

The Growth 374

Chapter 374 - 20: The Final Legacy

"You... have been waiting for me all this time?"

Staring in shock at the Ghost Dragon opposite him, Geng Chen had never expected such an answer from its mouth.

"What is going on? Did you deliberately guide me to the Nether Spring?"

Laughing again, the Ghost Dragon affirmed Geng Chen's words with its eyes.

"I originally just wanted to find an inheritor..."

"It doesn't matter if it's you or another individual born from the 'Ghost God Egg'."

"Ghost Dragon... hmm, your Mountain and Sea Civilization calls me that, right?"

"Because a Ghost Dragon is such a special existence, it can't even be considered a species."

Pausing slightly, the Ghost Dragon continued, ignoring Geng Chen's shocked gaze.

"The Ghost Dragon is born from the Canglong Race, yet it can never truly separate from the Canglong Race to exist independently."

"The birth of every Ghost Dragon must absorb enough souls from the Canglong Race..."

"I have waited in this Nether Spring for thousands of years. Countless new Ghost Dragons have come here, wanting to replace me as the sole Ghost Dragon."

"Unfortunately, the vast majority cannot even completely inherit the 'inheritance memory'."

"Even among those few Ghost Dragons who persisted like you..."

"Their confused personalities could only become a part of me, unable to thoroughly defeat me."

Upon hearing this, Geng Chen finally resolved a long-standing doubt in his heart.

That was, even though there was a "Ghost God Egg" on every Azure Dragon Island, there only seemed to be one Ghost Dragon.

Now it seems it's not that there's only one Ghost Dragon, but that the only one that could survive is the one before me.

"What exactly is going on?"

Faced with Geng Chen's questioning, the Ghost Dragon only shook its head gently.

"In fact, you have all the truth in your memory..."

"It's just that you seem to resist those memories, hence ignoring the 'gifts' from the generations of Canglongs."

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The first generation of Canglong's practice of engraving memories into genes was actually a very dangerous act.

Stuffing all sorts of chaotic things into the genes would only lead to mutations among the descendants who inherited them.

The second generation of Canglongs, who stood out from many siblings, realized this early on.

The memory inheritance from the first generation of Canglongs was not only extremely dangerous but also incomplete.

Only through mutual slaughter and plundering among siblings could one completely obtain all the memories of the first generation of Canglongs.

Therefore, to eliminate this dangerous inheritance.

The second generation of Canglongs began choosing to use the soul as a carrier to inherit all the memories of their predecessors.

By the time the third generation of Canglongs was born, numerous individuals had inherited the memories of their predecessor.

Basically, those born from the second-generation Canglongs' bubbles inherited most of the second-generation Canglongs' memories.

However, the ones truly recognized as the third-generation Canglongs were only those direct individuals who bravely entered the Nether Spring and survived.

Because even if there was a problem with genetic inheritance.

Causing physical deformities in direct individuals or failing to inherit all memories of their predecessors.

The inheritance in the Nether Spring could still engrave the past life's memories into the soul of the direct individuals, minimizing risk to the greatest extent.

Especially after the birth of the Ghost Dragon.

Even deformed individuals caused by gene mutation could revert to the form of a Ghost Dragon through the inheritance ceremony.

This is a strength of the Ghost Dragon as a being of the Spirit Realm and the fundamental reason why Ghost Dragon inheritance can continue to this day.

It's not that the Ghost Dragons got tired of living and went into the Nether Spring to find death.

But those Ghost Dragons themselves were deformed individuals due to gene mutations, and only by entering the Nether Spring could they revert to their complete form.

From this perspective, the 'Ghost God Egg' that Kuilong originally brought back to the Mountain and Sea Civilization was destined to be a deformity, having little to do with whether it was forcibly taken away or not.

Even the defect of the short lifespan of the initial Ghost Dragon is fundamentally a result of such gene mutation.

Instead, Geng Chen, as the first fusion of Canglong and Ghost Dragon, without any genetic defects, is seen as the anomaly in the eyes of the Ghost Dragon.

The genes were not inscribed with chaotic things...

He himself had successfully merged with the Ghost God Egg, possessing traits of the Ghost Dragon...

Coupled with the previous inheritance through the Nether Spring, he perfectly inherited the memories of the Canglongs over the generations...

It's not an exaggeration to say that Geng Chen is simply the most perfect individual nurtured by the Canglong Race over billions of years of evolution.

From body to soul, from genes to memory, from belief to personality...

Today's Geng Chen appears perfect in the eyes of the Ghost Dragon and is the most suitable to become the next Ghost Dragon candidate.

"Come on!"

"Enter the final step of the inheritance!"

"Defeat me! Replace me! And become the new generation Ghost Dragon!"

The Ghost Dragon, long having lived enough, growled lowly, its eyes full of madness.

The former Ghost Dragon was once like today's Geng Chen, with its own life and hopes.

But due to inheritance, it was forcibly branded with the ideological seal of 'transcending reincarnation', abandoning everything it once owned.

Now, after thousands of years have passed, the familiar things to the Ghost Dragon have long disappeared.

Yet it remains trapped in this prison called 'immortality', unable to break free.

"Don't worry about what's happening outside; this is a war between just you and me."

"If you defeat me, not only can you become the new generation Ghost Dragon, but you can also do whatever you want."

"Lead the Canglong Race to join the Mountain and Sea Civilization or pursue immortality as per generations of Canglong's obsession, it's all your choice."

"I am destined not to fulfill the Canglongs' wish over generations, so what I seek is ultimate relief!"

Slowly turning its body, the Ghost Dragon, bound by obsession for so many years, planned for the first time to truly live for itself.

"What Ghost Dragon? What inheritance? None of that concerns me!"

Despite being influenced by the obsessions of the Canglongs over generations, Geng Chen always maintained his belief as an individual.

Transcending reincarnation and seeking immortality were obsessions left by the first-generation Canglongs to their descendants.

While generations of Canglongs were influenced and restrained by this obsession, Geng Chen, who was educated by the Mountain and Sea Civilization, was indifferent.

"My life is just beginning, and there are so many interesting things in this world..."

"I don't want to be like you, giving up my entire life for such an illusory goal."

Before finishing his words, Geng Chen unexpectedly launched an attack towards the Ghost Dragon.

Rumbling...

Thunder roared, the ocean surged.

The figure of Geng Chen, still growing gigantically, single-handedly stirred up the storm of the whole West Sea.