The Growth 430

Chapter 430 - 16: Fallen Dragon

"Does Keren Race... mean Dragon?"

It was only now that Ao Xing suddenly realized, his eyes widened, and he had a clear understanding of his current situation.

Since the Creator has never descended upon this world, naturally, there are no Immortals.

And without the Immortals spreading civilization and faith as the "Eldest Son of God," the subsequent Mountain and Sea Civilization could not possibly be born.

"You can understand it that way."

Without denying Ao Xing’s statement, the Dragon of Suffering further explained.

"The Keren Race is a collection of ignorance and insensitivity, an ecosystem of the Dark World, and a manifestation of the survival instinct of all creatures."

"They have been stripped of all perception, stripped of all wisdom."

"Until the fallen sun began to lose its warmth, and the Keren Race, perceiving danger, reactivated the trend of wisdom evolution that had already been suppressed."

When the sun and moon fell, it heralded the eve of destruction in this world.

Because the first thing to disappear in this world was light, but light was not the only thing to vanish.

Following the light was the disappearance of warmth, lost as the sun gradually extinguished.

Once the world lost its warmth, even the Keren Race, which had evolved into inorganic matter, would fall back into eternal silence.

The most critical point is that with the loss of warmth, the neuroinhibitor spread by the Keren Race across the world simultaneously lost its efficacy.

Thus, those individuals originally assimilated by the Keren Race evolved a central nervous system and brains again, and transferred their intelligence to the original Dragon.

Under such circumstances, something unexpected yet inevitable occurred.

The original Dragon was already the individual with the strongest learning ability, its neural cell evolution faster than even the assimilated individuals.

Then, the sensation of pain appeared on the Keren Race.

Pain is the ultimate manifestation of touch, an instinctual feeling of life when faced with threats.

When the sensation of pain appeared on the Keren Race, it meant that this race had, for the first time, possessed self-awareness and a desire for survival.

Driven by self-awareness and the desire for survival, the Keren Race with rapidly growing neural cells evolved true wisdom and began to seriously contemplate the meaning of their existence.

Thus, the "Fallen Dragon" was also born.

As the name suggests, a Fallen Dragon is a fallen dragon, a fallen member of the Keren Race.

In the collective consciousness of the Keren Race, they were the most perfect beings, the immortal existence shaped by millions of years in the Mountain and Sea Realm.

—Integrated with the earth, unified with all living beings.

This primitive and simple idea was a key element in the Keren Race's ability to grow to this day.

Especially after evolving neural cells, the Keren Race that had learned to think firmly believed that only by becoming one with the entire world could they escape this doomed fate of destruction.

—When they became the world itself, naturally, they could continue to live without the sun's warmth.

This is the important driving force keeping the Keren Race in its primitive form and persisting to this day.

Unfortunately, the Keren Race's concept was so extreme, fundamentally denying the reason for the existence of other life forms.

The awakening of self-awareness, combined with the rejection of the Keren Race's philosophy...

Some individuals with extreme selfhood split from the Keren Race, becoming a separate species of the same kind—Fallen Dragons!

The Fallen Dragons inherited the abilities and ecology of the Keren Race, yet greatly valued the integrity of self.

Unless necessary, Fallen Dragons would never devour and assimilate other individuals, maximally preserving their own integrity.

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"So, you are a Fallen Dragon?"

Ao Xing admitted that today's astonishment might have used up his lifetime's quota of surprises.

Because no matter how he thought about it, he didn’t expect the being claiming to be the "Dragon of Suffering" would actually be a unique individual evolved from the Keren Race.

"Yes, I am indeed a Fallen Dragon."

Soaring over this unfamiliar Tang Valley with Ao Xing, the Dragon of Suffering didn’t deny the statement.

"The Keren Race believes that assimilating other life forms is a thorough way of communication..."

"It is a communication that fully integrates life, knowledge, thought, will, and even soul, the only chance for everyone to escape this disastrous world."

"Those lives assimilated by the Keren Race are not dead; they merely continue in another form."

"However, the Fallen Dragons who can now feel pain do not see it that way."

At this point, the Dragon of Suffering’s tone paused slightly.

"Pain is a warning, a proof of being alive."

"Once one becomes a member of the Keren Race, losing the ability to perceive pain, it signifies the death of one’s own life."

"And the Keren Race that inherits everything, no matter how much it learns and mimics its original form, it is no longer oneself."

"Moreover, if ignorance and unawareness, chaos as one could resolve the current predicament, how could the original Keren Race have evolved neural cells again?"

The voice of the Dragon of Suffering at this moment was like recitation, yet seemed to be a sigh.

"This is the current fundamental cognitive divide between the Keren Race and the Fallen Dragons, and also the fundamental cause of their opposition."

"The Keren Race wishes to absorb the powers and knowledge of the Fallen Dragons, to evolve into eternal beings capable of surviving without warmth before the sun completely extinguishes."

"And the Fallen Dragons, realizing the preciousness of freedom, are searching around the world for those prehistoric relics, trying to find the key to survival from the Mountain and Sea Dragon Race that has long left this world."

Hearing the Dragon of Suffering say this, Ao Xing couldn’t help but fall into silence once more.

After understanding the history of this world, Ao Xing actually found it not difficult to comprehend the conflict between the Keren Race and the Fallen Dragons.

It’s just that from the perspective of a Foreigner, he couldn’t yet discern which side’s ideals and positions were right or wrong.

Or more accurately, in the face of life and death crises, the Keren Race and the Fallen Dragons were merely two different choices to achieve the same end.

"So, it wasn’t a coincidence that you met me?"

After a brief silence, Ao Xing spoke again, a look of sudden realization on his face.

"Did you take me as a... heritage left by the Mountain and Sea Dragon Race in this world?"

"Before I awakened, you had actually been by my side for a long time, hadn’t you?"

"And you call yourself the Dragon of Suffering, is it because you realized your uniqueness after feeling pain, which ultimately made you a Fallen Dragon?"