

The Growth 362

Chapter 362 - 8: The Primal Totem God

Just as seen from afar.

The mountains at the center of the island form a structure resembling a volcanic crater.

Even someone as powerful as Kui Long, an Ascender, took a great deal of effort to reach the mountain crater without disturbing the Giant Thundering Dragon.

Indigo lightning, almost tangible, sporadically erupts from the mountaintop like magma.

"Are those all fertilized eggs of the Canglong?"

Standing at the edge of the crater, Shan Xiu gazes downward following Kui Long's line of sight and suddenly discovers countless sacs rapidly dividing and developing under the stimulation of the lightning.

However, contrary to Shan Xiu's imagination, not all of the dividing fertilized eggs develop into Canglong embryos.

Quite the opposite, in the ocean of lightning, the majority of fertilized eggs are destroyed during the division process.

Only a few fertilized eggs withstand the stimulation of the lightning and thus develop into Canglong embryos.

"..."

Silently watching everything that is happening below.

Kui Long never expected the formation process of Canglong embryos to be so crude and straightforward.

The simplest Survival of the Fittest, natural selection, is the true nature of the Canglong species.

There's no such thing as 'breeding', nor is there any so-called 'appropriate' electric current strength...

Those that survive under the natural thunderstorm are naturally the strongest of the Canglong embryos.

In contrast, the Secret Seeker's initial cautious approach to stimulating the bubbles for development was the real violation of the nature of this natural selection.

For the Canglong with thousands of bubbles in its body,

as long as one of them can gestate and grow in the natural environment, that's enough to pass on its genes.

No Canglong has ever thought about letting all the bubbles in its body develop into true Canglongs.

"It seems we can withdraw; there's nothing here that you want."

Noticing the same, Shan Xiu smiled wryly.

For the current Mountain and Sea Civilization, artificial selection and eugenics are the mainstream ideas compared to the primal concept of natural selection, Survival of the Fittest.

Otherwise, those scattered Skeletons randomly born around the world would be the lowest existence in nature.

The Skeletons are taken back to specialized enlightenment schools for ten years of arduous education and training, which is hardly a rewarding endeavor.

But precisely because of this persistence and because of constantly doing this thankless work...

the Skeletons have become the first race of the Mountain and Sea, becoming one of the main races forming the entire Mountain and Sea Civilization.

"No, although I couldn't get the answers I wanted here, this place still hides many unsolved mysteries."

Lightly shaking his head, an enlightened Kui Long spoke.

"The sacs of Canglong can indeed maintain activity after its death, but this activity can only last for two to three years at most."

"So how do the sacs of the Canglong that perished on this island, whose bones have turned into fossils, manage to maintain activity?"

"Not just maintaining activity, they've even collectively appeared in the crater beneath our feet."

Hearing this, Shan Xiu immediately realized.

"Was it that Giant Canglong earlier?"

Without directly answering Shan Xiu's question, Kui Long simply gazed thoughtfully up at the sky.

"Perhaps!"

"But what's more concerning to me than these is how to maintain the activity of those sacs long-term."

"If we can find a way to keep the sacs active, we will have much more time to slowly study the development of the Canglong embryos."

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Meanwhile, near the Secret Seeker's base.

A MinAseerpentg She suddenly tore through the clouds and gently alighted near the harbor.

Gui Zhang, who had been notified in advance, immediately rushed out and loudly asked the MinAseerpentg She.

"How about it? Have you found anything new?"

Coiling its body slowly, the rain-soaked MinAseerpentg She replied.

"It can now be confirmed that those Canglong have not given up the siege; they have only temporarily retreated."

"Their obsession with the Dragon Remains has reached an incomprehensible level."

While saying this, the MinAseerpentg She recalled the Dragon Fish, likewise known for fiercely protecting its young.

But even the Dragon Fish, which incubates and nurtures its young in its mouth until maturity, doesn't exhibit such terrifying obsession.

"These Canglong are absolutely abnormal!"

"They don't just want to reclaim the Dragon Remains!"

"My feeling is they don't allow outsiders to know their secrets!"

The icy killing intent filled the bright yellow snake eyes, and the MinAseerpentg She further added.

"I now suspect they actually know of the Mountain and Sea Civilization and understand the significance of our presence here."

"At least, the entity behind these Canglong controlling them knows."

Listening with a dark expression, Gui Zhang felt for the first time that the situation was somewhat beyond his control.

"You mean these Canglong aren't just a group that has initially developed intelligence?"

"They already developed their civilization?"

"But according to the various data and materials we've collected so far, these Canglong are, at most, only mildly intelligent beasts!"

Without intending to argue with Gui Zhang, MinAseerpentg She calmly stated his observations.

"I'm not a researcher and don't understand your theories."

"I only know that, under normal circumstances, the first group of Pioneers sent by the Institute's members should have long arrived here."

"Why haven't they shown up yet?"

"Is it that our information hasn't been transmitted, or were they blocked by something?"

Gui Zhang's pupils constricted sharply as he glanced at the distant storm clouds.

Gui Zhang doesn't believe that the Canglong have the wisdom and technology to intercept Mountain and Sea Civilization's information transmission.

Therefore, the answer is quite clear.

At this moment, the entire frontline base has already been isolated by the storm clouds stirred up by the Canglong.

And these storm clouds clearly aren't as simple as they appear, even the Pioneers sent by the Institute were stopped by the clouds.

"Among those Canglong... there is an Ascender!"

After reaching this conclusion, Gui Zhang and MinAseerpentg She fell silent.

A group composed of Epic Creatures and a group of Epic Creatures with an Ascender.

The two are utterly incomparable.

If this Ascender happens to be on the path of a Faith God, they might be facing the most primitive Totem God.