, the remnants of the ancient gods that shouldn't exist in this world.

"Hmm, I should be an Ancient God now."

With a casual flip of his hand, a card appeared out of thin air.

On the front of the card was a depiction of a dragon-headed giant with closed eyes.

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[Divine Sequence·First Apostle]

[Primordial Power: Storm]

[Number of Uses·??]

[Usage Conditions·??]

Turning the card over, Li Hao murmured to himself thoughtfully as he read the words on the back of the card.

"Who would have thought that the 'Chronicles of Time' could be used in the real world?"

The third eye on his forehead kept turning while he continued to flip the card symbolizing the Dragon-headed Giant in his hands.

Li Hao instinctively knew how to use this card, just as he naturally understood how to use the [Chronicles of Time] in the past.

"Unfortunately, it seems I won't be able to use it for the time being."

Simply clasping his hands together, the card in Li Hao's hand vanished as if it had never appeared.

"As for the Candle Dragon, I must say, is it worthy of being a Creator God who once created a world?"

"Even in death, it remains restless, still trying to trouble me?"

As Li Hao slowly turned around, the third eye on his forehead fixed its gaze directly ahead.

There, a massive Ancient Dragon, nearly bursting through the ceiling, was staring fiercely at Li Hao, the ferocity between its brows exuding an aura as terrifying as that of an evil ghost.

That was the lingering resentment left by the Candle Dragon after death, an undying obsession of the Ancient God's Will.

If it weren't for the celestial eye on his forehead, Li Hao might not have even been able to detect the Candle Dragon's remnant.

"Between you and me lies a vendetta of life and death..."

"I don't regret killing you."

Calmly watching the Candle Dragon's remnant, now reduced to mere ferocity and rage.

Li Hao slowly extended his hand, and the third eye on his forehead suddenly radiated a brilliant light.

"Dust to dust, ashes to ashes."

"I've always despised back spirits, so you'd better disappear obediently!"

As if in response to Li Hao's words, the previously fierce remnant of the Candle Dragon suddenly gave a silent howl towards the heavens.

Awng!

Perhaps lingering, perhaps despairing...

After the silent roar, the Candle Dragon's remnant body uncontrollably entered Li Hao's palm, being compressed into an "entity" visible only to the third eye.

It was a mask.

A lifelike dragon-head mask.

Exaggerated, ferocious horns extended backward along the forehead.

The elegant, elongated white brows moved effortlessly, reaching the temples.

[Artifact: Candle Dragon Mask]

[Type: Armor]

[Quality: Rare Treasures]

[Function : Changeable essence, allowing the wearer to alter the external form of the mask at will.]

[Function : By absorbing the essence of "existence," grants the wearer different forms of life existence, able to mimic and replicate the talents and abilities of other life forms.]

[Function : The divine countenance is unviewable, none can peer beneath the mask's visage.]

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"Is this the final gift from an 'archenemy'?"

After a brief thought, Li Hao unhesitatingly placed the Candle Dragon Mask on his face.

Unexpected yet unsurprising, the Candle Dragon Mask did not obstruct or affect Li Hao's view, not even adding the slightest weight.

Were it not for Li Hao's clear awareness that he was wearing a mask, he would doubt its very existence.

It wasn't until Li Hao saw the dragon-headed humanoid existence in the mirror through the third eye on his forehead.

Only then was he certain that the Candle Dragon Mask indeed hadn't imposed any negative impact on him.

Pat!

Gazing at the majestic dragon man in the mirror, Li Hao decisively snapped his fingers.

In an instant, the Candle Dragon Mask transformed into Li Hao's own visage, and the dragon man in the mirror reverted to Li Hao's appearance.

More than just a simple change in appearance, even his physique seemed to undergo some slight adjustments.

The most crucial part was that this transformation wasn't a mere illusion but directly influenced Li Hao's own corporeal change.

"So it even has an automatic optimization function?"

Blinking in slight surprise.

As Li Hao observed his seemingly more pleasing reflection in the mirror, he seemed to gain a new understanding of the Candle Dragon Mask's hidden features.

The Candle Dragon Mask could actively optimize the host's current state without the holder's manual adjustments.

Not in a straightforward enhancement but through an overall fine-tuning of physique and appearance, keeping the host in a perpetual optimal state.

Of course, compared to the Candle Dragon Mask's primary abilities, this hidden feature could be considered merely better than nothing.

After all, in a way, the Candle Dragon Mask essentially carried the formidable "seventy-two transformations" ability within it.

Disguising and concealing one's true identity and appearance were merely the most rudimentary applications of this mask's capabilities.

"Phew!"

Exhaling a breath, the celestial eye on Li Hao's forehead quietly closed.

Everything seemed to return to the way it was, as if nothing had happened, with only Li Hao standing quietly before the mirror in the room.

"It truly feels like ages have passed!"

In just a single night, the real Li Hao had experienced an unknown expanse of time.

Besides the dreams and the changes that occurred to him.

Li Hao now had an "inconvenient" trouble to address.

"..."

Making his way to his apartment door, Li Hao opened the apartment door calmly.

There, he saw a girl with faint tear stains at the corners of her eyes, tightly curled up at his doorstep.

She was Meng Yao, the very reason the Great Serpent intruded into Li Hao's dreams.

A seemingly mundane remark from Li Hao during the day gave the desperate Meng Yao a glimmer of hope.

Thus, this seventeen-year-old girl found her way to Li Hao's doorstep in confusion, yet never dared to truly knock on his door.

"Sneaking into the school's archives in the middle of the night to search for my information, huh..."

"Looks like you're not as well-behaved as you seem!"

Muttering softly, Li Hao, already aware of everything that happened to Meng Yao through the Great Serpent's perspective, was not surprised at all.