

The Growth 347

Chapter 347 - 17: God of Civilization? God of Tyranny!

The battle between Meng Ji and Cui Weng did not last long.

With just a single encounter, Cui Weng's body was shattered, and it never appeared again.

However, Meng Ji knew very well that Cui Weng was not so easily killed; the opponent just temporarily chose to retreat.

"Let's go!"

Re-storing the large sniper into his own dimension, Meng Ji casually patted Xiaohai beneath his feet.

Upon hearing these words, the obedient Xiaohai immediately flapped its wings and flew once more toward the direction of the Tree of Life.

This time, Xiaohai evidently learned from the previous lesson, remaining vigilant of its surroundings while flying.

Unfortunately, Cui Weng did not appear again.

It seemed that even the other Demigods of this world intentionally avoided the path of Meng Ji and Xiaohai.

With no one obstructing them, Xiaohai took just a few days to bring Meng Ji to the base of the Tree of Life.

Then, with a single glance, Meng Ji saw the Evil Dragon coiled at the base of the Tree of Life.

Like all twisted creatures of this world, that Evil Dragon also exhibited an indescribable twisted posture.

Yet, this eerie distortion paradoxically gave the impression of "being a dragon."

This mismatch of harmony and disharmony, symmetry and asymmetry, created such sensory dissonance that one instinctively wanted to vomit.

"Owo."

Standing quietly atop Xiaohai's head, Meng Ji slowly uttered the name of the Evil Dragon.

As if hearing Meng Ji's voice, the dragon originally coiled at the base of the Tree of Life suddenly raised its head, revealing a twisted and ferocious face.

"Meng Ji!"

The low roar boomed across the earth like thunder.

Upon seeing Meng Ji, Owo's expression turned complicated instantly.

Surprise, anger, nostalgia, regret, a tinge of relief perhaps...

To be honest, Meng Ji found it really hard to imagine that one day he would discern so many emotions from such a twisted, ferocious face.

"It seems that you still haven't mastered your skills; the memories between your true self and false self didn't connect!"

For some reason, even though theoretically it should be his first time meeting Owo, Meng Ji couldn't help but smile.

It was as if chatting with an old friend he had known for many years.

That mix of ease and a hint of serenity left Meng Ji rather sentimental.

"It's not about unmastered skills..."

After a brief silence, when Owo spoke again, the previous complexity in his emotions had been replaced by the relief of reuniting with an old friend.

"I just feel that when meeting you, it's better to be a bit purer."

"Friends are friends, enemies are enemies, that's what you once taught me."

"We were friends in the past, but now we are enemies."

"You only need to remember that."

This left Meng Ji in silence, as the scene before her was entirely different from what she had envisioned.

Originally, she thought Owo would play some emotional cards or explain his reasons for betraying her back then.

But the now-transformed Evil Dragon, Owo, seemed to have long determined his stance, without dwelling excessively on past events.

"This really does seem like my style."

With another smile, Meng Ji unexpectedly continued to ask.

"But I still want to know, why did you choose to betray me back then?"

"Not as an enemy, but as a friend, I want to know the reason."

Letting out a deep breath of turbid air, Owo's surroundings subtly trembled, then reinforced the seal on him.

"There were no overly complicated reasons; I just didn't want to die."

"Beings like me, born from Lord Cangbai's curse, are doomed to not live long."

"But you let me know how wonderful life truly is; you also made me realize that so many interesting things exist in this world..."

"So, I didn't want to die; I wanted to continue living, even to be immortal like you."

After a slight pause in tone, Owo lifted his head again, with determination and arrogance in his gaze.

"Cui Weng told me that the Fruit of Life could achieve my objective, making me truly an immortal God!"

"I knew he was sowing discord between us, but I still went ahead."

"Because unlike those foolish, selfish Demigods, I know your ultimate goal is actually to save this world..."

"Once you learned of the Master of Cui Lu's prophecy, you certainly wouldn't let me consume the Fruit of Life."

Due to the information gap, the Demigods, with Cui Weng at the forefront, initially didn't even realize Meng Ji's identity, mistaking her for the "Evil Dragon" of the prophecy.

This led to a series of dire consequences, indirectly facilitating the prophecy's fulfillment.

"I see!"

Listening to Owo's account, Meng Ji shook her head, non-committal.

"Actually, you didn't need to betray me at all."

"If you had told me directly, I could have found another way to let you keep living."

Upon hearing this, Owo's eyes widened immediately.

Having dealt with Meng Ji for such a long time, Owo could naturally tell whether the other party was lying or not.

But precisely because he realized that the other was telling the truth, Owo appeared somewhat stunned and incredulous.

"You mean... I'm now suffering due to my own actions!?"

With a slight raise of his eyebrows, Meng Ji affirmed with a nod.

"That's right; your current plight is purely self-inflicted."

"Moreover, even if I had foreseen the prophecy, I wouldn't necessarily have allowed the Fruit of Life to hatch."

Under Owo's astonished gaze, Meng Ji shared her consistent philosophy and style of action.

"I have no favorable impression of the Six-winged Blazing Angel Raphael."

"Perhaps his arrival did bring civilization to this world..."

"But it was also his coming that resulted in this world's fragmentation."

"If Raphael were truly as merciful as the myths and legends claim, the conflict with Lord Cangbai would not have escalated."

When Meng Ji said this, the reference point was the Creator of her own world.

Even though she had lost memory of the Mountain and Sea Realm, she still believed that true mercy wasn't like Raphael's uncompromising approach.

Besides, is the civilization Raphael brought truly the civilization this world needs?

"I don't know what kind of civilization Raphael brought to this world..."

"But I know that the civilization Raphael brought is undoubtedly not aligned with this world's laws."

"Otherwise, after Raphael's descent, this world would not have failed to birth its own unique 'God of Civilization.'"

"Civilization is the cradle for nurturing Gods!"

"Every distinct civilization must have its own unique Gods of civilization."

"Raphael is merely a tyrant God, implementing faith plunder under the guise of 'civilization.'"