

## **The Growth 373**

Chapter 373 - 19: The Death of the New Self

Reality, within the Nether Spring.

The Ghost Dragon hidden in the shadows naturally heard Geng Chen's roar of anger.

But it merely circled around the Soul Summoning Array without saying a word, silently gazing at Geng Chen at the center.

Moreover, when Geng Chen fell into struggle, the Ghost Dragon would even actively adjust the intensity of the Soul Summoning Array to alleviate Geng Chen's pain.

Thus, Geng Chen fluctuated between pain and ease as he struggled amidst the memories of the past Canglongs.

It was also during this process that Geng Chen witnessed the unwavering dedication of the past Canglongs to transcendence and eternal life.

Regarding the obsession with longevity, every race, every individual has it, but none are as persistent as the past Canglongs.

To transcend the cycle of reincarnation, the past Canglongs never touched anything unrelated to longevity.

Habit or hobby... it did not matter.

Everything the past Canglongs did was for transcendence, leaving no room for other thoughts.

Even when learning the knowledge and abilities of the Hundred Races of Mountains and Seas, it was all centered around the goal of "transcendence."

Anything unrelated to this purpose, no matter how novel or powerful, was irrelevant to the Canglongs.

From Geng Chen's perspective, he couldn't understand how the past Canglongs endured such a monotonous and tasteless life.

—To transcend reincarnation, to achieve eternal life.

This notion seemed to be an imprint ingrained in the souls of the past Canglongs.

Geng Chen could hardly imagine what a terrifying sight it would be if he turned into someone who could abandon everything for eternal life.

Family, friends, interests...

Geng Chen had too many things he couldn't let go of.

For a flimsy notion of eternal life, Geng Chen simply couldn't abandon his life.

Unfortunately, as the inheritance continued, and Geng Chen experienced more of the Canglongs' lives...

He terrifyingly realized that his own beliefs were being overshadowed by the massive memories, that he was gradually being marked with the steel imprint of "eternity."

Against the overwhelming and almost incomputable impact of such a vast expanse of memory, the affections he prided himself on were so fragile.

The extensive timelines and life experiences of the past Canglongs made Geng Chen's emotions grow indifferent, his thoughts grow cold.

[No, that's not my memory!]

[I am Geng Chen! A Mountain and Sea People!]

The fear intermixed with anger, anger with rebellion...

Geng Chen constantly reminisced about the fun events of his past life, recalling the siblings he grew up with, trying to remember his adoptive father Kuilong, who always cared for him.

However, compared to the memories of the past Canglongs, Geng Chen's life was incredibly short.

Despite his efforts, he inevitably began to forget those important past moments.

As the memories of his adoptive father and siblings became blurred...

As he could no longer recall the joy of diving into the sea for the first time, or flying freely in the sky...

The personality that Geng Chen had built from these past experiences naturally disappeared, replaced by a complex personality reconstructed from the Canglongs' collective memory.

This personality was ancient, because it inherited the memories of the Canglongs throughout history.

Yet at the same time, this personality was also so naive, as all its cognition originated from the Canglongs' memories.

[Then who am I now?]

[Canglong? Ghost Dragon? Or Geng Chen?]

When this thought emerged in the mind of the new personality, it was filled with confusion.

Although receiving the memory inheritance in the most authentic way, the persistent resistance of Geng Chen led to a blurring of identity in the new personality.

If judged by the volume of memories, the new personality was undoubtedly a composite of the past Canglongs.

But the problem was, Geng Chen, who accepted the Mountain and Sea Civilization's education, strongly believed that he wasn't a substitute for anyone.

I am myself!

I am the Canglong who grew up within the Mountain and Sea Civilization!

The unique Geng Chen of the Mountain and Sea Realm, unmatched, irreplaceable!

[Yes, I am Geng Chen, will always be Geng Chen!]

As the new complex personality affirmed this belief, he slowly opened his eyes in reality.

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"Roar!"

Accompanied by a loud and long dragon's roar.

Since learning the language of the Mountain and Sea Civilization, Geng Chen had not let out such pure and primal cries for a long time.

For he always believed that only beasts used sounds to intimidate enemies.

Upon entering civilization and becoming a true Mountain and Sea People, there were numerous ways to deter enemies.

Intimidating through sound and size was an outdated method.

However, after discarding all concerns.

Geng Chen couldn't help but admit that roaring loudly was remarkably stress-relieving.

Fortunately, despite the cathartic release, Geng Chen remembered his current situation and turned to face the depths of the Nether Spring while roaring.

There, a Ghost Dragon wavering between form and formlessness was staring at him in astonishment.

The Ghost Dragon's size was overwhelming, appearing as though it had emerged from the Netherworld, exerting an extreme sense of oppression.

By then, Geng Chen had absorbed Spiritual Essence from the Nether Spring, breaking through the limits of the Canglong species, and had a size surpassing the colossal Canglongs.

However, though larger than the original Canglong, Geng Chen appeared as a mere mudfish before the grandness of that Ghost Dragon.

The sheer disparity in size alone was enough to incite dread.

"Who are you now?"

After a brief silence, the imposing Ghost Dragon opened its mouth first.

The voice was surprisingly old and deep, causing Geng Chen to momentarily overlook the enormous size gap.

"I am Geng Chen, and I always will be Geng Chen!"

After a brief stun, Geng Chen firmly answered.

"Your plan has failed, I can never become your incarnation."

"Because, unlike your compatriots, I have never doubted my beliefs and life."

Upon hearing these words, the Ghost Dragon across from him unexpectedly burst into laughter once again.

"Haha, is that how you perceive this inheritance?"

"You think I am assimilating your personality? You believe I want to gain the wisdom of the Mountain and Sea Civilization from you?"

"No, you're mistaken!"

"Both you and the Mountain and Sea Civilization behind you are wrong!"

"I have actually been awaiting your arrival, hoping that one day you would inherit all of my legacy!"

"I have lived far too long, grown weary of continuing to live."

"But the inheritance and obsession of the Canglong Race must be passed on, which is why I've awaited your return!"