

The Growth 309

Chapter 309: Smugglers of the Mountain and Sea Realm (3/3)

In the Mountain and Sea Realm, there is actually a specialized department for smuggling control.

The initial responsibility of this department was to apprehend smugglers and maintain the balance of trade among various races.

However, as the Mountain and Sea Realm gradually strengthened communication and exchanges with the outside world, this department also gradually evolved into an official organization managing smugglers from other worlds.

Considering that contraband from other worlds carries varying degrees of safety hazards.

The smuggling department's management of related items is extremely strict, and those who hold key positions in this department are elites among the Mountain and Sea People.

Of course, normal people wouldn't smuggle things into the Mountain and Sea Realm; it's more common to smuggle Mountain and Sea items to the outside.

(Someone is going crazy.) The burrowing insects from the Burrowing Insect Civilization are key targets of concern and surveillance for the smuggling department.

However, there has been an improvement in this situation in recent years.

It's not that the burrowing insects have stopped smuggling things from the Mountain and Sea Realm, but rather, a dangerous individual has begun smuggling items from other worlds into the Mountain and Sea Realm.

"Is this the thirteenth time?"

Mu He, an epic creature who inherited the bloodline of the Xiezhi, is also an elite officer in the smuggling department.

He has a physique like that of a strong ox, covered with black fur, and a single horn on his head that emits a crystalline glow.

Just sitting there quietly, A Meng lowers his head instinctively when Mu He gazes at him.

"Ahem..."

A bit embarrassed, Wuhua first glared at A Meng, then grinned cheekily and explained to Mu He.

"To be precise, it's eleven times; there were two misunderstandings."

As an epic creature with a singular race, Mu He has no peers in the Mountain and Sea Realm, but this does not affect his sense of belonging to the realm.

"Stop kidding around, this time it's definitely not a misunderstanding!"

Even though it's phrased as a question, Mu He used a definitive tone while saying this.

In fact, even those so-called "misunderstandings" in the past two occasions were considered by Mu He to be due to Wuhua's cunning.

"I'm different from those colleagues; my eyes cannot tolerate any deception."

Mu He's authoritative gaze gives a strong sense of oppression.

Even the fully mechanized Wuhua couldn't maintain his smiling face.

"Friend, you're overthinking, we've always been honest businessmen who've never done anything illegal."

Wuhua awkwardly defended, but could see the undisguised disdain in Mu He's eyes.

"Honest?"

"If you're considered honest, then there are no honest people in the entire Mountain and Sea Realm."

"Before you argue with me, can you first explain the 'weapons' next door still under inspection?"

Hearing Mu He's query, Wuhua's already strained smile grew even stiffer.

"Ahem, that depends on your definition of 'weapons.'"

"Actually, those are 'local specialties' I brought back from Pandora World, Chidan can vouch for me!"

Maintaining his authoritative demeanor, a hint of mockery appeared in Mu He's eyes.

"Local specialties?"

"You call those items capable of parasitizing, invading, and assimilating most lifeforms, and even actively attacking others in times of danger, 'local specialties'?"

Before Wuhua could retort, Mu He further added.

"Don't pin your hopes on that skeleton called 'Chidan'; it's also violated the smuggling policies, just like you."

"And while you're busy arguing, the Great Prophet of the Skeleton Race has already taken it away, so you probably won't see it anytime soon."

Wuhua's forced smile faded, knowing the gravity of Chidan being personally taken by the Great Prophet.

"You haven't reported my situation to the Nine-tailed Great Prophet, have you?"

Despite knowing it was unlikely, Wuhua couldn't help but ask quietly.

"Hmph, now you're scared?"

"Too late, I've already informed the prophets of all three races."

As he said this, Mu He glanced at A Meng, unsurprised to see him trembling in a corner.

"They were just 'local specialties'; is it necessary to be so ruthless?"

Despairingly looking at the unyielding Mu He, Wuhua finally realized the seriousness of the situation.

The Great Prophet is akin to the head of the family for each race.

It's a responsibility only a prophet with great prestige and wisdom can undertake.

Having alarmed the Great Prophet, the trio known as Wuhua would likely face centuries of confinement, no matter how justified their reasons might be.

"Still insisting on your 'local specialties' claim?"

Finally unwilling to bicker further with Wuhua, Mu He paused and took a verdant seed out of a storage pouch woven from Dragon Silk.

"How do you explain this?"

"The Seed of Life from the Otherworld, the power essence of an Ascender, a self-regulating entity with a strong tendency to attack..."

"This is far more dangerous than your 'local specialties.'"

"Do you know what catastrophic consequences it would bring if it were to proliferate in the Mountain and Sea Realm?"

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"Do you know what you did wrong?"

Rubbing his temples in frustration.

Tianyou, the Great Prophet of the Skeleton Race, who single-handedly propelled the birth of the fourth generation of Skeletons, asked helplessly.

Behind him, the massive Steel Worm blinked cautiously, confusion all over its face.

"I don't know."

After a long silence, Chidan finally chose to answer honestly.

"You idiot!"

"Your mistake was in following Wuhua around and getting involved!"

Infuriated, Tianyou slapped Chidan, meeting its even more bewildered look.

"You think the prophets from Zhiku are fools?"

"You think only you and Wuhua noticed Pandora World's potential?"

"Don't you know that your initiatives with Wuhua will only alert the Pawa about the importance of the 'Dragon Shaper Seed' to us?"

After calming down a bit, Tianyou sighed helplessly.

"The prophets had originally planned to use the 'Dragon Shaper Seed' as a common currency between the two worlds..."

"This would make the Pawa think we are interested in Pandora World's resources and technology, not the currency itself."

"But your premature actions have likely complicated the prophets' plan."

Despite his words, Tianyou didn't believe Pandora World would reject the proposal from the Mountain and Sea Realm.

As he said, the 'Dragon Shaper Seed' would eventually become the common currency between the two worlds, at most facing a few more complications.

"Oh! I understand now!"

Finally realizing the seriousness of the problem, Chidan's eyes widened, showing a hint of regret.

"Now you regret it?"

With another harsh kick to Chidan, Tianyou no longer scolded it, instead offering comfort.

"Relax, while you caused some trouble, your contributions outweigh your mistakes."

"You also don't need to worry about Wuhua; her 'Living Plants' project has already been approved by Zhiku, and she's been nominated as a prophet because of it."

"For the next few hundred years, just stay in the Mountain and Sea Realm and focus on researching this project!"