

## **The Growth 339**

### Chapter 339 - 9: Supporting the World Tree

The four great curses of the "Lord Cangbai" directly initiated the cycle of despair in this world.

To gather this fragmented world once more, the Exotic God Raphael planted the Tree of Life at the center of the world.

The current world was reassembled under the influence of the Tree of Life.

Unfortunately, even a powerful Exotic God like Raphael couldn't completely break any one of the four curses.

Thus, the world was divided into two sides.

The front is a sunny day, while the back is a darkened night.

In reality, both sides of the world are enveloped by the light from the Tree of Life; the only difference is in the intensity of the light.

From this perspective, the world remains undivided into day and night, merely distinguished by midday and dusk.

The first curse of the "Lord Cangbai" took effect.

Next came the effect of the "Lord Cangbai"'s second curse—order shall cease to exist.

The terrifying Chaos Power has destroyed the order of this world, with ubiquitous Celestial Calamities manifesting this curse.

On a deeper level, this curse destroyed all possibilities of any Life's Ascension to Divinity, rendering the Ascension Ladder an impossibility.

Then came the "Lord Cangbai"'s third curse—civilization shall be cursed.

Civilization is the crystallization of Wisdom, the necessary path for living beings to grow from weak to strong, and also the Source of Power for the "God of Civilization" Raphael.

The "Lord Cangbai"'s highly targeted curse not only destroyed the civilization of this world but also eradicated the soil for Wisdom's birth.

From the moment the curse took effect, all Life that subsequently emerged became extremely aggressive, frenziedly attacking all life forms they could reach.

This is the root cause of the frenzied behavior of the creatures Meng Ji encountered along the way.

As for the fourth curse of the "Lord Cangbai", it was specifically targeted at those followers who betrayed the Gods—life shall be twisted.

This twisting targets the flesh, the soul, and faith itself.

Be it local creatures or foreigners, as long as they have the concept of "faith", they would be twisted by the "Lord Cangbai"'s curse.

The bizarre, twisted creatures are individuals cursed by this spell.

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"In the end, you still haven't told me why I should climb the Tree of Life?"

Basking in the sunlight of the front world, Meng Ji's body's instincts told her she had indeed been here before.

This means Owo wasn't lying, at least not about this matter.

"You said... you wanted to save this world."

With a faintly bitter smile, Owo offered a reason she herself hardly believed.

After all, how could Owo, who had spent so much time with Meng Ji, not know her character?

So when Meng Ji stated that she was climbing the Tree of Life to save the world, Owo thought she was just brushing her off.

"Did the past 'me' want to save this world?"

As expected by Owo, Meng Ji raised an eyebrow upon hearing this answer.

However, contrary to Owo's expectations, Meng Ji, though surprised by the answer, wasn't utterly perplexed.

Deep within Meng Ji's heart, there seemed to be a group of similarly unique beings giving her earnest guidance, in which they taught her the meanings of benevolence and compassion.

"What a bunch of pedantic folks..."

This was the first thought that flashed through Meng Ji's mind.

Yet immediately, Meng Ji seemed to see a resplendent, thriving world established under the guidance and help of those unique beings.

If it were her past self with all her memories intact, it indeed seemed possible she would make a decision like "saving the world."

Unrelated to responsibility or capability.

Purely a sense of accomplishment from "wanting to achieve this goal."

"Now I am a bit curious about what kind of existence the past 'me' was."

With a faint smile on her lips, Meng Ji muttered in a voice only she could hear.

"What?"

Owo, a bit bewildered, glanced at Meng Ji, thinking she was speaking to her.

"I was saying, are you sure you've told me everything you know?"

Seated behind, Meng Ji suddenly halted, and asked with a half-smiling tone.

The suddenness of the question rendered the originally harmonious atmosphere between the two stiff and awkward.

"What do you mean by that?"

After a brief silence, Owo blinked and asked.

"Alright! Then let me rephrase..."

"Since you were once my partner, and luckily didn't die climbing the Tree of Life."

"Then why didn't you appear next to me immediately after my Rebirth?"

Without waiting for Owo to answer, Meng Ji suddenly changed the topic.

"Of course, you can come up with countless excuses to dodge me..."

"But I always despise those who hide things, so let me share my guess!"

"You didn't appear immediately because you were confirming my situation."

"Only after confirming that I lost my past memories and seemingly benevolently adopted Xiaohai did you dare to reveal yourself now."

With a slight pause in her tone, a hint of cold killing intent flashed in Meng Ji's eyes.

"You might have thought that since I lost my past memories, everything that happened before would be forgotten."

"But I must tell you, the 'Lord Cangbai's curse only destroyed my memories; my body still retains independent instincts."

"From the moment I saw you, my body has been alerting me."

Finally stopping his evasive silence, Owo slowly turned, yet still with an expression of regret and reluctance in his eyes.

"So, you never trusted me from the start?"

With deep sorrow, Owo's question left Meng Ji momentarily stunned.

"Perhaps you think I'm lying to you, but indeed I am not..."

"Because everything I know, I've already told you without reservation."

"However, I might roughly guess what happened between us."

Under Meng Ji's blank stare, Owo's distorted body suddenly trembled, then turned into a box resembling a doll that fell to the ground.

"It's a pleasure to meet you again, especially as such a pure identity and standpoint."

As it turned out, the Owo standing before Meng Ji was just a false avatar from start to finish.