

The Growth 455

Chapter 455 - 3: The Saint Who Only Knows Slaughter

Gus was born in an era of despair.

It was a time ruled by the gods, where all beings had to submit to the gods' feet.

For the sake of faith and plundering resources, the gods drove their followers into mutual slaughter, and Gus was once one of them.

However, as time went by, Gus, who started the Ascension Ladder through slaughter, gradually discovered a despairing truth.

This world is nothing but a vast breeding ground.

All beings are like this, and so are the lofty gods.

In the background of the world, a colossal, indescribable shadow lurked, continuously exerting its influence on the entire world.

Every ten thousand years, that indescribable colossal shadow would cast a "Key" into Gus's world.

This "Key" could be a book, a sword, or anything that exists in this world.

This "Key" can interfere with fate, affect causality, and bestow upon its holder extraordinary abilities.

The original gods of this world ascended to the Celestial Realm and became the dominant gods of today by leveraging this "Key."

Yes, the world's earliest gods did not ascend to divinity through their own power.

Perhaps because of this, those gods who have touched higher dimensions have always been unable to exist separately from the world and seem like malformed children parasitizing within it.

To maintain their faith and life, those gods who have supposedly transcended still had to engage in slaughter within the world.

"This is the price of becoming a god..."

Upon realizing this, Gus looked mournfully at his companion and comrade-in-arms.

At this moment, the most outstanding warrior under the Death God's command was frantically swinging his giant sword, slaughtering any life that tried to approach him.

With each life killed, the warrior, as towering as a giant, grew stronger.

And as he grew ever stronger, the gods of this world appeared in the sky, each extending a hand toward him.

This was the ceremony of becoming a god, the gods welcoming a giant to join their ranks.

"Kill me!"

At this last critical moment, the giant seemed to regain clarity in a flash.

Looking down at his dearest friend, the giant smiled as brightly as ever.

But this time, the giant's smile contained determination, sadness, but more than that, pleading.

The giant had once promised Gus to end the endless wars and conflicts together.

However, the gods' interference turned this promise into something nearly impossible to fulfill.

"I don't want to become one of those mad gods."

"Even if I must die, I want to die as a 'human'!"

The giant gently laid down his giant sword, thereby relinquishing his opportunity to become a god.

Upon seeing this, the once amiable and friendly gods in the sky immediately changed, glaring at the giant with angry eyes.

Evidently, to gods who had fought to near madness for years, the giant's choice was an affront to divine authority.

Unfortunately, in this world of despair, the "Key" is the foundation of all rule.

Therefore, even though this most powerful warrior under the Death God's command defied the gods' invitation, they could not act against this rogue who betrayed the gods.

"I will, I will let you die as a 'human'!"

With barely a moment's hesitation, Gus, bearing the rage and murderous intent of the gods, walked slowly toward the giant.

Clang!

When Gus took the giant sword from the giant's hand, he seemed to hear a sound of metal ringing throughout the world.

The sound was so crisp, so pleasing, that it gave an inexplicable sense of joy.

Even the frenzied gods in the air displayed a hint of calmness at that moment.

Because that giant sword was this era's "Key."

When Gus took the giant sword from the giant's hand, he took hold of the world's opportunity for ascension to divinity.

The "Key" that appeared once every ten thousand years was firmly grasped by Gus in that moment.

Thus, the somewhat calmed gods turned their attention to Gus, extending their hand of friendship to him.

The gods did not care who ascended to divinity.

They only cared about a new god joining their ranks.

"Foolish gods..."

Without even glancing at the gods in the sky, Gus swung his sword directly to decapitate the giant.

Such a display of disdain once again incensed the frenzied gods.

"I swear, I will end your rule!"

Holding the giant's head in one hand, Gus looked up at the sky once more, vowing thusly.

"This world doesn't need you mad gods; I will restore order to this world once again!"

From then on, Godslayer Gus became a legend in this world.

With an unimaginable will, Gus resisted the temptation of the "Key" and took this as the opportunity to start his path of godslaying.

First were the fanatics under the gods' command.

Gus, long practised in slaughter, had no knowledge of winning hearts and minds.

So his method was simple: since you have chosen to continue worshipping those mad gods, you shall live no longer.

Slaughter, extreme slaughter, extreme madness in slaughter...

Gus's Ascension Ladder sought power in slaughter, and such near-limitless killing gave him the possibility to challenge the gods with a mortal's body.

As long as there was slaughter, Gus would not tire.

Like a perpetual motion machine, Gus stormed the Divine Court, eradicated the Judicial Court, and finally provoked the gods to descend personally.

But, wielding the giant sword, Gus was favored by destiny.

In that not entirely smooth path of slaughter, Gus continually fled and fought back, causing "god's rain" to fall across the world.

This was the phenomenon of world order collapsing as gods died.

In the words of this world's living beings, that was all the blood of gods.

During the process of slaying all the gods, Gus gradually understood the uniqueness of his world.

Normally, gods are the incarnations of world concepts, existences transcending world dimensions.

Especially those Concept Gods born with the world; their death and departure inherently symbolize the collapse of world order.

When the Death God dies, there is no concept of death in this world.

When the Wind God dies, movement in the world ceases.

When the Sun and Moon God dies, the lightless world can no longer birth life.

However, Gus's world is different.

The indescribable presence lurking behind the world upholds its order; even if all the gods perish, it would not affect the foundation of this world itself.