

The Growth 521

Chapter 521 19: Tao Ancestor

Yuan Ci True Immortal's death was merely the beginning.

With the emergence of the Yellow Turban Cannon, cultivators in the Celestial Human Realm could almost feel the primordial qi upheavals every so often.

From initial ignorance to subsequent shock and fear...

Under Yu Wei's undisguised intimidation, most of those in the know gradually understood the truth behind these upheavals.

Followers of the former Sun Star Monarch were waging a vendetta against the betrayers.

Once they dealt with these rebels, undoubtedly, their next target would be those from the Immortal Mountain Archipelago who had slain the Sun Star Monarch.

Though most cultivators who participated in that "War of the End of the Dharma" had long since perished with the passage of time,

after witnessing the methods of the Taiping Tao, no one dared to naively assume they wouldn't attack their sects.

They were simply a bunch of lunatics, a group of devils that only knew slaughter.

As long as the Taiping Tao identified someone as a traitor, they didn't care whether you truly betrayed the Sun Star Monarch.

Honestly, the forces from the Immortal Mountain and Archipelago considered a preemptive strike to eliminate those cultivators from the Taiping Tao.

However, the Taiping Tao was evidently prepared for this.

Almost simultaneously as the Taiping Tao cultivators instigated this war,

followers and members of the Taiping Tao emerged among mortals in the Lower Realm.

These mortals wielded a special weapon to shoot down any cultivator daring to descend to the Lower Realm.

Especially those "Guides" who sought to select promising individuals among mortals; they became the primary targets for the Taiping Tao members.

Furthermore, the Taiping Tao openly organized mortals, creating organizations specifically to combat cultivators.

These organizations weren't branches of the Taiping Tao.

Born under the influence of the Taiping Tao, they were new organizations with their own ideologies.

The Taiping Tao only provided them with weapons and technology, spreading ideas and beliefs of civilization.

Like a spark of fire, the Taiping Tao merely planted this seed among mortals.

As for whether these sparks could eventually spread like wildfire?

That was not the Taiping Tao's concern.

The Taiping Tao had a clear self-definition—they were self-sacrificing reformers who never expected to survive to the end of this great war.

"Victory belongs to the broad masses of the people!"

Looking up at the Immortal Mountains in the sky, Bai Shasheng's gaze was calm and composed.

Surrounding Bai Shasheng, those who joined the group out of hunger, hatred, or ideology also gazed at the seemingly unattainable cultivators.

Amidst the panic-stricken mortals due to the war, this group marched in the opposite direction, appearing fearless.

"Misery, disease, hunger, numbness, ignorance..."

"We will eliminate them bit by bit, welcoming the final victory!"

.....

Four Directions Mountain, Scripture Pavilion.

Having almost browsed through all the books here, Li Hao let out a long breath.

The world's development trajectory was far more interesting than Li Hao had imagined, showing him the pros and cons of a civilization centered around "individual evolution."

Due to the excessive emphasis on individual might, a civilization philosophy of fearing neither heaven nor earth was born.

Among all heavens and myriad realms, such a civilization was often termed a "Hero's Civilization."

The Celestial Human Civilization was an atypical example of a "Hero's Civilization."

Typically, "Hero's Civilizations" were influenced by their world's Gods, taking pride in joining the ranks of the Gods after becoming powerful.

However, the Celestial Human Civilization broke free from the Gods' control.

Once these mighty individuals became comparable to the Gods, each chose to leave the Celestial Human Realm.

As for the reasons?

After carefully reviewing the past history of this world, Li Hao arrived at a surprising conclusion.

In the ancient times of the Celestial Human Realm, before the ancient Gods perished, a powerful presence emerged, rivaling the Gods.

The celestials called him the "Tao Ancestor," the source of all extraordinary power in today's Celestial Human Realm.

No one knew where the Tao Ancestor came from, nor his true identity...

Based on scanty text fragments, Li Hao could only piece together a vague path of mortal uprising under the ancient Gods' reign.

In that long-lost past not chronicled by words, the ancient Gods ruled supremely over this world.

To maintain their domination, they almost stripped every mortal of any path to the Ascension Ladder.

In this context, a convention-breaking genius was born.

With unparalleled talent, he forcibly reclaimed control over the "Primordial Power" from the ancient Gods.

This was the initial form of Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi and also the earliest Qi Refining Technique.

Since then, the Qi Refining Technique spread widely in the Celestial Human Realm, gradually becoming the best means to oppose the ancient Gods.

Li Hao wasn't sure how many wars those Qi Cultivators waged against the ancient Gods.

From the current remnants of records, it's almost certain there were multiple wars.

Throughout the protracted wars, the ancient Gods were gradually wiped out, and rituals for worshipping the Gods were entirely eliminated, erasing the Gods' traces from this world.

However, the Qi Cultivators weren't the ultimate victors.

During the wars with the ancient Gods, the Qi Cultivators were either divided, alienated, or fled this world out of fear.

In the eyes of later cultivators, the sacred "Ascension" was a special ritual born during this process.

The original "Ascension" was merely a ritual prepared by Qi Cultivators to escape the Celestial Human Realm.

Escaping a world dominated by the Gods, leaving behind a seemingly endless war...

The so-called "Celestial Beings" were escapees born of this context.

As those Qi Cultivators determined to fight the Gods gradually perished...

When new Qi Cultivators had a retreat known as "Ascension"...

Even after the Gods vanished, latter-day cultivators habitually regarded "Ascension" as the end of their cultivation path.

Thus, a "Hero's Civilization" focused on leaving its own world was born.

To this day, cultivators never contemplate why they should ascend or the destination after ascension.

They only know that ascension is the ultimate purpose of their cultivation, a prerequisite for their longevity.